

I look for the time to come, and that time is not very far away, when school districts will be buying farms for the use of their teachers that their schools may do the work for which they are established. There are no country schools of this kind in Oregon at the present. I am informed that there is one in the state of Washington. Our Superintendent of Public Instruction is an up-to-date educator and I look for great attainments along this line.

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## THE INDIANS' CURSE

### COMMISSIONER SELLS ON THE MATTER OF WHISKEY AMONG INDIANS



We are in receipt of a circular letter from Judge Cato Sells, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, which is mighty nearly a classic in clear and forceful language and diction. We deem it worthy of the widest publicity, and are pleased to be able to assist in the same. The article as follows is an excerpt from an address delivered by Judge Sells on the evening of February 20, 1914:

"I believe that the greatest present menace to the American Indian is whiskey. It does more to destroy his constitution and invite the ravages of disease than anything else. It does more to demoralize him as a man, and frequently as a woman. It does more to make him an easy prey to the unscrupulous than everything else combined. If I say nothing more to you tonight that leaves an impression, let it be this one thought: Let us save the American Indian from the curse of whiskey.

"We have a force of men engaged in the suppression of the liquor traffic. That is their special business. But it is my business, and it is your business, to do everything we can without injecting ourselves offensively into the work of others or assuming a duty that is not properly ours, to create an atmosphere, and suggest conditions that will be helpful in this respect, and above all to be a personal object lesson inviting the Indian to banish liquor, rather than to be guilty of anything that may cause him to look upon one of us as a justification for doing that which leads him to the destruction caused by the use of whiskey.

"There is nothing that could induce me, since I have taken the oath of office as Commissioner of Indian Affairs, to touch a single drop of any sort of intoxicating liquor, and this regardless of my attitude on the prohibition question.

"As a matter of good faith to our treaty relationship, to legislative enactments, to the Congress which appropriates \$100,000 a year for the