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Oklahoma

Government Schools

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1925

## Oklahoma, Chilocco School, 1925

William M. Hughes

*Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions*

Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions

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### Recommended Citation

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GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS-10  
OKLAHOMA  
CHILOCCO SCHOOL  
1925

10-2  
January 5, 1925.

Rev. A. Pierets,  
Nowkirk,  
Oklahoma.

Dear Father Pierets:

I inclose herewith "Agent" check for \$150 for attending Chilocco  
Government School and Preservation Society check for \$27.50 covering trans-  
portation expenses of Sisters to and from Chilocco, for the quarter  
ending December 31, 1924.

Yours fraternally,

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Wm. Hughes,  
Director.

WH/JH

I thank you for the invitation to Chilocco Dec. 16, 1925. But I regret  
that my presence is demanded here at that time and Jan. 18 also, if  
Jan 18 is the date instead of Dec. 18. I must stay home and work and  
not be running around the country.

WH

### Benedictine Sisters

January 9, 1925

APR 14 1925  
Am. Nat. Hist. Mus.  
Bureau of Ornithology  
Washington, D.C.  
Dear Sir,  
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.  
Very respectfully,  
Misses

Sister Mary Rose. 1813.

10-V-

January 28, 1925.

Sister Mary Rose, O.S.B.,  
St. Francis Academy,  
Newkirk, Oklahoma.

Dear Sister:

I wish to acknowledge with thanks your kind letter of January 9, in which you mention that you would like to secure about a dozen copies of St. Basil's Hymnals.

I have no copies of this hymnal on hand, and at the present time I regret that I have not the funds available to purchase them. I have noted this need, and it will appear in the April issue of THE INDIAN SENTINEL. Perhaps some kind friend of the Indian missions, upon reading of this need will make this donation for the children at Chilocco.

I pray that God may give you every blessing in the great work you are doing, and I assure you of my willingness to co-operate with you in every way possible.

Yours in Christ,

Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Hughes,  
Director.

JS:lg

April 2, 1935.

Rev. A. Piersta,  
Newkirk, Okla.

Dear Father Piersta:

I enclose herewith Agent check for \$150, covering your salary for attending the Chilocco Government School during the quarter ended March 31, 1935.

I also enclose Preservation Society check for \$30, covering transportation of the Sisters to and from Chilocco for the same quarter.

Yours fraternally,

Ht. Rev. Mgr. Wm. Hughes,  
Director.

J

10-V

MAY 15 1925 AMT

✓

May 12, 1925

Rt. Rev. Monsignor Wm. Hughes,  
2031 H. Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Reverend Father:

In today's mail I am sending you a letter addressed to the donors whose names you have sent me. We thank you most sincerely for your interest in our little Western Indians, God's "heart-children." These children are quite poor, dear Father, going as they do from some of the very poorest tribes. You hear and read of "rich Indians" in Oklahoma; but there are none of them in the Chillicothe school. The Matron tells me that all her Catholic girls are especially poor, so we surely will be glad through your kindness, to help them a little.

There are four to be baptized next Sunday, I believe, and now they all have a pretty white wreath to wear, as I received a package from Sister Adjutoria of Baltimore. It takes a little too, to gladden their hearts. The Indian children love the Sisters, and watch eagerly for their coming each Sunday.

The Sisters are delighted with the earnestness of the children in preparing their Catechism lesson. They could put some of our white children to shame.

Again thanking you, dear Father, and begging our dear Lord to bless your work and reward you personally for your kind charity, I am

Yours in Jesus' Heart,

St. Francis of Assisi Church  
Newkirk, Oklahoma.

*Sister Mary Rose, C.S.B.*

P.S.--I forgot to say that if I have failed to write to these ladies in the way you would have wished me to do, kindly let me know and I shall be more than glad to comply with any wish you express.

S...R.

MAY 18 1925  
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 Cash Paid  
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10-5

May 14, 1925

Rt. Rev. Monsignor Hayes,  
 Director Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions,  
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Reverend Father:

The package from Miss Thompson was  
 received by me, just as I was leaving the city  
 for a day or so; this is why I was not able to  
 notify you more promptly.

Miss M. E. Thompson, of Blackline, Miss.,  
 sent us some white dresses suitable for First Com-  
 municants, and also white veils for same purpose.  
 Dear Reverend Father, we are very pleased to get  
 these as those Indian children at Chillicothe are in-  
 deed very poor. That is the Catholic children.

