

972
DOMINION OF CANADA

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE

1898

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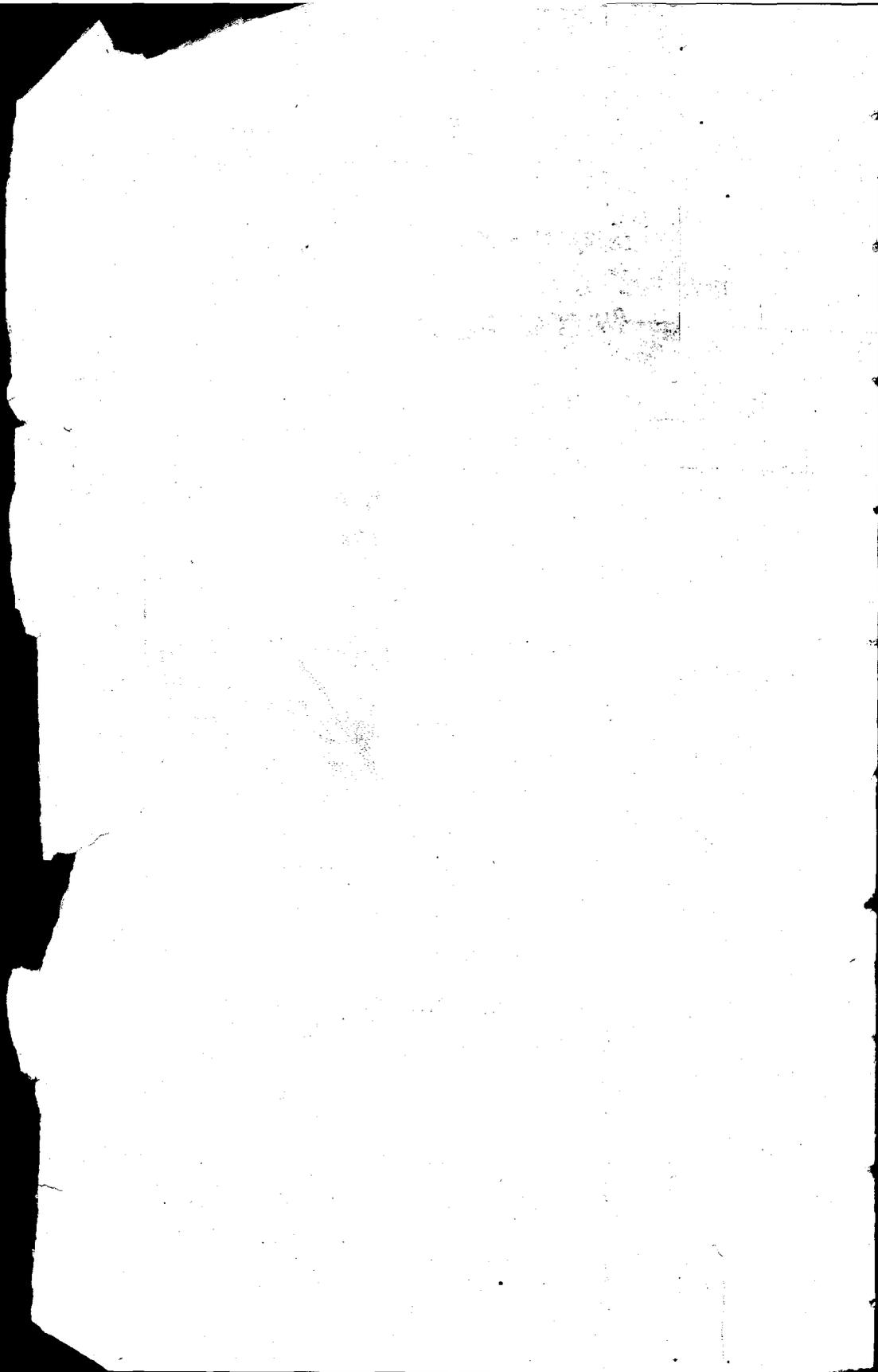


OTTAWA

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EXCELLENT MAJESTY

1899

[No. 14—1899.]



*To His Excellency the Right Honourable the Earl of Minto, Governor General of
Canada, &c., &c., &c.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:—

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency the Annual Report
of the Department of Indian Affairs for the fiscal year ended the 30th June, 1898.

Respectfully submitted,

CLIFFORD SIFTON,

Superintendent General of Indian Affairs.

OTTAWA, 6th February, 1899.

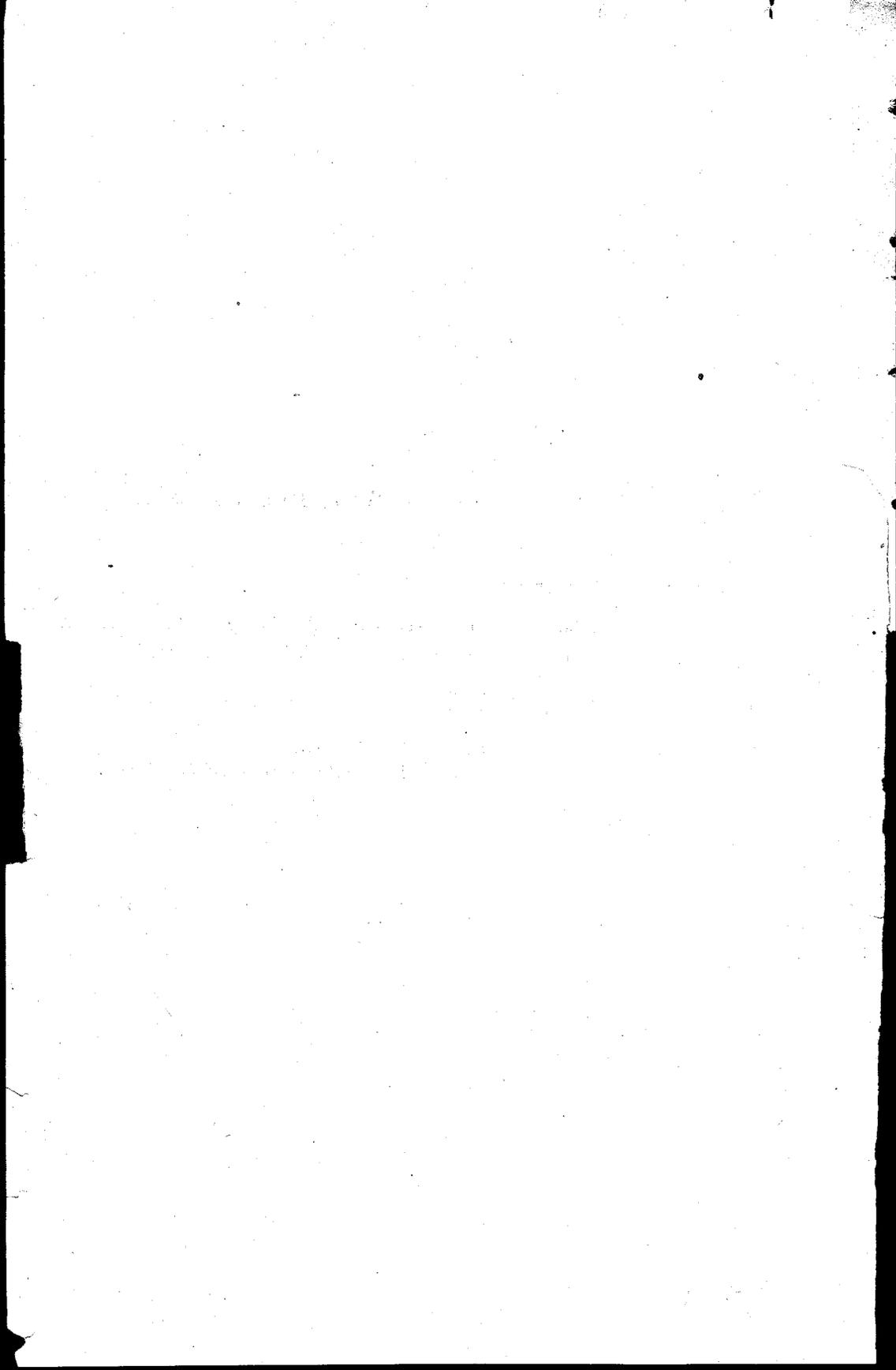
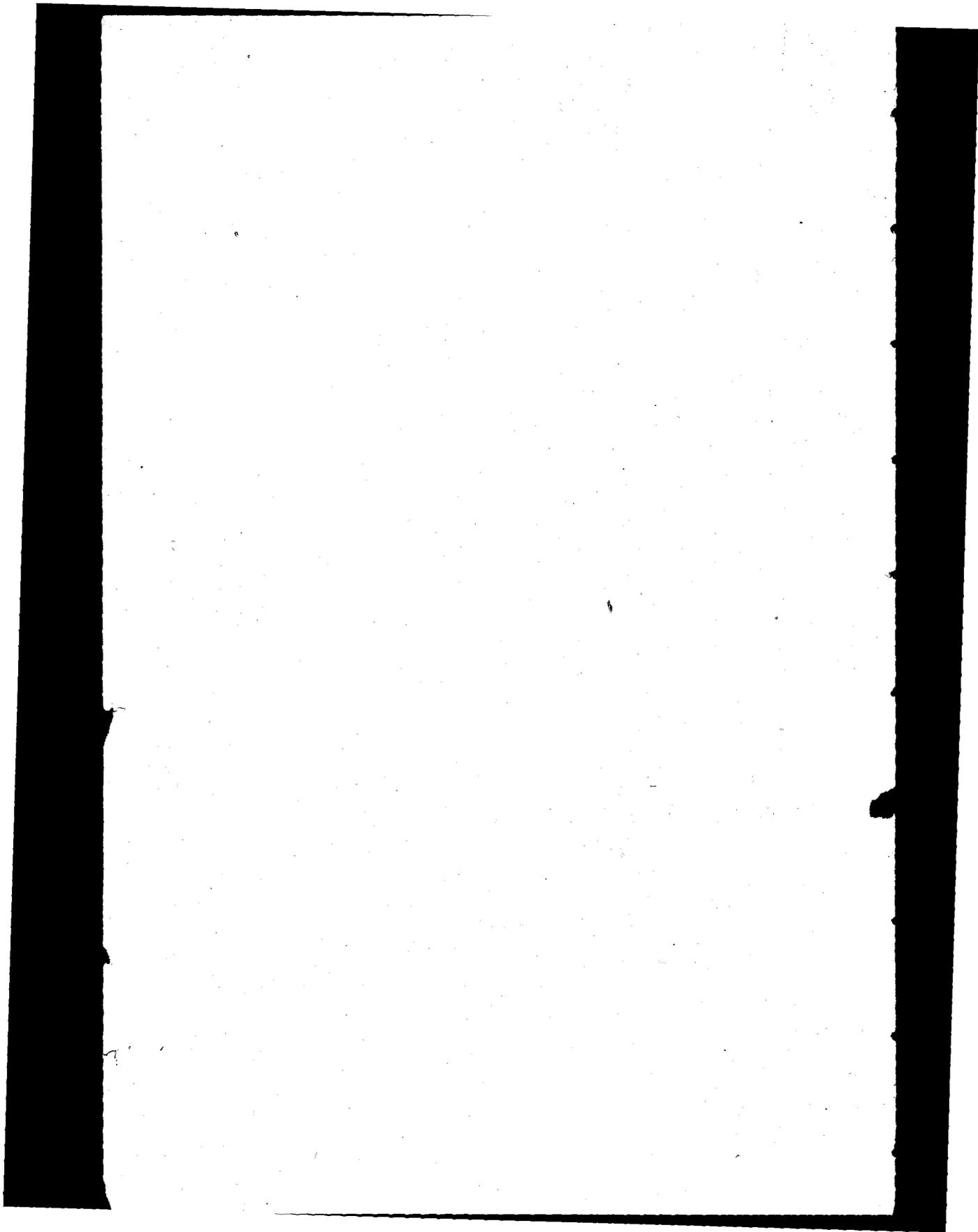


TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
General Index	vii
Report of Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs	xvii
Reports of Indian Agents and other Outside Officers.....	1
Reports of Principals of Industrial and Boarding Schools.....	254
Tabular Statements :—	
Programme of Studies for Indian Schools.....	357
School Statement	362
Indian Land Statement.....	384
Schedule of Indian Reserves.....	386
Census Return.....	406
Agricultural and Industrial Statistics.....	431
List of Indian Chiefs and Councillors.....	490
Commutations of Annuity	518
Officers and Employees	519
Appropriation Accounts.....	531
Indian Trust Fund Accounts.....	533
Supplementary Crop Returns	534



GENERAL INDEX.

A.

	PAGE.
Abbott, Wm. Van,	14
Abenakis of Becancour, Que.,	40
" St. Francis, Que.,	41
Adam, I. H.,	280
Agriculture,	280
Ahtakakoop's Band,	181
Alberni Indian Girls' Home, B.C.,	337
Alert Bay Indian Girls' Home, B.C.,	338
" Industrial School, B.C.,	339
Alexander's Band,	198
All Hallow's Boarding School, Yale, B.C.,	340
Algonquins of Golden Lake, Ont.,	7
" River Desert, Que.,	42
" Temiscamingue,	51
Amalecites of Viger, Que.,	43
Anderson, Geo.,	12
Annapolis County, N.S., Micmacs,	58
Annuity Commutations,	518
Antigonish County, N.S., Micmacs,	59
Artus, G. A., S.J.,	263
Arsenault, J. O.,	69
Ashton, Rev. R.,	256
" "	258
Aspdin, Thos. W.,	111
Assabasca Band,	103
Assiniboine Agency,	111
" "	186
" Band	111
Ojibbewas of Lake Superior—Eastern Division	14
H. Desilets, M.D.	40
A. O. Comiré, M.D.	41
Water Hen River Boarding School, Man.	280
See "Agricultural Statistics," page 431, also side headings in each report: "Agriculture," "Buildings," "Crops," "Farming," "Farming Implements," and "Stock."	
W. J. Chisholm	181
B. J. Johnson	337
Rev. A. J. Hall	338
Rev. A. W. Corker	339
A. E. Lake, Alex. McGibbon	144, 198
Sister Superior Amy	340
E. Bennett	7
W. J. McCaffery	42
A. McBride	51
Edouard Beaulieu	43
Mohawks of the Bay of Quinté	12
Geo. Wells, sr.	58
See "Commutations of Annuity"	518
John R. McDonald	59
Wikwemikong Industrial School, Ont	263
Prince Edward Island Superintendency	69
Mohawk Institution, Brantford, Ont.	256
Six Nation School Board	258
Assiniboine Agency, N.W.T.	111
L. T. A. Lévêque	103
Thos. W. Aspdin, agent	111
Alex. McGibbon, inspector	186
Thos. W. Aspdin	111

B.

Babine and Upper Skeena River Agency,	20
Bangs, E. J.,	16
Bastien, Antoine O.,	43
Batchewana Band, Ont.,	15
Battleford Agency, N.W.T.,	114, 178
" Industrial School, N.W.T.,	281
" Inspectorate, N.W.T.,	176, 316
Bay of Quinté, Ont., Mohawks,	126
Beaulieu, Edouard,	43
Beausoleil Chippewas, Ont.,	1
Beaver Lake Band,	166
Becancour, Que., Abenakis	40
Beckwith, Chas. E.,	64
Begg, Magnus,	74
Bell, Ewen,	242
Bennett, E.,	7
Beren's River Agency, Man.,	70
Big Head or Michipicoten Band, Ont.,	16
Big Island Band,	102
Bird Tail Band,	115, 189
Birtle Agency, Agent's Report,	115
" Inspector's Report,	189
Birtle Boarding School,	283
Black Bear's Band,	184
Blackfoot Agency, N.W.T.,	124
" Boarding Schools, N.W.T.	284
Blood Agency, N.W.T.,	127, 182
" Boarding School, Alta, N.W.T.,	285
Brandon Industrial School, Man.,	266
British Columbia,	243
Brosseau, A.,	47
Buffalo Bay Band,	102
R. E. Loring	20
Stoney Reserve, N.W.T.	16
Hurons of Lorette, Que.	43
Wm. Van Abbott	15
C. M. Daunais and W. J. Chisholm	114, 178
Rev. E. Matheson	281
W. J. Chisholm	176, 316
Geo. Anderson	126
Amalecites of Viger, Que.	43
Chas. McGibbon	1
W. Sibbald	166
H. Desilets	40
Micmacs of King's County, N.S.	64
Coutcheeching Agency	74
Williams Lake Agency, B.C.	242
Algonquins of Golden Lake, Ont.	7
J. W. Short	70
Wm. Van Abbott	16
L. J. A. Lévêque	102
J. A. Markle	115, 189
"	115
Alex. McGibbon	189
Wm. J. Small	283
Alex. McGibbon	184
G. H. Wheatley	124
Rev. H. W. G. Stocken	284
James Wilson and T. P. Wadsworth	127, 182
Arthur De B. Owen	285
Rev. John Semmens	266
Superintendent Vowell	243
Iroquois of Caughnawaga, Que	47
L. J. A. Lévêque	102

C.

	PAGE.
Cacouna, Que., Amalecites,	Same as "Amalecites of Viger." 43
Cahill, C., O.M.I.,	Rat Portage Boarding School 274
Calgary Industrial School, N.W.T.,	Rev. Geo. H. Hogbin 287
Calgary Inspectorate, Alta, N.W.T.,	T. P. Wadsworth 181, 322
Cameron, Rev. A., P.P.,	Miamacs of Cape Breton County, N.S. 59
" E. D.,	Six Nation Indians, Ont. 37
Cape Breton County, N.S., Miamacs,	Rev. A. Cameron, P.P. 59
Cape Croker, Ont., Chippewas,	John McIver 2
Carleton Agency, N.W.T.,	W. J. Chisholm 130
Carion, Rev. A. M.,	Kamloops Industrial School, B.C. 344
Carter, Wm. D.,	North-eastern Division of New Brunswick 53
Cattle,	See "Agricultural Statistics," page 431, also side heading "Stock" in each report.
Caughnawaga, Que., Iroquois,	A. Brosseau 47
Census,	See "Census Return" 406
Chaumont, Rev. A., O.M.I.,	Pine Creek Boarding School, Man 272
Chemawawin Band,	S. R. Marlatt 82
Chippewas of Beausoleil, Penetanguishene, Chas. McGibbon.	. . . . . 1
Ont.,	
Chippewas of Georgina and Snake Islands, D. J. McPhee.	. . . . . 4
Ont.,	
Chippewas of Nawash or Cape Croker, John McIver.	. . . . . 2
Ont.,	
Chippewas of Rama, Ont.,	D. J. McPhee 3
" Sarnia, Ont.,	A. English 5
" Saugeen, Ont.,	John Scofield 6
Chippewayan Band,	G. G. Mann, W. Sibbald 158, 166
Chisholm, W. J.,	Battleford Inspectorate, N.W.T. 176, 316
" "	Carleton Agency, Sask., N.W.T. 130
Chirouse, Rev. E. C.,	St. Mary's Mission Boarding School, B.C. 354
Clandeboye Agency, Man.,	E. McColl 72
Coccola, Rev. N.,	Kootenay Industrial School, B.C. 347
Cockburn Island Band, Ont.,	B. W. Ross 27
Comiré, Rev. W.,	Onion Lake R. C. Boarding School 303
" A. O., M.D.,	Abenakis of St. Francis, Que 41
Coqualeetza Industrial School, B.C.,	Rev. Joseph Hall 341
Corker, Rev. A. W.,	Alert Bay Industrial School, B.C. 339
Coté's Reserve, (Saulteaux),	W. E. Jones 169
" Band,	Alex. McGibbon 192
Coutcheeching Agency, Ont.,	Magnus Begg and L. J. A. Lévêque 74, 105
" Band,	L. J. A. Lévêque 107
Cowichan Agency, B.C.,	W. H. Lomas 213
Cowesess' Band,	J. P. Wright 136
Crane River Band, Man.,	S. R. Marlatt and H. Martineau 80, 89
Credit River, Ont., Mississaguas,	See "Mississaguas" 9
Crooked Lake Agency, N.W.T.,	Jno. P. Wright 134
Crops,	See "Agricultural Statistics," page 431, also side headings in each report.
Crop Returns,	See Supplementary Crop Returns 534
Crowstand Boarding School, N.W.T.,	Neil Gilmour 289
Cumberland Band, Pas Agency, Man.,	S. R. Marlatt 83
" County, N.S., Miamacs.	F. A. Rand 69

D.

Dandurand, Sister L. A.,	St. Albert Boarding School, Alta, N.W.T. 314
Dannais, C. M.,	Battleford Agency 114
Day Star Band,	Alex. McGibbon 195
DeMolitor, J. J. E.,	Miamacs of Shelburne County, N.S. 67
Desert River, Que.,	See "River Desert." 42
Desilets, H., M. D.,	Abenakis of Becancour, Que. 40
Devereux, F. A.,	Schedule of Reserves Surveyed, B.C. 250
Devlin, Frank,	Fraser River Agency, B.C. 216
Dokis Band, Ont.,	W. B. Maclean 35
Donckele, Rev. G.,	Kuper Island Industrial School, B.C. 349
Dorais, Rev. J. B.,	St. Boniface Industrial School, Man 278
Doucet, Rev. L.,	Piegan R. C. Boarding School, Alta 307
Duck Lake Agency, N.W.T.,	R. S. McKenzie and W. J. Chisholm 139, 177
" Boarding School,	Rev. M. J. P. Paquette 142, 191

E.

Eagle Lake Band,	L. J. A. Lévêque 96
Ebb and Flow Lake Band, Man.,	S. R. Marlatt and H. Martineau 79, 86
Edmonton Agency, N.W.T.,	A. E. Lake and T. P. Wadsworth 143, 182
Edmonton Agency,	Report of Alex McGibbon 196

E.—Concluded.

	PAGE.
Edmundston Band, Madawaska Co., Jas. Farrell	52
N.B.,	
Education,	<i>See</i> page 254, also side heading "Education" in each Indian Agent's report.
Elkhorn Industrial School, Man.,	A. E. Wilson
Emmanuel College, Prince Albert	Ven. J. A. Mackay
Employees,	<i>See</i> "Officers and Employees."
English, Adam,	Chippewas of Sarnia
English Church Mission, McIntyre Bay,	J. F. Hodder
Enoch's Band,	A. E. Lake, Alex. McGibbon
Ermineskin's Boarding School, Alta.,	Rev. Z. Lizée
Ermineskin's Band,	Alex. McGibbon
Ethnology,	<i>See</i> side heading "Tribe or Nation" in each report

F.

Falher, Rev. C.,	Lesser Slave Lake R. C. Boarding School
Fairford Band, Man.,	S. R. Marlatt and H. Martineau
Fairlie, Rev. J. H.,	Rupert's Land Industrial School, Man.
Farrell, James	Northern and south-western divisions of New Brunswick
File Hill's Agency, N.W.T.	W. M. Graham and Alex. McGibbon
Fort William Band, Ont.,	J. F. Hodder
" Orphanage, Ont.,	Sisters of St. Joseph
Fraser, Annie,	Portage la Prairie Boarding School, Man.
Fraser, Rev. John,	Micmacs of Richmond County, N.S.
Fraser River Agency, B.C.,	Frank Devlin
Frenchman's Head Band,	L. J. A. Lévêque

G.

Gambler's Band,	J. A. Markle
Gagné, Rev. J.,	Micmacs of Maria, Que.
Galbraith, R. L. T.,	Kootenay Agency, B.C.
Garden River Band, Ont.,	Wm. Van Abbott
Georgina Island, Ont., Chippewas	D. J. McPhee
Gibson or Watha Reserve, Ont.,	W. B. Maclean
Gilmour, Neil,	Crowstand Boarding School, N.W.T.
Girard, F. X., M.D.,	Medical Report, Blood Agency
Golden Lake Band, Ont.,	E. Bennett
Gordon's Band,	Alex. McGibbon
Gordon's Boarding School, N.W.T.,	M. Williams
Grand Rapids Band, Sask. River,	S. R. Marlatt
Graham, W. M.,	File Hills Agency, N.W.T.
Grant, W. S.,	Hobberna Agency, N.W.T.
Grassy Narrows Band,	L. J. A. Lévêque
Grandin, Rev. H.	Lac la Biche Boarding School, Alta.
Guilod, Harry,	West Coast Agency, B.C.
Guysborough County, N.S., Micmacs,	John R. McDonald

H.

Halifax County, N.S., Micmacs,	Rev. Chas. E. McManus, P. P.
Hall, Rev. A. J.,	Alert Bay Indian Girl's Home, B.C.
Hall, Rev. Jos.,	Coqualeetza Industrial Institute, B.C.
Halpin, H. R.,	Moose Mtn. Agency
Hanson, Thos., M.D.,	Medical Report
Hants County, N.S., Micmacs,	A. Wallace
Harlow, Charles,	Micmacs of Queen's and Lunenburg Counties, N.S.
Henvey Inlet Band, Ont.,	W. B. Maclean
Hinchliffe, Rev. J.,	Piegan C. E. Boarding School, N.W.T.
High River Industrial School, N.W.T.,	Rev. A. Naessens
Hobberna Agency, N.W.T.,	W. S. Grant, Alex. McGibbon
Hodder, J. F.,	Ojibbewas of Lake Superior, Western Division
Hogbin, Rev. Geo. H.,	Calgary Industrial School, N.W.T.
Hugonnard, Rev. J.,	Qu'Appelle Industrial School, N.W.T.
Hungry Hall Bands,	L. J. A. Lévêque
Hurons of Lorette, Que.,	A. O. Bastien

L.-- Concluded.

	PAGE.
Lomas, W. H.,	213
Long, George,	48
Long Lake Band, Ont.,	19
Long Plains Band, Man.,	77, 91
Long Sault Bands,	106
Lorette, Que., Hurons,	43
Loring, Richard E.,	203
Louis Bull's Band,	200
Lunenburg County, N.S., Micmacs,	65
Cowichan Agency, B.C.	213
Iroquois of St. Regis, Que.	48
J. F. Hodder	19
S. R. Marlatt and H. Martineau	77, 91
L. J. A. Lévéque	106
A. O. Bastien	43
Babine and Upper Skeena River Agency, B.C.	203
Alex. McGibbon	200
Charles Harlow	65

Mac. or Mc.

