

Ques. Do you, as a professional teacher with a British Columbia Certificate, consider that there has been excessive punishment of the boys at the Coqualeetza School?

Ans. No.

C. E. McLaughlin
C.E. McLaughlin

R. Scott
.....
Witness.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6422, file 869-1, part 3)

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CANADA

STATEMENT of Miss E. Anderson, School Nurse,
Coqualeetza Indian Residential School.

Inspector Barry. I have been instructed to investigate certain reports with reference to the alleged ill-treatment of children at the Coqualeetza Indian Residential School.

I wish to warn you that your statements will be taken down in writing. They will then be read to you, and you will be given the opportunity of satisfying yourself that what has been written is what you said. You will then be asked to sign the statement. Is that satisfactory?

Miss Anderson. Yes.

Ques. What is your name?

Ans. Evelyn Anderson.

Ques. What is your address?

Ans. 3386 Vanness Ave., Vancouver, B.C.

Ques. What are your duties?

Ans. I am School Nurse.

Ques. Have any cases of corporal punishment of children at the Coqualeetza School been brought to your attention?

Ans. Yes.

Quest. Who and when?

Ans. Johnnie Meen, who had been strapped on his hands.

Ques. Did Johnnie Meen require medical attention?

Ans. No.

(Captain Scott stated that it has been the policy of the School in the event of any serious case of corporal punishment to send the child to the nurse so that no question of cruelty could later arise.)

Ques. To your knowledge have children ever been forced to eat soap as a punishment?

Ans. No.

Statement. I have been School Nurse at Coqualeetza for three years and during this time I am quite certain that there have been no cases of

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excessive punishment.

Evelyn Anderson.....

E. Anderson.

P. J. Scott.....
Witness.

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CANADA

Coqualeetza Residential School
United Church of Canada

Principal
REV. R. C. SCOTT, B. A.

Sardis, B.C. June 24th, 1940.

Re Joseph Hans, Pupil of this School, and Ray Carter, Farm Instructor:

1. I beg to say that Mr Perkins who was for two months Assistant Farm Instructor, as from February the 1st last, told me about Mr Carter having "made a pass" at Joe Hans in the Senior playroom; I sent for Mr Carter, and found that he had, after great provocation, made a "slap" at Joe Hans, that Joe had ~~dogged~~ the blow, and had gone off upstairs. I made it very clear to Mr Carter, that he done a most unwise thing, and that such actions were not conducive to discipline. I gave him to understand that there should be no more such occurrences. He admitted that he had been wrong, and was sorry for it.

Mr Perkins did not tell me of the occurrence until after friction had been occasioned between him and Mr Carter. Perkins was quite inefficient in his work with the horses and on the farm, and Mr Carter, who is a good farmer, resented both the example he set the boys, and in particular, the poor care he gave the horses.

2. There is absolutely no truth in the statement that boys are forced to "eat" soap as a punishment. On a very few occasions boys have been advised, after using bad language, that they ought to "wash out their mouths".
3. Re boys running away: only one boy actually ran away from the School. He was Claude Davidson, and his case was reported to the Indian Agent and to the Commissioner. He was afterwards expelled. Two other boys, were out overnight, but came back of their own accord when they found they were hurting only themselves.
4. The use of the word "Penance" in describing what Mr Perkins found when he came to the School, is quite wrong. It is not customary to use corporal punishment in the school. For five years there has been practically none of it. Instead, we have punished boys by the taking away of privileges such as not being allowed to go to Picture Shows, or for walks on Saturday afternoons. Even these instances were for rather serious disobedience. There had been such an instance before Mr Perkins came, and the boys were still under loss of privileges for having pilfered fruit from store rooms in the school, and from the basement of the Principal's Residence. In this case, I also made certain of the boys who were ring-leaders, work on Saturday afternoons. I state this to show that we used other methods of dealing with these boys, rather than corporal punishment. There was no "trying to escape" from the school as Mr Perkins would try to insinuate.
5. No punishment, corporal or otherwise was administered in such a way as to cause even minor harm to any boy. One boy was asked to report to the nurse, in order to see if he needed any treatment after being strapped, but this was found to be unnecessary. His hands were red, and a bit swollen, but were alright next morning with no treatment at all. Corporal punishment is used only for such misdemeanours as stealing, or for conduct toward girls which was wrong. The boy above mentioned, (in this paragraph) had gone into a Girls' dormitory, and while he had not done further wrong, still it was a serious thing and had to be punished.

