

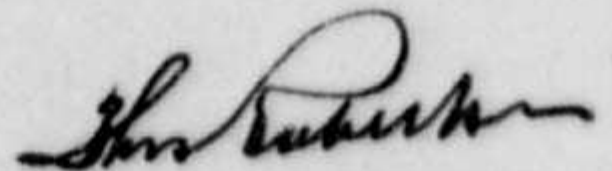
ready to assist, they do not consider that the R.C.M.P. should become involved in such an investigation, as it rather revolves around the administration of the school. I have informed Mr. Rhodes of this and expressed the opinion that if any white man could secure such information, it would be Mr. Holloway, our Farming Instructor on the Peepeekisis Reserve, as he is well liked by the Indians, and I have suggested that Mr. Rhodes consult him. I have also suggested that he discuss the matter with George Deiter, one of the best farmers on the Reserve, and probably more in touch with what is actually going on than any other Indian there. Deiter has previously been very antagonistic to the Department, but has recently swung around and is now working with us.

The boy who gave the first trouble is now back at the school. He has assured Mr. Rhodes that he will give no further trouble. The last offender is also at the school and has given the same assurance. No punishment was inflicted on the first offender, but the last one was well spanked in the presence of an R.C.M.P. official, who was called in by Mr. Rhodes at the time of the offence.

It is my opinion that this will end this trouble at the school, as both the Indians and the children see that they have gained nothing by what they have done and will, I believe, abandon that method. Mr. Rhodes, however, has considered the matter, and while he feels, as I do, that the trouble may be over, he feels at the same time that he is sitting on a volcano, as it were.

I would appreciate your advise as to what further action should be taken in this matter.

Yours truly,



Thos. Robertson,
Inspector of Indian Agencies,
Saskatchewan.

TR/FMc

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

**PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA**

Ottawa,
December 13, 1939.

EXD.
A.


Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 8th instant reporting on another case of so-called attempted suicide at the File Hills school.

At the present time the Department has no further advice to give you in regard to this happening but it is my intention to discuss the matter with the representatives of the United Church when they next visit the Department.

Yours truly,

R.A. Hoey,
Supt. of Welfare & Training.



Dr. Thos. Robertson,
Inspector of Indian Agencies,
Regina, Sask.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

**PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA**

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

Division " F " Sub-Division REGINA. Detachment BALCARRES.
Province SASK. Date November. 25th. 1939.

File References

Re: Reginald KEEWATIN -(Indian) Juvenile)
Attempted Suicide (270) File Hills Residential
School, Balcarres Dist, Sask. (Asst to Dept of
Mines & Resources (Indian Affairs Branch)

(BALCARRES DETACHMENT CASE)

25-11-39.

Headquarters

1. Relative the above Mr F. Rhodes, Principal of the above school called at this office this p.m. stating that on Friday last during his absence from the school the above named youth had attempted to take his life by hanging, he had however been found in time and no damage to him had occurred.

Sub-Division

RS. 39-27-73

2. I patrolled at 6.30 p.m. by pte auto to the said school for the purpose of making investigation, Mr Rhodes produced this lad who had been under guard since the attempt, I questioned this lad as to why he had attempted to take his life, he stated that he did it because he wanted to leave school and that he was mistreated, he later denied this and stated he did it because he wanted to cause trouble and that he had not been mistreated.

Detachment

3. Information obtained at the school was to the effect that Keewatin ran away from the school on Nov. 17th and was returned to the school by his parents on Nov. 21st, he ran away again at 5.30 p.m. that night and his parents reported him at home on the 23rd inst, he was then brought back to school by the staff and kept in his room, on Friday morning one of the staff sent a boy to Keewatin's room to get the dishes he had used when eating, the boy found Keewatin in the bathroom trying to hang himself, he was taken down by Mr Ganner and has since been kept under guard.

P. C. R.

Balcarres.
First.

4. Undoubtably there is a movement on foot through the students at this school to cause trouble, the seat of the trouble is unknown, it does not appear that this lad intended to take his life, he states himself he did it to cause trouble

5. Mr Rhodes is going to have Dr Simes make an examination of this lad and no doubt he will be removed to the hospital at Fort Qu'Appelle, due to his age it appears that such is the only action to be taken, however it is suggested that these boys should not be returned to this school, they should if possible be sent elsewhere.

6. For reference see report re: Kenneth STONECHILD, Indian Juvenile, Attempted Suicide at the above school, this boy has since been returned to the school but runs away repeatedly.

HANDED OVER TO DEPT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.
EXPENSE INCURRED, Shown on Form. 93
Period. Nov. 16/30th. 1939.

A/L/Cpl.

Reg. No. 10173. C. Mears.
i/c Balcarres Detachment.

The O.C. R.C.M.P.
Regina Sub Division.
Sir: Forwarded.

File numbers must be quoted

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

RE: Reginald KERWATIN - (Indian) Juvenile)
Attempted Suicide (270) File Hills
Residential School, Balcarres, Dist, Sask.
(Asst to Dept of Mines & Resources) (Indian
Affairs Branch)

The O.C., R.C.M.P.,
"F" Division,
REGINA, Sask.

