There has been but little improvement in the condition of affairs among these Indians. They are divided into factions, as you are aware, and can not agree upon any policy to pursue in getting rid of the difficulties with which they have to contend.

While these Indians are self-supporting, they hold their lands in common, the title being in the band, and but little material progress will be made by them under these circumstances. It is my judgment that there will be but little improvement in the condition of affairs among these Indians until some plan is adopted so that the Department will have more control of their property interests than at present.

De Witt S. Harris, Superintendent.

REPORTS CONCERNING INDIANS IN NORTH DAKOTA.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT IN CHARGE OF DEVILS LAKE AGENCY.

Fort Totten, N. Dak., August 17, 1905.

The Fort Totten school is conducted in two divisions, the headquarters at the old Fort Totten military post, and the Grey Nuns' department in separate buildings about 1 mile north of the other, the Devils Lake Agency situated between.

The headquarters school at the old military post has a normal capacity of about 235 pupils, and it is intended that it shall maintain an average of about 225 pupils. Early in September measles appeared in this school, and further enrollment was closed for several weeks. The epidemic continued at intervals until after the holidays. This epidemic interfered considerably with the attendance during the first half of the year, so that the general average did not much exceed 215, reducing the average for both schools to 323, or two less than the number for which appropriation was made.

The general interest among the pupils and the discipline maintained in some of the schoolrooms and departments were not as good as desired, and did not compare favorably with past work. This was due in part to the epidemic of measles and the sickness resulting therefrom, and partly to listlessness or incompetency on the part of a few employees. This defect was largely remedied before the close of the year, so that the school closed in better condition than prevailed earlier. While the general success of the school was not so positive as in former years, still there was no marked failure in any department, nor nothing calling for radical action to remedy.

The industrial features of the school generally maintained their high standing, and with possibly one exception no complaint could be properly made. This school is exceptionally well equipped and organized in industrial lines, and care must usually be exercised to prevent monopolizing the interest of the pupils to the injury of literary work. The agricultural and dairy departments made exceptionally good showings, the products in aggregate reducing the public expenses of the school not less than $5,000, and furnishing varieties and additions to the pupils' bill of fare surpassed by few schools in the service.

The year of 1904-5 proved to be one of more than ordinary sickness, in addition to the epidemic of measles. There was probably more sickness than in the two previous years combined, and with two changes in the resident physician, with resulting temporary services, many hardships to both pupils and employees resulted. No immediate deaths resulted, though in one or two cases pulmonary troubles followed the measles, finally resulting fatally after the pupil had returned home.

The enrollment of the Grey Nuns' department was most satisfactory. This school has formerly maintained an average of 90 to 100, and in one instance about 105. This has usually required an excessively large enrollment by reason of the intermittent attendance. The school filled up more promptly than usual, and the attendance was remarkably regular. Notwithstanding much sickness the last half of the year, the average for the full year exceeded 100.

The epidemic of measles which prevailed in the other school during the first half of the year was kept from this school until after the holidays. But as the pupils of this school were almost entirely Sioux full bloods, and as measles had not been epidemic for many years, almost the entire school was stricken.
No immediate deaths resulted, but in a few cases, where sickness of a serious nature followed, the pupils were allowed to be taken home, where a few cases resulted fatally. The measles were followed by a few cases of pneumonia, and later by a severe epidemic of influenza. But with all this sickness the general interest of the school was quite well maintained, and the health of both parents and pupils seemed to improve instead of decline under the afflictions.

The general repairs to the buildings of both plants have been prosecuted throughout the year, until at the close the plants were in better condition than at the beginning. The improvements of greatest note undertaken for the year were a new boiler and some new pumps and other equipment for the heating and lighting plants for the school at the old post, and the laying of a new 4-inch cast-iron water main from that school to the Grey Nuns' department. This work has been executed under the direction of the school force, employing such additional labor as needed. During the spring and early summer a new granary with a capacity of about 6,000 bushels was erected, the material being purchased with funds received from sale of surplus farm products.

The spring and summer have been noted for excessive rainfall. The crops, now being harvested, promise well, but unless the rains cease soon much injury and loss will be inevitable. The meadows are mostly full of water and hay can not be cut. The gardens usually are producing well, but it has been impossible to keep the weeds and grass down, so that many of the vegetables are hidden by a wilderness of foul growths.

The Devils Lake Sioux.—The census of the Devils Lake Sioux for June 30, 1905, showed 1,006 persons alive on that date, and 202 children between the ages of 6 and 16. This is a decrease of 7 persons as compared with the census of the previous year. This decrease is the result of measles which prevailed through the tribe in January and February, carrying off many children. Other forms of sickness were more prevalent than usual, and the death rate would show still further loss as compared with the birth rate, as the census was increased by a few members who had been dropped through long absence.

The reservation for this tribe was opened to settlement of the surplus lands in October through the operation of the treaty made with this tribe in November, 1901, and as amended and approved by act of April 27, 1904. While the amendments to this treaty were not wholly satisfactory to the tribe no general dissatisfaction or protest resulted. The opening was conducted in a very orderly manner, the Indians manifesting a very keen interest, and many members taking an active part in securing settlers and finding suitable locations for them. The land proved disappointing to a large number, however, and there was less taken than had been expected.

The opening of the reservation and the anticipation of cash annuities from the sale of the lands did not have the retarding effect on the agricultural efforts of the tribe that might have been expected. In fact, the general effect seemed to be stimulating rather than retarding, and the acreage seeded this year was larger than before.