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Coqualeetza Residential School
United Church of Canada

Principal
REV. R. C. SCOTT, B. A.

Sardis, B.C. _____

Re. Joe Hans

(2)

6. Even before Inspector Barry came, and following my conversation with Mr Carter about having tried to "Slap" Joe Hans, I gave Mr Carter to understand that such conduct would not be tolerated. I also informed him that I felt it would be better for him, not to come to the new School. Since talking with Captain Barry, I shall make that quite clear, and I shall not take Mr Carter to Alberni as a member of the Staff of the new school. He lost his temper, and that is something which a staff member must not do, even under provocation.
7. I would like to say, that the conduct on the part of the boys which has necessitated corporal punishment was due to two things:
- (1) because of the fact that I was away so much in getting treatment for the throat trouble which has afflicted me this last six months. While Mr Peake gave good service, still the knowledge that I was away, was not conducive to good conduct on the part of a few boys who took advantage of the situation.
- (2) Because of the attitude of Mr Perkins: This I feel was one of the big factors. He had no idea of discipline, nor of his responsibility to other staff members for co-operation in his work as Farm Assistant, and while in charge of the boys. Within a week of the time he came, he brought in a poem he had written about the boys stressing "this is our task" etc etc. I explained as judiciously as possible, that his responsibility was not the writing of poetry, but the carrying out of his duty to me and to the boys, in the light of the school rules. Indian boys and girls do not need to be told a thing outright, and they quickly sensed that Mr Perkins was "befriending" them, and that the rules of the school were strict. Consequently while previous to his coming no criticism had been directed against the school, or any member of staff, this attitude of Perkins, undermined authority. He would tell them stories when he ought to have been directing their work in the fields, and neglected his work in other ways, in order to show them that the Prairie Indians had made him a "chief" in recognition of his contribution to their welfare. In fact he knew nothing at all about Indian boys and girls, and seemed to set himself up as being quite above doing the ordinary work of a Staff member. I had to allow him to stay on for another month, even after giving him notice at the end of his first month, that his services were no longer required, simply because I found I had to make another trip to Mayos, and could not on the spur of the moment, bring in a completely new staff member. At the same time I warned Mr Peake, that we would be "lucky" if we got off without rather serious undermining of discipline, as I felt that Perkins was not suited to the work of having charge of boys. I had, however, taken him off the farm work proper, and had given him work in the orchard, and hoped that he would get along there without making trouble. This unfortunately, to my mind, was without avail.
8. I have listened to the evidence given before Captain Barry and believe it was given in a straightforward manner, and was true.

SIGNED:

R. C. Scott
PRINCIPAL

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CANADA

Coqualeetza Residential School
United Church of Canada

Principal
REV. R. C SCOTT, B. A.

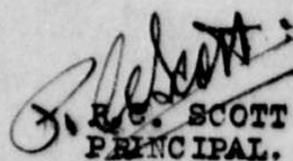
Sardis, B.C. June 24, 1940.

The following are the staff members whom I expect
to take to Alberni:-

Mrs. McKenzie	-	Mending Room and Boys' Matron
Miss Enves	-	Primary Teacher
Miss Telfer	-	Intermediate Room Teacher
Miss Wilson	-	Office Assistant and Music Teacher
Miss Nicklin	-	Kitchen Matron
Mr. Huddleston	-	Boat Builder
Mr. Peake	-	Boys' Overseer
Miss Carter	-	Nurse
Mr. Carter	-	Farmer??
Mr. Nicol	-	Engineer??

employ.

Those marked with ? it is doubtful that I shall


R. C. SCOTT
PRINCIPAL.

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CANADA

Sardis, B.C.,
June 24, 1940.

Major D.M. McKay,
Indian Commissioner,
P.O. Box 70,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Major McKay:

In accordance with the instructions contained in your letter 15/19/6266 of the 21st instant, I held a preliminary enquiry at the Coqualeetza Indian Residential School, where the complaints contained in a letter from Mr. Cecil Perkins to you, dated June 20th, were thoroughly investigated.

