

their other work, did considerable "fancy-work," in which they excel, and were much pleased to have some of their work sent to the World's Fair.

Holidays.—The holidays have all been observed by appropriate exercises. Our Christmas tree was the crowning feature of all, as it was loaded with many nice presents donated by friends at home and abroad. The program, in which every child took part, was enjoyed by all.

Sanitary.—The health has been very good, considering the condition children were in when entering school. No efforts have been spared to prevent sickness by means of ventilation, cleanliness, and preparation of food.

Stock.—Our herd of cattle, purchased last fall, consists of 23 head, including calves, all graded Holstein. As the purchase was late, we made but little butter the past year. Have made and packed about 100 pounds through vacation. A pony was purchased for school use, which was very much needed.

From the 50 chickens bought last fall we have raised about 75, and have had for use, up to June 30, about 100 dozen eggs. More chickens were hatched, but from different causes some were lost.

Farm and garden.—From the garden was raised an abundance of vegetables for school use. From the meadow we cut plenty of hay for stock. We have 25 tons of hay stacked in good condition for the coming winter.

Employees.—Considering the circumstances under which we labored we can not complain of our employes. It takes some time to become accustomed to boarding school routine. I am glad to note, the latter part of the year, there seemed to be an increased interest and wakening up to the responsibilities of the work. With the same employes the coming year, and new additions to our buildings, we hope and expect to do better work.

Visitors.—During the year we have had official visits from Inspector Jenkins, Supervisor Leeke, and our agent, George H. Monk, all giving us words of cheer. Supervisor Leeke was with us several days and inspected all departments. We were glad to have one who has had experience in the work visit us. He seemed well pleased with our work, and his suggestions and remarks were very encouraging. We all appreciated them, as the way side in boarding school work is not strewn with roses.

Conclusion.—In conclusion allow me to say this school has been well provided for. The provisions and clothing have been ample. The children seem to appreciate and enjoy what is done for them while here, but as soon as they are out of school the evil influence of camp life tells on them and I am sorry to say some of our brightest girls of fourteen and fifteen are said to be married. What can be done to prevent this evil?

Extending thanks to the Department and our agent for their kindness and support,
I am, most respectfully,

J. H. WELCH,
Superintendent.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

REPORT OF NEZ PERCÉ AGENCY.

NEZ PERCÉ INDIAN AGENCY, IDAHO,
August 21, 1893.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith my fourth and last annual report of this Agency, with statistics accompanying the same, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1893.

Census.—The population of this tribe is 1,809, of which number 400 are estimated. There are 870 males and 939 females. An accurate census of this tribe for this year it has been impossible for me to compile, as myself and employes have been busily engaged in making the transfer of the public property under my charge to my successor, who relieved me on the 1st of this month.

Location.—The Indians of this tribe live in five distinct settlements, which are scattered promiscuously over the reservation. These settlements consist of the Kamiab, North Fork, Meadow Creek, Lapwai, and Mission Indians. They are situated in small valleys, upon farms ranging in size from 5 up to 160 acres. At the present time will be found in these valleys pleasant little homes, with fields of ripe grain and fine gardens, which are evidence of industry, thrift, and comfort.

Agriculture.—In this industry very marked advancement has been made by the Indians this year. They have realized a very fair yield of crops. Comparatively speaking, this industry is but in its infancy, and will not reach extensive or large proportions until the Indians have made the preliminary improvements on their allotted lands, which work they are at present engaged in, when they will be able to cultivate many more acres of land than they do at present. In selecting their allotments they have chosen the most fertile and choice lands of the reserve, which will be, if properly cultivated, capable of yielding upward of 35 bushels to the acre. Undoubtedly this industry will be their chief revenue of support, and there are no reasons why they should not prosper and make a success of it. They are fast acquiring a knowledge in the use of the modern agricultural implements, which will make them practical and successful farmers.

