

124-1-5-

Extract from Inspector's Report on the Fort Frances Residential School. October 9, 1923.

[Handwritten signature]

The main building is in urgent need of repairs to the three entrances.- new steps and landing needed in rear (100 ft. lumber) Front walk is dangerous its whole length- front steps need partly to be replaced. A new bannister is needed on the side entrance. All these are urgently needing attention.

The new concrete floor is being put in the cowstable. All the old flooring is piled outside. Most of it is positively rotten, proof that the work was urgently needed. I might point out that the flooring in the horse stable is also in a dangerously decayed condition that will necessitate early attention.

x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x

I wish to point out that while one side of this plant has three stories and from outside appearance it is a three-story building, on one side is only two stories. This end has only two rooms in it. One extra large class-room with a very high ceiling and over it the boys' dormitory with an extra high ceiling. The class-room ceiling should be lowered to make three stories and so give extra room that is needed.

x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x

Church authorities will discuss this with R34

I wish to call your attention to the proposed extension of this school. Beyond a doubt this school could be enlarged to accommodate the Indians in this large district. Father Brassard is enthusiastic and earnest in his contention. I understand you have been approached. An extension to the south of 40 feet square and three stories high would provide for a big increase in Indian pupils. He also has the idea of adding 15 feet to the north but if the above was done to give one extra story it would accomplish the same almost. It means the lowering of one ceiling and the building of another floor and ceiling.

J. M. Bennett, Insp.

124-1-5-

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE



FORT FRANCES AGENCY

20th Nov, 1923

| |
|------------------------|
| IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO |
| No. 7523 |
| ALSO |
| TO DATE OF THIS LETTER |

R

Sir,—

I have the honor to enclose Voucher No, 75, in favour of the John East Company, for the sum of \$858.70, for putting in the Beatty Bros equipment for the cattle stable for the Fort Frances Boarding School, as per their tender of August last.

The extras were for lengthening the 6 roof supports, as those supplied by Beatty Bros, were to short and had to be lengthened and for connecting the School water pipe to the water bowls in the stalls.

The new concrete floor is about a foot lower than the old floor and it was found that the studding on the inside wall of the building, which had the full weight of the building, had rotten for a foot or more, from the sill and it was necessary to repair this.

The work has been very satisfactorily done and the Principal of the School is well satisfied with it.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Indian Agent

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

Ottawa, Dec. 21, 1923.

Reverend Sir:-

With reference to Reverend Brother Gauthier's request for certain articles required to complete the water supply system at the Fort Francis Indian Boarding School, I beg to advise you that Brother Gauthier may purchase the articles, as enumerated below, for this school when in Winnipeg.

In purchasing the articles it will be necessary for him to obtain competitive prices and make the purchase to the best advantage.

When submitting accounts to the Department a memorandum should be attached showing the names of the firms asked to quote and the prices quoted. The following is a list of the articles that may be purchased:

- 1 - 1/2" Pemberty injector,
- 1 - 2" brass reducing valve,
- 1 - pneumatic water tank controller,
- 70 feet of 1-1/4" galvanised wrought steel pipe, and
- 1 - double bar double throw switch.

Your obedient servant,

J.D. McLean,
Assistant Deputy & Secretary.

Reverend Father Guy, O.M.I.,
Ottawa University,
Ottawa.

124-1-5-B

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE

DEPT. OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
MAR 22 1924

FORT FRANCES AGENCY,

18th March 19 24

R

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
No. 7617
ALSO
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER

In view of fact that water system was out of order it was necessary to have proper apparatus for laundry. Purchase of motor to run water was in nature of "Emergency purchase". I would recommend that action be approved.

Sir,

Referring to your letter of the 22nd Jany, 1921 No. 124-I-5B and subsequent correspondence, relative to the motor supplied the washing machine at the Fort Frances Boarding School, I have the honor to enclose a letter from Rev. Brother Cauthier, an expert machinist, who is working on the water supply system at this school, regarding the necessity of purchasing a larger motor for the washing machine.

I visited the School last Saturday and the Rev. Brother proved to my satisfaction that it was necessary to have a larger motor, and I informed him I would ask the Department for authority to purchase one, but he apparently misunderstood me, as from the letter he sent the Canadian Fairbanks-Morse Co. a copy herewith enclosed, he has ordered one, and I would recommend that his action be approved, as it is very necessary to have this washing machine working and there not being time to get competitive prices, but I feel certain that the price of the Fairbank-Morse Co, will be as satisfactory as any we could get.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

Indian Agent

SCHOOLS BRANCH
MAR 28 1924

The Secretary,

Dept. of Indian Affairs

Ottawa

Indian Affairs. School Files. File 163-5. part 1)

Ottawa, May 9, 1924.

Sir:

I have to draw your attention to the advisability of supporting any voucher for unauthorized repairs or work done at the Fort Frances Indian Residential School by a letter of explanation. I believe that your vouchers Nos. 3, 4 and 5 of the 3rd instant are in the nature of emergencies and these are being paid. Voucher No. 2, dated the first instant, was unauthorized and I have to inform you that it is not the Department's policy to allow expenditure for cleaning chimneys and furnaces at Indian residential schools. A cheque was directed to you because you had paid out the money in wages; but in future you should secure authority before incurring expenses. If certain emergency repairs are necessary and are inconsiderable because of the money involved, they may be undertaken, but you should support your voucher with a letter of explanation.

Your obedient servant,

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


J. P. Wright, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Fort Frances, Ont.

Université d'Ottawa

Ottawa, Canada



L. J. C. & M. I.

124-45
University of Ottawa

Ottawa, Canada

RECORDED
MAY 10 1922

May 6, 1922

PERSONAL

Mr. Duncan C. Scott,
Deputy Superintendent General,
Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

Dear Mr. Scott:

Reverend Father Brassard of Fort Frances Indian Boarding School has sent me the enclosed account with the following explanations.

