

SHAKE-UP PRESSED AT INDIAN BUREAU

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**A Dominant Role for Indians
Is Aim of Reorganization**

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 8—A further shake-up in the Bureau of Indian Affairs to give Indians a dominant role at the top echelon was announced today by the Department of the Interior.

Indians will take over 10 or 15 major offices in the bureau in a reorganization designed by Commissioner Louis R. Bruce, an Ogalala Sioux-Mohawk from New York, to give Indians more voice in their own affairs.

Seven of the Indians are young activists who have clashed with old-line officials over programs, including a fight over the development of Indian resources.

Under the new plan, various functions of the old organization have been transferred to new offices to bolster economic, fiscal, educational and other programs.

Most of the Indian officials were brought into the bureau by Mr. Bruce. Some changes were announced recently but the over-all plan for reorganization of the headquarters was approved today by Secretary of the Interior Rogers C. B. Morton.

2 Major New Offices

Two major new offices were established. An Office of Administrative Services will be headed by Carl Cornelius, a Seneca. This office will handle personnel matters and contracts with Indian tribes for governing their own development projects, including educational facilities. An Office of Fiscal Plans and Management is designed to assure the bureau of tighter control over monetary problems. It will be headed by Jack Sykes, one of five white officials retained in the reorganization.

Herschel A. Sahmaunt, a Kiowa who has been in charge of tribal relations, will become acting head of the Office of Legislative Development. Flore Lekenof, an Alaska Aleut, will become acting head of the Office of Community Services. He succeeds Earnest L. Stevens, an Oneida from Wisconsin, who will head the Office of Economic Development.

Mr. Bruce also has added a Youth Programs Office, which will be under Hanay Gogiamah, a Kiowa-Delaware, to concentrate on the problems of young adult Indians, particularly at the college level.

Tom Oxendine, a Lumbee from North Carolina, who has been chief of public information, will become acting head of an office of communications.

Harry Rainbolt, a Pima who has been an assistant to the commissioner, was named director of Indian agencies in the Southeastern region. William B. Freeman, former director of economic development, was named assistant to the commissioner.

Previously announced were the appointments of Alexander S. Macnabb, a Micmac from Maine, as director of the Office of Engineering and Construction; Harold D. Cox, a Creek and old-line employe, as director of the Office of Management Systems, and Hans Walker, a Mandan, as chief of the new Office of Indian Water Rights. Mr. Cox was an associate commissioner. The two associate commissioner offices have been abolished.

Four Transferred

The other four white officials in the reorganization plan were transferred from other posts. They are Milton C. Boyd, Office of Audit; H. Maurice Joyce, Office of Inspection; Robert P. Gajdys, Office of Planning, and James Hawkins, Office of Education Programs. Mr. Hawkins has been acting director of the old Office of Education.

Miss Helen Peterson, an Ogalala Sioux, will become the bureau's permanent representative to the Interior Department's Federal center in Denver, to maintain closer relationships with other Federal agencies in various programs.

Economic development, including efforts to attract industries to or near Indian reservations, is expected to get special emphasis from Commissioner Bruce now that he has solved internal strife to the satisfaction of Interior officials.

Harrison Loesch, Assistant Secretary for Public Land Management, and Richard S. Badman, Assistant Secretary for Management and Budget, viewed the reorganization as creating a better atmosphere in the bureau and in relations between the bureau and ranking Interior Department officials.