

INDIAN OFFICE.

FILES.

CAUTION!

Positively no papers to be added to or taken from this file, except by an employee of the Mails and Files Division.

By order of

E. B. MERITT,

Asst. Commissioner.

8360-
1915.

CARISLE

File No.

750



High-Schools
8360--15
42735-15
G L H

HASKELL INSTITUTE
UNITED STATES INDIAN TRAINING SCHOOL
LAWRENCE, KANSAS



October 13, 1915.

The Honorable

Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

FILED BY C. P. F.

I am in receipt of your Office letter (references above) dated the 9th instant, calling attention to your Office letter, dated July 29, 1915, returning papers pertaining to the enrollment of Ben Powell and Charles Williams at Haskell Institute.

In view of the closing paragraph in your letter to me dated April 20, 1915, the purport of which was very carefully noted and more rigidly than ever put in practice since then, I did not think that any further report was required or desired. I was inclined to believe that the request in your letter of July 29th for a further report was made under a misapprehension. However, I should no doubt have written nevertheless.

Each
I really do not know what more I can say about these two cases than has already been reported. The statement submitted under date of April 12, 1915, was frank and I thought complete. There certainly was no intention to hold anything in reservation.

To add anything further about these cases, it seems

*File with
LWH*

to me, would be mere repetition unless it were to say that Ben Powell left us in June - his period of enrollment having expired. While he was perhaps not all that might have been desired as regards character and the true qualities of manliness when he left, he certainly had made most commendable progress and improvement along every line. He did all his school duties regularly and tried to cast his influence in the direction that would be helpful both to himself and to the school. With one exception, he was at no time guilty of any breach of the school rules or of misconduct and he was an active, helpful and, I believe, sincere member of the Y. M. C. A.

We had no knowledge here of his misconduct at Carlisle or that he had been dismissed from there. As to this, we should have been informed in view of the correspondence had thru Carlisle some time before the young man came here.

He was most emphatically told, when he appeared here and asked to be enrolled, that he could not remain at Haskell unless he did all of the required school work satisfactorily and that he must not expect to participate in athletics unless he made the required grades in his school and industrial work.

As to Charles Williams, he was sent to us by Supt. Stecker from Kiowa with the incoming party of new and vacation pupils about September 1st, 1913. It is true the

required application had not been filed and accepted, as I have for years so strongly insisted should be the practice in every case. In this I seem to stand somewhat alone and find the rule hard to enforce. Until he had arrived here, we did not even know that he had been enrolled at Carlisle and had participated in athletics there. Furthermore, we did not know until last winter when we saw it in a congressional report, that his record at Carlisle had not been good. .

I concur fully in what your Office says in the last paragraph of the aforesaid letter dated April 20th, last, and I believe I have been as persistent for a number of years as a superintendent could be in my endeavor to preserve the integrity of enrollments at non-reservation Indian schools. I have made it a practice to correspond very freely with superintendents of other schools where it was known that the applicants were formerly enrolled there. I have fought the school tramp practice early and late.

Perhaps, I should add again that neither of the young men referred to was enrolled at Haskell on account of any athletic prowess. It has been an invariable rule with me that no young man would be enrolled where there was good ground for believing that his controlling motive was to participate in athletics. I realize only too well that a

Com -4-

good school with earnestness of purpose for real practical training cannot be maintained where any such thought could be permitted to have a place.

Very respectfully,

J. O. Wise
Superintendent.

JRW*EF

Ed-Schools
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OCT -9 1915

Mr. John R. Wise,

Superintendent, Haskell Institute

FILED BY C. P. F.

My dear Mr. Wise:

It appears that you have not yet replied to Office letter of July 29, 1915, enclosing papers relative to the enrollment of Ben Powell and Charles Williams at Haskell Institute and asking for a further report in the matter. You are instructed to give this matter your attention and make a prompt report regarding it.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) E. B. Meritt

Assistant Commissioner.

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Mr. John R. Wise,
Supt., Haskell Institute.

JUL 29 1915

FILED BY G. P. F.

My dear Mr. Wise:

The enclosed papers in connection with the enrollment of Ben Powell and Charles Williams at Haskell Institute should have accompanied Office letter of April 30, to which no reply has been received from you. Please report further in regard to this matter.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) E. B. Meritt

Assistant Commissioner.