Forwarded for your information and in reference to
your memo dated the 29th ultimo. This is the second case of
attempted suicide by Juveniles at this school. Previous case
is that mentioned in paragraph 6 hereof. Kindly note contents
of paragraphs 4 and 5 hereof.

Extra copies attached for the information of the
Department of Mines and Resources, Indian Affairs Branch.

5-12-39
DJM:HS

C. Rivett-Carnac, Inspector
Commanding Regina Sub-Division

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

111-1-1

131449

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BRANCH

OUR FILE NO. 39-D-149-G-187

OTTAWA, December 12, 1939.

YOUR FILE NO. _____



Referred by direction of The Commissioner, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Ottawa.

EXD.

DEPARTMENT OF MINES & RESOURCES
Indian Affairs Branch
DEC 13 1939
REGISTERED

TO:

The Director,
Indian Affairs Branch,
Department of Mines and Resources,
OTTAWA, Ontario.

HL/WM

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

**PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA**

EXTRACT
ORIGINAL ON

111-1-1

Balcarres, Sask., Oct. 1st, 1940.

AGENT'S REPORT ON FILE HILLS AGENCY FOR SEPTEMBER.

x

x

x

The File Hills Indian Residential School was visited during the month. I was very favourably impressed with the cleanliness of the different departments and the general efficiency of the staff, which would reflect capable supervision on the part of the Principal. At the present time difficulty is being experienced with the water supply at this school. The main source of supply having been cut off. The well in question is a drilled well some three hundred feet in depth. The pump connection broke and to date it has been impossible to retrieve the disconnected portion from the bottom of the casing. Several experienced men have been engaged and work is still being carried on.

x

x

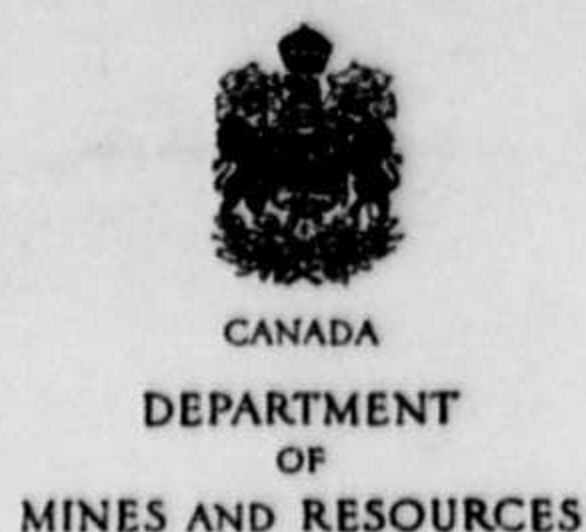
x

E.S. Jones.
Acting Indian Agent.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

OFFICE OF THE
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT
AGENCIES



INDIAN AFFAIRS
BRANCH

File #306-11B

Regina, Saskatchewan,
October 28th, 1940.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of a report from the Mounted Police on Wilfred Deiter, an Indian boy from the File Hills Colony who ran away from the school for the second time. Evidently the Police were called in and the boy in question was found with his father near their home on the Reserve. Constable Mears states in his report as follows:

" In conversation with this boy and also his father, it was learned that his reason for running away from the school, is due to the fact that he gets no class work, he is doing outside work, such as hauling hay, cutting wood, and general labouring, the father states, that in view of the fact that his boy is receiving no better education at the school than he would receive at home, and further that the other boys have enlisted and he can use this boy's help, he does not encourage him to stay at school.

With full knowledge of the fact, that Indians are fond of making complaints of frivolous nature, there would appear to be some ground for this matter and in view of the fact that hunting these children takes up considerable time, at a time when other more important matters have to be neglected, it is considered that some action should be taken to have conditions rectified, in order that there will be no recurrence."

Superintendent Nicholson of the Police makes the following remark:

" It would be appreciated if the matter of this boy's escapades could be brought to the attention of the officials concerned in order that appropriate control may be exercised over his future actions."

I, of course, have not heard your part of the story but from the foregoing if he were my boy and not receiving any education at the school I certainly would not leave him there.

I am aware that

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

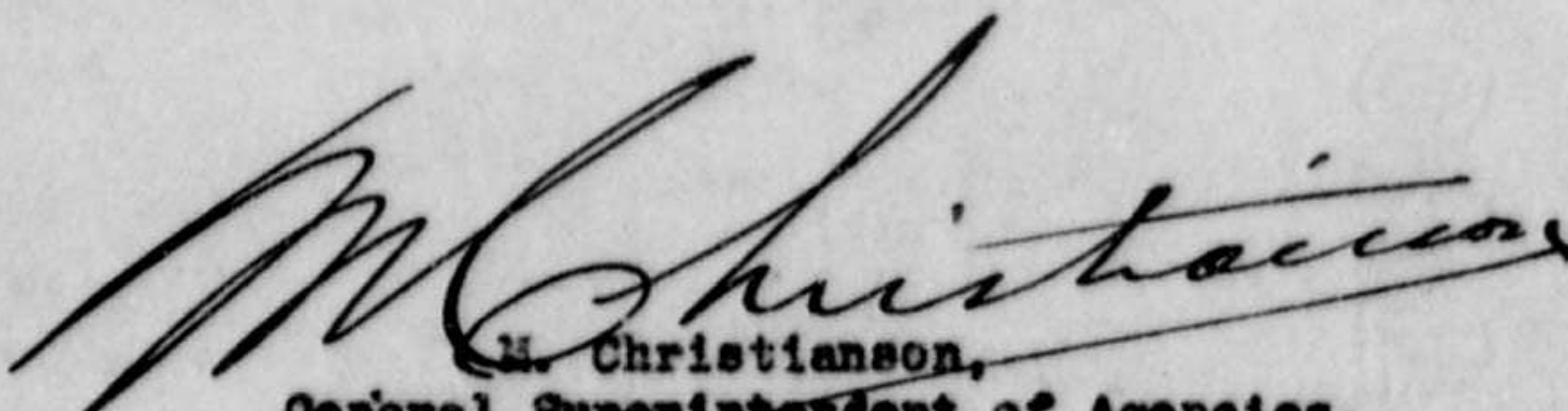
PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

