

INDIAN OFFICE.

FILES.

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E. B. MERITT,
Asst. Commissioner.

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27329-1917

CARLISLE

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File No.

820

Commissioner does
not wish to
answer yet
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REFER IN REPLY TO THE FOLLOWING:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON

File
Mr. Garber
any answer to
Yarnall or shall
we file

Mr. Stanley R. Yarnall,
Germantown Friends' School,
Germantown, Philadelphia.

My dear Mr. Yarnall:

I have given your letter of January 10th very careful and sympathetic consideration, and I wish to say that the question of the education of Mexican young men and women in American institutions finds with me very responsive sentiments.

The question of suitability of the various classes of schools, and the practicability of such enrollment through scholarships in the Indian schools is, however, one of very serious importance.

It is true that the Carlisle Indian School at the present time, due to various causes, the principal of which is a reconstruction program through which the Indian schools are passing, has a small surplus capacity. That surplus capacity is nevertheless but temporary. In the Indian schools as an organization we have been forced to call upon Congress for considerable appropriations for the increase of capacity in the various schools.

Should the Department accept students other than those

Mr. Garber says
File Yarnall
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for whom the schools were primarily intended the Bureau would find it necessary to ask Congress for appropriations to cover the cost of construction of dormitories and other facilities required to meet the enrollment, and it would be forced to submit as justification the enrollment of other students than those heretofore supported by Congressional appropriation.

The Indian schools are not advanced schools in the sense of an academic standard. They are designed to create an English speaking people out of those using many languages, and to develop a certain measure of industrial knowledge which can aid a rural people. I question that a school system of this character could meet the needs of an enrollment of scholarship students designated by a foreign government. There are, however, throughout the United States numerous educational institutions which could fully meet such a condition.

I find after looking into the matter that there is serious doubt that authority of law exists for issuing free scholarships to students from Mexico, in fact, I am convinced that there is no such authority. I believe, however, that the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs would have

authority to permit the attendance of students of Indian blood from Mexico in our Indian schools, upon payment of the per capita cost of said students in our schools, which amounts to approximately \$200.00 per annum, in addition to the necessary cost for transportation. It is not believed advisable nevertheless to adopt such a policy without first obtaining legislative authority from Congress.

I would be pleased to talk over the matter with you at your convenience. I am leaving Washington tomorrow, and shall be absent several weeks, and upon my return shall be pleased to meet yourself and the members of your committee as you suggest.

Sincerely yours,

Commissioner.

Ed-Schools

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3-BJM-20

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Commissioner.

3-BJM-20

PEACE COMMITTEE OF
PHILADELPHIA YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS
304 ARCH STREET
PHILADELPHIA

RECEIVED
MAR 19
EDUCATION-S

January 10, 1917.

Hon. Cato Sells, Indian Commissioner,
Indian Bureau,
Washington, D.C.

INDIAN AFFAIRS
MAR 12 1917
COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Dear Mr. Sells:

I am in receipt of a letter from Mr. Cotter, Acting Private Secretary to Secretary Lane, stating that the Secretary has called to your personal attention our correspondence with regard to a possible arrangement for Mexican students at the Carlisle Indian School.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
RECEIVED
MAR 17 1917
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

I have felt a desire for some time to talk this matter over with you so that all of the steps by which we have been led so far in the consideration might be clear, and that we might feel that we have your full endorsement and co-operation. Perhaps it might be well to recount briefly the situation.

Some weeks ago our Committee sent to the heads of colleges, universities and a few other institutions of learning a letter asking them to consider the granting of Mexican scholarships. Among these institutions Carlisle Indian School was included. Nearly one hundred answers have been received and definite scholarship offers have come from about fifty-five institutions. Among those who wrote was Superintendent Lipps who said that he believed arrangements might be made for one hundred Mexican students to be educated at Carlisle. He also stated that no steps should be taken without consulting Secretary Lane and yourself. His letter was of such interest and the project seemed so fruitful in possibilities that I brought it to the attention of Secretary Lane since I knew he was interested in the Mexican problem and felt sure he would consult you about the matter. He stated in his reply that it would be necessary to get legal advice and that he would consult the legal department of your Bureau. Later a letter came stating that it would be necessary to have a special act of Congress to carry out the plan as originally proposed.

