

HOLDENVILLE TIMES

Holdenville, Ind. Ter.  
Friday, Jan. 12, 1906  
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EDITORIAL ON ENROLLMENT  
OF CHOCTAW & CHICKASAW CHILDREN  
OF AN INTERMARRIED WHITE CITIZEN

The Dawes commission has been ordered to hear all applicants for enrollment as Choctaw and Chickasaw citizens whose cases are analagous to the Louis West and Elizabeth Martin cases. The former is a case where a citizen was recognized as having rights in the nation prior to 1896. The latter is that of a child of an intermarried white citizen, who was given an allotment.

This order from the department opens the entire question of citizenship in these two nations and throws open the rolls to thousands of applicants who were rejected by the citizenship court or at least gives them an opportunity to make a fight for enrollment before the Dawes commission. It has created a great stir in these

two nations and ever since the decision of the cases referred to, lawyers from these two nations have been flocking before the commission preparing the hundreds of cases that will now have to be thrashed out by the commission. William O. Beall, secretary to the commission, stated that he could not estimate the number of applicants that this would bring before the commission, but that there would be hundreds of them perhaps thousands. The enormity of the task thus set for the commission will be understood when it is learned that in a single case of this character there are often hundreds of pages on typewritten testimony and dozens of witnesses have to be brought in in each case. This order will delay matters in closing the allotments of the lands in the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations for months and possibly a year.

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