

pose and real earnestness which he found on every hand.

He touched on the problems that face the red and black races and said that the contest of the white man for supremacy, so far as Indians was concerned, has produced an evolution that is amounting to a revolution.

It is unreasonable, he declared, for men to expect either the red or black race to accomplish in fifty or even a hundred years what it has taken the white race two thousand years to accomplish. He referred in passing to the fratricidal war now going on in Europe as a denial of even that civilization.

Commissioner Sells declared that the Indian Bureau is responsible, in a large measure, for the education, health, moral conditions, wealth, and possibly the destiny of a human race.

The Indians today have a vast property which is estimated at a billion dollars. White men are waiting to determine whether or not the young Indians can demonstrate their capacity for self-support. If the young Indians fail, then the next generation will not be given an opportunity, for by that time the white race will have sufficient excuse for appropriating what the Indians have.

"Young Indians," he said, "must meet new conditions and do the things that their mothers and fathers could not do, thereby justifying themselves and those who come after them."

Commissioner Sells said that he repudiates the doctrine that the Indian is a vanishing race. He added that Indians should be treated in their personal and property rights just as so many white persons under like conditions.

His closing thought was no man ought to be commissioner of Indian affairs who is unwilling to throw himself on the alter of the red race, regardless of the criticism, censure, and misunderstanding that may come to him.

The problem of learning how to do things worth while that will help solve the problem of life, is the one Indians must face. This is the problem that Hampton Institute has been working on for half a century.

Commissioner Sells spoke earlier in the day to the Indian boys and girls. "What are you here for?" This was his direct question. He said in substance:

If I could know the things you are interested in, and the kind of friends you have, I could very nearly place your destiny. If it were possible to fasten you to a huge derrick and swing you into the heart of some foreign country, the natural thing would be for you to earn a living.

You would place yourself among the same kind of associates that you have chosen here.

When you go home give value for value received. On no race