A list of members of the present Coqualeetza staff whom Captain Scott intends to employ in connection with the operation of the new school at Alberni was first obtained. This has been attached to the proceedings.

The contents of Mr. Perkins' letter mentioned above, were carefully outlined to Captain Scott, who was also informed that you had instructed me to enquire into the charges made.

Captain Scott arranged for the necessary members of his staff to appear before me for interrogation, and the services of Miss Telfer, stenographer at Coqualeetza, were placed at my disposal. All persons examined were warned that their statements would be taken down in writing, and that they would be later requested to sign such statements on verification of same. Captain Scott was present throughout the whole of this preliminary enquiry and was of considerable assistance to me.

A signed statement by Captain Scott, as Principal of the Coqualeetza School, is also attached to the proceedings.

I am perfectly satisfied that there has been no ill-treatment whatever of the boys as alleged. The statements of Mr. Cecil Perkins are, in my opinion, a very highly exaggerated account of two or three instances that undoubtedly happened during the time he was at the Coqualeetza School. In my opinion there is no need whatever for any further investigation or enquiry into this matter.

I have advised the Reverend Principal that it would be well in future to limit the infliction of corporal punishment by requiring that definite permission must first be obtained, either from him as Principal or in

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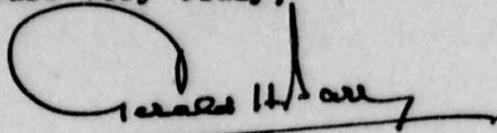
Major D.M. McKay - 2.

his absence from the Acting Principal of the School.

I would further advise that in future any such corporal punishment be given with a regulation school strap made of rubber. The actual strap used for years at this School was specially made for the purpose; is not part of a harness trace as suggested, but is, in my opinion, rather too thick, especially for the punishment of the smaller boys.

I trust that the results of the investigation carried out to-day will be satisfactory to you, and that there will be no need for the Department to take any further action in the matter; particularly so as Captain Scott has given me his assurance in writing (see his statement attached) that Mr. Carter, against whom the main charges were made, will not be employed as a member of the new Alberni School staff.

Yours very truly,



Gerald H. Barry,
Inspector of Indian Schools for B.C.

GHB/JT



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3357 Irvine St.

New Westminster, B.C.

June 20.

The Indian Commissioner
Vancouver.

Dear Sir:

In the interests of better treatment of Indian Children I wish to report the following incidents which happened while I was employed at Indian Residential School at Sardis.

It is part of the duties of the Farmer, Engineer and Assistant Farmer on alternate nights to line the boys up in the basement for roll call previous to them marching into the Assembly hall for prayers. On the night in question which was in the latter part of March, Mr. Carter the Farmer had that office or duty to perform. The boys were slow in taking their places and at last Mr. Carter addressing one of the older pupils Joe Hans with the remark that he (Mr. Carter) would make Joe hit the dust. At the same time striking at the pupil with his fist. The boy dodged the blow and the momentum caused Mr. Carter to fall on the floor of the basement. Had the blow landed it could easily have seriously injured the boy. Joe left the line up and hid on one of the fire-escapes. After prayers Mr. Carter discovered Joe in the Senior Teachers room and proceeded to administer a severe thrashing. This was done with a section or piece of a harness trace after the boy had been made to take down his pants. This is the common form of punishment employed in the school to-wards the boys.

I informed Mr. Scott of this incident and registered my disapproval of such action. In the following days the boys used the phrase "I'll make you hit the dust" incessantly and it did much to disrupt the discipline.

I also protested to Mr. Scott that Mr. Carter was not a fit person to supervise the boys as he was antagonizing them and causing them to attempt run-aways. In the first few weeks on one occasion two boys left the school and were away the most of the night. Cold foggy weather forced them to return. When I arrived at the school many boys were still working out penance for attempted breaks for escapes.

On.....

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On another occasion one evening in March when I was about to tell stories to the children in one of the younger dormitories I found a number in the lavatory eating toilet soap. This soap is the same color as Lifebuoy and is used extensively by the school. They had each been ordered to eat half a cake as a punishment for swearing. I made them stop and go back to their dormitory.