- 2 -

I am aware that Indian boys only attend the classroom half days and work half days alternately, but in the case of this boy he seems to be working all of the time.

Will you please be good enough to furnish me with a full explanation in this connection.

Yours truly,


H. Christianson,
General Superintendent of Agencies.

MC/ed

F. Rhodes, Esq.,
Principal,
File Hills Indian Residential School,
BALCARRES, - Sask.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

OFFICE OF THE
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT
OF AGENCIES



CANADA
DEPARTMENT
OF
MINES AND RESOURCES

INDIAN AFFAIRS
BRANCH

File #306-11B

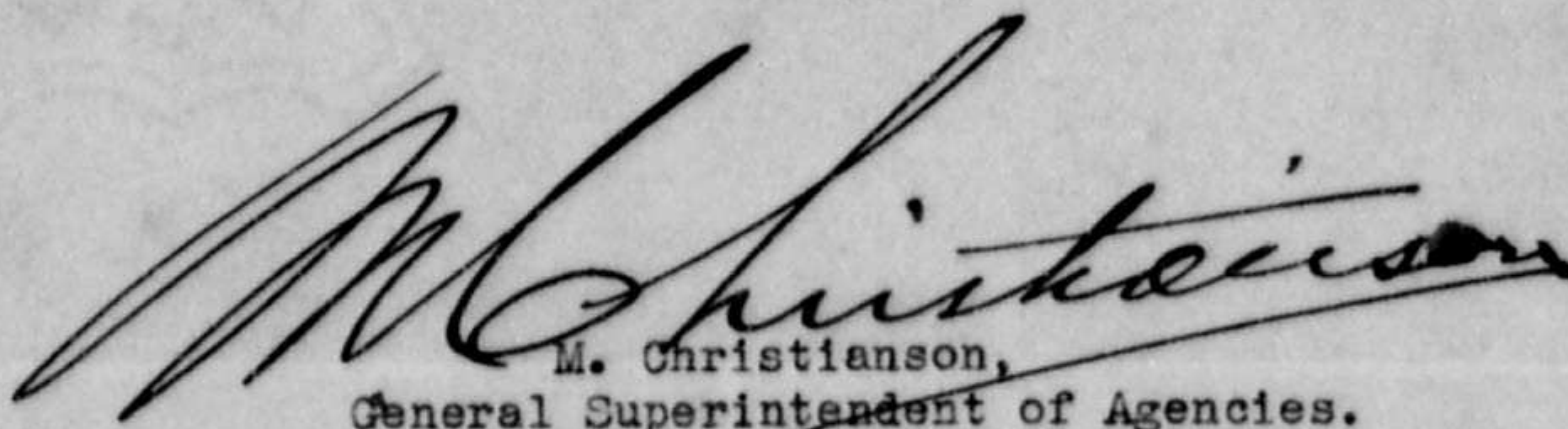


Dear Sir:

I am herewith forwarding you a copy of a letter that I have just written to the Principal of the File Hills Residential School, Mr. F. Rhodes, which is self-explanatory.

I shall advise you when I hear from him regarding this matter.

Yours truly,


M. Christianson,
General Superintendent of Agencies.

MC/ed

The Secretary,
Indian Affairs Branch,
Department of Mines & Resources,
OTTAWA, - Ont.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA



Regina, Saskatchewan,
November 28th, 1940.

To Dr. McGill
Report on File Hills Residential School

I wish to inform you that while visiting the Lebreton School the week before last I left about 4.00 in the afternoon of the second day for Balcarres, where I stayed overnight, and the following day inspected the File Hills Residential School. While there I inspected the school buildings, also the out-buildings, and everything in general connected with the school, and have come to the conclusion that this institution is well managed in every way.

File Hills School is a very good building and the only repair work that is required is some decorating in the kitchen, and the Principal, I believe, has already arranged for this. Mr. Rhodes remarked to me that unless some unforeseen calamity happened he would need but very little in the next 3 years. Here is a man who realizes that there is a war on and does not intend to ask for anything unless it is absolutely required. The out-buildings are small and scattered all over the yard. They are all of cheap construction but have been painted recently and are in good state of repair. This also applies to the barn. The two classrooms are in a separate building and this is also in good state of repair.