I enclose to you a letter of thanks to the  
 donor, Miss Mary E. Thompson. Miss Thompson wrote us  
 a letter and makes the very SPECIAL REQUEST that we  
 do NOT mention in the "Sentinel" any articles  
 that she sends. Please, dear Father, note carefully,  
 this request.

Very sincerely yours,

*Sister Mary Rose O.S.B.*

St. Francis Assisi Church,  
 Nowata, Oklahoma.



7/5/25

ST. FRANCIS CHURCH  
NEWKIRK, OKLAHOMA

for Fr. Pirata.  
for Bureau

June 29-25

Dear Father Hughes.

Inclosed find report for the  
Chilocco Indian School.

We had a visit of Bishop  
Francis Kelley accompanied by the  
Most Rev. Archbishop Orozco of Gua-  
dalajara, Mexico.

Mr. Clyde Blain, the superin-  
tendent, was preparing for our  
coming. We had a magnificent  
banquet, prepared by the "Domestic  
Science" class. Mr. Blain and fa-  
mily, all the catholic employees  
and their families, took supper with  
the Bishop and his party.

Among the visitors was Maria-  
nor Severn, who used to attend  
the Chilocco school in the ear-  
ly days of Oklahoma.

ST. FRANCIS CHURCH  
NEWKIRK, OKLAHOMA

At night, in the big auditorium  
Bishop Kelley addressed all the chil-  
dren and employees of the school, to  
the number of 950. He gave a  
spirited lecture on Do as you.

They all paid the closest atten-  
tion to the charming lecturer.

Dear Father Hughes, I must  
thank you for the useful gifts  
the children receive from time  
to time through the intervention  
of the Indian Bureau.

Many of our catholic children  
are rather poor - we have no Oranges  
here - and the articles are re-  
ceived with appreciation.

Yours truly in X<sup>e</sup>  
Aphome Pickett.

TYPESCRIPT OF PRECEDING DOCUMENT

COPY FOR: BUREAU

ST. FRANCIS CHURCH  
NEWKIRK, OKLAHOMA

June 29, 1925.

Dear Father Hughes:

Inclosed find report for the Chilocco Indian  
School.

We had a visit of Bishop Francis Kelley, ac-  
companied by the Most Rev. Archbishop Crocco of Yucatec, Mexico.

Mr. Clyde Blair, the Superintendent, was pre-  
paring for our coming. We had a magnificent banquet, prepared by  
the Domestic Science class. Mr. Blair and family, all the Catholic  
employees and their families, took supper with the Bishop and his  
party.

Among the visitors was Consignor Stevens, who used  
to attend the Chilocco School in the early days of Oklahoma.

At night in the big auditorium, Bishop Kelley  
addressed all the children and employees of the school, to the  
number of 950. He gave a spirited lecture on Joan of Arc.

They all paid the closest attention to the charm-  
ing lecturer.

Dear Father Hughes, I must thank you for the useful  
gifts the children receive from time to time through the intervention  
of the Indian Bureau.

Many of our Catholic children are rather poor. We have  
no Osages here, and the articles are received with appreciation.

Yours truly in Xto,

(Signed) Alphonse Pierets,

COPIED BY JR

Rec'd July 8 1925  
 A.A.A.  
 S.S.S.  
 S.S.S.  
 S.S.S.  
 S.S.S.

10-5

St. Francis Assisi,  
 Newkirk, Oklahoma,  
 July 3, 1925

Rt. Rev. Monsignor Hughes,  
 2021 H Street,  
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Reverend Father:

I am enclosing two letters to recent donors.  
 These boxes were splendid and we are truly grateful to you  
 for giving us such good benefactors.

This is the second box that Miss Thompson has  
 sent us. When she sent the first box she wrote us on May 8  
 and asked especially that we do not mention in the "Sentinel"  
 'anything she might send'. We have not heard from her this  
 time; you can judge whether she wishes this to extend to  
 the present donation. I would think she does. Miss Thomp-  
 son is surely a good benefactor, and also the Misses Singer.

Thanking you again and asking a little prayer  
 occasionally, I am

Yours in the Heart of Christ,

*Sister Mary Rose*

July 7, 1925.

Rev. A. Pierets,  
St. Francis Church,  
Newkirk, Oklahoma.

Dear Father Pierets:

I enclose herewith Agent check for \$150, covering your salary for attending the Chilocco Government School during the quarter ended June 30, 1925.

I also enclose Preservation Society check for \$22.50, covering transportation of the Benedictine Sisters to and from Chilocco for the same quarter.