During the course of a conversation with Mr. Peake about the end of February, he warned me against carrying tales to the department as he said others had tried it and only made more trouble for themselves. The department realized he said that they were producing results and were satisfied to continue.

Yours truly,

"Cecil Perkins"

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CANADA

INDIAN COMMISSIONER
BRITISH COLUMBIA



INDIAN AFFAIRS
BRANCH

153-0-1

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO

15/9/6340

ALSO TO DATE OF THIS LETTER



P.O. BOX 70
VANCOUVER, B.C. June 26, 1940.

Schools
Dear Sir:

In a letter dated June 20, 1940, Mr. Cecil Perkins of 3357 Irvine St., New Westminster, B.C., made certain charges with reference to ill-treatment of children at the Coqualeetza Indian Residential School. A copy of his letter is attached.

In my letter 15/9/6266, dated June 21, 1940, I instructed Inspector Barry to carry out at Coqualeetza a preliminary investigation in connection with the charges made by Mr. Perkins. A copy of my letter of instructions to Captain Barry is also attached. The necessary investigation was carried out at Coqualeetza Indian Residential School, Sardis, on June 24th last and I am forwarding for the information of the Department the complete file of the evidence, etc., placed before Inspector Barry.

It would appear that there has been no ill-treatment of children at the Coqualeetza school as was suggested in Mr. Perkins letter of the 20th instant to me. I have, however, in my letter of today's date to the Rev. R.C. Scott, principal of the school, instructed him to limit the use of corporal punishment as much as possible and further, to make certain that when such punishment is absolutely necessary, it be administered in a suitable manner.

Yours faithfully,

D.M. MacKay
D.M. MacKay,
Indian Commissioner for B.C.

GHB:GR

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

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CANADA

15/9/6266

June 21, 1940.

Dear Capt. Barry:

With reference to our conversation yesterday regarding the information contained in the attached letter from Mr. Cecil Perkins, I have decided, in view of the character of the charges made, that a preliminary investigation should be carried out, and would therefore request that you arrange to proceed to Coqualeetza for this purpose as soon as it is convenient for you to do so.

I should like to suggest that you proceed with your investigation along the following lines:

- (1) Ascertain from Mr. Scott what members of the present staff it is intended to employ in connection with the operation of the new school at Alberni.
- (2) Outline carefully the contents of Mr. Perkins letter.
- (3) Inform Mr. Scott that you have been instructed by the Commissioner to inquire into the charges made.
- (4) Request Mr. Scott to bring the members of the staff involved before you for interrogation.
- (5) Warn members of the staff examined that their statements are to be taken down in writing, which record they will be requested to sign on verification by them.
- (6) Principal Scott should be present during this preliminary investigation.

Should the inquiry produce information definitely indicating illtreatment of the children as charged, assurance of

Capt. G.H. Barry,
Inspector of Indian Schools for B.C.,
Vancouver, B.C.

the.....

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the Principal that the services of those of his staff involved would be dispensed with at the close of the current term, would likely be considered as meeting the situation and render unnecessary any further investigation.

Yours faithfully,

Encl
/AC

D.M. MacKay,
Indian Commissioner for B.C.

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CANADA

153-0-1
Coqualeetza Residential School
United Church of Canada

Principal
REV. R. C. SCOTT, B. A.

Alberni,
~~Sardis B.C.~~ November 12, 1940

Mr. R. A. Hoey,
Superintendent of Welfare and Training,
Indian Affairs Branch,
Department of Mines and Resources,
Ottawa Canada



Dear Mr. Hoey:

Inclosed please find itemized statement of the proceeds of the sale held on October 29th at Coqualeetza Residential School.

After conversation with Major MacKay with regard to the two furrow riding plough which had been purchased by the Department, I arranged to have the plough bought in so that it would remain without cost at the school pending disposition of the same, and this has been done. The other farm implements I assumed were bought out of school funds, as was the case with the disc harrow which I bought myself, second hand. The houses referred to were Colony Pig Houses, small buildings constructed by our Manual Training boys as projects. I am not sure about the hogs, but presume they were bought out of school funds, as was the case with the horses, three of which I purchased myself. We brought the best set of harness over here and the wagon and such other farm equipment as we could use. The forges were all in poor repair with parts missing. We brought the only one that was intact over here for use in our Motor Mechanics department. The cattle belonged originally to the Church. Only a pure bred bull was bought out of school funds as a calf and he was brought over with the rest of the stock.