7-LP-28.

INITIALING COPY - FOR FILE.

Education-Schools
8360-1915
42738-1915
R H H

APR 20 1915

Mr. John R. Wise,
Superintendent, Haskell Institute.

FILED BY C. P. F.

My dear Mr. Wise:

I have your letter of April 12, regarding the circumstances connected with the enrollment of Ben Powell and Charles Williams.

Ben Powell had been dismissed from the Carlisle School for drunkenness and general unworthiness in the year 1913, and at the age of twenty-three years. Thereafter you enrolled him in Haskell Institute and from your own statement of the circumstances it seems at least that the enrollment should not have been made without further inquiry into the circumstances, even though the applicant stated to you that his term of enrollment in the Carlisle School had expired. Nothing in the correspondence indicates that the Office was asked to approve the enrollment of this over-age pupil nor that the Superintendent of the Carlisle School was communicated with.

As to Charles Williams, he was not, it is true, expelled from Carlisle, but his conduct there was of the worst character.

INITIALING COPY - FOR FILE.

For several years the discipline of the Indian School Service has suffered because of the acceptance by one school of pupils who have misbehaved and have been expelled from another school, and this matter has frequently been brought to the attention of Superintendents. The matter is mentioned, not especially for the purpose of criticizing the lack of care in this particular case, but because of its importance and in order to impress this upon you. The utsame care is desired of other Superintendents and the matter will be called to their attention at any time that cases are brought to the notice of the Office.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) E. B. Meritt

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Assistant Commissioner.

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Ed.-Schools
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Athletic
rules.

APR 14 1915

Mr. Oscar H. Lipps,
Supvr. in Charge, Carlisle School.

FILED BY C. P. F.

My dear Mr. Lipps:

The Office acknowledges receipt of your letter of
March 31, with reference to athletic rules for the Carlisle
School.

This matter is receiving attention and you will
be advised shortly.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) E. B. Merrill

Assistant Commissioner.

4-JOS-12

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Ed-Schools
35559-1915
A V S

HASKELL INSTITUTE
UNITED STATES INDIAN TRAINING SCHOOL
LAWRENCE, KANSAS



April 12, 1915.

The Honorable

Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

FILED BY C. P. F.

I have your further Office letter, references above, dated the 2d instant, in reply to mine of March 24th regarding the circumstances attending the enrollment of Ben Powell and Charles Williams as pupils at Haskell Institute.

In compliance with your request, I have to state in the case of Ben Powell that after the correspondence which was exchanged during the winter of 1913 (enclosed with my previous letter) nothing further was heard from him until he appeared at the school May 28, 1913. He had paid his own transportation to Lawrence and indicated that he was anxious to enroll and continue his training along more definite lines than it seems he had done at Carlisle. He stated that he had not been doing any regular school work there for two years prior to the time he left. He also stated that his term of enrollment at Carlisle had expired. He was without funds, having spent all he had to get here.

It was impressed upon him as a condition of his enrollment at Haskell that he must comply with every requirement in the matter of attendance in school and at trade instruction, and that athletics would be a mere incident in his school life, and furthermore, that his record would determine whether he would participate in athletic sports or not. With these conditions im-

posed, he was accepted for a term of two years. This term will expire at the end of the present school year and I am glad to be able to report that he has met all the requirements fully in connection with school and has been promoted in his grades twice a year regularly with his class. His progress along these lines has really been commendable and I believe there has also been marked improvement in his general attitude and habits.

Regarding Charles Williams, I have to state that his enrollment, September 1913, was accomplished through his brother William Williams, who has for several years been one of our strongest and most active young men at Haskell, not only in connection with the general activities of the school, but especially in the Young Men's Christian Association, of which he has been president for the past two years. He stated, before his brother was enrolled here, that Charles' time at Carlisle had expired, that he was not satisfied with the progress his brother was making, and indicated that he wanted to have him at Haskell with himself.

When the time for the opening of school arrived, however, the matter of making formal application was probably overlooked at the agency, but Charles came with his brother William, paying his own fare. Charles gave his age as 20 in enrolling and stated that he believed blanks had been prepared at the agency. We corresponded with the Superintendent of the Kiowa Agency, but no trace of an application was found. When Charles was at home the following summer on vacation he voluntarily went to the agency office and completed a blank for two years, making his complete term three years, in accordance with the requirements, as we had advised Superintendent Stecker that we did not care to enroll pupils for less than three years even though they paid their own transportation.

