

104-1-1

INDIAN OFFICE

At Gleichen, Alta.



B.13.

July 35th. 19. 25.

R

Dear sir:-

In reply to yours of the 15th inst.
file 104-1-1 re dormitories- The Principal has
given me the following figures:

Senior girls and boys 34X34X8 Less passage
4X13X8 ft.

Junior Boys & Girls 34X34X8 ft.



25280

AM

Your obedient servant,

Asst. Deputy & Secretary Indian Agent.
Dept. of Indian Affairs
OTTAWA, Ontario.

W. Gordon
24

Man
Wings per
later letter
AM

Indian Affairs. School Files.
(RG 10, Volume 6358, File 758-1, part 1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

104-1-1.

Ottawa, August 5, 1925.

Sir:

I have your B.12 of the 25th ultimo, giving the size of the dormitories at the Old Sun's Indian Residential School. Again, I regret that I find it necessary to ask you personally to measure these rooms. The information on our files suggests that the ceiling is higher than 8 ft. in the dormitories. Upon the occasion of your next visit to the school, please give this matter your attention and let me have the exact size - three dimensions - of the four rooms in question.

Your obedient servant,

A. F. MacKenzie
A. F. MacKenzie,
Acting Asst. Deputy & Secretary.

G. H. Gooderham
G. H. Gooderham, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Gleichen, Alta.

Indian Affairs. School Files.
(RG 10, Volume 6358, File 758-1, part 1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

104-1-1
INDIAN OFFICE

At Gleichen, Alta.

B.13.

August 14th. 1925.

[Handwritten signature]
Dear Sir:



Your letter of the 5th. inst file
104-1-1 to hand.

The following figures were given me
by Contractor W.T.Scott who is now working at Old
Sun School:



| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Senior Boys & Girls | 34' X 24' X 9' |
| Less Passage | 4' X 13' X 9' |
| Junior Boys & Girls | 34' X 24' X 9' |

I regret that such a simple matter
has been created so much correspondence.

[Handwritten signature]

Your obedient servant,

[Handwritten signature: G.H. Gooderham]
G.H. Gooderham
Indian Agent.

Asst. Deputy & Secretary
Dept. of Indian Affairs, OTTAWA, Ont.

Indian Affairs. School Files.
(RG 10, Volume 6358, File 758-1, part 1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

104-1-1.

Ottawa, August 4, 1925.

Dear Canon Gould:

I wish to refer to your letter of May 6th, relative to the deficit incurred at the Old Sun's Indian Residential School, and particularly to Part No. 4, which refers to the cost of administering the enlarged institution, with no means of enrolling a pupilage which would enable the M. S. C. C. to earn a per capita grant proportionate to the said cost. I wish to point out that, for the two fiscal years ended March 31st, last, the average enrolment at Old Sun's has been 60.37 and the average attendance, 57.63. I am informed by the Indian Agent, who secured the figures from the Rev. Principal, that the dormitories have a total air space of 28,200 cubic feet. This accommodation allows for a maximum pupilage of 52; and, as the average earnings for the past two years have been on the basis of more than 57 pupils, I cannot see how the enlarging of the school to its present size has inflicted any hardship upon those responsible for the management. The experience of the past two years has shown that the Old Sun's School is not too large for its community - the Indian children of Church of England faith on the Blackfoot Reserve.

Yours very truly,

J. D. McLEAN

J. D. McLean,
Acting Deputy Superintendent General.

Rev. Canon S. Gould, M.D., D.C.L.,
General Secretary, M. S. C. C.,
604 Jarvis St.,
Toronto, Ont.

Indian Affairs. School Files.
(RC 10, Volume 6358, File 758-1, part 1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA



104-1-1
R



DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
CANADA

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO

401-4

No.

ALSO TO DATE OF THIS LETTER

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,

D REGINA, SASK., October 29th, 1925.

Sir:-

Under Department Letter #104-1-1 of the 22nd of April last, you informed me of the appointment of Mr. D. J. MacGlachen to the position of Farming Instructor at the Old Sun's School, and you added that he had been engaged at the C.P.R. Strathmore Farm and had also other experience that should fit him for his duties.

I have been in communication with Mr. H. H. Gooderham with reference to a successor to Mr. F.J. Clarke and it would appear that Mr. MacGlachen has applied for the position. Mr. Gooderham states, however, - "I doubt whether he has had much all-round farming experience."

Will you please let me know what credentials were presented by Mr. MacGlachen which led to his appointment at the Old Sun's School.

Your obedient servant,



W. M. Graham
W. M. Graham,
Indian Commissioner.

The Secretary,
Dept. of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

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(RG 10, Volume 6358, File 758-1, part 1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

104-1-1.

