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EDITORIAL ON CHICKASAW-CHOCTAW FUNDS

Washington, D. C., Feb.-- (Special) -- Congress-
man Charles D. Carter, who was a prominent figure in
the discussion of the Interior Department appropriation
bill which has just been passed by the House of Representa-
tives, has been assured that the Indian Bureau is in
sympathy with his demand that the balance of the funds
now held by the government for the Chickasaw and
Choctaw tribes of Indians should be divided among them
as soon as possible.

Discussing on the floor of the House the
Oklahoma items in the bill, Congressman Carter called
attention to the testimony given by the Interior Depart-
ment officials, which showed that during the years 1908
to 1922, inclusive \$26,106,280 was distributed in per
capita payment to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations.
This amount gave each person a sum between \$900 and
\$1000. According to the report of the Department, this
leaves a balance of \$1,089,195.70 which the government

now holds in favor of the Choctaws and Chickasaws.

Congressman Carter is stressing the contention that this balance should be divided as early as possible. Distributed per capita among the 27,103 members of the two tribes, the \$1,089,195.70 would provide a payment of from \$30.00 to \$40.00 for each individual, he pointed out. Congressman Carter quotes the Indian Bureau as being in sympathy with his demand and said they expect to provide this payment during the coming spring or summer.

One-sixth of the coal deposits in the aggregated mineral lands belonging to these Indians have been disposed of, Congressman Carter points out. He states that he has the promise of the Indian Bureau officials that an attempt will be made to sell the remainder of the coal deposits during the present year.