



has involved us in many programs to develop for income or for jobs the natural resources of the reservations--their fields, their forests, their mineral deposits, and even their beauty and scenery for the attraction of tourists.

But we nearly always find that we cannot get very far in this direction without encountering the problem of first developing the human resources of the reservations--their men, women, and children. That is why more than half the generous appropriations which Congress has been giving us the past few years is devoted to education.

Money, even through schools, cannot, however, accomplish everything. We need on the Indian reservations, among the Indian people, themselves, I believe, a still greater concern by adults for both the opportunities and responsibilities of young people. We need to find new ways to reduce the number of dropouts from school and to lessen juvenile delinquency. We need to encourage young people to do the best they are capable of, and to discourage them from the idleness that too often breeds violence and lawlessness. It is to this important end that the two new community centers may make their most vital contribution.

Of all the Indian people, the Nez Perce have the finest precedent for giving first thought to the welfare of their children. You may remember that when Chief Joseph and his valiant band were finally hunted down and surrounded by General Miles' troops, the chiefs held a council to decide whether they should surrender. Several of the chiefs wanted to fight on. But Joseph pointed to the starving women and children in the shelter pits and to the babies that were crying around them.

"For myself I do not care," he said. "It is for them I am going to surrender."

In the spirit of Chief Joseph, these buildings might well be dedicated to community concern for the growth in body and mind of the present generation of Nez Perce children.

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