

continued

| Total number of Indians 5004 |                                  |   |             |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|-------------|
|                              | Amount required for<br>the year. | Amount purchased and<br>Contracted for. | Deficiency. |
| Bacon                        | 100.000                          |   |             |
| Beef                         | 5,179.380                        | 3.750.000                               | 1.429.380   |
| Flour                        | 913.230                          | 600.000                                 | 313.230     |
| Corn                         | 913.230                          | 150.000                                 | 763.231     |
| Beans                        | 54.793                           | Not yet known                           |             |
| Lard                         | 20.000                           | 10.000                                  |             |
| Salt                         | 18.264                           | Not yet known                           |             |
| Coffee                       | 73.058                           | 38.018                                  | 35.040      |
| Sugar                        | 146.116                          | 80.028                                  | 66.088      |
| Tobacco                      | 9.132                            | Not yet known                           |             |
| Soap                         | 18.264                           | 10.000                                  | 8.264       |

The figures speak for themselves and comment is unnecessary, and unless the deficiency is supplied, great suffering to these Indians must of necessity result. It has been the practice and policy of the Indian Dept. to send a large part of the Indians on a buffalo hunt four or five months each year, and it is presumed that with such an expedient in view, only eight months supplies have been furnished, with a hope that the Indians can subsist themselves for a least four months during the present fiscal year, such a hope will, I am satisfied, be a vain one, and should not, and indeed cannot be depended upon.

Two years ago the Indians had a successful hunt and subsisted themselves for about five months. A year ago their hunt was a disastrous failure, and a very large number of the Indians absent from the Agency without rations, suffered greatly for want of food. They soon destroyed all the small game that could be found, then lived for a time on dogs, coyotes, and horse flesh until beef could be issued to them on Camp Supply to keep them from starving until they could reach the Agency.

Permission was granted the Indians to go on a hunt in July, but