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OFFICE OF
Indian Affairs
Rec. DEC 28

1902

7/1/65.

Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa. Dec 20 1902

Pratt, R. H.,

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

Forwards copies of
letters relative
Porto Rican pupils

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~~L. Supt. 1/5/03~~

[Large blue ink signature]

[Small handwritten mark]

Department of the Interior,

INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,

Carlisle, Pa., Dec. 20, 1902.

To The Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir :

I respectfully refer to you herewith letter from the Honorable Federico Degetau, Resident Commissioner from Porto Rico in Washington together with copy of my letter to him.

For quite a number of years we have carried more than two hundred and fifty students above our appropriation number if our appropriation is divided the same as it is for other schools, i. e., traveling expenses and improvements not considered as part of the \$167 per capita allowed.

For the sake of demonstration and to establish the feasibilities and values I see no reason why we might not carry as part of our extras a Porto Rican, an Alaskan and a Filipino contingent of, say, fifty from each section. That would still leave us carrying more than one hundred above our appropriation number of Indians.

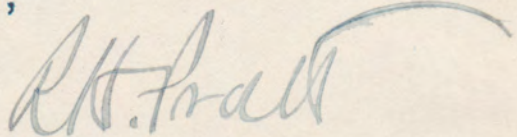
Army officers in the Philippines engaged or interested in the education of Filipinos have repeatedly urged that the youth of those islands should come under our system of training in this country and those who know best about it claim that it would be of the very highest benefit to the Islands if considerable numbers could be brought to the United States and trained as we here train the Indians, and forward them to the privileges of public and private schools and in-

-2- Comm. of Indian Affairs.

dustrial influences away from Carlisle as we do the Indians. If the Committees of the House and Senate understood that I carry so many extras they would hardly object, and I am led to believe that if the Filipino Government knew fifty of their children would be thus taken care of at Carlisle after arrival on our shores they would make good selections and find a way to transport them to the United States.

If I had your verbal approval and it was understood and not disapproved of by the legislative and executive departments I should not hesitate to go ahead and consummate the plan.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. H. Pratt". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the closing "Very respectfully,".

Lt. Col. 15th Cavalry, Supt.

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Indian Office

Incl. No.

1
1902

Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pa. Dec 20 1902

Pratt, R. H.,

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

Letter to Hon
Frederico Degetau
regarding taking
children from
Puerto Rico for this
school

copy

Department of the Interior,
INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,

Carlisle, Pa., Dec. 20, 1902.

Hon. Federico Degetau,
Resident Commissioner from Porto Rico,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir :

Replying to yours about the admission of other Porto Ricans here I think it possible if you go yourself to Commissioner Jones personally, who understands the situation here better than anyone in Office in Washington, he might be willing to enlarge our Porto Rican contingent to fifty and keep it there. We now have forty-two and would be willing to undertake fifty, classing the m as part of our extras. He might suggest that you see the Honorable Secretary of the Interior or even the President. The interests to be served certainly warrant your doing both. If the President understood it as well as Mr. Jones does I feel sure he would approve.

It is a very great satisfaction to us all to know that our work is appreciated by the young people, their parents and the Porto Rican officials. I have had a number of letters from the Commissioner of Education for Porto Rico urging we increase the number of our Porto Rican pupils.

On further thought I write Mr. Jones, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs enclosing your letter and copy of this which opens the way for you to see him.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) R. H. PRATT.

Lt. Col. 15th Cavalry, Supt.

75648

Indian Office 1902
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Colonel R. H. Pratt,

Indian Industrial School,

Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

My dear Sir:-

During my last trip to Porto Rico I had several opportunities to confirm the excellent impression received by me during my visit to the Indian Industrial School of Carlisle, which, as you know, I expressed in the letter published in the Porto Rican newspapers. As a consequence of those manifestations, several families have asked me to obtain places in your school for their boys and girls. I have been informed that the admission of Porto Ricans at the Indian Industrial School has been discontinued and I will, therefore, be greatly obliged to you if you will kindly inform me what can be done to remove the obstacles that now hinder the Porto Ricans from receiving that great benefit.

Truly and respectfully yours,

December 19th, 1902.

1461, "P" Street, N. W.,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

RECEIVED CONFIDENTIAL FROM PORTO RICO

Federico Pedetani

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Federico Degetau,
RESIDENT COMMISSIONER FROM PORTO RICO,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

1761, "P" Street, N. W.,

December 19th, 1902.

Colonel R. H. Pratt,

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Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

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Truly and respectfully yours,

Federico Degetau