During the fiscal year of 1905 several thousand dollars received from sale of inherited Indian lands were paid the members of this tribe, prior to receipt of the order to deposit these funds in banks, the checks to be approved by the agent. Little can be said as to proper use of such funds except that the debts were quite generally paid and the families supplied themselves with teams, wagons, and needed farm implements. In a few cases the money went for riotous living, but generally that disposition proved subject to reasonable control. After the order to deposit the funds went into effect the money was almost entirely expended to useful ends. A system of giving written orders for all authorized purchases under this plan of expending their funds was instituted. These orders were limited to the articles authorized, and soon were accepted by the business community without question and at their face value. It was found that the beneficial effects of these orders went far beyond the immediate purpose for which they were issued, which was to carry out the spirit of the order from the Department and insure that the Indian got what was authorized. The business community soon welcomed the system, sold to the Indian on such order at regular cash rates, and in fact fully cooperated with the spirit and intent of the Departmental order.

In fact, the system of giving these orders was so fully accepted by the Indians and the business community that it has tended in very large degree to bring the business transactions of the several members down to a cash basis. When it came time to make the first annuity payment this spring, sales to Indians in anticipation of such payment were unusually small, notwithstanding that such
payment was a settled fact several weeks prior to making it, together with the amount each would receive. When the payment was made the usual scramble of collectors, the undignified effort of merchants and others to sell to the Indians things they did not need and at largely augmented prices, was reduced to a minimum. The Indians took their cash and went to the several near-by towns and made their purchases in their deliberate manner, almost universally paying their debts and afterwards buying useful articles. Only a small portion of such funds were expended for vicious or improper ends.

There is one day school, the Waamatán, maintained on this reservation, the average attendance for which was 16. The purpose for which this school was organized was to handle Sioux boys who could no longer attend the Grey Nuns' school. The enrollment, therefore, was made up almost entirely of boys from 12 to 20 years old. This of course is contrary to the general purpose of day schools, and the organization could not be made on the usual plan of such schools. The great drawback to the school work among the Devils Lake Sioux has been to keep the boys from 12 years old and up in school. This day school aids some, but is not sufficient either in capacity or efficiency. During the winter about 20 such boys were transferred to Genoa school.

During the year there have been over one hundred allotments of deceased Indians listed for sale. I have arranged such plan of handling this work that the expense to the Indian heirs has been reduced to a minimum. The estate is first carefully probated in this office, and if found necessary is then sent to the probate court of the proper county. But in all such cases it is intended to furnish an interpreter from this office, and also an employee to act in the capacity of an attorney, if one is not engaged by the parties interested. The purpose of the Government is to bring out all the evidence, thus insuring against error or fraud. All papers connected are prepared in this office. This means that the cost to the Indians is reduced to the occasional employment of an attorney and the usual court fees where the case needs to go to court. This costs the Government a few hundred dollars a year, but it is safe to say the saving to the Indians is tenfold or more. Then, the ever present representative from this office is the best guaranty against advantage being taken of the Indian's inability to protect his interests.

Turtle Mountain Chippewa.—The census of this tribe for June 30, 1905, shows:

- Males, full bloods, 108; mixed bloods, 1,042 = 1,150
- Females, full bloods, 103; mixed bloods, 954 = 1,057
- Children, 6 to 16 years, full bloods, 45; mixed bloods, 642 = 687

This enrollment will be somewhat increased by reinstatement of members long absent, and probably by additions through admittance on applications. The members for the most part reside on the small reservation of two townships located on the southern border of Turtle Mountains, but a minor portion are found scattered from Duluth to the Rocky Mountains.

The enrollment of this tribe is now and has been for the past year a matter of greatest importance. From the time the tribe was officially recognized by the Government to the year 1892 no particular rule or instructions seemed to control the enrollment. Anyone who cared to claim Indian blood, whether their birthrights lay in the United States or under the Dominion government of Canada, settled somewhere in the vicinity of the reservation and had their names entered. Then, to add more to the confusion, the custom prevailed of admitting husbands or wives “through marriage”; that is, when a member previously enrolled married, the husband or wife was thereby annexed to the tribe, even though such person may have been white and claimed no Indian blood. This rule was even so elastic as to include any children of such annexed party by a former marriage.

In 1892 a commission was appointed by the President to treat with this tribe for some 6,000,000 acres lying along the northern boundary line of North Dakota, which tracts except the small reservation of two townships, had previously been opened to settlement. This commission was created by act of Congress, which act made it the further duty of the commission to report the number of Chippewa Indians and the number of mixed bloods, if any, who are entitled to the consideration of the United States Government. Under date of October, 1892, this commission reported 283 full-bloods, 1,112 mixed bloods on the reservation, and 372 mixed bloods in the vicinity thereof, a total of 1,767, a small portion of which number were whites, however.

This commission concluded a treaty with the tribe, whereby the tribe were to
receive $1,000,000 for the relinquishment of their claim against the Government for the lands mentioned above, and, in addition, all members who were unable to procure allotments on the small reservation were to be permitted to take homesteads on the public domain free of charge, and that the Government might hold such lands for the individuals for a period of twenty years. This treaty, however, was pending before Congress for ratification for nearly twelve years. In the meantime many of the full-bloods migrated to Canada, where they have, for the most part, received recognition as wards of that government. The mixed bloods scattered from place to place to enable them better to make livings for themselves and families. In many instances heads of families took citizen or Indian homesteads on the public domain, and a few of the women and children also made similar entries, or took allotments on the public domain. In vastly more other cases the family would settle on land, but in deference to the advice of the headmen, who claimed that the land was theirs by divine right and that the Government had no right to open it to settlement or require of them to make entry to procure title, no application for entry would be made. Those tracts soon became valuable and were coveted by whites, who filed thereon, and later would barter with the Indian squatter for his improvements. The Indian would then move on and settle again. In this way I have traced individual families for several hundred miles, moving from place to place, always declining to make entry for himself until the treaty was ratified and the rights of the other members of the family were recognized, so lands for all could be taken together.

During the twelve long years, waiting for Congress to recognize their rights by approving their treaty, the major portion of the tribe remained on or in the vicinity of the reservation, ever protesting and seldom working to any lasting purpose. The minor portion migrated from place to place or from State to State, frequently returning to know what was being done. But all this while death, birth, marriage, and annexation through marriage continued, and not content with that, a considerable number of claimants to tribal rights became so important as to threaten to break into the warehouse by force, and were ordered placed on the ration roll by telegram from Washington.

