

Archives and Special Collections

Dickinson College

Carlisle, PA

COLLECTION REGISTER

Name: **Carlisle Indian School** **CIS-MC-002**

Material: Papers

Volume: 0.5 linear feet (1 Document Box and 1 Oversized Folder)

Donation: Purchase, 2014

Usage: There are no usage restrictions on these materials.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

The Carlisle Indian Industrial School was founded by Lieutenant Richard Henry Pratt. In 1875, Pratt was responsible for transporting Native Americans identified as subversive to a prison in St. Augustine, Florida, where he eventually conceived the idea of a school. Approval was ultimately given for a school to be established at the deserted military barracks in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. In October 1879, the first students began arriving at the United States Training and Industrial School at Carlisle Barracks.

Pratt's plan for the Carlisle Indian School, which argued that Indian children were "blank slates" who could be civilized via contact with whites, ran counter to notions of inherent savagery which informed programs in play at similar institutions, such as Samuel Chapman Armstrong's Hampton Normal School for African Americans. By exposing Native American children to Euro-American culture through education, industrial training, and a unique "outing program" which placed individual students in the homes of white Christian families, Pratt hoped to assimilate his pupils into the greater culture of the United States. Over time, the school also became known for its nationally renowned sports teams, which produced athletes including Jim Thorpe and Lewis Tewanima, as well as for frequent public controversies over student behavior, substandard living conditions, ineffective teaching, and embezzlement.

Pratt operated the Carlisle Indian School as superintendent from 1879 to 1904, when he was forcibly retired due to political disagreements with high-ranking officials in the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The school operated for another 14 years under various superintendents before finally closing in 1918 to make way for the Medical Field Service School of the U.S. Army. It is estimated that roughly 8,500 students attended the school over its 39-year history.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

These Carlisle Indian School Papers are housed in one document box and one oversized folder. These materials were purchased as a group from Robert Rowe in 2014; Rowe operated an auction business in Carlisle, PA for many years. The collection has been organized into four categories: Milton I. Zeigler Business Papers, Postcards, Ephemera, and Publications.

Milton I. Zeigler served as the industrial instructor for the shoe and harness department at the Carlisle Indian School from about 1901 to 1909. His business papers consist of the following: correspondence with multiple agents of the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and various mining and leather suppliers; vouchers for expenses incurred during various trips to Chicago on Bureau business; and standardized business forms. One oversized folder, listed at the end of the inventory, holds two of Zeigler's vouchers that are separately housed due to their size.

The Postcard section includes postcards arranged chronologically by date of mailing which are described according to the subject matter of the image. Cards of unknown senders and dates, as well as cards that were never mailed, appear at the end of this series.

The Ephemera section includes documents from three different years' commencement activities, arranged chronologically, followed by a number of half- and quarter- sheets with quotations on them, all of which were printed by the Carlisle Indian School Press.

The Publications section includes multiple publications from the Government Printing Office related to the operation of Carlisle and other Indian schools, two souvenir booklets printed about the Carlisle Indian School, and a copy of *Stiya: A Carlisle Indian Girl at Home*, written under the pseudonym Embe by Marianna Burgess, who served as the school matron and supervisor of the school's printing department in the late 19th century.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

BOX 1 - CIS-MC-002

MILTON I. ZEIGLER BUSINESS PAPERS

- Folder 1) Letter from Robert G. Valentine to Milton I. Zeigler – May 24, 1905
- Folder 2) Letter from Milton I. Zeigler to Francis E. Leupp – May 26, 1905
- Folder 3) Empty Envelope from The Department of the Interior United States Indian Warehouse to Milton I. Zeigler, with note on reverse for address of L. Gould & Company, Chicago, IL – May 26, 1905
- Folder 4) Letter from Milton I. Zeigler to Francis E. Leupp – May 27, 1905
- Folder 5) Letter from Frank Sorenson to Milton I. Zeigler – Sep. 15, 1905
- Folder 6) Empty Envelope from The Office of the Superintendent of the Industrial Indian School, Carlisle, PA to Milton I. Zeigler, with note for address of Makeever Brothers, Chicago, IL – May 15, 1906
- Folder 7) Letter from Milton I. Zeigler to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs – Dec. 7, 1905
- Folder 8) Empty Envelope with note “Bill for Collection...from U.S. Indian Office due Milton I. Zeigler” – Oct. 18 to Nov. 3, 1906
- Folder 9) Letter from Frank M. Conser to Milton I. Zeigler – Mar. 15, 1907
- Folder 10) Letter from Francis E. Leupp to Milton I. Zeigler – Apr. 18, 1907

BOX 1 - CIS-MC-002

MILTON I. ZEIGLER BUSINESS PAPERS (cont.)