Ben Powell was accepted for two years for the reason that his

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age was 22 at the time of enrollment, and we were of the opinion that he should not be received for a term which would extend his age beyond 24.

I feel that I should add that the matter of athletics played no part whatever in connection with these enrollments, and that this was merely an incident. It was impressed upon the young men that they would have to comply with every requirement of the school regarding school and industrial training as a condition of participating in athletics. This has been adhered to.

Very respectfully,

J. O. Wise
Superintendent.

Ed-Schools
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Ben Powell
and others.

APR -2 1915

Mr. John R. Wise,
Supt. Haskell Institute.

My dear Mr. Wise:

The Office has received your letter of March 24, forwarding papers relative to the enrollment at Haskell Institute of Ben Powell, of Cherokee, North Carolina, and Charles Williams, of Caddo, Oklahoma.

Since you say you can furnish a further statement as to the circumstances attending the enrollment of each of these young men, it is desired that you do so as soon as convenient.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) E. B. Meritt

Assistant Commissioner.

3-LP-30.

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JOHN R. WISE,
SUPERINTENDENT



MAR 27 1915

Education
Schools
R H H

HASKELL INSTITUTE
UNITED STATES INDIAN TRAINING SCHOOL
LAWRENCE, KANSAS



March 24, 1915.

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

Sir:

In compliance with request in your Office letter of the 16th instant (references above) there are enclosed herewith papers relating to the enrollment of Ben Powell, Cherokee, from North Carolina, and Charles Williams, Caddo, from Oklahoma. Accompanying the application of Ben Powell, and in part explanatory of the same, are a letter from him to this school dated February 20, 1913, and a retain copy of our reply through Superintendent Friedman, dated February 25, 1913.

Should your Office so desire, I would be glad to submit a further statement as to the circumstances attending the enrollment of each one of these young men at Haskell Institute.

Please return the papers herewith enclosed when they have served their purpose.

Very respectfully,

J. R. Wise
Superintendent.

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FILED BY C. P. F.

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Education-
Schools

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MAR 16 1915

Mr. John R. Wise,
Supt., Haskell Institute.

FILED BY C. P. F.

My dear Mr. Wise:

Please forward for examination all papers relating to the enrollment of Ben Powell, Cherokee from North Carolina and Charles Williams, Caddo.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) E. B. Meritt

Assistant Commissioner.

IPR-3-12

Education-
Schools
27450--15
R H H

MAR 16 1915

Mr. O. H. Lipps,
Supervisor in Charge,
Carlisle School.

My dear Mr. Lipps:

I have your letter of March 4, relative to the proposed rule as to a one year's residence as a condition precedent to participation in any competitive foot ball games, and have noted what you say. If you think best to put such a rule into effect at Carlisle, I will be glad to have you do so, but would suggest some care as to its wording. Possibly those students who have been enrolled bona fide during the preceeding school year should not be barred even though a full year has not elapsed between the date of their enrollment and the competitive game in question. However, you may consider it better to adhere to such wording as has been adopted by other eastern colleges or institutions. You did not forward any information as to this so I cannot judge.

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Any question of the establishment of such a rule for all Indian schools must be left for future consideration, possibly in the light of the trial of such a rule at Carlisle.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) E. B. Meritt
Assistant Commissioner.

IPR-3-12



8360--15

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
UNITED STATES INDIAN SCHOOL
CARLISLE, PA.



March 4th, 1915.

Hon. Cato Sells,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Sells:

FILED BY C. P. F.



Replying to your letter of February the 18th, I respectfully report that only at the larger universities in the east - Harvard, Yale, Cornell, Princeton and Pennsylvania being the greater number of them - is the so-called one year residence rule strictly enforced. The Pittsburgh University in the western metropolis of this state adopted the rule at the close of the football season last year to be effective this year in their football game with the University of Pennsylvania and in all athletic contests beginning with 1916.

As far as I have been able to determine the Amateur Athletic Union does not interest itself at all in football because the sport is confined so strictly to colleges and universities governed by their own ethics and code of rules.