Yours fraternally,

Rt. Rev. Mgr. William Hughes,  
Director.

J

10-J-

July 8, 1925.

Rev. Alphase Pierets,  
Nowkirk,  
Oklahoma.

Dear Father Pierets:

Your letter of June 28 to Father Hughes, inclosing your report for the quarter ended June 30, 1925, and giving an account of the visit of Bishop Kelley and Archbishop Crocco to the Chilocco School, has been received.

Checks covering your salary and the transportation of the Sisters to and from Chilocco were mailed you yesterday.

The account of the Prelate's visit will prove an interesting item in the autumn number of THE CENTINEL.

Very sincerely yours,

Charles E. Lusk,  
Secretary.

CEL:JR

1742  
PS

October 6, 1925.

10-5

Rev. A. Pierets,  
Newkirk, Okla.

Dear Father Pierets:

I enclose herewith Agent check for \$150, covering your salary for attending the Chilocco Government School during the quarter ended September 30, 1925.

I will send you a check for \$17.50, covering the transportation of the Benedictine Sisters for the same quarter just as soon as possible. Our funds are extremely low but we hope to have more money within about a week or ten days, when I will send you the \$17.50. I hope this will not inconvenience you.

Yours fraternally,

Rt. Rev. Mgr. William Hughes,  
Director.

CMJ

October 15, 1925.

Rev. A. Pierets,  
Newkirk, Okla.

Dear Father Pierets:

I enclose herewith check for \$17.50, covering the transportation of the Benedictine Sisters to and from the Chilocco Government School for the quarter ended September 30, 1925. I am sorry for the delay in sending this amount to you.

Yours fraternally,

Rt. Rev. Mgr. William Hughes,  
Director.

CMJ



10-5  
Postd NOV 7 1925 Amt. Anthony's  
NOV 10 1925 Order filled ST. FRANCIS CHURCH  
Billd \_\_\_\_\_ Sten. comp'd \_\_\_\_\_  
Ret I.S. \_\_\_\_\_ St. O'KEENE, NEWARK, OKLAHOMA  
Copy to I.S. \_\_\_\_\_ Messrs \_\_\_\_\_  
Change sent to def office 11/25/25  
NOV. 4 - 25

Rev. and dear Father Hughes,

I have been transferred from the Newhirk parish to Okeene, Okla. consequently I am no longer in charge of the Chilocco Indian School.

I left this mission with regrets because my associations there have been most pleasant.

Just at the moment that the high-way from Newhirk to Chilocco was paved I have to leave. I used the paving for the 1st time on Oct. 25th.

This year the nuns at Chilocco are all Catholics. You have no idea, dear Fr. Hughes, what that means for the Catholic children.

Mr. Clyde Blair, the superintendent has been wonderful. Never have I asked a favor he did not grant.

Anthony's  
ST. FRANCIS CHURCH

O'Keene - NEWKIRK, OKLAHOMA

Therefore it is with regret  
that I leave Chilocco School. They say  
I have a promotion, but I don't now.  
I obey orders.

Most of my older boys and girls are  
married now. I meet them here and  
there. As a general rule they raise  
a catholic family.

Dear Fr. Hughes, since I worked for  
Chilocco during October I have a right  
to \$50<sup>00</sup>. Also \$10<sup>00</sup> for the expenses  
to bring the sisters to and from Chilocco  
during October.

May-be that in the future you may  
have to pay a little more for the trans-  
portation of the sisters but keep them  
at Chilocco by all means, because they  
give the catholic atmosphere to the chil-  
dren at Chilocco. May-be that a public  
conveyance will be \$4<sup>00</sup> or 5<sup>00</sup> a trip.  
I had a contract with Fr. Reckham to  
bring them there for \$2<sup>50</sup> a trip.  
If the sisters don't go on Sunday afternoon  
the catholic children have to go to protestant  
services. Withing you all success and blessing  
Yours truly W. A. Pieretti.

November 10, 1925.

Rev. A. Pierets,  
St. Anthony's Church,  
Okeene, Oklahoma.

Dear Father Pierets:

I have your letter of November 4 and regret to hear that you have been transferred from Newkirk. Will you please tell me the name of your successor there, if you know it?

I am enclosing two checks, one for \$50 covering your salary for attending the Chilocco Government School during the month of October, and the other for \$10, covering transportation of the Sisters to and from Chilocco for the same month.

I am pleased to hear of the pleasant conditions that exist at the Chilocco School.

Yours fraternally,

Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Hughes,  
Director.