Some time ago, a boat was given by the Department to the Indian School at Fort Frances. This boat was first intended for the agent, Mr. J. P. Wright, but it seems that difficulties arose on account of the heavy expenses entailed for its upkeep (\$200.00 a year), and to get rid of it the agent offered it to the Reverend Father Brassard with the consent of the Department. It was understood that the boat was to belong to the school but the Department would not be responsible for the ordinary expenses, viz: gasoline, oil, repairs, etc. The very first night that the boat was brought to the school, a terrible storm which lasted the whole night put the boat out of order. Reverend Father Brassard had to repair it at his own expenses, but decided to build a boat-house to avoid future damages, but the difficulties lie in the fact that the Reverend Father had no requisition or authority to build this boat-house. He has not even mentioned the case to the agent and does not seem disposed to ask for such requisition at the present time on account of previous difficulties concerning that boat. This explains why the Reverend Father has applied to me in order to ask the Department if it would be possible to reimburse him for the enclosed account.

Reverend Father Brassard states that he has given 28 cedar posts for this boat-house and has paid \$95.00 to the Shevlin Clark for the same purpose.

Do you think it would be possible to do some thing in favour of this school by paying this account? I have already advised Reverend Father Brassard that he certainly did not act in the right way by giving a contract for such a high amount without consulting his agent or the Department, and that he will therefore be more attentive to follow the regulations of the Department in future.

Yours very truly,

Joseph G. ...

124-1-5

INDIAN AGENTS' OFFICE

FORT FRANCES AGENCY

DEPT. OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
MAY 17 1924

13th May 1924

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
No. 7666
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER

See under

R

F, 124-I-5

2

Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 9th instant, relative to certain vouchers for supplies required for the water and air system at the Fort Frances Boarding School, I beg to state that authority was given in your letter of the 21st Dec, last to the Rev. Father Guy, O.M.I. Ottawa, for certain supplies required for this purpose, and as the Rev. Bro. Gauthier who did the work, did not know what supplies he would require, he asked for authority to purchase what was necessary, as stated in his letter enclosed, and knowing that it would be necessary to have what he required I had him make out a list and competitive prices were obtained and are herewith enclosed.

BRUCE'S FILE
FEB 6 1924

I have repeatedly told the Principal of the School that authority must be first obtained before purchasing, but when he wants any thing, he wants it in a hurry, but I think he will be more careful in future.

I did not know that it was not the Department's policy not to allow expenditure for cleaning chimneys and furnaces in Indian Residential Schools, as the Dept, has paid for this work here for the past three years, see Voucher No, 25 for #30. in 1922; Voucher No, 6 for \$25. in 1923 and Voucher No, 2 for \$25, this year. The Principal of the School has in each case had the work done before I knew any thing about, and he sends the man to me for payment, which is the first information I have of the matter.

By School

This work is essential for the safety of the building and should be done by someone.

The Secretary
Dept. of Indian Affairs
Ottawa,
Ont.

ACCOUNTANTS
MAY 19 1924

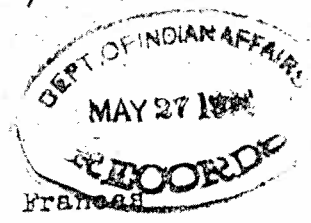
I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

W. R. ...
Indian Agent

124-1-5



Handwritten signature

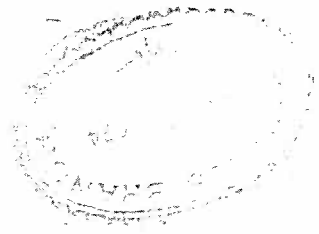
Extract from Inspector's Report on the Fort Frances Residential School. May 20, 1924.

Rev. Father Brassard deserves credit for the unselfish interest he has exhibited in endeavouring to do all possible for the training of the Indian under his charge. A visit to this school is educative in every sense of the term. I inspected the premises as well as the rooms.

- 1,- Toilets with 3 bowls for outside use - bad condition. Toilets built in 1908 and the boys especially should be rebuilt.
- 2,- In the carpenter shop the floor and joist at the door are decayed and should be repaired.
- 3 In the laundry the mangle still gives trouble. (See letter of February 1, 1923 re this mangle.)
- 3 4,- Ice house built in 1907 is in a terrible deteriorated condition. Ice can be kept but the roof, while all right, is supported by a base in decaying condition.
- 4 5,- Three entrances to main building need repairs, not much, but yet rotten boards, etc., need replacing; sidewalk also.
- 5 6,- Horse stable floor is in terrible condition. The holes in the floor are dangerous and already a horse was caught and nearly injured itself. The partitions need replaced.

J. M. Bennett,

Insp.



Indian Affairs. School Files. Volume 6194. File 463-5, part 1)

*Keen
Please
enter file*

11 August 1924

11751

To Mr. Russell T. Frerrier Esq.
Sup. of Education of Indians.

R



Dear Sir:-

I am always afraid that some-times our building will be exposed to a conflagration. Our kitchen stove laid simply on sheet of Galvanised-iron, just on a wooden floor, as the ashes of ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ we the stove can fall out of the fire-box, and it may happen some-time that sheet iron would be heated up too much and set fire to the floor. So to prevent it I think the best to do for us should be to cutoff that piece of floor and make a cement bed, and we ~~would~~ would be absolutely sure of a good fire protection .

But as we have at the School ELECTRICT HEATING INSTALATION it would be adviseable to have an ELECTRICT RANGE in place of the one we have now. The Rangew we have at present time is some around twenty (20) ~~years~~ years old, and when will we have to change it ?..... It is a question.....

If we consider the safty aginst fire and the expenses in my humble opinion I am in favour of an Electric Range, as I have alrady seen some of them in Winnipeg. The cost of the said Range is something around four hundred and fifty dollars (450.00) But to give you the name of the said range, I am sorry I did not Keep it in memory.

Your's truly

H. M. Brassard O. M. I.

Principal

H. M. Brassard
Principal

To Mr Russell T. Frerrier Esq.
Supt. of Indian Education, Ottawa.

124-1-5.

