

represent the coal which the bidder proposes to furnish, the average of the two analyses to determine the standard. If two samples are submitted, each sample should be taken from different portions or quantities of the coal, as thereby, the average of the two results will more nearly represent the coal which the bidder proposes to furnish.

Persons not experienced in taking samples have a tendency to select a better sample than the average. In many cases, a lump of coal is broken and shipped in a cloth sack to the laboratory. This allows the moisture to dry out. Moreover, the lump selected is usually free from layers of slate and impurities, and, of course, then represents the best coal in the lot, and shows a higher value than can be expected to hold throughout the life of the contract.

As stated above, the gross sample should be reduced immediately to the final sample placed in a sealed glass jar. This is essential, as it is imperative that the moisture in the coal at the time of sampling be preserved if the coal is paid for on the heat unit "as received" basis, as a loss in moisture raises the heat value per pound of fuel.

Summarizing the above, the Office of Indian Affairs will purchase its coal for the fiscal year 1910-1911 on the specification basis. Bidders will be required to establish the standards of their coal. If samples are submitted to the U. S. Geological Survey for analysis, extreme care should be exercised in the selection and preparation of a representative sample. The samples must be submitted at once, as samples received after April 15, 1910, will not be analyzed, with result that the bid on the coal will not be considered.

Blank forms of proposal will be sent to bidders about April 1 next.

R. G. VALENTINE,
Commissioner.

PUPTLES' ITEMS

The rose bushes were pruned last week. John Brown is in charge of the woodshed force.

Miss Bender took some girls out for a nice walk on Sunday.

George and Willie Foster are now working on the industrial detail.

We are very glad to see Myrtle Wilson out again after being sick awhile.

The fifth grade girls are all glad to see Bertha Spencer back at school again.

Miss Royer and Mrs. Fickle took the girls to the basketball game and they enjoyed the game very much.

Alex Wallace is oiler in the Laundry this week and he is getting along very well.

The industrial boys are working on the lawns at the hospital this week. The grass is green and the lawns look very pretty.

We are all sorry that Ben Wilcox had his ankle sprained in a practice game against the blacksmiths.

There are three deer in the park at Chemawa. The one named Eureka, shed its horns not long ago.

Joe Simpson gave us a solo on a mandolin few days ago. He is a very good player. We are all proud of him.

We are still painting on Mitchell Hall. I hope we will get through with it this week, so all the Mitchell Hall boys can get ready to move in next week.

Mr Fickle gave a very interesting talk last Friday about the building of mounds. He said the mounds builders were in America before the Indians were and there are many mounds in Ohio.