Each

The next step was advice from Secretary Lane that nothing should be done until we knew the feeling of the Mexican Government on the subject. He felt some doubt on this point. This led to a conference with Señor Bonillas and Señor Pani. They were cordial to the plan and I have written them both at length explaining all the steps taken and the legislative necessity.

PEACE COMMITTEE OF
PHILADELPHIA YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS
304 ARCH STREET
PHILADELPHIA

Hon. Cato Sells - 2.

On January 6th I received the following letter from Senor Bonillas.

"I have talked with Messrs. Cabrera and Pani on the subjects you mentioned and they both think much good would result from the realization of such projects, the Carlisle School proposition in particular. We will do all we can to favor these projects on our return to Mexico and in order to start the Carlisle School matter as soon as possible I am sending your letter to Señor Andrés Osuna, Director General of Public Education, together with catalogues and other literature sent me about said school.

Thanking you for the kind interest you are taking in the matter, I am

Very sincerely yours,
Y. Bonillas."

The Conference I had with the Mexican Commissioners and the letters I wrote them both contained the thought that all expense in connection with the Mexican students at Carlisle would be borne by the Mexican Government. This seems to be in line with the wish of the First Chief, Señor Carranza, who is particularly anxious to have Mexico stand on its own feet financially. This arrangement should, I think, make easier the necessary legal steps to carry out the plan.

I hope I have made the situation sufficiently clear. It would be a pleasure and satisfaction to me if possibly with one or two other members of our Committee I could see you and talk the whole matter over. I should be glad to hear from you if I have not made everything plain and also to learn your view of the plan in general. There is, I believe, a very cordial feeling growing up in Mexico toward educational co-operation. Señor Bonillas said that such an opportunity as the one at Carlisle would be of great immediate value to his people, but he thought it might be of even greater ultimate influence since it would open the minds of the Mexican Educators to the best methods of dealing with Indians, and might lead to the development of similar institutions in Mexico. Señor Pani at my last talk with him said he regarded education as the great solvent of many of the problems between Mexico and the United States.

With sincere regard,

Very sincerely yours,

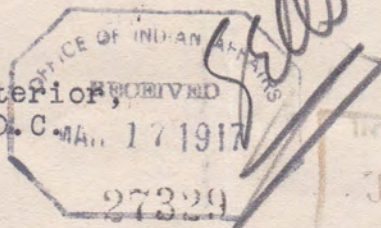
Please reply to
Stanley R. Yarnall,
Germantown Friends' School,
Germantown, Philadelphia.

Stanley R. Yarnall
Chairman of Sub Committee
on Governmental Relations

PEACE COMMITTEE OF
PHILADELPHIA YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS
304 ARCH STREET
PHILADELPHIA

January 10, 1917.

Hon. Franklin K. Lane,
Secretary of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.



Dear Mr. Secretary:

I thank you for your further attention to our correspondence about Mexican scholarships for the Carlisle Indian School. Your Private Secretary, Mr. Cotter, wrote me on January fifth that the matter had been brought to the personal attention of Commissioner Sells. After receiving this letter I wrote at some length to Commissioner Sells explaining the whole situation as clearly as I could and expressing our desire to talk the matter over with him if it seems best.

You may be interested to learn of a letter just received from Senor Bonillas on this question. In the course of the letter he says:-

"I have talked with Messrs. Cabrera and Pani on the subjects you mentioned and they both think much good would result from the realization of such projects, the Carlisle Indian School proposition in particular. We will do all we can to further these projects on our return to Mexico and in order to start the Carlisle School matter as soon as possible I am sending your letter to Senor Andres Osuna, Director General of Public Education, together with catalogues and other literature sent me about said School."

