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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
Rec SEP 25

1900

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Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa. Sept 24 1900

Pratt, R. H.,

Major 10th Cav'y, Supt.

Refers to circular
dated Aug 15 th
in reference to
Property Accounts

To Pratt Sept 29/00

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Department of the Interior,
INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,

Carlisle, Pa., Sept. 24, 1900.

To The Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

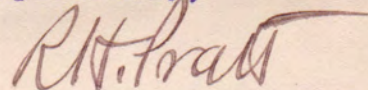
Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

Referring to your circular dated August 15th requiring me to personally superintend the taking of an actual inventory of all property under my accountability for the first quarter of 1901, and that employes shall assist therein and sustain my honor certificate with their oaths as to its correctness, and indicating that for this particular property return, there must be a careful note of all property conditions as good, fair, or bad with a view of bringing all unserviceable property before a board of survey. I have the honor to respectfully advise you that my method is to hold every employe responsible for the property directly under their care. The several industrial teachers are responsible for the tools and material issued to them; the principal of the Educational Department is responsible to me for all the books, school material and supplies of every sort; the farmers for the things issued to them and so on. A property report together with a certificate of its correctness is required from them every quarter before my property returns are made up. We hold our inspection of unserviceable property about the close of the calendar year for the reason that during the late summer and fall, we are daily receiving supplies, and are pressed with the

organizing of the school and getting everything into running order. You can thus see that all my employes as well as myself have about all we can attend to. I believe that in the main, I comply with the requirements of the circular of Aug. 15th, every quarter instead of once a year. As under my commission I am held accountable for the property and give my certificate as to its correctness quarterly, this excessive multiplying of counting and of affirming and swearing to support the affirming is humiliating and over-burdensome. If I could spare the employes, the work could not be completed inside of a month; and then from the very conditions of the case no person could properly swear that the count was correct because of the great quantity of some articles in use in many places, and the large daily uses and shifting to interfere. However necessary elsewhere, I believe this special inventory unnecessary here, and as the interests of the Government are not suffering, I request to be relieved from compliance with said circular.

Very respectfully,



Major 10th Cavalry, Supt.

D. E. M.