

showing the rate of assistance given to each band, the amount of work performed, so that a complete check is kept upon all property, and the Commissioner's intimate acquaintance with the circumstances of all Indians, enables him to tell whether the rule requiring that only sufficient help to enable them to help themselves is being adhered to.

The policy governing the Indians' agricultural operations is to confine them to what they can handle with such simple implements as are likely to be within their reach when they come to be thrown on their own resources, and to keep them all usefully employed. The use of labour-saving machinery, unless under exceptional circumstances, is discouraged.

Every effort is put forth to devise means by which the Indians can be enabled to earn money, whether by hiring out their services, selling hay, firewood, burning lime or charcoal, tanning hides, or any other of a dozen different ways. They are required, moreover, as they become sufficiently advanced, to manufacture their own hay-racks, bob-sleighs, harness, ox-collars, axe and fork handles, and so forth, at which they soon become very expert.

To encourage the care of cattle, and teach the Indians their value, animals are given to them under what is known as the "Loan System." By this, a certain time is allowed in which to return the animal originally lent, or one, equally good, from the progeny, which, in turn, is given out to another under like conditions, and thus a system is gradually brought about at a less cost than would be otherwise incurred. To encourage the Indian, as soon as a few animals have been acquired, he is allowed to sell a steer, part of the proceeds being given him to expend, the balance devoted to the purchase of a young heifer, with a view to yet further increasing his stock. By such methods, under careful supervision, some bands have already become practically self-supporting, while all are making rapid strides in the same direction. During all this time a main feature of the Department's policy had never for a moment been lost sight of, viz., the inculcation of a spirit of individualism, or preparation for citizenship.

The special legislation necessary for the protection of the Indians' interests against the superior business acumen of unscrupulous white men militates against this consummation, but nothing would be gained by conferring the full status of a citizen before the recipient had been carefully prepared to bear it, and the legislation referred to makes ample provision for the Indian's enfranchisement in due time.

» The first step in the course of this education is to overcome the inclination engendered by their natural manner of living, in which the industrious has to share the products of his