

(Copy)

Dept. of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa, April 10, 1906.

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Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd. instant reporting that Commissioner of the R. N. W. M. Police has referred to you for advice in regard to an application made by the Rev. Father Hugonard, Principal of the Qu'Appelle Industrial School, to Mr. Superintendent Deane, commanding at Maple Creek, to assist him, under the regulations relating to the education of Indian children, to compel the children of certain of the non-treaty Indians in the neighborhood of Maple Creek and Medicine Hat to attend his school, and asking whether the regulations apply to non-treaty Indians.

In reply I beg to say that the regulations do not apply to non-treaty Indians, and even if they did there is no clause in such regulations which would justify parents being compelled to place their children in an industrial or boarding school, unless their case would come under Section 9 of the regulations, and you are hereby authorized to inform Father Hugonard that he has no right to call upon the R. N. W. M. Police or Magistrates to obtain pupils for his school. If he knows of any children on an Indian Reserve, whose parents refuse or neglect to send them to the day school established there, he should inform you through the local agent, when you can take such action as the circumstances of the case require.

Your obedient servant,
(sd.) J. D. McLean,
Secretary.

The Indian Commissioner,

Winnipeg, Man.