From these several sources, notwithstanding a few hundred names had been dropped by reason of long absence, the census for June 30, 1904, showed 239 full-bloods, 1,887 mixed bloods on the reservation, and 638 mixed bloods off the reservation. The whites were not shown separately, but the number had vastly increased, and the total enrollment claimed was 2,714, or 947 in excess of the number reported twelve years previous.

The treaty of 1892 was finally ratified by Congress, in an amended form, under date of April 21, 1904. It was necessary that the amended treaty should be submitted to the tribe for acceptance, which I was ordered to do under instructions given in August, 1904. Before calling a general council I was directed to make a revised enrollment of the tribe, taking the report of the commission of 1892 as the basis, accepting no additions other than by birth after that date, and eliminating such members as seemed to have discontinued or forfeited their tribal rights by long abandonment. The magnitude of this undertaking did not be realized, but after weeks of work and inquiry the census was completed and showed 201 full-bloods, 1,482 mixed bloods on the reservation, and 457 off, or a total of 2,084, 620 less than the number reported for June 30 previous.

A general council of all the tribe was called early in October, and after three days’ deliberation the amended treaty was accepted by a considerable majority. Later in the year it was found necessary to execute a general relinquishment to the Government, which was given by the unanimous action of the tribe in a general council called in February, and lasting several days. The treaty then being a law, it was necessary to carry out its provisions. It was determined to make a $50 per capita payment to all members whose status was without question, other claimants to be passed upon later. After suspending the families of white men married to Indian or mixed-blood wives and living apart from the tribe, it left just about 2,000 persons to whom payment could safely be made.

That clause of the treaty providing for such members as could not be allotted on the small reservation taking homesteads on the public domain proved very indefinite. Then, as many members were also holding lands under other provisions of law, it made a very complex undertaking properly to protect all these land interests and encourage the tribe to take proper advantage of the treaty. These questions were therefore submitted for construction, and finally transmitted to the Department of Justice for interpretation. The interpretation thus given was most liberal and satisfactory. It held that the entries anticipated by
the treaty took more of the nature of lands in severalty than homesteads, and that "all members," as used in the treaty, was limited only by the membership of the tribe, thus admitting entries by the wives and children. It further held that entries made under the general homestead act or the Indian homestead act also took this same status of lands in severalty and should be held by the Government in similar manner as entries made under the treaty act.

The importance of this public-domain privilege, under the above interpretation, is of far greater importance than the million-dollar consideration. It is also far reaching in its effects. Many families were holding, by some class of entry or by mere occupation, land of considerable value. Many such holdings were being sought by white claimants with every disadvantage against the Indian claimant, or were being alienated by preliminary mortgages. In not a few cases members of this tribe were being used by designing men to procure title to public lands through fraud, the ward of the Government simply being used to make settlement and final proof in the interest of such men. The interpretation of the Department of Justice made it possible for the agent to make proper representations to the local land offices relative to any of these classes of entry, or even mere occupancy of vacant land by members of the tribe, and, with or without the consent of the entryman or occupant, arrest any alienation of title or segregate the land occupied, so as to hold the same for the benefit of the parties entitled. In this way I have already arrested further procedure in lands to the value of many thousands of dollars. I have also followed up many members of the tribe and made secure their titles, becoming the shepherd seeking out the lost sheep of his flock. Justice to this band has been long delayed, but we are now in position to make good to them the provisions of the treaty, so far as such can be done after so many years have passed.

One of the most perplexing problems in connection with this band is the immense number of claimants to tribal rights and privileges. Applications for enrollment to over a thousand persons have been received by me, and letters and verbal claims for fully that many more have been made in one way or another. These matters have to be considered on a basis different from any similar claims I have ever known by reason of the fact that if the tribe is consulted a wholesale admittance will follow, including many who have no shadow of right. The adjustment of these claims constitutes an undertaking of vast proportions.

Notwithstanding the disturbance caused by the anticipated realization of their treaty rights, this tribe has seemingly put forth unusual effort in agricultural matters this year. In fact, there has been a general clamoring for the reservation to be surveyed and the lands allotted, so as to permit them to make permanent improvements. In fact, I feel this is by far the greatest present need of the tribe.

Several families have asked for and received certificates of membership to enable them to enter lands on the public domain, and I estimate that about two hundred applications have already been filed in the various local land offices of this State and Montana. Arrangements have recently been made to render such aid to these applicants as we can, and it is expected a large number will enter lands this fall and next spring.

This reservation is provided with two day schools, and the Roman Catholic Church maintains a mission boarding school which made an average of 74 pupils last year from the enrollment of this tribe. The two day schools were well attended and have done good work. Contracts are being let for the erection of three new day-school plants for this reservation, but as one of such plants replaces one old one only two more schools will be added.

The $50 per capita payment made to this band in June was accomplished without any disturbance. The money received was used almost entirely for useful purposes. The tribe was not heavily in debt as compared with most Indians to whom such payments are made. In fact, I feel other payments can be made to benefit the tribe very greatly.

The adjustment of treaty matters, the revision of the Turtle Mountain census, the making of annuity payments, and allotting of lands to the Turtle Mountain band have constituted a very heavy and difficult undertaking. The work has been conducted with the greatest harmony possible with all on whom the burden fell, and there has been almost no friction or division between myself and the tribes. The results accomplished have therefore been quite gratifying. In fact, the entire work of all departments, both school and agency, has been remarkably free from the frictions and annoyances often experienced in institutional affairs.

CHAS. L. DAVIS, Superintendent.
Before this report is published the Bismarck branch of the Soo Line Railway (formerly the Bismarck, Washburn and Great Falls) will have been extended to Garrison, McLean County, 40 miles from the agency, which will greatly add to the convenience of travel to and from the agency.