McDonald, A. R.,	13
" J. R.,	59
" Rev. Roderick,	65
Macdonald, A. J.,	67
McCull, E.,	72
Maclean, W. B.,	32
Mackay, Ven. J. A.,	292
McBride, A.,	51
McCaffrey, W. J.,	42
McGibbon, Alex.,	184, 325
" " Chas.,	325
" " Chas.,	1
McFarlane, Wm.,	10
McIsaac, Rev. D.,	63
McIver, John,	2
McKelvey, Alex.,	38
McKenzie, Robert S.,	139
McLeod, Rev. A. J.,	311
McManus, Rev. Chas. E.,	162
McNeill, A. J.,	66
McPhee, D. J.,	3
Moravians of the Thames	13
Micmacs of Antigonish and Guysboro	59
" Pictou County, N.S.	65
Micmacs of Victoria County, N.S.	67
Clandeboye Agency, Man.	72
Parry Sound Superintendency	32
Emmanuel College, Prince Albert, N.W.T.	292
Algonquins of Temiscamingue, Que.	51
" River Desert, Que.	42
Inspection of Indian Agencies, Qu'Appelle, N.W.T.	184, 325
" Indian Schools, Qu'Appelle, N.W.T.	325
Chippewas of Beausoleil, Penetanguishene, Ont.	1
Mississaguas of Rice and Mud Lakes, Ont.	10
Micmacs of Inverness County, N.S.	63
Chippewas of Nawash, Cape Croker	2
Walpole Island Agency, Ont.	38
Duck Lake Agency, N.W.T.	139
Regina Industrial School, N.W.T.	311
Micmacs of Halifax County, N.S.	162
Sarcee Agency, N.W.T.	66
Chippewas of Rama and Georgina and Snake Islands	3

M.

Maganettawan Band, Ont.,	B. W. Ross	21
Manitoulin Island, Ojibbewas & Ottawas,	B. W. Ross	25
Manitow Rapids Band,	L. J. A. Lévéque	106
Manitowapah Agency, Man.,	S. R. Marlatt, Inspector	78
" " Treaty No. 2,	H. Martineau, Agent	85
Maniwaki Reserve, Que.,	W. J. McCaffrey	42
Mann, George G.,	Onion Lake Agency, N.W.T.	157
Marcotte, P. L.,	Montagnais of Lake St. John	50
Maria, Que., Micmacs.	Rev. J. Gagné	49
Markle, J. A.,	Birtle Agency	115
Marlatt, S. R.,	Lake Manitoba Inspectorate, Man.	76, 84
Martineau, H.,	Manitowapah Agency, Man., Treaty No. 2	85
Matheson, Rev. E.,	Battleford Industrial School, N.W.T.	281
" " J. R.,	Onion Lake C. E. Boarding School, N.W.T.	302
Medical Reports,	Thos. Hanson, M.D.	110
" " Blood Agency,	F. X. Girard, M.D.	183
Metlakahtla Industrial School, B.C.,	John R. Scott	352
Michael's Band,	A. E. Lake and Alex. McGibbon	144, 198
Michipicoten Band, Ont.,	Wm. Van Abbott	16
Micmacs of Annapolis County, N.S.,	Geo Wells, sr.	58
" Antigonish	John R. McDonald	59
" Cape Breton	Rev. A. Cameron, P.P.	59
" Colchester	Thos. B. Smith	60
" Cumberland	F. A. Rand	60
" Digby	J. J. Sullivan	61
" Guysborough	John R. McDonald	59
" Halifax	Rev. Chas. E. McManus	62
" Hants	A. Wallace	62
" Inverness	D. McIsaac	63
" King's	Chas. E. Beckwith	64
" Lunenburg	Charles Harlow	65
" Maria	Rev. J. Gagné	49
" Pictou County, N.S.,	Rev. R. McDonald	65
" Queen's	Charles Harlow	65
" Richmond	Rev. John Fraser	66
" Shelburne	J. J. E. de Molitor	67

M.—Concluded.

	PAGE.
Micmacs of Victoria County, N.S.,	A. J. Macdonald..... 67
" Yarmouth County "	Geo. R. Smith..... 68
Mississagua River, Ont., Ojibbewas,	B. W. Ross..... 22
Mississaguas of Alnwick, Ont.,	John Thackeray..... 7
" Credit, Ont.,	Hugh Stewart..... 9
" Rice and MudLakes, Ont.,	Wm. McFarlane..... 10
" Rice Lake, Ont.,	Wm. McFarlane..... 10
" Scugog, Ont.,	A. W. Williams..... 11
Mistawasis' Band,	W. J. Chisholm..... 130
Mohawk Institute, Brantford, Ont.,	Rev. R. Ashton..... 256
Mohawks of Bay of Quinté, Ont.,	Geo. Anderson..... 12
Montagnais of Lake St. John, Que.,	P. L. Marcotte..... 50
Montana Band,	Alex. McGibbon..... 200
Moose Lake Band,	S. R. Marlatt..... 82
Moose Mountain Agency, N.W.T.,	H. R. Halpin and Alex. McGibbon..... 149, 187, 201
Moose Wood's Band,	W. J. Chisholm..... 176
Moravians of the Thames, Ont.,	A. R. McDonald..... 13
Mount Elgin Institute, Ont.,	Rev. W. W. Shepherd..... 260
Morell Reserve, P.E.I.,	J. O. Arsenault..... 69
Mud Lake, Ont., Mississaguas,	Wm. McFarlane..... 16
Muscovequan's Band,	Alex. McGibbon..... 196
" Boarding School, Assa.,	S. Perrault..... 301
" N.W.T.,	J. B. Lash..... 154
Muscowpetung's Agency, N.W.T.,	J. B. Lash..... 155
" Band,	

N.

Naessens, Rev. A.,	High River Industrial School, Dunbow, Alta., N.W.T. 296
Nepigon Band, Ont.,	J. F. Hodder..... 18
New Brunswick,	Jas. Farrell and Wm. D. Carter..... 52, 53, 55
Naicatchewenin Band,	L. J. A. Lévéque..... 108
Nickickisomenecaning Band,	" "..... 109
Nipissing Band, Ont.,	W. B. Maclean..... 34
North-west Angle Bands,	L. J. A. Lévéque..... 100, 101
North-west Coast Agency, B.C.,	Chas. Todd..... 235

O.

Oak Lake Band,	J. A. Markle and Alex. McGibbon..... 118, 191
" River Band,	" "..... 117, 191
Obidgewong Band, Ont.,	B. W. Ross..... 31
Ochapowace's Band,	J. P. Wright..... 134
Officers,	See "Officers and Employees"..... 519
Ojibbewas of Lake Superior, Eastern	Wm. Van Abbott..... 14
Division,	
Ojibbewas of Lake Superior, Western	J. F. Hodder..... 17
Division,	
Ojibbewas of Manitoulin Island and	B. W. Ross..... 20
Lake Huron, Ont.,	
Ojibbewas of Mississagua River, Ont.,	"..... 22
Okanagan Agency, B.C.,	A. Irwin..... 229
Okanase Band,	Alex. McGibbon..... 185
Okemasis and Beardy's Bands,	R. L. McKenzie..... 140
One Arrow's Band,	" "..... 139
Onion Lake Agency, N.W.T.,	G. G. Mann and W. J. Chisholm..... 157, 180
" R. C. Boarding School,	Rev. W. Corniré..... 303
" C. E. Boarding School,	Rev. J. R. Matheson..... 302
Oromocto Band, N.B.,	Jas. Farrell..... 57
Owen, Arthur DeB.,	Blood Boarding School, Atla, N.W.T..... 285

P.

Paquette, Rev. M. J. P.,	Duck Lake Boarding School, Sask..... 191
Parry Island Band, Ont.,	W. B. Maclean..... 32
Parry Sound Superintendency,	"..... 32
Pas Agency, Lake Manitoba Inspectorate,	S. R. Marlatt..... 81
Pas Band,	"..... 82
Pasquah's Band,	J. B. Lash..... 155
Pays Plat Band, Ont.,	J. F. Hodder..... 18

S.

	PAGE.
Saddle Lake Agency, N.W.T.,	163, 179
" Band,	163
Sandy Bay Band, Lake Manitoba,	78, 85
" Lake St. Martin,	88
Sakimay's Band,	187
Samson's Band,	199
Sanitation,	199
Sarcee Agency, N.W.T.,	166
" " "	201
Sarcee Boarding School, Alta., N.W.T.,	315
Sarnia, Ont., Chippewas,	5
Savanne Agency, Ont.,	94
Saugeen, Ont., Chippewas,	6
Schedule of Reserves surveyed, B.C.,	250-1
Schools, Reports on Indian,	See page 254, also side heading "Education" in each report.
Scofield, John,	6
Scott, John,	352
Scoug, Ont., Mississaguas,	11
Seekaskootch Band,	157
Semmens, Rev. John,	266
Serpent River Band, Ont.,	24
Shawanaga Band, Ont.,	33
Sheguiandah Band, Ont.,	30
Shelburne County, N.S., Micmacs,	67
Shepherd, Rev. W. W.,	260
Sheshewaning Band, Ont.,	27
Shingwauk Home, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.,	261
Shoal Lake Band,	83
" " Nos. 39 and 40,	99, 100
Short, J. W.,	70
Sibbald, W.,	163
Sister Superior Amy,	340
Sisters of St. Joseph,	255
Six Nation Indians, Brantford, Ont.,	37
" School Board,	258
Sioux Indians,	78, 132
Skinner, E. M.,	251
Small, W. J.,	283
Smith, Geo. R.,	68
" Thos. B.,	60
Snake Island, Ont., Chippewas,	4
Somerset, Rev. C. E.,	310
South Bay Band, Ont.,	30
Spanish River Band, Ont.,	21
Standing Buffalo Band,	156
Stangecoming Band, Man.,	108
Statistics, Agricultural and Industrial,	431
Statistics, Vital,	See "Agricultural and Industrial Statistics"
	See "Census Return," page 406, also side heading "Vital Statistics" in each report.
Star Blanket's Band,	185
Stewart, Hugh,	9
Stocken, Rev. H. W. G.,	284
Stony Reserve, N.W.T.,	168
Striped Blanket's Band,	150, 188, 202
Studies,	See Programme of Studies for Indian Schools.
Sturgeon Lake Band,	130
Sucker Creek Band, Ont.,	29
" Lake Band, Ont.,	31
Sullivan, J. J.,	61
Swan River Agency, N.W.T.,	169, 192
" Lake Band, Man.,	76, 92
Swinford, S.,	171

T.

Tahgaiwini Band, Ont.,	24
Temiscamingue Band, Que.,	51
Temogamingue Band, Ont.,	35
Thackeray, John,	7
Thames River, Ont., Moravians,	13
Thessalon River Band, Ont.,	20
	B. W. Ross
	A. McBride
	W. B. Maclean
	Mississaguas of Alnwick, Ont.,
	See "Moravians"
	B. W. Ross

T—Concluded.

	PAGE.
Tims, Ven. J. W.,	315
Tobique Band, Victoria Co., N.B.,	52
Todd, Chas.,	235
Touchwood Hills Agency, N.W.T.,	171, 194
Turtle Mountain Band,	119
Sarcee Boarding School, Alta., N.W.T.	171, 194
Jas. Farrell	119
North-west Coast Agency, B.C.	171, 194
S. Swinford and Alex. McGibbon	119
J. A. Markle	119

V.

Valley River Band,	121
Victoria County, N.S., Micmacs,	67
Viger, Que., Amalecites,	43
Vowell, Arthur W.,	243
" " "	248
" " "	248
Reports of F. A. Devereux and E. M. Skinner, I. R. Surveyors, B.C.	250-1
J. A. Markle	121
A. J. Macdonald	67
Edouard Beaulieu	43
British Columbia	243
Indian Reserve Commission, B.C.	248
Reports of F. A. Devereux and E. M. Skinner, I. R. Surveyors, B.C.	250-1

W.

Wabigoon Band,	95
Wabuskang Band,	98
Wadsworth, T. P.,	181
" " "	322
Wallace, Alonzo,	62
Walpole Island Agency, Ont.,	38
Washakada Home, Elkhorn, Man.,	270
Wahspaton's Band,	132
Water Hen River Band, Man.,	80, 90
" " " Boarding School, Man.,	280
Watha Band, Ont.,	36
Way-way-see-cappo's Band,	120, 189
Wells, Geo., sr.,	58
West Bay Band, Ont.,	28
West Coast Agency, B.C.,	237
Wheatley, G. H.,	124
White Bear's Band,	151, 188, 202
" Fish Bay Band,	103
" " Lake Band,	22, 164
" " River Band, Ont.,	23
" Whale Lake Band,	145, 197
Wikwemikong Industrial School, Ont.,	263
Williams, M.,	295
" A. W.,	11
William Charles' Band,	132, 176
Williams Lake Agency, B.C.,	242
" " Industrial School,	355
Wilson, A. E.,	270
" James,	127
" R. N.,	159
Wright, Jno. P.,	134
Woodstock Band, Carleton Co., N.B.,	55
L. J. A. Lévêque	95
" " "	98
Inspection of Agencies	181
" Schools, Man. and N.W.T.	322
Micmacs of Hants County, N.S.	62
Alex. McKelvey	38
A. E. Wilson	270
W. J. Chisholm	132
S. R. Marlatt and H. Martineau	80, 90
I. H. Adam	280
W. B. Maclean	36
J. A. Markle and Alex. McGibbon	120, 189
Micmacs of Annapolis County, N.S.	58
B. W. Ross	28
Harry Guilloid	237
Blackfoot Agency	124
H. R. Halpin and Alex. McGibbon	151, 188, 202
L. J. A. Lévêque	103
B. W. Ross and W. Sibbald	22, 164
"	23
A. E. Lake and Alex. McGibbon	145, 197
Rev. G. A. Artus, S. J.	263
Gordon's Boarding School, N.W.T.	295
Mississaguas of Scugog	11
W. J. Chisholm	132, 176
E. Bell	242
Rev. J. M. Lejacq	355
Elkhorn Industrial School, Man.	270
Blood Agency, N.W.T.	127
Piegan Agency, N.W.T.	159
Crooked Lake Agency, N.W.T.	134
Jas. Farrell	55

Y.

Yale Boarding School, B.C.,	340
Yarmouth County, N.S., Micmacs,	68
Yellow Quill's Band,	194
Sister Superior Amy	340
Geo. R. Smith	68
Alex. McGibbon	194

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REPORT

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

FOR THE YEAR

YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1898.

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

OTTAWA, 31st December, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the report of the Department of Indian Affairs for the year ended 30th June, 1898, being the first which treats of matters with regard to which any responsibility attaches to myself because, as I had occasion to point out in the one presented by me last year, I had only entered upon the duties pertaining to my present office, towards the close of the period therein reviewed.

The acquaintance with Indian Affairs gained during the year, has served to greatly increase my interest in matters immediately affecting the aboriginal section of the inhabitants of the Dominion, and has moreover enhanced my sense of their importance and of the difficulties in connection with proper administration.

This has been peculiarly the case with respect to that part of the work, which in the younger Provinces, is concerned with the more elementary stages in the civilization of the Indian tribes.

It cannot be expected that any marked change either in the higher or more rudimentary phases of civilization will become perceptible in the course of any single year, but as, more especially in the earlier stages, any halt in the onward march is the immediate precursor of retrogression, some progressive tendency must be jealously watched for.

Happily, the result of such scrutiny of the past year is far from disappointing, as will become apparent upon careful consideration of the reports and tabular statements furnished by the various officials and Agents of the Department. To these I beg to refer you for details which must necessarily be passed over or at most briefly summarized when reviewing Indian matters throughout the whole Dominion.

The fact to which I have already alluded, viz. :—that I now for the first time report regarding matters with the conduct of which I have been actively concerned, not unnaturally enhances the pleasure of being able to point to some general progress, together with a reasonable measure of prosperity throughout.

This statement is of course made subject to the usual allowance due for such fluctuation as is necessarily incidental to the component parts of a population, subject from residential and other causes to marked differences of environment, and at greatly varying stages of evolution from their natural mode of life.

VITAL STATISTICS.

There can be no better standard by which to judge of the prosperity of a nation or community than the natural increase of the population, which always bears a distinct relation to the comparative ease or difficulty experienced in the struggle for existence.

For this reason and to correct a more or less prevailing impression that the Indians are gradually dying out, the following figures are deserving of particular attention

The Indian population throughout the Dominion, as shown by statistics which are at any rate closely approximate and as accurate as the circumstances of the case admit of, reached an aggregate of 100,093 souls in 1897-98 as against 99,364 for the preceding year, thus giving an increase of 729.

To show that this has been generally distributed and not confined to Provinces where the conditions are most favourable, the figures may be given for each :—

Increase in Ontario	410
“ Quebec	55
“ Nova Scotia	137
“ Prince Edward Island	11
“ British Columbia	27
“ Manitoba	175
	<hr/>
	815

From this has to be deducted—

Decrease in New Brunswick	31
“ North-West Territories	55
	<hr/>
	86

leaving the net increase at 729 as already stated.

The mortality among the few Indians in New Brunswick has been exceptionally heavy especially in the North Eastern District, and has resulted chiefly from pneumonia, consumption, and an epidemic of measles.

In the North-west Territories the decrease is more than accounted for by the disappearance of a number of the refugees who went to Montana after the disturbance in 1885 and at the request of the United States Government were brought back in 1895-96.

It is expected that at any rate a proportion of these will rejoin their friends who have settled down and been doing well on their reserves, but in the meantime their departure has converted what otherwise would have been an increase in the North-west Territories into an actual decrease of the Indian population.

CONDITIONS AFFECTING GROWTH OF POPULATION.

As the destructive tendency in the first instance, of the introduction of a civilized method of living among our Indians, is often overlooked, or not properly appreciated, and none the less must receive due weight when making numerical increase or decrease, the criterion by which to judge of the merits or demerits of the methods pursued with regard to them, it may be worth while to give an example of the way in which it operates.

Pulmonary phthisis and scrofula with the tendency of the latter to develop into the former, may be said to be the scourge of the native population and responsible for a very large portion of the death rate. It might at first sight seem that the better protection afforded by the change from the tepee or the wigwam to the house would have a beneficial effect, at any rate upon pulmonary tendencies and complaints. As a matter of fact, however, the herding together in small and ill-ventilated houses such as form the first advance toward a better class of dwellings, serves to preserve and disseminate the germs of this most insidious disease and to aggravate its spread among the Indians. Even after more commodious dwellings have been erected, the tendency is to huddle together during the winter season into perhaps a single room, and to further economize heat by the careful exclusion of fresh air.

It will be readily understood that the people whose portable habitations have been pitched from day to day upon the bare ground, prairie sod or forest leaves, are absolutely indifferent as to depositing affected sputa on the floors of their houses. Add to this the infrequency of scrubbing or sweeping, and the extent to which the dust is raised by the dancing, which forms their frequent pastime during the long winter evenings, and it would be difficult to imagine any conditions more favourable for the development and spread of a disease which is now recognized to be of so contagious a character that the necessity for the isolation of the affected, as the only means for its eradication from a community, is receiving the serious consideration of the medical faculty of the day.

The prevalence of scrofula is no doubt largely the result of intermarriage, and particularly noticeable among bands or tribes, the reduction of whose numbers through war or other causes has restricted marriage to within an ever narrowing degree of consanguinity.

While civilization, by putting an end to tribal wars, operates in the direction of counteracting what has just been referred to, the system of keeping bands apart on separate reservations, although in most ways very advantageous, has one drawback, inasmuch as it tends to hinder the infusion of new blood.

There are other causes at work, which, although not consequent upon the introduction of civilization, are incidental to the condition of Indians when first brought under its influence, and greatly increase the mortality.

Many diseases, such as "la grippe" or influenza, or measles, are comparatively innocuous if proper care be taken when recovering from them, but are often followed by fatal effects, when proper precautions are neglected, and to educate Indians to employ these, or to take medicines prescribed for them with anything like regularity is a slow and arduous process.

The mortality among infants is also very heavy and due in a great measure to marriages of mere girls neither fitted physically nor in any other way to produce or foster healthy offspring.

If all these adverse conditions receive due consideration, it must be admitted that the fact that even the Indians who have most recently come under civilizing influences are at least holding their own numerically, with a tendency to increase, is a strong proof of the wise and humane policy pursued by Canada in assisting its aboriginal population in the struggle for survival.

To combat the ravages of consumption every effort is made to get the Indians to ventilate their houses, if only by such simple methods as having open fire-places and chimneys, or ventilators in the roofs.

The practice of cleanliness with regard to their persons and their houses is unremittingly inculcated, and not a little has been accomplished in these directions.

The use of vegetables and of medicines, including cod liver oil liberally supplied to those who cannot afford to purchase it, is distinctly if slowly ameliorating the scrofulous condition. As a safeguard against possible invasion by small-pox, which in years gone by almost annihilated many bands, vaccination is extensively and systematically carried out, although when the prejudice against it is very strong, as it occasionally is, it is thought better to await the result of effort to overcome it, at any rate until the necessity for stronger measures may become more immediately urgent.

General sanitary precautions consist in the collection and burning of all dirt and rubbish about the houses and premises, a liberal use of white wash, and the boiling before use, of water of doubtful purity.

That these precautions are fairly well observed and have their effect is evidenced by a remarkable absence of such diseases as typhoid and diphtheria, which would certainly result from their neglect. In fact it has not infrequently been noticed that where diseases of the class referred to have been epidemic among other sections of the community in a district the Indians have escaped.

HEALTH.

No epidemic during the year has been at all generally prevalent among the Indians, but la grippe or influenza has been more or less so in some districts, and decidedly erratic in its course.

It attacked the Algonquins of Lake Temiscamingue, P. Q., in a somewhat severe form, and not a few deaths were either directly attributable to it, or to some supervening pulmonary trouble. It was more or less prevalent although fortunately of a milder character, among the Indians in several counties in Nova Scotia and in the Battleford, Onion Lake, Swan River and Birtle Agencies in the North-west Territories as also in British Columbia more particularly in the Kootenay District.

Measles of a virulent type were epidemic among the Montagnais of Lake St. John, and among the Indians at Alnwick, also although not perhaps in so malignant form in New Brunswick. They were prevalent but of a mild type on some reserves in the Prince Albert and Regina Districts, and in the vicinity of Osayoos, in the Kamloops

Okanagan Agency in British Columbia. In the Fraser Agency in the last mentioned Province, they were accompanied or followed by bronchitis and pneumonia.

Whooping cough made its appearance at Sandy Bay and Rosseau River, in the Province of Manitoba, at Onion Lake in the North-west Territories and in the West Coast Agency in British Columbia.

Scarlatina, which has been of somewhat rare occurrence among the Indians, broke out at the St. Paul's Industrial School, near Winnipeg, the Qu'Appelle Industrial School, and in the Prince Albert District.

Despite these outbreaks and notwithstanding the reports that in some few bands tuberculosis is somewhat on the increase, the year may be said to have been more favourable than usual to the health of the Indians and the tendency, where constitutional weakness existed, to have been in the direction of gaining strength.

AGRICULTURE.

Increasing acquaintance with Indian affairs can hardly fail to strengthen the conviction that the initial step towards the civilization of our Indians should be their adoption of agricultural pursuits, and that if the red man is to take his place and keep pace with the white in other directions, he will be best fitted to do so, after a more or less prolonged experience of such deliberate method of providing for his wants. For the transformation of the nomadic denizens of the forest or prairie, or of such of them as under changed conditions have become vagrant hangers on about the outskirts of settlement, the first essential is fixity of residence, and the formation of the idea of a home.

Without that neither churches nor schools nor any other educational influence can be established and applied.

Cultivation of the soil necessitates remaining in one spot, and then exerts an educational influence of a general character. It keeps prominently before the mind the relation of cause and effect, together with the dependence upon a higher power. It teaches moreover the necessity for systematic work at the proper season, for giving attention to detail, and patience in waiting for results.

It inculcates furthermore the idea of individual proprietorship, habits of thrift, a due sense of the value of money, and the importance of its investment in useful directions.

For all these reasons as well as for the additional and weighty one that there is no other field in which the Indians generally can so readily find an opening or so speedily contribute to their own support when in process of education, they are not only encouraged but urged to make agriculture or the kindred industry of stock raising their mainstay, so far as local conditions permit, and after they themselves have become convinced that hunting and fishing must be abandoned in favour of some less precarious if more arduous occupation.

As Indians advance the tendency is in the direction of more carefully cultivating smaller areas of land, the better results of which course are gradually recognized. The greater attention to vegetable and root crops, especially in districts where climatic conditions render the maturing of cereals precarious, operates in the direction of further

curtailing the area subjected to tillage. The encouragement and available supply of seed resulting from one year's operations, or the reverse, will affect the extent of those undertaken during the next year.

The area of land under cultivation, during the year 1898, aggregated 111,880 acres.

In considering the amount of crops secured relatively to the acreage farmed, a distinction must be made between the area described as under cultivation which includes fallow lands, new breaking and "made" pasturage, and the area actually seeded down, which was in the spring of 1897, 40,368 acres.

The crop of cereals, vegetables and roots harvested in the fall of that year amounted to 1,120,900 bushels, and of hay and other fodder 76,458 tons were secured, the increase over the preceding year being 101,500 bushels and 2,164 tons respectively.

It is regretted that there was not a proportionate increase in the value of farm produce, which in the aggregate only exceeded that of the preceding year by some \$20,000.

The market value of produce, however, only affects the pockets of the Indians in so far as concerns the sale of what they may have to dispose of after providing for home consumption, which as a rule is not very much.

STOCK.

Everything considered, the year has not been a very favourable one for cattle.

In the Province of Quebec the scarcity of hay had its effect in reducing the number held by the Indians.

In Manitoba and the North-west Territories, although fully more hay was put up than during the preceding year, it was secured with greater difficulty, and the winter proved a severe and prolonged one.

Cattle wintered on the ranges had an unusually hard time of it and suffered accordingly. In Ontario and British Columbia, where the conditions were more favourable, the number of the stock increased.

On the whole it may be said that the Indians were quite as successful in bringing their cattle through the winter as the settlers were, and when it is remembered that to do so involved the resistance of the temptation to dispose of hay, afforded by the high price obtainable towards the close of a long and severe winter, the fact speaks well for the interest taken by them in their stock. One feature in connection with stock deserves notice, and that is the marked improvement which has for some years back been taking place in its quality.

This has been effected by the gradual introduction of highly bred bulls which the Indians are encouraged to purchase when in a position to do so, or supplied with when unable to obtain them for themselves.

Generally speaking the growth of an intelligent interest in agricultural pursuits is noticeable.

Where Indians compete with settlers at Agricultural Fairs or Exhibitions, they hold their own, and in the younger provinces especially, their exhibits excite the surprise of such visitors as are ignorant of the strides which they have been making.

