

about this act of 1946 it was enacted improperly, and it was promoted by the Indian Office, its promotion began several years before the enactment of the law.

The Indians have never had the say of whether or not they approved of this legislation.

In 1934 or 1935 the question of whether or not to adopt the Wheeler-Howard Act came before the tribe, and they had a secretarial election and everyone, every member, living on the reservation and outside voted and rejected the Wheeler-Howard Act overwhelmingly.

Commissioner Collier at that time did not like such action so he proceeded in about the year 1940 or 1941 to promote this legislation. It is in effect another Wheeler-Howard Act. But the Indians never liked it. I mean they never had a chance to vote on it.

I retired from this committee in 1955, and after that I represented an organization of the Yakima Indians which was very active for several years, petitioned the Secretary of the Interior for a secretarial election, but we never could get the approval of the Secretary. When we did try to elect opposition candidates to the tribal council, the chairman of the meeting would declare no quorum present, and adjourn the meeting, without date of such as took place at the annual meeting and election in July 1955, without a vote taken, and when fall came further postponements and delays were made which delayed the election for months, until the winter of 1958 when it was a difficult matter to travel from the west side of the Cascade range to the east side of the mountain range.

I feel it is my duty to come here and represent the majority of the Yakima Tribe.

Senator McGOVERN. Mr. Grorud, why did, in your judgment—you say the BIA actually pushed this legislation?

Mr. GRORUD. Oh, yes.

Senator McGOVERN. Why? Why would they be interested in legislation of this kind?

Mr. GRORUD. Well, they had the Wheeler-Howard Act and wanted the Yakimas added to it, but the Indians rejected that, and—

Senator McGOVERN. I see.

Mr. GRORUD. And as it is now. Commissioner Bennett testified before the subcommittee of the House on the Ullman bill. He stated to the committee that the Yakima Tribe is against this legislation. This is not true. The Yakima Tribal Council is, but not the tribe. I would say that the tribe is for this legislation.

Senator McGOVERN. The rank and file.

Mr. GRORUD. Yes, to repeal section 7. But it does not go far enough. It should be amended to include section 4, and all the provisions of the act.

In 1960 Congressman Tollefson introduced a bill, H.R. 1176, to repeal this act, and the Department submitted a report that would favor repeal of sections 4 and 7. So we acceded to that, and it passed the House on April 19, 1960.

It came to the Senate on April 20, 1960, and it never was considered by the Senate. The Senate did not adjourn until September 1960, however, the tribal council, by its delaying tactics, was strong enough to defeat consideration of this legislation during the 79th Congress.