

that every male on the reservation who was of marriageable age participated. As a result of this meeting it is stated that so soon as suitable arrangements can be made 1,000 couples will stand up and be married at the same time.

Go where you will, east or west of the Rocky Mountains, and you will find that practically every Indian tribe have long ago accepted the white mans way in the matter of marriage. Although living among the whites it was not so with the Winnebagoes, for these Indians have always maintained their tribal customs in regard to marriage. Perhaps there are many reasons on the part of the Winnebagoes for this sudden change on the question of marriage, but undoubtedly the matters of property rights, heirship, inheritance, etc., have had great weight in influencing the change on the part of the Winnebagoes just as they had upon their white brethren in the past.

Some little time back the government began the work of allotting to each Winnebago a farm. Next came the proposition of land for the children. This involved the matter of legitimacy of the children and considerable of a muddle resulted. This proved considerable of a task and was only satisfactorily settled with difficulty. The whole procedure has evidently proved a strong factor in causing a change of custom.

Considered from any point of view we are pleased to see the Winnebago people coming under the law in a matter of such vital importance as the marriage contract, regarding which heretofore the Winnebagoes have been social outlaws from the standpoint of so many of their fellows. This change of view denotes a big step forward on the march of progress and we congratulate the Winnebagoes most heartily.

SOCIETY OF AMERICAN INDIANS.

This society held its first annual conference at Columbus, Ohio, in October of last year. The formation of the society was the outward sign of inward growth on the part of the Indians—a movement of the race for its own betterment. It should have the heartiest support and co-operation of all Indians—and white people as well. We believe that it will receive this support. Of this we are certain: The movement will receive the support of all intelligent people regardless of race or country.

The work of the society will be to advance the Indians in all things which make for his enlightenment; to look into and assist in such things as are vital to him as a man and affect him in a legal way; to provide a bureau of information, including publicity and statistics; to