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Expenses of Indian Department

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MARCH 13, 1896.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. ALLEN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany proposed amendments of Mr. Thurston to H. R. 6249.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the amendments intended to be proposed by Mr. Thurston to the bill (H. R. 6249) "making appropriations for current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department and fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, and for other purposes," beg leave to report the same favorably, as follows:

On page 51, in lines 22 and 23, strike out the words "two thousand five hundred dollars" and insert the words "three thousand five hundred dollars."

In line 24, after the word "dollars," insert the following: "For constructing steam-heating plant, ten thousand dollars."

In lines 24 and 25 strike out the words "in all, fifty-four thousand three hundred" and insert the words "sixty-five thousand three hundred."

In support of its recommendation, and as a part hereof, your committee incorporate letters written by Hon. J. E. Ross, superintendent of the Indian Industrial School at Genoa, Nebr., and Hon. W. N. Hailmann, Superintendent of Indian Schools, to Hon. George D. Meiklejohn, Member of Congress of the Third Nebraska Congressional district, as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,
Genoa, Nebr., December 30, 1895.

SIR: As superintendent of the Genoa Indian School I have the honor to address you, as a Member of Congress and on the Indian Appropriation Committee, upon a subject which I feel is of great importance to all interested in Indian education.

I have been informed of the deep interest which you take in public improvements and the public institutions within the State, and I have been requested to solicit your aid in securing an appropriation by Congress, through the recommendation of the Indian Appropriation Committee, of \$23,500, for the purpose of furnishing the Genoa Indian School with a steam-heating plant and all the modern appliances for the laundry and kitchen, and general repairs of the buildings.

The Honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs requested me at an early date of the present fiscal year to present the needs of the school as to these modern improvements, and to make the necessary estimate for them and the cost, accompanied with a request for the appropriation therefor, through the Indian Office.

I very much regret that you did not visit Genoa prior to your return to your duties at Washington, as I had requested of Dr. Williams that he extend an invitation to you to visit the school that I might better show you the work we were doing and the improvements necessary to make the Genoa Indian School second to none in the service.

Hon. W. N. Hailmann, Superintendent of Indian Schools, who has recently visited this school, and fully understands the needs of the institution, has made his recommendations for these improvements, and also requested me to correspond with you and solicit your aid, and stated that he would gladly meet with you in conference upon the subject at any time and place you might designate.

Superintendent Hailmann, who is deeply interested in the future of this school, will, I am sure, state clearly the disadvantages under which the school is conducted and the continuous danger of fire and destruction of life and property, and the great expense, under the present system of heating.

I think he will be able to point out the necessity for the general improvements and show the urgent need for the small appropriation asked for, and which if granted will undoubtedly aid in placing the school in a position that will enable it to rank with any of the Indian industrial training schools.

I trust that you will give this matter a portion of your valuable time and thus secure the approval of Congress for this small but necessary appropriation for the benefit of the Genoa Indian School and Indian education.

Trusting that you will meet Hon. W. N. Hailmann in conference upon this subject, of vital importance to the Indian service, and that your efforts will be crowned with success,

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. ROSS, *Superintendent.*

Hon. GEORGE D. MEIKLEJOHN,
Member of Congress, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN SCHOOLS,
Washington, D. C., January 24, 1896.

SIR: In accordance with your request I submit to you the following statement of repairs and additional improvements needed at the Genoa School, together with an estimate of the probable cost of these:

Steam heating plant, including power house.....	\$10,000
Laundry and kitchen, with necessary machinery and fixtures.....	5,000
Repairs on boys' dormitory.....	2,150
Repairs on bathroom and lavatories.....	350
Coal house.....	400
Painting of exposed woodwork.....	500
Repairs on walks and outbuildings.....	200
Electric lighting plant.....	3,000

All of these items have been included in the estimate made by this office and submitted to the House Committee on Indian Affairs, with the exception, probably, of the \$5,000 needed for kitchen and laundry. My personal inspection of the plant at Genoa has convinced me, however, that this item is imperatively needed. If Congress will make these appropriations the school at Genoa will supply its efficient corps of workers with conditions that will enable them to make the institution one of the most effective in the service.

Very respectfully,

W. N. HAILMANN,
Superintendent of Indian Schools.

Hon. GEORGE D. MEIKLEJOHN, M. C.,
House of Representatives.

Your committee therefore recommend that said proposed amendments be referred to the Committee on Appropriations for its favorable action.