

CROWSTAND  
INDIAN  
BOARDING SCHOOL.

116741-1

REV. W. McWHINNEY,  
PRINCIPAL.

371504



*Hamsack, Sask.* Sept. 7th



Sir,

I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of the booklet entitled, "Games and Calisthenics", and to say that I think it can be made very useful in our Indian Schools. For several winters past we have been giving considerable attention to the matter of calisthenics, but this booklet will aid us very much in this.

The following are a number of matters to which I wish to call your attention.

1. While our pupils were home on holidays measles broke out on the Reserve and when the 29th of August came, which was the day set for their return, some had not apparently come in the way of infection, others had taken them and had not quite recovered, while others were quite recovered. I consulted with the Agent Mr Blewett and Dr Wallace and together we agreed upon the following, - 1. All pupils who had not had measles and as far as we knew had not come in the way of infection and all who had completely recovered should return to school. 2. All who were sick or had been in the way of infection were to remain at home until all danger of their imparting the disease was over. Notwithstanding all our care five cases have developed since their return and their may be more. There are ten pupils yet at home whom I do not think it would be wise to bring back until the danger of infection is over.

2. Julia Kitchemonia pupil No. 066 has had a great deal of trouble with her eyes during the last couple of years. We have treated them as carefully as possible but whenever she attempts to use them for sewing or in the class-room they get bad again. Her Grandfather Chief Kitchemonia wishes

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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116741/1

EXD.

Ottawa, September 14, 1910.

Rev. Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, and in reply to that portion in which you deal with the outbreak of ~~measles~~ measles on the reserve I beg to say that the action taken by you on the recommendation of the Agent and medical attendant is approved. The Department ~~trusts~~ trusts that you will be able to keep the outbreak within the school within bounds and that all the children will soon be restored to their usual health.

The ten pupils referred to may remain at home till the danger from infection is over and, when forwarding your quarterly return, you will be good enough to give full explanations thereon, showing the cause of absence in the case of these <sup>and what</sup> pupils.

The other matters referred to in your letter will be dealt with in separate communications. I may add that, for the purpose of filing, it would be a great convenience to the Department if you would deal with only one subject in each of your letters.

Your obedient servant,

Rev. W. McWhinney,  
Principal,  
Crowstand Boarding School,  
Kamsack, Sask. Secretary.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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EX-103

Ottawa, 10th. April, 1911.

Rev. Sir,

I have the honour to enclose herewith eight agreements in duplicate, between yourself and His Majesty the King, represented by the Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs, for the future maintenance and management of the Crowstand, Birtle, Cecilia Jeffrey, Round Lake, Portage la Prairie, Ahousah, Alberni, and File Hills Boarding Schools and I have to request that you will be good enough to sign these documents in the presence of a subscribing witness and affix thereto the official seal of your society, returning the agreements to the Department at your earliest convenience as they go into effect from the first instant. On the return of these documents the signature of the Deputy Superintendent General will be affixed and a copy of each will then be sent you.

16

Certain alterations and improvements may be necessary to bring the buildings at these schools up to the standard fixed by the arrangement between the Department and the Churches. It is hoped that you will find it possible to make such alterations as will admit of placing some of the buildings in class "A" which will entitle you to a per capita grant of \$125.00. From time to time as our officers examine these buildings you will be advised of the result.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
*[Handwritten initials]*

Your obedient servant,

*[Handwritten signature]*

Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

Rev. R.P. Mackay, D.D.,  
 Sec'y. of the P.M.C. of the Presbyterian Church  
 Toronto, Ont.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
 (RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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CONVENER  
W. A. J. MARTIN, D.D.  
BRANTFORD.

289032 2  
**Presbyterian Church in Canada**  
**FOREIGN MISSION COMMITTEE**  
(WESTERN DIVISION)

REV. R. P. MACKAY, D.D.  
SECRETARY  
REV. A. E. ARMSTRONG, M.A.  
ASSISTANT-SECRETARY.  
439 CONFEDERATION LIFE CHAMBERS  
TORONTO  
PHONE MAIN 3783.

CABLE ADDRESS: BUTEROS.