Ottawa, November 3, 1925.

Sir:

I have your 401-4 of the 29th ultimo, relative to the credentials of D. J. MacGlashen, farming instructor at the Old Sun's Indian Residential School. At the time this man was appointed at Old Sun's by the Church authorities, Rev. Dr. Westgate, Field Secretary of the M. S. C. C., in a communication to the Department furnished the following information as to Mr. MacGlashen's qualifications: -

"About 42 years of age, about 6 feet in height and of military bearing. During the War he held the rank of Captain and was for some time Overseeing Officer of Internment Camps in Oxford and Berks, England. His record, which I glanced through, is very good. He directed some thousands of prisoners in these camps in breaking up and cultivating the land. Before the War, he was engaged in farm work in Scotland, and since coming to Canada some three years ago, he has been engaged in farming until he entered the service of the C. P. R. on their Strathmore Farm. He is thoroughly conversant with mixed farming operations, filling of silos, etc. He is also very much interested in the raising of stock and poultry. His manner is firm, but kind, with a slight Scotch lowland accent. He speaks as a man of considerable education. Taking everything into consideration, I have no hesitation in asking him to come to us as farm instructor and vice-principal. He will also be able to direct the boys in their sports. He is a married man without children and his wife is still in England. She is prepared to come out to him as soon as he has secured permanent employment. She is an English woman of good education, a good musician, and also has a good knowledge of poultry raising. Mr. MacGlashen is anxious to have his wife with him and as she is only 34 years of age, of good health and sique, I would recommend that the Commission's general rule not to engage married couples be not enforced in this case, and that Mr. MacGlashen be allowed to arrange for his wife to come out during the latter part of the summer or early in the fall."

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLean,
Asst. Deputy & Secretary.

W. M. Graham, Esq.,
Indian Commissioner,
Regina, Sask.

Indian Affairs. School Files.
(RG 10, Volume 6358, File 758-1, part 1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

104-1-1.

Ottawa, February 11, 1926.

Reverend Sir:

I wish to quote from Mr. Indian Agent
Gooderham's January report on the Old Sun's Indian Residen-
tial School: -

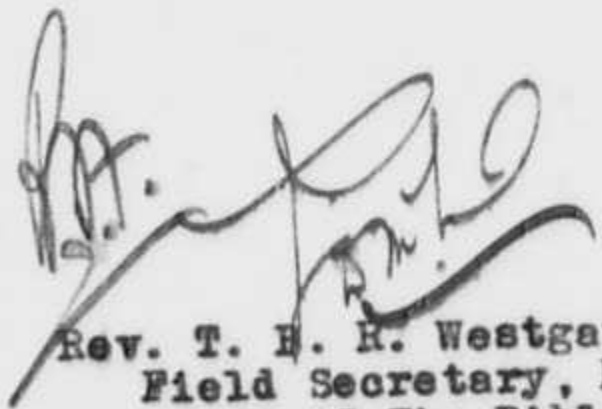
"The temperature of the classrooms was far
below standard, and, on enquiry, I found that this
had been the case throughout the month. As the
weather had been mild, I saw no excuse for this, but
the Principal could suggest no remedy. On further
investigation with the aid of a capable man, I found
that the major part of the trouble was due to poor
firing and operation of the heating plant. The
omissions and corrections are being carried out and
these rooms are being better heated and will be
properly heated henceforth."

You will note that the classrooms are now
being properly heated. My reason for writing was to let
you know that there has been unsatisfactory supervision
of the mechanical plant and to ask if you are satisfied
with the services of the present engineer.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLean

J. D. McLean,
Asst. Deputy & Secretary.


Rev. T. H. R. Westgate, D. D.,
Field Secretary, M. S. C. C.,
41-43 The Bible House,
Alexander Ave.,
Winnipeg, Man.

Indian Affairs. School Files.
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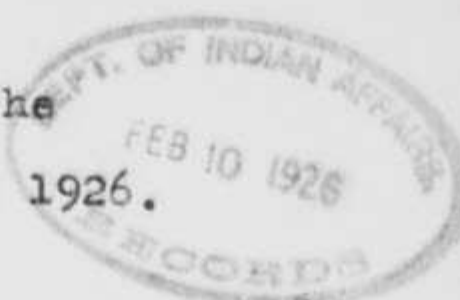
PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

104-1-no 1

Extract from a report from Mr. Agent Gooderham on the
Old Sun's Residential School dated Jan. 28, 1926.