There is a general inclination manifested to form Agricultural Societies among themselves, and, during the year some Fairs have been held by these which have been most creditable to all concerned. Among the most successful of these Exhibitions may be mentioned those held at Walpole Island and Cape Croker, also by the Six Nation Indians and by the Blackfeet in the North-west Territories, the last mentioned Indians having been among the latest to come under the influence of civilization.

The extent to which the natural repugnance to the steady, arduous and monotonous toil required for successful farming, has been overcome in a people from whom there has not yet been time to eradicate the strong hereditary craving for a roaming life and the excitement of the chase, is very gratifying and encouraging.

Observation of the ever extending tendency among young people descended from generations of farmers, to leave the parental homestead and make for the town or city, in the hope of evading monotonous drudgery, should create more sympathy for the difficulty experienced by the red man in accommodating himself to the abrupt change in his occupation and mode of life.

NATURAL AND OTHER RESOURCES.

While for reasons already explained it is desirable, at any rate for a time, to make other pursuits auxiliary or subservient to that of agriculture, many of the Indians are compelled by circumstances to provide for themselves by other methods, and even those whose mainstay is the farm, are encouraged to employ all such time as can be spared from its demands in any direction in which an opening can be found for honest industry.

The receipts of the Indians from the same sources as were mentioned in last year's report, were for that now under review as follows:—

Value of farm produce including hay.....	\$ 708,760 82
Received from land rentals	57,998 90
Wages earned.....	628,941 52
Earned by fishing	380,100 61
Earned by hunting	437,333 95
Earned by other industries.....	420,257 39
	\$2,633,395 19

This amount exceeded by \$167,793.30 that of the year before, which was \$2,465,601.89.

Since returns have not been yet received from Beren's River the sum of \$40,000 may safely be estimated as earned by the Indians of that Agency, which will bring the increase up to \$207,793.30.

In Ontario the diminished value despite the augmented quantity of farm products, seems to have provoked strong effort in other directions, and the earnings of the Indians from wages and general industries surpassed those of the preceding year by \$85,757.47.

In Quebec the decrease in agricultural earnings extended to general industries, but as many of the Indians of this province have depended on the United States for a market for the baskets and fancy wares manufactured by them, a considerable falling off in revenue from this source would necessarily result from the withdrawal by the

American Government of the privilege so long accorded them of passing their manufactures and exchanges through the customs without exaction of duty.

These deficits were, however, more than counterbalanced by the renewed opportunity afforded a good many for earning money in consequence of a greatly revived demand for moccasins and snowshoes to supply the influx of gold seekers into the Klondike region.

In Manitoba many of the Indians depend almost entirely upon fishing and hunting for their support, and reference to the table of earnings will show decrease from these sources in that province amounting to \$39,519.05, but this is only apparent since it may as nearly as possible be offset by adding an amount of \$40,000 already referred to as a closely approximate estimate of the value of what has been obtained from fishing and hunting at Beren's river.

In the North-west Territories there has been some increase from all sources, aggregating \$49,357.17.

In British Columbia, there has been a considerable falling off in fishery receipts, amounting to \$62,381.00, resulting from the failure of the salmon run in some places, and in others to such an opposite extreme, as to greatly reduce the local market value. There has, moreover, been a further and larger decrease in returns from the sealing industry—the number of schooners becoming less as the seals get scarcer, and consequently fewer Indians being required to complete the crews.

Fortunately, in compensation for this loss, the hunt proved correspondingly profitable and the larger returns from that source, from farm produce and from wages earned, resulted in a net increase of \$52,472.10.

The ever increasing competition in almost all directions, caused by the influx of labour, more especially Chinese and Japanese, is making it much more difficult than in the past for the Indians of this province to make money, and it is fortunate that nature has been peculiarly bountiful in providing them with food supplies.

Each year demonstrates more clearly that game and fur are steadily, if gradually, becoming scarcer, and that the time is drawing nigh when many of the Indians who depend to a large extent upon the product of the chase for their support, will have to look to something else.

In the best ultimate interests of these Indians, the arrival of that day may be rather a matter for congratulation than regret, and as the disappearance of the game is taking place gradually, the bands dependent on it will one by one be absorbed into the farming class, or find some other means of maintenance, without the occurrence of anything in the nature of such emergent and critical position as followed the sudden disappearance of the buffalo in the North-west Territories.

The customary amount of destitute relief, including medical attendance and medicines, has been given to those in actual need of such assistance, and the policy of helping those willing to help themselves, to the extent necessary to enable them to do so, has been pursued as usual.

MORALITY.

The view which will be taken of the moral condition of the Indians will of course largely depend upon the spirit in which the matter is approached.

The pessimist who seeks for evil will undoubtedly find a good deal to deplore among the Indians ; but on the other hand, the unbiassed observer will discover much cause for satisfaction, as will the sanguine for a hopeful view of the future.

The enactment of special legislation recognizes the fact that the Indians require exceptional protection from their own natural fondness for strong drink, as well as from having temptation put in their way by unscrupulous miscreants whose lust of gain would outweigh every consideration of morality and humanity. While of course there are many exceptions, it may be said of the great majority of the Indians, that despite their natural proclivities, they would not go in quest of liquor if only left alone. While the design of the special legislation referred to contemplates the compulsion of sobriety on the part of individuals who may lack the latent power or desire to abstain, it has a much wider and higher one, viz : to assist in the development of character and power to resist temptation among the people as a whole.

To prevent indulgence by restraint is no doubt a benefit in itself, in so far as it goes ; but it is clear that there must of necessity be much evasion of the provisions of the law, so long as the manufacture and sale of intoxicants is a prevailing feature of the surrounding civilization. There is none the less a great deal accomplished in the direction of prevention, and although it is as a rule very difficult to detect and secure evidence to convict those guilty of selling to the Indians, there are, one way and another, a sufficient number of offenders brought to justice to have a very decidedly deterrent effect, and reports tend to show that the traffic is decidedly on the decrease, although far from being entirely suppressed.

However much preventive measures may fail in detail, there is no doubt that under their fostering assistance, the temperance sentiment and resisting power have been steadily growing among the Indians as a people, and of this much gratifying assurance can be found in the reports of many of our Agents, as for example in that of the Agent at Manitowaning who writes of the West Bay Band of Manitoulin Island :—

“ During the year there has been little inebriety, for which the Indians deserve praise, as their ready access to the largest town on the Island, where there is no lack of unscrupulous men, ready by covert means to supply them with liquor, is a constant menace to the moral barriers, behind which they have learned to shield themselves.” In further proof of this healthy sentiment, it may be mentioned that there are not a few Temperance Societies among various Bands.

As to other aspects of morality, and more particularly with regard to the true nature and obligations of the marriage tie, tribal customs and pagan views have to be overcome, and this has to a large extent been done, and every day is being further accomplished by contact with civilization, increasing familiarity with its views and customs, education of the young in the schools, and above all, by the earnest and faithful efforts of the missionaries of the various denominations.

The Indians are beyond dispute a law respecting people, and when occasionally some serious crime is committed by one of their number, it attracts the more attention from its rarity, and causes alarm if of a character to suggest that racial antagonism may still be slumbering.

For several years back, some such occasional crime has had to be chronicled, but no single offence of any very serious gravity committed within the year, has been brought home to any Treaty Indian, at any rate in so far as can be recalled at the moment.

SELF GOVERNMENT.

The policy of the Department, formulated for the purpose of taking hold of Indians in their untutored state and gradually educating them to fitness for the status of full citizenship, has of course been largely tentative in its character, and modified or changed as experience has suggested to be advisable. It was observed in the introductory remarks to this report, that any halt in the earlier stages of progression is the immediate precursor of retrogression, and it may probably be asserted, that in the more advanced stages of the march, the failure to go on, is in some degree, fraught with kindred danger.

An example of what is meant is furnished by the St. Regis Band, which after having received the benefits of self-government under the elective system of appointing chiefs and councillors, instead of proceeding to take advantage of the provisions of the Advancement Act, to which the elective system is intended to be introductory, has evinced an obstinate determination to revert to the old system of hereditary chiefs.

There has of course been comparatively little experience of the working of this advanced stage of the Department's policy ; but the question presents itself for consideration, as to whether it may not be advisable to curtail the course of training and expedite the desired end by providing some more simple system for general enfranchisement, and possibly making it at a certain stage compulsory. The question however is beset by many difficulties, and can only be approached with extreme caution.

EDUCATION.

What has been said with regard to education in the wider acceptance of the term, of the Indian people, viz., that no marked change can be expected to become apparent in the course of any single year, applies with equal force to the instruction of the young in the schools, and to the sentiment and attitude of the parents relative thereto.

With regard to this, as well as other matters, about which the Indians may entertain strong prejudices, the Department's policy is as long as possible to refrain from compulsory measures, and try the effect of moral suasion and an appeal to self-interest.

It is of course recognized that a point may be reached at which forbearance from benevolent aggression may cease to be a virtue ; but where no serious consequences are imminent, it seems the part of wisdom to continue the persuasive plan at any rate, until a proper sentiment has become fairly widespread, and when the application of compulsion to the obdurate, will meet with a fair amount of sympathy, and moral support.

With regard to education, this plan has worked successfully, and as was stated in last year's report, a healthy growth of interest can be noticed, despite a still far too prevalent indifference on the part of the parents.

Of positive antagonism there is comparatively little left, and that remnant is being overcome, as witness the recent change of front on the part of Star Blanket's Band in the File Hills Agency in the North-west Territories. In a report received the other day one of our Inspectors writes as follows :—" I might mention before closing that Star Blanket, who so long persistently opposed sending children from his band to school, has during the last month, allowed three to go, two to Qu'Appelle, and one to the boarding school here " (File Hills).

This furnishes an instance of how, from time to time, the few pagan bands, where prejudice and superstition still prevail to the rejection of education, are falling into the line of progress.

While indifference in the first instance may be regarded as a decided advance upon antagonism, it may perhaps be a more hopeless condition if it become chronic. No one however, can read attentively what the various Agents say in their reports on this subject, without coming to the conclusion that wherever the circumstances are favourable for its development, Indian parents are manifesting an interest in the education of their children, and take pride in their attainments, even if such tend, as they so often do, to lessen the sympathy between them.

During the year there were 273 schools, (including day, boarding and industrial) in operation. The total enrolment was 9,886, the average attendance 5,533, or 55.55 per cent of the enrolment.

The enrolment during the preceding year was 9,628, the average attendance 5,357, so that there has been something gained in both directions.

The number of pupils however, on the roll of industrial and boarding schools has been decreasing.

Each year a number of pupils graduate from these schools, as for example during the year under review, 23 boys and 18 girls were creditably discharged, upon completion of their course, from the Regina Industrial Institution.

The recruits at any rate in some districts, are not keeping pace with the vacancies, and this fact seems to furnish an additional reason to those referred to last year, as justifying the exercise of extreme caution with regard to the further extension of Industrial Schools, before the exhaustion of capacity for accommodation provided by those already in operation.

The question as to the object of industrial training has a very distinct bearing upon the justification of incurring its cost.

If it be merely the good of the individual pupils, and to improve their position in life, it has to be carefully considered how far the country can properly be burdened with the cost of giving them superior advantages, and whatever difference of opinion may exist with regard to this, there can hardly be any as to the necessity for restricting the number to that for which there is reasonable expectation of being able to find openings for employment.

If however, the object be to have each pupil impart what he has gained to his less fortunate fellows, and in fact become a centre of improving influence for the elevation of his race, there would appear to be stronger reason for incurring the cost of their special training, and not the same necessity for so strictly limiting the number to whom it may be given.

To do this, however, it is obvious that the pupils must return to their reserves, and the danger at once confronts them, of becoming individually absorbed by the many and of being themselves affected by the degrading influence of their surroundings, in place of becoming a power for good.

The extent of this danger largely depends upon the stage reached by the band to which a pupil may return, and the great majority even in the younger provinces, at any

rate in the districts in which industrial institutions, have been established, have now been sufficiently affected by contact with civilization or under immediate tuition by the Department to render it a reasonable expectation that pupils will be able to exert a beneficial influence rather than themselves lose what they have gained at the schools.

The bearing of these considerations upon the question of bringing in children from bands remote from civilized centers, and educating them in Boarding or Industrial Schools, will readily suggest itself.

Should the pupils prior to returning to the reserves, go out to service, or follow any trade or occupation in a white community, the danger of their retrogression should be proportionately less, and if they have been successful and provident they will be in a better position to make a start for themselves on the reserves.

As a matter of fact a good many of the pupils go out to service and conduct themselves in a manner creditable to themselves and their training—while others return at once to their reserves, and on the whole may be said to exert an influence for good.

LANDS.

During the year 14,168.45 acres of surrendered surveyed Indian lands were sold, and realized the sum of \$27,318.26, as against \$12,520.52 obtained from 14,451.10 acres disposed of the year before. The much higher aggregate value thus obtained is principally attributable to the fact that a large proportion of the lands sold during 1897-98 were in the Passpasschase Reserve, near Edmonton, and brought good prices.

In pursuance of instructions, the issue of which was referred to in last year's report the valuers appointed for the purpose proceeded with the revaluation of Indian Lands in the Saugeen Peninsula, and at the end of the season sent in a return showing that they had gone over about one-half of the area which had to be dealt with. The price of a large number of lots included in their return was then reduced in accordance with their estimate, and the sales of such as were found to have been neither occupied nor improved unless held by actual settlers in the neighbourhood, were cancelled, and the lots again placed on the market at the upset price set upon them by the valuers.

A number of tenders, which had been invited by advertisement, were received for the purchase of islands in the Georgian Bay which had been surveyed during the preceding year, but pending the settlement of a claim to the islands set up by the Ontario Provincial Government, no disposition of any of them has been made.

The portions of the Garden River reserve, surrendered by the Indian owners for sale, and surveyed into sections, comprising the Townships of Duncan and Kehoe, were placed upon the market, the agricultural land at \$1.00 and the mineral at \$4.00 per acre cash, subject to the respective regulations governing such sales.

The Indian owners of the unceded portion of Manitoulin Island having surrendered, to be disposed of for their benefit, their rights in any oil or gas which might be found on the reserve, permission has been given to explore for these natural products.

During the year 234 Letters Patent have been issued and recorded, and 77 location tickets issued.

These latter are given to Indians for the protection of their individual improvements on lots occupied by them in their reserves which are owned in common, and there are now 847 of them current, of record in the Department.

During the year 72 leases of land have been made on behalf of Indian locatees or owners to white men, bringing the current number of such leases up to 830.

There are 34 licenses current, covering different classes of timber, surrendered by Indians on their reserves.

The more the Indians abandon hunting, the more they turn their attention to lumbering among other operations. Permits to take out ties, posts and timber were granted at the following places, viz., the unceded portion of Manitoulin Island, Garden River, Christian Island, Sheguiandah, Sheshegwaning, Sucker Lake, Sucker Creek, West Bay, Point Grondine, Fort William, Alnwick, Walpole Island, Cape Croker, Saugeen and Long Sault in the Province of Ontario; Maniwaki, Province of Quebec; Tobique, New Brunswick; St. Peters, Manitoba; Onion Lake, North-west Territories, and to a few Indians in British Columbia.

SURVEYS.

Of the survey work done during the year the following is of sufficient importance to merit mention here.

In the District of Algoma the unsurveyed portion of the land surrendered in the Garden River Reserve has been divided into townships and subdivided into sections, and in the Batchewana Reserve a commencement has been made of a survey to divide the broken townships of Haviland and Lay into sections and the west halves of Tupper and Archibald into lots.

A tract of hunting ground in the township of St. Edmund, County of Bruce, set apart for the Indians of Saugeen and Cape Croker Bands has been defined.

On the Fort William Reserve, in the District of Thunder Bay, a portion of the boundaries has been retraced and lines run between holdings on the part actually settled upon by the Indians.

In Nova Scotia the Indian Reserves at Fairy Lake, in Annapolis and Queen's Counties have been re-surveyed and a dispute of long standing between the Indians and the whites set at rest, by re-survey of the Pomquet Forks Reserve, in the County of Antigonish.

A number of subdivision lines in the Buctouche Reserve, in the County of Kent, which had become obliterated were retraced.

In British Columbia the following surveys of reserves were made:—

Reserve in the Carpenter Mountain for the William's Lake Indians; numbers 8 to 14 inclusive of the Alkali Lake and 1 to 3 inclusive of the Katzie Indians' Reserves. A commencement was made of survey of reserves for the Canoe Creek Indians.

In Manitoba good progress was made with the work of retracing the exterior and interior divisions of the St. Peter's Reserve.

In the North-west Territories the Indians of the Checastapasin and Sharphead's Bands having amalgamated with others, and surrendered their reserves, situated to the

south of the town of Prince Albert, and on the Battle River, near Edmonton, respectively, to be disposed of for the mutual benefit of themselves and those with whom they have become merged, they have been subdivided into lots to be offered for sale.

The few Indians on Wa-sha-tanow Creek Reserve having some years ago been induced to remove to that at Saddle Lake, an addition has been made to the latter, as an equivalent for the surrender of the former.

In this instance the parties interested, preferred compensation in kind, rather than that the lands abandoned should be sold for their mutual benefit.

A hay reserve for the provision of the Government herd of cattle at the Onion Lake Agency has been surveyed in the neighbourhood of Moose Lake.

An area of 56 square miles was defined on the Little Red Deer River, in the Prince Albert District, for the Indians of Montreal Lake and Lac la Ronge.

IRRIGATION.

Large portions of the work of construction of the three irrigation ditches on the Neskainilth, Sahaltkum and St. Mary's Reserves in British Columbia which were surveyed last year, have been executed.

Already the most gratifying results have been obtained at St. Mary's Reserve, and it is confidently expected, that if as it is hoped, the other two ditches are ready for use next year, the benefits accruing will be equally marked, and a great impetus given to agricultural operations.

Much damage was done to irrigation works in the Calgary District by the flooding of the rivers last year, but fortunately the ditch on the Blackfoot Reserve escaped with comparatively little hurt.

The improvement in quantity and quality of crops, especially of hay and vegetables, resulting from irrigation has been so marked and appealed to the Indians so forcibly that they cannot fail to be encouraged to extend their operations until they will ultimately secure the full potential benefits thereby offered to them.

FINANCIAL.

Collections during the year amounted to \$105,382.98, and the capital of the Indian Trust Fund stood at \$3,725,746.75 on 30th June last. Disbursements in the course of the year aggregated \$267,324.38. Expenditure from the consolidated fund amounted to \$952,590.14.

The Indian Savings Account is perhaps of sufficient interest to merit special notice. It was established some years ago and has proved a great success. The intention was to secure the funding of the annuity money and earnings of pupils at Industrial Schools, in order that on completion of their course and discharge from these institutions, they might have something available towards outfitting themselves for a start in life.

On 30th June last the balance to the credit of this fund was \$12,203.07. The deposits, upon which interest is allowed at the rate of 3 per cent, amounted during the year to \$4,452.40, and the withdrawals to \$4,088.82.

The money withdrawn has been expended on the purchase of stoves, sewing machines, domestic utensils, tools, agricultural implements, cattle, seed-grain, building material, &c., &c.

REORGANIZATION.

In conclusion it may be remarked that further experience has served to justify the expectations entertained with regard to the reorganization of the work in Manitoba and the North-west Territories, which was made during the preceding year, and fully described in last year's report.

Suspicion may have been entertained by those who regard change with distrust, that the new scheme had inherent defects which required the capacity and experience of the late Commissioner to counteract them, but the fact that the smooth and efficient working of the new machinery has not been interrupted by the removal of Mr. A. E. Forget, consequent upon his elevation to the position of Lt. Governor of the North-west Territories, should serve to convince the skeptical that such was not the case, although there can be no doubt that the new system was largely indebted for its immediate success to having been put in operation under his direction.

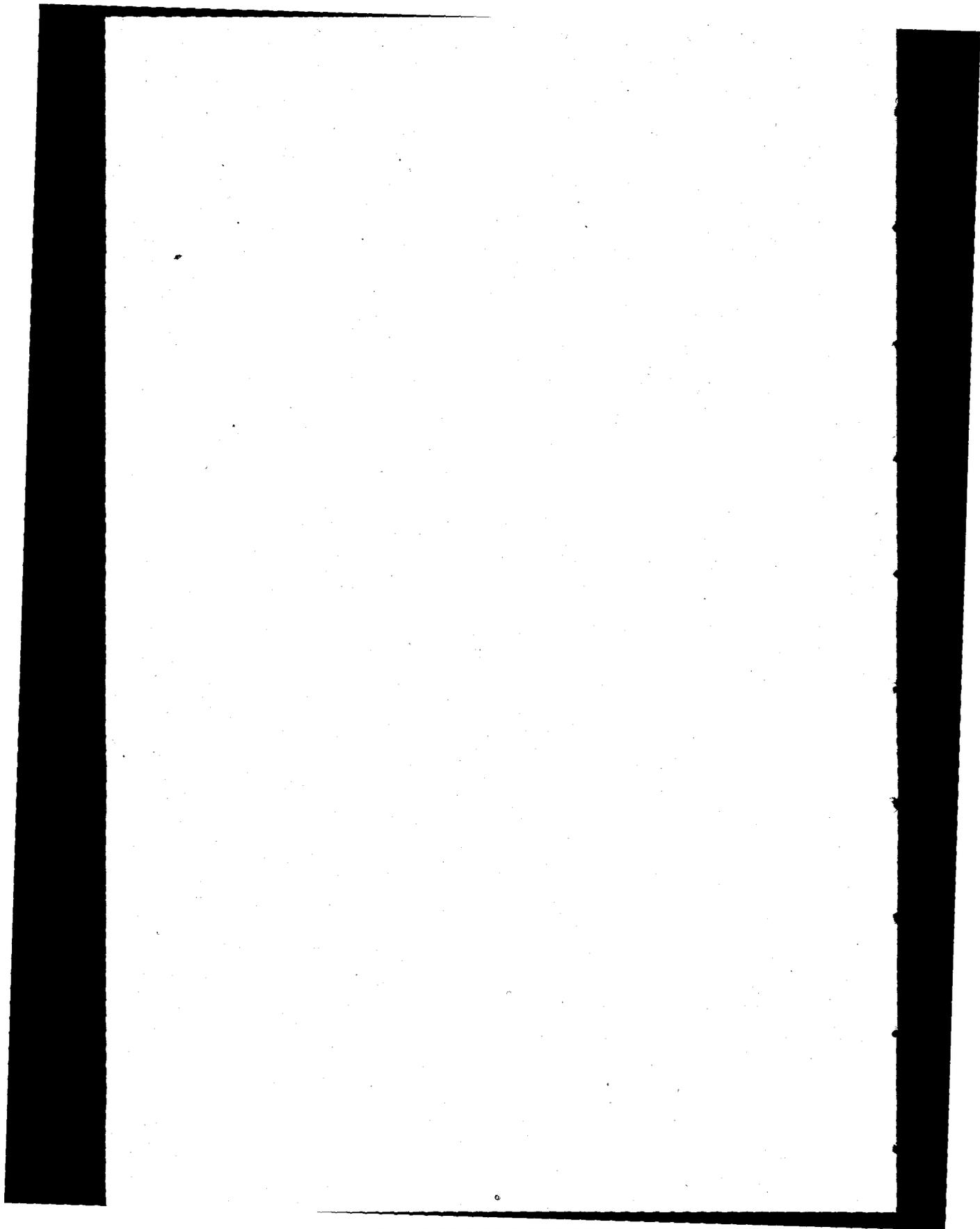
While the Department in no way underestimates the loss it has sustained through the removal of Mr. Forget, it regards itself as fortunate in having secured in the Hon. David Laird, a successor whose past experience of Indian matters must necessarily prove of great assistance to him in the discharge of the important duties devolving upon him, as Commissioner of Indian Affairs for Manitoba and the North-west Territories.

