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Indian Affairs, 1893  
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
See 42805/93.  
8694  
INDIAN DIV.  
Ind. Ind'l. School - Carlisle - Pa.

A. M. Pratt - Capt. 10<sup>th</sup> Cav. U.S.A.  
Supt.

August 23/93

AUTHORITY  
37676 RECEIVED  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS. NOV 27, 1893

In reference to  
lighting Carlisle  
School by Elec-  
tricity. (NO)

Letter to Pratt Aug. <sup>30</sup>~~29~~/93 ✓

To Secty. Nov. 22/93 ✓

Letter to Pratt Nov. 29/93 ✓

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U. S. Indian School,  
Carlisle, Pa.

August 23rd, 1893.

To the Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:--

I have, for some time back, laid out to have the principal improvement we would make at the school for this year, the introduction of electric lighting. While I have safely conducted the affairs of the school for 14 years and used coal-oil lamps, it has been a source of the most constant and wearing anxiety. The use of hundreds of lamps nightly, throughout the buildings, in the hands of Indian children, could not be otherwise, but in all that long period, we have had no fires, and have met with no accidents that were material. We might easily, in a few hours, by a little carelessness, lose many times the cost of introducing and using electricity. We have found the three arc lights on the grounds, no end of advantage in the night care and safety of our property. Our school building, which had been lighted with electricity for the last four years, has given us great comfort and satisfaction. Formerly, when using lamps, besides a much less effective light, the air was greatly vitiated by the heat and flame, and the lamps were especially obnoxious in the early fall and late spring study-hours, on account of the heat.

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Commissioner----2.

I have, for several years, made the subject of lighting the entire school by electricity, a careful study, and have consulted several electrical engineers and had estimates made, both from the point of having a plant of our own and managing it ourselves, and of being lighted from the town supply. From the best information I can get, I find that the cost of running a plant ourselves would be greater than taking the supply from the town. We should be compelled to keep a skillful man to handle the light, besides additional men to keep the plant running all night and every night. Also that the installation would cost us from three to four times as much, as we would have to buy an engine and dynamo and pay for all large outside wires. By taking it from the town, we buy nothing but lamps, wires, and other material placed in the buildings.

I have had a great deal of dickering with the town people in regard to the price, and have finally arrived at conclusions which seem to me to be as low and as advantageous as we could possibly ask. Of course, in a new arrangement, we shall have to cancel old ones.

Our needs are 3 arc lights all night on the grounds, as at present; 2 arc lights for use every evening in the school chapel, as at present; 1 arc light in the dining hall for use early in the morning, and in the evenings when the days are shorter; 2 arc lights in the Gymnasium; and for lighting the buildings we need

about 153 sixteen-candle-power lamps and 560 ten-candle-power lamps. This would include re-arranging the lighting of the 14 school-rooms, placing <sup>10</sup> ten-candle-power incandescent lamps, on an incandescent line, in each school-room, instead of one 100-candle-power lamp on the arc line, as now. I have tested the distribution of the light by the ten-candle-power lamps, and am satisfied that it is far better for us than the one 100-candle-power lamp, inasmuch as we can distribute the light thoroughly over the room.

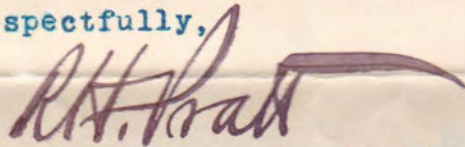
The Company agrees to install the incandescent lights, furnish the lamps, do the wiring and all the work inside the buildings,---we to own the wire and lamps, but not the holders---at \$2.00 per lamp, whether ten or sixteen candle-power, as the cost appears to be the same. The wiring in every case will be for sixteen-candle-power lamps, but the ten-candle-power lamp is sufficient for the most of places. The Company will furnish us the light for all this at an annual cost of \$1935.00--any increase or decrease there- to to be in proportion.

The advantages are---far better lighting, and the reduction of danger from fire to a minimum, as in this case, in addition to having no fires for heating, we shall be free from dangerous fire-producing lamps for lighting, in all of our buildings. We shall also be able to control absolutely, the lighting of the rooms, giving great assistance to discipline and system in the quarters.

31635 Commissioner----4.

I respectfully request your authority to install Electric lighting here, and to pay the Electric Light Company for 713 lamps, at \$2.00 each, \$1426.00, the care of the lamps to be at the Company's own cost, also to enter into agreements to pay them \$1935.00 per annum for the light furnished.

Very respectfully,



Capt. 10th Cavy., U.S.A., Supt.