The temperature of the class rooms was far below standard and on enquiry I found that this had been the case throughout the month. As the weather had been mild I saw no excuse for this but the Principal could suggest no remedy. On further investigation with the aid of a capable man, I found that the major part of the trouble was due to poor firing and operation of the heating plant. The omissions and corrections are being carried out and these rooms are being better heated and will be properly heated henceforth.

I noted a change of staff in the kitchen; an elderly lady is now in charge and she appears to be capable. Two girls had chicken pox - all other pupils appeared to be in good health. Stock was in good shape. Cattle had lately been given a tuberculin test and only one old cow reacted. This animal has been destroyed. Milk supply is being increased by cows freshening from month to month.



R

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PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada

GENERAL SECRETARY
REV. CANON G. G. GULD, M.D., D.C.L.
EDUCATIONAL SECRETARY
REV. W. LOR, M.A., PH.D.
FIELD SECRETARY
REV. T. B. R. WESTGATE, D.D.
(THE BIBLE HOUSE, WINNIPEG, MAN.)
GENERAL TREASURER
J. A. WORRELL, ESQ., K.C., D.C.L.
ACCOUNTANT
R. A. WILLIAMS, ESQ.

CABLE ADDRESS
MATURIA OR M.S.C.C., TORONTO

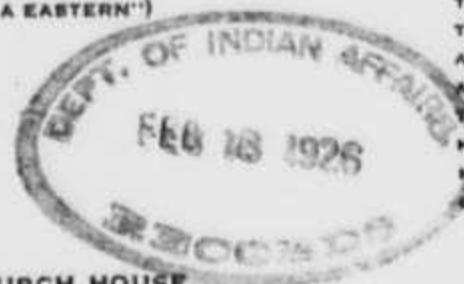
("MISSIONS CODE," "C.I.M." AND "VIA EASTERN")

TELEPHONE NORTH 8411

THE CHURCH HOUSE
604 JARVIS STREET

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THE PRIMATE (EX-OFFICIO)
THE BISHOP OF MURON (CHAIRMAN)
THE BISHOP OF MONTREAL
THE BISHOP OF TORONTO
ARCHDEACON FORNERET
ARCHDEACON SNOWDON
THE REV. AND HON. DR. CODY
HON. MR. JUSTICE HODGINS
HONOUR JUDGE A. D. HARDY
S. C. COPPLEY, ESQ.



Toronto, Ont., Feb. 15, 1926.

41-43 The Bible House,
Alexander Avenue,
Winnipeg, Man.

The Secretary,
The Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Sir:-

I have just received your letter of the 11th instant (No. 104-1-1) re the heating of the classrooms at the Old Sun School and the services of our Society's "engineer" at this institution, and in reply beg to state that as this school is linked up, for lighting purposes, with the Bassano Hydro-Electric System, there is very little necessity for the services of an expert in this department of the work. Mr. Brown our Society's agent who has been in charge of this department has never failed to give satisfaction, and I am surprised at the information which Mr. Indian Agent Gooderham's report contains. I may state for your information that a representative of our Society is now on his way to visit this school and he has been instructed to go fully into this matter with the Principal. I may also state for your information that Mr. Brown who has been in charge of the heating and lighting systems at this school will retire at the end of this month and that every effort will be made on our part to secure a man to take his place who will be fully capable of operating the mechanical plant connected with these two systems.

Believe me, Sir,
Yours very truly,

T. B. R. Westgate

TBRW/JF.

FIELD SECRETARY M.S.C.C.

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PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

104-1-1

EXTRACT
ORIGINAL ON

25704

SCHOOLS BRANCH
MAY 12 1926

DEPT. OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
MAY 11 1926
RECORDED

Gleichen, Alta.,
May 5th, 1926.

Sir:

I beg to submit the following report for the
month of April 1926.

x

x

x

Schools

Old Sun's was visited and found in the usual
condition. A new teacher, Miss Milljour, was in charge of the
Junior room. She is young with little or no teaching experience
and it is to be seen whether or not she can handle the job.
Dr. Westgate was a visitor during the month; his interests were
confined, as far as I am aware, to admissions of pupils to the
school. He did not discuss other matters with the Agent.

x

x

x

G. H. Gooderham.

Indian Agent.

await
further report
JES

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PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

C O P Y

104-1-1.

Original on 52-104.

Ottawa, November 2, 1926.

Sir:

I wish to acknowledge, with thanks, your 26 D 464-4 H 46 of the 28th ultimo, relative to the Indian, Tom Studhorse, of Gleichen, Alta. The Department is corresponding with the Rev. Principal of the Old Sun's Indian Residential School, asking him to take special precautions at the institution in future.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLean,
Asst. Deputy & Secretary.