1 - Mr. Wright
2 - Secretary

Ottawa, Sept. 17, 1924.

Sir:

I have to inform you that favourable consideration has been given to the question of repairing the barn at the Fort Frances Indian Residential School. Please secure from the John East Company a written agreement showing in detail the work they will undertake for the sum of \$985, as indicated in their letter of September 3rd. The dimensions of the floor to be cemented, the depth of the cement and the number of barrels to be used should be mentioned. Details concerning the extra fill of 50 yards should be furnished. Further, the Beatty Brothers' stable equipment, which they propose to install, should be referred to by catalogue number and the number of stalls mentioned. The agreement should also indicate whether or not steel posts are to be supplied. You should keep a copy of this agreement in your office, for reference. When it has been submitted to the Department, you will be given instructions.

Your obedient servant,

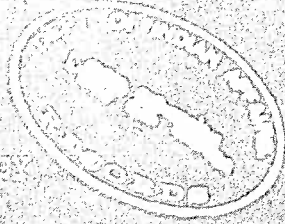
J. D. McLEAN

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

J. P. Wright *John East*

J. P. Wright, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Fort Frances, Ont.

INDIAN AGENTS OFFICE



Handwritten notes:
W. J. ...
...
R

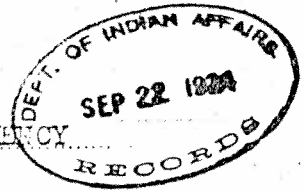
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Indian Affairs - School Files -
(file 10, Volume 6194, File 463-5, part 1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA

124-1-5

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE



FORT FRANCES AGENCY

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
 No. 7764
 ALSO
 TO DATE OF THIS LETTER

[Handwritten scribble]

R

17th Sept. 1924

F. 124-I-5

Sir,—

Referring to your letter of the 20th August last, relative to a small grain separator for the Fort Frances Residential School, I beg to state that the Rev. Principal of the school has handed me a cutting of a J.I. Case 20 X 28 separator, price \$534.00 f.o.b. Winnipeg, which he states he would like to have,

I would recommend that this separator be supplied this school, as they require one and it might be the means of getting the Indians on the Couchiching reserve to go more into farming.

Regret no funds available KAP
only 300 for next budget year

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[Handwritten signature]

Indian Agent,

The Secretary,
 Dept. of Indian Affairs
 Ottawa,

Ont.

124-1-5
Indian Boarding School

Fort Frances, Ont.

Irts. Oct. 1924



R



[Handwritten signature]

The Honorable D. C. Scott

Deputy Minister of the Dept. of Indian Affairs

Ottawa.

Honorable Sir:-

On the 29 of Sept. last I had a communication from our Agent Mr. J/ P/ Wright that the Dept. will not agree to buy a thrashing machine or a separator for the Indian School of Fort Frances.

I am very sorry for it, because without a thrashing machine it obliges us to make ~~x~~ new expenses of money; moreover being unable to trash our grain, we are losing our crop most of the time sufficient ~~for~~ ^{us} for us. It is a necessity for the school to have four working horses then we need about five hundred bushels of oats; besides we have about 20 heads of cattle furnishing a part of the beef for the winter. In autumn it is a necessity to fatten the ones we want to kill. Therefore about 50 bushels of oats-chopped are required for. As we have the crusher and as we have the grain we do not need to buy.

We have also about a hundred hens that furnish eggs the whole year ~~in~~ round, (once in a while a good meal). It takes about a hundred or a hundred and twintyfive bushels of wheat to feed them, and we have the wheat, but cannot thrash it, that means new expenses.

Please let us recapitulate it

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| 500 bushels of oats at 60cts. ----- | \$300.00 |
| 100 " " wheat at 90Cts. ----- | 90.00 |
| Total Amount----- | \$390.00 |

So by these figures you see that the CAPITAL and INTEREST of ~~the~~ money is paid inside of two years, for a small machine costing \$580.00 proposed to you by our Indian Agent Mr. J. P. Wright.

Now please let us make another consideration. It is the desire of the Dept. of Indian Affairs to teach the boys farming and the use of the machines. . . . As far as it is possible in the present circumstances in which each school is, how can we do so with the small grant we have to support the school, and we see that on the said grant \$20.00 of each pupil is discarded away.

With these considerations well reflected on, I prove that my request to the Dept. of Indian Affairs is absolutely sensible.

Your's very truly

H. M. T. Brannard

To Honorable D. C. Scott
Deputy Minister of Indian Affairs
Ottawa, Ont.

124-1-5

Letter No. 7804

R

DEPT. OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
NOV 3 1924
RECORDS

Office of the FORT FRANCES Indian Agency,

Artex

EXD

30th October 1924

Sir,

I enclose herewith Vouchers Nos. 27, 28, 29 & 30

amounting to \$1060.70 in favour

of The John East Co. Fort Frances, Ont.

for repairing horse stable; cleaning Cesspool and repairs and
cleaning and repairing Boiler in Laundry, of the Fort Frances
Residential School.

This expenditure was authorized by Departmental

Letter No. 124-1-5 dated 30th Sept. 1924

Your obedient servant,

Handwritten notes:
A/W
Nov 3 1924
3705
Artex 5/24

Signature of Indian Agent

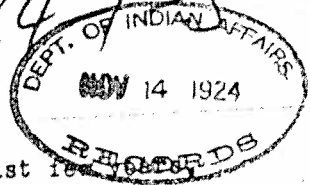
Indian Agent.
NOV 4 1924
ACCT

The Secretary,
Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

Indian Affairs. School Files.
(RC 10, Volume 6194, File 463-5, part 1)

[Handwritten signature]
FORT FRANCES INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL.

CONSTRUCTION OF ANNEX.



