124-1-5

TMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
CANADA

OFFICE OF
INDIAN AGENT
FORT FRANCES, AGENCY,

COPY
Placed on
File 124-1-1

No.2627.

FEB, 13th, 1929,

Sir.

In regard to this Account, I have to report that the pipes at the Indian Residential School, froze up, so that I had to send a plumber up and repair the damage, no doubt but it was caused by not keeping the fires up, so that it was a careless thing of the Principal, so much so that I took it up with the Church officials at St Boniface, and they sent their Inspector down, with the result that the present Principal Father Perrault, is being removed from here, and a new Principal is being sent in his place, the School has ### under his care been going to pieces, and I had to do something to stop the careless way,
I might say also that the Father has been too careless in lots of other things, that should not be around the school, such as leting the children run all over and not regular at School, the Indians has put in several claims that the children were not being properly fed and clothed, and were also freezing in the School,
And I only hope that the new Principal will put things in shape, and carry on to the benifit of both the church and the Indian Department more successfuly,

I have the honor to be,

Sir.

Your obedient servant,

P. Spence,
Indian Agent,

The Secretary,

Dept. of Indian Affairs,

Ottawa,

Ont.

Indian Affairs
School Files

(RG 10, Volume 6194)

File 463-1, part 1	Fort Frances Agency - Fort Frances Boarding School - General Administration - School Establishment. 1898-1934
File 463-2, part 1	Fort Frances Agency - Fort Frances Residential School - Quarterly Returns. 1941-1952
File 463-5, part 1	Fort Frances Agency - Fort Frances Residential School - Building Maintenance - Supplies - Accounts - General Administration. 1922-1929
File 463-5, part 2	Fort Frances Agency - Fort Frances Residential School - Building Maintenance - Supplies - Accounts - General Administration. 1929-1931
File 463-5, part 3	Fort Frances Agency - Fort Frances Residential School - Building Maintenance - Supplies - Accounts - General Administration. 1932-1935
File 463-5, part 4	Fort Frances Agency - Fort Frances Residential School - Building Maintenance (inc. Blueline Print Disposal System) - Accounts - Supplies - General Administration. 1935-1938

124-1-S

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
CANADA

MAR 9 1929

OFFICE OF
INDIAN AGENT
FORT FRANCES, AGENCY,

MAR 8

No.2647.

MARCH, 5th, 1929.

Sir.

I have the honor to report that I have a lot of complaint from the Residential School, of the Oven, which they claim will not bake the bread, so on the 25th of February, I visited the School and made a inspection of the Oven, and I find that it is a Galvalnized oven, and the doors are all worped and will not hold the heat, the Fire Box is only 9 x 16, and cannot get heat enough to bake the bread, I am told by the Cook that it takes her Two and a half hours to bake the bread, I also seen some of the bread and it was burnt on the outside and hardly cooked on the inside, and is not good bread for the children, and as bread is the main living for the children, I would recommend that a new oven be installed if the Department could see their way clear to do so, I do not know what an electrict oven would cost, but if one could be secured at a reasonable price, I would like to see it put in, because if the bread is not good, the meal is not relished by the children, it would have to bake about Two sacks of flour at once, which would mean about 60 loaves of bread, at all events there should be something done about a new oven for the Residential School, as soon as posible, because it is badly needed,

I have the honor to be,

Sir.

Your obedient servant,

R. Spence.

Indian Agent,

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

Indian Boarding School 1/27-1-3

Fort Frances, Ont.

28 March 1929.

To the Secretary if the Dept of Indan Affairs, Ottawa.

Dear Sir,-

On the 26inst. in the visit to the School of Mr. Spencer our Ind. Agent he communicated to me your last letter regarding the oven of which the school is in an emergency need.

The said oven has been condemned years ago. I remember on my part I made a report that the oven was not satisfactory in 1924 and that we were unable to cook any bread in a proper manner. Instead of amilioration the said oven turned to the worst, this is why on my taking charge again of the School I called immediately your Agent Mr Spencer and I showed him the bread and the Oven, and I am sorry to say that in the four last years of my absence the children and the Staff have been condemned to eat such bread, and put a slavery work on the shoulders of the Cook and on the Children she was oblige to teach.

Nothing is exagerated in what I am saying now.

Why now did I recommend an electric oven? Because the chimney on which the present wood oven is connected has not been built for that purpose, but for vantilation purpose so to have draft from the stove we are oblige to close the ventilation. (b) In the matter it may be a danger for fier. I remarked that fier has been set to the floor alredy.

In my humble opinion there is a sufficient reason for a change.

Now why did I recommend to Mr Spencer Our Agent the Robert's Electric Oven? (a) Because they take only 14 Kilowatts ;(b) The tickness of the rapping of the oven is four times that of the tickness of the Daoust's Oven. (c) The doors in the Robert's Oven are in Cast Iron and not exposed warp as in the Daoust's Oven.

I am opposed to the Daoust's Oven (a) because it is to thin in its construction. (b) The doors are too to large and in sheet iron exposed to

124-1-5.

Ottawa, April 3rd, 1929.

Rev. Sir:

I have your letter of the 28th ultimo, regarding your request to be supplied with an electric oven for the use of the Fort Frances Indian Residential School.

In reply I have to say that, if you are not prepared to provide one-half the cost of the type of electric oven which you require, as manufactured by William Roberts & Son, the Department regrets, owing to the cost, viz., $900 installed, that it will be unable to supply same. I would point out that the Department has never furnished an electric oven for the use of a residential school. The type of oven we have supplied to other schools is a wood burning oven, which has given satisfaction. This oven is manufactured by Jean J. Dacoust, Limited, St. Boniface, and is supplied at a cost of from $400 to $450, depending on the size. If the Department is called upon to pay the full cost of an oven, this is the type we would be prepared to supply your school, unless, as stated, you would be prepared to pay the difference in cost between the installing of an electric oven over that of the cost of a wood burning oven.

Should have read 250 to $400

Your obedient servant,

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

Rev. H. M. Brassard, O.M.I.,
Principal,
Indian Residential School,
Fort Frances, Ont.

No- 124-1-5.

Ottawa , March 20, 1929.

Sir:

I have your letter of the 15th instant, with reference to the request for an electric bake oven for the use of the Fort Frances Indian Residential School. The catalogue which you enclosed was also received giving particulars of the electric oven which you recommend be supplied, the cost of which, installed, is $900. I may say that the Department has received prices from Jean J. Daoust, Limited, for their Models B and C, ovens. The price of the Model B oven is $564.70 and of their Model C, $719.55.