Irregular labor.—The Indians, under the supervision of employees, have hauled the material and constructed 69 miles of fence along the east and south lines of the reservation, repaved the roads, and cut and hauled 900 cords of wood for use at the agency and boarding school. The demand for employment for the Indians is growing, and better use is being made of the wages earned than heretofore.

Subsistence.—By reason of their losses of cattle during the winter of 1903-4, the old stock usually slaughtered for home use is not now available for the purpose. A number of requests for subsistence have been preferred. While it has been necessary to refuse these requests because of limited supplies, it is not believed that any considerable suffering has resulted, but, on the contrary, such persons have sought by labor to procure the necessary subsistence.

Marriages.—Nine marriage licenses were issued during the year, and two were obtained from the county officer, under the State law. Three or four cases of young Indians refusing to support their wives and sending them away occurred during the year, but the specter of thirty days' hard labor in charge of the police caused them to think better of it and take their wives home and support them.

Indian court.—During the year four cases of minor offenses were tried by the Indian court, and upon conviction the defendants were sentenced to imprisonment at hard labor.

Grazing leases and permits.—About half of the tribal lands of the reservation not used by the Indians is now occupied under lease or grazing permits, which will produce an income of $9,955.48 for the year ending May 1, 1906. It is hoped that we will be able to lease the remaining surplus lands by another year.

Statistics.—The census for the year discloses little change in the number of Indians enrolled:

Arikara (males, 189; females, 190) ........................................... 379
Grosventre (males, 236; females, 235) .................................... 471
Mandan (males, 123; females, 126) ...................................... 249

Total of the three tribes (males, 548; females, 551) ... 1,099

Health.—When the population is stationary and over 60 per cent of the deaths are caused by tuberculosis in some form, it can hardly be said that the general health of the people is good, but that the manner in which the people live is insanitary. The agency physician has done what she could for the afflicted.

Live stock.—The number of horses lost during the year (157) by reason of old age and exposure added to the number sold (75) balances the number of colts dropped, and there is little change in the number on the reservation. There are 1,935 horses on the reserve.

The record as to cattle is as follows:

On hand June 30, 1904 .................................................. 5,180
Increase during the year .............................................. 950
Sold for beef during the year ........................................ 6,110
Killed for home use (old stock) ..................................... 720
Lost by disease, wolves, etc ........................................ 220

Total .......................... 1,240

Number remaining on hand June 30, 1905 ..................... 4,870

But little snow having fallen during the last winter, the year has been quite favorable for stock on the ranges, and the losses above noted are largely owing to the killing of young stock by wolves. For once the Indians had more hay than was required to winter their stock. The heavy losses of cattle in the winter of 1903-4 will continue to be severely felt by the Indians, both this year and next, because of the shortage in beef cattle both for sale and their own use.

Farms and gardens.—The land cultivated in farms and gardens was 20 per
cent greater than for the year previous. The season has been favorable, so that with good preparation and cultivation good crops were harvested.

**Schools.** The average attendance at the industrial school during the year was 118 pupils, 107 rooming in the building, and 11 day pupils. The subsistence and supplies of clothing for the year having been authorized and furnished on the basis of 100 pupils, strict economy was required in order to accommodate the additional pupils.

A suitable four-room cottage for employees was completed November 1, 1904, and occupied by a teacher, the seamstress, and the engineer and family. Stone walls for a new root house have been laid, fences repaired, a chicken house and yard begun and nearly completed, the floors and other woodwork of the greater part of the school building reoiled, the roof of the laundry repainted, the down spout on the main building repaired and renewed, and a portion of the grounds about the main building regraded to improve the surface drainage.

The sanitary conditions at the school and the health of the pupils have received careful and prompt attention from the agency physician throughout the year. She now reports that the health of the children during the past year has been good. Four children have been sent home on account of incipient tuberculosis, one of whom has since died. Three whose faces were unsightly from eczema were also returned to their homes.

A large amount of vegetables has been produced in the school garden, and a fair supply is promised for future use.

The school detail with the aid of the agency employees harvested an ample supply of hay for the school stock during the winter. The small herd of cattle at the school are in good condition, the increase large, with increased benefits from the milk and butter.

The general conduct of the pupils during the year has been good; they have been well fed and clothed, have made marked progress, and there has been little difficulty in keeping the attendance up to the capacity of the buildings.

The three day schools, with an average attendance of 74 pupils, have progressed both in the school room and industrial work. They all had good gardens last year and they will be better this year. The day school employees have the commendation of this office.

**AMZI W. THOMAS, Superintendent.**

**REPORT OF FIELD MATER, FORT BERTROLD AGENCY.**

**FORT BERTROLD AGENCY, N. DAK., AUGUST 25, 1905.**

A special feature of the work this year has been done in the interests of young mothers and infants or small children. Observation has convinced us that the school can not prepare the young women for this most essential feature of their life in their homes. Theoretical knowledge is the first step, but more than that is needed by the mother to offset the customs and influences of the older class of people. Even a cast-iron wall and steely determination prove permeable before the deeply rooted old-time ideas of parents and grandparents. Experience and confidence in exercising the knowledge set forth in lectures, etc., are the conquering elements.

Example is the maintaining influence of independent civilized customs of life. It is not easy for the Indian or any other class of mankind to contradict a fact that is plainly demonstrated. Realizing this, we have endeavored to make those lives whom God has given us as charges to keep in our homes, living examples of civilized customs and manners, and have freely given of time and substance, so far as practicable, in encouraging the same care for the number of little ones whom God has sent unto us as a people, during the past year. The returned schoolgirl may err, but not unhopefully so. She is ever desirous of the best that can be had and done for her child, and fo an eventful future. These influences do not bear upon the mothers alone, but impart a general thrift and impetus to the paternal side of the home life and a desire to others to make best preparation for the enjoyment of like blessings.