Noted & Estimated

For the last year
Reverend Father Brassard, O.M.I., Principal of Fort Frances Indian Residential School, has been requesting the construction of an annex to his School. His plans provide for the readjustment of the annex built a few years ago and the construction of an annex along the lines of the present building. This work would entail an outlay of about \$55,000.00. However, if such plan could not be followed the Reverend Principal would be in favour of the construction of an annex similar to that of Fort Alexander erected in the course of last year at a cost of \$25,000.00

Very Reverend Father Beys approves of this request and would be grateful to the Department for considering it in view of the estimates.

GENERAL REPAIRS.

In the course of the present fiscal year, Rev. Father F. Brassard has been asking for very urgent repairs at the barn and other out-buildings. Part of such repairs have been allowed by the Department, but others to the extent of \$1000.00 would have to be done in a very near future and I therefore ask that this sum be included in the Estimates.

Joseph Beys

Indian Boarding School

Fort Frances, Ont.

16 Dec. 1924.

To Mr. Russell T. Ferrier Esq.

Supt. of Education of Indian

Dear Sir:-

I beg to inform the Dept of Indian Affairs that I have a case exposing the health of the children of the school, that is, the use of the same drinking cup in the play-room and as very often the children play with this cup, it being impossible to always keep them from doing so. Therefore the said cup is very often filthy, and some pupils take it to drink while in that state, moreover it happens some times that some of the children have sore mouths and it inoculates the sickness to the others who use the said cup so I address myself to the Dept. of Education to notify them that disease might be communicated in this way. I thought for a while to use sanitary cups, but with children like these it would be a waste, and I consider it would be an impossibility to keep such a cup ~~frankly~~ for that use, so I thought of installing two drinking-fountains the same as those used in the Public-Schools of Ontario, and in Public Offices where they have good water-works.

As here at the School we have ant to complain of that point, for we have a constant pressure of 38# to the square inch, consequently it gives ~~an~~ ample satisfaction.

The estimate made for the ~~instalment~~ instalment of the said drinking-fountain will be some where about \$113.70 one hundred and thirteen dollars and seventy cts.

Knowing your great intēst in the health of our children I am convinced you will take this request into consideration, and thanking you in anticipation of a favorabla reply.

I remain

Very sancerely your's

H. M. T. Brannard
Principal

Mr. Russell T. Ferrier Esq.

Supt. of Education of the Indians

Ottawa.

124-1-5.

Ottawa, December 23, 1924.

Sir:

I have your No. 7846 of the 18th instant, enclosing a communication from the Rev. Principal of the Fort Frances Indian Residential School, relative to the installation of drinking fountains for the use of the pupils. I note the recommendation that two fountains, one for girls and one for boys, be provided. The principal's estimate of \$113.70, however, appears high and I should be pleased if you would make enquiries with reference to less expensive equipment which will serve the purpose.

Your obedient servant,
J. D. McLEAN

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

AS
JDM
A. Spencer, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Fort Frances, Ont.

124-1-5

No. 7908



Office of the... FORT FRANCES, ONT... Indian Agency,

[Handwritten signature]

March 2nd 1925

Sir,

I enclose herewith Vouchers Nos. 147

amounting to \$ 41.43 in favour

of CRANE, LIMITED, Montreal, Quebec.

for 2, 30" Standard Drinking Fountains No. P-6550
Supplied Fort Frances Residential School,

This expenditure was authorized by Departmental

Letter No. dated

Your obedient servant,

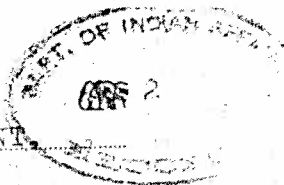
[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature: A. Spencer]
Indian Agent.

The Secretary,
Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

Serial Files

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE



FORT FRANCES, ONT.

March 28th 1925

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
No. 7035
ALSO
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER

Handwritten signature

R

DEPT. OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
APR 1 1925
SURVEYS

Sir,—

I have the honor to write you in regard to a letter I seen written by the Hon Chas Stewart, to the Hon Dr Lannion, in regard to the water level in

Lake of the woods, and Rainy Lake, in which he states that the level of Lake of the woods is definitly settled, but the level of Rainy Lake, would go before the joint water way comission, now from what I can find out, Mr Backus, is applying for to have the bench mark on Rainy Lake raised from 478 Bench Mark to 500 B.M. and the benefit derived by Mr Backus, would be \$55,000 additional horse power, which means an income of \$55,000. per Annum,

497

but in giving Mr Backus this we would have a loss that could not be estimated in Dollars and Cents. I am informed that the Border Lumber Co, who has about 60 Achers of land rented on 78B Couchiching reserve would be nearl put out of business, also The Residential School on Couchiching Reserve would be put out of comission through sewer trouble and likely foundation of building, The Indian Agent, *W. H. Wright* at their joint would be damaged to big extent by flooding of the point, So to save such damages to Indian property I would try and have a good inspection of the conditions of the lake, In a letter written By Mr J. F. Wright, on Oct 12th 1922 No 7260 you will see what he had to say in regard to the raising of the water level of Rainy Lake at that time,

I have the honor to be,

Sir.

Your obedient servant,

W. H. Wright
Indian Agent,

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



124-1-5C

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
CANADA

Ottawa, 25th April 1925

Memorandum

for file

I have discussed with Mr. Scoville, Assistant Director, Dominion Water Power Branch, the question of the level of Rainy Lake being raised and he informs me that the two governments have referred ~~the~~ matter to the International Waterways Commission and that one of these is the consideration of whether it would be justifiable to increase the present level of this lake.

The Commission is to hold a meeting in Montreal on May 15th and it is expected that a decision will be made at that time. This decision, however, is by no means binding on either Government and afterwards should it be decided to permit any increase, a questionnaire will be sent to all parties who might be considered interested and several months will be given them to prepare their information should they wish to contest any decision which might be arrived at.

H. Robertson
Chief Surveyor.

Mr. Scoville is acting as Canadian Engineer for the Board at this meeting and has informed me that he will supply me with what information he can at a later date.

See action being taken on file 440259 with Mr. Scoville & Mr. [unclear] 1/10/25/17/25

Indian Boarding School, Fort Frances, Ont.

April 24th, 1925.

