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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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INDIAN DIVISION

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INDIAN AFFAIRS.

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Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa. Oct. 23, 1900.

Pratt, R. H.,

Major 10th Cav'y, Supt.

Asking authy. to buy 2
Formaldehyde Generators for dis-
infecting and a barrel of wood
alcohol -- all not to exceed \$15.00

To Secy. Oct. 24/1900.
Tel. to Supt. Oct. 25/1900
To Supt. - Oct. 30, 1900.

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SPECIAL

52475

Department of the Interior,

INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,

Carlisle, Pa., Oct. 23, 1900.

To The Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir :-

We are again in the hands of an epidemic of measles. A girl arrived here in a party from New York about five weeks ago and had the measles when she arrived. We isolated her and in a few days another of the same party came down. From that the disease has been spreading until we have now 16 cases with a fair prospect that the exposures have made it impossible for us to further protect ourselves and we must go through it. Diphtheria is epidemic in Carlisle now.

There has been a need at the school for a long time for some method of thoroughly disinfecting the clothing of students on arrival here, and disinfecting rooms, bedding, etc. This matter has been the subject of several investigations on the part of my school physician and myself; but it has not seemed that the appliances we could hear of were such as would do very much good. I may say that in our investigations we have consulted the surgeon general of the army, the surgeon general of the navy and the state boards of health of New York and Pennsylvania. Apparatuses made in New York and Philadelphia although they seemed to promise well we decided not to get after consulting those who had made use of them. It now turns that an invention in which wood alcohol is used is regarded by Surgeon General Weyman of the Navy as thoroughly effective and is in use at Governor's Island and throughout the navy hospitals. At my instance my

Comm. of Indian Affairs.

school physician has made a thorough investigation of it in connection with one of our most efficient health officers in Carlisle, a man somewhat eminent in chemistry. The following is the doctor's recommendation in regard to it: -

"We are without any practical apparatus for use in disinfecting. I have examined the Kuhn Formaldehyde Generator and believe it to be practical and reliable. I recommend that two of these be procured."

It would seem best for us to have two machines on account of the large spaces to be disinfected. An agent for the machine has been here and makes me the special price of \$40.00 each. The material used is wood alcohol and would be needed in such quantities as would enable us to handle large spaces.

I therefore respectfully request authority to buy two Formaldehyde Generators at \$40.00 each and also one barrel of wood alcohol of about 55 gallon at 60 cents a gal., all not to exceed \$115.00. Heretofore we have used steam and the laundry apparatus, but this will enable us to disinfect before articles are sent to the laundry and will also be effective through the buildings, cleansing walls, cracks, floors, etc.

Very respectfully,

Major 10th Cavalry, Supt.



Dictated(P)