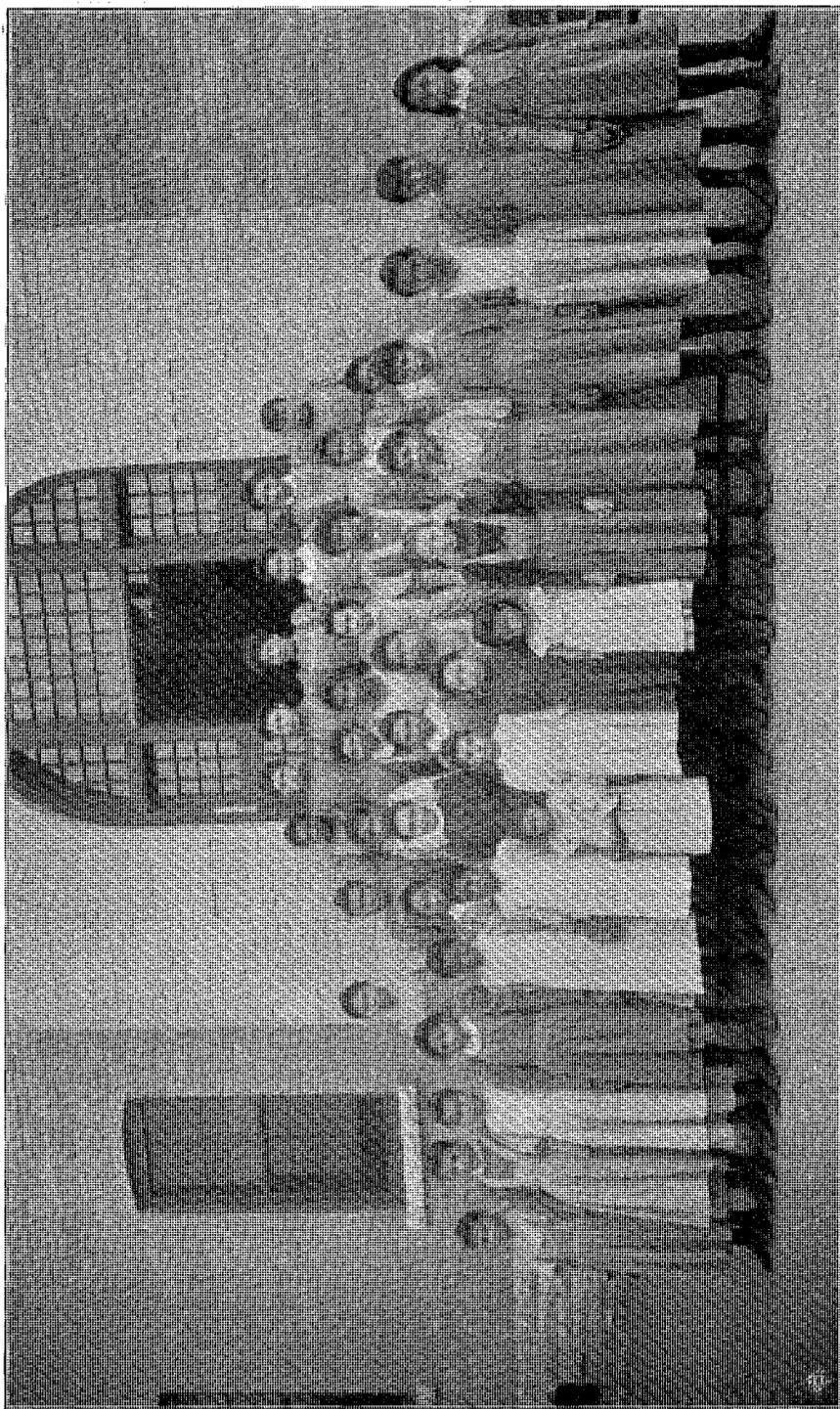
I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

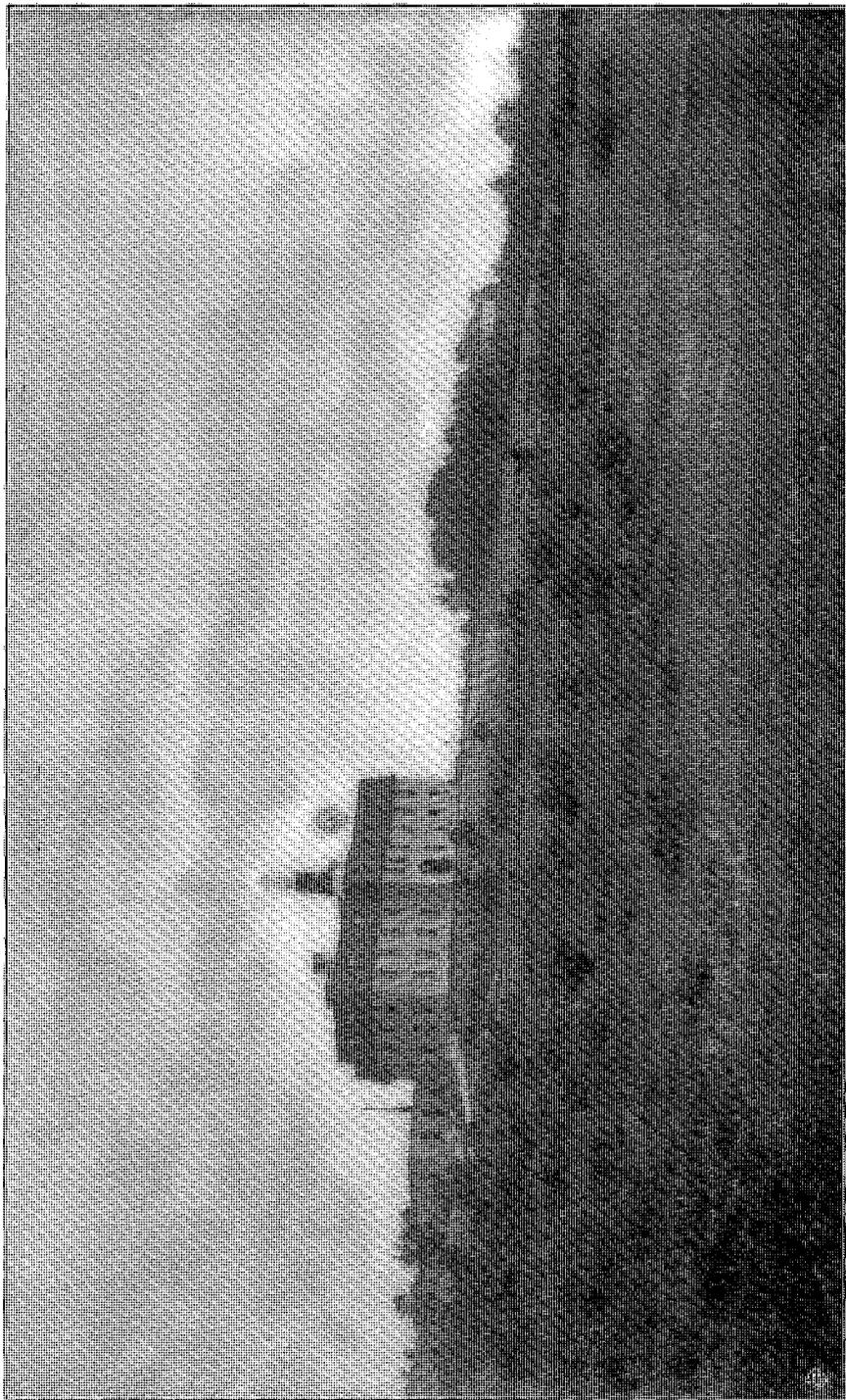
JAS. A. SMART,

Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs.

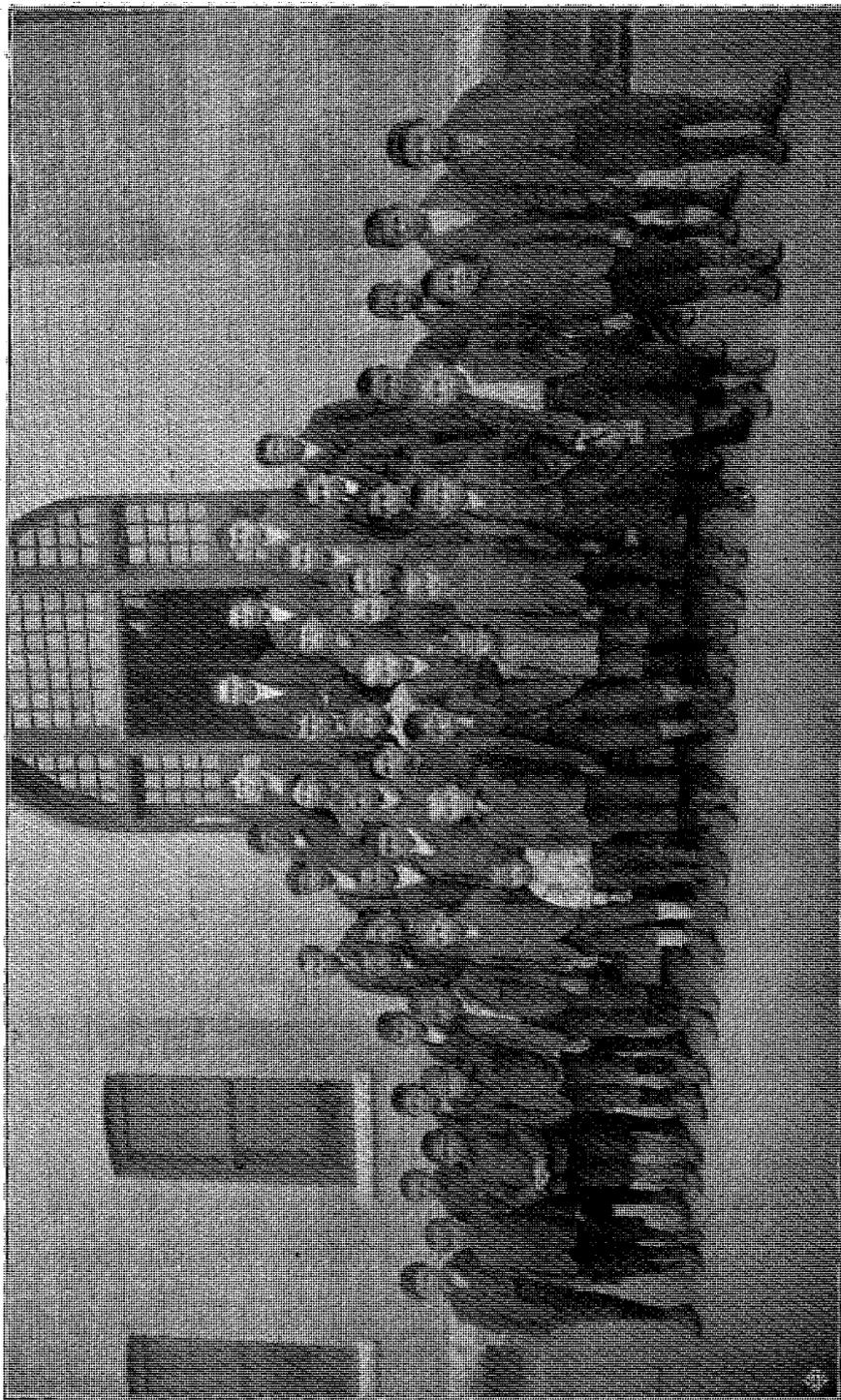




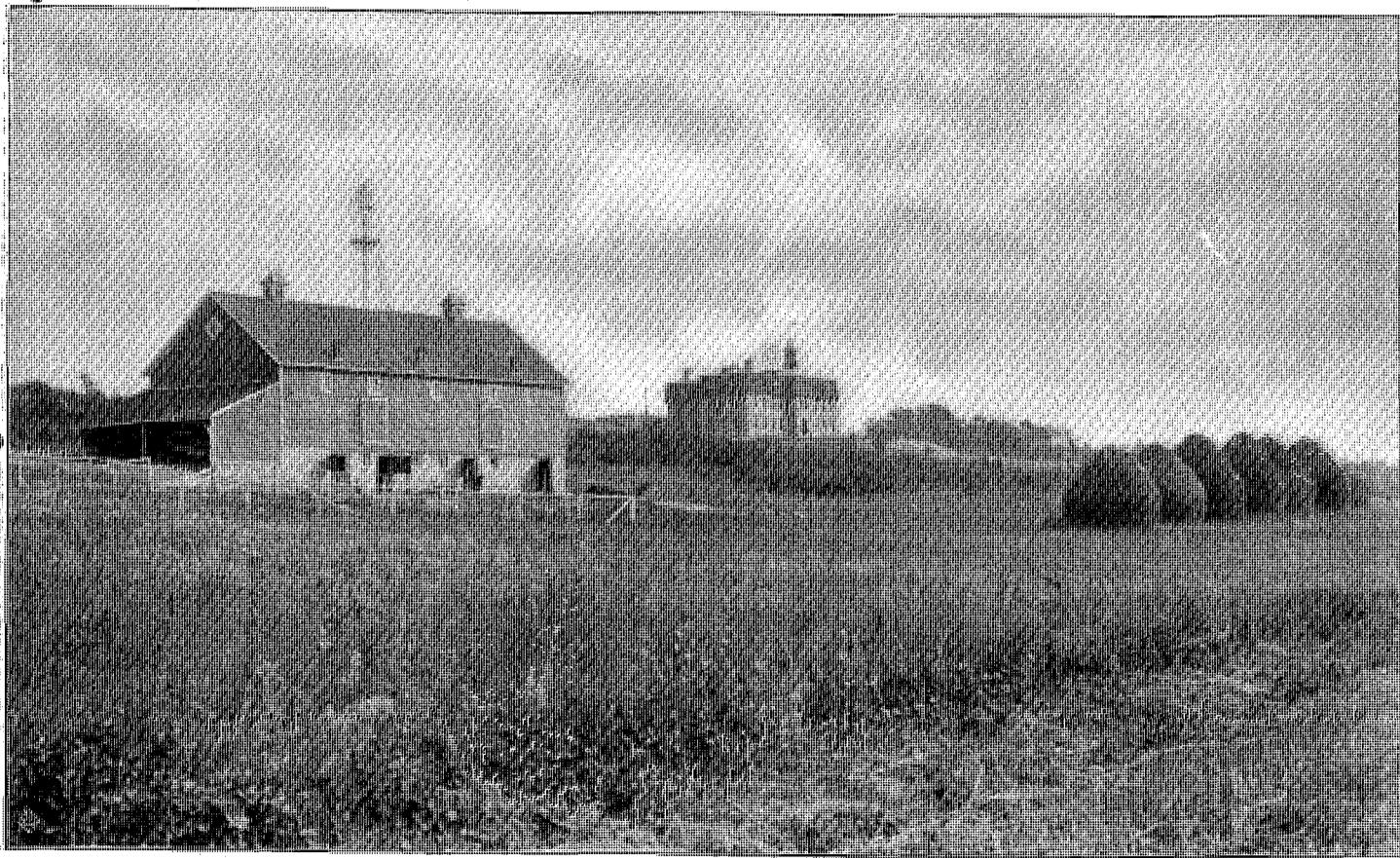
PUPILS OF BRANDON INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.



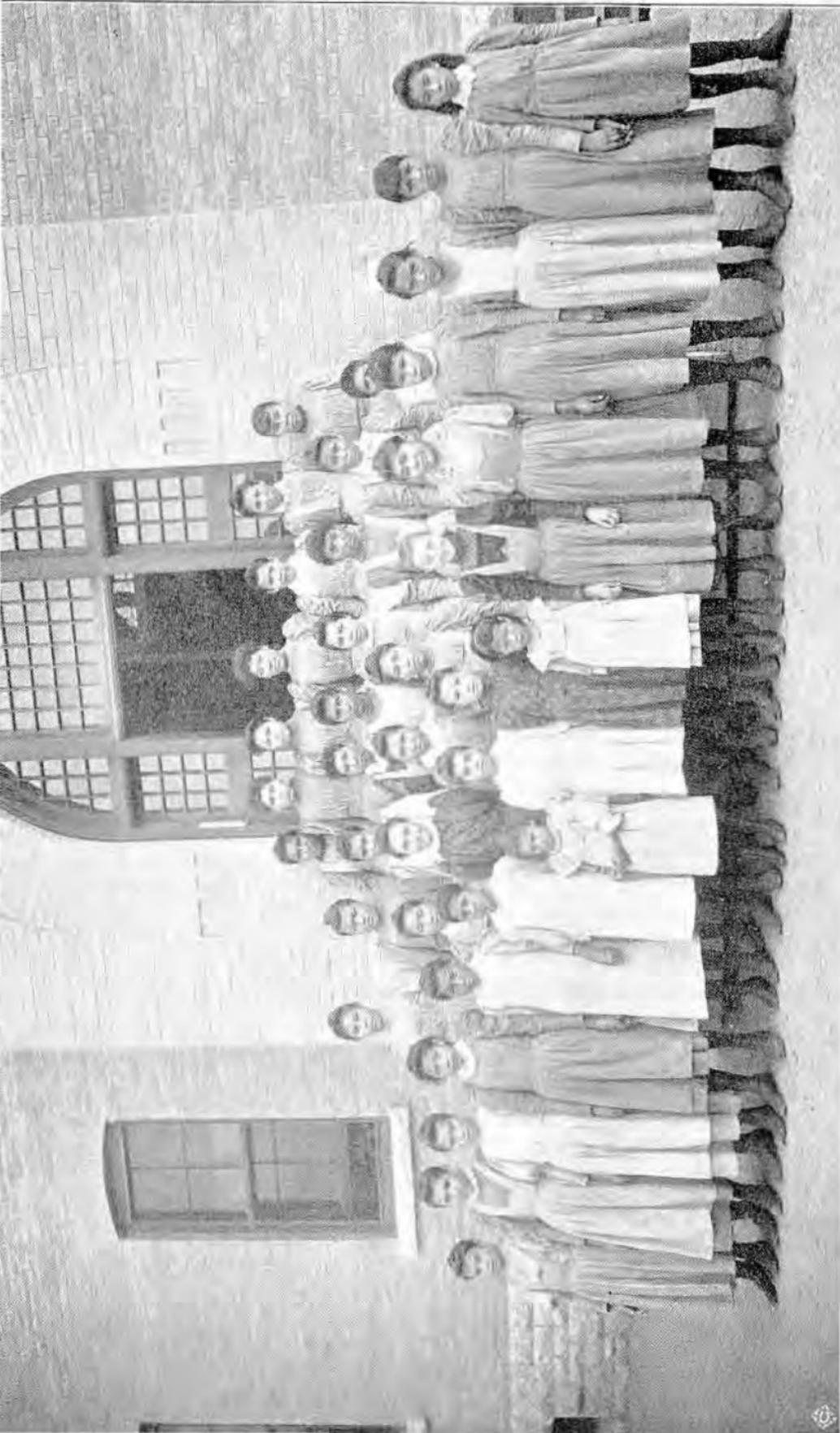
BRANDON INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL--PRINCIPAL'S RESIDENCE IN THE DISTANCE.

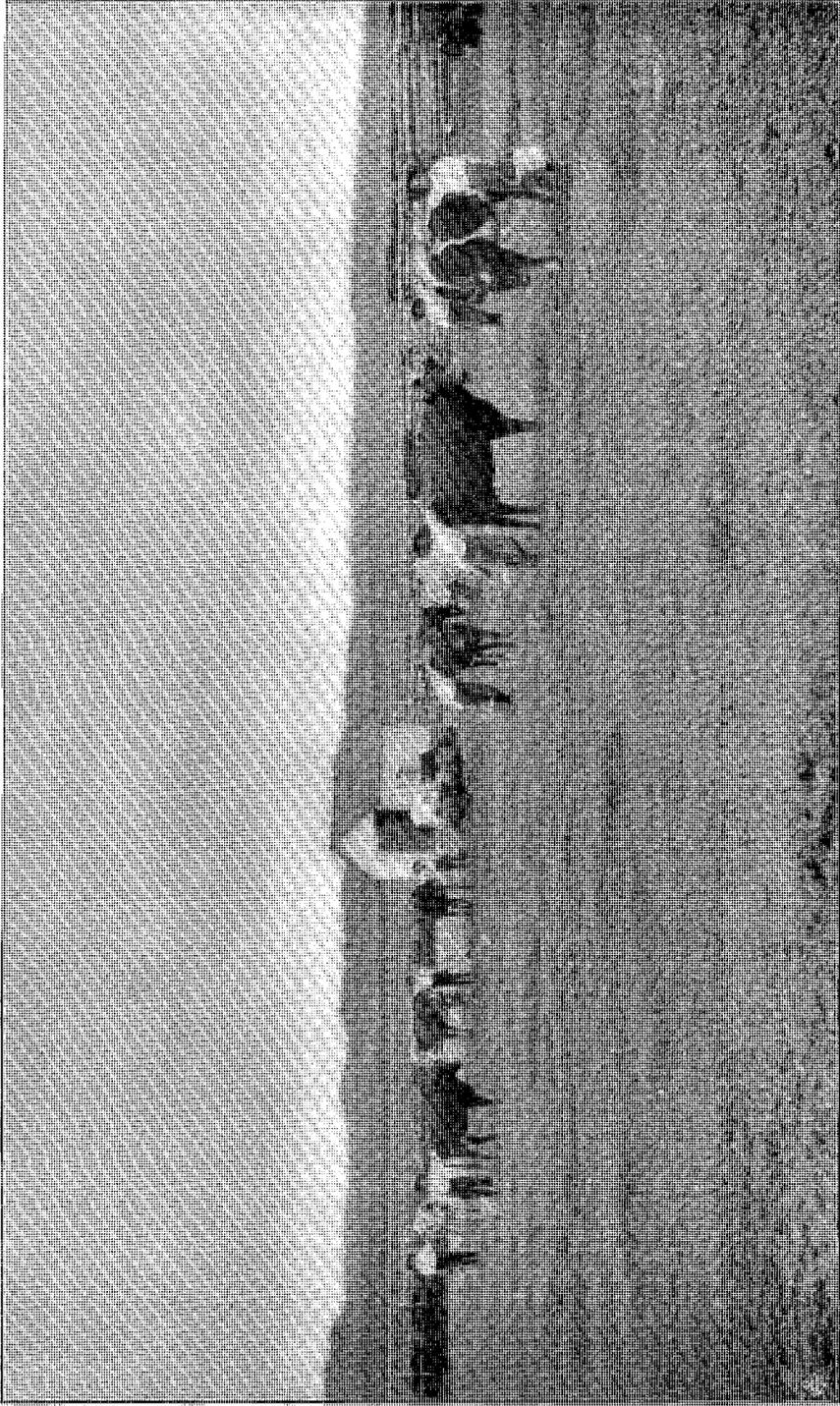


PUPILS OF BRANDON INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.



BARN—BRANDON INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL—WHEAT STACKS—IN THE DISTANCE SCHOOL BUILDING AND PRINCIPAL'S RESIDENCE.





BOYS OF ST. ALBERT BOARDING SCHOOL MILKING COWS.









DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

REPORTS

OF

SUPERINTENDENTS AND AGENTS,

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
CHIPPEWAS OF BEAUSOLEIL,
PENETANGUISHENE, 15th September, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report and statistical statement showing the condition and progress of the Indians under my supervision during the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location.—The reserve of this band is situated on Christian Island, in the Georgian Bay, midway between Collingwood and Penetanguishene. The reserve embraces about twenty-five thousand acres.

Tribe.—This band is called the Chippewas of Beausoleil, having formerly lived on an island of that name, where a few families still reside.

Population.—There is an increase of three in the population over last year, the number now being two hundred and sixty-six.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the band has been good during the past year, but I regret to state that two deaths have been caused by consumption.

The departmental sanitary regulations are well observed.

Resources and Occupation.—The Indians are occupied during the summer months working on their farms, and several of them are making marked progress in this way. The soil, being productive, yields them a good return for their labour. Permission is given for taking out a limited quantity of tan bark, of which there is a large supply on the reserve.

In winter wood is taken out for the steamboat companies, and also a quantity of logs from which the bark is peeled during the previous summer. A number of the young men are usually engaged in summer as guides by the tourists, which pays them exceedingly well. Basket-making and fancy work engage the attention of the female portion of the band.

Stock.—This island is specially adapted for stock-raising, there being an abundance of nutritious grass at all times during the summer months, consequently the cattle are generally in fine condition. To encourage this industry last spring a thoroughbred Polled Angus bull was purchased. This animal was selected from the herd of Messrs. Wm. Stewart & Son of Lucasville, and is considered by all good judges who have seen him to be one of the finest animals of his class in the province.

Crops.—The crops have been very good this year, especially hay. Formerly there has been a scarcity of the latter, but for the coming winter there will be an abundance.

Roads.—The Indians have adopted the same system as in organized municipalities, each man being called upon to perform two days' statute labour. This plan appears to work well.

Progress.—Most of the Indians are industrious and are improving in this respect, and in most cases are comfortable.

Religion.—There are two churches on the island—a Methodist church, under the charge of the Rev. Mr. Hunt, who holds service twice each Sunday; and a Roman Catholic church, in which service is held by Mr. Copegog.

Education.—The school is conducted under the auspices of the Methodist Missionary Society, and the children are taught by the Rev. Mr. Hunt, and in all cases where the children attend regularly, they make good progress, but a difficulty is experienced in securing regularity in attendance.

Morality and Temperance.—As a rule the Indians are law-abiding and temperate. Very few are given to intemperance; in this respect there is a marked improvement.

I have, &c.,

CHAS. MCGIBBON,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

CHIPPEWAS OF NAWASH,

CAPE CROKER, 30th June, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and statistical statement of Indian affairs on this reserve for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserve.—There is only one reserve in this agency. It is situated in the extreme north-east portion of the township of Albemarle, in the county of Bruce, comprising nearly sixteen thousand acres, about sixty-five per cent of which is fit for cultivation. The rest is stony and flat rock, with some high bluffs which are covered with good timber. The lower portions of the land where timber grew have been run over and the best taken off and sold by the Indians.

Vital Statistics.—The present population is three hundred and ninety-eight, composed of one hundred and thirteen men, one hundred and twenty-eight boys, ninety-two women and sixty-five girls. There have been five deaths, thirteen births, and one Indian left the band during the year, making a slight increase over last year.

Health.—The health of this band is good on the whole, but five are low with consumption, which is the disease that carries off the most. The vaccination of the Indians has been attended to. A medical attendant visits the reserve twice a month to look after the health.

Buildings.—Houses are clean, and the new houses recently built are commodious and of modern style.

Occupation.—The general occupation of this people is farming, and I am pleased to say there is a marked improvement in this respect in the past and present years. The first agricultural fair was held last fall and was a marked success. We have a splendid

fair ground, and competition is now going on for the coming show. The Indians also have a fishing reserve, and usually catch from three to five thousand dollars' worth of fish. They also work at timber, when a license is granted to them, and I am sorry to say that it is a very serious drawback to carrying on farming successfully, as the quick returns from the timber make them neglect their farms, and the proceeds are spent immediately. There is a very noticeable difference in the appearance and comfort of the homes of those who do not work at timber.

Progress.—The past year has been a progressive one in the way of building both barns and houses, and increased sowing and planting, and a general forward movement is noticeable in almost every branch.

Education.—There are three day schools here, which are doing fairly good work. The attendance has improved and the buildings are being repainted and the roofs repaired. The district inspector visits them twice a year and reports a forward movement.

Religion.—There are two churches which are fairly well attended; one is of the Roman Catholic denomination, and has one hundred and thirty members of the band under its care; the other is Methodist, and has the remaining two hundred and sixty-eight of the Protestant persuasion under its charge.

Temperance and Morality.—On the whole there appears to be a change for the better in these respects. No less than six prosecutions and convictions were secured during the year in liquor cases. For a while they take effect, but the Indian finds it hard to stand prosperity, and the white man cannot resist the temptation to take his money for what sets the red man's brains on fire. This applies to the lower class of white men and their greed for the poor Indian's money.

Roads.—The roads are fairly good on this reserve and provision has been made whereby the newer sections are getting an outlet.

I have, &c.,

JOHN McIVER,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
CHIPPEWAS OF RAMA,

ATHERLEY, 18th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit herewith my annual report and statistical statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

RAMA BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the beautiful and picturesque Lake Couchiching, opposite the town of Orillia, which is about three miles distant, and with which there is steamboat connection by the commodious steamer "Longford," owned by the genial president of the Longford Lumber Company, Mr. W. Thomson. The soil is rich and fertile, and, owing to its proximity to Orillia, ample opportunity is afforded the Indians for marketing their produce, and also a market for their manufactured goods, such as baskets, axe handles, &c. The reserve is well watered, there being a number of streams and springs on different parts.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is now two hundred and thirty-six, being the same as last year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—During the past year there have been no cases of contagious diseases, and the general health of the band is good. Their houses and premises are clean and tidy, all garbage being removed.

Education.—The school on this reserve, which is taught by Rev. J. Lawrence, continues to improve in a very satisfactory manner. It is visited by the inspector of public schools, and his report is highly satisfactory. The school, which is bright and airy, is neat and clean, and the outbuildings and grounds are tidy. A number of shade trees have been planted.

Religion.—There is a Methodist church on this reserve and the spiritual comforts of the Indians are looked after by the Rev. J. Lawrence. There is a morning and evening service every Sunday, and the attendance is good. The church, which is modern and of artistic design, is situated on the shore of Lake Couchiching.