Honourable Duncoun Scott,
Deputy General Superintendent,

Honourable Sir:-

I beg to inform you that two of our sewing machines are so badly worn out since some time that they cannot be repaired. They ought to be replaced as soon as possible for there are only 3 left; which are far from being adequate for the general sewing of an Indian Boarding School of over 80 pupils, where nearly all the clothes are home made.

The bad condition of my finances does not permit me to make such expenses, for my last cheque, for the quarter ending March 31st leaves me a deficit of over \$1000.00. Therefore I request you to supply to our School those needed sewing machines as soon as possible.

Hoping you will consider favorably my petition

I remain yours respectfully,

S. Perrault, o.m. Principal

124-1-5.

7980.

Ottawa, May 1st, 1925.

Sir:

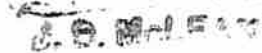
I have your letter of the 25th ultimo, enclosing a communication from the Principal of the Fort Frances Indian Residential School in which he requests that two new sewing machines be supplied for the use of the girls who are learning to make up clothing for themselves.

In reply I beg to say that we are today placing an order with the Singer Sewing Machine Company to supply 2 machines of the type described in their catalogue as "No. 2 - 5 Drawer Machine, 127 - 3 G.O." This firm has been requested to notify you when they will be available, and you should then give them full directions as to delivery.

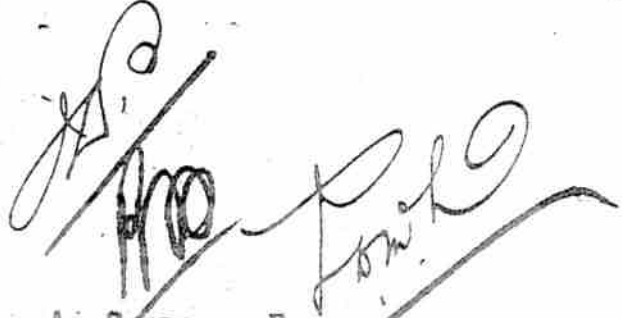
The account for the machines will be sent you in duplicate, and will show the retail price and discount of 40% allowed, on which terms purchase is made. When the machines have been delivered, if in good condition, you should certify the account and forward it to the Department in order that payment can be made.

Please inform the Reverend Principal that the order has been placed for 2 sewing machines.

Your obedient servant,



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



A. Spencer, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Fort Frances, Ont.

Indian Boarding School

Fort Frances Ontario

May 23rd, 1925.

Honourable Duncan C. Scott

Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs

Ottwa Ont.

Honourable Sir:-

No doubt I am meeting the views of the Indian Department in taking steps to embellish the premises of the Indian School of Fort Frances, especially the flower garden situated at the front of the school and the playing yards of the boys and girls. For that purpose I started to rebuild the old fences made fifteen years ago with wide rough boards which have never been even white washed. All those boards are to be taken apart, sawn into lengths of 3inch-wide planed and nailed on the same posts and scantlings; still most of them are in good condition yet, producing the effect of a new fence. All that work is to be done by the employers and boys of the school. Even the painting provided, the material needed, White Lead Linseed Oil is supplied by the Indian Department.

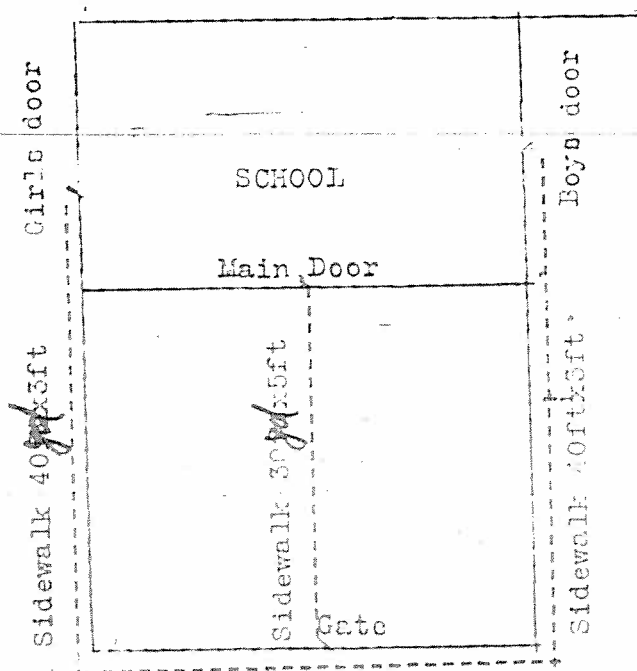
It is a question of covering the surface of 1200 feet which should incur expenses too considerable to be included in the ordinary budget of running expenses.

To effectuate a real good effect of embellishment it is necessary to renew the sidewalks, as shown by the enclosed here below design, made ^{with} rough planks fifteen years ago, which are altogether rotten and have to be removed to avoid accidents. I would ask you to kindly authorize me to replace them by cement, which of course would cost more than any other material, but which will have a better appearance and a more durable effect.

Hoping to hear favorably from you and that you will comply to my two requests,

Yours respectfully,

S. Perrault - Principal



Going to Church.

Indian Boarding School

Fort Frances Ont.

August 19th 1925.

Mr L. D. McLean, Secretary

Indian Department

Ottawa

Dear Sir:-

It is urgent to repair all the fence of the School property which is in a very bad condition since a long time ago. In order to ^{prevent} the cattle from doing any more damage to gardens and grain.

For that purpose the following material which I hope you will supply as soon as possible is needed:-

100 Cedar Posts 6 inch & 2 Driveway gates 16 ft.

For the present the only gates which are in use excepted one, are made out of barb wire.

Yours truly

S. Perault, Principal



Ottawa, August 29, 1925.

8096

SIR,-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant, enclosing a request from the principal of the Fort Frances Residential School for an expenditure of \$50.00 in order to repair the fence.

In reply I beg to say that the Department feels that the expenditure necessary in this regard should be made by the management of the school from the amount received from the per capita grant.