If the school authorities will be responsible for one-half the total cost, viz. $900, of the oven manufactured by William Roberts & Son, this Department will make payment of the other half. I may add that we have never supplied electric ovens for residential schools but, as it is noted that sufficient power to operate this oven can be obtained, the Department would be prepared to favourably consider supplying same on the above terms. Please ascertain from the school authorities whether they will be responsible for half the cost of supplying theoven requested, and advise the Department, and steps will be taken to arrange for the purchase and installation.

Your obedient servant,

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

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

Answer to file 124-1-5 of March 26th 1929

Indian Boarding School

Fort Frances, Ont.

28 March 1929.

To the Secretary of the Dept of Indian Affairs, Ottawa.

Dear Sir,-

On the 26inst. in the visit to the School of Mr. Spencer our Ind. Agent he communicated to me your last letter regarding the oven of which the school is in an emergency need.

The said oven has been condemned years ago. I remember on my part I made a report that the oven was not satisfactory in 1924 and that we were unable to cook any bread in a proper manner. Instead of amilioration the said oven turned to the worst, this is why on my taking charge of the School again I called immediately your Agent Mr. Spencer and I showed him the bread and the oven, and I am sorry to say that in the four last years of my absence the children and the Staff have been condemned to eat such bread, and put a slavery work on the shoulders of the cook and on the children she was oblige to teach.

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fire. I remarked that fire has been set to the floor already.

In my humble opinion there is a sufficient reason for a change.

Now why did I recommend to Mr Spencer Our Agent the Robert's electric oven? (a) Because they take only I4 Kilowatts; (b) The tickness of the rapping of the oven is four times that of the tickness of the Daoust's oven. (c) The doors in the Robert's oven are in Cast Iron and not exposed warp as in the Daoust's Oven.

I am opposed to the Daoust's Oven(a) because it is to thin in its construction. (b) The doors are too large and in sheet iron exposed to wrap under the action of the heat, and not closing tight enough to keep the heat as it happen for the other ovens of its own standard. (c) The conclusion is, that the present construction of the Daoust's oven is on the expense of electricity and I do not see any other reason for the I8 Killowatts to heat it up to the cooking point.

The second part of your letter, I am sorry to say so, but I can not help it... it made me laugh. But, of course I have been away from the school business since the last four years, and I did not know that during that lapse of time, the Dept of Indian Affairs became a begging Institution. It is a serious matter you play with the health of the children and with the health of the Staff of the School.

Time is money, and with all that correspondence we loose our time and our money.

I have at heart the welfare of every one without exception and this is why it cost $30.00 per week for bread alone to supply the school. So it is an emergency case in which we are in the present time.

124-1-5

Indian Boarding School

Fort Frances, Ont.

April IO 1929.

To The Honorable

Duncan Scott.

Honorable Sir,

I take the liberty to address to under the registered Mail, the correspondence we had lately with the Sec. of the Dept. of Indian Affairs regarding the electric oven of which we are in immediat need at the School. Already Mr. Spencer the Agent got a full report of it at the Dept. and we are no more advanced now than we are in the beginning.

Counting on your immense interest in the success and welfare of the Indian School. I decided to address myself directly to you, being sure in advance that you will not refuse to hear me.

In my answer to the letter of Mr McKenzie Sub. Secretary, you will find all the reasons in favor of the said mentioned electric oven I have nothing particular against the Daoust Oven, but on the contrary if I had any feeling it would be in favor of the said Company, all my feeling is for the School and the interest of the School.

Now regarding Daoust's Oven it is one of those ovens we have and that is condemned, and I do not understand why the Dept. wants suppl

one of the same defective kind,that we may be obliged to condemn again and when with a little more expense we can have 100 % better in a William Robert's Oven Co,.

As you can read in Mr.McLean's answer he refused to supply an electric Oven,because as he says they have not supplied yet any School with it.

Considering this last point,I do not find in it an adequate answer to the argument of my letter.

(a) The defectivity of the chimney on which the half of the said oven has to be connected.

(b) Danger of,fire.

(c) The fire has been already set to the floor.

Now for the cheap rate of it for heating purpose,at one cent a kilowatt,is a sufficient reason to make us prefer an electric oven to a wood one.

I understand very well the location of the Indian Schools except a few,none of them are in position to have an electric supply,for same ovens at a reasonable rate,but here at Fort Frances School we have 2200 volts.

Now another remark made again that you will find in my letter is that the William Robert's Electric Ovens,need only 14 kilowatts to heat it up,to the heating point,but the Daoust Oven takes 18 kilowatts and if you refer to my letter you will find the explanation of it.

I am sorry to have taken so much of your precious time,but knowing your kindness I am aware you will forgive me,and your great interest

in t' Indian Education, will bring you to our rescue in this matter.

Thank you very much.

I am in full hopes that you will grant us our petition.

Your obedient servant.

H. M. Brassard Jr.
for Pauline

Indian Boarding School
Fort Frances Ont.
April 25th 1929

To The Honorable

Duncan Scott

Honorable Sir

I am just in receipt of your last of the 18th inst. and I am surprised with the answer.

I am sorry to say that there is a part of it, I am not able to understand the meaning; this is, what I quote from your letter. "In consideration of request from Indian Schools, we are governed largely by our usual practice". What do you mean?

Does it mean that the Officiers of the Dept. of Indian Affairs, if they are in need of a piece of furniture or equipment are obliged to meet half way the Goverment in the expenses?

This is what you ask me in your letter.

In another consideration; is the Dept. obliged to come to help the Principals of the Schools, for the equipment of the farm?

I know on my part that the School at Fort Frances I never get such a help, and I never saw the Dept. meeting me half way in the expenses. And after all it is the property the Dept. of Indian Affairs, and I think it should be only reasonable to have the Dept. to supply the implements necessary for the farm.

All the money to pay for those implements is taken from the per Capita. I can say for my part for all the years I spent for the work of the School. I never take a cent of salary, only my own living.

Work surely worth a salary.

Moreover, our school should be the first of all of the same kind, and the reason why is because we are on the boundary of the U.S. and that we receive the visit of tourists of all kinds from away South of the U.S. where there Indians raised up to the highest of education and if we stand with the system of 50 or 60 % 100 years old we are away back and considered so.

