

2 letters

Ottawa, July 24, 1917.

Sir,-

It has been brought to the attention of the Department that little, if any, assistance has been given in your agency to the recruiting of pupils for the St. Joseph's Industrial School and, as a consequence, the school is hampered for want of pupils.

I have, therefore, to request that you will use your endeavours to have any Roman Catholic children of school age on the reserve, who are not now pupils of a residential school, sent to St. Joseph's, as the Department is advised that many of the Catholic members of the band are anxious to have their children placed there. You should inform these Indians that it is to their advantage to have their children placed in an industrial school, as there is no prospect of an institution of this kind being established on their reserve.

Your obedient servant,

Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

W. J. Dilworth, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Macleod, Alta.

Ottawa, July 30, 1917.

Sir,-

It has been brought to the attention of the Department that little, if any, assistance has been given in your agency to the recruiting of pupils for the St. Joseph's Industrial School and, as a consequence, the school is hampered for want of pupils.

I have, therefore, to request that you will use your endeavours to have any Roman Catholic children of school age on the reserve, who are not now pupils of a residential school, sent to St. Joseph's, as the Department is advised that many of the Catholic members of the band are anxious to have their children placed there. You should inform these Indians that it is to their advantage to have their children placed in an industrial school, as there is no prospect of an institution of this kind being established on their reserve.

Your obedient servant,

Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

Harry Gunn, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Brocket, Alta.

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO

No. _____

ALSO

TO DATE OF THIS LETTER

191

Sir,— 4.

The above represents my impressions, about this school and I believe also represents the objections of the Indians to having their children placed there.

If the Department wish it I will make arrangements to have 15 or 20 children placed in this school at the beginning of the fall term.

I Have the Honor to be

Sir

Your Obedient Servant

W. J. Stewart

Indian Agent

To the Assistant Deputy
and Sec'y
Department of Indian Affairs
Ottawa.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 3933, file 117,657-1)

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CANADA

117657-1

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE

Blead Agency

July.28.1917

502866



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

Sir, I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 24th ultime # 107657/1 and to say in reply that for the past two years there has been amongst the Blead Indians a decided objection to having their children sent to St Joseph's Industrial school, and as a result there have been none sent.

The causes of the objections have been as follows:-
Children have been placed in the Blead school, under agreements between parents and Principal, when it was seen that the Blead school could not discharge the pupil under age he was transferred to St Joseph's school. When the parent would ask that the agreement should be kept, the principal of the St Joseph's school would say I do not know anything about the agreement. The Indians immediately said "bad faith". Indian parents when placing children in the schools, were led to believe that they would be discharged when 18 years of age. In some cases it has been the rule for St Joseph's school to retain the children for a year afterwards. The result has been dissatisfaction amongst the Indians, so that Indians do not wish their children placed in the school while being quite agreeable to having their children placed in local schools. I have written most of the applications of admission to schools, and in every case of an application written for admission of a pupil to the Blead R C school the parent asks, will this child be sent to St Joseph's school I do not want my child to go there. X

For my own part I have been lukewarm in recruiting for this school, and here are my reasons:-

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INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO

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ALSO

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-2-

Sir, I understand that it is a fact that a great many of the pupils now attending this school have been recruited from half-breed settlements around Calgary. These half-breeds are certainly a tough class, and their influence amongst Indians boys ~~has been~~ from this reserve has been anything but the best, in fact it appears to me as if the boys from this reserve were receiving their education from these half-breeds rather than from the school authorities. At any rate here is the record for three years of Boys discharged from St Joseph's Industrial school, within the past four years

James Rainy Chief	Good boy.
Emil Small Face	hamless and useless
Ed Hairy Bull	Fair worker talks little English
Harry Undermouse	Useless talks little English
Remi Undermouse	good boy
Sam Wolf Sitting	Served three jail terms, sneak thief.
Mike White Man Runs	Around. served term for horse stealing.
Chas Weasel Head	Useless, talks little English.
Percy Plain Woman	Served, three terms in jail, bad boy.
Peter Black Rabbitt.	Served two terms in jail. sneak thief.
Peter Bruised Head.	Served two terms in jail, warrant now issued for horse stealing.
Frank Daly	Served three terms in jail, bad rascal.
Joe Crazy Crew	Arrested twice.
Bob Plaited Hair	Four terms in jail, In jail at present.
Joe Red Crane	four terms in jail. in jail at present.

Boys from the two Bleed schools have no such record as this. 50% of the ex-pupils from St Joseph's Industrial school in the last four years have turned out to be would be bad men, sneak thieves, horse thieves, etc. I knew nothing about St Joseph's school other than the record of its pupils. The two Bleed schools have not had 5% of their ex-pupils in jail for the past four years for any reason, the Indian boys ^{who} on the reserve have not been to school ~~and~~ have not ever a 5% jail record. There must be a reason, I believe it to be the influences for bad above mentioned.