The young men, especially the returned students of our number, merit commendation in the spirit shown this year, beginning the season by putting forth hopeful, energetic effort in their fields and gardens. At the time of the great encampment and Fourth of July celebration they were not to be drawn from their farm labors by the attractions of the old-time dance and feasting and giving of horses, etc., in order to gain worthy reputation and honor from the old-fashioned caste. So instead of spending several days in that sort of diversion (called celebrating), there were, in our part of the community, nineteen young men who stayed at home, either cultivating their crops or working in the hay harvest—an excellent way of setting forth citizenship and self-supporting industry.

Decoration Day has come to be observed as a national holiday among our people. As our season is late and nature does not fully awaken into its beautiful adornment of bright colors, we have given a number of women instruction in making artificial flowers out of colored wrapping paper, to use in floral pieces for the decorating of graves. The form of exercises on Decoration Day changes from year to year. At first the
MARKET REPORTS CONCERNING INDIANS IN NORTH DAKOTA.

The agency is located partly in North Dakota and partly in South Dakota. For judicial purposes, that portion located in North Dakota is attached to Morton County, N. Dak., and that portion located in South Dakota to Campbell County, S. Dak.

The nearest railroad points are as follows: Pollcock, S. Dak., on the Soo line.
line, 25 miles, connected by stage; Bismarck and Mandan, N. Dak., on the Northern Pacific Railroad, 65 miles, connected by daily stage from Bismarck; Evarts and Eureka, S. Dak., on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad, about 67 miles, and Strassberg and Linton, N. Dak., on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad, about 25 miles, connected by private conveyance and ferry with the agency. Post-office address is Fort Yates, N. Dak.; telegraphic, Mandan or Bismarck, thence telephone to agency.

**Bands and population.**—The Indians of this reservation belong to the Yanktonai, Hunkpati, and Blackfeet bands of the Sioux tribe, the population, as per census for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1905, being as follows:

- All ages (male, 1,658; female, 1,771) .................................. 3,429
- Children of school age (male, 367; female, 433) ..................... 800

A small decrease in the population from previous year will be noted. This is owing to the transfer to other reservations and the dropping off from the rolls of persons not entitled to be enrolled here; besides, the deaths exceed the births by 58.

**Improvements.**—There are continuous demands for improvements in general. During the fiscal year just ended $60,782.36 has been expended in the employment of Indian labor. The boundary fence has been completed, roads graded where they formerly appeared impassable, and the roads formerly built repaired, bridges repaired and built. Owing to the fact that the reservation is now inclosed by a line fence, a great many watering places for stock have been shut out. In lieu of such watering places a number of new ones have been made, and thirteen reservoirs have been built in different places on the reservation during the fiscal year, where otherwise stock could not be successfully ranged on account of lack of water. These reservoirs are supplied by the snow water during the spring thaw and from rains during the season and seem to furnish sufficient water for the stock at the respective localities. More reservoirs should be built to accommodate fully the stock interests on the reservation. The plan of giving labor in lieu of rations seems to give general satisfaction, all able-bodied men are fully willing to work, and the demand for chances to work to earn money seems to be increasing.

Care must be taken that the home work of the individual is not neglected; but as the idea of being self-supporting is becoming more general, especially among the younger generations, they will, in the course of time, see the necessity of providing hay and feed for their stock, as well as cultivating a portion of land for their personal use and support, and I am pleased to note the improvements along these lines.

**Earnings and revenue.**—As far as can be compiled the following schedule shows the earnings and revenue of the Indians of this reservation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On account of labor in lieu of rations</td>
<td>$60,782.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annuities, interest on Sioux fund, proceeds of sales of</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beef hides, and Lemon lease rental</td>
<td>44,150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Products sold to the Government</td>
<td>10,448.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freighting Government supplies</td>
<td>8,494.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Products sold to other than the Government</td>
<td>11,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular Indian employees</td>
<td>14,700.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earnings by Indians off reservation and by work for G.</td>
<td>7,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>156,584.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Agriculture.**—Progress is made by the Indians along the lines of tilling their lands. The last two seasons have been very favorable for agricultural pursuits in general, and nearly all kinds of crops yielded well the last season and promise a good yield for the present season. The hay crop is very good, and large quantities of hay are being put up for the use of the Indians in wintering cattle and horses.

**Stock raising.**—This industry seems to be the most prominent with the Indians, and as the reservation is better adapted to the raising of cattle and horses than to agricultural pursuits, all encouragement possible is and should be given along this line. While the permanent increase in number, as will be shown, is not so great, it must be taken into consideration that the Indians are furnishing all beef for Government use on the reservation, besides shipping a great deal to eastern markets. The following schedule will, as far as
possible, show the total increase in the number of stock on the reservation, as well as the actual increase:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stock now on reservation belonging to Indians</td>
<td>19,579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sold to Government during the year</td>
<td>1,351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butchered by Indians for subsistence</td>
<td>1,570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss on account of storm during the winter (estimated)</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sold to other than the Government during the year (estimated)</td>
<td>900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total | 23,600

Total increase during year | 5,542
Net increase over last year | 1,521

Restraint from useless butchering of stock by Indians and the ardent work of the inspector of live stock and farmers will greatly aid in the increase of the number of stock on the reservation. The number of horses has increased during the last year, notwithstanding the fact that the Indians are disposing of them wherever they can in trade for cattle or for subsistence. During the last winter storms there was a proportional greater loss of horses than cattle. Other domestic animals have also increased, and in the matter of domestic fowls I find an increase since the last report of nearly 100 per cent, which, taken as a whole, bespeaks a great step toward domestic economy.

Health and sanitation.—No contagious diseases have appeared on the reservation during the fiscal year, and the health must be considered good, barring that dread disease, tuberculosis, which exists to a great extent, and from which cause a great many deaths occur, the Indians being constantly reminded of the importance of ventilating their houses and to curtail the constant traveling during the colder part of the year, either of which promotes the disease and makes the death rate higher. The physicians and female industrial teachers are doing all possible to improve the sanitation and promote health among the Indians, but the older Indians are rather averse to accepting much advice from either.