In the eyes of the public there is a reason, and for the welfare of the School, you have all the reason in my letter of the 28th of March last.

My Superior agree with me that the Dept. is calling on an impossibility to keep up those Schools in the right way.

Sincerly Yours

H.M. Brassard Priest

O.M.I.

Rev. H. M. Brassard pts. ans.

To the Honorable D.C. Scott
Deputy Minister
Indian Affairs
Ottawa

Interesting letter
H.B. Neles
concerned Architecture

Good business
Orders regarding this
applied for school $ 50

124-1-5

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
CANADA

OFFICE OF
INDIAN AGENT

DEPT. OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
AUG 1929
RECORDS

SCHOOLS BRANCH
AUG 18 1929

FORT FRANCES, AGENCY,

No.3920.

AUG. 9th, 1929.

Sir.

No.I24-I-5.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 26th Ultimo;-In which you requested me to interview the Principal of the Residential School in regard tonoverhauling the heating system.and as requested,Ihave seen the Principal,and he said that the heating system was more ergently required than the other things that he was asking for,

In regard to this change in heating system,I have to report that the Boiler will have to be build in again,as it has fallen in ,and is in bad shape,so that I would recommend that Tenders be called for the work complete,which would mean extra cost to what was reported last December,and this work should be commenced as soon as posible,to have completed before fall.

I have the honor to be,

Sir.

Your obedient servant,

Indian Agent.

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

124-1-5

CANADA

Letter No. 4027.

Office of the FORT FRANCES, ONT. Indian Agency,

NOV. 15th. 1929.

Sir,

I enclose herewith Vouchers Nos. 467 & 468,

amounting to $ 1950.50 in favour

of The John East Co., Ltd;- Fort Frances, Ont.

for Changeing heating system to dunham and relining Boiler and bricking.

This expenditure was authorized by Departmental

Letter No. 124-1-5 dated September, 10th 1929

Your obedient servant,

Indian Agent.

The Secretary,
Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

Form No. 101

Indian Boarding School

Fort Frances, Ont.

October I, 1929.

To Mr. L. Spencer Indian Agent.

Fort Frances, Ontario.

Honored Sir,

According to the regulations of the Department of Indian Affairs, our Senior Girls are allowed a half day of manual labor, so that in later years besides having the class formation, they receive during school, they will also have, that, which is necessary to have to be competent house-keepers.

At the present moment there is great lack to this formation in our Sewing Department. We have two machines completely out of order, and it is really impossible for me to meet the expense of buying any other.

Another inconvenience arising from lack of machines is that we are unable to make the underwear and other articles of clothing necessary for the cold season so near at hand.

Would it be possible for you kind Agent, to interest the Department in our favor?

124-1-5

DEPT. OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
NOV 18 1929
RECORDS

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
CANADA

OFFICE OF
INDIAN AGENT

FORT FRANCES, AGENCY,

NOV, 15th, 1929,

No.4025.

Sir.

I have the honor to enclose herewith a letter from Fort Frances Residential School, in which they requisition the Department to purchase for the use of Girls in Manual training, Two New Sewing Machines, as the Two Old ones are worn out,

And I have to report thit I have investegated this case, and find that there is Two machines of very little use, and as they are used in manual training, for the girlsto learn sewing, and to make clothing for other children, I would recommend that they be purchased, if the Dept. has funds on hand for that purpose, as it is an education for the girls, and one very much needed, in their household duties,

Feb 1/22 - 1 machine
May 1/25 - 2 more

I have the honor to be,

Sir.

Your obedient servant,

SCHOOLS BRANCH
NOV 25 1929

R. Spence
Indian Agent,

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

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

To Mr Fred Arnold,

FORT FRANCES,

ONT.

DATE	SERVICE	AMOUNT
Dec 18th	To Lease of 12 Acres of Land more or less for use of Fort Frances Residential School purpose @ $15.00.per Year,	$ 15.00
	Apr 31-12-29.	
	ENGROSSED and Indexed.	
	6264	
	TOTAL,	

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this Voucher is correct, that the material has been supplied, the work performed and that the charges are fair and just; also that the expenditure has been incurred legitimately and that each item of the same is a fair and just charge against the Government of Canada.

P. Spence, Agent.

Form 52.

No 480

124-1-5

R

CANADA

DEPT. OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Letter No. 4060

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

DECEMBER, 18th, 1929

Sir,

I enclose herewith Vouchers Nos. 479 & 480,

amounting to $30.00 in favour

Charles Jourdain,	Fort Frances, Ont	$15.00
Fred Arnold	" " "	15.00
		$30.00

of

for Rent of land for Residential School purpose.
" " " " " " "

This expenditure was authorized by Departmental

Letter No. dated

Your obedient servant,

P. Spencer,

Indian Agent.

INDIAN EDUCATION

The Secretary,
Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

Form No. 101

Indian Boarding School,
Fort Frances, Ontario.
June 18th. 1930.

Mr. A.S. Spencer, Indian Agent,
Fort Frances, Ontario.

Dear Sir:-

I wish to make an application for a requisition to the Dept. for beds for our children. We are in great need of a dozen 6 ft. beds for the boys and an equal number of the same size for the girls.

If you remember your last visit to the School during which you were asked to look over our beds, you will know that our request is amply justified from whatever angle you may choose to look at it.

These beds for the greater part have springs that cannot be repaired, and these broken springs play a large part in the destruction of the mattresses. Moreover, our children are outgrowing their beds.

As far as I can recall, our School has not been supplied with beds since 1917. In 1922 we received some mattresses, but some of these have been destroyed by broken springs and but a few can be repaired.

Hoping that you will put this requisition through ay your earliest convenience, I beg to remain,

Yours truly,

H.M. Brassard, O.M.I.

H.M. Brassard OMI

Principal.

124-1-5.

Ottawa, July 3, 1930.

Gentlemen:

I have to request that you will supply, for the use of the Fort Frances Indian Residential School, and ship addressed to Rev. H. M. Brassard, O.M.I., Fort Frances, Ont., the following:

12 institution beds, design No. 4000, 6' x 2'6", equipped with rustproof twisted link fabric springs.

12 mattresses to fit above beds, composed entirely of white layer cotton felt, with 4½" band, covered with S.M. grade blue and white striped ticking, and to be similar to your yellow label - all materials throughout the mattresses to be guaranteed new.

