

Gakama Agency Jan 3^d 1884

Statement of Condition of Government
Buildings at Gakama Agency Washington
Territory

- 1st The number of buildings at this Agency owned by the Department, and occupied for Agency purposes, or unoccupied, without the School Buildings is 29
- 2^d The condition of these is generally good, but having been erected for other purposes, several are entirely unfit for Agency purposes -
- 3^d The number of buildings devoted to School purposes including residence of Superintendent of Teaching is 4
- 4th The Condition of these is good, with perhaps the exception of that portion of the boarding house erected in 1878, which is not good, but can be repaired by the Agency Carpenter -
- 5th The School now numbers about 120 pupils which is all that can ^{comfortably} ~~possibly~~ be accommodated with our present dining room, Kitchen ^{and} sleeping accommodations, ^{there is so much pressure} though I shall try and increase the number to 150
- 6th But there are five hundred Indian children on this Reservation of School Age, who in general are anxious to attend School. - It is my earnest desire to increase the number of pupils to two hundred and fifty

7th

To enable me to do this it will be necessary to build an addition to the boarding house 60 x 28 ft two stories in height, the lower story to consist of kitchen, extension of dining room and laundry, and the upper story sleeping rooms. It is hard to say to Indian children, who ask admission to their Reservation School, that there is no place for them, but that is what I am compelled to do. Nowhere are the benefits of educating the Indians more strikingly exhibited than on this Reservation, where a part have been educated, and others grown up in ignorance. The Indians, who are industrious, prosperous, and self supporting, are those who years ago attended the Reservation School. =

Let the Department consider if it is not true economy to expend a small sum in now extending our School facilities, rather than to let ^{more than} half these children grow up ignorant, a ready prey for any designing sharper. =

An additional dormitory for boys will also be needed, about 70 x 28 ft two stories in height. = The lumber can be sawed, dressed and matched in our Agency Mill, thus greatly reducing the cost. =

I wish to impress the fact, that outside the salaries of teachers, more than half the expense of this school, is met by the Agency itself, thus costing the Government but a

trifle for each scholar = Nearly all the subsistence of the children is raised on the Reservation, the beef is from the Reservation herd, and flour &c is raised by the school - Thus in December, when the cost was much increased by the necessity of clothing a large number of new scholars - the cost per scholar exclusive of the pay of teachers was something over \$6.98 each, of which the Reservation bore nearly one half or over \$2.81 per scholar.

8th While there are a large number of buildings on this Reservation, as before remarked, ^{many} are not adapted to Agency purposes. There is no suitable office for the Clerk or the Agent, nor any proper place to store supplies.

A building 70 x 40 for store house and offices is greatly needed.

9th The success of the school largely depends on the care taken for the health of the children, and to this end the consideration of proper diet becomes an important question - We have an abundance of milk cows now running wild on the range, whose milk would make an important and healthy addition to the diet of the children, and an important addition to the industries taught the girls by giving them an opportunity to learn to make butter, and the various other branches of dairying.

Jan, 21/84

Statement of the
Necessity for School
and other buildings
at this Agency
forwarded Jan
21st 1884