

Noted Indian Chief

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has diminished until they number less than 250 members. This state of affairs grieves the broken down old Apache ex-chief and advisor more than anything that ever came up in his life in times of war or peace. It has always been his ambition to have his tribe, like his white brethren, to thrive and increase in number and influence.

Geronimo was the chief attraction at the last pow-wow given by the blanket Indians at Collinsville. That time he met the Shawnees, Osages and a few Cherokees and Creeks. Geronimo went over with an armed escort, upon permission from Secretary William Taft, of the war department. J. A. Decker-son, secretary of the Collinsville Commercial club, came to Fort Sill and accompanied the old chief, his daughter and wife, to Collinsville. When old Geronimo reached the spot of the great Indian meeting and found there E. W. Logston, a Lawton photographer and one of his close personal friends, having made many photos for the old chief, who would not permit anyone to return home with him, rather preferring to come back with Mr. Logston.

There was nothing out of the ordinary in the dress of Geronimo to attract attention to his person, when he arrived at the pow-wow, but Geronimo was not to be outdone, and when he saw the Osage and Shawnees all togged out in their many colored blankets and glaring feather headgears and paint of gaudy tints, he retired to his tepee and soon emerged therefrom with all his war paint and feathers. He was a grand upstanding figure of a man. Yet he

looked deminutive beside the big fat forms of the Osage and the masculine Shawnees, until he looked around and then the big husky Osages and the tall shawnees seemed to wither away and leave but the single figure of the old warrior in the foreground.

He took occasion early in the convention of Indians to show his contempt for the blanket Indians. When he was introduced to the chief of the other tribes he held a limp hand and did not say a word. One of the other chiefs said it was like shaking hands with a monument.

In his speech made at that time he said "The hope of my people is the Christian Religion. By that alone will the remnant that remains be saved. They need some restraint. Too long have they been enemies of the white man. Too long have they fought the white men. The white brother will do alright by the Indians. It is the Indians' fault. I believe in God myself (Geronimo is a member of the Dutch reformed church near Fort Sill and is an active worker in the church) and every Indian ought to believe in God and follow his teachings. The sooner the Indians find that he will keep on dying out unless he does something to save himself, the sooner will the Indian amount to something. Indian amount to nothing now. Great white father pays no attention to Indian. Indian goes to great white father, gets drunk. Great white father disgusted and turns away. Indian ought to go to great white father like white man. White man goes to great white father, and great white father listens. White man goes sober, Indian should do same."