Allotments.—In all 1,905 allotments have been made upon this reserve. The allotting agent completed and closed her work in the early part of this year. Some dissatisfaction has been expressed by a great many of the Indians in regard to the way the allotment work has been prosecuted. The nature of their complaints is that the corners to their allotments have not been properly established, and in some instances not established at all. This neglect has been the cause of much dissension and ill feeling springing up among some of the allotted families, conflicting claims

having arisen in constructing division fences, as no corners have been established to intelligently guide them. In an agreement for the cession of the surplus lands of this reservation, concluded at the agency last spring, the Government agrees to remedy this neglect or evil by inserting in the agreement a stipulation authorizing the employment of a competent surveyor, to be employed for two years, to inform or show the Indians the exact location of their allotted lands and establish the corners to the same. Since the close of the allotment work several applications for allotments have been filed by parties who claim tribal rights and desire to select their land on this reserve.

A pending treaty.—An agreement was consummated here at the agency, the 1st of last May, for the surrender of the surplus lands of this reservation to the Government by the Indians of this tribe. The amount of the lands surrendered or ceded are 542,064 acres, for which the sum of \$1,626,222 will be paid to the Indians in annual and semiannual payments, the first payment, amounting to \$626,222, to be paid immediately after the ratification of this agreement by Congress.

About four months' time was consumed in making this agreement. Commendation is due Messrs. Schleicher, Beede, and Allén, who acted on the part of the Government in making this agreement, for their patient and untiring efforts and the fair and impartial means which they used in bringing the agreement about. The agreement was opposed by some of the Indians, who own large bands of horses and cattle that roam over the reservation at large, feasting off of the fat pasturage the reservation affords and which for years has been a chief source of revenue to them. It was plainly evident to these Indians, who are greatly in the minority, that the emoluments derived from the present state of the reservation would be entirely cut off from them or greatly reduced if the surplus lands were disposed of; so, as a matter of course, they did all in their power to stop it, and even went so far as to concoct ill-devised schemes to thwart it. But their efforts proved of no avail, for the majority of the Indians, who comprise the poorer class, understood the many benefits that would inure to them from the sale of their lands and readily came forward and signed the agreement.

Court of Indian offenses.—The work of this court has been very light during the past year. The cases that came up before the court and were disposed of are enumerated as follows: Six cases of adultery, six of drunkenness, two of attempted burglary, and one of attempted rape. The judges, three in number, have proven themselves quite efficient in handling the business that came up before them. They have been of great help to me in many instances, and rendered invaluable service in tending or disposing of these cases, which if left to me would have consumed much valuable time that I devoted to more important business. In connection with the court work the police force has rendered valuable service, and has also been of great help to me in filling the school on this reservation with Indian pupils.

Improvements.—The most important and extensive improvements made by the Indians this year have been the building of fences. Upward of 50,000 rods have been built, of which amount 40,000 rods were built of barb wire and 10,000 rods of rails and posts. A few new frame dwellings have been built upon the allotted lands of those Indians who could afford to make such improvements. The value of each of these dwellings ranges from \$300 to \$500.

Schools.—The Nez Percé Agency boarding school, which has been in operation for over two years under my charge, was closed at the commencement of this year through orders issued by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, making it a department of the Fort Lapwai school, and to which school all the pupils and the property belonging to the agency school were transferred.

By making the agency school a department of the Fort Lapwai school the latter has been crowded to its utmost capacity. Supt. McConville, under whose charge this school is, after the transfer of the agency school to his charge, began immediately to enlarge the capacity of his school by erecting a large two-story frame building, now used as a dining room and kitchen and the manufacturing department of the school. It is also his intention to erect a large and commodious building to be used as a dormitory for the boy pupils of his school, and he has about consummated his plans for that purpose. By the abandonment of the agency school, and the transfer of its pupils to the Fort Lapwai school, the latter school is afforded a full complement of scholars. For further details of the Fort Lapwai school I respectfully refer you to Supt. McConville's annual report.

Conclusion.—In concluding my report I desire to thank the Department for its many courtesies and the wise and valuable suggestions extended me in the prosecution of my official duties. I must also express my grateful feelings to the employes who have been under my charge for the kind and courteous manner with which they have always treated me, and for their promptness in discharging their duties.

Very respectfully,

WARREN D. ROBBINS,
United States Indian Agent.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.