The school maintains about 35 head of cattle, mostly all cows, and 22 were milking at the time of my inspection. They keep chickens but no hogs. They also farm 35 acres of land which yielded a fair crop last year. They have all of the potatoes and vegetables that they require, in fact the Principal told me that he had potatoes to sell.

The children receive milk three times a day and as I was there at noon I checked over the bill of fare and was in the dining room while the children were eating. From the appearance of the children and from the food that was being served to them, I think they are well cared for and they seemed to be happy and full of life. However, the same thing applies here as at the other schools, that is, the boys are not getting very much manual training, but Mr. Rhodes informed me that he had hired a man to come to the school that very day to teach this subject. The girls are getting the usual training

given in every . . .

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

given in every boarding school. The children are well clad and well cared for.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "M. Christianson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

M. Christianson,
General Superintendent of Agencies.

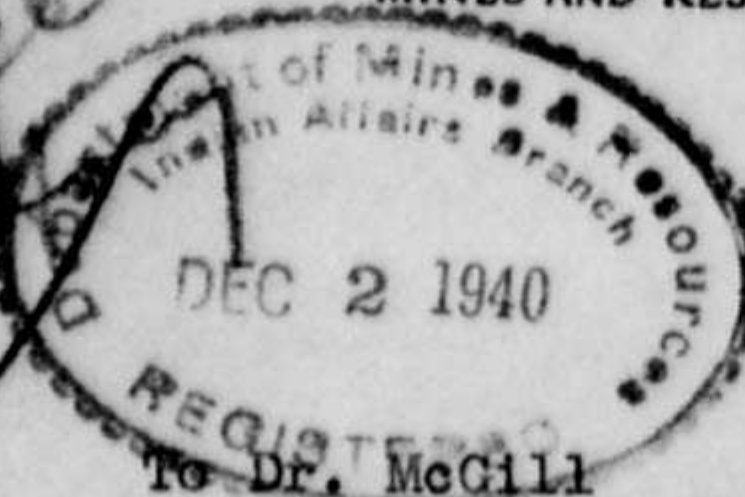
MG/ed

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

**PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA**

DEPARTMENT
OF
MINES AND RESOURCES

File #306-11



Regina, Saskatchewan,
November 28th, 1940.

Report on File Hills Residential School

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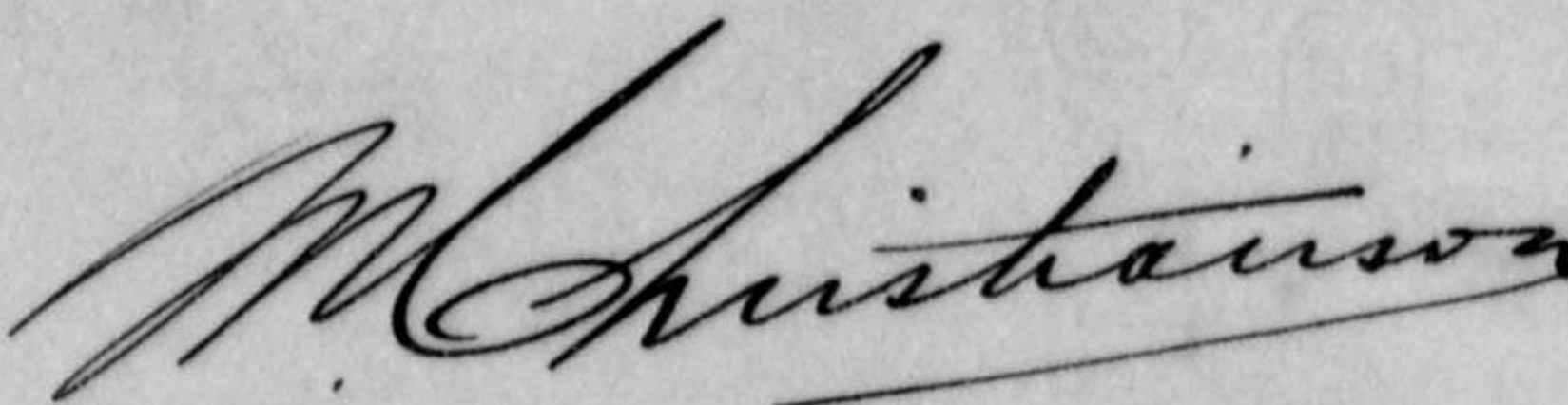
given in every . . .

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

**PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA**

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Yours truly,

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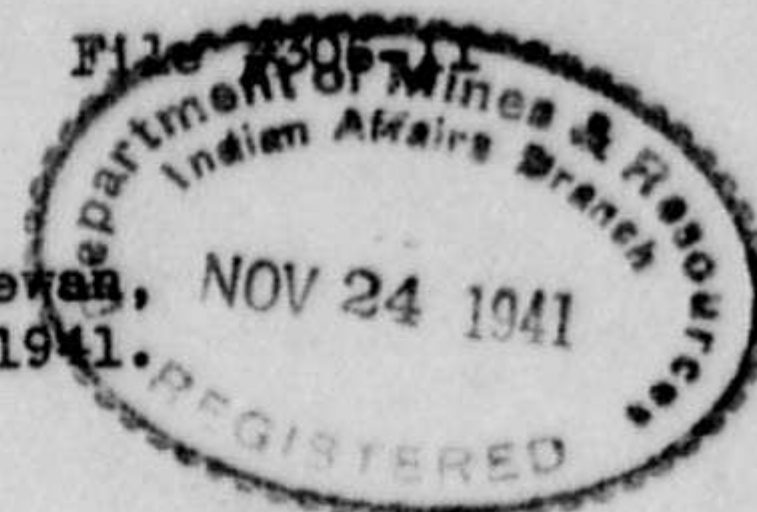
M. Christianson,
General Superintendent of Agencies.

