

EDUCATION OF SIOUX INDIANS.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

*A communication from the Secretary of the Interior submitting an estimate of appropriation for the education of the Sioux Indians.*

APRIL 17, 1890.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

*April 16, 1890.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the consideration of Congress, copy of a communication from the Secretary of the Interior of the 15th instant, submitting an estimate of appropriation for the education of the Sioux Indians as per treaty requirements.

Respectfully, yours,

W. WINDOM,  
*Secretary.*

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

*Washington, April 15, 1890.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of a communication of the 11th ultimo, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, inclosing with other papers an item of appropriation for the education of the Sioux, and for school buildings and repairs of same for the Sioux, as per treaty requirements, and to request that the proposed appropriation be incorporated in the Indian appropriation bill for the fiscal year 1891.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

JOHN W. NOBLE,  
*Secretary.*

The SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
Washington, March 11, 1890.

SIR: Inasmuch as the Sioux have ceded large portions of their reservation in Dakota, and are about to receive lands in severalty, it becomes a matter of urgent importance that their educational needs should be provided for according to the terms of the agreement. I have therefore gone over the whole ground, and respectfully submit a table showing, for each Sioux agency in Dakota, the number of children for whom, under their treaties, school accommodations should be provided; the number for whom such accommodations are already provided in Government and contract schools; the additional accommodations required, and the cost of furnishing them; and the cost of supporting the pupils thus provided for during the next fiscal year.

The treaty of 1868, the agreement of 1876, and the recent agreement provided that a school-house and teacher shall be furnished for every thirty children who can be induced or compelled to attend school. I have taken 20 per cent. of the population as the school population, and the census shows this estimate to be too low. I have considered that the enrollment of children who "can be induced or compelled to attend school" will not fall below 75 per cent. of the school population, and that the school accommodations should not be less than 90 per cent. of the enrollment, and that the average attendance should not be less than 80 per cent. of the enrollment. I am confident that the facts would warrant larger estimates than I have made.

On the above basis, however, it appears that it will require the sum of \$92,600 to provide for these children the necessary boarding and day school buildings in addition to those already furnished. Also that it will require \$173,883 to support next year the pupils in the various schools at which it is proposed to place them, not allowing anything for the support of pupils for whose accommodation buildings are next year to be provided. The cost of new boarding-school buildings or additions to present buildings has been reckoned at \$234 per pupil, the smallest amount at which it has been found practicable to house in suitable quarters children who must be lodged, taught, and fed, and also instructed in trades and all domestic industries. To ascertain the cost of supporting the pupils, the average cost of supporting boarding and day pupils during the year 1889 has been taken. The day-school buildings contemplate a school-room and industrial room for the children and suitable quarters for the teacher.

In view of the above I respectfully submit herewith the following item of appropriation and recommend that it be inserted in the Indian appropriation bill now before Congress:

For the education of the Sioux, as per treaty requirements.....	\$173,883
For school buildings and repairs for the same for the Sioux, as per treaty requirements .....	92,600
Total.....	266,483

Of course treaty requirements could be met and school expenses reduced if day schools only should be provided, but the excellence of the boarding school as a superior and quicker civilizer than the day school is so generally admitted that it has been taken for granted that at least one large well-equipped boarding school will be maintained at each agency.

If the appropriations above asked for shall be made and schools

provided in accordance therewith the educational provision of the treaty of 1868 with the Sioux will for the first time have been fulfilled.

In this connection I submit a table showing the extent to which the Government in past years has failed to meet these treaty requirements, from which it appears that the Government is now in arrears to the extent of \$1,323,796, and this credits the Government with a large amount of school work among the Sioux carried on by missions at their own expense. With this showing the appropriations asked for above need hardly be characterized as generous, but rather as acts of tardy justice, especially when it is borne in mind that since the treaty of 1868 an entire generation of children has passed the limit of school age and can receive no benefit whatever from this belated fulfillment of the treaty made with their fathers.

In this connection it should also be borne in mind that this is an endeavor to provide an adequate school system for the Indian boys and girls of North and South Dakota, who are soon to be citizens of those States. Consequently it is a matter in which the white citizens of the Dakotas are, if possible, more deeply concerned than the Indians themselves. It is an endeavor to furnish for the Indian portion of the citizens of the Dakotas a system of training which will compare favorably with that provided by the States for their white population.

Every consideration which can be urged in favor of the education of any class of citizens in a new State, upon whom rests the grave responsibilities of citizenship, applies with increased force to the education of the Indians whose history, habits, language, and present status separate them so widely from other citizens and render possible race conflicts in the future of a very serious nature.

The history of the education of Indians thus far fully confirms the belief that the system of education which the Government is proposing to establish for these people, and which is already largely in successful operation among them and for the completion and proper administration of which this money is asked, will, at an early day prepare the youth of the nearly 25,000 Dakota-Sioux to become independent, intelligent, self-supporting citizens, helpful in the development of the material and moral interests of those new, aggressive, and rapidly-growing States.