Occupation.—The majority of the Indians on this reserve follow the pursuit of agriculture. In this line I am pleased to report marked progress. An area of several acres which was previously a common, has been fenced and most of it cultivated; several acres of new land have also been cleared. In the winter many of the Indians work in the lumber woods, and on the drives in spring, while others act as guides to tourists in summer and autumn.

Temperance and Morality.—A number on this reserve are strictly temperate and moral, while others occasionally obtain liquor in Orillia and other places.

GEORGINA AND SNAKE ISLAND BAND.

Location.—Georgina and Snake Islands are in the southern part of Lake Simcoe, the former a few hours sail from Beaverton, and the latter near the summer resort, Jackson's Point.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers one hundred and twenty-four, being an increase of four since my last census, the result of seven births, four immigrations, one death and six emigrations.

Occupation.—Farming is the chief occupation of the Indians on Georgina Island. The soil is fertile and well adapted for this, and many of them are doing remarkably well. The stock is also good, there being several thoroughbred cattle. The gardens and grain crops on the island look well.

Education.—There is a school on this reserve, which is in charge of Miss Marks, and I am pleased to state that it is progressing most satisfactorily. The teacher is faithful and energetic, and as a result the pupils are earnest, diligent, and attentive. The discipline of the school is excellent.

Religion.—On this island (Georgina) there is a Methodist church, and the Rev. Mr. Powell, of Sutton, looks after the spiritual welfare of the Indians. The church is very neat, and was painted and generally cleaned last year. There is a good attendance at the services.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—For the past year the health of this band has been good. There were no contagious or infectious diseases throughout the year. The premises are very clean and neat, and the women show much tact in the management of their household duties.

Temperance and Morality.—Drunkenness among the Indians is a rare occurrence on this reserve. Morality is generally good; but I regret to say that during the present year it was my painful duty to prosecute, under the Charlton Act, a white man for indecent assault on a young squaw. He is now awaiting his trial at the fall assizes, and I trust that this will be a lesson to those white men who visit the island for immoral purposes.

The Indians on Snake Island are doing well. They have good gardens, and many of them compare favourably with those of their white neighbours. The residences have been cleaned, whitewashed and painted, and present a generally tidy appearance.

I have, &c.,

D. J. MCPHEE,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
CHIPPEWAS OF SARNIA,
SARNIA, 24th August, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit herewith my annual report and tabular statement of Indian affairs for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location and Population.—The Indians under my charge are the Chippewas of Sarnia, residing on the Sarnia, Kettle Point and Aux Sables Reserves. The total number is four hundred and forty-six. Since my last report there have been sixteen deaths and sixteen births, leaving the total the same as last year. Two of the deaths were those of very old people: "Grandfather George," as he was called, was ninety-five at the time of his death, and Mrs. Kashagance was also very old. We have had only one death from consumption this year, and that was a young man; the most of the deaths are those of young children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians is fairly good at the present time. There has been no contagious disease amongst them during this year. As a general rule they keep their houses and premises very clean.

Education.—We have three schools, one on each of the reserves, taught by the same teachers as were given in my last report: the Sarnia Reserve school is taught by Miss Frances Welsh, the Kettle Point school is taught by Miss Annie Vance, and the Aux Sables Reserve school is taught by Miss Annie Rogers.

The school on the Sarnia Reserve has been fairly well attended and the progress has been good; and that at Kettle Point has improved since last year and is now well attended, and the progress is very good; but the attendance at the school on Aux Sables Reserve is very unsatisfactory, as the parents of the children take very little, if any, interest in their children getting an education.

Religion.—There are four churches on the three reserves—three Methodist churches and an Anglican. In the Methodist church on the Sarnia Reserve there are two services held regularly every Sunday, conducted by Rev. Mr. Ferguson; and also in the Anglican church service is held once on Sunday.

The churches on Kettle Point and Aux Sables Reserves are not so well supplied with services, as they have preaching only every alternate Sabbath; but the services in all the churches are well attended and the Indians take a deep interest in religion.

Characteristics and Progress.—Many of the Indians are very industrious and are getting along very well, they are getting to have good farms, and the women as a rule are very industrious and make a good deal of money by making fancy baskets. Many of the Indians are now fairly well supplied with farming implements.

I look for greater progress this year than there has been these last two years, as the crops are much better this year than they have been. The Indians have all got

through harvesting and are now busy threshing, and their grain is turning out very well.

Temperance.—The drinking habit is now confined to fewer Indians than it has been heretofore.

I have, &c.,

A. ENGLISH,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
CHIPPEWAS OF SAUGEEN,
CHIPPEWA HILL, 10th August, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and statistical statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserve.—The Saugeen Reserve is located in the county of Bruce, on Lake Huron. It comprises about nine thousand and twenty acres.

Resources.—There is considerable timber on the reserve. Some fish are taken each season, but farming is principally what the Indians have to depend on. The land is well adapted for the cultivation of roots. Other resources are basket-making, rustic work, berry-picking, and the gathering of ginseng root.

Tribe or Nation.—The Indians of this reserve are Chippewas.

Population.—There are three hundred and fifty-seven Indians in this band, made up as follows: one hundred and eighty-six males, and one hundred and seventy-one females. There have been fourteen births and twenty-nine deaths, making a decrease of fifteen as compared with the census of last year. The cause of death has been reported as chiefly consumption, and severe colds amongst the aged.

Sanitary Condition.—The Indians are fairly clean and tidy in their surroundings, and sanitary measures have been fairly well observed.

Occupation.—Farming is the principal occupation of these Indians. A quantity of timber is taken out each winter, and during the season some of the Indians engage in fishing.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The Indian dwelling-houses have been greatly improved this last year, and some of them are very comfortable. The stock is not good, but is gradually improving. The implements are fair.

Education.—There are three brick school-houses fairly well equipped, and the teachers are well qualified for their position. The children who attend regularly are making good progress.

Religion.—The Indians of this reserve are chiefly Methodists. There are three churches, two controlled by Methodists, the Rev. W. B. Daynard is the missionary. The Roman Catholics control the other church. The interest manifested in religion is fair.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians are fairly industrious and law-abiding. Their progress for the past year has been good.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians here in general are temperate and moral, though a few individuals are addicted to the use of intoxicants.

General Remarks.—The prospects for the coming harvest are good. Hay, which has already been harvested, is extra good in quality and quantity. Fall wheat is fairly good. The oats will be a light yield on account of the dry weather. If the Indians could be induced to give more of their attention to farming and get their crops in earlier in the season, my report would give them a better showing.

I have, &c.,

JOHN SCOFFIELD,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
ALGONQUINS OF GOLDEN LAKE,
CORMAC, 19th September, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit to you my report, together with my tabular statement for the year ended 30th June last.

Sanitary Condition.—The sanitary condition of the Indians on this reserve is very good. There was no epidemic on the reserve this year.

Employment.—The Pembroke Southern Railway, which is built to the reserve to connect with the O. A. & P. S. Railway, gave employment to many of the Indians who were willing to work.

Education.—The school on the reserve has given complete satisfaction during the year. The pupils are well disciplined, and have made good progress.

I have, &c.,

E. BENNETT,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
MISSISSAGUAS OF ALNWICK,
ROSENEATH, 23rd August, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I inclose herewith my report and statistical statement in connection with the Mississaguas of the township of Alnwick for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location and Area of Reserve.—This reserve is in the township of Alnwick, in the county of Northumberland, and until recently, contained three thousand four hundred and four and fifteen hundredths acres, but during the past year, location No. 93 and three village lots in the village of Roseneath were sold; consequently, the reserve now contains only three thousand three hundred and seventy-three and twenty hundredths acres, of which there are about two thousand four hundred and sixty-eight cleared, and about one thousand two hundred rented to white tenants.

Natural Features.—The land of this reserve is all dry, workable, chiefly good, and comprises the best situation in the township.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers two hundred and twenty-eight, being one less than last year. There were seven births and eight deaths during the year. There are fifty-nine men and fifty-five women between twenty-one and sixty-five years of age, and four men and seven women over sixty-five years of age.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the members of the band at the present time is excellent; I do not know of one case of sickness, but during last spring we had an epidemic of measles so bad that the children could not attend school for some time, except one or two; three died, I think from the effects of this disease. No other epidemic has visited the band during the year.

Resources and Occupation.—The land on this reserve is well adapted for raising cereals and vegetables, and many of the Indians are working their own lands; but a number maintain themselves by hunting, fishing, basket-making, working on the drives in the spring, and in the lumber woods in winter.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The houses on this reserve are nearly all frame and of a very good quality; the barns are all frame. The stock is good, especially the horses and cows. The implements are in general good, and the Indians have two new binders. These people have made great improvements during the last two years in building straight rail fences of the Shad, Workman and Standard patterns; they really deserve great credit.

Education.—The school-building is brick, commodious, well ventilated and well equipped, and is being taught by Mr. Frank Allan, who holds a third-class certificate. I think that he is a fair teacher, but on account of the measles, has had but little chance to advance the children. In 1892, the band in general council passed a rule to punish the parents of children of school age who neglected to send their children to school, and appointed a truant officer, but he has not attended to one case that I am aware of. The greatest drawback to the school is the irregular attendance of many of the children, yet several of the parents deserve commendation for sending their children as they do. It is one thing to enact a law, but another thing to put it in force.

Characteristics and Progress.—Many of these Indians are doing well, industrious and getting a large number of stock and implements about them. I might mention Robert Franklin, a model farmer, James Marsden, Robert Marsden, Ebenezer Comego, ex-Chief Chubb, John P. Chase, the Blakers and Chief Crowe's sons.

Religion.—The members of this band are nearly all Methodists or adherents of the Methodist Church. The Rev. William Tomblin is their missionary, with whom I think they are well pleased. They have one frame church, and services are held in it twice each Sunday, as well as Sunday school. They have prayer meetings once a week, and all the services are well attended.

Temperance and Morality.—Many of the Indians do not taste intoxicating liquor, but several take it whenever they can. There are a few in the band whose morals are loose, but on the whole I think that these people are fairly moral.

I have, &c.,

JOHN THACKERAY,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
MISSISSAGUAS OF THE CREDIT,
HAGERSVILLE, 30th June, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report of the Mississaguas of the New Credit for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserve.—The Mississagua Reserve comprises six thousand acres, partly situated in the township of Oneida, county of Haldimand, and partly in the township of Tuscarora, county of Brant.

Tribe or Nation.—The Indians of this band belong to the Mississagua tribe.

Resources.—The chief resource of this reserve is agriculture.

Population.—There are seventy-four men, seventy-eight women, sixty boys, thirty-four girls, total two hundred and forty-six, an increase of one since last census.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health has been very good during the year. The diseases on the reserve do not materially differ from those affecting the white population of the surrounding country.

Sanitary Precautions.—These have been clearly pointed out and urged and in many cases have been observed, such as the destruction by fire of refuse matters and filth by which diseases may be engendered.

Occupation.—General farming is the chief means of making a living; a few depend on their annuity money and picking berries.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The Indians are taking more interest in their homes by building better ventilated houses and setting out fruit and ornamental trees; and their mode of farming is every year becoming more like that of their white neighbours. The stock is of fair quality and fairly well cared for. All crops were very light during the last year, but the stock was brought through the winter without any loss.

Education.—There is one school on this reserve. It is fairly well attended. The pupils who attend regularly make very satisfactory progress.

Religion.—There are two Methodist churches on this reserve, both under the charge of Rev. E. H. Taylor, and they are both well attended during services.

Temperance and Morality.—A few of the Indians of this reserve are addicted to the occasional use of intoxicants.

I have, &c.,

HUGH STEWART,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
 MISSISSAGUAS OF RICE AND MUD LAKES,
 ROSENEATH, 30th June, 1898.

The Honourable
 The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
 Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report of Indian affairs in my agency for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

RICE LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is located on the north shore of Rice Lake, in the township of Otonabee, county of Peterborough. It contains about seventeen hundred and fifty acres of very good land, of which about seven hundred and sixty acres are cleared and cultivated by the locatees, except about two hundred and forty acres under lease to white tenants.

Population.—This band numbers seventy-nine: twenty-one men, twenty-two women and thirty-six children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of this band has been very good during the past year, there having been but one death, consumption being the cause. The children of this band were all vaccinated this spring, and the women are very tidy and clean about their homes.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of this reserve are fishing, trapping, gathering rice, and agriculture. The majority of the Indians on this reserve work their land and do fairly well; some, however, make a living by fishing, trapping, gathering rice and working with farmers.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There are eight good frame dwellings on this reserve and thirteen log ones, and all appear to be very comfortable. These Indians have also eight barns and a number of very comfortable stables for their horses and stock, of which they have now thirteen horses, twelve milch cows and other stock. Of farming implements they have a very fair supply.

Education.—Some of the members of this band are very anxious that their children should be educated, they therefore see that the latter attend school very regularly. The children are learning fairly well.

Religion.—The members of this band are all Methodists and attend the services very regularly. Mr. Windsor preaches to them every Sabbath. They have also an Endeavour Society.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians here on the whole are very industrious and law-abiding and seem to be progressing remarkably well.

Temperance and Morality.—As a rule these people are moral and well behaved, and I have found them honest, but a few unfortunately indulge in liquor occasionally.

MUD LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is located on Mud Lake, in the township of Smith, county of Peterborough. It contains about two thousand acres. It is the property of the New England Company of London, England.

Population.—This band numbers one hundred and sixty-four: forty-four men, forty women and eighty children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There have been four deaths here during the past year. The people here as a rule are neat and tidy about their homes.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of this reserve are hunting, trapping and fishing. Some of the Indians here hire with farmers, others work in the lumber woods in the winter season and on "drives" in the summer, while others remain at home and cultivate their land and, I think, are doing well.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There are twenty frame and twelve log dwellings on this reserve, which I think are very comfortable. These Indians have also eleven barns and several very comfortable stables for their horses and stock.

They have thirteen horses, four colts, fourteen remarkably good milch cows, besides quite a number of young stock.

They are very well supplied with farming implements.

Education.—The children of all the families on this reserve, with the exception of one or two, attend school regularly and are being well educated by their teacher, Mr. A. F. Kennedy, who holds a second-class professional certificate.

Religion.—The Indians of this band are all members or adherents of the Methodist Church, and the services are well attended. There is also a Sabbath school open the whole year. It is supplied with necessary helps and papers, and is well attended by children and young people.

Characteristics and Progress.—These people on the whole are industrious and appear to take a greater interest in working their land each year.

Temperance and Morality.—There is very little intemperance on this reserve, and the Indians are very honest and well-behaved.

I have, &c.,

WM. MCFARLANE,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
MISSISSAGUAS OF SCUGOG,
PORT PERRY, 11th October, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I beg to submit my annual report of the Scugog Band for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Vital Statistics.—There are in this band ten men, twelve women and sixteen children, or a total of thirty-eight, the same as last reported.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health, generally speaking, of these Indians has been fairly good; no epidemics nor diseases of a contagious nature have visited them during the year. They are tolerably clean and orderly about their dwellings.

Occupation.—Most of the members of this band are engaged in general farming. The others busy themselves with hunting, fishing and basket-making.

Building and Fencing.—We have built two frame dwellings, one of them 16 x 23, the other, 18 x 24 feet, one and a half stories high, with good stone cellars the full size. There was part of the reserve unfenced, and we have built two hundred and forty-seven rods of cyclone wire fence, so that we have the reserve nearly all inclosed.

Education.—The Indians of this band have no school of their own; they send their children to the school of the whites, which is near by the reserve.

Religion.—The Indians on this reserve are all Methodists. They have a church of their own in which they have service every Sunday, conducted by the Rev. Mr. Anderson.

Temperance.—They have nearly all given up drinking any intoxicating liquor. There are one or two that will imbibe when they can get it, but there is a great improvement in this direction.

General Remarks.—The prospect of the welfare of the band never was brighter. The crop this season has turned out fairly good.

I have, &c.,

A. W. WILLIAMS,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
MOHAWKS OF THE BAY OF QUINTE,
MARYSVILLE, 27th August, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I beg to submit my annual report for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserve.—The Tyendinaga Reserve is situated in the county of Hastings and contains an area of seventeen thousand acres.

Resources.—The resources are farming and stock-raising, as there is good pasturage and meadow land within its borders.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of three hundred and seventy-eight men, four hundred and three women and four hundred and forty-seven children. There were thirty-eight births, sixteen deaths, two joined the band and two left it, making a total increase of twenty-two. The causes of death were children's diseases and old age.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health, generally speaking, of this band has been fairly good; no epidemic nor disease of a contagious nature visited them during the year. The sanitary regulations insisted on by the department are observed.

Occupation.—As already stated, this band chiefly depends for a living on grain and cattle. The former is looking very well at present and it is hoped a heavy crop will be reaped, as the Indians take much interest in their farming. Many of the women take an interest in gardening and butter-making.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The buildings are in a good state of repair. Stock is well kept. Most of the Indians have all they require in modern implements.

Education.—Two hundred and thirty-three children attend school. There are four schools taught by female teachers, holding third-class certificates. The authorized course of studies is followed. The progress of the children is fair. Steady improvement is noticeable. The parents are all anxious to have their children well educated. A number of the children attend the high school at Deseronto.

Religion.—The Indians of this band belong to the Church of England, except forty-five who are Presbyterians and have built themselves a frame church. Those belonging to the Church of England have two stone churches and one mission school-house, used

for divine service. An improvement has taken place in church work during the past year. The Sunday schools are in splendid working order. There are three services each Sunday and an evening service during the winter, also a Bible class one night in the week. All this is done by the missionary himself.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians are becoming more industrious year by year, are making good progress and becoming better off. The harvest of 1898 promises to be as good as that of 1897, and there will be an abundance of hay and straw for the coming winter. There are four wagons engaged on the reserve to haul milk to the cheese factories, and a number of the Indians send their milk, competing fairly well with their white neighbours.

Temperance and Morality.—There are a few who indulge in strong drink occasionally, but on the whole, these people are law-abiding and well-behaved.

General Remarks.—Dr. Oronhyatekha continues to improve Captain John's Island, now called Foresters' Island Park. The brass band keeps up its practice and is playing very well. The prospect of the welfare of the band never was brighter.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE ANDERSON,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
MORAVIANS OF THE THAMES,
DUART, 12th August, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit my annual report and tabular statement respecting the Moravians of the Thames for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated in the north-west portion of the township of Orford, county of Kent, on the River Thames. It contains an area of about three thousand acres.

Tribe.—These Indians are now known as the "Moravians of the Thames," having been so named on account of many of them being adherents of the Moravian Church. They belong to the Delaware tribe.

Population.—On the 30th June, 1898, the population was two hundred and ninety-nine souls, viz., one hundred and fifty-three males, and one hundred and forty-six females.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians has been very good for the past year. Upon the whole they are fairly clean, and sanitary laws are well observed. Nearly all the children have been successfully vaccinated this year.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of this reserve consist of basket-making, fishing and farming. The land is well adapted for mixed farming, being good for raising crops of any kind. Water is abundant, and the pasturage is good. Those who pay strict attention to farming are fairly well-to-do, and on a fair way to become good farmers.

Buildings, Stock, and Farming Implements.—No new buildings have been erected this year. The stock is fairly good, especially the hogs and the horses. These Indians do not raise many cattle. Most of them are provided with the smaller implements, such

as ploughs, cultivators, and harrows. Quite a number have good wagons and buggies. There are only two binders on the reserve.

Education.—There are two schools on the reserve: one public school, supported by the band, the other a mission school, supported by the Moravian Church in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, each doing very good work.

Religion.—There are three churches on this reserve, viz., Episcopalian, Methodist, and Moravian. All the services are well attended each Sabbath.

Characteristics and Progress.—The great majority of these Indians are inclined to take things easy. Those who work are making a fair living. Upon the whole they are as peaceable as any people, fairly moral, and very few of them are addicted to drink.

I have, &c.,

A. R. McDONALD,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
OJIBBEWAS OF LAKE SUPERIOR—EASTERN DIVISION,
SAULT STE. MARIE, 18th October, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward herewith my annual report of the three bands of Indians under my charge, viz., the Garden River Band, residing on the Garden River Reserve; the Batchewana Band, some of whom reside on the Garden River Reserve, some on St. Mary's Island, their own reserve, some at Goulais Bay, on property owned by themselves, and on the reserve granted them by the department, in the township of Kars, others at Batchewana on land of their own and squatting on private property, and many who squat along the shores of Lake Superior; and the Michipicoten Band, none of whom reside on their reserve at Little Gros Cap, but are scattered from Michipicoten River, Chapeau, Missinabie, White River, New Brunswick House and other points.

GARDEN RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is beautifully situated on the St. Mary's River, about eight miles below the town of Sault Ste. Marie.

The present area of the reserve has been increased and now is about twenty-five thousand acres. Of this quantity the Garden River Indians and those of the Batchewana Band residing on this reserve do not cultivate more than about twelve hundred acres, and that poorly. Potatoes and hay are about all they really raise in any quantity.

Resources.—This reserve contains minerals and lumber. The land is in many parts good and well adapted to farming.

Tribe.—These Indians are descended from the Chippewas, mixed with French Canadian half-breeds. These latter number more than the pure Indians.

Vital Statistics.—The band is composed of one hundred and nine male adults, one hundred and thirty-one female adults, and ninety-five male children and one hundred and six female children.

Health.—The houses and approaches as a rule are kept very clean and neat. Sickness was very prevalent among the Indians during the past year, and the doctor

had to make a great many visits in addition to his monthly ones. However, nothing of a contagious kind appeared among them.

Occupation.—They occupy themselves in various ways, such as fishing, going out as guides, exploring, working in the lumber camps and boat-building. The women engage in bark-work, basket-making, rag mats, washing for the camps, berry-picking and sugar-making.

Buildings.—These are nearly all log-built, a very few frame houses, whitewashed on the outside and warm. The stables are of the same kind. There is a council-hall and a lock-up.

Stock.—The stock consists of cows, oxen, horses, pigs and poultry, with one exception of a very common breed.

Farming Implements.—The farming implements consist of ploughs, harrows, fanning machine, threshing-machine, hoe-rake, spades and shovels, scythes and cradles.

Education.—There are two schools on the reserve, one under Protestant, and the other under Roman Catholic auspices. About forty attend the Protestant school, under Miss Williamson, and are making very fair progress. The Roman Catholic school, under the superintendence of the Rev. P. E. Lamarche, S.J., has an attendance of forty-two children, who are all making very good progress.

Religion.—There are three churches on the reserve, the English church is very well attended. It is at present under the care of Rev. F. Frost. The Roman Catholic church is under the Rev. P. E. Lamarche, S.J., who has a very large congregation. The Methodist church has no minister, in fact has been closed for some years, and in the census this year I have only one member returned.

Characteristics and Progress.—More land has been seeded this year than for some time past, but the result does not show the increase it should. This is in a great measure owing to the early frost and heavy storms about harvest time, when, I am informed, entire crops were destroyed.

Temperance and Morality.—I regret that this year there has been more drunkenness on the reserve than has heretofore come under my notice. There have been ten convictions, these were not all members of the Garden River Band, and in no case could I find that the liquor had been got anywhere but on the American side. These convictions and fines, and in some cases imprisonment, appear to have had a good effect. Immorality, I regret, prevails to a considerable extent among the young people, and I find this the most difficult thing to check; both minister and priest have done their best, but it still goes on.

Chiefs.—The chief of this band is Jarvis Augustin, and the sub-chiefs are John Augustin, Moses Larose, George Shingwauk and Joseph Boiseault, whose time expires 30th June, 1900

BATCHEWANA BAND.

Reserve.—This band has a small reserve called White Fish or Ste. Marie Island, situated on the Rapids of Sault Ste. Marie, and used by some of the Indians as a fishing station. It is well situated for a water power, and as such would be very valuable; it is adjoining the Canadian canal, and near the large pulp mills, and adjoining Sault Ste. Marie, occupied by a few families. These Indians have also another small reserve at Goulais Bay, granted them by the department.

Tribe.—The Indians are the same as the Garden River Band, being Chippewas and French Canadian half-breeds.

Vital Statistics.—The total number shown by the present census so far as taken, is three hundred and fifty-five, composed of ninety-eight male adults, one hundred and six female adults, seventy-nine male children and seventy-two female children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There has been about the usual amount of sickness among the Indians. They engage their own doctor when required, and pay him themselves. The houses are kept clean and in good order.

Occupation.—They till about five hundred acres of land on the Garden River Reserve, where many of this band have their home. Various members of this band own among themselves, and for which they have patents, about seven hundred and fifty acres of land, which they partly work. One member, Apahquash, owns six hundred acres in the township of Kars and Prince, taken up as mineral land years ago. They are industrious, fishing, shooting, working in camps, prospecting and acting as guides. The women pick berries, make sugar, bark-work, Indian and rag mats, chip baskets and other kinds of work. These are those living at Goulais Bay, Batchewana and the north shore of Lake Superior. They do very little farming, raising potatoes and garden vegetables sufficient for their own use.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The buildings of this band are mostly on the Garden River Reserve, or on property owned by the Indians themselves, on land on which they have squatted. Most of the farming or gardening is done on the Garden River Reserve. These Indians possess ploughs, harrows, hoes, rakes, forks, scythes, cradles and other small garden implements. They have horses, cows, oxen, pigs and poultry. Potatoes are the largest crop they raise. Turnips and other vegetables are also grown, but many lose their crops from the bad weather. The soil on the Garden River Reserve, occupied by this band, is better than that on the east side of the river.

Education.—There is no school belonging to this band. The children of the families living at Garden River, attend the Roman Catholic school, about twenty-four in number. There is no other school on either of their reserves.

Religion.—There are two churches of the Roman Catholic persuasion, one at Goulais Bay, and another at Batchewana. There is no regular priest at either station; a layman does the duty. A missionary priest makes several visits during the year. Almost all the band are members of the Roman Catholic Church, the rest are of the Methodist persuasion, but have no church or missionary that I am aware of.

Morals.—The same remarks apply to this band as to the Garden River Band, these Indians up the Lake have fewer chances of getting liquor than those in the neighbourhood of Sault Ste. Marie.

Chief.—The chief of this band is a life chief, named Nubenagooching, now getting up in years. He was appointed in the year 1824, when only ten years of age.

MICHIPICOTEN BAND.

Reserve.—These Indians have a small reserve at Little Gros Cap, Lake Superior, not occupied by them for many past years. The members reside at different points, some at Michipicoten River, Missinabie, Chapleau, White River, New Brunswick House, and other points.

Tribe.—They are of the tribe of Chippewas, mixed with French, English, and Scotch half-breeds. Very few speak anything but the Indian language.