Toronto May 30th, 1911

338873

Mr. Duncan C. Scott,  
Department of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa, Ont..

Dear Mr Scott;

I must apologize for the delay in sending the Agreements between the Foreign Mission Committee and the Department as to the new Regulations. They had been laid aside carefully for the purpose of having them sent immediately and then were overlooked. I send them to-day signed and sealed. I suppose the duplicate will be returned in due time with your signature.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

*R. P. Mackay*

RPM/LOB.

Encls..

*Agreements received  
2/6/11  
A.E.A.*



Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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289032/2

Ottawa, June 9, 1911.

Rev. Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 30th ultimo I have the honour to enclose herewith duplicate agreements relating to the future maintenance and management of the Crowstand, Birtle, Cecilia Jeffrey, Round Lake, Portage la Prairie, Ahousaht, Alberni and File Hills Boarding Schools, duly executed by the Deputy Superintendent General.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. MOLEAN

Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

Rev. R. P. MacKay, D.D.,

Secretary,

Foreign Mission Committee of the  
Presbyterian Church in Canada,  
Toronto, Ont.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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116741-1  
Indian Boarding School,  
Birillo Agency.



*[Handwritten signature]*  
Birillo, Man., Oct. 3 1911

J. D. McLean Esq.  
Asst. Deputy and Secretary  
Department of Indian Affairs  
Ottawa.

396203

Dear Sir:-

I beg to inform you that the vacancies on the staff  
of the Crowstand Boarding School have been filled by the appointment  
of the following persons:

Room instructor Mr. Conrad, formerly farmer for one  
of the State Asylums in Iowa.

Seamstress - Mrs. S. Augusta Lindell formerly mistress  
of an Indian mission in Kansas which she left because of the effect  
of the attitude upon her health.

Yours sincerely,

Wm. McLean

Superintendent, Parkston, S.D.



Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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116741/1

Ottawa, October 9, 1911.

Rev. Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant advising the Department of the appointment of a farm instructor and seamstress at the Birtle Boarding School.

Before confirming this appointment I have to ask you to be good enough to advise the Department whether Mr. Conrad and Miss Windel are or have taken steps to become naturalized British subjects.

*Handwritten initials and scribbles:*  
J. H. [unclear]  
A. M.  
M. B.

Your obedient servant,

*Handwritten stamp:* McLELAN

Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

Rev. W. W. McLaren,  
Supt. Presbyterian Schools,  
Birtle, Man.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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116741

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE,



Wamsack, Sask.

Oct. 10th 1911

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO  
No. IO4.  
ALSO  
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER.

*Schools*

EX-103 356394

Sir,-

Referring to your letter of ~~May 15th 1911.~~

No. ~~356420/17.~~



I beg to say that a few days ago one of Cote Band Indians, Pierre Cadotte, reported to me that his sister-in-law who was at Crowstand School, had told his wife that the boys at the school (pupils who had graduated but were working at the school or visiting there) had been getting in with the girls nights again. I made inquiry of John Shingoose Sr. who was in the Office at the same time and he also verified Cadotte's statements, naming Frank Cote, John Cadotte and Robert Brass as the boys and Ada Severight, Charlotte Razor and Nora Papequosh as the girls in the case. I at once called Mr McWhinney on the Phone and told him of the circumstances but he had not heard of any thing wrong having happened, however on asking the girls he found the report to be true, and has no doubt before now reported to the Department himself. I very much regret this state of affairs again occurring so soon as it has a very bad effect on the children and makes it doubly hard to get pupils to enter the school.

The Secretary  
Dept. of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa.

Your obedient servant,  
*W. G. Blawie*

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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116741/1

Ottawa, October 24, 1911.

Sir,-

Mr. Agent Blewett has reported to the Department the recurrence of disgraceful conduct on the part of certain pupils at the Crewstand Boarding School. It is said that certain boys (pupils who had graduated <sup>but</sup> were working at the school or visiting there) had again been getting into the girls' dormitory at night. The Agent states that the Principal has admitted the truth of the report.

