

Education-
Schools
3616-14
A V S

C. Jones

392/1914

Complaint.

JAN 27 1914

Mr. Louis Schweigman,

Beaver, South Dakota.

% Sup't. Rosebud School.

FILED BY C. P. F.

My friend:

Referring to your letter of December 31, in which you complain that the Superintendent of Carlisle School ordered you to go home or leave the school grounds without giving you previous warning or notice, you are advised that this matter was taken up with Mr. Friedman and he has reported fully in regard to your enrollment. It appears that you indicated that you merely wished to visit the school premises while acting as escort for a number of students from the Rosebud Reservation; that afterwards you told the Superintendent you would be willing to stay at the school another year if you could take up your trade of painting. Mr. Friedman says, however, that you absented yourself from the workshop repeatedly and that you were not taking advantage of the excellent opportunities which the painter had offered you and which the Superintendent had agreed to give you.

CARLISLE

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It is believed that under the circumstances and the fact that you are of age and should be taking care of yourself at this time, your connection with the Carlisle School

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should be severed.

I hope you will not permit other good opportunities to be lost but that you will realize the importance of putting out your best efforts to make a success in life.

Your friend,

(*Signed*) *E. B. Meritt*

1-RSM-22

Assistant Commissioner.



Ed-Schools
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Louis Schweigman, UNITED STATES INDIAN SCHOOL

CARLISLE, PA.

January 10, 1914.



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

Sir:

FILED BY C. P. F.

I respectfully acknowledge receipt of Office letter dated January ninth, together with a communication from Louis Schweigman. With reference thereto, I respectfully submit the following report:

Schweigman returned to Carlisle early in the fall as an escort for a number of students, whose entrance as students to the school was arranged by the Superintendent of Rosebud Agency. On his arrival Schweigman, who is twenty-three or twenty-four years of age, and had already served a term at the school, indicated that he merely wished to visit the premises.

We found out by experience that quite often Indians come stating that they merely wish to visit the school or friends at the school, and after a period of time, without the restraints of the school, they either decide not to enroll, even though they have come for that purpose, or after they do enroll it is a difficult matter for them to settle down to business.

Perh
I called Schweigman to the Office and informed him that I felt his visit here should come to an end, as he was

running around without any restraint, both in the town and at the school. Later on he came to me and said he would be willing to stay another year, if he could take up his trade of painting all day. I told him I would have no objection to this, but that I wanted it distinctly understood that he was to behave himself and conduct himself in the same way that was expected of all other students. More than a month later I ascertained that he did not take up his work at his trade, but was spending the whole day as a sort of errand boy and general factotum in the school building under the principal teacher.

I again took up the matter and directed that he be put to work at his trade. I spoke to the painter and he assured me that he would give the boy every opportunity to learn lettering, and would even allow him the use of his personal books, which he had obtained in a correspondence course. Schweigman was given to understand what was expected of him. Notwithstanding this and after nearly a month passed by, I was informed that he was not attending to his work at his trade and was absent from the shop repeatedly. In fact, he was taking advantage of the disciplinarian and the painter, was loafing and acting in the capacity of a general agitator. After careful consideration and consultation with the disciplinarian and the instructor in painting, Mr. Carns,

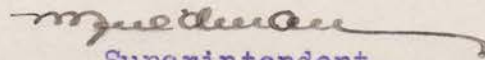
I decided that he should sever his connection with the school. An effort was made to obtain funds for his return home through his father, who did not have the funds. It was, therefore, decided that inasmuch as he brought a party of students to the school he was entitled to transportation back to the point from which he started, as an escort, and he was returned to his home January ninth, about a week after he had been notified of the decision. He was undesirable here as a student, was a grown man and he should be at work.

This boy is in a comparatively low grade, and the letter which he has written was, undoubtedly, prepared for him. After being notified that he was to be sent home, he spent a good portion of his time in the evenings with the principal teacher in the latter's office. This letter is on a par with several other communications which have been sent to the Office, and which, while I have no direct evidence on the matter, were undoubtedly inspired by the principal teacher, who has lost interest in the school, and most of whose work I have had to practically assume myself, and whose influence is pernicious, as well as among the teachers in the school building. This man is using his time in creating discord and discontent.

I am informed that Mr. Whitwell accompanied Schweigman to the car on the evening when he was sent home. This Overt

act on the part of a man occupying the position of principal teacher toward a case of discipline is to be deprecated. I am also informed by Mr. Edward McKean, the disciplinarian, who escorted him to the train, that Schweigman made the statement that he did not expect to go home on the through ticket furnished him to Peever, S. D.

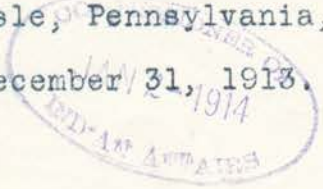
Very respectfully,


Superintendent.

MF:SR

United States Indian School,
Carlisle, Pennsylvania,

December 31, 1913.



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



FILED BY C. P. R.

Sir:

Knowing your interest in the welfare of Indians, I take the liberty of making this appeal to you.

Last fall, I signed an agreement with the Carlisle Indian School to enroll there as a student for the school term of 1913-14.

Yesterday, Superintendent Friedman, without any previous warning or notice, told me to go home, or to leave the school grounds as soon as possible. He stated no charge against me as to misconduct or wilful disobedience to the school rules and I am unable to think of any reason for my dismissal except a personal one.

I respectfully request that an official investigation be made of my case.

Respectfully yours,

Each

Louis Schweigman

Ed-Schools
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Louis Schweigman

JAN -9 1914

Mr. M. Friedman,
Supt. Carlisle School.

Sir;

There is enclosed herewith a letter from Louis Schweigman complaining that he has been dismissed from your School without previous notice having enrolled for the School term of 1913-14.

Please report the facts in this case as soon as practicable and return the enclosure with your answer.

Respectfully,

(Signed) C. F. Hauke.
Second Assistant Commissioner.

1-HME-5

FILED BY C. P. F.

FOR FILE.