The above equipment should be supplied at your lowest possible price F.O.B. Fort Frances, Ont., sales tax, if any, included, and your account, in triplicate, covering the cost of the beds and mattresses should be forwarded to Mr. A. Spencer, Indian Agent, Fort Frances, Ont., who is being informed of the order placed with you, and requested, upon receipt of the beds and mattresses, if in good condition, to certify the account and send it to the Department, when payment will be made.

Yours very truly,

F. H. Paget,
Accountant & Purchasing Agent.

Simmons Limited,
400 St. Ambroise St.,
Montreal, P.Q.

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
CANADA

FORT FRANCES, AGENCY,

AUG, 29th, 1930.

No.4188.

Sir.

I have the honor to again refer back to your letter of the 20th of March, 1929 Letter No.124-I-5.in regard to a bakeing oven for Fort Frances Residential School,
In regard to the Electric oven,the School authoritys do not feel like puting the half of the price in an electric oven, as requested by the Department,
and since that time have been looking around for an oven that would suit their purpose,and,so enclosed you will find a catlogue with ovens listed,Model No:I2 on Page# No I006 you will find the stove that they would like the Department to purchase for their requirments,which costs $475.00. F.O.B. factory,
The Residential School have since requesting the Department for a new stove,been buying Bakers bread,and no doubt but it is costing them a great deal for bread to feed 85 children, and I would recommend that the Department purchase Model No.I2 as the School is certainly in need of a new oven,
Model No.8.is a little too small,as they require a bag of flour for each bakeing,to take care of the children,
and Model No.I2 will bake a sack of flour at a time,

ENCLOSED,

I have the honor,to be,

Sir.

Your obedient servant,

Indian Agent,

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

124-1-5

/O'C

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

CANADA

Ottawa, September 3rd, 1930.

MEMORANDUM

Dr Scott:-

Mr Ferrier

noted for S.

File

When visiting Fort Frances Agency in July last my attention was drawn to the necessity of painting both the exterior and interior of the Residential School.

In the interests of economy this should not be delayed beyond next year, not to mention the bad impression given the Public. Many tourists visit Fort Frances from the United States, coming in over the State of Minnesota's paved Highways. The tourist camp is located not far from the School on the Lake Shore and not a few tourists visit the School. In fact it has been one of the show places of Fort Frances, but I must say that I was not proud of the appearance of the building in its present state.

I asked the Agent to provide for this work in his next Estimates. He informed me that he had placed a sum in his last Estimates, but had heard nothing of it. I told him that we had to curtail expenditure this year, but that I felt sure it would be provided for next year.

Chief Accountant.

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
CANADA

Immediate

OFFICE OF
INDIAN AGENT

FORT FRANCES, AGENCY,

SEP 8 1930
RECORDS

SCHOOLS BRANCH
SEP 9 1930

No.4202. SEPT, 5th, 1930.

Sir.

I have the honor to have the sad news to report that at 8 A.M. this morning, the Fort Frances Residential School Barn was burnt with all contents in it,
Included with the barn, there was about 30 tons of hay 70 hundred of choped grain, Three horses, Two sleighs, One Buggy, One demicrat, One wagon, harness, and every thing pertaining to the Barn and Stable,
The School is left without any thing except the Cows, and no place to take care of them in,
It is a sad loss both to the School authorities and to the Department,
The Principal has put an Estimate of about $15000, loss but I think that he is a little high in his Estimate,

But now that the fire has cleaned the Barn out, it will have to replaced by another, I dont know if the Dept. had Insurance on it or not, but at any rate we will have to consider the erection of another in the place of the one Burnt, and as it is late now, it will have to be rushed for to be completed for the winter, so would like to have instruction what to do,

I have the honor to be,

Sir.

Your obedient servant,

Indian Agent,

Barn 5000
Hay 400
Grain 350
Horses 400
Mach 500
$7150

The Secretary,

Dept. of Indian Affairs,

Ottawa,

Ont.

Indian Boarding School,
Fort Frances, Ontario.
Sept. 6th. 1930.

The following is a list of the articles destroyed by fire in our barn on Friday Sept 5th.

I wagon
1 buggy
I democrat
2 sets toting sleighs
I potato planter
I potato cutter
I chop grinder (10 in. wheel)
I fan mill
2 hoists (4 ton cap.)
3 sets harness
I 45 ft. ladder
~~I set automobile chains~~
I horse-drawn cab
I set scales cap. 1000 #
150 ft. lumber
300 " 1¼" rope
3½ tons grain (feed)
4 " oat sheaves
30-35 tons of hay
All garden tools
Neckyokes & whipple-trees
25 cords of wood

3 horses
2 outbuildings damaged (I beyond repair)

Immediate

Indian Boarding School,
Fort Frances, Ontario.
Sept. 6th. 1930.

To The Secretary,
Dept. of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Sir:

I beg to report that our barn was destroyed by fire around 7.45 a.m. yesterday.

The cause of the fire is unknown. The only theory that can be advanced is that spontaneous combustion was caused by new hay not sufficiently dried. This hay must have heatedto the point of combustion and fire eventually broke out.

No one was smoking in or around the barn. Mr. Magnan left the barn ten minutes late for breakfast, that is about 7.40. Everything was in good order. He saw, heard or smelled nothing. At about 7.55 the alarm was given. Mr. Green ran into the barn; it was already filled with smoke. He saved two of the horses, but could'nt get the other two out. One of the horses saved had to be shot afterwards on account of burns. Mr. Doiron rushed for the hose and started the pumps while I tried to get at the fire with the hose. Mr. Magnan in the meantime managed to get the bull and the calves out. Before coming out I sent an alarm in Town. The Fire Dept. came, but could do nothing for the barn. It was one mass of flames.

All we could do was to try to save the outbuildings, and all our efforts were barely sufficient to succeed even in that. Of the outbuildings, two were damaged. The blacksmith shop is beyond repair, but the granary can still be repaired.

In consequence of this report, I beg to be allowed to petition the Department for immediate assistance. The season now demands that the cattle be given protection from the cold if we would maintain our milk supply. Moreover, our crop of potatoes, which will amount to some 1800 bu. this year, will be ready next week. We have no room for these, and they are of

too great importance to us to allow them to be frozen. We have a few calves that are too young to be wintered out of doors. Shelter will have to be found for them.