Vital Statistics.—The total number of this year's census is eighty-five male adults, ninety-one female adults, seventy-three male children, and ninety-one female children, making a total of three hundred and forty head.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The houses, so far as I have seen, are kept in good condition, but the members of this band are so scattered, as I have before mentioned, that they are not visited by me. They have really no houses of their own, they mostly squat on vacant land or on private property, with two or three exceptions, those living at the town of Sault Ste. Marie, and one family who bought land at Batchewana Bay.

Education.—There is a school-house, but on land belonging to the Ontario Government. There is no teacher, and very few children at any one place to attend a school.

Religion.—There is a Roman Catholic church at Michipicoten, visited occasionally by a Roman Catholic missionary, and at other times the service is conducted by a

layman of the band. These Indians belong to the Roman Catholic Church and the Church of England. The former are by far the more numerous.

Characteristics and Progress.—The members of this band follow the Indian mode of life almost altogether, and move from place to place. This year I met the most numerous portion at Chapleau, where they had come from various points. They do next to nothing in the way of raising any crops, making a living principally by hunting and fishing.

Chief.—The chief of this band is Sanson Legard. He lives at Michipicoten most of his time. The second chief, Gros Jambette, lives in the neighbourhood of Chapleau.

I have, &c.,

WM. VAN ABBOTT,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
OJIBBEWAS OF LAKE SUPERIOR—WESTERN DIVISION,
PORT ARTHUR, 31st August, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report concerning the Indians of this agency for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

FORT WILLIAM BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated between the Mission and Kaministiquia rivers, and contains an area of thirteen thousand and forty acres.

Natural Features.—The land along the rivers and for some distance back, is of first-class quality, but a large swamp keeps the back land rather wet.

Tribe.—This band belongs to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population is two hundred and forty-five, a small portion living at Dog Lake and Lac des Mille Lacs. It consists of fifty-one men, sixty-nine women, sixty-three boys and sixty-two girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There has been very little sickness during the year. As a precaution all the premises are whitewashed and all rubbish is burned.

Resources and Occupation.—The chief occupations of the Indians are farming, acting as guides, exploring for mineral, and picking berries. A number of the women act as domestics.

Buildings.—This band has fifty-two log houses, thirteen frame dwellings, eighteen barns, twelve stables and other necessary outbuildings.

Education.—There are two schools on this reserve, the Indian boys' and girls' day school and St. Joseph's Orphanage. The teachers are Sisters of St. Joseph, and are well qualified and painstaking. The building is always very clean and the discipline excellent.

Religion.—Of this band, two hundred and twenty-eight are Roman Catholics, and seventeen pagans. There is a resident priest and a travelling missionary. There is a church and St. Joseph's Convent (the latter in charge of the Rev. Mother Superior and four nuns.) It is a comfortable modern building. The Indians take great interest in their religion and appear quite devout.

Characteristics.—The members of this band are as a rule industrious and law-abiding, and take great interest in having their houses clean, and fences in good repair.

RED ROCK BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Nepigon River, near Lake Helen, and contains six hundred and forty acres.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Occupation.—Their principal occupation is acting as guides for tourists who go up the Nepigon River fishing. Some engage in farming and hunting.

Education.—There is a good school-house on this reserve, but it has not been open for some time. There is another school on the Lake Helen Roman Catholic mission under the charge of Jessie H. McKay, a very competent teacher. This school is well attended.

Population.—The population is one hundred and ninety-eight, consisting of thirty-nine men, forty-eight women, fifty-nine boys and fifty-two girls.

Religion.—Of this band one hundred and eighty-four are Roman Catholics, and fourteen Anglicans.

Characteristics.—These Indians are industrious, progressive, and are spoken very highly of by parties who engage them as guides.

ENGLISH CHURCH MISSION, McINTYRE BAY.

There is a Church of England mission on McIntyre's Bay, where there is a quantity of good land. These Indians have been supplied by the Government this year with a bull and a quantity of seed.

NEPIGON BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band, called the Gull Bay Reserve, is situated on Gull Bay, Lake Nepigon, and contains seven thousand five hundred acres. There is also a reserve on Jackfish Island, near the Hudson Bay Company's post.

Natural Features.—The Gull Bay Reserve is well wooded, being mostly low land. Along the banks of the Gull River, which runs through it, the land is high and the soil very light.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Occupation.—Hunting is the principal occupation of these Indians, though a few act as guides to the Nepigon tourists. Some are beginning to devote a part of their time to raising potatoes, and have done some clearing on the reserve this year.

Religion.—In this band there are one hundred and seventy-eight Roman Catholics and two hundred and eighty-seven pagans.

Education.—The school is situated on Jackfish Island, and presided over by Mr. J. A. Blais, who is a very competent teacher, and whose efforts to instruct the Indians in gardening are very praiseworthy.

Population.—This band numbers four hundred and sixty-five persons, consisting of seventy-six men, ninety-two women, one hundred and sixty-one boys and one hundred and thirty-six girls.

Improvements by Band.—A new council-house has been erected by the Indians on the Gull Bay Reserve, size 24x20. The building is of logs, and the floor whipsawed.

PAYS PLAT BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Pays Plat River, Lake Superior, and contains six hundred and forty acres.

Tribe.—The Indians of this reserve are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population is forty-six, consisting of seven men, thirteen women, sixteen boys and ten girls.

Education.—There is a good school-house here, which has not been open during the past year, but it will re-open shortly.

Religion.—There has been a nice new church erected. All the members of the band are Roman Catholics.

Occupation.—The pursuits of these Indians are hunting, fishing and exploring for minerals.

PIC BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Pic River, Lake Superior, and contains eight hundred acres, divided into twenty-five farms fronting on the river.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Occupation.—They live by farming, fishing and hunting.

Population.—The population is two hundred and eleven, consisting of forty-three men, fifty-three women, sixty-three boys and fifty-two girls.

Religion.—The Indians of this band are Roman Catholics.

Education.—There is a good school-house, which is not open at present.

LONG LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the shore of Long Lake and contains six hundred and forty acres.

Tribe.—The Indians are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Occupation.—This is a hunting band, the only other occupation being the transportation of merchandise from Lake Superior for the Hudson's Bay Company.

Agriculture.—Some interest is being taken in raising potatoes, and the Indians have small patches in different places off the reserve.

Characteristics.—These Indians are very industrious, and appear to be very comfortably situated.

Population.—The population is two hundred and eighty-nine, consisting of fifty-three men, sixty-four women, seventy-four boys and ninety-eight girls.

Religion.—There are two hundred and sixty Roman Catholics, nine Anglicans and twenty pagans.

I have, &c.,

J. F. HODDER,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
OJIBBEWAS OF MANITOULIN ISLAND AND LAKE HURON,
MANITOWANING, 13th September, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report concerning the Indians of this superintendency for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

THESSALON RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the north shore of Lake Huron, about six miles east of the village of Thessalon. It contains an area of over three square miles.

Resources.—The resources of this reserve are agriculture and fishing.

Tribe or Nation.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population is one hundred and ninety-six.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians of this band has been fair, but tubercular disease is on the increase, and nothing but a radical change in the food and surroundings of the Indians can have any effect upon its progress; no other disease of particular moment, to my knowledge, has invaded the band. Lime was supplied the Indians this spring by the department for domestic cleansing purposes, and the prescribed sanitary precautions regularly enjoined upon them appear to have salutary results.

Occupation.—The principal occupation of most of the members of this band is fishing, which affords them a lucrative return. Many of them engage in agriculture in a primitive manner, while others find employment in winter in the lumber shanties, and at the saw-mills in summer.

Buildings, &c.—The buildings of this band are principally of log. The dwelling-houses generally are comfortable and clean; stables, &c., are of an inferior order, and farming implements few.

Education.—The Indian school on the reserve is in charge of a good and competent male teacher, who is conscientiously endeavouring to improve the intellectual standard of the young Indians. The attendance, however, is not satisfactory, owing to the lack of interest on the part of parents.

Religion.—These Indians, with the exception of a few pagans, are all of the Roman Catholic persuasion, and their spiritual welfare is well ministered to by the visiting missionary. As my intercourse with them has been very restricted, I am not in a position to report comprehensively on their religious attitude.

Characteristics and Progress.—As a whole, the band is enterprising, although there is ample room for improvement in all the avocations of its members.

Temperance and Morality.—The standard is quite satisfactory so far as I have any knowledge.

General Remarks.—My report on this band may be summarized by saying that except in the lack of interest taken in education, these Indians are in as prosperous circumstances as may be expected, and under the local guidance of a new chief, elected for three years from the 1st July last, even a greater measure of advancement is to be looked forward to.

MAGANETTAWAN BAND.

The members of this band who reside within this superintendency, number seventy. They live mostly at West Bay, on Manitoulin Island, where they successfully farm and garden, and are generally prosperous and contented.

In winter they find employment in the lumber camps, and are remuneratively engaged in loading vessels in the summer months. Their general measure of advancement in the several branches is identical with that of the West Bay Band. This reserve, together with the affairs of its Indians, has been placed under the control of the Agent for Parry Sound Superintendency.

SPANISH RIVER BAND.

Location.—The Spanish River band is divided into three divisions. The first reside at Sagamook on the Spanish River Reserve; the second live on the reserve on the left bank of the Spanish River, and at Pogumasing and Biscotasing; the third reside on Manitoulin Island.

The reserve contains an area of thirty-seven and three-quarter square miles.

Resources.—The resources of this band are agriculture and fishing.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—This band has a population (comprising the three divisions) of about six hundred and ninety-one.

Health.—The health of the Indians has been generally good, with no unusual disease or epidemic to impair the normal state. Lime, distributed among the Indians, has aided greatly in purifying the air about their premises.

Occupation.—The Indians follow farming and gardening for a living. They fish to a limited extent, pick large quantities of berries (for which they get good returns), make sugar in considerable quantities, manufacture baskets, and find employment in saw-mills.

Buildings, Stock, Farming Implements, &c.—Their buildings are among the best in the superintendency, many of them comparing very favourably with those of the white people.

Their stock is of fair quality, but admits of great improvement in this respect.

To these Indians farming implements are becoming more a necessity, according as they are adapting themselves more to agricultural pursuits.

Education.—This is becoming more of a momentous consideration with the Indians, who are undoubtedly beginning better to appreciate the utility of intellectual development. They have a good, competent and conscientious teacher in the person of Miss Morley. This spring their school-house was unfortunately destroyed by fire, and the teacher has, since, been carrying on her duties at considerable disadvantage, in an extemporized school-room. Negotiations are now being prosecuted with a view to the rebuilding of the school-house, the Indians interesting themselves most commendably in the project.

Religion.—The great majority of the Indians of the first division are Roman Catholics. Those of the second, with few exceptions, are adherents of the Church of England, while the third division is for the most part of Roman Catholic persuasion. Each division has a church, Roman Catholic, Church of England, and Roman Catholic, respectively, and a lively interest in religious matters is evinced by the Indians.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are mostly quite industrious and law-abiding, and are steadily improving.

Temperance and Morality.—As a rule they are temperate and appear to respect the laws of morality, and great credit is due to their spiritual advisers for their untiring endeavours in this direction.

General Remarks.—I may say that the Indians of this band are apparently happy, contented and prosperous, and seem to be very industrious. A new chief was

recently elected for the first division of this band ; and the re-election of the late chief for division No. 2 places another good man at the head of the band for the next term.

WHITEFISH LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated about twelve miles from Sudbury on the Canadian Pacific Railway, where there is a station called Naughton. Trains stop here regularly. This reserve has an area of over sixty-eight and one-half square miles.

Resources.—Its resources are gardening and hunting.

Tribe.—These Indians are another branch of the Ojibbewas of Lake Huron.

Population.—The Whitefish Lake Band numbers one hundred and forty-nine.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good. There have been no epidemics. Sanitary precautions are satisfactorily observed, and lime was supplied this spring for cleansing purposes.

Occupation.—The members of this band engage in gardening. Hunting was formerly their chief means of subsistence, but at present is a nominal pursuit owing to the scarcity of game. Many of them find employment as guides, some work on the Canadian Pacific Railway ; others in saw-mills and lumber camps.

Buildings, Stock, &c.—Nearly all the buildings are of log, and are kept very comfortable and clean.

Their stock is numerically small, but well looked after.

They have no farming implements of any account.

Education.—The progress of the children is satisfactory and the average attendance is improving.

Religion.—The religious proclivities of these Indians are denominationally divided between Roman Catholicism and Methodism, the former claiming the numerical advantage. There are two churches on the reserve respectively under the above auspices, which bespeaks the lively religious interest taken by the Indians.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are steady, industrious, law-abiding and fairly well-to-do ; but as yet only in small part do they appreciate the advantages to be derived from giving more attention to agriculture.

Temperance and Morality.—The laws of temperance and morality are well observed by this band.

General Remarks.—I would add as a summary that these Indians are decidedly improving in general status, and, if more attention were given to agriculture, more marked results would follow. A new chief has been elected for this band for another three years' term.

MISSISSAGUA RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is located on the east side of Mississagua River and Blind River, on the north shore of Georgian Bay. It comprises an area of over three and a half square miles.

Resources.—The resources of this band are hunting and gardening.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population as taken from the last census is one hundred and sixty-nine.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians of this band is, generally speaking, not good. Scrofula is very prevalent on the reserve. They require medical treatment of a nourishing and supporting character, combined with better clothing for the winter season. Lime was supplied them this spring to assist in carrying out sanitary measures.

Occupation.—These Indians follow hunting and primitive agriculture for a living, but as the woods are fast becoming depleted of game, the returns from the former source are very inadequate. Fishing, berry-picking and sugar-making are also carried on to a limited extent. Besides these, the shanties and saw-mills are also sources of pecuniary assistance to many of the band.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Their buildings are almost entirely log, and in a generally fair state of repair. They have very little stock and farming implements, as they give but indifferent attention to agriculture.

Education.—They have a good school at their village, which is competently conducted and fairly well attended.

Religion.—The Indians as a band are Roman Catholics. They have no church on the reserve, the services being held in the school-house under Roman Catholic auspices. A fair measure of religious observance is manifested by the band.

Characteristics.—As a rule the Indians are fairly industrious, but improvident. This relegates them to a low standing in the general scale of advancement.

Temperance and Morality.—Temperance and morality are well observed, as is evident by the absence of any complaints of misbehaviour under these heads.

General Remarks.—I would sum up, therefore, that the Indians of this band are fond of hunting and averse to agriculture. Were they to adapt themselves to the latter, I fancy they would soon advance to a higher level and their general health improve. These Indians have recently elected a new chief who, I think, will take a more active interest in the local management of the affairs of the band.

WHITEFISH RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated about eighteen miles from Little Current, at the mouth of the Whitefish River, on the north shore of Georgian Bay. It has an area of two thousand five hundred and sixty acres.

Resources.—A goodly portion of the land on this reserve is suitable for agriculture. The remainder is woodland.

Tribe.—These Indians are Ojibbewas.

Population.—The band has a population, according to the last census, of eighty-five.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The great majority of these Indians enjoy good health, with no prevailing epidemic. The sanitary measures enjoined by the department have received satisfactory observance. Lime was also furnished these Indians this spring.

Occupation.—The following occupations are engaged in by these Indians: farming, raising of potatoes, garden vegetables and hay and grain, lumbering, fishing, making mats and baskets, berry-picking and sugar-making.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The buildings on the reserve are principally of log, and present a clean and tidy appearance.

What stock the Indians have is in good condition.

The number of farming implements evidences a growing interest in agricultural pursuits.

Education.—The Indians have a good school and the general proficiency of the pupils is satisfactory.

Religion.—These Indians are of the Church of England and Roman Catholic persuasions, with the former considerably predominant. The church held in the school-house on the reserve is in charge of the visiting Church of England missionary. The Indians on the whole seem to take an intelligent and lively interest in their belief, and have undoubtedly been much benefited by religious instruction.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious, intelligent and law-abiding and are making creditable advancement in civilized acquirements.

Temperance and Morality.—They are fairly temperate and moral.

General Remarks.—Although these Indians are intelligent, industrious, fairly temperate and moral, and evince a growing taste for agricultural pursuits, still my belief is that if farming were more zealously followed by them, marked improvement would result. The late chief, Jas. Nahwagahbow, was recently re-elected for three years from 1st July, 1898.

SERPENT RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band extends from the village of Cutler to Spragge Station on the Canadian Pacific Railway. It has an area of thirty-eight square miles.

Resources.—The resources of this band are agriculture, timber and fish.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—This band numbers about one hundred and eighteen.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—To my knowledge there have been no epidemic diseases during the year. The general health of these Indians is good, and the sanitary condition of their dwellings quite satisfactory. They received a shipment of lime last spring.

Occupation.—These Indians garden, work in the lumber woods and in saw-mills, fish and hunt on a limited scale, pick berries and make maple sugar.

Buildings, &c.—They mostly occupy neatly-built houses, which are principally of log and fairly furnished.

They have not much stock nor farming implements, as they do not follow agriculture to any extent.

Education.—There is a good school at Cutler, on the Canadian Pacific Railway, under Roman Catholic supervision. It is well attended, and some of the pupils have done surprisingly well. The teacher reports having two classes which can converse very well, and that in arithmetic her part II. class has done as well as the average white children.

Religion.—The majority of these Indians are Roman Catholics. They have a church on the reserve, and appear to take an interest in religious teaching.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are good workers, law-abiding, possess considerable intelligence, and on the whole are making fair progress.

Temperance and Morality.—Their conduct under this heading is satisfactory.

General Remarks.—Generally speaking, the members of this band work well, and could they only be induced to see the benefits of closely following farming for a livelihood, satisfactory results would follow, as they are certainly intelligent and industrious. I am glad to report the re-election this year of Robert Oshowskukezhik, who is about the best man the Indians could have chosen to place at their head.

TAHGAIWININI BAND:

Reserve.—These Indians have a reserve at Wahnapiatae, on the north shore of the Georgian Bay, but the greater portion of the band reside on the unceded portion of Manitoulin Island, at and near Wikwemikong. It contains an area of eight square miles.

Resources.—Most of the reserve is yet wood land. The timber on it has been sold under license. A good thing has thus been secured to the Indians by the department.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—One hundred and sixty represents the numerical strength of this band.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—These Indians have enjoyed fairly good health, observe the prescribed sanitary regulations of the department, and keep their premises in good order.

Occupation.—General farming, working and getting out timber, fishing, sugar-making and berry-picking are the chief pursuits of this band.

Buildings, Stock, and Farming Implements.—Their buildings are of log, neatly constructed, comfortable and clean.

Their stock is of fair quality, and showing improvement.

The possession of ploughs, harrows, wagons and fanning-mills bespeaks advancement in the cultivation of the soil.

Education.—They have no school on the reserve, the children attending school at Wikwemikong.

Religion.—These are all Roman Catholic Indians, and are spiritually ministered to by the priests from Wikwemikong. They are attentive to religious instruction.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious, law-abiding, and are making steady progress in farming, to which avocation they are giving more practical attention.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are exemplary in these respects.

General Remarks.—This band shows conclusively that by giving due attention to agricultural pursuits the whole tone of their well-being is greatly elevated. These Indians have no properly constituted chief, as they do not reside on their own reserve and the majority of them exercise the right of membership in other bands.

POINT GRONDIN BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is located east of Collin's Inlet, on the north shore of Georgian Bay. Some of the Indians live on the reserve, the remainder at Wikwemikong, on the unceded part of Manitoulin Island. Three and one-eighth square miles is the area of this reserve.

Resources.—The resources of the reserve are timber, agriculture and fishing.

Tribe.—These Indians are also of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population numbers sixty-one according to last census.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Their health is good, and sanitary arrangements quite satisfactory. They seem to be a robust band. Lime was supplied them last spring for sanitary purposes.

Occupation.—They do gardening, fish during summer, and work in the lumber camps in winter.

Last winter they cut under permits and sold at a good profit, over one hundred and fifty-eight cords of firewood.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—They have comfortable log dwellings, have but little farm stock and very few farming implements.

Education.—They have no school on the reserve, their children, also, attending school at Wikwemikong.

Religion.—They are adherents of the Church of Rome and are spiritually ministered to by the priests from Wikwemikong. They appear to take a laudable interest in their religious schooling.

Characteristics and Progress.—Industry and sobriety are characteristics of these Indians, and cannot fail to tend towards improvement.

Temperance and Morality.—They are on the whole a temperate people and commendably conformable to the laws of morality.

General Remarks.—Were they only good farmers, my report would give this band a far better showing, as these Indians are both sober and industrious, as well as religiously inclined and moral. The chief elected for this band last fall, is giving good satisfaction and appears anxious to advance the material interest of his people.

INDIANS OF MANITOULIN ISLAND UNCEDED.

Location.—This reserve comprises the eastern end or portion of the Manitoulin Island east of the township of Assiginack.

Area.—These Indians have about one hundred and sixty-four and a half square miles of a reserve.

Resources.—The resources are large tracts of good land, well adapted for agriculture, timber-land, and fishing.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa and Ottawa tribes.

Population.—They number about seven hundred and thirty-two.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—On the whole, the health of these Indians has been fairly good. Scrofula and consumption are the prevailing diseases, for the better prevention and mitigation of which the medical practitioner professionally in charge of this, the largest of the bands under my supervision, recommends the purchase of appliances for cure by inoculation. The regular sanitary precautions are more strictly observed by this band, and salutary results are shown in the neat and clean condition of their premises. Their two villages of Wikwemikong and Wikwemikonsing are well populated, and I believe that to this fact is due, in a great measure, much sickness which could be obviated by many of them leaving the villages and settling down in the country on farms, where the more wholesome atmosphere would soon conduce to recuperation and robust health. The serious consideration of this subject has been repeatedly urged upon their attention, but the immobility of the majority frustrates the satisfactory accomplishment of more desirable results.

Occupation.—These Indians are learning to follow agricultural pursuits on a more comprehensive and intelligent scale. Fishing also contributes to their maintenance, and last winter they took out twenty-five thousand eight hundred and eighty-five cedar railway ties, two thousand four hundred and eighty-two cedar posts, and twenty-eight thousand two hundred and twenty-nine feet board measure of cedar saw-logs, all of which the department sold for them to good advantage. The loading of timber during the summer also assists them materially. Besides these occupations, they do a good deal of basket and bark-work, for which they find ready sale; berry-picking and making of maple sugar add further to their sources of income, and these Indians having recently surrendered the oil and gas privileges on their reserve, the drilling operations which are expected to commence at an early date, and which will afford employment to a number of the band, will add materially to their other lucrative occupations.

A good deal of the energy and moral restraint of these Indians is due to the efforts of their head chief, who besides being an intelligent, practical and conscientious man, is also well disposed towards the department, which is in itself a most desirable and exemplary trait.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Their log and frame dwelling-houses are generally very comfortable, commodious, and neatly and tastefully constructed. Stables and other outbuildings are kept well renovated.

Their stock is in fair condition, and better attention is being given to the quality and raising thereof.

A goodly number of general farming implements are being utilized to material advantage, and of these Indians it may be said that success, as a criterion, is certainly vindicating itself.

Education.—Facilities for education are within easy reach of all the children on the reserve; the boys' and girls' industrial institutions and boys' and girls' day school at Wikwemikong are under an energetic and well qualified staff of management, and untiring efforts are being made by the missionaries and teachers to do justice to this very important subject. Further particulars will appear in the reverend principal's report. I might also mention that this spring the department sanctioned an expenditure of \$2,125, to furnish the industrial school with a good water supply for the protection of the building from fire and in order that the school may be equipped with a proper apparatus for washing and drying clothes at the laundry in connection with the school, which expenditure has been completed, and the institution will now be better equipped than ever to meet the requirements.

Religion.—Roman Catholicism is the religious persuasion of the band. The priests resident at Wikwemikong, where they have a fine church, are unremitting in their

religious labours among the Indians, who seem to appreciate the interest thus manifested in their behalf.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians are becoming more industrious every year as is evidenced by their growing home interests and the improvement and increase in general farming. They are very law-abiding, have local by-laws enforced and respected on the reserve, and are to be specially praised for the good work accomplished in their road improvements.

Temperance and Morality.—As with the other bands, liquor is prohibited on the reserve and close vigilance exercised against the liquor-vendors; hence the Indians have little chance to offend in this respect. Their moral character is steadily improving.

General Remarks.—The influence of the chief, and also of the missionaries, the prohibition of liquor and the greater attention given to farming, are the great factors in the advancement in civilization made by this band.

COCKBURN ISLAND BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the north-west side of Cockburn Island, which lies immediately west of Manitoulin Island. It contains an area of about one thousand two hundred and fifty acres.

Resources.—Forest, farm and stream are the resources of this band.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa and Ottawa tribes.

Population.—Fifty-six is the population of this band.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians is generally good, no epidemic, to my knowledge, having made any depredation among them; sanitary regulations are observed and appreciated. Lime was distributed to them also.

Occupation.—They farm in a primitive manner, but their principal occupation is working in lumber camps in winter, and in saw-mills and vessel-loading in summer.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Although by no means pretentious, yet their buildings are comfortable and kept well refitted.

The Indians keep very little live stock and farm implements.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve.

Religion.—These Indians are Roman Catholics and ministered to by the visiting missionary. They appear to take an interest in religious instruction, but have no church on the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are both steady and industrious, and are getting along about as well as can be expected under the circumstances.

Temperance and Morality.—I have not heard of a case of intemperance or immorality since my last report. Their isolated location from any town or village where liquor is sold, partly accounts for this favourable state of affairs.

General Remarks.—These Indians are industrious, sober and moral, and were they to take more kindly to farming pursuits, they would soon show great improvement.

SHESHEGWANING BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated in the north-east part of the township of Robinson, on Manitoulin Island. About five thousand acres represents the area of this reserve.

Resources.—Farming is the chief resource of this band.

Tribe.—These Indians are another division of the Ojibbewas and Ottawas of Manitoulin Island.

Population.—This band numbers one hundred and seventy-one.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been fair during the past year, there having been no epidemic among them. They keep themselves and

premises clean, observing the sanitary precautions prescribed by the department, and to encourage sanitary measures I shipped three barrels of lime to this band last spring.

Occupation.—These Indians have turned their attention more towards the cultivation of land and raising stock, in both of which directions they make a creditable showing. Sugar-making is another branch which affords them a pecuniary return, and last winter they cut from the reserve three hundred and forty-two cords of pulp wood, which was sold to good advantage.

Buildings and Stock.—Their log buildings are among the very neatest and most comfortable in the superintendency, and are consistently furnished.

They have quite a nice lot of mixed stock, which is of fair quality and well attended to.

Education.—They have a neat and comfortable school, which maintains good discipline and order. The progress of the pupils is satisfactory, and the parents seem to take a great interest in the education of their children.