Cortlandt Starnes, Esq.,
Commissioner,
Royal Canadian Mounted Police,
Ottawa, Ont.

Indian Affairs. School Files.
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PUBLIC ARCHIVES
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CANADA

104-1-1.

Ottawa, November 4, 1926.

Reverend Sir:

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police have forwarded a report concerning the commitment of a young Indian for breaking into the Old Sun's Indian Residential School. The Department has learned of this matter with considerable regret and I am sure I do not need to urge you to take special precautions in the future.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLean,
Asst. Deputy & Secretary.

[Signature]
Rev. F. M. Ross Gibney,
Principal,
Old Sun's Indian Res. School,
Gleichen, Alta.

Indian Affairs. School Files.
(RG 10, Volume 6358, File 758-1, part 1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

EXTRACT
ORIGINAL ON

75-104

Gleichen, Alta., Oct. 4th, 1927.

Sir:

I beg to submit the following report for the
month of September 1927.

x

x

x

Old Sun School

The Principal went to Toronto on the 15th.
Children are all back but this school requires more
discipline and direct attention than it is getting at
present. Good results cannot be expected when everything
seems to be in chaos. Farm-work is well in hand and a
splendid granary & root-cellar have been built. Dr Stone
visited the school on the 23rd.

x

x

x

G. H. Gooderham.

Indian Agent.

Indian Affairs. School Files.
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PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

RECEIVED
ORIGINAL ON
55-104

104-1-1
R

DEPT. OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
OCT 14 1927
RECORDED

SCHOOLS BRANCH
OCT 18 1927

Regina, Sask., October 11th, 1927.

Sir:

I am forwarding herewith Indian Agent Gooderham's report on the Blackfoot Agency for the month of September.

x x x

I would draw your attention to what the Agent says regarding the condition of affairs at the Old Sun's School. This is no surprise to me. I do not consider that Mr. Gibney is at all competent to be in charge of a school of this kind.

Your obedient servant,

W. M. Graham.

Indian Commissioner.

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PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

104-1-1.

Ottawa, October 18, 1927.

Reverend Sir:

Mr. Indian Agent Gooderham reports that more careful consideration should be given to the general management at the Old Sun's Indian Residential School. It appears that on a recent visit he found little evidence of order or control. His report states that the Principal left the school for Eastern Canada on the 15th of September. May I point out that there is nothing on our files to show that he was granted leave of absence.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLean,
Asst. Deputy & Secretary.

Rev. T. B. R. Westgate, D. D.,
Field Secretary, M. S. C. C.,
39-43 The Bible House,
Alexander Ave.,
Winnipeg, Man.

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PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

104-1-1

Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada

GENERAL SECRETARY
CANON S. GOULD, M.D., D.C.L., D.D.
EDUCATIONAL SECRETARY

FIELD SECRETARY
REV. T. B. R. WESTGATE, D.D.
(THE BIBLE HOUSE, WINNIPEG, MAN.)

GENERAL TREASURER
J. A. WORRELL, ESQ., K.C., D.C.L.

ACCOUNTANT
R. A. WILLIAMS, ESQ.

CABLE ADDRESS
MARTURIA OR M.S.C.C., TORONTO

("MISSIONS CODE," "C.I.M." AND "VIA EASTERN")

TELEPHONE RANDOLPH 8411

THE CHURCH HOUSE
604 JARVIS STREET

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THE PRIMATE (EX-OFFICIO)
THE BISHOP OF MONTREAL
THE BISHOP OF TORONTO
ARCHDEACON SNOWDON
ARCHDEACON FOTHERINGHAM
THE REV. AND HON. DR. CODY
HON. MR. JUSTICE HODGINS
G. C. COPPLEY, ESQ.
C. E. SCOTT, ESQ.

~~TORONTO, ONT.~~ 21st October 1927

39-43 The Bible House,
Alexander Ave., Winnipeg, Man.

The Secretary,
The Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa, Ont.

Sir:-

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 104-1-1 of the 18th inst., referring to the General management of the Old Sun Indian Residential School.

Dr. Westgate is at present absent on a tour of inspection of several of our western schools amongst them the one referred to in your letter. During his visit to the Old Sun School Dr. Westgate will probably meet Mr. Indian Agent Gooderham and discuss with him existing conditions.

The Commission were not aware that your Department desired to be notified when Principals of the various schools were taking their annual holiday. In the present instance Mr. Gibney applied for permission to attend a gathering of Wycliffe Graduates in Toronto which took place from the 21st to the 26th of August last. He informed the Commission of the arrangements he had made for the proper administration of the school during his absence and as these were deemed satisfactory the leave was granted.

