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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
Rec. MAY 9

1902

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Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa. May 8 1902

Pratt, R. H.,

Lt. Col. 15th Cav'y, Supt.

Making recommendation
assignment of tailor at this
school.

To C S C May 12/02

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Department of the Interior,
INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,

Carlisle, Pa., May 8, 1902.

To The Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

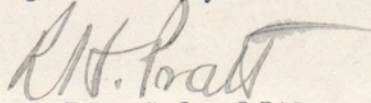
Washington, D. C.

Sir :-

Replying to your letter of the 2nd instant marked "Education, 25,612" in reference to the resignation of Paul A. Walter, tailor, and asking my recommendation, I have the honor to respectfully advise you that this section of our school work requires a man thoroughly competent in cutting and fitting and in the management and instruction of our boys and with energy and push sufficient to manufacture the clothing for 650 boys. I do not know of a tailor in the Indian Service whom I believe competent to fill the place as it should be filled, and from experience I am entirely satisfied that if the Civil Service should by its methods provide us with a competent man it would be a miraculous accident. When I had the power of selection I could go far and near and find proper persons already employed who would come for the pay; but such persons as are wanted elsewhere, (and they are the only kind we want,) are not the persons to apply and take the Civil Service examinations. The bugbear of a Civil Service examination to a person who has self respect and ability, the latter well demonstrated, is pretty nearly a complete estoppel of real worth. In my experience the vast majority of those who take the Civil Service examinations are the unemployed and not-wanted class; so that instead of the Government getting merit it generally gets the contrary, to start with at least.

However, I see no other way under the circumstances than to try it again and shall be obliged if you will call upon the Civil Service Commission for a suitable tailor to take charge of the instruction and manufacture of boys' clothing at this school, to fill the place vacated by Mr. Walter.

Very respectfully,



Lt. Col. 15th Cavalry, Supt.

Dictated(P)