MC/ed

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

**PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA**

Regina, Saskatchewan, NOV 24 1941
November 20th, 1941.



Report on the File Hills Indian Residential School

Dear Sir:

I wish to inform you that I visited the File Hills Indian Residential School on the 5th instant.

I reported on this School on November 28th, 1940, and everything is practically the same as it was at that time.

The buildings are in about the same state of repair as they were last year.

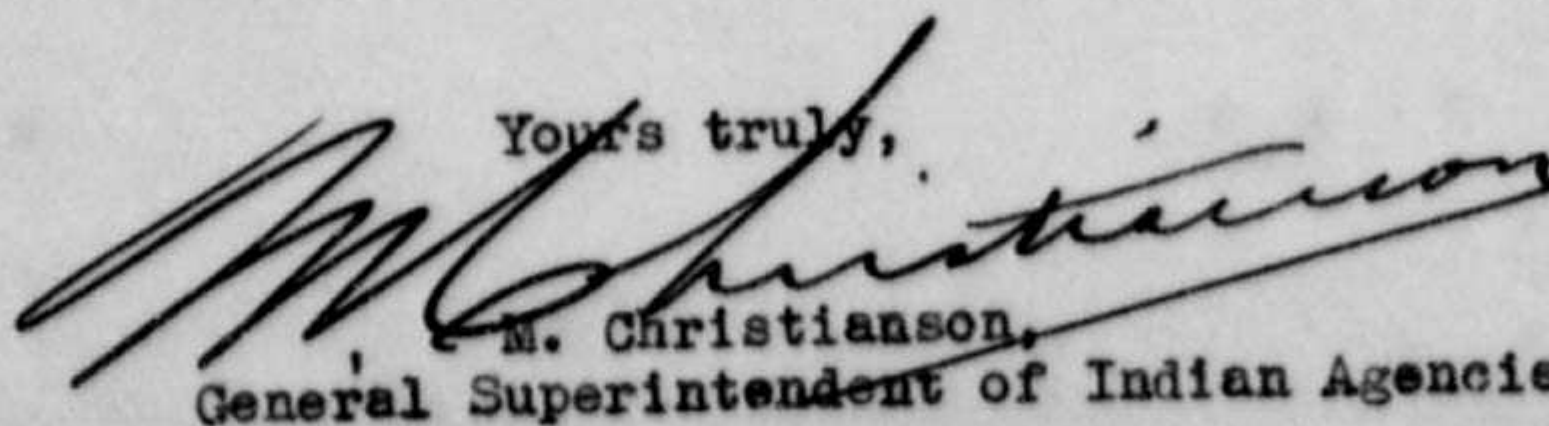
The crop, however, was very poor this year on account of drouth, and they only threshed 900 bus. of Oats from 63 acres, and 570 bus. of Wheat from 40 acres. The Principal also informed me that they only harvested 300 bus. of Potatoes and it will be necessary for him to purchase additional potatoes during the Winter. This is no fault of the School, simply a case of lack of moisture.

They have the same amount of cattle at the School as they had last year and at the time of my visit they were milking 12 cows.

The well at the School with which they had so much trouble last year, is functioning satisfactorily at the present time and they have an abundance of water.

I was in the classrooms talking to the children and they all looked exceptionally well. Therefore they are evidently well cared for and there was no sickness of any kind in the School. There were 90 children in residence and two still to come, at the time of my inspection.

Yours truly,



M. Christianson,
General Superintendent of Indian Agencies.

The Secretary,
Indian Affairs Branch, OTTAWA.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

November 25, 1941.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, reporting on your recent visit to the File Hills Indian Residential School.

It is regretted that owing to drought the crop was poor.

I am pleased to note that you found everything in order and was especially interested in your statement that the well is functioning satisfactorily.

Yours truly,

T. R. L.

T. R. L. MacInnes,
Secretary.

M. Christianson, Esq.,
General Supt. of Indian Agencies,
Dominion Public Building,
Cor. Searth & Victoria Streets,
R e g i n a, Sask.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

OFFICE OF THE
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT
OF INDIAN AGENCIES

