

Indian Reorganization Act

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So what this has really done, it has substituted in place of the governing system that the Indians had prior to the Indian Reorganization Act, a white man's idea of how they should live, rather a paternalistic type of government which had as its object the socializing of all the activities of the Indian people, and while farmers of this act and the ones who are responsible for the idea of formulating it probably had the best intentions in the world, I cannot help but think that there was maybe not an overt conspiracy, but one in the back of the mind of these bureaucrats to really perpetuate their own existence.

Question from Joseph H. Cash: The bureaucrats in the Bureau of Indian Affairs?

Roubideaux: Right! Now, when I speak of bureaucrats, I not only include the actual office holders, but the families and friends of all these office holders who form the controlling and guiding memberships of these eastern Indian organizations. I want to elaborate a little on the effects of the Indian Reorganization Act insofar as it has deterred the development and the independent thinking of the Indian

people.

In the first place, it set the Indian aside as a problem. The Indian was told he was a problem from the very day that he was born under this system and as he grew older, he was by the presence of these so-called experts in agriculture and ranching and other activities they were paying lip service to teaching the Indians, he was somehow made to feel that he was inferior, that he wasn't able to compete. So that the whole system emphasized the activities of the Indians as a whole for the benefit of the whole, rather than the individual, private enterprise of our American system.

He wasn't taught to be a capitalist, which he must be taught in order for him to survive in this country.

Many of the programs had limitations on them, particularly, say, the cattle program. They would allow an Indian to acquire some 200 head of cattle, and he couldn't get any more. I forget the exact figures, but there were limitations put on him so that any programs that were instituted were not aimed at benefitting the Indian, but where some side effects did benefit him,

it was probably an unfortunate occurrence because their main objective was to show what they've been doing to members of Congress on the Appropriations Committee to justify the millions of dollars they were spending when actually the Indian was getting little or no benefit from any of this.

And I think the main thing that was wrong with the whole thing was that the setting of the Indian aside on a different place in the state, designating him as a problem, making him feel he was a problem, beating down rebels, beating down Indians who expressed any independent thinking, rewarding collaborators, rewarding them with positions of importance and completely stifling independent and creative thinking from the Indian people, having different laws apply to him, setting up a different kind of government.

In other words, he wasn't under the same kind of government that his white neighbors were. Rather, what this Indian Reorganization Act should have done, it should have set up a county system exactly like the neighboring counties, with county officials, with municipal officials, with Indians going about their daily political and economic activities in the same way that other people in the state are, so that they

could benefit from the intercourse with their white neighbors and the meetings that we have, state-wide meetings of county officials, municipal officials, and in fact becoming part of the mainstream of American life.

'It had a lot of benefits'— Alfred Dubray praises the Indian Reorganization Act. He says:

The Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 dramatically changed the federal government's Indian policy. Not all Native Americans viewed the Indian 'New Deal' in equally positive terms. But in this 1970 interview, Sioux tribal leader Alfred Dubray argued that the Reorganization Act, on balance, brought positive changes.

Alfred Dubray: It had a lot of advantages that many of the people didn't see, such as making loan funds available, huge amounts of

that. Farm programs were developed through this. Cattle-raising programs were initiated. Educational loans were beginning to be made available for Indian youngsters who had never had any opportunities before, hardly, to attend any higher institutions. Unless they just did it by sheer initiative, and if somebody is sponsoring it. So there was a new field there in education, and of course they established their governing bodies, and voted on their representatives and Council members.

I think it was difficult for the people to really recognize what they were doing for probably several years after that, until they got into the change.

Article by **Lonnie James, Radine 'Deanie' Johnson**, Culture and Heritage Department. (This article will conclude in the April 21 Spilyay.)

Employment with the tribes

The following are positions posted by the Confederated Tribes Personnel Department. You can reach the department at 541-553-3262.

Archaeologist II. Patrol Sergeant. Part Time Surveillance Observer. Administrative Officer. Warehouse. Fish Tagger. Home Visitor. Firefighter - Fuels (five positions, permanent). Firefighter - Fuels (two positions), seasonal).

Travel Accountant. Data Processor Clerk. Support Services Coordinator. Conservation Enforcement Officer. Youth Program Employment. Wildlife Technician. Budget Contract and Grant Analyst.