Does your Department wish to be informed of the absence of Principals on their annual holidays.

I have the honour to be Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. W. W. W.

Asst. Sec-Treasurer,
INDIAN & ESKIMO COMMISSION

EME/EM

Indian Affairs. School Files.
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PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

104-1-1.

Ottawa, October 25, 1927.

Reverend Sir:

I have your letter of the 21st instant, with reference to Mr. Gibney's absence from the Old Sun's Indian Residential School. It is not necessary to inform the Indian agent officially that leave of absence is required when a principal is taking his holiday during the annual vacation of the pupils. Whenever a school is in full operation, however, a principal should not leave his work without notifying the Department of his wishes.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLean

J. D. McLean,
Asst. Deputy & Secretary.

Rev. T. B. R. Westgate, D. D.,
Field Secretary, M. S. C. C.,
39-43 The Bible House,
Alexander Ave.,
Winnipeg, Man.

Indian Affairs. School Files.
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PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

104-1-1

Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada

GENERAL SECRETARY
REV. CANON S. GOULD, M.D., D.C.L., D.D.
EDUCATIONAL SECRETARY

FIELD SECRETARY
REV. T. B. R. WESTGATE, D.D.
(THE BIBLE HOUSE, WINNIPEG, MAN.)

GENERAL TREASURER
J. A. WORRELL, ESQ., K.C., D.C.L.

ACCOUNTANT
R. A. WILLIAMS, ESQ.

CABLE ADDRESS
MANTURIA OR M.S.C.C., TORONTO

("MISSIONS CODE," "C.I.M." AND "VIA EASTERN")

TELEPHONE RANDOLPH 6411

THE CHURCH HOUSE
604 JARVIS STREET

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THE PRIMATE (EX-OFFICIO)
THE BISHOP OF HURON (CHAIRMAN)
THE BISHOP OF MONTREAL
THE BISHOP OF TORONTO
ARCHDEACON SHOWCOCK
ARCHDEACON FOTHERINGHAM
THE REV. AND HON. DR. CODY
MR. JUSTICE HODGINS
C. C. COPPLEY, ESQ.
C. S. SCOTT, ESQ.

TOBENEDSONTX Dec. 7th, 1927.

39-43 The Bible House,
Alexander Ave., Winnipeg, Man.

The Secretary,
The Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Sir:-

With further reference to your letters of Oct. 18th and 25th (104-1-1) and the communication already addressed to you from this office on Oct. 21st, relative to the report from Mr. Indian Agent Gooderham, that more careful consideration should be given to the general management at the Old Sun School, I beg to state that upon my return to Winnipeg after visiting our Society's Schools between here and Alert Bay, I referred this report to the Principal and asked him for a statement in connection with the same. In his reply dated Nov. 4th, he writes, in part, as follows:-

" Mr. Hewett who came to assist during my absence states in a letter which he left behind for my information that 'the children have been very good, though it was some time before they all returned to School after the affair at Cluny'. The affair mentioned was the unveiling of the monument to Crowfoot, to which it was ordered that the School children gather. The parents conveyed their several children to this spot about 12 or 14 miles distant, and some of them did not bring their children back at once..... For a day or so this confused the routine of the School and during this period Dr. Stone visited the School and noticed this confusion, also a certain want of cooperation amongst certain members of the staff."

In this letter the Principal also states that the Indian Agent was aware of the fact of his going away, and suggested that he should take some extra time away, and not merely go and return immediately. I am furnishing you with the above information in order that you may be assured of the fact that the report of the

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PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

-2-

Indian Agent has received our careful consideration. It will also indicate to you that the apparent lack of order was partly due to the breaking up of the usual school routine in connection with the unveiling of the monument referred to. I am pleased to be able to report that any lack of cooperation which may have existed at the time referred to by the Indian Agent, has been completely remedied, and I have every reason to believe that the discipline and conditions in general at this School are such as would command the approval of your Department.

Believe me, Sir,
Yours very truly,

L. R. Westgate

Field Secretary, M. S. C. C.

TBRW/JF

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ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA



DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
CANADA

104-1-1.

R

MEMO FOR FILE:

Mr. Indian Agent Gooderham, upon the occasion of his visit to Ottawa, recommends that serious consideration be given to the situation at the Old Sun's Indian Residential School. The staff, generally, is not all that it should be and the result is, on the whole, an inefficient institution.

*By a parent
will discuss with
Church authorities
A.A.*

*Emphasize this, the man has domestic
worries, far too much to do & no organizing
ability.
A.A.*

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(RG 10, Volume 6358, File 758-1, part 1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
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CANADA

EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF MR. INDIAN AGENT GOODERHAM,
for the Month of May, 1928, on the OLD SUN'S
Indian Residential School.