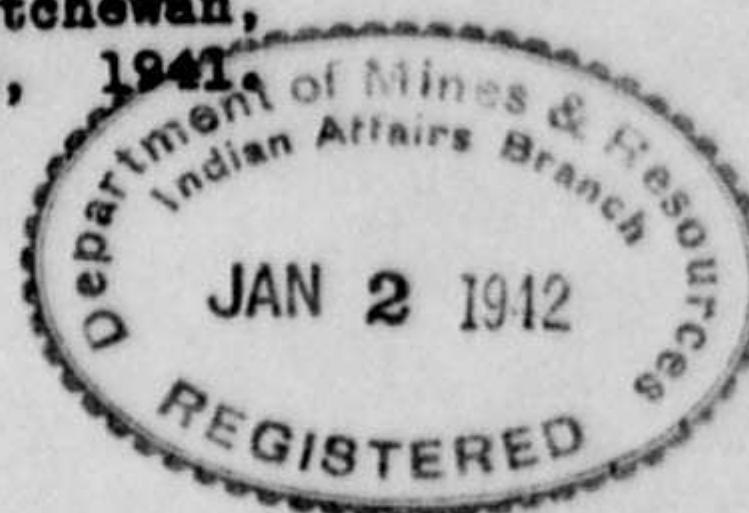


CANADA
DEPARTMENT
OF
MINES AND RESOURCES

INDIAN AFFAIRS
BRANCH

File #306-11

Regina, Saskatchewan,
December 27th, 1941.

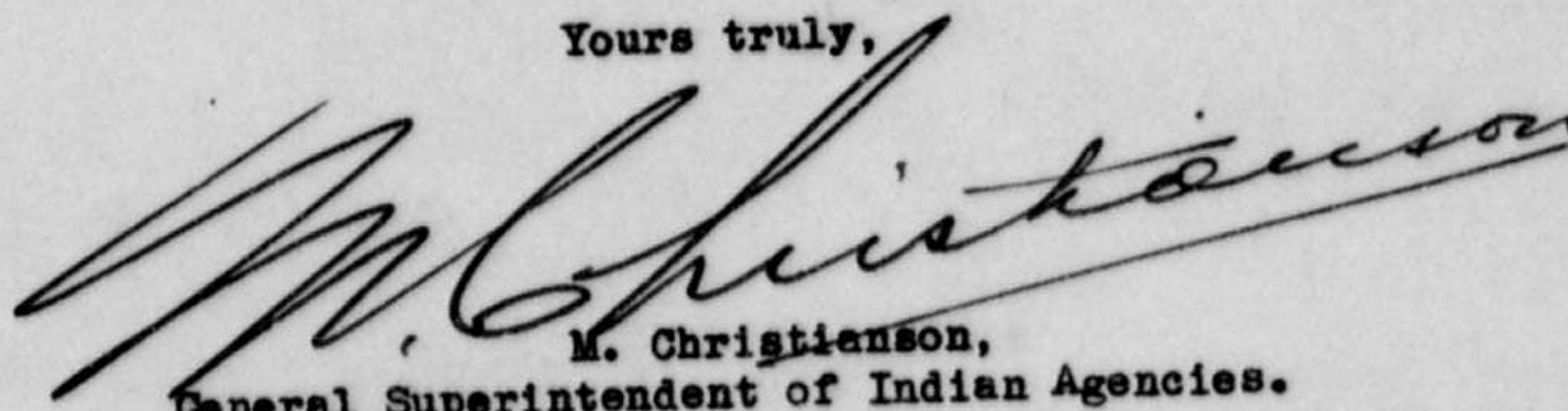


Dear Sir:

In a conversation over the telephone with Mr. Jones, the Acting Indian Agent at File Hills, he informed me that Mr. F. Rhodes, the Principal of the File Hills Indian Residential School is submitting his resignation to the Church Authorities, to take effect at the end of January next. He has evidently accepted a position with one of the Federal Government Departments here in Regina.

No doubt you will be advised of this by the United Church Authorities.

Yours truly,


M. Christensen,
General Superintendent of Indian Agencies.

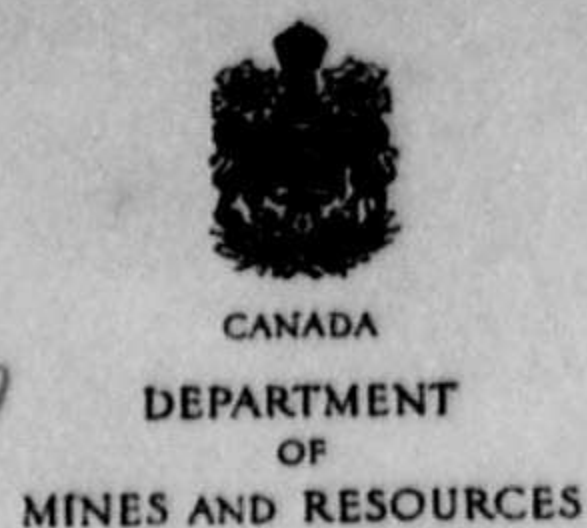
MC/ed

The Secretary,
Indian Affairs Branch,
OTTAWA, - Ont.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