The only shelter we have for our stock is the ~~im~~ implement shed. This, with a little alteration will do for the time being, but when heavy frost comes, it will be practically useless. So, you can see how badly we need a barn immediately.

Another important item I would like to submit to your consideration is the loss of three of our horses. This leaves us with only one horse. We have arranged to hire three horses from the Border Lumber Co. in order to finish what work we can. It is doubtful if we may keep them long enough to dig our potatoes. If not, you can imagine the predicament we will be in. So, I ask the Department to look into this matter and trust it will receive prompt and favorable consideration.

Once more I would like to impress upon you the need we have of immediate attentiom as winter winter is coming fast and if we haven't proper accomodation for our stock, our position will be a sad one. The young stock will likely die off. The milk and butter supply will be stopped and there will be no room for our potatoes.

Herewith enclosed a list of articles lost in the fire.

Thanking you in advance for the consideration and interst I feel sure you will give this matter, I beg to remain,

Yours truly,

H.M.Brassard, O.M.I.

H. M. Brassard O.M.I.

Principal.

124-1-5.

Ottawa, September 12, 1930.

Sir:

Father Brassard, Principal of the Fort Frances Indian Residential School, visited the Department today and states that he believes there are two fire hazards in the main building. One is the chimney which will be used for the proposed new bake oven and the other is behind the boiler of the main heating plant. Will you please arrange to have these places inspected immediately and let the Department have a report and recommendation, with estimate of the cost, if any expenditure is necessary. The Department wishes you to give this serious and immediate consideration.

Your obedient servant,

A. F. MacKenzie,
Secretary.

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

September 17, 1930.

Memorandum:

HONOURABLE THOMAS G. MURPHY.

I regret to inform you that, recently, two barns have been destroyed by fire at Indian residential schools in western Ontario - one at the Indian Residential School at Fort Frances and the other at the Cecilia Jeffrey Institution, near Kenora. These losses are incidental to the work and the buildings must be replaced as soon as possible. I have hesitated to ask for authority to rebuild this fall, because of the condition of the Appropriation for Indian Education. However, the postponement of the large new main building at the Shingwauk Home School, Sault Ste. Marie, relieves the situation somewhat. Regarding the condition of the Vote, I may say I have informed the Minister of Finance that we should have a supplementary appropriation for Indian Education of $245,000.00 if our obligations of this year are to be met promptly. At the first opportunity, I wish to have a full and frank discussion with you in this connection.

The two barns must really be replaced without delay, or there will be serious consequences, and I should be grateful if you would let me have the name of a competent carpenter-foreman at Fort Frances and one at Kenora, to whom the reconstruction could be entrusted. I believe it advisable to have the work done on a day labour basis, the Indian Agent to purchase the materials.

I should also like to have the names of lumber, cement and hardware dealers at Kenora and Fort Frances, so that the materials can be purchased without delay. Plans for these barns will be forwarded from the Department.

Duncan C. Scott

Deputy Superintendent General.

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
CANADA

OFFICE
INDIAN AGENT

FORT FRANCES, AGENCY,

SEPT, 19th, 1930.

.4216.

Sir.

I have the honor to report, that while at the Residenti-al School on the 16th Ultimo. looking over Fire Hazards requested by the Department, I find that there are no Fire Extinguishers in the School, and has been nont put there for a number of Years, and in case of a fire there is no fire protection execpt the small hose operated by a gasoline engine, which we found out was of little use, execpt for a fire when it firsts starts, if it had not been for the Fort Frances Fire begrade, when the School Barn was burnt, the School would of went up in smoke as well as the barn, but their chemical engine is what saved the School, Owing to the suituation of the School and so many children in it, I would Recommend that the Department, secure more fire protection for the School,
I am encloseing pamplets of Fir Extinguishers and would Recommend that we purchase at least Three Captain Fyr-Fyter, and at leastSix I½ Quart Fry-Fyters to be scattered through the Residential School, we have no protection from fire in the School, and if a fire was to happen, we would get the comdemnation of the whole country, I would Recommend that the Department purchase the Extinguishers or give me the authority to purchase them for the Residential School,

I have the honor to be,

Sir.

Your obedient servant,

Indian Agent,

The Secretary,

Dept. of Indian Affairs,

Ottawa,

Ont.

Indian Affairs School Files.

124-1-5.

Ottawa, September 30, 1930.

Gentlemen:

Please ship as soon as possible, charges prepaid, addressed to Rev. H. M. Brassard, O.M.I., Indian Residential School, Fort Frances, Ont., the following fire extinguishers:

4 - 1¾ Gal. Thermene extinguishers, complete with non-freeze chemicals,

6 - 1½ Quart Pyrene extinguishers, complete with chemical and wall brackets.

The above should be supplied at your lowest possible price F.O.B. Fort Frances.

Please forward your account, in triplicate, covering the cost to A. Spencer, Esq., Fort Frances, Ont., who is being informed of the order placed with you, and requested, upon receipt of the extinguishers, if in good condition, to certify the account and send it to the Department, when payment will be made.

Your early attention to this order will oblige,

Yours very truly,

Sgd. F. H. Paget

F. H. Paget,
Accountant & Purchasing Agent.

Pyrene Mfg. Co. of Canada Ltd.,
1197-1207 King St. W.,
Toronto, 2, Ont.

Mr. Spencer

Ottawa, September 30, 1930.

Sir:

I have your letter of the 19th instant, relative to the fire equipment at the Fort Frances Indian Residential School, and requesting that a supply of extinguishers be furnished and enclosing pamphlets of the extinguishers which you recommend.

In reply I have to say it is noted that the Fyr-Fyter extinguishers are manufactured in the United States. The Department prefers to provide supplies of Canadian manufacture, and we are, therefore, placing an order today with the Pyrene Manufacturing Company of Canada, Ltd., to ship, addressed to Rev. H. M. Brassard, O.M.I., Fort Frances, Ont., the following:

4 - 1¾ Gal. Thermene extinguishers, complete with non-freeze chemicals,

6 - 1½ Quart Pyrene extinguishers, complete with chemical and wall brackets.

The above firm have been requested to prepay shipping charges and to forward their account, in triplicate, to you covering the cost F.O.B. Fort Frances. When the extinguishers are received, if in good condition, you should certify the account and return same to the Department in duplicate, retaining one copy for file in your office.