Original on File 104-1-7.

This school shows signs of lax control
and I am satisfied that efficiency will never be
evident so long as the present Principal fails to
run the institution and Staff under a stiff hand.

Farm-work is good and the Farm Instructor
efficient, I believe, and keen to get results, but
I cannot say that I've found the rest of the Staff
to be good. Pupils and Indian parents are allowed
too many liberties and the whole institution seems
to run along haphazard. The M. S. C. C. should
supply higher grade employees if this school is to
progress as it should.

Indian Affairs. School Files.
(RG 10, Volume 6358, File 758-1, part 1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES.
CANADA

104-1-1

June 14th, 1928.

Memorandum for File.-

Re:- Rev. F.M.R. Gibney, Principal,
Old Sun's Indian Residential
School.

- (a) Reference official letter of October 18th, 1927, to Rev. T.B.R. Westgate, regarding absence of the Principal of the school without advising the Agent.
- (b) Letters of October 21st, 1927 and December 7th, 1927, from Rev. Dr. Westgate and our reply of October 25th, 1927, in connection with the above absence of the Principal.
- (c) Memorandum of February 4th, 1928, reading as follows:-

"Mr. Indian Agent Gooderham, upon the occasion of his visit to Ottawa, recommends that serious consideration be given to the situation at the Old Sun's Indian Residential School. The staff, generally, is not all that it should be and the result is, on the whole, an inefficient institution."

In connection with this, Mr. Ferrier notes "discuss with Church authorities - emphasize this, the man has domestic worries, far too much to do and no organizing ability".

- (d) Extract from report of Mr. Agent Gooderham for the month of May, 1928:-

"This school shows signs of lax control and I am satisfied that efficiency will never be evident so long as the present Principal fails to run the institution and Staff under a stiff hand."

"Farm-work is good and the Farm Instructor efficient, I believe, and keen to get results, but I cannot say that I've found the rest of the Staff to be good. Pupils and Indian parents are allowed too many liberties and the whole institution seems to run along haphazard. The M. S. C. C. should supply higher grade employees if this school is to progress as it should."

*Original given
Mr. Gibney to discuss
with Dr. Westgate
14/6/28*

[Signature]

Indian Affairs. School Files.
(RG 10, Volume 6358, File 758-1, part 1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

EXTRACT
ORIGINAL ON

75-104

SCHOOLS BRANCH
JUN 21 1928

Blackfoot Reserve, Gleichen, Alta.
June 8, 1928.

DEPT. OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
RECORDS

SCHOOLS BRANCH
JUN 19 1928

Sir:

I beg to submit the following report for the
month of May 1928:-

x x x

At Old Sun School farm work was done in
season and a very creditable showing made. In the class
rooms, the teachers have given diligent service but I fear
they have not had the best co-operation from the Principal
and the rest of the staff. The M. S. C. C. will only get
good results at this Institution when there is a good staff
headed by a strong Principal. Mr. Gibney, in my opinion,
is not a good principal.

G. H. Gooderham.

x x x Indian Agent.

Regina, Sask., June 16th, 1928.

x x x

I would draw your attention to what the Agent
says regarding Mr. Gibney, Principal of the Old Sun School.
You have had many adverse reports regarding this Principal,
and it seems to me absolutely wrong to carry a man on in a
position that he is not qualified to fill. He is not an
agriculturalist, and taking into consideration the fact
that one of the main objects of our Residential School
system is to teach the Indian boys something about farming
and stock-raising, it is most important that the Principals
of these schools should be practical men, with a thorough
knowledge of this branch of the work. Mr. Gibney has been
at this school for several years now and we have had constant
complaint regarding his methods, and I should be glad if the
Department would give serious consideration to the matter of
making a change here. A man who does not understand the work
cannot expect to carry on successfully, even though those
under him are practical people.

x x x

W. M. Graham.
Indian Commissioner.

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Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada

SECRETARY
CANON S. GOULD, M.D., D.C.L., D.D.
EDUCATIONAL SECRETARY

FIELD SECRETARY
REV. T. B. R. WESTGATE, D.D.
(THE BIBLE HOUSE, WINNIPEG, MAN.)

GENERAL TREASURER
J. A. WORRELL, ESQ., K.C., D.C.L.

ACCOUNTANT
R. A. WILLIAMS, ESQ.

