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OFFICE OF  
Indian Affairs  
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1906

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Indian School, Carlisle, Pa.,  
Jan. 30, 1906.

Major W.A. Mercer,  
Supt.

Relative to poor quality of  
crayon furnished. Sends samples  
of crayon.

File.

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Schuyler

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE  
INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL  
CARLISLE, PENNA.

Jan. 30, 1906.

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

Sir:

Referring to your direction early in the fiscal year that supplies received should be reported when found defective, I have to say that the Empire crayon, manufactured by the American Crayon Co., supplied this school from the Chicago Warehouse, is too soft and creates so much dust that it is injurious to health besides keeping the furniture, desks, etc., covered with dust. This chalk is invoiced at six cents per gross. The teachers have found it so unpleasant and injurious that some of them have at their own expense purchased other chalk, and I am therefore enabled to report to you on three kinds of crayon or chalk, including the one supplied the school, as follows:

Empire Crayon, supplied through Chicago Warehouse: very soft and very dusty; one gross lasts one month; costs 6 cents.

Pink or yellow enamelled chalk, purchased by teachers; dust medium; one gross lasts 2 1/2 months, cost 15 cents per gross. This is much better than the empire crayon and does fairly well, but in my judgment there is too much dust to it, though not one-third as much as comes from the Empire crayon. Manufacturer: Andrews School Furniture Co., 23 West 18th St., New York City.

Steatite Anti-dust crayon; cost per gross 30 cents, lasted five



full months. This chalk is practically dustless; it makes a perfectly legible mark and when wiped from the board does not smear over a large surface as the other chalk does. It is fully as cheap as the Empire crayon and is much superior. I recommend that it be purchased for the school. ManUFACTURER: Andrews School Furniture Co., 23 West 18th St., New York City.

It might be advisable to purchase some of the pink and yellow enamelled chalk and also some of the Steatite or hard crayon. I inclose herewith samples of each properly labelled.

I notice that on the price list of school supplies on which the Empire school crayon appears and is charged at six cents per gross, it is called dustless. As a matter of fact it is the dustiest thing imaginable.

Very respectfully,

*W A Mercer*  
*Per A.S.*

Major 11th Cavalry,

Superintendent.

WAM-S

*Dictated by W. A. M.*