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OFFICE OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS
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1886

19/283

R. H. Pratt

Carlisle Pa

July 18/86

Replies relative to
Letter 17 mit regarding
pay of apprentices
making suggestions
etc.

To Pratt Apr. 20 '86

file

encl

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U. S.

Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa., Feb 18. 1886.

To the Hon.

The Commr. of Indian Affairs,
Washington D.C.

Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 17th inst. in regard to pay of Apprentices at Indian Training Schools, I have to say that I fully concur with the views expressed by the Supt. of Schools, which were that for the first two years the pay should be much less than for the third year. I would say that for regular apprentice work at trades the first three months' work had better be probationary and without pay; after that a per diem of 8[¢] for the first year, 12[¢] for the second, and 24[¢] for the third year & after would, in my judgment, cover the

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Comm.

Purposes for which the payments are made. I think the pay for farm boys should begin with the work and be at the rate of 12[¢] per day, except in harvest, when the best hands might receive 24[¢] per day. The other regular work such as Janitors &c, whom School Supts. may think best to pay, I would allow 8[¢] or 12[¢] per day in the discretion of the Supts, and let pay begin with the work. Working half days as our system requires, these wages would give about \$1.⁰⁰ per month to the 8[¢] students, \$1.⁵⁰ to the 12[¢] and \$3.⁰⁰ to those allowed 24[¢] -

In connection with this matter a regular Saving & Banking System should be carried out, and as near as possible every cent expended by the students should be under the direction & approval of the School authorities. I require Students to state what they intend

Comm.
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to buy and the amount they desire to pay before giving them money, then in order to protect their interests I require them to show the articles purchased.

This is some trouble, but it gives me the fullest opportunity to teach the lessons of economy and forethought that every youth must learn.

While, on paper, our system seems to require an output of about \$2500.00 per year it is not really an expense, because the purchases by the students are almost entirely of clothing and other articles and expenses that are a saving to the school.

Very Respectfully,

Your Obedt. Servt.

L. H. Pratt

Sept. 10th 1897
Supt.

Hampton recommends 25¢ per 10 hours
" pays 5⁰⁰ per mo - for 10 hours a day
" 25⁰⁰ " " " half days
Charles 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ ¢ a day -

~~24~~ 30 2 $\frac{1}{2}$

U. S.

Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa., Feb 17th 1886

Hon. Jno H. Oberly
Supt. Indⁿ Schools
Washⁿ D. C.

Dear Sir:

Considering that the subject of pay to student apprentices was broached by you, I think I may venture to write you my views direct, without being liable under red tape laws, and as I go away from home for a few days, I do so now in order that if you are moving in the make up of regulations, you may have the concurrence of my judgement with your own in doing it.

I think that for the trades, a probation of three months would be best, and after that a per diem of eight cents the first year, twelve cents for the second year, and twenty-four cents for the ^{third} ~~fourth~~ year and after would cover the purposes for which the payments are made. The pay to farm boys should begin at once and be at the

rate of twelve cents per day for all time except harvest when I would increase the pay to twenty four cents for the best hands. The other regular work such as Janitors & whom the School Supts. may think best to pay should be at eight or twelve cents per day in the discretion of the Supts. and pay begin with the work.

Working half days these wages would give about \$1.00 per month to the eight cent, \$1.50 to the twelve cent, and \$3.00 to the twenty-four cent students.

I encourage and require savings, and each student has a bank book, in which an account of his or her savings and expenditures are carefully entered at the same time the entry is made in the ledger. When any expenditure is contemplated the student is required to report what he wants and the price to be paid, and then to show the articles purchased. In this way we have full opportunity to direct to wise purchases, and admonish and reprove.

Most of the money goes for clothing and other

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Obvls

necessities that become a saving to the school, and, although on paper our out put seems to be near \$2500.⁰⁰ per year, we cannot really call it an expense. No other means as good, have come to me, to enable the teaching of the all important lessons in the uses of money and care and thought in commercial matters.

While I am writing I wish to have your attention to the matter of getting in a new supply of students. In corresponding with Capt. Lee at the Cheyenne Agency I find him favoring the sending in of a party about the time of closing the Agency schools: and Mr. Watson who seems to have some charge of Friends Missionary matters at and about the Quapaw Agency has asked to send or bring in a party, and I have notified him I would receive twelve to sixteen half of each sex, and otherwise suitable, but he must go to the Agent, and get him to act in the matter. I would think that Capt. Lee's suggestion might be the basis for some

H
Oberly

general instruction to all agency schools.
The lack of system, which you deplore
in your report is most hurtful. I want
200 new students before Sept. 1st next and
if I may have them all in May and June
I can take care of them. I wish you
would fix a line to which I can
work as early as practicable, and make
it possible for me to appear in some
more peaceful character than that of
private.

Truly Yours

Rt. Pratt
Capt. & Sup.