Your obedient servant,

(Signature)
T. R. J. MacInnes,
for Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

(Handwritten signature)

(Handwritten signature)

A. Spencer, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Fort Frances,
O N T.

Indian Boarding School,
Fort Frances, Ont.
Sept. 22nd., 1925.

Mr. L. D. McLean, Secretary,
Indian Department, Ottawa.

Dear Sir:-

I beg to inform you that the hot water tank attached to the furnace heating the school is leaking in many places in the joint soldered in the ordinary way. At my request an expert plumber of Fort Frances has been sent by the Indian agent for inspection. According to his opinion it would not be advisable to have it soldered again as it might not stand the high pressure of the water reaching to 85, and give much trouble when starting to heat the furnace. He recommends to buy a new one with joints riveted.

Here enclosed in triplicate the estimates of the plumber. I hope that you will comply with my petition as soon as possible.

Yours truly

S. Perrault.

Principal.

Indian Affairs. School Files.
(RG 10, Volume 6194, File 463-5, part 1)

Indian Boarding School

Fort Frances Ont.

October 3rd 1925

L D McLean Secretary

Indian Department

Ottawa Ont.

Dear Sir:-

I beg to inform you that it is urgent to build an addition to the Cootchiching Indian Boarding School of Fort Frances making a total capacity for 150 pupils. At the present time the school is filled to its utmost capacity almost by the children of Cootchiching & North West Bay Reserves alone leaving no room for the numerous children of the other Reserves of the Agency who consequently are deprived of the benefit of school education to which they are entitled so necessary for them to become intelligent and useful citizens of our society and to be well equipped to earn their living among the white people.

The policy of the Indian Department is "to civilize the Indians by the School" that ^{is} to say to build Schools everywhere there is none and enlarge them when already erected if being too small.

Indian Affairs. School Files.

I know that the Indian Department has done much in this regard especially in the last few years .I had the pleasure to visit last summer some of the Schools recently built in different places ;they are certainly magnificent and a credit for the Country but would be fair that the Cootchiching Boarding School which is the only one in the whole Agency may have its turn next summer and be enlarged for 150 pupils in order to accommodate all the Indian Children of the Agency .

Hoping that you will comply with my request .

Yours truly

S. Perrault Principal

Indian Boarding School
Fort Frances Ont.
October 29th 1925

L.D. McLean Secretary
Indian Department; Ottawa Ont.

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed please find an extract from the report of Mr I. M. Bennett Inspector recommending that some repairs should be made this year at the Indian boarding School, of Fort Frances. I would reduce the list to the most urgent repairs as following :-

1c. The actual ice house is twice too big for the use of the School; consequently the meat box is emerging from the ice, half of its length and could not have the required temperature to keep cool and fresh in summer the meat and other victuals. It should be remodelled to a smaller dimension on a modern plan, for that it would require about \$ 200.00.

2c. The outdoor closets built since the beginning of the School have never been painted and repaired consequently they are in bad condition. It would require about \$ 50.00 to repair them.

3c. The same sum is needed to rebuild the fence in the boys & girls play yards as it has been done around the flower garden of the School giving a good appearance.

Enclosed please find two photos of the School showing the old and the new fence.

4c. 12 Double desks and Rear Seats.

Hoping to hear favourably

Yours truly;

S. Perrault Principal

*Filed
in
Oct*

Ottawa, November 27th, 1925.

Sir:

I have your letter of the 21st instant, relative to the desks required to complete the seating equipment at the Fort Frances Indian Residential School. We note that the desks at present in use were supplied by the Globe Furniture Co. Ltd., or by the E. N. Moyer Co. Ltd., Toronto. It is not stated whether the single or double type of desk is required.

You may obtain prices for the supplying of the following desks of the type required, viz: -

3 No. 3 Desks,
 3 No. 4 Desks,
 2 No. 5 Desks,
 2 No. 4 Rear Seats,
 2 No. 5 " " .

You should ask the following firms, and any others whom you wish, to quote F.O.B. Fort Frances, Ont., Government sales tax included, on this equipment, viz:

Western Seating Co., 179 Bannatyne Ave. E.,
 Winnipeg, Man.

(Who are the western representatives of the Globe
 Furniture Co.)

and

Messrs. E. N. Moyer Co. Ltd., Winnipeg.

When you have received the quotations from these two firms, you should place the order with the one quoting the lowest price.

Please obtain accounts, in duplicate, and when the desks have been delivered at the school, you should certify the accounts and send them to the Department in order that payment can be made.

I shall be pleased to hear from you later as to the action taken and the firm with whom you have placed the order.

Your obedient servant,

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

A. Spencer, Esq.,
 Indian Agent,
 Fort Frances, Ont.

124-1-5.

Ottawa, February 1st, 1927.

Sir:

I have your letter of the 27th ultimo, enclosing a communication from the Principal of the Fort Frances Indian Residential School in which he requests to be supplied with two tailor's sewing machines.

In reply I beg to say that in February, 1922, we supplied this school with one tailor's machine of the same type as the cut enclosed in your letter, and in May, 1925, with two ordinary sewing machines. This is the full equipment of this nature we are prepared to supply for the use of this school.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLEAN

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

A. Spencer, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Fort Frances, Ont.

124-1-5



R

JUL 29 1927

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
CANADA

OFFICE OF
INDIAN AGENT

FORT FRANCES, AGENCY,

No, 2062,

JULY, 25th, 1927,

Sir.

No. 124-1-5,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 9th, relative to repairs to the Fort Frances Indian Residential School,

And in reply to same, I have to report that it is nearly impossible to get a competent carpenter to do this work with a bunch of Indian Boys for help, and I would recommend that Tenders be called for the 3 Outside stairs and Balcony, and that the Principal be given the shingles for flour-shed, and the paint for implement shed, and request that he have the boys of the school to perform the work, as he promised he would do last year, The new sidewalk I have refused to grant him, as we supplied cement for him last summer, and he promised that he would do the work, I have seen him and he reports that he used the cement for the Church, but would replace it and make the sidewalk,

The reason I have recommended that tenders be called for outside stairs and balcony, is that I think that we can get it done cheaper and more substantially,

I have the honor to be,

Sir.