- Folder 11) Letter from Frank M. Conser to Milton I. Zeigler – Nov. 6, 1907
- Folder 12) Letter from Frank Sorenson to Milton I. Zeigler – Dec. 19, 1907
- Folder 13) Letter from Frank Sorenson to Milton I. Zeigler – Aug. 7, 1908
- Folder 14) Voucher from Milton I. Zeigler for expenses incurred in Chicago, IL to inspect goods furnished to the Indian Service for the fiscal year 1908 to 1909 – Sep. and Nov. 1908
- Folder 15) Letter from Francis E. Leupp to Milton I. Zeigler – Feb. 19, 1909
- Folder 16) Note about money belonging to Anna Elizabeth Zeigler – Jun. 17, 1912
- Folder 17) Multiple standardized business forms – Unknown

POSTCARDS

- Folder 18) “Campus and Tennis Courts, Indian School, Carlisle, Pa.” – Mary to Myra Heiser – May 29, 1907
“Boys Quarters, Indian School, Carlisle, Pa.” – A. R. W. to Charles L. Horn – Aug. 9, 1907
“Come to the Great Indian-Villanova Football Game” – Unknown to David H. Zarger – Sep. 17, 1907
- Folder 19) “Nez Perce Indian Pupils in Native Dress, Indian School, Carlisle, Pa.” – Bernardine to Harriet Atwood – Aug. 12, 1908
“Campus and Tennis Court, India School, Carlisle, Pa.” – Marie Keits to Guy Bowman – Sep. 22, 1909
“Carlisle, Pa., Bakery and Bakers, Indian School.” – Ditulofer to Nora Day – Jun. 12, 1910
- Folder 20) “Instruction Buildings, Carlisle Indian School, Carlisle, Pa.” – C. B. Garlock to A.W. George – Aug. 17, 1910
“Academy Building, Indian School, CARLISLE, Pa.” – Harry to H. D. Bender – Feb. 7, 1911
“Carlisle, Pa., Indian School, Parade Grounds and Buildings” – Miss Russell to Hazel Witter – Dec. 6, 1911
- Folder 21) “Library, Indian School, Carlisle, PA.” – Margaret to Charles Yellets – Aug. 30, 1915
“Green House at Indian School, Carlisle, PA.” – G. A. Sollenby to W. Guttschall
- Folder 22) “Teachers Quarters and Band Stand, Indian School, Carlisle, Pa.” – Unknown to Fred Erlinger – undated
“India School Band and Girls Quarters, Carlisle, PA.” – Unknown to Unknown – undated
“Dispensary at Hospital, Indian School, Carlisle, PA.” – Unknown to Alice Stone – undated
- Folder 23) “Educated Eskimos of Alaska, Graduates of Carlisle University”
Picture of Trees, Parade Ground, and Band Stand
“Green House at Indian School, Carlisle, PA.”
“Carlisle, Pa., Gymnasium, Indian School”

BOX 1 - CIS-MC-002

POSTCARDS (cont.)

- Folder 23) “Band and Battalion, Indian School, Carlisle, PA.”
“Sewing Room, Indian School, Carlisle, PA.”
“Gymnasium, All Indians Except Instructor, Carlisle, Pa.”

EPHEMERA

- Folder 24) “Commencement Program 1906” (two copies)
Folder 25) “Commencement Exercises 1907”
Folder 26) Admission Ticket for Exercises in School Gymnasium – Mar. 30, 1914
“Commencement Concert” – Mar. 31, 1914
Admission Ticket for Experience Meeting – Apr. 1, 1914
Folder 27) Printed Quotations from the Carlisle Indian School Press

PUBLICATIONS

- Folder 28) *Indian School Service: Fourth Annual Report of the Indian School Superintendent* (Washington, Government Printing Office, 1885)
Folder 29) *Embe, Stiya: A Carlisle Indian Girl at Home* (Cambridge: Riverside Press, 1891)
Folder 30) *Rules for the Indian School Service* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1900)
Folder 31) *The Indian Industrial School Carlisle* (Jamestown, NY: The Journal, 1902)
Folder 32) *Regulations of the Indian Office* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1904)
Folder 33) *Rules for the Indian School Service* (Washington, Government Printing Office, 1904)
Folder 34) *This is Carlisle* (Carlisle, PA: Indian School Printing Press, 1908)

OVERSIZED - CIS-OC-002

MILTON I. ZEIGLER BUSINESS PAPERS

- Folder 1) Voucher for Milton I. Zeigler for expenses incurred in Chicago, IL to inspect samples of goods to be purchased by the Indian Service for the fiscal year 1907
Voucher for Milton I. Zeigler for expenses incurred in Chicago, IL to inspect samples of goods to be purchased by the Indian Service for the fiscal year 1908 to 1909 – Jun. 15, 1908