Dr. Cochrane, Superintendent of Home Missions, suggests that I consult you as to the disposition of this money. Meantime I am keeping it in a special account at the Bank of Montreal at Port Alberni. I may say that we have been overpaid by the Home Missions Board

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Mr. R. A. Hoey

November 12, 1940

on our per capita earnings, something over one thousand dollars, and this will have to be paid back some time throughout the school year. There is also the need for increased revenue due to the many items of expense for equipment which I have paid out of school funds. These were items for which I could not wait to submit to the Department and in spite of the generosity of the Department in everything, these expenditures have been considerable. The amount, \$1021.80, might well go into general school funds, but I shall be glad to abide by your wishes in the matter.

Thanking you for your assistance in all these things, I am,

Yours sincerely,

R. C. Scott
R. C. SCOTT
PRINCIPAL

RCS/BW
Encl.

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CANADA

STATEMENT OF EFFECTS AND STOCK SOLD BY AUCTION AT COQUALEETZA
SCHOOL, OCTOBER 29th, 1940

8 forks	\$5.70	Grease, etc.	\$.50
2 bars	.95	Tub	.40
Cultivator	2.50	Can	.10
Seeder	3.25	Milk Stirrer	.40
Roller	3.00	6 Lanterns	2.10
Boiler	1.50	Lantern, etc.	.25
Saw Horses	.25	2 Dust Pans	.50
Forge	11.00	Mat	.25
Anvil	7.00	Brush, etc.	.25
Tongs	1.40	Pails	.25
Tools	1.00	Creamer	1.00
Brushes	.25	Coal Oil	.60
Bucket	.20	Spray	.70
3 buckets	.45	Hatchett	.35
Keg	1.00	Belting	1.40
Drum	1.00	Shovels	1.05
Scale	8.50	Mug	.30
Forge	4.50	Tub	.45
Forge	2.00	Jug	.35
2 tables	.50	Cushion	1.70
Heater	6.00	Vise	8.00
Wrench	.90	Neckyoke	.90
Chains	.25	Singletrees	1.10
Bridle	2.00	Clevis	.10
Saw	.25	Doubletree	1.50
Saw	.80	Table	1.00
Wringer	2.75	Range	2.00
Jack, etc.	.10	Bed	1.50
Wrenches	.50	Stool	.25
Pulley	1.50	Table	.70
Seeder	2.00	2 Racks	.25
Teeth, ect.	.50	Staples	.90
Chain	3.65	Stand	1.20
2 Jacks	1.05	Shelf	.25
Mower Sections	1.00	2 Stands	.95
Misc.	.70	3 Collars	8.50
Bock	.50	Chairs	.25
Wheel	.50	Chairs	.80
Wednges	1.20	2 Tables	.50
2 windows	1.60	Sewing Machine	.50
3 jugs	.50	Wash Tubs	3.50
Pots	.70	Tables	7.00
Jars	5.10	Springs	1.00
Strainer	1.00	Rack	.90
Filter Disc	.60	Rod	.25
Spuds	.70	Shelves	3.35
Chains	.25	2 Cabbage	1.50

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1 Cabbage	\$.75
1 Cabbage	.40
4 Carrots	3.00
Seat	.25
Chair	.25
Table	1.40
Plough	3.50
Cultivator	3.00
Cultivator	.50
Scraper	5.50
Drums	4.20
Doubletrees	1.75
Barrow	.70
Saw Horses	.75
Plough	3.00
Fulper	6.50
Harrows	8.00
Harrows	4.50
Plough	95.00
Rake	29.00
Mower	20.00
Plough	5.00
Plough	1.50
Digger	2.25
Manger	2.00
Shoe	.50
Misc.	1.00
Crate	.25
Disc Harrow	35.00
Sleigh	6.50
Disc	2.00
Wire	.50
In Field	
Carrots	24.00
Hay Rack	1.50
Planks	1.50
House	7.50
House	7.50
2 houses	10.00
3 Pigs	8.70
2 Pigs	5.80
11 Pigs	19.25
3 Sows	39.00
Colt	47.50
Horse	67.00
Horse	50.00
Harness	c10.00
Collars	7.50
Horse	56.00
Horse	56.00

