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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
Rec'd NOV 26

1898

54/7

Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa. Nov. 23. 1898.

Pratt, R. H.,

Captain 10th Cav'y, Supt.

*Replying to Circular
No 70, Regarding
capacity of school.*

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Department of the Interior,

INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT,

Carlisle, Pa., November 23rd, 1898.

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

Sir:
Replying to circular letter No. 10 of November 11th, marked "Education", the following table covers the capacity of rooms used for sleeping, dining and school room purposes at this school:

Location and Uses of Room	No of Rooms	Dimensions	Sq. Ft of Floor Space	No of Occupants	Capacity Each by Dept. Rule	Total Capacity, as used now	Total Capacity by Dept. Rule
Boys' Sleeping	26	13'x13'9"x10'	179	3	4-1/2	78	117
" "	7	13'x13'9"x10'8"	179	3	4-1/2	22	31
" "	16	13'2"x14'3"x11'	187	3	4-1/2	48	72
" "	36	13'2"x14'5"x10'	190	3	4-3/4	108	171
" "	36	13'2"x14'6"x9'	191	3	4-3/4	108	171
Girls'	12	14'x13'6"x9'9"	189	3	4-3/4	36	57
" "	29	14'x13'6"x10'	189	3	4-3/4	87	137
" "	28	14'x13'6"x10'	189	3	4-3/4	84	133
" "	7	12'6"x16'6" x10'	206	4	5-3/20	28	36
" "	2	16'6"x16'6" x10'	272	3	6-3/4	6	13
" "	2	14'3"x8'6"x10'	121	2	3-1/10	4	<u>6</u> 944
Dining Hall	Hall	125x50x16 34x32x16	7338	614	611		611
School Rooms	4	25-1/2 x33x13	842	49 to	49-1/2	196	198
	2	28x29-1/2x13	826	52 "	48-1/2	98	97
	8	33x28-1/2x13	941	"	55	392	<u>440</u> 735

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By the above you will see that according to the Department allowance we have dormitory space for 944 pupils, dining-room capacity for 611, and school-room capacity for 735.

When erecting our dormitory buildings, I consulted the best intelligence I could find on the subject. My principal advisor was Dr. Cornelius R. Agnew of New York City, since deceased, who always took a great interest in the school, and who was regarded as the highest authority. He urged that I should allow at least 600 cubic feet of air space for each pupil in the dormitory, and not less than 250 cubic feet for the school-room. The allowance the Department makes for dining-hall and school-room is not materially different from what we arranged for, but the dormitory allowance is so greatly in excess that I feel your attention should be specially called to that.

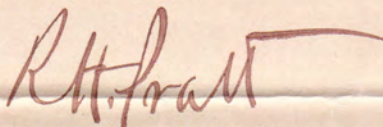
Carlisle is different from the other schools in its dormitory arrangement, as the rooms are all small, four pupils being the largest number in any one room, unless we are much crowded. The rooms are generally calculated for only three. I have always felt that we could safely carry 700 with our present dormitory, school and dining-room capacity, but that the wiser number was about 600. In our dormitories we have furniture much in excess of the allowance of other schools. For each three persons there is a triple wardrobe, table, washstand, chairs, three single beds, and usually a small trunk for each student. In the girls' quarters the trunks are put in the halls, but there is a bureau in each room instead. In arranging our present buildings we placed emphasis

on the family and individualizing effect and endeavored to exclude the massing and herding principle.

Ventilation is the greatest factor. Small allowance, where the air can be changed easily and constantly, is all right, but in severe winter climates when the cold is so intense that there must be almost absolute shut off of outside air in order to protect against freezing, the small allowance is disaster. I would suggest a modification of the rule, so that schools, where, on account of excessive cold weather, close quarters are at such times a necessity, be allowed a larger air space.

The move of the Department to direct and become responsible in this matter is certainly most welcome. There is no doubt that anxiety to carry numbers and make a big showing has led to great injury to health, and even to considerable mortality among the students at many Indian schools.

Very respectfully,



Major 1st Cav'y., Supt.

(Dictated) Mc