Respectfully,

T. J. MORGAN,  
*Commissioner.*

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

*Item of appropriation to be inserted in the Indian Appropriation bill for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1891.*

For the education of the Sioux, as per treaty requirements.....	\$173, 883
For school buildings and repairs for the same for the Sioux, as per treaty requirements .....	92, 600
Total.....	266, 483

Schools.	School population 20 per cent. of population.	Pupils for whom, under treaty, school accommodations should be provided.*	Accommodations provided by Government.		Treaty requirements not fulfilled; unprovided for by Government.	Allowed contract schools.	Building needs under treaty.	Cost of buildings.	Cost of support of schools next year (counting average attendance as 90 per cent. of enrollment).		
			Boarding.	Day.					Pupils.	Cost per annum.	Total.
Cheyenne River: One boarding; eight day.	569	384	60	205	119	90	Replacing present building. (Send 29 to training schools.)	\$9,000	205 day .....	\$34	\$6,970
Crow Creek: One boarding; one day.	220	149	85	30	34	1,000	Repairs and substituting new building for present girls' building.	5,000	60 boarding .....	155	9,300
Lower Brulé: One boarding; two day.	213	144	60	62	22	-----	Improvement and repairs and substituting new building for one of present buildings almost worn out. (Send 22 to training schools.)	5,000	30 day .....	34	1,020
Pine Ridge: One boarding; eight day	1,122	758	200	354	204	125	Improvement to present building. One day-school for 25 pupils and teacher's residence, at \$1,500. (Send 54 to training school.)	10,000	85 boarding .....	155	13,175
Rosebud: Thirteen day.....	1,517	1,024	-----	330	694	{ 40 100	Improvement to present building. Six day-schools for 25 pupils each, with residence for teachers, at \$1,500. Boarding school for 200 (Send 204 to training school.)	9,000	62 day .....	34	2,108
Standing Rock: Two boarding; seven day.	{ 822	555	200	290	65	-----	Improvement to present building.....	5,000	60 boarding .....	155	9,300
Santee and Flandreau: One boarding; one day.	226	154	75	50	-----	190	One day-school for 20 pupils and residence for teacher. (Send 40 to training schools.)	1,300	354 day .....	34	12,036
Total.....	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	92,600	200 boarding .....	155	31,000
Counting average attendance as 80 per cent. of enrollment, deduct one-ninth.	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	{ 290 day .....	34	9,860
Cost of Sioux pupils cared for in contract schools.	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	{ 200 boarding .....	155	31,000
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	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	{ 50 day .....	34	1,700
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	150,314
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\* The enrollment should not be less than 75 per cent. of the school population and the accommodations should be 90 per cent. of the enrollment.

Extract from treaty with the Sioux Indians of April 29, 1868:

"ARTICLE 7. In order to insure the civilization of the Indians entering into this treaty the necessity of education is admitted, especially of such of them as are or may be settled on said agricultural reservations, and they therefore pledge themselves to compel their children, male and female, between the ages of six and sixteen years, to attend school; and it is hereby made the duty of the agent for said Indians to see that this stipulation is strictly complied with; and the United States agrees that for every thirty children between said ages who can be induced or compelled to attend school a house shall be provided and a teacher competent to teach the elementary branches of an English education shall be furnished, who will reside among said Indians and faithfully discharge his or her duties as a teacher."

The provisions of this article to continue for not less than twenty years.

Extract from Article 5 of agreement between the United States and the Sioux Indians, dated August 15, 1876:

\* \* \* the United States does agree to provide all necessary aid to assist the said Indians in the work of civilization; to furnish to them schools and instruction in mechanical and agricultural arts, as provided for by the treaty of 1868.

*Statement showing amounts which should have been appropriated to fulfill the provisions of article 7 of treaty of April 29, 1868, with the Sioux Indians, and of the Sioux agreement of 1876.*

[The Sioux population has probably changed but little since 1868, therefore the population for 1889, which was 23,454, has been taken as the basis of calculation. The number of school children is estimated as 20 per cent. of the entire population. Of this 75 per cent. ought to have been enrolled and accommodations should have been provided for 90 per cent. of those enrolled, or 3,166.]

Fiscal year.	Children provided for in Government and mission buildings.		Children unprovided for (counting number to be provided for as 3,166.)	Amount which under treaty should have been expended at \$34 per pupil per annum.
	Buildings.	No.		
1871.....	Mission.....	257	2,909	\$98,906
1872.....	do.....	323	2,843	96,662
1873.....	do.....	160	3,006	102,204
1874.....	Government and Mission.....	319	2,847	46,798
1875.....	do.....	425	2,741	93,194
1876.....	do.....	664	2,502	85,068
1877.....	do.....	881	2,285	77,690
1878.....	do.....	785	2,381	80,954
1879.....	do.....	803	2,363	80,342
1880.....	do.....	1,139	2,027	68,918
1881.....	do.....	1,083	2,083	70,822
1882.....	Government.....	721	2,084	70,856
	Mission.....	361		
1883.....	Government.....	600	2,096	71,264
	Mission.....	470		
1884.....	Government.....	905	1,761	59,874
	Mission.....	500		
1885.....	Government.....	1,302	1,655	56,270
	Mission.....	209		
1886.....	Government.....	1,796	1,093	37,162
	Mission.....	277		
1887.....	Government.....	1,762	1,134	38,556
	Mission.....	270		
1888.....	Government.....	1,961	697	23,698
	Mission.....	508		
1889.....	Government.....	1,971	487	16,558
	Mission.....	708		
Total.....				\$1,275,796

## EDUCATION OF SIOUX INDIANS.

## BUILDINGS.

Total for whom, under treaty, school accommodations should have been provided by Government.....	3,166
Total Government accommodations thus far provided (not including mission buildings).....	1,971
Number of children left unprovided for.....	1,195
Number of day school buildings not provided, counting one for every thirty children.....	40
Forty school houses, with teachers' residence, at \$1,200.....	\$48,000

## SUPPORT.

Total which, under treaty stipulations, should have been expended in support of pupils since 1871.....	1,275,796
Total.....	\$1,323,796

This credits the Government with mission as well as Government work.