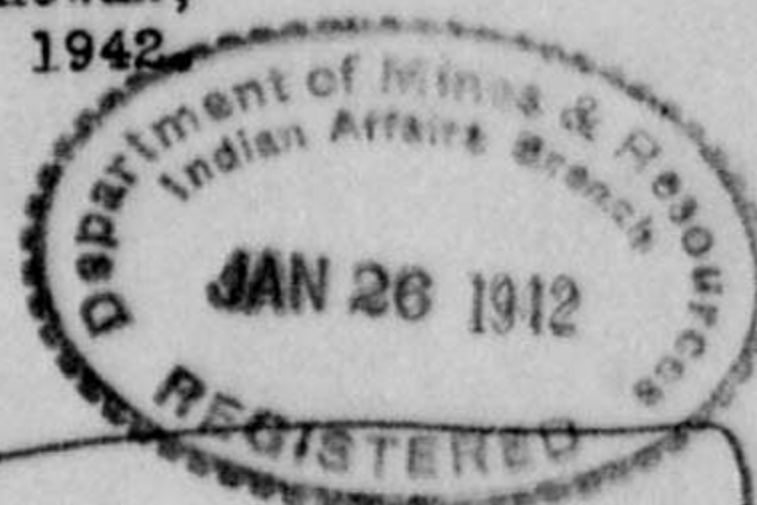
OFFICE OF THE
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT
OF INDIAN AGENCIES



INDIAN AFFAIRS
BRANCH

File #306-11

Regina, Saskatchewan,
January 23rd, 1942



Dear Sir:

I wish to inform you that Mr. Frank Rhodes, the Principal of the File Hills Indian Residential School, Balcarres, telephoned to me today and asked me to notify our Department that he had received no word from the Church as to who is going to take over the school and he is anxious to leave some time next week.

He claims to have everything ready for somebody else to take over.

Yours truly,

M. Christianson,
General Superintendent of Indian Agencies.

MC/ed

The Secretary,
Indian Affairs Branch,
OTTAWA, - Ont.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

Ottawa,
January 27, 1942.

Reverend Sir:

In a letter dated the 27th ultimo Mr. Christianson advised me that Mr. F. Rhodes, Principal of the File Hills Indian Residential School, was submitting his resignation to you effective January 31, 1942. Mr. Christianson has been informed that Mr. Rhodes is accepting a position with one of the Dominion Government Departments in Regina.

I am today in receipt of another letter from Mr. Christianson dated January 23 which reads as follows:

"I wish to inform you that Mr. Frank Rhodes, the Principal of the File Hills Indian Residential School, Balcarres, telephoned to me today and asked me to notify our Department that he had received no word from the Church as to who is going to take over the school and he is anxious to leave some time next week.

"He claims to have everything ready for somebody else to take over."

I should appreciate hearing from you in regard to the above.

Yours truly,

Rev. Geo. Dorey, D.D.,
Associate Secretary,
Board of Home Missions,
United Church of Canada,
299 Queen St. West,
Toronto 2, Ont.

R.A. Hoey,
Supt. of Welfare & Training.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Full-Rate Message	
Day Letter	DL
Night Message	NM
Night Letter	NL
If none of the above symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a full-rate message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.	

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAM

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INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH OTTAWA ONT

RE FILEHILLS RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL PRINCIPAL FROM ROUNDLAKE SCHOOL
ARRIVED THERE TODAY TO TAKE OVER MANAGEMENT DO YOU WANT INVENTORY OF
GOVERNMENT PROPERTY CHECKED OVER BEFORE MR RHODES LEAVES IF YOU REQUIRE
THIS REPLY BY WIRE

M CHRISTIANSON

9PM

This is a collect message, and
will be charged to your account
unless we are notified at once
to the contrary.

R. A. C. Houston
copied

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

January 29, 1942.

Dear Sir:

I have your telegram of the 28th instant with reference to the change of Principal at the File Hills Residential School.

The books of this school have been audited recently and will be audited again in due course. Both the Round Lake and File Hills Schools are under the direction of the United Church of Canada and it has not been our practice to take an inventory of Government property at the time of the changing of Principal.

Yours truly,

T.R.L.
T.R.L. MacInnes,
Secretary.

Mr. M. Christianson,
Gen. Supt. of Indian Agencies,
Dominion Public Bldg.,
Searth & Victoria,
Regina, Sask.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

REV. A. LLOYD SMITH, D.D.
CHAIRMAN

111-1-1
Board of Home Missions

The United Church of Canada

299 QUEEN ST. WEST
TORONTO 2, ONTARIO

REV. ROBERT B. COCHRANE, D.D.
SECRETARY

REV. GEORGE DOREY, D.D.
ASSOCIATE SECRETARY

REV. MALCOLM C. MACDONALD, B.A.
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Your File 111-1-1

Attention of Mr. R. A. Hoey

February 2nd,
9 4 2.



Indian Affairs Branch,
Department of Mines and Resources,
O t t a w a, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Hoey: Re - File Hills Residential School

In reply to your letter of January 27th, - you will of course remember that this Indian Residential School is being managed by the Woman's Missionary Society. Mrs. Loveys informed us that they had a letter from Mr. Rhodes, saying that he was going to quit. They had no one whose nomination they wished to submit to you just now. I am informed that they have arranged for Mr. Huston, of the Round Lake School, to go up to File Hills at regular intervals, so that the work may be carried on by Miss Pugh. I understand, also, that they have been in touch with the Agent, who will give all the assistance possible. I think the work will go along very well.

Yours sincerely,

Geo. Dorey

GD.MLT

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

**PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA**

February 4, 1942.