I have to ask you to visit the institution and make a thorough enquiry, with a view to ascertaining whether there has been laxity in the management and, if so, where the fault lies.

Kindly make your enquiry exhaustive, so that the Department may take such action as may be deemed necessary to prevent the repetition of such occurrences.

Your obedient Servant,

Assistant Secretary.

*W.M. Graham*  
*Address omitted*  
W.M. Graham, Esq.,  
Inspector of Indian Agencies,  
Balcarres, Sask.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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116741

Office of The Inspector of Indian Agencies,  
South Saskatchewan Inspectorate,



IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO  
NO 6  
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER.

Balcarres, Sask., Oct. 31st 1911

398255

Ref.: Your Letter of Oct. 24th 1911, No 1167641-1

Sir,-

I have your letter of the above date and number and in reply would say that the matter referred to came to my notice while visiting Pelly Agency.

I note that you say the Agent states that the Principal has admitted the truth of the report. This is entirely different to what the Principal gave me to understand when I was enquiring into the case. In fact, I was led to believe that nothing very serious had taken place and that the expupils in question had not gone into the dormitories at all; and that the report in circulation was a gross misrepresentation in every particular. Mr. McWhinney said that the ex-pupils in question were seen in the basement by the Matron, talking to some of the larger girls. I could not see that there was any great wrong in this, and Mr. McWhinney assures me that he investigated the matter most thoroughly and this is all that took place. He added that he dismissed the ex-pupils.



On the other hand the Indians, the principal of  
The Secretary, whom  
Department of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES  
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398255

whom is Joe Cote, say that the circumstances as reported by the Agent are true. Of course I know that Cote has very little use for Mr. McWhinney and wants to see him removed, and anything he says should be corroborated.

I was just about writing a report on this matter when I received your letter and intended advising you to have the Agent summons the supposed guilty parties before him and if there is sufficient evidence they should be punished.

You ask me to investigate and ascertain whether there has been a laxity in the management and if so where the fault lies. Of course you are aware that the Principal does not live in the school, but has his residence two or three hundred yards from it. There are times when the Farming Instructor, whose duty it is to look after the boys, is away and three or four ladies are left alone in the building with all the children. There are a great many changes in the position of Farmer and it is not natural to expect a man who is only there for a short time to take such an interest in this branch of the work as the Principal, should have. I think perhaps there is a little weakness here. Then again, the building is poorly laid out for securing proper oversight of the pupils. The *girls* staff, with the exception of the farmer, sleep in the main body of the building in rooms opening from either side of a hall at the end of which is a door leading into another hall, off of which are

the

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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are the two boys' dormitories and the farmer's bedroom. If the farmer should not be in his room you can see that a great deal could go on without the knowledge of those in the main building. On the occasion of my last visit I found huge padlocks on the doors and the Principal carrying the keys. The children were locked in these rooms at night like animals. I instructed the Principal to not lock the doors of these rooms but the doors of the main house. Situated as these dormitories are a fire could gain great headway before the children could be released, especially when the responsible head is one quarter of a mile away.

I think Mr. McWhinney is unwise in taking the chances that he does, situated ~~the~~ as he is, by employing Indian labour and letting them sleep in the house when he is not there himself. One of the men he had engaged on this occasion is a character unfit to be trusted.

If the Agent is instructed to proceed with the case and sufficient evidence is obtained to convict, and punishment meted out, I think it will perhaps have a lasting effect. I think also that the Principal might be told that when he engages Indian labour, ~~esp~~ especially ex-graduates of suspicious character, he must arrange to have them sleep outside the buildings. This is all I can suggest in the matter.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

*A. M. [Signature]*  
Insp. of Indian Agencies.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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116741/1



Ottawa, November 9, 1911.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your report of the 31st ultimo in reply to official letter of the 24th of that month in which you were instructed to make a thorough and exhaustive inquiry into the report of the disgraceful conduct of certain pupils and ex-pupils of the Crowstand Boarding School.

In reply I beg to say that the report which you have seen fit to forward cannot be taken in satisfaction of your instructions and I have to request that you will at once make a full inquiry and report the result to the Department, in order that the necessary action may be taken. Assuming that there is truth in the reports which have already reached the Department the matter is considered of grave importance as this is not the first occasion upon which occurrences of this kind have taken place at this school.