Cow	\$ 27.00
Cow	34.00
Cow	33.00
Cow	30.00
Cow	42.50
Cow	30.00
Cow	30.00
Cow	30.00
Cow	32.00
Cow	30.00
Cow	30.00
Cow	28.00
Cow	28.00
Cow	20.00
Calf	10.00

\$1251.35

Expenses of Sale

Bought in Plough	\$95.00
Commission	62.55
Progress	7.00
Posters	7.00
Radio	2.00
Lockyer acc.	6.00
By Cash	50.00

\$ 229.55

Gross Receipts	\$1251.35
Less Expenses	229.55

Cheque for \$1021.80

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CANADA

Ottawa,
July 22, 1940.

EXD
S

Dear Doctor Scott:

In the absence of Mr. Hoey I desire to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant and I can assure you that all the officials of the Department are pleased to know that the medical treatment that you have received has proved successful.

You will be sorry to learn that Mr. Hoey has been absent from the office for the past month owing to illness. However, his condition is improving and he is expected to be back about the first of August.

Yours truly,

Philip Phelan,
Chief, Training Division.

Rev. R. C. Scott,
Principal,
Coqualeetza Indian Residential School,
Sardis, B. C.

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153-0-1

Coqualeetza Residential School
United Church of Canada

Principal
REV. R. C. SCOTT, B. A.

Sardis, B.C. July 11th, 1940.

Mr R.A. Hoey,
Supt. of Welfare and Training,
Indian Affairs Branch,
Department of Mines and Resources,
Ottawa, Canada.



Dear Mr Hoey:

I do not think you have been directly informed as to my recovery of speech, and in view of the sympathetic attitude which you and other Officials at Ottawa took, I feel that I ought to express my deep appreciation.

I am glad to say that I have been talking now for over two weeks. Dr New, at Mayos, asked me to report to Dr Paton in Vancouver, as Dr Large had been called out for Military service. I did so, upon my return from the last operation at Rochester, and was delighted to be told that I might talk.

I think that Dr New's decision, that my voice would be as good, if not better than ever, is likely to be fulfilled. I have no sense of strain when speaking in ordinary conversation, and am sure I shall be able to speak in public again, as soon as the chords have got back into training, as it were.

However, I shall exercise great care, and again wish to thank you for the way in which I was allowed to go for treatment when necessary.

Although it will be a big task, I am looking forward to doing my best at Alberni, and feel glad of the opportunity to be of service.

Yours sincerely,

RCS/

R. C. Scott

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CANADA

Ottawa, July 19, 1940.

Dear Sir:

I desire to refer to your letter of the 26th ultimo, enclosing information regarding charges with reference to ill-treatment of children at the Coqualeetza Residential School.

I am pleased to note that, after a very complete investigation, Inspector Barry is of the opinion that there was no ill-treatment of children.

You did not forward a copy of your letter of June 20 to Reverend Mr. Scott, Principal of the School, but the remarks I made regarding corporal punishment in my letter of today's date in connection with the St. George's School apply also at all other residential schools.

Yours truly,

Philip Phelan,
Chief, Training Division.

Major D. M. MacKay,
Indian Commissioner for B. C.,
Box 70,
Vancouver, B. C.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6422, file 869-1, part 3)

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CANADA

153-0-1

Ottawa,
November 22, 1940.

Dear Doctor Scott:

I have your letter of the 12th instant with reference to the sale held on October 29 at Coqualeetza.

The items sold appear to have been purchased from school funds and it is also noted that apparently you have not considered them Government property as they have not been included on your annual inventory. Under these circumstances no action on the part of this Branch is considered necessary.

Yours truly,

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

Rev. R.C. Scott,
Principal,
Indian Residential School,
Alberni, B.C.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6422, file 869-1, part 3)

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~~152-8-18~~

COQUALEETZA RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL
GENERAL

CLOSED
FROM *Mar/33* TO *Mar/40*

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6422, file 869-1, part 3)

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