CABLE ADDRESS
MARTURIA OR M.S.C.C., TORONTO

("MISSIONS CODE," "C.I.M." AND "VIA EASTERN")

TELEPHONE RANDOLPH 8411

THE CHURCH HOUSE
604 JARVIS STREET

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THE PRIMATE (EX-OFFICIO)
THE BISHOP OF MURDOCH (CHAIRMAN)
THE BISHOP OF MONTREAL
THE BISHOP OF TORONTO
ARCHDEACON SNOWDON
ARCHDEACON FOTHERINGHAM
THE REV. AND HON. DR. COOY
HON. MR. JUSTICE HODGINS
G. C. COPPLEY, ESQ.
C. S. SCOTT, ESQ.

TORONTO, ONT. June 29th, 1928.

39-43 The Bible House,
Alexander Ave., Winnipeg, Man.

Duncan C. Scott, Esq., C.M.G.,
Deputy Supt. General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Mr. Scott:-

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of yesterday relative to the destruction of the Old Sun School by fire on Tuesday evening last, and note that you expect to hear further from me in this matter. I had expected to receive a report from the Principal by this morning's mail, but this has not come to hand. I may state for your information, however, that immediately after hearing of the destruction of the School, I telegraphed to Archdeacon Tims to proceed to Gleichen and furnish me with a full report as to the cause, so far as this could be ascertained. When this report has been received, I will write to you again and furnish you with all the information which he and the Principal are able to give me. In my telegram of the 27th instant I informed you that the Principal, the Farmer, the General Assistant, and one lady agent were being retained, and the other agents either transferred or dismissed. I felt that certain agents were required to look after the remaining School property, including buildings, live stock, and the farming and gardening activities, and trust that this arrangement may meet with your approval. At a later date, after the report referred to above has been received, and our Commission have had an opportunity of considering the same, I hope to be able to submit certain suggestions and recommendations to you with regard to the transfer of the pupils after the summer holidays to other institutions, where they could remain until a new School has been provided.

I may say that I have already written to the Principals of the Elkhorn, Onion Lake, St. Cyprian, St. Paul's and Mackay Schools asking them to consult the local Indian Agents with regard to the question of receiving some of the pupils from the Old Sun School.

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and let me know the numbers which could be accommodated in this way. The information contained in their replies will be embodied in the full report which I will make when all the information referred to above has come to hand. As this is the first School which has been destroyed by fire since these institutions came under the control of our Society, the members of our Commission who are responsible for their administration are feeling the loss very keenly. The merciful deliverance, however, of all the pupils and staff agents is something which they cannot soon forget and they heartily thank God for it.

Believe me,
Yours very truly,

L. A. R. Westgate

Field Secretary, M.S.C.C.

TBRW/JF

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July 10th. 1928.

Dear Dr. Westgate,

I have your note of June 29th. With reference to the future of the pupils it occurs to me to say that it is most important that the Blackfoot parents should consent to the transfer of their children and I doubt very much whether they would consent to sending them to other schools. In any event I would like to give my approval to any arrangement. I am leaving for Regina tonight and will have an opportunity of discussing the matter with Commissioner Graham from our point of view.

Yours very truly,

Rev. R. B. R. Westgate, D.D.,
39-43 The Bible House,
Alexander Ave., Deputy Superintendent General.
Winnipeg, Man.



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ACCOUNTANT
R. A. WILLIAMS, ESQ.

SCHOOLS BRANCH
JUL 14 1928

TELEPHONE RANDOLPH 6411

THE CHURCH HOUSE
604 JARVIS STREET

TORONTO, ONT. July 4, 1928

39-43 The Bible House,
Alexander Ave., Winnipeg, Man.

Duncan C. Scott, Esq., C.M.G.
Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Mr. Scott:

With further reference to my telegram to you on the 27th. inst. and your telegram in reply on the same date, I now beg to state that I received yesterday from the Ven. Archdeacon Tims, who was asked by our Commission to proceed to the Old Sun School and report on the cause of the fire which destroyed this institution, and also from the Rev. F. M. R. Gibney, the Principal of the same, full statements in this connexion.

The Archdeacon arrived at the School on June 28th. and his statement reads, in part, as follows:-

"There is absolutely nothing left of the building except the concrete foundation and a lot of bent and twisted iron-work in the basement, the remains of bedsteads, pipes and radiators. The fire was first noticed about 8.30 P.M. smoke was seen to be coming from the ventilator of the old roof cellar, used partly as a dairy, at the extreme south end of the building. Mrs. Douglas, the Kitchen Matron, went at once to the door leading to the Dairy beyond which a lot of raffia and sacking (bale covering) had been stowed away, and found the smoke issuing from within overheating. An alarm was at once phoned to Gleichen, and in a short time the fire brigade and nearly 100 civilians as well as the Indian Agent and his staff were on the spot. Meanwhile the children, 50 of whom were in bed, were all got out in an orderly manner and Mr. Gibney had turned the hose down the ventilator on the roof of the old roof cellar. The fire brigade on arrival broke through the roof and used their chemical engine on the fire which burst into flame as soon as the roof was opened up.