This is encouraging and I feel reasonably sure from what Dr. Rowe tells me that the united advice of the three Mexican Commissioners will insure approval of the plan by the Mexican Government.

Again thanking you for your help and interest, I am, with sincere regard,

Very truly yours,

Stanley R. Yarnall
Chairman of Sub-Committee on
Governmental Relations.

Stanley R. Yarnall,
Germantown Friends' School,
Germantown, Philadelphia.

AN EDUCATIONAL ENTENTE OF OUR COLLEGES WITH MEXICO

Surprising Response of American Universities That Are Offering Scholarships for Mexican Students in the United States

By STANLEY R. YARNALL

Chairman of Subcommittee on Governmental Relations, Peace Committee of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Friends

To the Editor of Public Ledger:

Sir—Unusual interest has recently been shown by a number of papers in the constructive work for Mexico undertaken by the Peace Committee of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Friends, and it has been suggested by several persons that the matter should naturally interest readers of the PUBLIC LEDGER and be brought to their attention. The work so far undertaken is briefly as follows:

Early in September an open letter and appeal to editors of newspapers and periodicals in the United States was prepared and widely circulated in an effort to arouse the press of our country to study the Mexican situation more intelligently and sympathetically to learn from reliable sources the real condition of Mexico and the aims of the leaders of the Carranza Government, and to publish constructive information in a way that would educate the people of the United States to think clearly about the Mexicans and their problems. The committee felt, together with most intelligent persons at that time, that the columns of the papers were filled with news of a jingo nature that reflected an unfortunate attitude on the part of the American people, and was probably colored by sinister influence emanating from Mexican politicians of the older regime and corrupt and selfish business interests.

The response to this appeal in the American press was not at once apparent, although a number of influential dailies and magazines published the appeal in full and many others published it in part. However, since the meetings of the Joint Commission have been widely reported, and other constructive agencies have become active, there has been a noticeable improvement in the attitude of the press.

Four members of the American and Mexican Joint Commission who received copies of the open letter, together with Dr. Leo S. Rowe, the secretary, expressed much interest in it and warm approval of the effort. One of the Mexican commissioners asked that copies be sent to about thirty of the most prominent Mexican leaders, civil and military, and a group of Mexican editors. A prompt and surprising response was received. More than half of these men wrote with a cordial feeling of satisfaction that there was in the United States a group of persons willing to listen to the Mexican side and to take an active part in a movement of this sort.

At once the paper was translated and published very widely in the press of the most progressive Mexican States and also in the press of Mexico City, appearing in full in their leading newspapers.

The next work undertaken by the committee was an appeal to American colleges and universities to offer scholarships for Mexican students. About five weeks ago a letter was addressed to more than 500 presidents of leading educational institutions of the United States. This letter contained the following paragraphs:

At a recent meeting of the Peace Committee of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Friends the condition of education in Mexico was considered from the point of view of constructive peace work. It was the judgment of the committee that permanent friendly relations between the United States and Mexico would be fostered if a number of well-prepared Mexican students were admitted year by year to American colleges and universities by means of scholarship aid.

All educators have been interested in the results of the education of many Chinese students through the income of the Boxer indemnity fund returned to the Chinese by the United States Government some years ago, and the great Cecil Rhodes foundation also indicated the broad international policy of its founder.

It would be hard to measure the future effect on the relations of Mexico and the United States if hundreds of the ablest young men could look back on the United States as their educational home. We have presented this matter to Haverford College, Pennsylvania, and its managers, at their meeting in September, awarded one four-hundred-dollar or two two-hundred-dollar scholarships to suitably prepared Mexican students.

The statement has been made to us on good authority that "several of the students who finish their studies in such institutions as the Escuela Nacional Preparatoria de Mexico have both character and preparation to enter colleges. They are good men of about eighteen years of age, with knowledge equivalent to the average high school graduates of the United States." Further information in regard to Mexican candidates for entrance into our colleges and universities may be obtained from Senor Andres Osuna, Director General de Educacion Publica, Mexico, D. F.

