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OFFICE OF  
Indian Affairs  
Rec. FEB-10

1906

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INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Carlisle, Pa.

Feb. 8, 1906

W.A. Mercer,

Major 11th Cavalry, Superintendent

Requests that certain ex-  
ceptions be made to the require-  
ments of Circular of February 6  
1906, in favor of Carlisle, In-  
dian school.

*To Sept 2/14, 1906.*

*[Handwritten signature in blue ink]*  
*[Handwritten signature in red ink]*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE

INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

CARLISLE, PENNA. February 8, 1906. *J.R.M.*

The Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I am in receipt of Circular "Accounts", February 6, 1906, in regard to payments in cash to irregular employes and for hay, wood, &c. and forbidding such payments in the future.

In reply, I have the honor to inform you that there are many small payments made here which cannot be made by checks, without serious inconvenience and difficulty, and I might even add, hardship. Our checks are drawn on the Assistant Treasurer, United States, at New York, and the office work entailed in accounting for checks will be greatly increased by compliance with this new order so that, while it is impossible at present to keep up the work so as to complete quarterly accounts and other papers on time, the further delay will result seriously to the detriment of the service.

It is customary at this school to pay the regular employes monthly, and such payments have heretofore been made in cash; if a check is drawn for each individual it will require accounting for about two hundred and fifty more checks each quarter; at the end of each month, there are many small bills presented for freight, expressage, small jobs of repair to telephones, electric light apparatus, &c. such bills are in sums ranging from fifteen cents to



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two dollars, and their payment in cash greatly facilitates the work of this office; if such payments are to be made hereafter by check it will increase the additional number of checks mentioned above considerably; a check for thirty cents requires the same care and labor in drawing and accounting for as one for the largest sum drawn.

Further, checks made in sums of less than one dollar are more readily tampered with and more easily altered for purposes of fraud than checks for larger sums; for this reason I am anxious to avoid checks in small amounts as much as possible.

In view of the above facts, I respectfully request that exceptions to the requirements of the Circular of February 6th be made in favor of this school as follows:

Monthly salaries of Regular Employes to be paid in cash.

Small accounts for freight, express, telephone & telegraph messages, short services of irregular labor, and expert services of electricians, plumbers, &c. in sums of less than five dollars also to be paid in cash.

Very respectfully,

*M. A. Mercer*

Major 11th Cavalry,  
Superintendent.

JFM