*Handwritten signatures and initials:*  
L. J. [unclear]  
A. M.  
H. M. B.

Your obedient servant,

Assistant Deputy and Secretary.

W. M. Graham, Esq.,  
Inspector of Indian Agencies,  
Balcarres, Sask.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES  
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Indian Boarding School,  
Birtle Agency.

DEPT. OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
NOV 13 1911

116741

Birtle, Man., Nov. 9. 1911

J. D. McLean Esq.  
Asst. Deputy and Secretary  
Department of Indian Affairs  
Ottawa.

398341

Dear Sir:

In reply to your favor No 116741/11 of Oct. 23rd last, regarding notification from Rev. Dr. R. P. Mackay's office as to the acceptance of plans and specifications for the Birtle Boarding School - I may say that both Dr. Mackay and his assistant Rev. G. E. Armstrong are in the West and will be so for some time. Hence the delay in formally notifying the Department. At the annual meeting of the joint Indian Mission Committee for Saskatchewan and Manitoba - at which both the above gentlemen were present - it was decided to accept the plans approved by the Department and the local committee for the West was authorized to proceed with the work at once. This decision was arrived at last Thursday - Nov. 2nd. Just as soon as the amended plans and specifications are received from Ottawa by the Western Agent of the Church - Rev. Dr. J. S. Forsytherson B.A. Winnipeg, a competent builder will be sent to Birtle to superintend the work and rush it to completion.

Yours sincerely,  
W. W. McLean  
Principal.

SCHOOLS BRANCH  
NOV 15 1911

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES  
CANADA

FOOK  
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116741-1

Indian Boarding School,  
Birch Agency.



*[Handwritten signature]*

Birch, Man., Nov. 11 1911

J. D. McLean Esq.  
Asst. Deputy and Secretary  
Department of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa.

399085

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your favor No 116741/11 of Oct 28 - last - I would say that on enquiry of Rev W MacWhinney Principal of the Crowland School - I find that both Mr. Conrad and Mrs. Windel are citizens of the United States. Mr. Conrad intends to return just as soon as Mr. MacWhinney can procure another farmer. This climate is too severe for his health. Mrs. Windel who is a native of Canada - intends to take out naturalization papers once she is certain she will get on with her health.

Yours sincerely

W. W. McLean

Superintendent of Protestant  
Indian Missions.



Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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116741/1

Ex'd

Ottawa, November 21, 1911.

Rev. Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant in which you advise the Department that it is the intention of Mr. Conrad, who was recently appointed Farm Instructor at the Birtle Boarding School, to resign owing to illhealth, and that Miss Windel, who was appointed seamstress, intends to take out naturalization papers.

In reply I beg to say that the Department regrets the necessity for Mr. Conrad's resignation and the information with regard to Miss Windel is satisfactory.

*Handwritten notes:*  
J.H.  
W.M.  
AMB

Your obedient servant,

*Handwritten signature:*  
L.D. McLEAREN

Assistant Deputy and Secretary.

Rev. W. W. McLaren,  
Supt. of Presbyterian Indian Missions,  
Birtle, Man.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES  
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FOOK  
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116741-1

CROWSTAND  
INDIAN  
BOARDING SCHOOL.

REV. W. McWHINNEY,  
PRINCIPAL.



400421

*See* Dec. 7th 1911  
Dec. 7th 1911

Sir,-

I desire your permission to allow the pupils of our School one week of holidays between Christmas and New Years. They would go home on the 22nd of December and return on New Year's Day. This is simply following out the custom that has been in vogue for several years.