Mode of living.—The Indians are, as far as can be expected, endeavoring to adopt the ways of respectable white men in habitations and mode of living. While tents and tepees are used in the hot summer months, substantial log and frame houses are occupied during the colder seasons. The female industrial teachers and housekeepers are endeavoring to the best of their ability to teach the Indians the observance of better sanitary rules in preparing food, cleanliness, and ventilation.

Crimes and punishment.—No one has been convicted of any crimes and no punishments inflicted, except by the agent and the court of Indian offenses for misdemeanors.

Indian police and judges.—The Indian judges and, I think, with a few exceptions, the Indian police have been faithful and loyal and executed the work intrusted and the orders given them in a painstaking manner and to the best of their ability.

Education.—There are three boarding schools and five day schools supported by the Government and one mission school supported entirely by the Protestant Episcopal Church.

Agency boarding school.—Under the watchful care and administrative ability of Ewald C. Witzleben, superintendent, this school is making permanent strides along educational lines. The year just ended has been equally as successful as the years past. Considering the age of the buildings, they are in well-kept condition, but not at all modern. The kerosene lamp is still used for lighting the schoolrooms. The ceilings in the building are rather low, and much-needed repairs will, in a short time, have to be made to make this school fairly up to date. Some needed repairs and additions to the outbuildings have been made during the past year and more will be needed.

Agricultural Boarding School.—This school has just passed a very successful year. Great improvements have been made during the past year on the school buildings proper, and those buildings must now be considered modern in every way. The school is under the efficient direction of Martin Kenel, superintendent, who is ever watchful for the best welfare of the pupils intrusted to his care. Lack of sufficient outbuildings is now a feature to be remedied to care sufficiently
for the stock and farming operations carried on at said school. The report of the superintendent is herewith submitted.

Grand River Boarding School.—The buildings of the school plant are in a good condition and modern in architectural designs and accommodations. There has been considerable trouble with the heating plant during the past year, and I understand that has been the case for several years past; but I believe this will be remedied before cold weather sets in, as I have been informed that new boilers will be furnished and installed. The pasture for the cattle and horses belonging to the school has been inclosed by a wire fence. Also a dam has been built with a view of irrigating the school farm. If this can be successfully accomplished, it will afford a great object lesson for the pupils of that school in particular and for the Indians of the reservation in general, and I deem the object worthy of the money expended thus far. J. Thomas Hall, superintendent, is very energetic in his undertakings for the benefit of the school.

Day schools.—The buildings of the five day schools on this reservation are now in a good condition, and while in some of them the quarters for the teacher are a little cramped, still with additions being built and repairs made there will be little or no cause for complaint. For the past year the schools have, with but one exception, been in charge of married men whose wives have been housekeepers. This system seems to be very pleasing to the Indian children, and many little ideas and useful hints in housekeeping have been communicated both direct and by the children attending the schools. It is hoped that the present system of appointing married men to positions of day school teachers on this reservation will be maintained.

Mr. Walter P. Squires, day school inspector, is very earnest in his endeavors, and under his immediate guidance the outlook for the good work to be continued is very promising.

St. Elizabeth Mission School.—This school is supported entirely by the Protestant Episcopal Church. The buildings are modern in every way and there seems to be absolute harmony between the management, teachers, and pupils. The work of the school is gratifying indeed, and from what I have seen it fully justifies the reputation it bears—that of a model school.

Missionary work.—The missionary work of the Roman Catholic Church is in charge of Rev. Father Martin Kenel, O. S. B., assisted by three priests and nine sisters of the order O. S. B.

The missionary work of the American Missionary Association, under the Congregational Church, is under the charge of Rev. George B. Reed in North Dakota and of Rev. Mary C. Collip in South Dakota.

The Protestant Episcopal Church is under the charge of Rev. P. J. Deloria in South Dakota and Rev. Thomas P. Ashly in North Dakota, both being full-blood Sioux.

Too much praise can not be bestowed upon the clergy mentioned above for their faithful work and many hardships endured in administering to the religious wants of the people of the reservation. Their teachings are of the greatest value, and I trust that the work of the church will be carried on harmoniously with the work of the State, thereby insuring the highest benefit to the entire people of the reservation.

Employees.—To all employees of the reservation I extend my most sincere thanks. Their work has all been done in a careful and pain-taking manner. All orders have been loyally executed and harmony prevails.

I. N. Steen, Indian Agent.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF STANDING ROCK AGENCY SCHOOL.

FORT YATES, N. DAK., AUGUST 7, 1905.

The capacity of this school is 138 pupils. The enrollment for the year was 179; the average attendance 149.

Health.—The health of the pupils has been good. During the month of June about 20 children were taken with the measles, and an epidemic of that disease was anticipated, but happily it was confined to the cases mentioned. Tuberculosis under some form manifests itself more or less, but the children at school are, to my view, in a better state of health than children of Indians kept at home.

Parents.—Fathers and mothers of our pupils cooperate more or less readily with the school employees to secure the attendance of their children. We have had no trouble to maintain a fair attendance at all times.

Industrial work.—Instructions and mothers are given to the boys in carpentering, mechanical engineering, and branches of farming such as gardening, general cultivation of the soil, stock raising, and dairying. Instructions are made as practical as possible and are supplemented by work in the shops and on the farm. It has been the special aim to make instruction both theoretical and practical to conform with conditions which will in the
future surround the pupils. Special attention is given to dairying, as this line of industry is fast developing in this section of the country.

**Department.**—The object of this department is to make girls proficient in matters pertaining to their future housekeeping at their own homes, and it is our view that girls who have received the full course of training at this school are capable and efficient housekeepers.