My object in recommending the adoption of the second rule I proposed in my letter of January the 22nd was to prevent the going from one Indian School to another of students sometimes referred to as Indian School "tramps". In the past, Carlisle, intentionally or unintentionally, had a number such

Each

-2- Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

enrolled and in spite of all efforts that were made here last year to prevent the enrolment of similarly inclined young men it developed at the close of the football season that at least one member of the football team had come to Carlisle solely for the purpose of becoming a member of the team.

For the past two years the Haskell Institute has had as one of the mainstays on its athletic teams "Ben" Powell, a Cherokee from North Carolina known as Stansill Powell during all the ten years he was a student at Carlisle, and who finally had to be dismissed from this school for drunkenness and general unworthiness when he was 23 years of age in 1913. Charles Williams, a Caddo, who also has been one of the Haskell Institute's best athletes, was evidently retained at Carlisle only after being repeatedly drunk, disorderly and a detrimental influence in the spring of 1913 because his five year period of enrolment was to terminate at the close of that school year.

I understand that both young men referred to above have made satisfactory records since they came to Haskell, but the enrolment there of young men over twenty-one years of age who had made such unsatisfactory records at Carlisle cannot have been anything but demoralizing in its influence on all students at both the larger schools who knew anything about the circum-

stances and their records.

I believe that under no circumstances should students be enrolled at any non-reservation school who have been in any other non-reservation school unless the Superintendent considering the application can be assured by the officials of the last school attended that the applicant is worthy of being enrolled and that it is entirely necessary to effect a change of schools. Changing from one school to another, except to take advantage of opportunities offered in additional courses, should be discouraged and cannot result in good. Such co-operation on the part of Superintendents of the non-reservation schools would also result in the selection of a better class of students and the elimination of those who are attracted from place to place by the glamor of athletics or similar diversions.

In regard to the third rule proposed I desire to call attention to the fact that it is the custom to give only such souvenirs, of a reasonable cost, to members of football teams which are valuable mostly as keepsakes. I presume Carlisle has been the only Indian School whose finances have allowed the giving of any remembrance to students who have engaged in athletics.

I am interested only in the adoption of uniform rules governing athletic contests and the participation in athletics

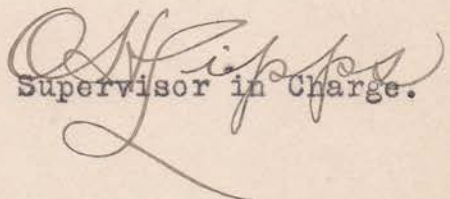
-4- Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

at Indian Schools which conform strictly to the ethics governing athletics at the colleges and universities and so that such a splendid form of activity and training may remain on the same high plane that is now maintained by those institutions which schedule games with the teams from Carlisle as well as other larger schools.

No doubt if the Office would instruct all Superintendents of non-reservation schools to enroll no pupil who has previously attended another non-reservation school and who did not complete the course at that school, there would be no need for making the one year residence requirement for football. Only in special cases when a student desires to take some course not offered at the school he last attended should he be permitted to change schools before completing his course, and then only with the approval of the Office. Some such regulations is necessary in the interest of economy and for the welfare of both the schools and the students.

Very respectfully,

HKM.


Supervisor in Charge.

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FEB 18 1915

Mr. Oscar H. Lipps,
Supervisor in Charge,
Carlisle School.

FILED BY G. P. F.

FILED BY S. B. F.

My dear Mr. Lipps:

I have noted your letter of January 22, commenting upon the article from the "Christian Science Monitor" of January 19, 1915, in regard to athletics. You will present the following three recommendations as to the requirements to be placed upon students taking part in school athletics.

First - No student should be permitted to engage in competitive athletics, who fails to make a satisfactory record in his studies, in his educational practice, or in general conduct.

Second - No student should be allowed to participate in any competitive football games, who has not been a resident of the school for at least one year.

Third - No student should be given anything of value as an inducement to play on any athletic team,

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except that members of the varsity football team may be given a souvenir, provided the funds of the Association are sufficient to warrant such expense. This souvenir should be reasonable in cost, and should be something the student will prize and keep.

It seems to me that the ideas embodied in these rules are good, but there may be some question as to your second proposed rule. Before finally deciding as to this, I will suggest that you get copies of the rules of the American Amateur Athletic Association and also ascertain what are the rules regarding these matters and of those college associations with which the Carlisle team will have games.

