

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

1906.

INDIAN AFFAIRS:
REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER AND APPENDIXES.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1906.

herd, dairy and farm machinery, and a supply of good horses and mules were purchased. So the school is now in shape to do good work.

The class room and departmental work was carried on very successfully during the year just ended, tho somewhat hampered by numerous changes in the force of employees. With our new equipment and excellent force of employees we enter upon the new year with prospects of unusual success.

A day school plant is under construction at Simnasho, 20 miles north of the agency. This will be a model plant when completed. School will be opened there about November 1.

CLAUDE C. COVEY,
Superintendent and Special Disbursing Agent.

REPORT CONCERNING INDIANS IN PENNSYLVANIA.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF CARLISLE SCHOOL.

CARLISLE, PA., *August 31, 1906.*

The history of this school since its establishment in 1883, its splendid location for training Indian boys and girls, and its high standing as an Indian industrial school are so well known that I feel but little need be added here on those points. Situated in the heart of quiet Cumberland Valley, one of the best and richest farming sections of Pennsylvania and populated by a very prosperous class of people of uniformly good habits and high Christian character, the location of the school is almost ideal. Carlisle is surrounded by mountains on three sides, at a distance from the school of from 4 to 10 miles, and with the broad valley and the long expanse of mountain ranges covered with a coat of green for nearly nine months of the year and with a mantle of snow during the winter months the view is ever pleasing and picturesque.

The climate is healthful, and this fact is attested by the generally excellent health of our students, which has continued most satisfactory during the year. The one exception is, of course, tuberculosis, which is so common in the Indian race. Because of this disease 10 pupils were returned to their homes during the year. At least half of these were sent within a few months after their arrival here, thus showing that those afflicted were doubtless affected before they came. With the splendid sanitary conditions here and the excellent food and care received, I feel safe in asserting that the percentage of serious or fatal cases, even from this disease, is much smaller than it is with an equal number of these young people in their own homes.

Six deaths occurred during the year, four of them Alaskans. All died of tuberculosis excepting one, whose death was from pneumonia.

Many improvements adding to the health, comfort, and convenience of pupils and employees have been made during the year, and tho the most of the buildings and equipment are old, the plant is at the present time in excellent repair. The new auditorium, with seating capacity for 1,200 persons, was completed last winter and with the fine, large stage, fully equipped with curtains and fittings, and the substitution of incandescent for arc lights, is a source of pleasure and satisfaction to all. The new library, 40 by 60 feet, occupying the first floor portion of the addition to the school building under the auditorium, is also finished, and affords a spacious, comfortable, well-lighted reading room in conjunction with our large library, which is so popular with our students.

Our greenhouse, completed nearly a year ago, has proven to be a valuable addition to the work of the school industrially, affording the means for practical instruction in plant propagation and growth for nearly all our students. It is also a source of much pleasure and satisfaction in its unfailling supply of flowers and decorative plants for the auditorium, dining halls, schoolrooms, and sitting-room tables.

The school grounds, the appearance of which, aside from its educative and character-forming influence, necessarily means a great deal in making the pupils and employees contented and happy, have received especial attention and have been greatly improved. In the accomplishment of this result the greenhouse, by supplying thousands of decorative and foliage plants, has been a valuable adjunct. The beauty of our school grounds, with their many large shade trees, numerous flower beds, and clusters of shrubbery and well-kept drives, are almost universally commented upon by the many daily visitors to the school.

The industrial work has been more thoroly organized and more closely super-

vised, especially as to the several trades, with correspondingly increased results. Several new woodworking machines, propelled by electric motors, were installed in the carpenter shop nearly a year ago. Since that time all of the millwork for our new buildings, for our many improvements, and for our numerous repairs, has all been turned out from that shop; also the cases, in hard wood, for our new library, and a large amount of cabinetwork, besides tables, stands, chairs, etc. During the year about eighty-five sets of double harness and a number of wagonettes, wagons, buggies, and surreys have been made for western schools and agencies. That they were satisfactory was evidenced by several duplications of orders. The training in the several trades is thoro and practical. They include, for the boys, carpentry, blacksmithing, wagonmaking, painting, tinsmithing (especially roofing work), harness and shoe making, printing, baking, steam and pipe fitting, tailoring, plastering, masonry, and cement work, the last three named having been added during the past year; for the girls, sewing, laundry work, and practical housekeeping are thoro and systematically taught. All the uniform dresses and much of the other clothing, shirts for large and waists for small boys, as well as table and bed linen, towels, etc., for the school, are made in the girls' sewing department. The tailor shop makes nearly all of the uniform suits for the boys.

In all our industrial work special stress is placed on having our instructors instruct and make the pupils do the work, so that we are able to say our manufactured products are in fact the work of our boys and girls. Further than this, the plan is adopted whenever opportunity offers, to place our most advanced and capable boys and girls in charge of classes. Thus individual power is developed beyond the point of mere training, so that many of our students are equipped for positions in the Indian Service or for the direction of hired labor on their own account.

