



For the personal attention
of the Commissioner.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SCHOOL.

CARLISLE, PA.

Education-
Schools.
H B P

April 20th, 1911.

Enrollment
of pupils.

APR 21 1911
U.S. DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

33276/11 Carlisle 820

The Honorable,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

FILED BY C. P. F.

Sir:

I have your letter of April 14th and have carefully noted its contents. The inference drawn by your Office in the latter portion of the letter is altogether a mistaken one.

The Carlisle School does not take and has never taken, so far as I know, students, primarily or incidentally, because of their availability as bright students in the academic department. Emphasis is laid at Carlisle on instruction in the trades and industries, and the paramount purpose of the school is to fit Indians to be competent workmen rather than literati.

Very respectfully,

M. Friedman

Superintendent.

MF/HKM.

Esch

No answer required.

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APR 14 1911

Mr. Moses Friedman,

Superintendent Carlisle Indian School,
Carlisle, Pa.

FOR FILE.

Sir:

Among several letters recently referred to this Office relating to the enrollment of certain pupils at Carlisle, is one dated September 22, 1910, addressed by you to Mr. James A. Carroll, Superintendent Mescalero School, Tularosa, New Mexico. The following paragraph is quoted from this letter:

It is believed that the prospective students referred to in our correspondence would be desirable for enrollment at Carlisle, as it seems that they have had sufficient public school training to enable them to make rapid progress in their study and training here.

I desire to call your special attention to this part of the correspondence for the reason that the enrollment of Indian children in Government Indian schools, who have had public school privileges, is in direct opposition to the policy now being pursued. A very determined effort is being made to increase the enrollment of Indian children in the public schools,

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No answer required.

and wherever it is found that children who are now enrolled in the Government schools, live within reasonable distances of public schools, and may have the opportunities offered thereby, it is proposed to eliminate them from Indian schools as rapidly as possible. A thorough and careful investigation is being made along this line this year by the school Supervisors, and many such pupils have been already eliminated and others will be during the remainder of the year.

You should be very careful to determine definitely in the future, when you receive applications from any Indian children whether they live in communities where they may have public school privileges, and if so, they should not be enrolled in your school.

There are thousands of Indian children out of school who cannot possibly have public school privileges. It should be the policy of every school to take care of that class of Indian children before admitting any who are of doubtful eligibility, or any who live within reach of public schools and may get their education without the aid of the Government.

A recent examination of the pupils enrolled at Carlisle ^{who} develops the fact that you have many pupils there whose homes are in civilized communities where there are good public schools. This will be the subject of further correspondence

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but is called to your attention at this time because apparently you have not realized that it is the desire of the Office that such children should not be enrolled in Indian Schools, but have, on the contrary, as is indicated by the quotation in the beginning of this letter, encouraged the enrollment of such children because of the fact that they would be desirable and would make rapid progress in their studies and training at Carlisle.

The purpose of this letter is to put very clearly before you the policy of the Office in this matter in order that there may not be similar mistakes made in the future.

Respectfully,

(Signed) R. G. Valentine,

Commissioner.

File

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FILES.