Both the above types of extinguishers are supplied with a non-freeze chemical. When they are received, you should instruct the Principal to see that they are distributed at strategic points throughout the buildings, where they will be readily accessible in case of fire. You might also inform the Principal of the order for these extinguishers, and request him to accept delivery when they arrive at Fort Frances. We are requesting the above firm to make early shipment.

Your obedient servant,

A. F. MacKenzie,
Secretary.

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

Sept. 30, 1930.

Sir,-

I beg to advise you that it is the wish of the Department to proceed at once with the rebuilding of the barn which was destroyed by fire at the Fort Frances Indian Residential School, the barn to be built similar to the one which was destroyed and in accordance with the plans which are being sent you, under separate cover. These plans were traced from a plan submitted to the Department some years ago by the Principal and as far as the records show the barn that was burned was built in accordance with these plans.

The work is to be carried out by day labour employing Mr. O. Vizineau, of Fort Frances, as carpenter-foreman. The lumber is to be purchased from Langstaffe, Schurg & Co. of Emo, Ont. and the cement and hardware from the Wells Hardware Co. of Fort Frances.

Time sheets should be kept for all labour and forwarded to the Department in duplicate. An accountable cheque for the payment of labour will be sent you on application. All accounts for materials should be forwarded to the Department for payment, duly certified to by you in the regular way.

Your obedient servant,

A. F. MacKenzie.
SECRETARY.

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

Fort Frances Indian School Files

124-1-5

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
CANADA

OFFICE OF
INDIAN AGENT

DEPT. OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
OCT 3 1930
RECORDS

R

FORT FRANCES, AGENCY,

SEPT, 30th. 1930,

No.4224.

Sir.

I have the honor to report that through the Principal of the Residential School, I have been informed that the Departme -nt are considering building the New Barn by Day Labor, and that a man by the name of Vezina is to be the overseerer of same, In the interest of the Department, and saveing of money, I would Recommend that the work be given to a reliable party with equipment to do the work, as this man has no equipment and from what i can find out is not reliable, he has built one house in Fort Frances, and has never paid for material up th present time, and as soon as he starts at the School barn, we can look for gaurnishea of his wages, which amounts to around $700.00.

The reason I have wrote this letter is that, Mr East has just handed me an offer for the building of the New Barn at the School, which I think is an offer to the best interest of the Department, which I enclose with this letter.

Enclosed,

I am not interested in who gets the building of the Barn, for my part I would like to see the Contract let by Tender, which would be the fairest to all parties, and no partiality to any person,

But i would like if the department would take into considerati -on for work to be done, the best mecanicks that could be secured,

I have the honor to be,

Sir.

Your obedient servant,

A. Spence,

Indian Agent,

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

Tel note

Account No. 2434

Fort Frances, Ont., Oct. 1st. 1930

Mr. Indian Department, Dr.

c/o Mr. A. Spencer

No. _____ _____ Street

Fort Frances,

in account with

THE TOWN OF FORT FRANCES

This account must be paid within 30 days of date of rendering.
Interest charged at 7% per annum on all overdue accounts.
Make all cheques payable to the Treasurer, Town of Fort Frances.

	To 12 firemen attending fire at Indian School - Sept. 5th. 1930. @ $5.00	60.00
	Service performed, price fair & just, A. Spencer Indian Agent,	
	Sent 21-10-30 4764	
Credit	Fire B. Exp. J. W. Shore	

Jas

No 670

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

CANADA

October 14th. 1930.

Mr. Orr -

The Minister directs that the offer of the John East Company, Ltd., of Fort Frances, Ont. to build the barn at the Indian industrial school on the basis of cost plus ten per cent, as set forth in their letter to Mr. Agent Spencer of the 30th. ultimo, be accepted.

A. S. Williams

Indian Boarding School,
Sept. 24th. 1930.

1 - 1 - 5

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

Dear Sir:-

I beg to be allowed to bring forward again the question of a Frigidaire for our School. I would like to submit, for your consideration, a few points in favor of this system that are evident.

As it has already been brought to your notice, our present ice-house is in such a state of deterioration thatit calls for immediate attention.— Should the Department consider the ice-house, it would be found in a condition virtually beyond repair, as the whole bottom and four feet on the walls are rotting away, so that the only logical solution would be to rebuild it.— A new building could not be had for less than $1000.00 to $1100.00.

On the other hand, if the Department were to grant us a Frigidaire, tha purchase and cost of installation would not be any greater than a new ice-house.

Now, the initial cost in both cases being about equal, it might be well to consider the cost of upkeep.— The ice cost us $80.00 last spring. The expense of cleaning the building for the fresh supply; the packing of the ice after it was in; carrying the ice to the hitchen ice-box through the summer would bring this total to $100.00 to 125.00.— We in the neighborhood of Fort Frances are able to get power very cheap. Supposing a Frigidaire required a 1½ h.p. motor, (that is approximately what we would need,) the power used in 24 hrs. allowing the motor to run 15 mins. per hr. would be 1 11-100 K.W.H. per hour for 6 hrs. at 3 cts. per K.W.H., or 20 cts per day, making an average of $70.00 per year. This amount represents the total expenditure for that dept. of the kitchen for a whole year.

Looking at it from an economical point of view, the School would profit largely by this system, for we would be able to get a larger supply of food, and consequently at a lower price, and be in a position to keep this food in good condition.— From a hygienic point of view we also have everything to gain, becauseour meats and other foodstuffs will not come in contact with sawdust and other such germ-breeding substances, and they will,also have protection from mice and rats that generally give us no end of trouble every winter.— As for the convenient side of the question, a Frigidaire would be adjoining the kitchen. The cook would have access to it at all times, where now she has to go some 200 ft. out of doors through snow or rain to get what is needed for her kitchen, and this every day because we have no room to keep any more than one day's supply at one time in our small ice-box.

From what you have read you may see the the superiority of a Frigidaire over an ice-house in our case. Now, as we must have either a new ice-house or a Frigidaire and the cost of either being about equal, why could it not be a Frigidaire? The upkeep is cheaper and the advantages so much greater that there can hardly be any comparison. The Department will save by having a plant that will be reliable and economical and by that same fact the School will also save by having plenty of good food, with a minimum of waste, and the assurance of good health to everyone and the credit for this happy condition will, I feel assured, be reflected on the Department that will have made this improvement possible.