Our two school farms, with a total area of about 300 acres, nearly all of which can be cultivated, have produced good crops and, with the exception of some potatoes for the mess and a small quantity of forage for the stock which had to be bought, have supplied an abundance of vegetables for the pupils and the subsistence required for our horses and our large dairy herd. The soil is, however, very much impoverished as a result of too persistent cropping and insufficient fertilization. Plans have been formulated not only to improve the fertility of the farms as speedily as possible but to raise all the forage required at the school, even for an increased dairy herd which now comprizes 86 head. The farms are conveniently located with reference to the school, and a large number of our boys get practical training at farm and garden work and the care of stock during the year. The dairy boys are taught how to care for, feed, and milk the cows, and how to take care of the milk and cream and how to make butter.

Our poultry yard has been enlarged by the addition of 3 new houses, and it is the purpose to greatly increase and thoroly organize this industry, not only for the sake of the greater supply of eggs and poultry for the children's tables, but so that the students may receive more thoro training in and become interested in poultry raising, which should go with every rural home. Already our flock has been increased from 500 or 600 to more than 2,000.

A new orchard containing over 700 trees, and comprizing apples, peaches, cherries, plums, and pears has been set out; also a large quantity of small fruit, especially grapes, raspberries, blackberries, and currants. It is the intention to set out still more the coming year. I believe it very desirable at a school of this kind to raise an abundance of fruit, not only because it will promote the health and gladden the hearts of the children, but because it will afford opportunity for training our students in another most important farm industry.

Recognizing the fact that the great majority of our boys and girls will in later life follow farming as a pursuit, or at least draw their living from the farm, it follows that their training should be broad and thoro as to everything pertaining to farm life and that in all instruction, whether academic or industrial, this central fact should ever be kept in mind. We have aimed, therefore, not only to give our boys, and our girls too, more training in farm and garden work, but to teach more of agriculture in the class room. I feel that for our Indian boys and girls too much stress can hardly be placed upon this branch of their training.

At this school, however, our outing system provides the most practical training possible for our boys in the conduct of a farm, the care of stock, etc., and for our girls in housekeeping and domestic economy. Under the system all our students spend two winters and at least two, and in many cases three, summers in one of the best rural homes in eastern Pennsylvania or New Jersey. During

the past year the outing work has been carried on with the usual satisfactory results. The total number of students "out" during the year was 693, of whom 372 were boys and 321 girls.

In our academic department the work suffered to some extent in continuity and lack of interest as a result of the unusual number of changes in the teachers' force at the beginning of the year and the fact that there were from one to three vacancies throught the year, thus necessitating much substituting and temporary employment. Every effort has been made to have the work in each subject more practical, if possible, than heretofore, and to adapt it as closely as possible to the experiences, racial peculiarities, and future needs of the Indian. The various industries and experiences of the pupils are frequently made the basis of language and reading lessons. Promotions in the grades are made at any time during the year when the progress of the pupil warrants it.

The so-called "chapel talks," a feature of this school for many years, were on the whole very interesting and profitable to pupils and employees alike. The subjects were chiefly industrial.

Once a week a teachers' meeting in charge of the principal teacher is held. Methods of teaching are discust and suggestions and comments are exchanged with a view to meeting difficulties and more thoroly systematizing and harmonizing the class-room work. Good educational books are read and the ideas gathered are applied to the needs of our school so far as practicable. As evidence that our teachers are progressive and wide awake to the needs of their position I may say that, almost without exception, they take a month at some good summer school during the vacation months. They also attend institutes whenever opportunity offers.

We had this year four school gardens for our higher classes, the same being conducted in connection with the class-room work in agriculture. Experiments were made in plant growth and practical gardening. The pupils, both boys and girls, did all the work under the supervision of the teachers. For a beginning in this direction the results were very gratifying and the work instructive.

In athletics the year was a successful and profitable one. Sports of all kinds were encouraged for and indulged in by almost the entire body of students, both boys and girls. During the fall and winter months classes were organized for and drills and gymnastic exercises participated in by every student who was physically able. The results were apparent at the end of the year in the excellent setting up and bearing of both boys and girls. In their contests with other colleges and universities our football, baseball, and track teams were on the whole gratifyingly successful.

Our students are drawn from every part of the United States, from Maine to California, and from the Lakes to the Gulf, 67 different tribes being represented. Necessarily their home life and their individual needs are as diversified as could possibly be. These facts suggested the importance of more thoroly adapting the training in each case to the individual needs as well as inclinations of the pupil. To accomplish this plans have been formulated to procure certain data about each pupil, showing tribe, home address, whether allotted or not, previous training, and what trade or industries are to be pursued here. This data will be made accessible to the teachers in the academic and to the instructors in the industrial departments, as well as to the outing agents, thus providing for the more intelligent direction of each boy and girl's work and training during the term of enrollment, adapted to his or her individual needs.

The present enrollment is 872. The highest enrollment during the year was 1,025; total enrollment during year 1,110; average attendance during the school year, 981. It is proposed to maintain the enrollment as nearly as possible at 1,000 during the present year.

W. A. MERCER,

Major, Eleventh Cavalry, Superintendent.

REPORTS CONCERNING INDIANS IN SOUTH DAKOTA.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF ASYLUM FOR INSANE INDIANS.

CANTON, S. DAK., *June 30, 1906.*

There were 22 patients received during the year—13 males and 9 females. There was also one patient, a male, returned who was absent at the close of the