

Oct. 18 1928

My Dear Mr. Moseley:-

Your very welcome letter received and carefully read. Evidently each of us had been thinking of the other for days, telepathy. I am so glad you gave me the information about the Indians' land that you did. I have always wanted to know just what that country was like, and what it was good for. You understand that when it was selected, that was the only large tract, in any county of public land not cut up, and it was chosen because it was large, and because it was off by itself, where I thought the Indians could be by themselves, and not bothered by the whites. I could only select by a map. But I remember when the matter was being discussed by the I.I. Board Dr. Lawler stated that he did not consider the tract had more than 5% of tillable land on it. But from your statement I should say there was not that much good land on the tract. Do you think there is any hunting ground on the 109, 100 acres, except for otters? My idea was that a large tract like that, with game, and the whites kept off of it, the Indians could be fairly independent, with what crops they could grow. The Tánia Trail was the worse thing that could happen to that tract if it does have any game on it, in so far as the Indians are concerned, and their seclusion, and quiet.

What is your idea about the other reservation, some 25 miles south of Lake Okeechobee, is that land any better, you will it located on the state map. That was the tract the government commenced to fence for a stock farm for the Indians, but for some reason Capt. Spencer got cold feet on the project, and I understand the land is leased to some cattle man, but I do not know that to be a fact. But I do know that the friends of those Indians, must think out some plan for their future. Florida's good roads serves to carry the white hunters to the game, which makes the Indians future look gloomy.

I am both surprised and sorry, to find you sticking to Al Smith. While I have been a democrat all my life, and have never voted any but that ticket, at the same time I have fought the liquor evil all my life. In my opinion the liquor question is the MAIN ISSUE in this campaign, and Mr. Smith is WEE. As president he would have great power, in making appointments not only of the officers having the enforcement in charge but making appointments of the judges who will pass on any question that would come up. If you remember the democratic convention put in a plank squarely against the liquor question, and in favor of a strict enforcement of the 18 Amendment, but as soon as Mr. Smith was chosen, he immediately wires that he wants to change the Amendment and the Volstead act, and he and his chairman Mr. Rascob are both strong to modify or rather nullify the law.

I think Mr. Smith is the better, not me.

To say that our great Government is not strong enough to enforce the law is folly. We made England respect our power, and we can do the same to the bootlegger. I well know it has not been done, but it has been because those in power were really not trying to do it. At the same time what we have now is a thousand times better than what we did have with the open saloon. Should Mr. Smith be elected, then he could point to his vote, as being the will of America to modify the liquor question, while what we need is to have the law enforced. I am in hopes the \$25,000. offered by Mr. Durant for the best solution, will accomplish its purpose.

But Mr. Maseley, please dont think for one moment, that our different views on this question will make the slightest difference, in my love and high regard for you, nothing can change that. You are one of the finest men in the world, and I know will do only what you think is for the best. May the Lord bless and keep you in the hollow of His hand.

With much love and respect, I remain

Cordially and Sincerely Yours,