**Employees.**—The employees of the school are efficient, painstaking, and devoted in their work. The promptness with which pupils are returned to school on the 1st of September and the full attendance at the school is in a great measure due to the district farmers, who are ready at all hours of the day or night to render any assistance asked of them. Valuable information and suggestions are received from the field matrons in regard to the home conditions of the pupils.

**Ewald C. Witzleben, Superintendent.**

**REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF GRAND RIVER SCHOOL.**

**LITTLE EAGLE, S. DAK., August 24, 1905.**

The general health of the school children during the past year was excellent, there being no serious sickness—no cases except colds or those of a temporary nature. Before the opening of the school the dormitories, play rooms, schoolrooms, etc., were thoroughly renovated by paint on the inside. The policy of the management was to admit no children that could not be benefited or whose health would endanger that of fellow pupils.

**Industrial work.**—During the year farming and gardening was given considerable prominence, and highly satisfactory results promise to repay every effort, the children showing increased interest in this work. A year ago 5 acres of alfalfa was planted on the new farm as an experiment, and three cuttings will be harvested from this field this season. This spring the acreage was doubled and promises also a satisfactory yield, thus demonstrating that alfalfa will do well in this locality. The popular notion that the heat and dryness would kill it in the winter. The farm will yield about 50 tons of alfalfa. Wheat, speltz, and Siberian millet serve as a practical lesson to the Indians. The corn crop of about 15 acres promises 500 bushels if not cut off by early frost or hail. The potato and onion yield, practically mature, will be ample to supply the need of the school for the ensuing year.

The herd, consisting of 75 head of cattle, is principally mongrel and needs to be displaced by an all-purpose breed, subject of former requests, since the fencing of four sections of excellent pasture land for the school was completed last fall. The school is supplied with sufficient milk for the small children during the spring. When the snow is gone, but during the winter month, the milk from 12 or 15 cows is hardly sufficient for the tea and coffee. The school will slaughter between 3,000 and 4,000 pounds of pork this fall and winter, thus reducing the allowance of bacon for its use.

The reservoir begun last year for irrigating the farm has been completed and a ditch made to conduct the water to the farm. It only remains to complete a spillway through which to dispose of the excess water during the rainy season, when it is believed that sufficient water can be stored to irrigate 100 acres of farm land. The rainfall this season has been so distributed as to render irrigation unnecessary.

Much of the heavy work incident to the farm, pasture, and dam building furnished valuable occupation to the Indian laborers, occupying those in the vicinity of the school who could return to their homes at night.

The work of the other industrial departments has been in the main satisfactory, showing marked progress throughout.

The literary work was quite satisfactory this year, since the teachers began the work with a year's experience.

The more isolated location of the school, making it undesirable for new employees, has been to some extent removed by an outlet to the Chicago, Milwaukie and St. Paul Railway at Glenham, S. D., a distance of about 50 miles from the school, placing us within twenty-four hours of St. Paul.

**J. THOS. HALL, Superintendent.**

**REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL.**

**STANDING ROCK AGENCY, July 29, 1905.**

The school had a total enrollment of 138 (64 boys and 74 girls), with an average attendance of 128.51. The attendance was steady and all that could be desired.

**Health.**—The health of the pupils throughout the year was excellent. No case of death or serious illness interfered with the happiness of the children; only four had to be temporarily excused from school, which certainly compares very favorably with the health of any institution for the number attending and proves that everything was done to improve and preserve the sanitary conditions of the school.

**Schoolroom work.**—The literary work was carried on in the usual lines, and the interest of the children for learning and acquiring good literary tastes, especially for good and instructive reading, and expressing their thoughts in correct and well-written compositions and other exercises, was greatly stimulated by the zeal and untiring efforts of the teachers, who took great pains at all times to make studying and learning a pleasant and agreeable task for the scholars.

**Domestic and industrial work.**—The girls were taught in the sewing room, laundry, kitchen, dining room, and other places where they should know and do in their own homes, and a walk through the different apartments showed good housekeeping everywhere and always.

The school farm with its oats, wheat, potato, corn, and melon patches, and the garden with its various divisions of vegetable crops, the school farm and its surrounding land, besides some horses and mules, afford the boys a good opportunity to learn and practice with sense and regularity what they are expected to carry on for their respective.
able self-support on their claims and allotments after their school days are over. Last year's crops were partly destroyed by two hail storms, although a considerable amount of vegetables was gathered from the garden. This year, if no unforeseen destructive accident comes between, the prospects are better; but almost continuous, copious rains, which provide moisture in abundance, a rather exceptional occurrence in this otherwise arid country, make it rather hard for the working force to contend successfully with the weeds growing more rapidly than the crops.

The different systems now in operation at the school, and the repairs necessary and in constant demand, give the boys a chance to become handy with tools under the instruction of the repair shop.

Improvements.—The long-looked-for improvements, so often applied for and recommended, were made possible by the school's efforts. The new buildings on the place from September 1, 1904, to February 1, 1905. The plans and specifications of the new additions and different systems and plants installed certainly reflect the greatest credit on the principals and staff of the school, as they show their very best and introduce and establish everything according to the best improved modern methods and conveniences.

The warmest thanks of the school go out to the authorities in charge of the planning and arranging these extensive improvements, which for all future will add so much to the comfort and accommodation of employes and pupils.

For the first time in its twenty-five years' existence the school can now boast of an effective sewer system, which does away with many disagreeable features in dormitories and other places and much extra hard work in kitchen and laundry.

The old kerosene lamp had finally to give way to the modern acetylene plant, which furnishes a splendid light.

The water system is enlarged, but "Old Missouri," our inexhaustible basin of supply, keeps a constant fear and suspense about what it may do from one day to the other, by changing current over night or forming undesirable sand banks, where we do not want them to be, or permitting some other unexpected disappointments, thereby unmercifully undoing what has been done perhaps the day before.

The new steam plant, gracefully and without a murmur, takes upon itself the place and the burdensome work of the thirty to forty heating stoves distributed according to want and merit throughout the buildings.