Hoping, dear Sir, that after having considered these facts, our School will be highly favored by your approval of this proposition, for which we heartily thank you in advance.

Yours very truly,

H.M. Brassard, OMI.

H. M. Brassard OMI

Principal.

Indian Residential School,
Fort Frances, Ontario.

Indian Boarding School,
Fort Frances, Ontario.
Oct. 30th. 1930.

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

Dear Sir:-

Estimates have already been sent to the Department for the alteration of the girls' dormitory ceiling from its present state to that of an arched ceiling, and also for the installing of an electric fan for ventilation purposes.

This ceiling was first built on its present plan on account of the water tanks that were placed above it, but since our water system has been changed the space above the dormitory is vacant. Moreover the ceiling itself is in bad state of repair; the plaster is breaking and falling.

The bad state of the ceiling brought about my proposition to Mr. Spencer that the Department be petitioned to provide funds for its repair. I also took advantage of the opportunity to point out that the dormitory being but 9 ft. high, it would be well to make use of an otherwise useless space by raising a ceiling up to the roof in an arched form, thus providing better circulation and purer air for the occupants of the dormitory.

In addition to this I also suggested that a ventilation system governed by an electric fan be installed to provide for such change in air that will become necessary from time to time. At present this is impossible, due to the fact that thewindows in this dormitory are level with the beds, and their being opened causes a draught that is decidedly unhealthy.

At this season, when it is necessary to heat in the evenings, this room becomes overheated causing the to uncover, then when it cools off they are in great danger of contracting colds.

In this matter, I have asked the opinion of men who are competent, and they are unanimous in the approval of my plan. Now as the estimates have already been sent, we would consider it a great favor to see them placed before the House to be voted. This alteration would be to the advantage of all, but particularlyof the children concerned.

Yours truly,

H.M. Brassard, O.M.I.

H. M. Brassard OMI

Principal.

Note for Sat.
Detailed Sat 9 cont

Indian Boarding School,
Fort Frances, Ontario.
Nov. 6th. 1930.

124-1-3

To The Honorable D. C. Scott,
Deputy Supt. General,
Dept. of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Sir:-

During the past while, the necessity of repainting the School and its outbuildings, both inside and outside, has become very apparent. It is the opinion of all who have ventured to say it, that in this respect the School is far behind what it should be.

The greater part of the interior of the School, so far as I know, has not been painted since about 1906. The annex was painted in 1911. Apart from this, some three or four rooms were painted a little over a year ago at our own expense. The outside painting was done around 1921 or 1922.

Noted for Est

If I may be allowed to express my opinion, I think that this request is wholly within reason, for the preservation of all our buildings and also, and this reason should not be overlooked, because our School being situated near the border of the U.S.A. we are constantly having visiting tourists. These visitors expect to find this, a government institution, as up-to-date as those in their country. It must be admitted that from an appearance point of view they have been sadly deceived in this School. Walls that haven't seen paint in some twenty years cannot possibly be expected to show.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of estimates onthe paint work in these buildings submitted by Mr. Morrison of Ft. Frances. As a good part of this work can be done in winter time, it was thought a good way of alleviating some unemployment by applying for authority to go ahead with it this winter, as Mr. Morrison is willing to wait till the estimates have been voted to get paid. In view of this opportunity, I beg to be allowed to recommendthis plan to the Department as one that will be to the advantage of all concerned.

Yours truly,

H.M.Brassard, O.M.I.

Principal.

Outside can be done to advantage now - would work would seriously interfere

H.M. Brassard

124-1-5

EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF SEPARATE SCHOOL INSPECTOR GREENING, DATED OCTOBER 22nd, 1930, ON HIS INSPECTION OF THE FORT FRANCES INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL.

Original on File 124-1-6.

Upon entering the school, I was very much struck with the shabby appearance of the walls, which had the appearance of not having been painted for years. I would recommend that something be done in this matter. I do not think that calsomining would be very satisfactory, in view of the number of children. If the walls were painted and varnished, they might be kept washed.

See correspondence under

I question very much, also, if the sleeping quarters for the girls are altogether satisfactory. Some forty-five to fifty girls are accommodated in a dormitory which can scarcely provide sufficient cubic feet of air space for such a number. Lack of sufficient fresh air for sleeping cannot, of course, fail to reflect adversely upon their work in class.

Indian Boarding School,
Fort Frances, Ontario.
Dec. 4th. 1930. 124-1-5

Russel T. Ferrier, Esq.
Dept. of Indian Affairs
Ottawa.

Dear Sir:--

In accordance with the rule set by the Department relative to enabling the children to keep their health; rule that I have endeavored to observe during my many years of service in various Schools, I beg to be allowed to petition the Department to authorize me to build a toboggan slide for our girls.

Fresh air and sunshine, as we all know, are nature's best remedy for all ailments, but to encourage the children to take fresh air, and plenty of it, they must be lured in some way.

In the case of the boys, the case is simple. They have a good skating rink and are kept interested in hockey, so that the trouble with them is rather to keep them inside. With the girls, however, it is different. They don't skate or play hockey, and have nothing in the line of out-door amusements in winter, so that, it is difficult to induce them to go outside for any length of time.

If they were given a toboggan slide, I know they would appreciate it immensely and make wonderful use of it, and the wholesome, healthy exercise they would get from it would cause them to become healthier, livelier and sturdier children.

An estimate as to the cost of such a slide was made at $85.00. This estimate calls for a good, strong, demountable slide. Taken apart in the spring to be set up again in the fall, a slide like this is good for many years' service, and in consequence the children are assured of many years of healthy out-door exercise in winter time.

Hoping to be granted a favorable reply to this petition made in the sole interest of the children, I beg to remain,

Yours truly,

H.M.Brassard, O.M.I.

H. M. T. Brassard, O.M.I.

Principal.

Regret refused

Indian Boarding School,
Fort Frances, Ontario.
Dec. 15th 1930.

Honorable D.C.Scott,
Dept. of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

Honorable Sir:-

It was with a sense of satisfaction and pride that we opened the doors of our new barn to our stock on the 2nd. of this month. Though the cattle were poor, owing to lack of proper shelter during three months, we nevertheless feel very grateful to the Department for granting us this barn so speedily.

This building will reflect great credit on the Department, in the eyes of the many American visitors we have each year. To these people, a Government institution is one that is as near perfect as it is humanly possible. That is one of the causes of attraction to so many, and it will be with pride that next year we will show these tourists, this Canadian achievement.

