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OFFICE OF  
Indian Affairs  
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1898

Indian Industrial School,

5/29<sup>3</sup> Carlisle, Pa. Aug. 18 1898

Pratt, R. H.,

Captain 10th Cav'y, Sup't

Replies to Circular  
18 marked "Education",  
dated July 26, re-  
lating to estimate of  
funds required to  
maintain this school  
during fiscal year 1900.

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Department of the Interior,  
INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,

Carlisle, Pa., Aug. 18, 1898.

The Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Replying to Circular 18 marked "Education," dated July 26, relating to the estimate of funds required to maintain this school, for the fiscal year 1900, I have to respectfully inform you that the school plant is, as a whole, in fair condition, and has been kept in this condition during the past year with very limited expense for repairs.

After sending off home-going students, there remained a total of above 800. Our average total for the ten school months beginning September, 1897 and ending June 1898, inclusive, was 847. The average total for the whole year July 1897 to June 1898 inclusive, was 821. The greatest number enrolled at any one time was 861, and total number under care throughout the year was 1080. I have frequently brought the Department's attention to the fact that we are able to carry with our outing, one thousand pupils, but to do this, we should have an increase in appropriation. It is my desire to carry on our present appropriation for the current year, about 900.

The pupils of this school are drawn from nearly all the

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tribes within the United States, who are eligible to attend Government schools. This plan of placing pupils from many tribes in the same school is fruitful of the best results, having the effect of bringing about homogeneity among the different tribes, and the breaking up of tribalism. Being located at this point, remote from reservation and "tribal" influence, and surrounded by active, industrious civilization, it also has the effect to end prejudice and bring better relations between the Indians and the whites. We are only limited in accepting students here to the restrictions against taking from the five civilized tribes.

The number and value of buildings are the same as last year, that is, 34 buildings, whose estimated value is \$191,075. The sewerage, water supply, heating and light conditions are the same as last year. The sewerage is not satisfactory, but we have as yet experienced no material trouble. We have waited for years the carrying out of proposed plans by the borough authorities, which, as explained in my letter of last year, offer the best solution; but which, I fear, will need a fever epidemic to secure action. I am now inclined to think that it is time for us to act independently, and propose to set apart a small section of low ground on our farm down-stream from the school sufficiently distant, and turn our sewerage into a bed of sand, through which liquids would filtrate, and so lose the objectionable feature, to their flowing off into the small stream into which we have been emptying sewage all the years. My school physician urges this.

Our water supply, by means of cisterns and filtered water, from the town company, is satisfactory.

The conditions of the heating plant I explained fully in my letter of August 20, 1897. The minor repairs and alterations then spoken of were made as contemplated, and the results were satisfactory. We passed a comfortable winter, owing greatly, however, to its being an unusually mild one. This year it is necessary to replace a considerable portion of the steel smokestack, which is now being done by our own labor, and we shall be able to get through another winter with the present equipment. The plan for changing the location of the boiler house, renewing and enlarging the system as set forth in my letter of last year, should not, in prudence, be longer deferred. I trust that there will be no objection in the Department to asking that the appropriation necessary for the accomplishment of this change be embodied in the estimate for the coming year.

Owing to the large number of pupils carried without any increase in appropriation, it was not possible to carry out the building plan contemplated last year for additional class-rooms. I therefore renew in estimate for coming year, the amount asked for that purpose. Other repairs and improvements necessary for the coming year, are the replacing of the roof on the dining-hall, which was of wood shingles, and is now 15 years old. For several years I have been compelled to patch. When renewed, this had better be of metal shingles. There should also be a very considerable amount of gutter and down-spouting renewed on many of the buildings. The re-making of road-ways on the school premises with crushed

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stone and a top dress of gravel is a needed improvement.

The situation in regard to the electric light has been quite a little improved over last year, by reason of the modification of the agreement with the town company, giving us almost one-third more light at scarcely any increase over the original agreed cost.

I still consider it advisable that with the removal and increase of our heating plant, we change our plan of electric lighting, and produce our own current, and at the same time make our own power for running machinery.

I therefore submit as necessary for the proper conduct of this school, including the improvements designated, all with a view to our carrying one thousand children, using the outing, during the year 1900, as follows:

For support, transportation and ordinary repairs,	\$ 120,000.00
For the building of a new heating plant near the Railroad, and for building a siding and coal storage, including an electric light plant,	17,000.00
For an addition to the school buildings and for the furnishing of the same,	8,000.00
For repairs to dining-hall, buildings, roadways, and general improvements of grounds, drainage, etc., including change and care of sewage,	4,000.00
For extra pay of officer in charge,	<u>1,000.00</u>
In all,	\$ 150,000.00

Your attention is invited to the fact that this will be a per capita cost of only \$150 per student, and includes cost of all improvements and transportation.

Very respectfully,

Maj. 1st Cavy, Supt.