Religion.—The church on the reserve, which is under the auspices of the Roman Catholic missionaries at Wikwemikong is well attended.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and amenable to the laws; are for the most part self-supporting; steadily advancing, and by no means becoming poorer. This band is one of the most enterprising in the agency.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are all that can be wished for in these respects.

General Remarks.—The great attention paid to agriculture is in my belief the chief reason for the enterprise and progress shown by this band. A new chief has been elected who is an energetic and respected Indian and should accomplish much with his people, who are quite alive to the utility of civilized acquirements.

WEST BAY BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of these Indians lies in the township of Billings at the head of Honora Bay, Manitoulin Island. Over thirteen square miles are comprised within the limits of this reserve.

Resources.—The general resource of this band is farming,

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewas and Ottawas of Manitoulin Island.

Population.—The population of this band is three hundred and twenty-four.

Sanitary Condition.—The sanitary measures recommended by the department have been for the most part carried out, and the Indians' houses are clean and comfortable. Three barrels of lime sent to them last spring were utilized for purposes of sanitation.

Occupation.—Their chief avocation is general farming, to which they take readily; loading vessels in summer, berry-picking and sugar-making are other occupations.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Their buildings are principally constructed of logs. The dwelling-houses, barns, stables, &c., are clean and kept in a good state of repair, and as they continue to advance in their knowledge of farming, their stock and farming implements are increasing accordingly.

Education.—There are fifty-six children of school age in the vicinity of the school. The great majority of these attend the day school on the reserve and are making fair progress.

Religion.—These Indians are all adherents of the Roman Catholic Church. They have a fine church on the reserve under the auspices of the Wikwemikong priests, and seem sincere in their religious profession.

Characteristics and Progress.—As a rule these Indians are industrious and law-abiding. Their chief is an intelligent and energetic man, who seems honestly and satisfactorily to discharge the duties devolving upon him. This band is the second largest on the island and appreciates a good man at its head.

Temperance and Morality.—This being a large band of Indians, the absence of any flagrant violation of these laws is noteworthy. Now and then an offence is committed, but, on the whole, their conduct along these lines is satisfactory, and gives proof of a steady improvement.

General Remarks.—For such a large band, these Indians are progressive and industrious, due largely to the interest taken by them in agriculture. The fostering care of the department is shown by the money expended in roads and in sanitary measures. The recent election on this reserve brought a new chief to the head of affairs, the late chief was re-elected first councillor, and the election of second councillor secures to the band an adviser whose influence, I believe, will make for good.

SUCKER CREEK BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of these Indians is situated in the northern part of the township of Howland, Manitoulin Island, about four miles from the town of Little Current. It has an area of two thousand two hundred and forty-one acres.

Resources.—Good farming land that is unsurpassed by any on the several other reserves, is the main resource of this reserve.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa and Ottawa tribes.

Population.—Ninety-three souls comprise the population of this band.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—These Indians are generally healthy and strong. No epidemics have ravaged the reserve, and sanitary precautions are encouraged in every respect. Houses are in good condition, and kept very clean and comfortably furnished. Lime was distributed last spring wherewith to whitewash their premises, &c.

Occupation.—They engage in general farming and stock-raising, and find employment in getting out timber and loading vessels. They also do a little sugar-making and berry-picking. Last winter these Indians realized a nice return by cutting and selling from their reserve three thousand cedar railway ties and one hundred and thirty-two cords of firewood.

Buildings.—Most of these Indians have good dwelling-houses and barns and stables, which compare favourably with those of their white neighbours.

Education.—Without an exception, all the children of school age in the vicinity of the school attend the school on the reserve, and are reported by the teacher to be getting along very well with their studies. Their parents are quite alive to, and appreciative of the benefits to be derived from such invaluable training. These children are naturally clever—about the ordinary standard of Indian school pupils—and appear to take laudable interest in their school work.

Religion.—The Church of England claims the denominational allegiance of the majority of this band, although a number of them, presumably in the heat of fanaticism, recently joined the Salvation Army. Their church—the school-house—is under the auspices of the Episcopal Church and well attended.

Characteristics and Progress.—The members of this band are a hard-working and thrifty lot of Indians, and quite up to the general standard of advancement. Their chief is another good man, who takes practical interest in the local government of the band, and is for improving and encouraging progress both by precept and example.

Temperance and Morality.—During the year there has been very little inebriety, for which the Indians deserve praise, as their ready access to the largest town on the island where there is no lack of unscrupulous men, ready by covert means to supply them with liquor, is a constant menace to the moral barriers behind which they have learned to shield themselves.

General Remarks.—Hard-working and moral, this band is advancing in civilization. From the leadership of their worthy re-elected chief and the interest taken by them in tilling the land and raising stock, we may expect better things of them in the near future, good as they now are.

SHEGUIANDAH BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve lies convenient to the waters of the Georgian Bay, in the north-western part of the township of Sheguiandah, close to the white village of the same name.

The area of this reserve is five thousand one hundred and six acres.

Resources.—The adaptability of the soil on this reserve for agricultural purposes affords the chief resource.

Tribe.—The Ojibbewa and Ottawa tribes are represented in this band.

Population.—The last census gives a showing of ninety-four.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—This band is, generally speaking, one of the healthiest in the agency, which fact is due in a great measure to the personal cleanliness of the Indians, and the pride which the major portion of them evince in keeping their houses and premises free from refuse. They are quite amenable to sanitary laws, and were supplied with lime last spring to assist sanitation.

Occupation.—The farming done on this reserve is of a general nature, corn, oats, pease, potatoes, and hay, being the staple products. Sugar-making is also engaged in to a limited extent, and last winter the Indians cut and sold firewood at a good price.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Their houses are of the usual order, and fairly well furnished. The stables, &c., are substantial, and kept in good repair.

Their stock is by no means as numerous as desirable, nor are they well equipped with farming implements.

Education.—The day school is under the supervision of the Church of England. It is competently conducted, and almost all the children of school age attend. The parents seem anxious to have their children educated.

Religion.—The Indians attend well the church on the reserve, which is in charge of the Church of England missionary at Sheguiandah.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians may be characterized as being intelligent and thrifty. They do not make as much progress in farming as they should, but are none the less encouraged to give more earnest and practical attention to this avocation.

Temperance and Morality.—These virtues are prevalent among these Indians, due in great measure to religious influences which have been instilled into them for years.

General Remarks.—The members of this band are thrifty, cleanly, moral, religious and intelligent, anxious to see their children educated; still, their not taking the interest in farming they should do, accounts much for their progress not being as rapid relatively as it should be. Wm. Ogemah, a chief of some years' standing, has been again re-elected for a new three years' term.

SOUTH BAY BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of these Indians is situated some twelve miles south of Manitowaning, on Manitoulin Island.

Something over one and one-half square miles is the area of this reserve.

Resources.—Cultivating the fruits of the soil is the principal resource of this band.

Tribe.—These Indians also belong to the Ojibbewa and Ottawa tribes.

Population.—This band has a population of sixty-three.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—These Indians are fairly healthy, and the houses, though quite unpretentious, are comfortable, and their premises are kept fairly clean.

Occupation.—They till the soil principally for a living, and raise considerable quantities of roots and grain. Fishing is also pursued to a small extent, and quite a little revenue is derived from sugar-making. These Indians also load vessels in summer, and work at getting out timber in winter.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Their buildings are, on the whole, hardly up to the average, although a fair degree of comfort is enjoyed.

They have not much stock, pigs being the principal; and they should have more farming implements to facilitate cultivation.

Education.—A day school on the reserve offers a good chance to the Indians for the training of their children, and many of them have creditably availed themselves of the opportunity, and the children are doing pretty well, although, as a whole, the band should encourage punctuality more than it does, in order to insure a more uniform standard of proficiency among the pupils. The Indians recently applied to the department for a roof bell for their school-house, and their request has been acceded to by the department.

Religion.—Roman Catholicism is the religion of this band, and the visiting missionary holds regular services on the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—On the whole the Indians may be said to be progressing, and their amenity to advice is a commendable characteristic of the band.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians as a band are not addicted to the use of intoxicants, and the religious influences brought to bear on their morals have been by no means exerted in vain.

General Remarks.—Although the progress of this band is slow, yet were they to have more and better farming implements, and raise more stock, they would advance faster. They have good qualities of industry and sobriety, which with more inclination shown for agriculture, may be productive of much good. In July last, a chief was also elected at this reserve to hold office for a term of three years from the first day of July, 1898.

SUCKER LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of these Indians is principally situated on the fourth concession of the township of Assiginack, Manitoulin Island.

Area.—The area covers five hundred and ninety-nine acres.

Resources.—Farming is the general resource of this reserve,

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa and Ottawa tribes.

Population.—This is a small band, numbering fourteen in all.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians is good, and their houses and premises are kept clean.

Occupation.—Farming, making mats and sugar-making are their occupations.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Buildings are in good condition, and their live stock and farming implements sufficiently plentiful for the requirements of the band.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve.

Religion.—These Indians are Roman Catholics, and are ministered to by the visiting missionary.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding, and getting along well.

Temperance and Morality.—Nothing can be said to their detriment on this score.

General Remarks.—This band, though small, is progressing. I think that when more attention is paid to agriculture, advance will be more rapid. On the whole, these Indians are doing fairly well.

OBIDGEWONG BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of these Indians is situated on the west shore of Lake Wolseley, Manitoulin Island. The area is represented by four hundred acres.

Resources.—The members of this band depend principally on the soil for their maintenance.

Tribe.—These Indians are Ojibbewas and Ottawas.

Population.—This is the smallest band in the agency, being composed of ten souls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Their health has been good and sanitary measures conformed to. Lime was also distributed to these Indians last spring.

Occupation.—They farm (primitively), fish and also load vessels in summer, and work in the lumber camps in the winter.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The band being so small, their buildings are very few, as is also their complement of live stock and farming implements.

Education and Religion.—There is no school on the reserve. These Indians are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are law-abiding and manage to eke out a precarious livelihood.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians on the whole are moral and temperate in their habits.

General Remarks.—These Indians, however few in number, would certainly, if Christians, be on a higher level; a better method of farming would also conduce to their well-being. Possibly most of the timber around Lake Wolseley being now cut down, the source of revenue from boat-loading will cease and incidentally cause a better liking for agricultural pursuits.

I have, &c.,

B. W. ROSS,
Indian Supt.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
PARRY SOUND, SUPERINTENDENCY,
PARRY SOUND, 1st^o October, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report with statistical statement, showing the condition and progress of the various bands in this superintendency for the year ended 30th June last.

PARRY ISLAND BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the eastern shore of the Georgian Bay, near the town of Parry Sound.

Area.—It contains an area of twenty-seven square miles.

Resources.—The resources of this reserve are almost entirely agricultural. The lumbering operations of several large concerns at Parry Sound, together with the works in connection with the Ottawa, Arnprior and Parry Sound Railway at Depot Harbour, which are located on the reserve, enable the members of this band to secure employment at almost any time they may desire it.

Tribe or Nation.—The Indians of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population on this reserve is one hundred and three, consisting of twenty-five men, thirty-two women and forty-six children. During the year

there were two deaths and five births, making an increase in the band of three, compared with last year.

Health.—The health of the Indians of this band for the year has been very good.

Occupation.—They have exceptional means of earning a living. Besides their agricultural pursuits, which might easily be brought to a much higher state of perfection, they secure considerable employment acting as guides to tourists who visit the adjacent summer resorts during the season, and in winter they can secure work in the lumbering camps located within easy reach of the reserve.

Buildings and Stock.—These, I regret to say, are not as good as they might be, but constant improvement is noticeable in both.

Education.—The educational affairs of this band, while fairly good, are not what they should be. There are two schools on the reserve, each taught by a teacher holding a third-class certificate. There are eighteen children of school age residing on the reserve, but the average daily attendance does not exceed half that number. The lack of interest taken by the parents in the education of their children (I have repeatedly impressed upon them the necessity of sending the children to school regularly), combined with the distance some of them require to walk to reach the schools, accounts for the small attendance.

Religion.—The religious denominations of this band are divided as follows: fifty-four Methodists, twenty-eight Roman Catholics, twenty-one pagans. The Methodists have a very good church, which is usually well attended, the services being conducted by the Rev. Allen Salt, the worthy missionary who resides on the reserve. The Roman Catholics receive occasional visits from one of their clergy, the services at such times being held in the Skene school-house.

Characteristics.—The Indians of this band are a very well-behaved and law-abiding people, and morally they stand very high.

Temperance.—Only one case of intemperance was reported during the year amongst the members of this band. I promptly prosecuted the party who supplied the liquor in this case and secured conviction, so that in this respect the condition of this band, with this one exception, has been good.

SHAWANAGA BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated four miles inland from the eastern shore of Shawanaga Bay on the east side of the Georgian Bay, and twenty-three miles north of the town of Parry Sound. It contains an area of fourteen square miles.

Resources.—The resources of this reserve comprise farming, which, however, is not carried on to any great extent, fishing, and the gathering and selling of wild fruit.

Tribe or Nation.—The Indians of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of one hundred and ten, consisting of twenty-eight men, thirty-one women, and fifty-one children. During the year there have been four births, three deaths, and two emigrations, making a decrease of one as compared with last year.

Health.—The health of this band for the past year has been good.

Occupation.—Farming to a limited extent forms a part of the occupation of this band, but fishing and hunting are the means adopted by most of them in gaining a living.

Buildings.—The buildings of this band, I regret to say, are small. Most of them are built of logs, and of such size that they do not allow of the proper accommodation of the occupants.

Education.—The number of children of school age is twenty-one. They are taught in a school-house on the reserve, conducted by a female teacher, holding a third-class certificate. The course of studies is that authorized by the department. The discipline of the school is very good and the progress of the pupils is fair.

Religion.—The religious denominations of this band are divided as follows: seventy-eight Methodists, and thirty-two Roman Catholics. There are two churches on the reserve, one belonging to the Methodists, and the other to the Roman Catholics. The former is practically completed, but the latter is not near completion as yet.

Characteristics.—The Indians of this band, while not as industrious as they might be, appear to be a bright and intelligent body of people, and there is no apparent reason why they should not be able, at all times, to earn a fair living, if they would at all times apply themselves to work.

Temperance and Morality.—Only one case of intemperance was reported to me as having occurred amongst the members of this band for the past year, the parties who supplied the liquor in this case being shantymen whose whereabouts could not easily be located, otherwise a prosecution would have followed; so that with this exception, the conduct of this band has been very good. Morally their conduct has been as good as could be expected.

HENVEY INLET BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on one of the arms or inlets of the Georgian Bay. It contains an area of thirty square miles.

Resources.—The resources of this reserve are agriculture, fishing and hunting.

Tribe or Nation.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of one hundred and ninety-nine, consisting of forty-eight men, sixty women and ninety-one children. During the year there have been five deaths, six births, four emigrations, and five immigrations, making a total increase of two in the band, as compared with last year.

Health.—The health of this band for the past year has been fairly good.

Occupation.—These Indians engage in farming only to a limited extent. Fishing, hunting and working in the lumber camps in the vicinity of the reserve, are the means on which they largely depend for a living.

Buildings and Farming Implements.—The buildings of this band are built mostly of logs. Their dwelling houses are whitewashed and kept in a very neat condition. Of agricultural implements, there are a few, consisting of three ploughs and a harrow.

Education.—The number of children of school age is forty-one. There is one school on the reserve, conducted by a female teacher holding a third-class certificate. The course of study is the one authorized by the department. The attendance and discipline are very good, and the children are making very good progress in their studies.

Religion.—Nearly three-fourths of the members of this band are Roman Catholics, the remainder being Methodists. A fine Roman Catholic church is practically completed, and services will shortly be conducted in it by the missionary priest residing in the vicinity.

Characteristics.—The members of this band appear to be of a superior character. On annuity pay day their appearance indicated constant industry. The cleanliness of each member, combined with the neatness of his attire, denoting the interest taken in his personal appearance.

Temperance and Morality.—In these respects their conduct leaves nothing to be desired.

NIPISSING BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the north shore of Lake Nipissing. It contains an area of sixty-four thousand acres.

Resources.—The resources of this reserve are agriculture, lumbering and hunting.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of two hundred, consisting of fifty men, fifty-four women and ninety-six children. During the year there were eight births,

six immigrations, two deaths and five emigrations, making a total increase of seven in the band as compared with last year.

Health.—The small number of deaths will indicate that the health of this band during the past year has been good.

Occupation.—These Indians have exceptional means of earning a living. The reserve being located near a divisional point of the Canadian Pacific Railway, together with lumbering operations which are being carried on constantly on the reserve, enables them to secure employment at almost any time they may desire it.

Education.—There are thirty-eight children of school age on the reserve. They have an excellent school situated at Beaucage Bay, conducted by a female teacher holding a third-class certificate, and the progress of the pupils in their studies appears to be satisfactory.

Religion.—The members of this band are all Roman Catholics. They have a very good church on the reserve, where services are conducted occasionally by the missionaries.

Characteristics.—These Indians are quite intelligent and of a superior character, and will compare favourably with many of the white settlers in this district.

Temperance and Morality.—No case of intemperance has come under my notice amongst any of the members of this band during the past year; while morally their conduct is of a very fair degree.

DOKIS BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated at the outlet of Lake Nipissing at the head of the French River.

It contains an area of about twenty-five thousand acres, consisting of two islands.

Resources.—The resources of these Indians at present appear to be very limited and comprise agriculture and lumbering, which enable them to earn a very scanty living. Located on their reserve is a valuable tract of pine timber which if disposed of would enable them to live in a much better manner.

Tribe or Nation.—These Indians nominally belong to the Ojibbewa nation, but in reality they are half-breeds with a large admixture of French blood.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is seventy-nine, consisting of nineteen men, twenty-six women and thirty-four children. During the year there were four births and no deaths, making an increase in the band of four for the year.

Health.—The health of the band has been exceptionally good during the past year.

Occupation.—The occupations of these Indians are confined to farming to a limited extent and lumbering.

Buildings.—The buildings on this reserve are few in number and built of logs. The stock and farming implements are owned almost entirely by Chief Dokis and his sons.

Religion.—All the Indians of this band are Roman Catholics. They have no church.

Characteristics.—The characteristics of these Indians are largely French. They appear to be of average intelligence and should be in a more prosperous condition, but for the refusal of their chief to consent to the sale of their timber for their benefit.

Temperance and Morality.—In these respects their conduct leaves nothing to be desired.

TEMOGAMINGUE BAND.

Location.—No reserve has yet been given to this band. Its members live around the shores of Lake Temogamingue, a considerable number of them residing on Bear Island, adjacent to the Hudson's Bay Company's post. Lake Temogamingue is situated about forty miles west of Lake Temiscamingue.

Resources.—Almost the only resource of this band is hunting, and this means of earning a living is rapidly decreasing. There is excellent fishing in the lakes and streams which abound in this district, but fishing is carried on only to a limited extent. These Indians make no attempt at farming, giving as a reason that, as no reserve has been assigned them, they do not care to clear up land which might afterwards be placed outside the bounds of their reserve.

Tribe or Nation.—The Indians of this band are pure Ojibbewas.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is seventy-eight, consisting of twenty men, twenty-eight women and thirty children. During the year there were two deaths, three emigrations, three births, and five immigrations, making an increase in the number of the band of three for the year.

Health.—The health of this band for the past year has been fairly good.

Buildings.—Around the Hudson's Bay post on Bear Island a few houses have been erected by these Indians, but for the most part they live in tents all the year round.

Religion.—This band is composed entirely of Roman Catholics. A church is in course of erection near the Hudson's Bay post; but owing to the inaccessibility of Temogamingue from the outside world I do not see how services can be conducted in this edifice when completed, except at long intervals.

Characteristics.—The members of this band appear to be of an unusually hardy character, which is evidenced by the arduous work they perform in portaging and with the paddle, at both of which they excel.

Temperance and Morality.—In these respects their conduct is entirely satisfactory.

WATHA BAND, (FORMERLY GIBSON).

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated between the southern end of Lake Muskoka and the Georgian Bay. It contains an area of twenty-five thousand acres.

Resources.—The resources of this reserve are agriculture and lumbering.

Tribe or Nation.—These Indians are Mohawks, or as they are more generally known, Iroquois. They were originally residents of Oka, Quebec.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of one hundred and twenty-five, consisting of thirty-two men, twenty-four women and sixty-nine children. There were four births, three immigrations, and two deaths during the year in this band, making an increase of five as compared with last year.

Health.—The health of these Indians during the past year has been fairly good.

Occupation.—The members of this band depend chiefly on farming for a living. During the winter months the younger men find employment in the lumber camps, and in summer act as guides to tourists who frequent the Muskoka lakes in large numbers.

Buildings.—The buildings belonging to the members of this band are superior to those found on any of the reserves in this superintendency.

Education.—There is one school on this reserve, conducted by a male teacher holding a third-class certificate. The number of children of school age is thirty-one. The school is under the supervision of the Methodist Missionary Society, and very fair progress is being made in the education of the children.

Religion.—Three religious denominations are represented in this band in the following proportions: eighty-six Methodists, twelve Roman Catholics, and twenty-seven Plymouth Brethren. A Methodist missionary is stationed on the reserve, and regular services are held, which are well attended by the adherents of this church.

Characteristics.—This band may be considered the most industrious and progressive of any in this superintendency, which is largely due to the interest taken in farming.

Temperance and Morality.—The conduct of this band in these respects is of an exceptionally high order, and leaves nothing to be desired.

I have, &c.,

W. B. MACLEAN, *Indian Superintendent.*

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
SIX NATION INDIANS,
BRANTFORD, 13th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

Sir,—I have the honour to submit my annual report of the Six Nations of the Grand River, for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserve.—The reserve is located in the township of Tuscarora, and part of the township of Onondaga, in the county of Brant, and a portion of the township of Oneida, in the county of Haldimand, and contains forty-three thousand six hundred and ninety-six acres.

Resources.—The chief resource of the reserve is agriculture.

Tribe.—The tribes consist of the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Tuscaroras, Cayugas, Senecas and Delawares, comprising the Six Nations.*

Population.—There are one thousand one hundred and thirty-eight men, one thousand and seventy-four women, eight hundred and forty-nine boys and eight hundred and sixty-eight girls, making a total of three thousand nine hundred and twenty-nine, being an increase of two hundred and twenty-six over the previous year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health has been unusually good during the year. There were a few cases of typhoid fever, scarlet fever and mumps, but mild in character; also one of diphtheria, for which the patient was treated with the ordinary means, and the administration of antitoxine, which proved quite successful. Typhoid fever is not as fatal to the Indians as in the past, they having realized the importance of proper nursing in such cases.

There were eleven thousand and eighty-two patients treated at the medical office on the reserve, one thousand five hundred and nineteen visits made, making six thousand three hundred and ninety-two miles travelled by the physicians.

Sanitary Precautions.—These are regularly and carefully explained to the members of the band and in many cases observed, such as destruction by fire of refuse matter and filth, by which diseases may be engendered; frequent use of lime whitewash on the buildings, the boiling of water, particularly all surface ditch water, when it is necessary to use such for the want of proper wells.

Resources and Occupation.—General farming is the chief means of making a living. A few depend upon their labour and trades, such as carpentering and masonry. Several hundreds leave the reserve during berry-picking and return after flax-pulling.

Buildings and Stock.—The Indians are constantly improving their homes by better ventilation, and also their barns, for the better preservation of their stock during the winter and stormy weather.

The crops for the past year were generally good; wheat, oats, corn, hay and potatoes were a heavy crop, while pease and roots were fair.

Education.—The ten schools on the reserve are all well attended, and under the management of a school board.

Religion.—Great interest is manifested by the Indians in church and Sunday school work.

Services are regularly held by the Church of England in seven localities, the Baptist in five, the Methodist in three, the Plymouth Brethren in one, and the Seventh

* The number of tribes composing this confederation was not always the same: at different times five, six and seven tribes were confederated.

Day Adventist in one; all services are well attended. The Baptists and Methodists each completed a new brick church during the past year.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians, being chiefly farmers, are slowly advancing and improving. They hold an annual ploughing match on the reserve, where only Indians can compete. These annual matches are largely attended and great interest is taken in them. The Indians generally are good ploughmen, and frequently compete most successfully with their white neighbours.

The Farmer's Institute of the south riding of the county of Brant held a public meeting on the reserve in February last. Several papers were read by members of the various institutes of the province, the Indians taking great interest, and a number became members of the Institute.

The agricultural society of the reserve, wholly under Indian management, held its annual fair in October last. This was very largely attended and a great success.

The road-work under the direction of forty-four pathmasters, who are appointed annually, was well attended to, and the roads have been kept in good condition.

The Ontario Historical Society held a most successful meeting on the reserve on 1st June. A number of societies were well represented.

The Indians are subject to rules and regulations framed by their council, which are strictly enforced.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians generally are moral and temperate in their habits. There are several temperance societies on the reserve doing good work. Intemperance is certainly greatly on the decrease among the Six Nation Indians.

I have, &c.,

E. D. CAMERON,
Indian Superintendent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
WALPOLE ISLAND AGENCY,
WALLACEBURG, 19th October, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour of transmitting herewith my annual report on the Chipewas and Pottawattamies of Walpole Island for the year ended 30th June, 1898, together with a statistical statement of population, religion, lands, and land improvement, crops, &c., which statement is prepared from a census taken in the month of August last, the census being taken by myself and an interpreter, and by house-to-house visits.

Agriculture.—The statement of crops raised as given in the report, is in respect to the crops raised in 1897, as the harvest for 1898 was not cut, and the quantity of almost everything is much less than in 1896, as the spring of 1897 was a very wet one and before the land was dry enough to sow and plant, it was so late in the season that there was very little use in sowing or planting, and what was sown and planted did not produce the usual quantity, the result being that there was a shortage and a scarcity of almost every kind of farm products, which was felt very severely through the winter, and while there was no suffering, there was a scarcity that was quite unusual here.

The crops this year have been much better, and except that not as much was sown through lack of seed in the spring, the crops this year are equal in quality to other years.

There has been a larger area of fall wheat sown this fall than for several years, and as this wheat is almost a sure crop here, the prospect of a good crop next year never was better; the weather has been good for sowing and for growing, the wheat having a fine start, is looking well.

We had an agricultural fair on the island this fall for the first time, and while it was small and somewhat crude from being a new thing to every one connected with it, yet it was in a small way a grand success, and showed what can be done to the satisfaction of all, and I have no doubt that we shall have such a fair next fall as will surprise every one and please all except those who are not pleased with anything in the way of progress, and we have some such among us. We propose to begin in time this year to get the benefit of the Government grant to assist in paying for prizes, &c. We began altogether too late this year for that, and we had to raise the money ourselves, right here, to pay prize money and expenses, which we managed to do respectably.