CMJ

10-5  
Anthony's  
Rec'd NOV 17 1925 Amt. ST. FRANCIS CHURCH  
Ass. Order filled  
Paid Sten. ~~GREENE~~  
Sols. Sten. cut NEWKIRK, OKLAHOMA  
Copy to L.S. Master

Nov. 14 - 25

Dear Father Hughes,

I have received the two checks  
You sent me \$50 and \$10.00.

The name of my successor for  
Newkirk-Chillico is Father Joseph  
Francis.

Sincerely yours in V.C.  
A. Smith.

105  
Rec'd NOV 18 1925 Aml.  
Ans. Order filled  
Fol'd Sten. comp'd  
Not I.S. Sten. cut  
Copy to I.S. Massee

**Saint Francis Academy**

Benedictine Sisters  
Newkirk, Oklahoma

November 18, 1925.

The Rt. Rev. W. Hughes,  
Director Catholic Indian Missions  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Right Reverend Father:

At present the  
Sisters find it a difficult matter to reach the  
Chilocco Indian School.

The car which the Sisters used for this purpose  
was the personal property of Reverend Father Pierets.  
Since his transfer from Newkirk, we have tried every  
possible way to reduce the rate of travel. Each trip  
in fine weather is \$4.00, and in disagreeable weather  
is \$6.00.

For the Sisters who make this trip do you think  
it possible for the "Indian Bureau" to provide a cheap  
"Ford" and to make provisions for the repairs on the car.

Concerning this matter, Right Reverend Father,  
may we hear from you as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours in Ct.

*Sister M. Joseph, O.S.B.*

November 22, 1925.

Sister M. Joseph, O.B.B.,  
St. Francis' Academy.  
Newkirk, Oklahoma.

Dear Sister:

Herewith is the letter which I suggest your Sisters show Superintendent Blair in the matter of their transportation to and from Chilocco, in regard to which you write in your letter of November 18. This letter is for yourself alone.

But I think it well that Superintendent Blair should see the correspondence between myself and Commissioner Burke regarding the question of transportation in the Blackfeet case. You should not leave this correspondence with him. I simply want him to read it in order that he may know the disposition of the Commissioner in such a matter.

I do not think it would be advisable for the Sisters to say anything about your request to me to provide you with a Ford. I say this because it is by no means certain, even if it becomes necessary that the Sisters should have such a means of transportation, that I would be able to furnish it. In fact it is extremely doubtful if I would be able to do so.

I shall continue to send you the usual annual allowance for the services of your Sisters in attending the Chilocco School.

Trusting that your appeal to Superintendent Blair will result favorably,  
I am

Yours in Christ,

10-5  
November 23, 1925.

Sister M. Joseph, O.S.B.,  
St. Francis' Academy.  
Newkirk, Oklahoma.

Dear Sister:

I am in receipt of your letter of November 18 relative to the transportation of your Sisters to and from the Chilocco Government School.

It occurs to me that possible Superintendent Blair will be able and willing to provide the necessary transportation. I do not care to take up the matter with Commissioner Burk, but it would be most pleasing if I would be able to say to him that Mr. Blair would be willing to extend this courtesy to the Sisters.

A somewhat similar case on the Blackfeet Reservation was brought by me to the attention of the Commissioner in the early part of this year and I am inclosing copies of the correspondence between this Bureau and him on this subject.

I would suggest that the Sisters see Superintendent Blair and lay the matter fully before him, handing him the copy of this letter which is inclosed and have him read the correspondence relating to the Blackfeet matter. From the great consideration and kindness which Mr. Blair has always shown Father Merets and the Sisters, I feel quite confident that if it be practicable, he will grant such a request.

Yours in Christ,

Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Hughes,

10-5

Rec'd DEC 17 1925 Amt.                      Saint Francis Academy  
 Ans'd 12/21/25 Order filled                      Benedictine Sisters  
 Paid                      Sten. comp'd                      Newkirk, Oklahoma  
 For L.S.                      Sten. exp.                       
 Cash to L.S. ✓                                           December 12, 1925.

The Right Reverend Monsignor W. Hughes,  
 Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions,  
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Right Reverend Father:

As you instructed in your letter of November 23, concerning the Chilocco transportation, I took advantage of the first opportunity offered to speak with Mr. Blair, the Superintendent of The Chilocco School.

Mr. Blair was most considerate and most courteous in the matter of sending a car for the Sisters who instruct the Indians, on Sundays throughout the School year.

We thank you for the kind suggestions offered to the solving of the transportation difficulty.