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INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
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ALSO
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Sir,— 3.

There is another feature, that does not appeal to me. All ex-pupils from the St Joseph's Industrial school seem to be imbued with the idea that the Government is going to give them whatever they ask for, a continual cry for ~~XXXX~~ "help".

There are now about 65 children of school age on this reserve who are not in school. About 15 of these are orphans and if St Joseph's industrial school were doing good work that school would be the place for them. At the present the every child sent to Dunbow would have to be sent under the regulations, the friends would not send them willingly.

I have talked this matter about the St Joseph's Industrial school over with Rev Father Ruauz the Principal of the Blessed R C school. and he holds the same opinion as I do about the results, and says "the time for Dunbow school is past" it has outlived its usefulness".

It may be wrong, but from the results obtained amongst the ex-pupils of Dunbow school, I would feel as if the staff were weak, and the half breed pupils recruited a baneful influence to the Indians. All the evils of white men gathered by half breeds, in the lowest resorts around Calgary, mixed with Indian cunning is a combination not to be desired, better by far that they never go to school, than turn out as the ex-pupils from this school have done ^{coming to this reserve.} during the past five years.

Previous to that time judging from results, the school had done good work, and if it were now as good as it appears to have been at that time, 20 pupils should be recruited here for the school before the opening of the fall term.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 3933, file 117,657-1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
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CANADA

117657-1

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE

Sarcee Agency, Calgary.

August 2nd.



IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
No. 12

ALSO
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER

502919

[Signature]
Sir,—

Referring to your letter No. 117157/1, dated July 24th, in reference to recruiting for St. Joseph's Industrial School, I have investigated carefully, and so far as I can find, there is only one child of school age on this reserve, whose parents are Roman Catholic, who is not now in school. This girl only recently reached her 7th birthday, and I will speak to the parents about her.

There are children on the reserve who have been baptized by both Roman Catholic and Anglican missionaries, and whose parents can scarcely be called either one or the other, and in these cases the parents are given the choice of schools.

*See no 107-
This file
JCS*

An application for a pupil for this School was recently refused by the Department, vide letter No. 117657/10, dated July 12th, on the ground that the father is a Protestant. I may say that John One-spot the father, though educated in a Protestant School, joined the Roman Catholic Church some five years ago. I therefore entered his religion as "Roman Catholic" on the application.

Your obedient servant

Wm Gordon

Acting Indian Agent.

The Asst. Deputy & Secretary,
Dept. of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 3933, file 117,657-1)

Page 1 missing

that Indians do not wish their children placed in the school, while being quite agreeable to having their children placed in local schools. I have written most of the applications of admission to schools, and in every case of an application written for admission of a pupil to the Blood R. G. school the parents asks, will this child be sent to St. Joseph's school. I do not want my child to go there".

It is also stated that many of the pupils now attending the St. Joseph's school have been recruited from half-breed settlements around Calgary. These half-breeds are said to have a bad influence on the other pupils, who seem to be receiving their education from the half-breeds rather than from the school authorities.

A three year record is given of the boys discharged from this school within the past four years, as follows,-

James Rainy Chief
Small small Face
Ed Hairy Bull
Harry Undermouse
Undermouse
Wolf Sitting
White Man Runs
Around
Mas. Weasel Head
Percy Plain Woman
Peter Black Rabbit
Peter Bruised Head

Frank Daly
Joe Crazy Crow
Bob Plaited Hair
Jno. Red Crane

Good boy
Harmless and useless
Fair worker talks little English
Useless talks little English
Good boy
Served three jail terms, sneak thief
Served term for horse stealing
Useless, talks little English
Served three terms in jail, bad boy
Served two terms in jail, sneak thief
Served two terms in jail, warrant
now issued for horse stealing
Served three terms in jail, bad rascal
Arrested twice
Four terms in jail, In jail at present
Four terms in jail, In jail at present

It is stated that the boys from the Blood school have no such record as this.

It is said that there are a number of children on the Blood Reserve, many of whom are orphans, who would be sent to the St. Joseph's school, if good work were being

being done there, but, under existing conditions, they would have to be sent under the Regulations, as their friends could not send them willingly.

If the records of the ex-pupils from other reserves are at all similar to the one from the Blood Reserve, it would appear that there is something wrong with the management of the school and that the half-breeds referred to have a baneful influence on the Indian pupils.

The Department is of opinion that if the St. Joseph's school is to be successfully continued radical changes should be made in the management and I have to request that you will give this matter your earnest consideration.

Your obedient servant,

Asst. Deputy and Secretary.