I Am,

Yours Respectfully,

*W. McWhinney*

The Secretary,

Indian Department,  
Ottawa, Can.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES  
CANADA

FOOK  
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116741-1



Office of THE INSPECTOR OF INDIAN AGENCIES  
SOUTH SASKATCHEWAN INSPECTORATE,

BALCARRES, SASK., Dec. 6th 1911 191

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO  
No. \_\_\_\_\_  
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER

*AG*

400391

Ref. : Your Letter of Nov. 9th 1911, No. 116741/1

Sir,-

In accordance with instructions contained in your letter above quoted I beg to say that I have just returned from the Pelly Agency and Crowstand school, where I went to make further enquiries into the alleged ill-conduct of certain pupils and ex-pupils of the school. I have made a thorough investigation and little if anything is to be added to what I have already reported. The meeting that took place between the ex-pupils was in the basement of the school at a time when the general work of the school was still going on and as nearly as I could find out it was about 7 o'clock in the evening early in October, when it would not be very dark. The male ex-pupils had on different occasions been working in the basement and the girl pupils who had or had not business there were seen talking to these boys. I have read the Agent's report to you on the matter, and it would certainly appear from it that something serious had taken place, and I have no doubt that the Indian, Pierre Cadotte, mentioned in his report, made statements that made the Agent believe such to be the case. However, I was able to see <sup>who gave this Indian the information</sup> ~~the~~ woman and she told me that all she knew was what her daughter, who is a servant in the Agent's house, had told her. When I questioned the girl she denied ever have told her mother anything of the kind. This denial took

The Secretary,

place

Department of Indian Affairs,

Ottawa.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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FOOK  
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place before the mother. Another old woman who was supposed to know something about the matter was brought to the school by me to tell her story, but all the evidence she gave was hearsay. I questioned the Chief and the man Jno. Singoose Sr. referred to in Mr. Blewett's letter and all they knew was what they had heard these women say. I questioned all the girls and learned nothing more than that they had been speaking to the boys in the basement when they had been working. I also saw the three boys who were supposed to be implicated in the matter and they stoutly maintained that nothing wrong had taken place.

I believe there was too much haste in reporting the matter to you. Had a full enquiry been made of Mrs. Cadotte, the woman mentioned in the Agent's letter, it would have been found that there was room to doubt her statements. Mr. McWhinney was also hasty at first when he admitted to the Agent that there was serious wrong doing going on. After making further enquiries he learned that reports had been exaggerated but by this time the Agent's report had gone forward.

I again warned Mr. McWhinney that he could not be too careful in watching these girls and seeing preventing if possible their meetings in the basement.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

*A. M. Kahane*  
Inspector Indian Agencies.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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116741/1

Ottawa, December 13, 1911.

Sir,

6

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant reporting the result of your inquiries into the alleged ill-conduct of certain pupils and ex-pupils of the Crowstand Boarding School.

~~In reply I beg to say that had you acted on the instructions first sent you it would have been more satisfactory to all concerned.~~

*Handwritten signatures and initials, including "H. S. G." and "J. B. G."*

Your obedient servant,

Assistant Deputy and Secretary.

W. M. Graham, Esq.,  
Inspector of Indian Agencies,  
Balcarres, Sask.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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116741/1

Ottawa, December 18, 1911.

Rev. Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, and in reply I beg to say that the pupils of the Crowstand Boarding School may be granted one week's holidays between Christmas and New Years as usual. The return should show that this leave was authorized by the Department.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
AMM

Your obedient servant,

Assistant Deputy and Secretary.

Rev. W. McWhinney,

Principal,

Crowstand Boarding School,

Kamsack, Sask.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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116741-1

Extract from Agents Report on the Crowstand Boarding School for the month of February. Original on File 116741-7



407928

X X X

*pc*

The principal, Mr McWhinney, after talking with the Indians, is going to try to get the church to consent to have their new school built on the Cote reserve, so that it may be used as a day school for those near enough, and a boarding school for any too remote to walk in daily.

Sgd. W.G.Blewett,  
Indian Agent.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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CROWSTAND  
INDIAN  
BOARDING SCHOOL.

REV. W. McWHINNEY,  
PRINCIPAL.

*Kamsack, Sask.* June 1st 1912.

Mr D. C. Scott,  
Supt. Of Indian Education  
Ottawa, Can.

