

## University of North Dakota **UND Scholarly Commons**

William Langer Papers

Elwyn B. Robinson Department of Special Collections

1-13-1948

## Letter from Gierke to Senator Langer Regarding Fort Berthold Reservation, January 13, 1948

WF Gierke

Follow this and additional works at: https://commons.und.edu/langer-papers



Part of the Political History Commons, and the United States History Commons

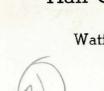
## **Recommended Citation**

Gierke, WF, "Letter from Gierke to Senator Langer Regarding Fort Berthold Reservation, January 13, 1948" (1948). William Langer Papers. 462.

https://commons.und.edu/langer-papers/462

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Elwyn B. Robinson Department of Special Collections at UND Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in William Langer Papers by an authorized administrator of UND Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact und.commons@library.und.edu.

## Half Circle Lazy 4 Ranch



H. F. GIERKE, JR., OWNER
Watford City, North Dakota

Jan. 12, 48.

Hon. Wm. Langer,

Washington D.C.

Dear Senator;

Have yours of Jan.6, and will say that I don't know too much about the Ft. Totten or Turtle Mt., Indians, but our papers tell us the Indians from those reservations are often in trouble with the law. That of course is due to lack of food, and proper instruction. We haven't that trouble oh the Ft. Berthold Reservation yet, the indians here are morally U.K. and more honest than their white brothers, but they can be starved to anything.

The only way to give you ant authentic report on their condition would be to spend a week contacting them personally, you can't get the true picture at an agency. Of course giving them money is just temporary relief, realy detrimental and shouldn't be resorted to unless absolutely essential. I contend that it is a crime against our country, as well as the Indians themselves, to allow a group of people within our border, as physically and mentally able as they are, become a burden to this country because of improper instruction. Why I have seen Indian parents take their children out of the reservation schools, because the schools were so lousy' and spend their meager earnings sending their children to a white mans school.

These Indians have everything to make them selfsupporting, selfrespting citizens, but proper, understanding instruction. These people or the taxpayers money shouldn't be sacraficed just to create a few soft jobs.

Resp. Yours,