

GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

1928-1930

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MRS. MIKE CONLAN
STATE CAPITOL, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.

Dublin, N. H.,
August 1, 1929

Mrs. Minnie Moore Willson
Grand Hotel
Broadway and 31st Street
New York City, New York

My dear Mrs. Willson:

I am sure you will be very pleased to know that I have received a letter from Mrs. Stramahan from which I quote the following extracts:

"Mrs. Willson is quite right in her objections to the conduct of some of the camps under white management but it is very difficult it seems to get any redress. I have gotten absolute evidence against Bert Lasher, one of the operators of a Miami camp and put it in the hands of a Federal Agent and still we were not able or successful in landing him. I understand that he returned very hurriedly from Atlantic City last week with his group of Seminole Indians, where he had a show. I understand he had spent much of his time in jail, but I do not know as yet any particulars.

If Mrs. Willson can do anything definite about some of these conditions she has my endorsement.

I could not at the present time give much personal assistance as I have the estate of my husband which is very much involved to work out - however, I have spent many many days in our courts fighting for our Indians against mistreatment and I have never won much in fact, nothing in point, only created a strong favorable sentiment. Willi Willi, one of our prominent Seminoles died here recently leaving his wife destitute. She was a Mohawk of New York State and quite a problem but after some intense work I succeeded in getting funds from her friends in New York City and she has returned."

2.

I expect to be in New York part of the day on Thursday August 8th and would like very much to see you. I will telephone your hotel upon my arrival there in the morning. Before then, however, I am to be in Washington and expect to see the Indian Commissioner since I am dining there with him and his wife. If you prepare for me a brief memorandum (typewritten) exactly what you feel the Indian Bureau should do at this time for the Seminole Indians of Florida, I will be very glad to present it to him but I advise you in all sincerity to be sure that it does not seem to be a memorandum prepared by someone who although a good friend to the Indians, would appear to any-one not absolutely familiar with the conditions of the Indians, to be partial fanatic. My experience has been that one must always be careful not to ask too much at any given time of the Government or one gets nothing. So please think over what you consider the very most important phase of the Seminole situation to be dealt with.

Please address your letter to me care of Mrs. Charles J. Rhoads, 2416 Tracy Place, Washington, D. C., and have it reach me there Tuesday Morning, August 6th; marking the envelope "Hold for Arrival".

I am

Most cordially yours,

Corinna Lindon Smith

(Mrs. Joseph Lindon Smith)
Chairman, Division of Indian Welfare

S:K