Dear Sir:

On receipt of your letter of the 23rd ultimo, regarding the principalship of the File Hills Residential School, I wrote to the Board of Home Missions of the United Church of Canada and have just received the following reply:

"You will of course remember that this Indian Residential School is being managed by the Woman's Missionary Society. Mrs. Loveys informed us that they had a letter from Mr. Rhodes, saying that he was going to quit. They had no one whose nomination they wished to submit to you just now. I am informed that they have arranged for Mr. Huston, of the Round Lake School, to go up to File Hills at regular intervals, so that the work may be carried on by Miss Pugh. I understand, also, that they have been in touch with the Agent, who will give all the assistance possible. I think the work will go along very well."

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Secretary.

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Gen. Supt. of Indian Agencies,
Dominion Public Bldg.,
Searth & Victoria,
Regina, Sask.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

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518. 9th Street
Saskatoon, Sask.
Feb 7th 1942

The Secretary:
Indian Affairs Branch
Dept. of Indian Resources
Ottawa. Ont.

Dear Sir:

It has no doubt
been intimated to you
that I have relinquished
the Principalship of
The Fife Hill Residential
School at Balcarres, Sask

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

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2

but in order to avoid
unnecessary confusion
in correspondence or
mailing I would
appreciate it if you will
kindly advise all depart-
ments to address all
mail, supplies etc to

Rev A. C. Huston
Fili Hees Res School
Balcarres. Sask
The Wms of the

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

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3

United Church will, as
soon as possible, notify you when
a permanent appointment
has been made to this
position.

Yours very truly
Frank Rhodes.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

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EXTRACT
ORIGINAL ON
70-111

111-1-1

File Hills Agency

Balcarres, Sask.
March 22d, 1942.

Dear Sir:

I hereby submit my monthly report covering
the File Hills Agency for the month of February, 1942.

X

X

X

Since there is not a Principal in residence
at the File Hills Residential School, I visited
the school several times during the month. I found
Miss Pugh, the Matron in Charge, is managing the
institution very well.

X

X

X

E.S. Jones,
Acting Indian Agent.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

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Ottawa,
March 11, 1942.

EXD.

Reverend Sir:

I desire to refer to your letter of the 2nd ultimo and previous correspondence in connection with the Principalship of the File Hills Indian Residential School. The Acting Indian Agent reports that, as there is no Principal in residence, he visited the school several times during the month and found Miss Pugh, who is in charge, managing the institution very well. Has the Woman's Missionary Society any idea when the services of a new Principal will be available for the File Hills School?

Yours truly,

R.A. Hoey,
Supt. of Welfare & Training.

Rev. Geo. Dorey, D.D.,
Associate Secretary,
Board of Home Missions,
United Church of Canada,
299 Queen St. West,
Toronto 2, Ont.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

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EX'D
A

Ottawa, April 9, 1942.

Dear Doctor Dorey:


I am enclosing herewith, for your information, copy of a telegram dated April 9, received by this Branch from Mr. M. Christianson. The subject matter of this telegram, you will note, is self-explanatory.

I have been asked to prepare for the Minister, from the information available on file here, a complete report on the File Hills School buildings and the administration of the institution. I am anxious to know the exact date Mr. Rhodes resigned and if a permanent principal was appointed prior to the destruction of the classroom building by fire. Any information you can supply me with along the lines suggested will be very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Encl.

R. A. Hoey,
Supt. of Welfare & Training.



Reverend George Dorey, D.D.,
Associate Secretary,
Board of Home Missions,
United Church of Canada,
299 Queen Street West,
Toronto 2, Ont.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

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(C O P Y)

Original on 111-1-5

AIR MAIL

Regina, Saskatchewan,
April 17th, 1948.

Dear Sir:

Regarding the burning of the classrooms at the File Hills Indian Residential School, which happened on the 8th instant, when Mr. Jones, the Indian Agent, was in the office here last week, he was of the opinion that the fire had been started by faulty electric wiring. However, he now informs me that a few days after some of the children started to discuss the fire at different times and there were a lot of rumours floating around. Therefore Mr. Jones got in touch with Cpl. McCarro, of the R.C.M. Police, Balcarres, who carried out an investigation at the school, during which three boys admitted setting fire to the school.

The boy who actually lit the match and started the fire is only 12 years old and is from the Carlton Agency, Mistawasis Reserve. Benny Pasqua and Jimmy Keepiness, aged 15, of the Qu'Appelle Agency, helped the little fellow and more or less forced him to start the fire.

Agent Jones was in the office today and we went to see Superintendent Darling, of the R.C.M. Police here in the city. While we were there he got in touch with Commissioner Ring, of the Bureau of Child Protection and it was decided to take the three boys into custody. Mr. Jones is to lay the charges tonight when he returns to Balcarres. These boys will be brought in to Regina very likely to-morrow and placed in the Industrial School here until such time as their case comes up.

Have you any instructions to give in the matter? You will receive this letter on Monday morning, as I am sending it by Air Mail, and if you write back immediately I should receive your reply on Tuesday. The Police Report will not be forwarded by Cpl. McCarro until about Monday.

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) M. Christianson,
General Superintendent of Indian
Agencies.

The Secretary,
Indian Affairs Branch, OTTAWA.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6307, file 653-1, part 2)

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