Dear Sir,-

The Presbyterian Association of Indian Mission Workers expect to hold their annual Convention here at our School during the last week of July. Last year we invited you to be at our meeting in Winnipeg but you were not able to do so. Now this year both on behalf of our School and on behalf of our Association I would give you a very hearty invitation to be present. I am certain you could be of great assistance to us and it would be a good opportunity for you to get in touch with the workers and see many of the perplexing questions more from their standpoint. I do not say this as we have any particular axe to grind but simply that an all round benefit might accrue to the cause of Indian education..

You will remember that Rev R. P. MacKay D. D. spoke to you last fall about certain changes I was proposing in view of the rebuilding of the School here. Briefly they were these,- Instead of building a large new boarding school I advised building a small boarding School on the centre of the Reserve including a day-school department in connection with it. All pupils who were too far away to attend as day pupils, all pupils who had not proper home, all recruits for the first year or two should be boarding pupils. The purpose of having the small pupils or recruits attend as boarding pupils at first is that they may get a grounding in English. In the past this has been the weak point in the day-school system. Then all pupils who were

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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CROWSTAND  
INDIAN  
BOARDING SCHOOL.

REV. W. McWHINNEY,  
PRINCIPAL.

*Kamsack, Sask.,.....191*

near enough and had spent the proper probationary period as boarding pupils should attend as day pupils.

The following are the reasons which led me to recommend this course,-

1. The Indians are becoming more and more insistent in their demands for a day-school
2. The homes here in a large number of instances have reached a stage when they are able to care for their children as well as the average white home.
3. The parents would be benefited by the added responsibility.
4. A home of even fair quality can do more for a child than the best institution.
5. Now when changes are to be made is the time to choose such a course as will be best for the average family.

I have intended to lay this plan before you ere this but was waiting until our Church Officials should show signs of accepting it. Gradually I think they are coming round to it. You see this would involve some special arrangements with the Department and for this reason I would like to have you at our Convention where the matter will no doubt come up in some form.

Hoping to have a favourable reply from you I Am,

Yours Respectfully,

*W. McWhinney*

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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File 116791

Ottawa, June 8th, 1912.

Dear Sir,-

I have your letter of June the 1st. It would give me great pleasure to be present at the meeting of Indian Mission Workers in Winnipeg but I fear that it is impossible for me to go West this summer. However, I will not give a definite negative reply and I will endeavour to be with you if it is at all possible.

You will be interested to know the outcome of the debate regarding the future of your school work on the Qu'Apelle Agency. You may be sure that the Department will give sympathetic consideration to any plans that you may see fit to recommend.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Rev. W. McWhinney,  
Kamsack, Sask.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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**EXTRACT.**  
**ORIGINAL ON**  
*164027-17*

*116741-1*



Office of The  
Chief Inspector of Indian Agencies,  
Winnipeg, 2nd October, 1912.

*[Signature]*  
The Secretary,  
Department of Indian Affairs  
Ottawa, Ont.

**EXCD.**

422508

Sir,

\* \* \* at Pelly I went up thereon the 30th  
September.

\* \* \* They make many complaints about Mr McWhinney, Principal of  
Crowstand School and say that his practice and his preaching  
do not coincide to any great extent and that for that reason  
his work is not as satisfactory as should be.

I would suggest that if it has not already been done an  
Inspector be sent up to investigate and send in a report and  
with your permission will send Mr Inspector Semmens.



Yours etc.

Glen Campbell.  
Chief Inspector.  
Per L.L.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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*POOR COPY*

~~116742/5~~

EXD.

Copy for 116741-1

Ottawa, December 20, 1912.

Rev. Sir,-

I have to ask you to be good enough to communicate with the western authorities of your church with a view to ascertaining what consideration has been given to the question of either making repairs to the present Crowstand Boarding School building or erecting a new one either on the present site or on the Oote Reserve.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. MCLEAN

Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

Rev. A. S. Grant, D.D.,  
Supt. of Home Missions of  
the Presbyterian Church,  
Toronto, Ont.

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(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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CROWSTAND  
INDIAN  
BOARDING SCHOOL  
REV. W. McWHINNEY,  
PRINCIPAL.

433909

*Hamsack, Sask.*..... March 18th 1913.

