

INDIAN OFFICE.

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By order of

**E. B. MERITT,**

*Asst. Commissioner.*

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CARLSLE

File No.

822



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Inspection  
J H D

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
UNITED STATES INDIAN SCHOOL

CARLISLE, PA.

March 26th, 1915.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
RECEIVED  
MAR 30 1915  
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The Honorable,  
Commissioner of Indian Affairs,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

FILED BY C. P. F.

Upon receipt of the Office's letter of March the 18th, relative to the sending home of students who have become affected with venereal disease, it was referred to the School Physician for his information. Returning the letter to this office he addressed a note as follows to me:

"In reference to the letter received from Assistant Commissioner Merritt I will say that there may be a misunderstanding in the Office at Washington regarding our present day handling of venereal patients. Of recent months all cases have been retained and treated at the hospital for some time prior to dismissal and until symptomatic cure was established. With one or two exceptions I have later recommended these boys to be sent home which indeed seems to be the only proper course to pursue. I am glad to say that venereal cases present themselves with much less frequency than was at one time the case."

I respectfully corroborate Dr. Rendtorff's statement by reporting that students have not been sent away from Carlisle on account of venereal trouble until assurance was given by the Physician that danger of infection was apparently eliminated. In several instances students so affected were

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retained in school at their own request and because their previous satisfactory conduct warranted the giving of such special consideration. However, I yet insist that those young men who have been consistently unruly and careless should not be retained at Carlisle when they have contracted venereal disease any longer than is necessary to effect a cure, regardless of what may seem to be the advisable course of action in other schools.

The foregoing will indicate that the sending home of students who have become diseased is not so much a result of the disease as the culmination of a decidedly unsavory reputation and an equally unsatisfactory record.

Very respectfully,

HKM.

  
Supervisor in Charge.