Your obedient servant,

Indian Agent,

The Secretary,

Dept. of Indian Affairs,

Ottawa,

Ont.

124-1-5

DEPT. OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
AUG 22 1927
RECORDS

Indian Boarding School
Fort Frances Ont.
August 17th 1927.

SCHOOLS BRITAIN I
AUG 24 1927

J.D. McLean *Secretary*
Ottawa Ont.

Dear Sir:-

Mr L. Spencer, Indian Agent informed me over a month ago that he had received authorization from the Indian Department to make the repairs on the steps of the school. So far nothing has been done yet. I am sorry for the delay as all the steps except one, are in a bad condition, especially two, one leading to the Principal's Office and the other one at the girls side are in urgent repairs. I wish the work to be carried out as soon as possible; as the pupils are back to school from the vacations the boys could help the carpenter in his work as requested by the agent.

I am glad to inform you that I could find at any time a first class carpenter who could do the work either by day or contract and so assist the Indian Agent who seems to not be able for the present to secure one to do the job.

Hoping to hear soon favourably from you.

I remain,

Yours truly,

S. Perrault - Principal

School Files.

List of repairs with the approximate costs for the
Fort Frances Indian Residential School Buildings for
the next year:-

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 10- Ceiling & partition in cow stable..... | \$ 300.00 |
| 20- To renew shiplat on the East Gable end..... | 300.00 |
| 30- Lumber & paint for fence, on boys fence..... | 200.00 |
| 40- Shiplap for general repairs..... | 25.00 |
| 50- Renew part of ceiling in girls dormitory..... | 50.00 |
| 60- Sewing machine for shoe shop..... | 200.00 |

\$1075.00

Indian Boarding School

29 September 1927

rt Frances, Ont.

I D. Maclean Asst Deputy Secretary

~~Indian Department~~

Ottawa

Dear Sir

The sad tragedy of the burning of the Lao La Plonge Indian Boarding School which happened recently when 19 Indian boys and one Sister were burnt gives me the occasion to look after the fire protection of my school; and to ~~secure~~ all the means to avoid such a disaster.

For the present there are two exterior fire escapes one for the boys which is in a very good condition consisting of a 4-inch pipe on which the boys slide from the dormitory to the ground in a few minutes.

The other one for the girls is composed of two wooden stairs the first part starts from the dormitory and lands on the top of the porch of the second floor making the platform of the second stairs leading to the ground 8 feet above forcing the girls & Sisters to leap 8 feet before they reach the ground which is too high, consequently it is necessary to cover that distance by an other stairs but it cannot be made without blocking the window which is in the way.

For that reason and for more fire protection, I would advise the Department to replace those wooden stairs built 21 years ago by a sliding pipe as for the boys.

Moreover the railing of the stairs and platform is made of 1 inch pipe leaving a space of 29 inches between the top and the bottom which is a danger for the small girls to stumble aside.

It would be urgent to place an other pipe in the middle of that open space.

So with those suggested repairs the school would be sufficiently equipped inside with fire protection. For besides the two fire escapes there are in every story two fire hoses connected with water pipes which could be opened by turning a valve, but I am sorry to inform you that there is no fire protection out side of the school, so in a case of fire there would be no means on hand to fight the flames. Of course we could always call the Fire Bregade of Fort Frances in summer ^{but} not with great avail as there is a distance of 3 miles. In winter it would be impossible for the Pump men to take their out-fit to the school, therefore I ask the Department to supply my school with about 400 feet of hose to be connected to the water pipe in the pump room which could be opened at any time by turning a valve in case of ^{either at} fire the school or at the other buildings.

Hoping to hear favourably

Your obidant servant

S. Serrault - Principal

124-1-5.

Ottawa, October 7, 1927.

Sir:

I have your 2139 of the 3rd instant, with an enclosure from the Rev. Principal relative to fire escapes and fire hose at the Fort Frances Indian Residential School. I should be pleased if you would immediately secure prices on 400 ft. of hose suitable for protecting the outbuildings and for an extra railing on the existing fire escape on the girls' side. You should also obtain at the earliest opportunity one or more prices for replacing the wooden fire escape stairs on the girls' side with a sliding pole scheme as is used on the boys' side.

You should attend to this immediately, after consulting with the Rev. Principal and looking over the girls' fire escape, as the Department wishes to make the improvement without delay. When your report is to hand, telegraphic instructions will be directed to you.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLEAN

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

A. Spencer, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Fort Frances, Ont.

Indian Affairs. School Files.

FORT FRANCES AGENCY,

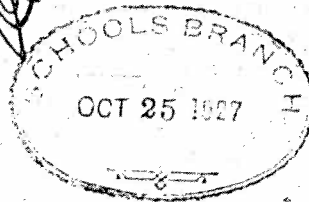
Oct. 21st, 1927

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO

NO. 2163

ALSO

TO DATE OF THIS LETTER



2

No. I24-I-5.

Sir,— I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 7th Ultimo;— in regard to Fire Escapes for Fort Frances Residential School, And in reply to same, the Rev Father S. Perrault, Principal of the School, who I went into details as to fire escape is requesting that the Department put iron balconys and iron ladders for escape, that would mean a very expencive fire escape, and of which I didnt think that the Department would consent to, I think that there should be New ladders or new Fire escape made, and be larger than the old ones, as they are very narrow, and no doubt but they are not safe now, as they have been built for about 15 Years, and likely very unsafe,

I would recommend that we call for Tender for rebuilding of wooden stairs, only larger than the one that was there before, with a good safe Iron Railing so that children could not fall through, or bust off, I have not asked for tenders for replacing wooden Fire Escape, as the principal requests Iron stairs, so Would like to know what I will get tenders on,

In regard to Fire Hose, I have got a tender from the Dominion Rubber System of Winnipeg, and for a good 1 1/2 Inch Fire Hose, in fact I got prices on three differant grades, 1st Grade would cost, up for 400Ft \$192.00. F.O.B. Fort Frances, 2nd Grade, \$124.20, 3rd Grade, \$79.20, Nozzles would cost \$1.00 each, I would recommend that we purchase the 2nd, grade, as we have some like the 3rd grade in the School now and it leaks all through the hose, and I can see very little difference between 1st and 2nd grade, as I had samples sent to me here, I will wait for your further order before doing anything further,

I have the honor to be,

Sir.