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The water pressure soon gave out from the low pressure tank, and when the chemical engine required re-charging there was no water except from the well at the barn.

As soon as it was seen that the fire was going to take the building, the civilians who had brought scores of buckets with them set to work to save the Principal's residence on the one side and the Church on the other, by carrying water from the barn. This supply however was cut off when the fire affected the power line which ran the pump motor.

An attempt was made to use dynamite to blow up the portion of the building between the main building and the annex with a view to getting more time to salvage the effects but this failed of its purpose.

The whole of the effects in the Principal's residence were carried out of doors, but fortunately the building was not touched, thanks to the men who protected the walls and roof with blankets and water.

There is only one opinion as to the cause of the fire and that is spontaneous combustion from the pile of raffia and old sacking in which the bales had come, stacked away in the old dairy or root cellar. The exceptional rains we have experienced lately had carried the damp through the roof and probably assisted in creating a condition which issued in the combustion.

.....

The raffia, etc. had been placed here, when the old class room was pulled down, as the only place where it could be stored. Too great praise and gratitude cannot be given to the Indian Agent and Staff, or to the civilians from Gleichen who all rendered what assistance they could.

The pupils were all dispersed to their homes as soon as the parents could be notified, with the exception of a few of the older boys who are retained to assist in the farm work.

The children all had just what they could carry out with them. The fire drill regularly held seems to have proved its value for on the alarm every child jumped from bed, wrapped itself in a quilt, picked up its clothes and marched down the fire escapes.

In a few cases where the parents are destitute and have no bed or other clothing for their children suddenly returned to them, it is really necessary that some assistance should be given them in the way of more quilts and clothing for the children.

.....

The Indian Agent kindly placed an empty house at the disposal of the Farm instructor and his wife, and the Hospital authorities offered shelter to all the other members of the staff."

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Mr. Gibney's statement reads in part as follows:-

"By this time you will have in hand Archdeacon Tim's report re our recent regrettable fire.

.....

The Archdeacon's report is so comprehensive and as he went over all details carefully with me and then the report was read over in the rough to me, I find that the ground has been so thoroughly covered that I can only corroborate what he has said. We had only been in a half hour or so from a rehearsal of closing day exercises at the front of the school building when the smoke was noticed. No time was lost in sending in the alarm, which was answered promptly by the fire-brigade and townspeople. Our heartbreaking difficulty was the lack of water pressure. An early attempt was made to blow up by a charge of dynamite the hind end of the building but without effect. This of necessity drove all out of the building and consequently any thought of saving our splendid supply of clothing was put aside. This was a bad blow to me as many of the children have very little in the way of clothing and a number of the parents are not able to make adequate provision. This fact is constantly coming up before me. I feel sure that the Indian Dept. will assist us as far as possible to meet needy cases, and Mr. Agent Gooderham has requested me to note such cases carefully.

.....

All children have gone home. We are, of course, having relays of the bigger boys to assist in farm work. Those will be looked after at the Mission House. We may have also to make certain provision for some of the older girls. All the cooking, etc. for these will be looked after by Mrs. Gibney assisted by Miss Robson who is very pleased to remain on with us. Certain emergencies will arise, of course, from time to time, which I shall have to refer to you for advice. Mr. Gooderham has been exceedingly kind and considerate in every way, and in fact the agency staff as a whole and very many of the townspeople could not have been more kind. I am thanking one and all publicly through our local paper."

The above statements were presented to our Commission at a meeting held yesterday, and I was instructed to forward the same to our General Secretary in Toronto, with a strong recommendation that he should endeavour to arrange an interview with you at the earliest date possible, and take up such urgent and important

*Please see
me when
this comes
to hand
WBM*

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questions as the provision of clothing for the pupils, their transfer, or otherwise, to other schools after the summer holidays, the building of a new school, the means of maintaining a small staff to look after the live stock, crops, remaining buildings, etc.

My letter to our General Secretary is going forward today, and as he will no doubt communicate with you in the very near future, I do not see that there is anything further which I can do at present.

Our Commission will be glad, however, to have any suggestions you may wish to offer, and to co-operate to the fullest extent of their power with your Department in overcoming the difficulties which have arisen so unexpectedly through the loss of this valuable institution.

Believe me,

Yours very truly,

L. A. Westgate

Field Secretary, M.S.C.C.

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