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as no buffalo could be found or heard of in the Territory, the Indians were advised by the Agent and myself to give up the hunt, fearing an experience similar to that of last winter. Aside from the consideration that these Indians should give up the chase rather than continue it, as tending to foster a warlike spirit, and diverting their attention from more civilized pursuits it is well known that the Buffalo have almost entirely disappeared from this region and subsistence from this source cannot be depended upon.

The contracts made for beef and flour to supply the Agency and the amounts of each of the other portion of the Ration allowed these Indians so far furnished seem to indicate that the Interior Department did not intend to furnish more than a two thirds supply, for the year, or only what will suffice for eight months, depending as heretofore upon the usual buffalo hunt, to make up the balance, and as this cannot be relied on, the supplying of the deficiency above shown, should at once receive the serious attention of the proper authorities, Attention is respectfully invited to article 5 of agreement made at Red Cloud Agency, Sept. 26, 1876, published in appendix to Commissioners Report for the same year. This agreement requires the issue of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  # beef net or 3 # gross  $\frac{1}{2}$ # Flour and  $\frac{1}{2}$ # Corn and  $4\frac{1}{2}$ # Coffee and  $8\frac{1}{2}$ # Sugar and  $3\frac{1}{2}$ #beans to each 100 rations.

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	Purchased and contracted for	Supply for 8 months	Supply for one Yr.
Beef	3,750.000	3.647.916	5.179.380
Corn	150.000	607.986	913.230
Flour	600.000	607.986	913.230
Coffee	38.018	48.640	73.058
Sugar	80.028	97.280	146.116
Beans	None	36.480	54.793

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