Please do this and consider your proposed rule^s in connection with the rules which have already been adopted by the other associations. Also, if you will send copies of such rules to the Office with such further suggestions as occur to you, I will be glad to consider the matter again.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Cato Sells
Commissioner.

IPR-2-13



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

UNITED STATES INDIAN SCHOOL

CARLISLE, PA.

PERSONAL.



January 22, 1915.



Hon. Cato Sells,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

FILED BY C. P. F.

My dear Mr. Sells:

I received this morning with your compliments marked copy of an editorial page from the Christian Science Monitor, of January 19, 1915.

The editorial under the caption "Overorganized Academic Athletics," is to the point and I am glad to know that the large universities are beginning to recognize the necessity of eliminating the present tendency to professionalism in college athletic sports.

While we have a little different condition at Carlisle, still the spirit of President Hibben's reform measure can easily be followed. In fact, I know of no other school in the country that is in the position to enforce any reasonable regulations as to athletics so easily or so effectively as is the Carlisle Indian School. We are not dependant upon the athletic spirit for either pupils or funds with which to conduct the school. However, we do not have as mature nor as well educated and experienced students from which to draw athletic material as do the large colleges and universities. We would hardly be able to place the responsibility of managing a foot-

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Hon. Cato Sells,....#2.

ball team on the captain of the team. However, I do believe that we should be able to employ a coach for the football season for a nominal sum, say not to exceed \$500, provided we should secure a young man who is ambitious to continue his education at Dickinson College or Conway Hall. It seems to me that any young man, who is ambitious to earn his way through school, would be only too glad of an opportunity of earning sufficient during the football season to pay his year's expenses at college.

I believe Gus Welch, a recent graduate of the school, and who is now attending Dickinson Law School, would make a very good coach for us next year, and, no doubt, would be glad to earn \$500 as coach here for the season, which amount would fully meet all his expenses for the remainder of the school year. If some such plan as this would be adopted, we would not only develop our own coaches, but would give some young men an opportunity of earning their way through college. This would raise the standard of football, in that preference would be given the graduates who are ambitious to go on with their education. I believe this is a matter worthy of careful consideration.

One other thing that I believe should be called to your attention regarding athletics in our Indian schools is the necessity for the Office taking a positive stand in reference to a few cardinal principles, which should govern competitive

athletics in all of our schools. Briefly, they are as follows:

First - No student should be permitted to engage in competitive athletics who fails to make a satisfactory record in his studies, in his vocational practice, or in general conduct.

Second - No student should be allowed to participate in any competitive football games, who has not been a resident of the school for at least one year.

I regard this as a very important requirement. It would prevent the changing about of students from one school to another for the purpose of playing football. It would also completely prohibit the practice of football players enrolling, ostensibly in good faith, but in reality only to play football, and as soon as the season is over have some excuse for withdrawing from the schools and returning to their homes. As careful as I was during the past fall to prevent this practice, still one young man deceived me, and I have reasons now to believe that he was induced by someone to come here for the sole purpose of playing football.

Third - No student should be given any thing of value as an inducement to play on any athletic team, except that members of the varsity football team may be given a souvenir, provided the funds of the association are sufficient to warrant such expense. This souvenir should be reasonable in cost, and should be something the student will prize and keep.

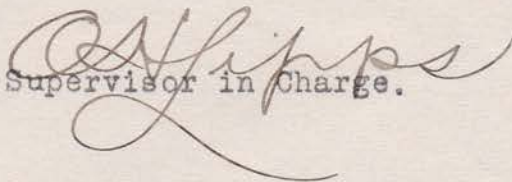
There would be no trouble in enforcing these regulations, if they would come from you and made applicable to all schools

Hon. Cato Sells,.....#4.

in the Service. Now is an opportune time for such action to be taken, and it is very important as regards Carlisle, that we take advantage of this opportunity to get right on this very important question of athletics. Now that we have eliminated the high salaried coach, we have an opportunity to do this. I shall be very glad to cooperate with you to the fullest extent in carrying out such a program as you may, after careful consideration, deem wise and best to promulgate.

Very respectfully,

OHL:SR


Supervisor in Charge.