Your obedient servant,

A. Spruce
Indian Agent,

The Secretary,

Dept. of Indian Affairs,

Ottawa,

Ont.

Fort Frances Ontario.
Nog 22nx 1927.

Mr. D. McLean Asst. Deputy & Secretary.

Indian Department.

Ottawa Ontario.

Dear Sir:-

Please find here below the list of urgent repairs which I hope you will kindly authorize.

- School*
1. A chute to take the wood into the laundry for the furnace. At the present time the wood is carried by hands by the door leading to the kitchen, for that it has to pass through three doors, one narrow stairs of four steps, one passage two feet ten inches by twenty feet.
 2. To patch the floor in the boys playroom, swelled up in different places by dampness.
 3. To put a cement floor at the boys toilet in the playroom, in the actual condition the floor has some ridges of two or three inches high which are a continuous danger for the boys to stumble. It is very important to have a cement floor in the boys toilet with a drain pipe to facilitate a proper washing everyday and so to keep up the hygiene.

of June

3. Urgent repairs in the cellar of the barn has been made in the first week of November by the Indian Agent presuming the consent of the department, consisting in replaceng four posts completely rotten under the beam and adding another post against the beam giving way, at the same time all the lumber for bins had to be thrown away being thoroughly rotten and replaced by boards, two by four and planks which cost me over sixty dollars. As these expences were considerable and out of the ordinary routine I asked the Indian Agent to help me but notwithstanding all his good will to assist my school in every respect he did not dare to presume the consent of the department but he advised me to purchase the lumber at once as it was urgent to remove the potatoes into the cellar immediately in fear of the cold weather, in the mean time he would recommend my request hoping that the required authorization would be granted.

The reason of all those necessary repairs which are only temporary, for the whole beams and posts have to be renewed shortly is the great dampness caused by two or three inches of water covering the floor constantly, the drain pipe being out of order although efforts have been made in different occasions to clean it but without any avail, however in the last part of summer all the water receded probably the obstacle which was blocking the pipe gave way.

It is the most important to keep that drain pipe always in good condition for the preservation of the structure and the vegetables, and if the same difficulty happens again I ask the Department to take the steps to remove the obstacle by all means.

It would be very important also to put a window over the door of the boys dormitory to give light to the passage leading to the dormitory which is completely dark when the door is closed and which should be kept closed during the day. At the same time that window fixed on hinges could be used for a ventilation.

*File
BPP*

Hoping to receive from the Department the usual attention.

Your Obedient Servant.

S. Perrault

Principal

Indian Boarding School
Fort Frances Ont
Sept 24th 1928

Mr. J.D. McLean Asst, Deputy & Secretary
Indian Department
Ottawa Ont

Dear Sir

I beg to inform you that the heating system of our school did not give satisfaction last winter especially in the Sisters apartments and in the men's house where all the steam pipes got frozen causing expensive repairs; consequently I called the attention of the Indian Agent on that matter requesting him to get the proper information from an Expert Plumber to improve the situation. It is what he done. At that effect the plumber suggested that the old air Valves should be replaced by the new style of vacuum valves which are in general use now. and no doubt that the difficult which we experienced last winter would be so removed. Therefore I ask you to kindly authorize the installation of those valves at once as it is urgent. Hoping that you will comply with my request.

Yours Truly

S. Perrault

Principal

124-1-5.

Ottawa, October 27th, 1928.

Sir:

I have your letter of the 22nd instant, enclosing a communication which you received from the Principal of the Fort Frances Indian Residential School requesting that the Department supply vacuum valves for the heating system.

In this connection it is noted that you obtained a report from an expert plumber who states that the present system could hardly be improved upon and that the difficulty seems to be that the school furnace is not properly attended to. The Department is not prepared to authorize the supplying of vacuum valves which the Principal requests. You should inform him that the Department expects he will have on his staff a man competent to attend to the furnace. All ashes should be kept cleaned out from under the grates, and the firing of the furnace should not be left to the care of the pupils. You should take up with the Principal the question of his obtaining the services of a competent man to attend to the furnace.

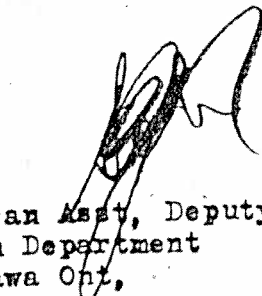
Your obedient servant,

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


A. Spencer, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Fort Frances, Ont.

124-1-5

Indian Boarding School
Fort Frances Ontario
Feb, 1st 1929


J, D, Melean Asst, Deputy & Secretary
Indian Department
Ottawa Ont,

Dear Sir;

I beg to inform you that the 2 drinking fountains which you supplied to my school for the use of the pupils boys & girls in their respective play-rooms four years ago, have been out of order some time ago, and removed as I could not find any where the necessary pieces for repairs. In place of them I wish you supply me two combination drinking water cocks which would cost only \$3.00 each and would give better result than the former, where the water cocks being out of the basin were dropping on the floor.

Presuming your consent I bought already one from the plumber who worked in my school last month, He had purchased it for his personal use but he did not used it yet and was not in need of, I hopethat I Did not presume too much and will refund me the money for same, and will supply me the other one which could be installed by one of the school man, Enclosed please find the bill of purchased,
Hopping to receive a favourable answer.

Yours Truly

S. Perrault
Principal

Indian Affairs. School Files.
(RG 10, Volume 6194, File 463-5, part 1)