

Key letter on Oneida

5-349 c

( ) factionalism !



INDIAN OFFICE

FILES

Collies Warning About Kellogg's

# CAUTION!

Positively no papers to be added to or taken from this file, except by an employee of the Mails and Files Division.

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KESHENA

File No.

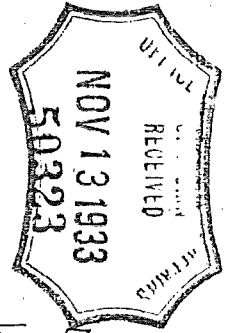
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Complaint  
against Kellogg  
of the  
Lambert  
St. J.

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L-C  
46567-33

Box 71, Oneida, Wis.  
Nov. 10, 1933

Honorable John Collier,  
Commissioner of Indian Affairs,  
Washington, D. C.



My dear Mr Collier:-

Your letter under date of  
Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> received, and note what you say.

I wish to thank you for the consideration you  
are giving in the affairs of the Oneida Indians.

I beg to advise at this time, in regard to my  
communication of October 17<sup>th</sup>. I was referring  
to William Skuandon so-called Head Chief, which  
is another group of Chiefs, and has no connections  
with the Kelloggs, but working on the same order as  
the Kelloggs, and still another group headed by  
Oscar Smith also Head-chief of his Chiefs.

The Wisconsin Laws of 1931 Ch. 14. - 14.53 (13)  
Provides for an Attorney to prosecute Indian claims.

Therefore I am very much interested in my  
People (Oneida Indians) in getting a fair deal  
and not to have the so-called head-chiefs of the  
Kelloggs, Skuandon or Smith, collecting funds

Acad  
File

N.B.

N.B.

to prosecute certain claims, and telling the  
Onidas not to pay taxes.

Very truly yours  
Morris Sheelock.

Box 71,  
Onida, Mo.

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Mr. Morris Wheelock,  
Box 71,  
Oneida, Wisconsin.

My dear Mr. Wheelock:

We have your letter of October 17, complaining against the exploitation of the needy Indians by the so-called Indian chiefs.

N.B.  
T

We agree with you that the Indians should use their funds for support purposes instead of turning them over to the chiefs for the prosecution of various claims. We are sending a copy of your letter to the Superintendent of the Keshena Agency and he is being requested to look into this matter and submit a report thereon. When it is received this matter will have our further consideration.

It is assumed, however, from the statements in your letter that you are referring to claims being put forward by the Kelloggs and their faction. If so, there are enclosed herewith one copy each of two form letters which have been prepared to send out to persons making inquiry in regard to these claims. You should bring this matter to the attention of all such Indians as were mentioned by you in your letter as being contributors to the funds of these people with a view to having them desist from making any further contributions.

*Warning  
about  
Kelloggs*

Sincerely yours,

*(Signed) John Collier*

Commissioner.

11-1-JMB#

Carbon with copy of Mr. Wheelock's letter to Keshena for report and recommendation in duplicate. Also, copies of form letters enclosed.  
Enclosure 315116

*X*  
INITIALING COPY FOR FILE  
*Tg*

Oneida, N.Y.  
Oct. 17, 1933

Hon. John Collier, Commissioner  
U. S. Dept. of the Interior,  
Office of Indian Affairs,  
Washington, D. C.



Honorable Sir,-

I wish to file my complaint in your office, in regard to the conditions now existing among the members of the Oneida Indians.

The Oneida Indians have been constantly exploited by members of their own tribe for the past several years.

There are self-styled chiefs of the non-existing Oneida Government, claim to know more about laws than the judges and the lawyers themselves. The followers are largely indigents who receive public aid, from the Town through the Tax-payers. These Indians or followers, will spend their last penny to help these so-called Chiefs, <sup>to</sup> push their claim against the State and Federal Government. I also happen to know that some of the Indians would get a Town Order ~~for~~ for Groceries, only to take a large share of the order of groceries to some home, where there is a Party

to raise funds for their Head-Chief, and who in turn takes the money, and nobody knows ~~who~~ for what purpose he uses the money, but I do know he has used the money for his Boogie to get drunk on, at least that is what I have been told by several of the Indians, and he has been seen several times Drunk here in the Village of Oneida.

There are Two groups of Indian Chiefs and Head-Chiefs, and both have followers, and both groups N.B. claim that they are going to take the land away from the Free Whites, on the grounds the land sales were illegal.

I am of the opinion that just a few of the land sales between the Indians and Whites were illegal, and if the Indian Office will investigate a few of these so-called illegal sales, I am sure these mistakes can be rectified to the satisfaction of the Whites and Indian. I saw a full blood Oneida Indian, and a N.B. citizen of the State of Wisconsin and the United States and I saw not a head of the Government.

Is there some way the Indian Office can step in and put a stop <sup>to</sup> this, or what I call an insane act, rather than downright ignorance on the part of the present fraudulent and faking self-styled chiefs of the non-existing Oneida government?

The Oneida Indians are in need of aid, such

as food, clothing, Medical and Hospitalization, and every cent they earn, should be used to their own benefit, & instead of trying to support their claim through their so called Head-Chief.

Anything the Indian Office can do for the Onida will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,  
Morris A. Hulock.

Box 71,  
Onida, Wis.