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, 1917.

CARLISLE

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By order of

E. B. MERITT,

Asst. Commissioner.

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UNITED STATES INDIAN SCHOOL

CARLISLE, PA.

January 29, 1917.

FILED BY G. P. F.

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I am in receipt of Office letter dated January
24th requesting information as to the reason for uniting such
subjects as farming and stock raising, sewing and cooking, etc.
into one group, as noted in the school calendar for the year
1916-17.

In reply I have to advise that conditions at this school appear to be such as to make this arrangement more practical and easier of accomplishment. For example, the dairy, poultry yard, swine herd, etc., are located on our first farm. We have fitted up a class room in the farm house and our head farmer has charge of the prevocational classes in agriculture and the allied subjects. Experience has proven that the boys taking this course can be much more interested by carrying the various farm and stock raising subjects along together. Particularly this is true after the harvesting of the crops in the fall through the winter months until the coming of the planting season. Just now the greater portion of the time is being given to the study of farm animals. One day each week is devoted to butchering and the study of dressing and cutting of meats. It is almost impossible to give courses

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in farming and stock raising distinctly separate from each other. The work is so closely related that we would lose much of the value of the studies, if we were to disregard the splendid opportunities that come through the regular work of the farms, to give instructions in both subjects along together. We are just now having a splendid lesson in the marketing of grain, having just sold our wheat crop at \$1.91 per bushel. The best a farmer can do is to have about two classes and concentrate his efforts on these. Through the winter months more time is given to the study of stock growing than during the summer months, while during the latter months more attention is given to soils and field crops.

Practically the same reasons apply to girls. We have not found it advisable to take a large class of girls and provide for them giving all of their time to one subject in home economics. We find we make much better progress by permitting the girls to go from one industrial department to another for their instruction just as they go from one class to another in their academic work. For this reason the girls in the sewing room are excused and given the time to take their lessons in cooking. The same is true of the girls who work in the laundry. The courses in home nursing and poultry raising are given to girls who are at the same time taking other work. At most only an hour or so each day can be given to these subjects profitably, and we find it much better to group the subjects as indicated in our calendar. Separate record cards, of

changes from time to time before we develop a thoroughly practicable program. If the Office has any suggestions to make I shall be very glad to have them.

Very respectfully,

L:R

JAN 24 1917

Mr. Oscar H. Lipps,

Supt. Carlisle School.

My dear Mr. Lipps:

The Office has received a copy of the annual calendar of Carlisle for the school year 1916-1917. In order to fully understand the program for prevocational work further information is requested as to the reasons for the uniting of farming and stock raising in a single subject, and the reasons for grouping in a single period of twenty weeks for girls the subjects listed as sewing, home-nursing, and poultry raising. Is there a distinct advantage in making such an arrangement, and, if so, please give the Office a report showing your methods.

Very truly yours,

(SignedE.B.Meritt Assistant Commissioner.

1-IS-22

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