

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF TRIBAL STATUS

I. Reservations: Oneida Tribe

Location:

Northeastern Wisconsin in Brown and Outagamie Counties.
Agency headquarters are at Consolidated Great Lakes
Area Field Office, Ashland, Wisconsin.

II. Land

There are 2,852 acres in trust status, of which 2,209
acres are tribally owned and 643 acres are allotted.

III. Population

The tribal roll contains 3,572 persons. The Bureau assumes
some responsibility for 1,700 of them who live on the reserva-
tion or in the vicinity thereof.

IV. Progress Toward Withdrawal in 20-year Period ending June 30, 1954

1. Most of the families of this tribe live on taxable land and are entitled to the same public school privileges as other citizens. A few live on non-taxable land and these attend public schools on a tuition basis under the Johnson-O'Malley Act.
2. The Tomah Indian Hospital was closed and the services of a part-time contract doctor and a field health nurse were terminated. Contracts were made with the townships of Oneida and Hobard for medical and hospital services in lieu of Bureau operations.
3. Local relief agencies were prevailed upon to accept welfare responsibility.
4. The State and counties assumed responsibility for law and order, excepting for major crimes.
5. The responsibility for credit activities involving tribal funds was transferred to the tribe.

V. Progress Toward Withdrawal in Two-year Period ending December 31, 1955

1. All educational services have been transferred to the local public school districts and to the Wisconsin

State Department of Public Instruction under the Johnson-O'Malley Act.

2. On February, 1951, the State assumed full responsibility for the entire Indian welfare program through a special legislative Act. The Bureau supplements State welfare funds by a small annual contribution.
3. Responsibility for law and order assumed by counties and State under Public Law 280.
4. Responsibility for health program assumed by U. S. Public Health Service as of July 1, 1955.
5. Admission to any type Bureau school of children of this group has been discontinued entirely, although high school graduates are permitted to take post graduate work at Haskell.
6. Preparation of annuity pay roll amounting to \$1,800 annually and distribution of fifty-cent checks to 3,570 annuitants discontinued as of June 30, 1951. In lieu thereof, the full payment is credited to the Oneida Band for any purpose resolved by the General Council.

VI. Services Still Rendered on Reservation

The Bureau still renders services in the fields of IIM accounts, trusteeship of land, forest and range management, credit collections for credit previously extended, assistance on land assignments, and counseling and relocation.

VII. Negotiations Under Way for Withdrawal of Services, but not Completed On December 31, 1955.

1. It is proposed to issue 5-year restricted fee patents on land occupied by tribal members, sell tribal lands, and terminate forestry supervision after 5-year period. Legislation is necessary to accomplish this objective.
2. The Bureau has held conferences with the General Council to determine if this group would accept a lump-sum settlement of \$60,000 in lieu of an annuity payment of \$1,800 which the Bureau now makes.
3. It is proposed to transfer title from the Bureau to the Band for a frame garage on records with valuation of \$1,716, which has been converted to a community center, and for a shelter house (stone construction) valued at \$1,240.

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Viii. obstacles to withdrawal

1. Legal situation:

Treaties should be analyzed.

ix. Conclusion

This tribe is ready for complete withdrawal of Bureau responsibility for services and for termination of trusteeship responsibilities. The withdrawal is dependent upon legislation to assist in clearing the land status. This, and the treaty obligations involving annuity payment, appear to be the main obstacles at this time. The Bureau is furnishing very limited service to this tribe. Numerous members have demonstrated their ability to get along in the competitive world and are residing and employed away from the reservation.