

SCHOOL,

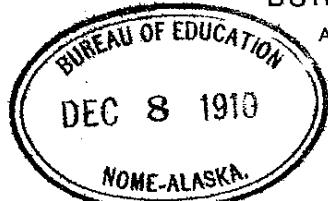
Deering

8-315.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF EDUCATION
ALASKA SCHOOL SERVICE



June 5, 1910
SUBJECT, Annual Report

Sixth Annual Report of Deering public school.
During the school year we have been enrolled.
The average daily attendance during the eight months was 18.6. Leaving out the first three months the average attendance was 20.8
During the first three months we were fitting into our places and during the last five months the attendance was good and much interest was manifested in the school. The interest did not flag even toward the end of the term.
I think the school would have had little or no falling off in attendance or interest if continued two or three weeks longer.

During the term it has been our aim to try to impress upon the scholars the necessity of thinking in all their work. In their arithmetic they can do the mechanical work quite accurately but when it comes to thought problems many fail. In reading also often the words are called with no conception of the thought back of the words. We have tried to help them by

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June 15, 1940

SUBJECT, Annual Report.

frequently explaining and questioning on the meaning. In the health primers they have been required to answer the questions at the end of the chapters in their notebooks; writing the question and answer both. This has been a help to them in learning to explain their thought and not to work mechanically. The book "Hunting and Fishing" they have enjoyed thoroughly. We have been much pleased with it as the stories are very true to life and are very entertainingly written. This book also "Eskimo Stories" fills the need for books fitted for the natives for the 1st and 2nd grade work. We now need to have some author to write books better adapted to the work in the 3rd & 4th grades as many of the pieces in the readers do not reach any associated ideas in their minds and are not fitted to their environment.

The lives of Washington and Lincoln in the Five Cent classics, the children were much interested in and parts of history that they could understand.

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SUBJECT,

In the industrial work the girls have enjoyed their bread making. All the girls down to nine years of age have learned to make bread. The smaller ones making only small pans of it so as not to overtax them. When bread baking day came they were always happy - their shining eyes and smiling faces showing how much they liked that work. The older girls also have learned to make ginger bread and cooked beans and rice. At Thanksgiving time the women and girls made bread, cake and doughnuts and helped in cooking dinner for all from the village, between 90 or 100 being present at the Thanksgiving dinner.

Washings and ironings have been done when their school clothing and towels were sorted.

The girls have pieced and set together a comforter, made six handy bags, and a lounge cover. Sunbonnets are quite the rage here at present and the girls have patiently stitched that their bonnets might be finished. These prove a fine

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SUBJECT,

protection for their eyes from the glare of the sun on the snow. At Christmas time they made ninety five bags of bunting for candy and nuts. They also helped in popping & stringing corn for the tree and it made as enjoyable a time for them as did the tree itself. On Christmas eve we had a good program of songs, recitations, exercises and two trees with presents for all.

In the workshop the boys have made many useful articles as knife boxes, comb & brush boxes, potato mashers, finger-nail cleaners, racks for books etc, all made from packing boxes. They have complained at the lack of room in the shop only four being able to work at one time. I have wished that their shop might be enlarged and they might have more material with which to work. Dr. Newsom when not absent has helped the boys in their wood work and thanks are due him for their progress in this line.

Boys and girls both, have knitted wristers and mittens and it is work that they like. Several times

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a group has stayed until eight o'clock knitting - being so eager to finish a mitten or a wrist.

The girls have made grass baskets and mats.

One of the great needs here is a bath tub for the natives that they may learn to know what personal cleanliness really means.

During Dr. Newsom's trips away I have treated two cases of dysentery and the patients have recovered. I also gave medicine to a native sick with heart trouble and had many calls for medicine for minor ailments.

The past summer was a very good year for catching salmon and the natives generally have had an abundance of that. Some have done well in trapping and one sold eighty dollars worth of fox skins; which money was promptly spent for three deer, I am glad to say. In the summer some of the natives work at long shoring. All the older boys are supporting themselves. Five are now working for white men - three are mining. Two of the boys are planning to spend money now due them in buying deer.

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SUBJECT,

Of the \$50 allowed for destitute natives, \$5.93 has been spent
for provisions for two widows who had no means of
support. One of whom had lost her husband after a
long illness.

Bread baked 535 loaves

Biscuits 20 tins.

Ginger bread 6 tins.

Comforter pieced 1

Lounge cover 1

Handy bags 6

Baskets 4

Pn. of Mittens 4

" " Wristers 2

Dresses 6

Sunbonnets 6

Wood work. Picture frames 6

Knife boxes 4

Comb & brush boxes 2

Sleds 2

Finger nail cleaners 2

Potato masher 6

Racks for books 2

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