I hereby wish to express my very sincere thanks to you, Mr. Scott, for the great help you have given me while in Ottawa and after I came back here. My burden, though still heavy, is greatly lightened by the knowledge that my losses in this respect are overand that I shall now be able begin a new ascent towards ~~the top, financially speaking.~~

Allow me to avail myself of this opportunity to convey to you my most sincere greetings for a Merry Christmas and a Bright and Happy New Year.

Yours truly,

H.M.Brassard, O.M.I.

H. M. Brassard O.M.I.

Principal.

Indian Boarding School,
Fort Frances, Ontario.
March 2nd. 1931

A. Spencer, Esq.,
Indian Office,
Fort Frances.

Dear Sir:-

The state of repair of our laundry dryer has already been the subject of some discussion during our past interviews and once again I wish to bring the subject to your notice.

Sometime ago, a pipe in this dryer burst, causing quite a lot of inconvenience to the staff. Mr. Watson was called, and while repairing the damaged section he examined the remaining sections and declared that the whole dryer system was corroded to the point of being in danger of causing similar accidents again, soon and often.

This should in no way be a source of durprise to anyone, as these coils have been installed now for some twenty years and this period exceeds by a few years the garantee given by the manufacturers.

The point I want to get at is that, instead of applying to the Department for the renewal of these coils, we ask for the purchase of a mechanical dryer. The revolving dryers have already been installed in some schools and have proven themselves to be satisfactory and economical.

And now, I beg of you to send a requisition to the Department pointing out the need the School is in of having this thing attended to and the superiority of the modern devices over our present system. I feel sure that once estimates have been voted, they will be in a position to look after this matter.

Thanking you in advance for this and other past favors, I beg to remain,

Yours truly,

H. L. Brassard, O.M.I.

H. L. Brassard O.M.I.

Principal.

Indian Boarding School,
Fort Frances, Ontario.
June 22nd. 1931.

A. Spencer, Esq.,
Fort Frances, Ontario.

Dear Sir:-

I wish to apply for authority to carry on the following work:

1- Cleaning of all chimneys.
2- Cleaning of the two water supply tanks.
3- Replacing of 3 valves on the above water tanks.
4- Replacing connections on hot water tank in boiler room.

To my knowledge the chimneys have not been swept since 1925, and I think it would be very prudent to have this matter attended to.

As for the water tanks, they have not be n cleaned since 1923. It would be advisable, I think, that this should be done this year. There are three valves on these tanks, one of which is the main valve, that are out of order and should be replaced.

There are also a few connections on the hot water tank in the boiler room that are corroded and should be replaced.

Hoping that you will be able to grant us authority to have this work done at an early date, I beg to remain,

Yours truly,

H. M. Brassard, C.L.I.

H. M. Brassard per A.W.S.

Principal.

July 23, 1931.

Memorandum:

MR. BUSKARD.

I have your memorandum of the 20th instant, with reference to the account for $482.31 of the John East Company, of Fort Frances, for work at the Indian Residential School there. This account was incurred by the Reverend Principal of the Fort Frances School, entirely on his own responsibility. It has reference to alterations to an implement shed, so that live stock could be temporarily housed last fall and early winter.

On September 5th, last, the barns at the Fort Frances Indian Residential School were destroyed by fire. The Reverend Principal, of course, asked us to replace them, and, on the 10th of September, he was informed that the Department was considering the matter. On September 30th, instructions were sent to the Indian Agent to have the new barn erected on a day labour basis. There were objections to this, and, on October 14th, the Department telegraphed that the John East Company, Limited, was to build a new barn on a cost plus 10% basis. On December 2nd, the barn was ready for occupation.

On September 6th, when the Reverend Principal wrote to the Department concerning the loss of the barn, he stated in part: "The only shelter we have for our stock is the implement shed. This, with a little alteration, will do for the time being; but, when heavy frost comes, it will be practically useless. So, you can see how badly we need a barn immediately." The Department was not requested to assist with the alteration for the implement shed, and, when the Reverend Principal presented the account to the Indian Agent, he returned it, as he had no authority to incur the expenditure. The Reverend Principal insisted that the Agent forward the account to Ottawa for consideration. Our funds were extremely limited, and we returned the account to the Principal for settlement.

The copy of the account you forwarded is returned herewith.

Encl.

Duncan C. Scott

Indian Boarding School,
Fort Frances, Ontario.
December 4, 1931.

A. Spencer, Esq.,
Indian Office,
Fort Frances, Ontario.

Dear Sir:--

Winter has once again made its appearance and with it has also come its problems and difficulties. Chief among these, for those connected with institutions such as our School, is the safeguarding of the health of the inmates.

The rudiments of hygiene afford sufficient proof that fresh air is essential to good health that this point need not be stressed. In like manner, experience has proven beyond any doubt that children must be given some inducement if they are to be made to acquire those good habits they are taught.

A year ago we requested the Department to grant us the necessary funds for erecting a toboggan slide for the girls of this School. We stressed the hygienic side of the question, stating that the girls needed this slide to encourage them to play more outdoors. We cannot afford to supply them with skates and a rink, no more than we can afford to build them a slide. The result is that after a few minutes outdoors, having nothing with which to play, they ask to come in on account of the cold.

Some time ago, the Department requested that this School organize and enroll a class in the Junior Red Cross Society. This was done. The rules of the Society were taught and enforced. They were taught that fresh air ~~were~~ is essential to good health. They were told to spend as much time as possible out of doors. But, can they be expected to do this unless they have something with which to pass the time away?

In a letter, (I24-I-5, Dec. I2, I930), we were advised that funds were unavailable at that time for this purpose, but that is a year ago. It would seem, in my humble opinion, that for a matter of such importance, the Department would be willing to make the sacrifice of the amount needed in our case. Our per capita is not sufficient to include extras of this

A. Spencer, Esq.,

amount. This work was estimated at $85.00 last year, and we do not feel able to spend this when there are so many other necessary things to provide for the School.

Would you kindly present our requisition to the Department asking them to authorize the buildinh of this slide. Its necessity id obvious and I feel that it is up the Department to provide us with it.

Hoping that you will be able to put this through without delay and thanking you in advance for the attention you will bring to this matter, I beg to remain,

Yours truly,

H. M. Brassard, O.M.I.

H. M. Brassard OMI

Principal.