The new bath tubs and ring baths, to nobody's regret, supersede the washtub and other bathing contrivances, including the Missouri Indian methods. The new lavatories with their flowing water appliances encourage cleanliness even on the part of those otherwise differently inclined.

The new warehouse fills indeed a long-felt want, as the saying is, enabling the school to keep the supplies more easily together and in better order and care, instead of having them scattered in every nook and corner available all over the place, as necessity required it to be done before.

Although a second story had to go on two one-story buildings, one 50 and the other 100 feet long, the school and domestic work in all departments was regularly kept up throughout the whole time of the contract work without any interruption.

Supervisor A. O. Wright, who was always a welcome visitor, and whose lately reported death we sincerely regret, inspected the school in September.

MARTIN KENNEL, Superintendent.

REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF DAY SCHOOLS, STANDING ROCK RESERVATION.

FORT YATES, N. DAK., August 23, 1905.

The total enrollment of pupils during the past year was 163; average attendance, 114.

Following is the total enrollment and average attendance of each school during the year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cannon Ball</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>86.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 1</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 2</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>17.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pecos</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>28.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bullhead</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>22.35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At the beginning of the school year all pupils over 14 years of age were transferred to the boarding schools. The per cent of average attendance is larger than that of last year, but is still low, owing to the fact that a majority of the pupils are from 5 to 10 years of age, making it impossible for them to attend during the severe winter weather, as many live from 2 to 3 miles from the school.

Education.—An institute of the schools of Standing Rock Agency was held at Fort Yates, N. D., on October 6, 7, and 8. One session of the institute was held at No. 1 day school, 3 miles north of the agency. Quoting from the institute report: "The meeting at this school was one of the best of the Institute, as it gave the members an opportunity of meeting in a social gathering and seeing the work in general as done in day schools."

A reading circle was established among the employees of the agency boarding school and the day schools. Each member reading the books recommended by the Department, a number of books of first-class literature were purchased and circulated, each member reading all the books by paying the price of one book, this book returning to him after being read by all.

The industrial work during the past year has been very successful. With one exception, the gardens are the best in the history of the schools, and will produce enough vegetables for the noonday meal throughout the entire year. The success of the gardens this year is due to the care given by the teachers during the vacation months, as all the teachers were retained at the schools during July and August. Much better results could be obtained from these gardens if the janitors at the day schools were placed on an
annual salary, so they could be left at the schools to care for the gardens and the school property during the vacation months, and make it possible to keep a cow and chickens at the school.

Female industrial teachers.—The order of the Department placing the female industrial teachers under the direct supervision of the day-school inspector did not reach this office till late in March, but since that time I have visited, in company with the teachers, over eighty homes. Much good is being accomplished along hygienic lines. With but few exceptions the houses and yards were found in good condition, and refuse burned or hauled to safe distance from the house. We were unfortunately to lose one of our best workers in this branch of the service in the person of Mrs. Essie Tamber, who was compelled to resign on account of poor health.

The school.—The school buildings and cottages were painted and calculated throughout, and roofs repaired and painted. At Cannon Ball school a well was dug, a small storeroom built, and a pasture fence built, enclosing about 40 acres for school pasture. At No. 2 an industrial room and porch was added to the cottage and a well dug on the school grounds, giving an abundance of water. At No. 2 a porch was added to the teacher’s cottage and an ice cave built. At Frucon a new roof was put on.

Needs of the schools.—The employees’ quarters and room for industrial work at Cannon Ball school are too small for the size of the school, and two rooms should be added to the present building to relieve the crowded condition. A small stable is needed at No. 1. School. At No. 2 a room should be added to school building for children’s kitchen, as no provision was made in the building of this school for the preparation of noonday meal. At Bullhead and Frucon schools stables large enough to shelter a cow and team of horses are much needed.

WALTER P. SQUIRES, Day School Inspector.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF ST. ELIZABETHS SCHOOL.

OAK CREEK, S. DAK., 1906.

Seventy pupils—34 boys and 36 girls—have been enrolled during the past year, with an average attendance of 55. The health of the children has been remarkably good and, with the services of a former matron with us again who has had an exceptional experience as a trained nurse, the health of the children has been closely watched and guarded.

As in past years, the ordinary school, home, and farm industries have been taught, the boys and girls becoming quite helpful, so that in an emergency when the teacher, cook, laundress, or farmer have been absent for a time all has gone on as usual.

The teacher and matrons having had, with the writer, a united interest for many years in the children has been conducive to success.

The parents have helped to clothe their children, and in other respects showed their appreciation of their regard for what the school is doing.

We feel greatly indebted to Colonel Steen, the farmer in charge, and the physician at the Grand River school for the courtesies extended in behalf of our work. Through the faithfulness and kindly interest of Doctor Veldheis the school has been the means of relieving much suffering among the people.

The phone connection arranged for by Major Carlin has been a pleasing convenience and privilege, for which we are most thankful to the Department.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT IN CHARGE OF CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO.

CANTONMENT, OKLA., July 20, 1906.

The school is located on the west bank of the North Canadian River, 20 miles west of Okeene, Okla., a town on the Rock Island and Frisco railroads, and 12 miles north of Eagle City, a small town on the Frisco Railroad. The Kansas City, Mexico and Orient Railroad are constructing a line, which is now about completed, to the North Canadian River, and I expect that some time during the coming fall they will be running trains through Canton, a new town about 34 miles south of the school.

A complete census of the Indians under my charge is submitted herewith, which is summarized as follows:

Cheyenne (males, 253; females, 209) 522
Males over 18 years of age 144
Females over 14 years of age 156
Six to 16 years of age (males, 60; females, 60) 120
Arapaho (males, 125; females, 118) 241
Males over 18 years of age 67
Females over 14 years of age 77
Six to 16 years of age (males, 21; females, 22) 45

M. L. DAVIS, Missionary and Principal.