Protective Care Provider. Outreach Coordinator. Covid Temporary Technician (six positions). Teacher Aide. Disabilities Coordinator. Wildland Fire Module Crew Member.

General Staff Technician. Indian Language Teacher. Limited Duration Fish Tech I. Hood River Fisheries Program Supervisor. Wildlife Technician. Wildlife Biologist II. Secretary - John Day.

Soil Scientist/Watershed Planner. Corrections Officer Trainee. Deputy Clerk. Director of Finance. Indian Language Teacher. Development Director. Corrections Officer (five positions). Wildlife Biologist II. Fisheries Department Manager. CPS Center Supervisor. US Census Field Representative. Treasury Controller.

The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Enforcement is hiring four new police officers. The officers will be based at Hood River or Boardman. Starting salary range is \$50,506 to \$55,157. Closing date is April 30. Employment application and full job announcement: critfc.org

Taking their games at the next level



Courtesy photos

Dominique Walker and Jiana Smith-Francis, during their playing days at Madras.

Dominique Walker and Jiana Smith-Francis this week are playing their first game as teammates on the Chemeketa Community College women's basketball team.

Dominique and Jiana are both former players for Madras High School, and both are from Warm Springs.

They play guard for the Chemeketa Storm, their first game scheduled for this Wednesday, April 7 against the Clackamas Cougars. The teams are the Northwest Athletic Conference.

The Cougars-Storm game will be at 5 p.m. at Chemeketa in Salem; their next game, this Saturday, April 10, at Clackamas in Oregon City.

Regional employment sees boost as restrictions ease

After moving out of the extreme category of Covid-19 public health restrictions, Central Oregon began to see more sustained job gains in February. Around seven out of every 10 jobs lost during the initial Covid-19 shock has been added back across the region.

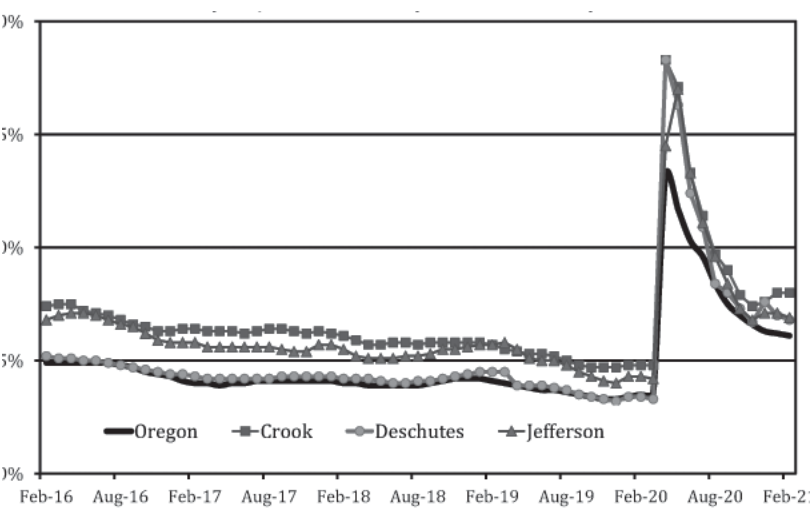
Jefferson County posted a modest loss of 20 jobs in February, due to seasonal adjustment.

In the county, the employment levels remain down around 2 percent from this time last year, or a loss of 130 jobs.

Jefferson County has regained 84-percent of the jobs lost since the initial Covid-19 shock. The leisure and hospitality sector remains down by 100 jobs from this time last year, and manufacturing is down by 40 jobs. Retail trade posted a gain of 50 jobs over the past year.

Crook County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was unchanged at 8 percent in February. The unemployment rate remains significantly higher than in February 2020, when it was 4.8 percent.

Employment in Crook County



Graph shows the large spike in unemployment a year ago, and the gradual recovery since that time.

remains down 3-percent from last year. The county has regained 69-percent of jobs lost last spring.

Deschutes County, especially the Bend-Redmond areas, saw the unemployment rate drop by 6.8 percent in February, down from 7.0% in January. The rate remains up from February 2020, when it was 3.4 percent.

Deschutes County posted a gain

of 430 jobs on a seasonally adjusted basis in February. These gains were primarily concentrated in leisure and hospitality, as the county moved out of the extreme category of Covid-19 restrictions, allowing for a return to indoor dining and recreation. There was also a notable gain in local government education, after a partial return to in-person school.



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