Dear Sir,-

According to your request I here submit my report of the conduct of the two boys Alfred T. Mooseau No. 142 and Louis Severight NO. 141

1/ Both boys gave considerable trouble last year by playing truant.

2. On the thirteenth of last June after several acts of truancy Alfred Mooseau made two attempts in one day (while I was absent) to burn the School by setting fire to the frame work in the basement. I disciplined him severely at the time for it and he promised he would never do the like again.

3. On Feb 13th and again on March 2nd Louis Severight broke into our store rooms and stole articles therefrom. On one of these occasions he was accompanied by Alfred Mooseau.

4. On March 4th these two boys accompanied by another boy broke into an unoccupied house belonging to a farmer who lives near the School and stole several articles therefrom.

After this act I warned Louis Severight that any further misconduct of this kind would result in the case being reported to yourself and the police. I also told his father and asked him to ~~talk to~~ talk to the boy.

5. Last Sunday March 16th when I returned from my work on the Reserve at six O'clock I found neither of these two boys were in the School for supper. When I rung the bell for our evening meeting at 7.30 they did not appear. But while all the larger pupils and the staff were in the class-room these boys went

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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CROWSTAND  
INDIAN  
BOARDING SCHOOL

REV. W. McWHINNEY,  
PRINCIPAL.

*Kamsack, Sask.* ..... *into the basement* ..... 191

into the basement and set fire to the frame work using some gasoline which they had secured to insure the success of the undertaking. Fortunately we discovered the smoke just in time to get it put out. Had it gone for a few minutes longer all the School would have been destroyed besides seriously endangering the lives of a number of little girls who had gone to bed in that particular part of the building. As soon as the fire was put out a search was made and these two boys were discovered around the outbuildings. Their mitts and their clothing smelt strongly of gasoline and they made no attempt to deny what they had done. After some questioning they admitted that their object was to destroy the School so they could all go home.

From the foregoing it appears quite evident that one or both of these boys should be sent to a reformatory for several years. To send them home would not do as this would be just what they are wanting. Neither would it do to send them to a reformatory for a few months as at the end of this term they would return home and this again would satisfy their schemes.

In conclusion I may say I have tried every means to show ~~the~~ these boys the folly of their conduct and the wrong as well, but reason, kindness and punishment seem to have all failed.

Hoping that ~~xxx~~  
some speedy action may be taken to dispose of this matter, I Am,

Yours Respectfully,

*W. McWhinney*

To Mr W. G. Blewett,

Indian Agent, Kamsack, Sask.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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116741-1

GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

THE OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF NEGLECTED AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN



Do not write about one subject in more than one letter

Kindly refer to our File No.

*[Handwritten signature]*

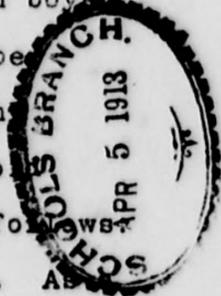
REGINA, March 25th, 1913.

433323

Sir:-

re Alfred T. Mooso & Louis Severight. of Crow-stand School, Kamsack.

On the 19th inst. I received the following telegram from Mr. W. G. Bluett, Indian Agent, of Kamsack. "Two Indian boys have twice set fire to school. Are locked up and will be committed, having admitted crime. Please advise to which industrial school boys should be committed so as to avoid detention in common jail!" I immediately replied as follows: "I will take charge of boys. Hold until receipt of letter. As a result of those telegrams I have today received the magistrates' order transferring these boys under our Children's Protection Act to my charge as Superintendent of Neglected & Dependent Children and under section 12 of the same Act they are today being transferred to the Industrial School for the province of Manitoba at Portage la Prairie. The Saskatchewan Government has arranged with the Manitoba Government to take charge of boys at the school at the rate of \$3.50 per week and as Mr. Bluett notifies me in respect to their maintenance there that he " will arrange with the Indian Department re this at Ottawa" it would I think facilitate matters if you would make payment direct to the Manitoba Government for these boys, rather than have it



Indian Affairs. School Files. (RG 10, Volume 6027, File 117-1-1, part 1)

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