That the Indians are very fond of music, and that we may keep them, we must let them have at least a few minutes for the singing of hymns. No doubt, you are well aware of the fact how hard the Baptists work to draw these poor natives over to their belief. Now, is it not possible that the Chilocco Catholic Indians be provided with fifteen or twenty copies, even a less number of the St. Basil's Hymnal and the De la Salle hymn books about twenty cents a copy.

The inclosed is a letter to Miss Thompson who sent a box of clothing to the Indians.

May this Christmas bring you many blessings and a big share of many consolations in behalf of the poor Indians.

Sincerely yours in Christ

*Sister M. Joseph, O.S.B.*



*Transportation of Sisters  
Hymn Books*

Sister M. Joseph, O.S.B.,  
St. Francis' Academy.  
Newkirk, Oklahoma.

December 17, 1925.

Dear Sister:

I have received your letter of December 12, and am very much gratified to learn that Superintendent Blair has arranged to provide transportation for your Sisters to and from the Chillicothe School. Please say to Mr. Blair that I gratefully appreciate his kind action in this matter and the next time I see Commissioner Burke I shall take great pleasure in telling him of the gracious courtesy he has extended to you and your Sisters.

An appeal will appear in the Winter issue of THE INDIAN SENTINEL for the hymn books you need for the Catholic pupils at Chillicothe. I am quite hopeful it will meet with a ready response.

Thanking you for your kind Christmas greetings, which I most cordially reciprocate, I remain

Yours in Christ,

Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Hughes,  
Director.

CSL:JR

Rec'd JAN 14 1925 Amt. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ans. \_\_\_\_\_ Order filled \_\_\_\_\_ January, 1925  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_ Sten. comp'd \_\_\_\_\_  
Received from Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions  
One hundred fifty 00/100 \_\_\_\_\_ Dollars  
Payment due for attending Chilocco Government School,  
For quarter ended December 31, 1924.  
\$150. *Secret*

Rec'd APR 3 1925 Amt. *Shd* \_\_\_\_\_  
Ans. \_\_\_\_\_ Order filled \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_ Sten. comp'd \_\_\_\_\_  
Received from \_\_\_\_\_  
Newkirk, Okla. \_\_\_\_\_  
Copy to B. \_\_\_\_\_  
ST. FRANCIS CHURCH  
NEWKIRK, OKLAHOMA

*Expenditures to bring the Benedictine  
Sisters to and from Chilocco Indian  
School, term ending March 31 - 1925  
12 trips \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 30.00*

Rec'd APR 3 1925 Amt. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ans. \_\_\_\_\_ Order filled \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_ Sten. comp'd \_\_\_\_\_  
Received from Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions  
-----ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY----- Dollars  
Payment due for attending Chilocco Govt. School,  
For quarter ended March 31, 1925.  
\$ 150.00 *Secret*

Rec'd APR 3 1925 Amt. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ans. \_\_\_\_\_ Order filled \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_ Sten. comp'd \_\_\_\_\_  
Received from \_\_\_\_\_  
Newkirk, Okla., April 6, 1925  
ST. FRANCIS CHURCH  
NEWKIRK, OKLAHOMA

*June 30 - 1925  
Expenses for transportation of the  
Benedictine Sisters to and from  
Chilocco, Okla.  
From April 1 to June 30. nine trips \$ 22.50*

NEWKIRK, OKLAHOMA. 10-5  
JUL 13 1925 Amt.  
Order filled  
Sten. comp'd  
JULY 13, 1925.  
Received from Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions  
Masses  
Copy to LS.  
-----ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-----  
Dollars

Payment due for salary for attending the Chilocco Govt. School,  
For quarter ended June 30, 1925.

\$ 150#

*AP Pierch*

17.50 ps  
OCT 5 1925  
ST. FRANCIS CHURCH  
NEWKIRK, OKLAHOMA

Transportation of Benedictine Sisters  
to and from the Chilocco Indian School  
Term ending Sept. 30 - 1925

# 17.50

OCT 10 1925 Amt.  
Newkirk, Okla.  
OCT 10, 1925.  
Received from Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions  
-----ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-----  
Dollars

Payment due for attending Chilocco Govt. School,  
For quarter ended September 30, 1925.

\$150#

*AP Pierch*

NOV 17 1925 Amt.  
Okeena, Okla.  
November 14, 1925.  
Received from Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions  
-----FIFTY-----  
Dollars

Payment due for salary for attending Chilocco Govt. School,  
For quarter ended October 1925.

\$50#

*AP Pierch*