In the hope that other colleges may favorably consider the establishment of scholarships for Mexican youth the matter has been referred to the subcommittee on governmental relations, with the request that it bring the matter to the attention of presidents of colleges

and universities throughout our country.

We would urge upon your institution the importance of constructive work of this sort for the future welfare not only of Mexico, but of our own country, and ask that you consider the advisability of making some provision along the lines suggested.

The response to this letter was surprising. More than 100 institutions have replied, all expressing approval of the general plan, together with satisfaction that some such effort is undertaken. More than fifty institutions have offered scholarship aid of some sort or another, and a number of others are expecting to bring the matter to the attention of their trustees and report later. The scholarship offers range all the way from full scholarships covering the cost of board and tuition in a few instances to a considerable number of free tuition scholarships offered by the larger institutions. It is impossible to give the whole list. Among those offering the most liberal scholarships are Haverford and Williams Colleges; Valparaiso University and Smith College for Women. Mount Holyoke and Wellesley Colleges have offered tuition scholarships and Barnard College has offered two scholarships for well-equipped Mexican women. Other institutions included in the list are Western Reserve University, University of Florida, University of Oklahoma, Trinity College, North Carolina, and Trinity College, Connecticut; University of New Mexico, Bates and Bowdoin Colleges, University of Wisconsin, Rochester and Syracuse Universities, Leland Stanford, Jr., University, etc.

Several of the important theological seminaries have also offered to consider any cases brought before them of men wishing to prepare for the Christian ministry. Among these are McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, and Hartford and Princeton Theological Seminaries.

The committee has kept closely in touch with Andres Osuna in Mexico City, Director General of Education for the Federal district. The situation at present is somewhat difficult, since it is hard to learn just how many Mexican students are prepared to accept scholarship offers and what special arrangements may have to be made in securing their admission. It will probably be necessary for a small committee to go to Mexico early in 1917 so that an intelligent report may be made to the colleges interested. This visit will most likely take place in March or April, since January and February are vacation months in Mexico.

Several difficulties will have to be overcome. In the first place, there has been a strong tendency with the best Mexican families to send their sons to Europe for higher education. This is partly due to the strong bonds of racial sympathy between Mexico and southern Europe and the influence of well-conducted private schools under the care of German and English masters. The educational system of Mexico has been conducted on the French lycee system, which makes articulation with our American colleges difficult unless liberal concessions are made by deans and other officers. There is also doubt as to the extent and efficiency of instruction in English, and the committee fears that few Mexican students are sufficiently grounded in English to avail themselves of instruction in American colleges without a year of special study. The committee fears that it may have started a movement that will be difficult to carry out at once, and that months or a few years of preliminary work may be necessary before there is established a definite connection between our colleges and the Mexicans who should increasingly come to the United States for education.

Another project that may have to be given up because of lack of money is to bring to the United States next summer, if possible, a group of the most prominent educational leaders in Mexico to visit our educational institutions and become acquainted with prominent American educators. Such a delegation should be wisely chosen and should in its trip include such institutions as Tuskegee and Hampton, Carlisle Indian School, various agricultural, mining and engineering schools, together with some of our universities and typical cities, larger and smaller, where our schools and educational institutions are best developed.

President Aley of the National Education Association has brought this matter to the attention of the executive committee, and it is ready to extend an invitation to such a delegation to be guests of honor at the annual conference to be held in July, 1917.

It will probably require \$20,000 or \$25,000 to finance such a movement. It would be a great service just at this time to Mexican education and to our international relations, and our committee hopes that some foundation or some group of individuals of broad public spirit may be found to make the plan a reality. It appeals very strongly to all the prominent educational leaders to whom it has been suggested, and has the cordial indorsement of the Mexican commissioners and of Senor Osuna, Director General of Public Education in Mexico City.

STANLEY R. YARNALL,

Chairman of Subcommittee on Governmental Relations, Peace Committee of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Friends, Germantown, December 26, 1916.