We made money enough some way to pay all prizes to the satisfaction of exhibitors and according to the prize list, to pay all other expenses to the satisfaction of all, and after paying, we had a surplus of \$66.21, which the officers of the society said would be a commencement for next year.

Health.—The general health of the Indians has been good, and yet there have been a great many deaths, the cause of which is not very easy to determine, as there have been no epidemics, and the year has not been considered an unhealthy one.

Sanitary Condition—A general clean up of yards and outbuildings was made last year (1897), and lime placed at the disposal of all who chose to go and get it; this was taken advantage of by almost everybody, and much improvement was the result; this was repeated again this year, and lime sent out to the ferry as before and left in charge of the ferryman, so that people could get what they required in passing, and many of them took advantage of the free lime and used it for whitewashing and disinfecting.

Hog Cholera.—The appearance of this disease among the pigs on the island last year, was promptly met and dealt with by the inspector for this section, Dr. Thorn, V.S., of Wallaceburg, and under his direction, the disease was stamped out, and there has been no return of it this year. A good many pigs died last year, and some had to be killed. All were buried or burned. The island was quarantined, and the quarantine strictly enforced. There is no sign of disease among the pigs now. The quarantine has been raised, and the purchase and sale of pigs resumed as before the disease appeared.

Professor Smith of the Veterinary College, Toronto, who visited the island last year, approved of the measures taken to prevent a return of the disease.

Education.—The schools have been regularly kept during the year, and fair progress is being made. The same teachers are still in their places, and are giving good satisfaction. They all three are Walpole Island boys, educated at Shingwauk and Muncey.

A good number of the more advanced scholars from the schools on the island have been sent to the Mount Elgin (Muncey) Institute, and to the Shingwauk Home, from whom good accounts are being received. Much kindness has been shown by the principals of these institutions in taking orphan children at short notice when requested.

General Remarks.—In conclusion I beg to report that the outlook for the future is much better than it was last year, and there are several much needed works of improvement which are gradually becoming apparent and are being mentioned more favourably, all of which I hope will be reached in time.

I have, &c.,

ALEX. McKELVEY,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,

ABENAKIS OF BECANCOUR,

BECANCOUR, 29th August, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit my annual report and statistical statement for the year ended the 30th June, 1898.

Reserve.—The reserve of the Abenakis of Becancour lies on the north-west of the Becancour River, in the parish of the same name, county of Nicolet. It contains an area of one hundred and seventy-seven acres.

Tribe.—The Indians of this reserve are Abenakis.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is sixty-seven, consisting of twenty-one men, thirty women and sixteen children. During the year there were two deaths and one birth.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians is good; nevertheless they are decreasing in population. In spite of the sanitary conditions being good, there was fever in one family, but it was not followed by fatal results.

Resources and Occupation.—The chief occupations of these Indians are farming, making baskets, axe-handles, oars, and dressing skins. Some of them work in the shanties in winter; and take rafts down the river in summer. Others act as guides to American tourists.

Houses, Furniture and Stock.—Although kept in better order than in the past, their houses still require repairs; and the furniture leaves much to be desired. Their animals are not numerous, neither are their farming implements.

Education.—Progress has been about the same as that mentioned in my last report.

Religion.—All the Indians of this band are Roman Catholics.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are fairly industrious, but their improvidence keeps them poor and interferes with their progress.

Temperance and Morality.—The use of intoxicating liquor is diminishing, and the Indians are moral.

I have, &c.,

H. DESILETS,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
 ABENAKIS OF ST. FRANCIS,
 ST. FRANÇOIS DU LAC, 20th July, 1898.

The Honourable
 The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
 Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and statistical statement for the year ended the 30th June, 1898.

Vital Statistics.—The Abenakis band under my charge is composed of three hundred and forty-four members, consisting of three hundred and thirty-nine Abenakis, one Montagnais woman and four half-breeds residing on the reserve, following the Indian mode of life, but not recognized as members of the band.

During the year there have been thirteen births and fourteen deaths.

There has not been any epidemic or contagious disease, and for the most part the members of the band enjoy good health.

Religion.—These Indians belong to different religious denominations, as follows : two hundred and fifty-three Roman Catholics, sixty-six Anglicans and twenty-five Adventists. There is a Roman Catholic church on the reserve under the charge of the Rev. Joseph Degonzaque ; and a Protestant church under the Rev. Henry Loiselle.

Education.—The education of the young is attended to with great care. Most of the Indians can read and write. There are two schools on the reserve—one Roman Catholic, under the charge of the Rev. Sr. St. Lawrence, and the other, Protestant, under the Rev. Henry Loiselle. These two schools are well conducted and afford an excellent education to a large number of children.

Occupation.—The principal occupation of the Abenakis is the making of baskets and fancy wares, an industry in which they are very skilful. They make baskets all through the winter, and towards the month of June most of the families disperse to various watering places in the United States, especially to the seaside, to the White Mountains, and to Upper Canada, for the purpose of selling their wares. They return in the autumn. This is their chief source of income.

There are not more than five or six families who hunt as well as make baskets, but what they gain in that way grows less every year, because game is becoming scarcer all the time and they have to go too far to get it.

Agriculture.—Agriculture is only a secondary occupation among the Abenakis of St. Francis, and there are but few farming implements in the tribe ; some of them do not cultivate any land at all ; others sow a few vegetables, potatoes, Indian corn, beans, &c. ; and some families cultivate a little more ; but the sale of their baskets, which is the cause of their absence nearly the whole summer, prevents their giving such attention to farming as is necessary. Moreover these Indians do not care for agriculture and do not apply themselves to it.

Material Progress.—There have not been many new buildings put up during the year ; but there are already a good number of fine houses ; some of them are very comfortable, and the village, situated on the picturesque bank of the St. Francis River, presents a very pretty sight, rivalling many French Canadian villages.

Temperance and Morality.—Troubles caused by the use of intoxicating liquor have been few during the year, and as a rule the morality of the Indians is good. They are well civilized and live in harmony with the surrounding white people.

I have, &c.,

A. O. COMIRÉ, M.D.,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,

ALGONQUINS OF RIVER DESERT,

MANIWAKI, 30th June, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and statistical statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserve.—The Maniwaki Reserve is situated in the county of Ottawa, province of Quebec. It comprises the township of Maniwaki, embracing about forty-five thousand seven hundred and fifty acres.

Resources.—The land is fertile and well adapted for all Canadian cereals, with the exception of wheat, which, owing to the early autumn frost, seldom ripens.

Vital Statistics.—The present population is three hundred and eighty-nine, consisting of ninety-four men, one hundred and eleven women, and one hundred and eighty-four children, including all under twenty years, being an apparent increase of thirty-three over last year's census, but as there were so many Indians absent from the reserve in the spring of 1897, and as I had been only a short time in office, I was unable to take a correct census last year. During the year there were twelve births, ten deaths, and two of a decrease by emigration; the causes of death were as follows: two in confinement, one of inflammation, three of infantile diseases, and four of consumption.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There has been no contagious disease amongst the Indians during the past year. They were very fortunate in escaping the epidemic of typhoid fever prevalent amongst the white population of Maniwaki last summer.

Occupation.—The chief occupations of these Indians are shantying, driving and hunting. Their condition is much improved since last summer, a larger percentage of them having been employed than during the previous year.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—One new house and one new barn have been erected on the reserve since my last report. A team of horses and a wagon have been purchased by Simon Otjik.

Education.—The teacher of the school on this reserve, Miss Annie O'Conner, is doing well, and giving good satisfaction. The attendance was very small during the past winter, but has very much improved since: at present there is a fairly good attendance.

Religion.—The Indians on this reserve are Roman Catholics, and attend the mission church at Maniwaki. They are attentive to their religious duties.

Characteristics and Progress.—The progress made by the Indians this spring in clearing up new land has been very good, as many of them took advantage of the favourable weather.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians show a marked improvement in morals, and are very orderly; but unfortunately their thirst for intoxicants still continues.

I have, &c.,

W. J. McCAFFREY,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
AMALECITES OF VIGER,

CACOUNA, 8th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit herewith my annual report, accompanied by a statistical statement for the year ended the 30th June, 1898.

Location.—These Indians own a small piece of land purchased for them by the Government, on which they have some small wooden cabins.

Vital Statistics.—The Amalecite Band of Cacouna numbers one hundred and eleven. There were four deaths this year, two men and two women; and two births.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There has not been any contagious disease, except some cases of consumption. Sanitary regulations are strictly observed.

Education.—The children attend the model school and convent at Cacouna.

Religion.—All the members of this band are Roman Catholics.

Occupation.—In summer the Indians make baskets and fancy wares, which they sell to people spending the summer at Cacouna and Rivière du Loup. Most of them go off for the winter into the counties of Temiscouata, Kamouraska and Rinouski; only a few families remaining, most of whom are widows who are very poor and suffer from cold and hunger. I myself have seen these poor widows with a small sled going from door to door begging for pieces of wood to keep them from freezing, and this was in extremely cold weather.

General Remarks.—The Indians in my agency are fairly contented. They frequently ask for assistance, as they are so poor and in such pressing need.

I have, &c.,

EDOUARD BEAULIEU,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
HURONS OF LORETTE,

JEUNE LORETTE, 22nd July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit herewith my annual report and statistical statement respecting the Huron tribe and other Indians in my agency during the year ended 30th June last.

Reserves.—As I have stated in my previous reports, the Huron tribe owns three reserves: (1.) the reserve of the village of Lorette, thirty acres; (2.) the Quarante Arpents Reserve, equivalent to thirteen hundred and fifty-two acres; and (3.) the Rocmont Reserve, in the county of Portneuf, which contains fifteen square miles, or

nine thousand six hundred acres, forming a total area of ten thousand nine hundred and eighty-two acres.

The two first reserves are occupied by the Hurons. The Rocmont Reserve is an uninhabited forest. The Messrs. Atkinson, rich lumber merchants of St. Raymond, have leased the pine and spruce timber on this reserve for the present year. This right to cut is renewable annually.

The Quarante Arpents Reserve, which was originally given to the Indians in order that they might obtain timber for building and for fuel for their own use, is at present almost stripped of timber, and the Indians are obliged to obtain timber elsewhere. This reserve is, therefore, more suitable for clearing and cultivation than for the purpose for which it was intended. It lies in the centre of the flourishing parish of St. Ambroise de la Jeune Lorette, and with the object of getting the greatest benefit from it, preliminary steps have been taken to obtain a grant of it, and this will, no doubt, soon be achieved.

Population.—The Huron population has increased by nine during the past year. From four hundred and thirty-two, which it was last year, including absentees, it is at present four hundred and forty-one, composed of the following: one hundred and thirty-three men, one hundred and thirty-two women, and one hundred and seventy-six children. Some absentees have returned to reside again in the village, after being away in the United States for some years.

Other Indians in my agency.—There are also in my agency, which embraces the counties of Quebec, Montmorency, Portneuf, and Charlevoix:

(1.) Thirty-two Amalecites, residing in the parish of St. Pierre de Charlesbourg, county of Quebec, following a nomadic life and not making any perceptible progress. They work by the day, and do a little hunting and fishing. Some of them work in ash wood, make baskets, and succeed—though not without some hardship—in supporting their families. Nine men, eleven women, and twelve children compose this little community, scattered here and there in the county of Quebec.

(2.) Seventeen Abenakis, residing also in the county of Quebec, and working for white men on their farms. Several work in ash wood and sweet hay, and make canoes. They live fairly comfortably. Five men, four women, and eight children compose this community.

(3.) Another little group of Abenakis reside at St. Urbain, in the county of Charlevoix. These Indians hold, in their own name, some acres of land which they have purchased, but which do not assist them in making a living. Every year the department is obliged to come to their assistance. The last report from the curé of St. Urbain gives their number as eighteen, consisting of eight men, six women, and four children.

Total Population of my Agency. These several communities bring the Indian population of my agency up to five hundred and eight.

Occupation. Agriculture.—The Huron families who cultivate land on the Quarante Arpents Reserve, did not obtain very satisfactory results during last year. Oats gave a fair return. Hay, as elsewhere, was a complete failure, and it was impossible to make a good sowing of potatoes, as they were rare and dear. These farmers are day by day losing taste and interest in agriculture, and I believe the result of such unremunerative harvest, added to the impossibility of improving their land in accordance with modern methods, will turn them from it altogether, at least many of them. They had the prospect of unprecedented distress in October last; happily some exceptional work given by local industry dispelled this fear, and the winter was not so gloomy for them as they had expected.

Snow-shoes and Moccasins.—In my last report, on the information then obtained from our manufacturers, I stated that the prospect of the trade in snow-shoes and moccasins was falling off more and more. Prices declining all the time, demand becoming less and less, our workers in this industry and our manufacturers themselves had to consider other means of supporting their families properly. But the new sun which has risen on this industry during the past year has dispelled these gloomy forebodings. During six months of the year demands have been so numerous that at one time the supply of skins used in the making of these articles was insufficient, as was also the labour,

although it employed every man, woman and child, the last named of even twelve and thirteen years of age.

A careful observer stated some months ago in the "Semaine Commerciale" of Quebec, that a kind of Klondike had been opened to this industry, which I might call the mother industry of our village of Lorette.

The discovery of the real Klondike was certainly the cause of this awakening, as unexpected as fortunate for the Huron tribe, who have a monopoly of this industry in the province of Quebec. To state as closely to the truth as possible, there are manufactured in the Huron village no less than seven thousand pairs of snow-shoes, and at least twelve thousand dozen pairs of moccasins, representing a general business of from \$70,000 to \$75,000.

The price of labour has not increased much. The employers themselves have made only ordinary profits, owing to the considerable rise in the value of leather and raw skins; for example, the raw skins which formerly were worth from \$4 to \$5 per 100 lbs. have risen to from \$9 to \$10. Manufacturers who had accepted orders before this increase in prices were somewhat disappointed.

Mr. Sebastien, one of the second chiefs of the tribe, the largest local manufacturer, put out alone more than four thousand pairs of snow-shoes, and at least seven thousand dozen pairs of moccasins. He actually did a business amounting to \$40,000, thus giving work during six months of the year to a very large portion of the Huron tribe. Philip Vincent, the grand chief, also manufactured a large quantity.

Next year has, perhaps, something better in store, both in the fall of the value of leather and in the price of labour.

Hunting and Fishing.—Several of our Hurons, in whom still remains a natural and instinctive taste for hunting and fishing, during the autumn and winter months went out as usual into the depths of the forest, which is receding more and more. They are now forced to make long journeys in order to find game, as they like to hunt the cariboo, moose, beaver and marten. The restrictions prescribed by the Provincial Government of Quebec limit the hunting districts. In spite of this they have done very well, and fairly encouraging success crowned their work, courage and skill, so that they were able to do a good deal for their families.

Tourists during the fishing season were numerous. As usual, they engaged Hurons as guides, whose skill they appreciate. This also afforded the latter some temporary assistance.

Indian Fancy Wares.—This industry was not so remunerative, and the opinion at the end of the season was that it will be still less so this year. The squaws, who work in ash wood and sweet hay, not having had time during the winter to prepare as large a supply as usual, went to the watering places without much stock in hand. There was also another cause for the depression in this industry. Many Huron families were in the habit each year of selling their products in the United States without paying any custom duties. The American Government has withdrawn this privilege and imposed ruinous duty on these articles. They have been obliged, therefore, to make less until a change takes place in this matter.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Thanks to precautions taken, especially since the regulations were passed by the chiefs in 1895 and approved by the Governor General in Council, the village in which the greatest number of the Huron families reside has been kept in a cleanly state, and the sanitary condition has been perfect during the whole year. I can say also that in all the surrounding district of Quebec, and especially at Lorette, thanks to the River St. Charles, its falls and cascades, and to the forest surrounding the village, the climate is exceptionally healthful.

Education.—The progress in connection with the village school has been most remarkable. Thus in the class of young girls so ably and intelligently conducted by Miss St. Amand, the progress has been really surprising, and the missionary has often remarked to me that he has not in his parish a school better conducted than this class, and where the progress has been as constant. The good behaviour of the pupils, their education—of which their parents are proud—and their assiduity, go hand in hand

with their teaching in the different branches of study—French, English, catechism, arithmetic, history, geography and other subjects taught them. It is unfortunate that the boys' class does not give so much satisfaction. The lack of application, (the result, as the missionary tells me, of the unsuitability of the method and the advanced age of the teacher), is the cause of this want of progress. The school is otherwise well kept, very comfortable, and well furnished, with books and other necessary material for its conduct.

Religion.—Abbé Guillaume Giroux, curé of the parish of St. Ambroise de la Jeune Lorette, is still the missionary of this tribe, which, with the exception of five, profess with zeal the Roman Catholic religion, the ceremonies of whose services are now enhanced by the imposing presence of a choir formed by members of the Huron tribe during the year. The old chapel, which dates back two hundred years, is open for worship, and is attended by all the Huron population and the numerous tourists who visit the village. The small communities whom I mentioned before also profess the religion of the Huron tribe.

Choir.—I must make special mention of the choir, to which I have just referred. The majority of the members of the Huron tribe are not only distinguished fishermen and hunters and good workers, but they are also musicians of pronounced taste and talent. With the object of developing this taste and talent, they formed an organization and purchased brass instruments required for the formation of a choir. The seventeen instruments purchased, which constitute a fairly complete choir, cost more than \$200, on account of which they have already paid by subscription a fairly large amount. They naturally count on new subscriptions to pay the balance and to provide for repairs. This choir is under the direction of Mr. J. Gingras, an experienced musician of Quebec, who was astonished that after a few months' practice, the choir was able to execute most difficult pieces to perfection. For the most part, the choir is composed of young men, who take a lively interest in it, giving up to it a great many of their evenings. They have already given some exhibitions in the evening, and the public has not failed to give them encouragement.

Building and Improvements.—There has not been any new building done by the tribe during the past year. Each member of the band has a comfortable house, and has kept it in good order. It is this that gives to the small wooden buildings of the village a special character of neatness and antiquity that all visitors admire.

Morality and Temperance.—There really has not been any apparent infraction of the laws of morality. Those of temperance, which are some times transgressed here as everywhere else, are generally respected, and as I remarked in a previous report, persuasion is more efficacious in the prevention of disorder resulting from the abuse of liquor than the arm of the law. However, in order to make an experiment in checking the sale of liquor to Indians in a manner calculated to inspire fear in those who attempt to break the law, the chiefs thought it necessary to be severe, and I believe that the lesson given will have a full and thorough effect. I have not had to record a single case of disorder or abuse.

Condition of the Huron Tribe.—During the past year, thanks to the improvement in the local industry, the Huron tribe has enjoyed a condition superior to that of the last few years. Money has circulated more than usual, but the lack of work during the last few years placed a good many in distress, and forced them to run into debt for maintenance and provisions which they have not yet liquidated. I have observed that generally they have acted with strict economy in order to retrieve the past, and to be ready to face the possibilities of the future. A love of work appears to be fully developed, and assures the advancement both intellectually and materially of the Huron tribe. Several young men, thanks to their thorough education, already hold enviable positions in business in Quebec. Others attend academies with success. Most of them are engaged to advantage in the local industry. Emulation appears to be amongst them all, and promises excellent results, encouraging to all who take an interest in the future in the Huron tribe.

I have, &c.,

ANTOINE O. BASTIEN, *Indian Agent.*

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
IROQUOIS OF CAUGHNAWAGA,
CAUGHNAWAGA, 31st August, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report for the year ended the 30th June last, on the Iroquois of Caughnawaga, also statistical statement.

Reserve.—There are twelve thousand three hundred and twenty-seven acres in this reserve, about four thousand of which is in timber, and the rest under cultivation or in pasture. The soil generally is of good quality.

Vital Statistics.—There are on the reserve four hundred and eighty-four men, four hundred and sixty-seven women and eleven hundred and eight children under twenty-one years of age. During the year there were ninety-seven births and forty-one deaths, making an increase of fifty-six by births and twenty-four by return of absent Indians.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The sanitary condition of the band has been good. No epidemic has appeared on the reserve during the year.

Resources.—The resources of the reserve consist of agriculture, bead-work and making lacrosses and snow-shoes.

Occupation.—Many of the Indians engage in agriculture, others take rafts down the Lachine Rapids, where several are employed as pilots. Some of them work for the Iron Bridge Company at Lachine. The most general industries are bead-work and making lacrosses and snow-shoes.

Buildings and Farming Implements.—The buildings of the Indians are generally very comfortable, and the farmers provide themselves with farming implements for the cultivation of their land.

Education.—There are on the reserve, four hundred and forty-four children of school age. Of this number, about two hundred attend school very irregularly and their progress leaves much to be desired.

There are two Roman Catholic schools, one for the boys under a master, and the other for the girls under a mistress and assistant. There is also a Methodist school for both boys and girls under a mistress.

Religion.—There is a Roman Catholic church, and two missionaries to conduct services. The Methodists worship in the school-house. They have no resident clergyman on the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians are industrious and skilful; but apparently there is very little improvement in their customs.

Temperance.—Temperance has not made progress; but I believe there is decided improvement in the morality of the band.

General Remarks.—The affairs of this band generally are satisfactory, and the Indians are quiet.

The improvements made during the year on the roads and water-courses are much appreciated by most of the Indians: they are of general use.

I have, &c.,

A. BROSSEAU,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,

IROQUOIS OF ST. REGIS,

St. REGIS, 21st July, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit my report and statistical statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the banks of the St. Lawrence River opposite the town of Cornwall, Ontario, including also the islands a little below Prescott, Ontario, and thence down stream opposite the village of Lancaster, Ontario, forming a total area of six thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven acres.

Population.—The population consists of two hundred and seventy-five men, two hundred and eighty-seven women, four hundred and seven boys, three hundred and fifty-four girls, making a total of thirteen hundred and twenty-three. There were twenty-five births and ten deaths during the year, making an increase of fifteen.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the Indians has been very good. There has been no epidemic or disease of any moment. The Indians are becoming alive to the necessity of cleanliness around their buildings, and I have had no trouble with them on this score.

Education.—There are two schools in operation on the reserve. The teachers are Mr. Leo Killoran, from Seaforth, Ontario, and Mr. Alex. Pirie, from Campbellford, Ontario. They are efficient and attend to their duties. The schools are well equipped with requisites. The attendance is small, owing to the carelessness of the Indians in regard to education.

Religion.—There are two churches upon the reserve, one Roman Catholic, the other Methodist. There are about one hundred and twenty-eight Methodists and eleven hundred and ninety-four Roman Catholics. The missionaries are doing good work, and the Indians are greatly interested in spiritual matters.

Characteristics.—Some of the Indians on this reserve are making very good progress in farming. Among the number are Mitchel Benedict, Thomas White, Peter Colwell, Louis Benedict, Charles Leaf, Michel Bova and several others; these are residents of Cornwall Island; and on St. Regis Island, John Skettis, John David, Joseph Thompson, Louis Thompson, John Thompson, John Sawatis, Angus Papenau; also several others on the Chenail Reserve.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources consist of farming, hunting, fishing, trapping, acting as guides for tourists, running rafts of timber, performing daily labour with farmers, and on railways, also manufacturing lacrosse sticks, and basket-making to a large extent.

Buildings.—There are dwelling houses, frame, one hundred and thirty-three; log, sixty-four; barns, eighty-nine; horse stables, forty-eight; cattle stables, forty; pig sties, forty-three; store-houses, thirteen; corn cribs, twenty-five.

Stock.—The Indians possess the following stock: stallions and geldings, eighty-four; mares, one hundred and six; colts, fillies, and foals, fifty-six; bulls, eighteen; steers, seventeen; milch cows, one hundred and sixty-eight; young stock, one hundred and fifty-four; boars, breeding, ten; sows, breeding, ninety; pigs, one hundred and thirty-two; turkeys, three hundred and seventy-five; geese, fifty-four; ducks, seventy-one; cocks and hens, sixteen hundred and fifty-eight.

Farming Implements.—Their farming implements are as follows: ploughs, ninety-seven; harrows, eighty; seed-drills, five; cultivators, sixty-two; land-rollers, four; mowers, forty-one; reapers, sixteen; horse-rakes, forty-three; fanning-mills, eight; threshing-machines, twelve; tool chests, sixty-two; other implements, one hundred and seventy-five; wagons, fifty-eight; carts, twenty-six; sleighs, draught, seventy-five; sleighs, driving, forty; democrat wagons, ten; buggies and road carts, thirty-eight.

Temperance.—Many of the Indians do not use liquor, others will if it can be had, the liquor is generally procured by outside parties for the Indian, who cannot procure it from the seller; there is no lack of unscrupulous men ready by covert means to supply them with liquor, and this is a constant menace to the moral barriers behind which they have learned to shield themselves.

Morality.—There may, perhaps, be a little to be desired in the matter of morality, but the good advice frequently given by their spiritual advisers, especially to the parents towards a better vigilance over their children's conduct, will, I hope, produce good results in the future.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE LONG

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,

MICMACS OF MARIA,

MARIA, 9th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and statistical statement for the year 1897-98.

Reserve.—The reserve of the Micmacs of Maria is situated on the west bank of the Great Cascapedia. It contains an area of four hundred and sixteen acres.

Population.—The population of this reserve is ninety-three. The number of the Indians is decreasing year by year, as proved by the fact that there are now only eighteen families, while twenty-two years ago there were twenty-five. Consumption was the cause of death in very many cases. Half of the children die at a very early age.

Education.—All the Indians are not educated: the oldest are ignorant, but the younger ones have some education, and this fortunate condition is due to the school, which is well conducted, and has been doing good work for some years. There has been much improvement in this direction.

Religion.—The Indians are religious and attached to their belief.

Characteristics and Temperance.—Their habits are good. Generally there is little vice amongst them; but all have a decided taste for liquor, and if they do not satisfy it oftener, it is because they have neither the money nor the opportunity. Besides, since the appointment of a constable, many have been restrained through fear.

Material Condition.—Generally the Indians are poor. This condition of poverty may be the result of the numerous diseases to which the Indians are subject; but the principal cause of the trouble is their improvidence and their incredible carelessness. Indians are nothing but big children who covet everything they see and are often ready to sacrifice necessities for baubles.

I have, &c.,

J. GAGNÉ, priest,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
MONTAGNAIS OF LAKE ST. JOHN,
POINTE BLEUE, 15th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and statistical statement for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserve.—The Montagnais Reserve, situated on the north-west bank of Lake St. John, in the county of Chicoutimi, province of Quebec, covers an area of three thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine acres, of which eight hundred and seventy-eight acres are cleared, including natural pasturage.

Vital Statistics.—The population is four hundred and four, a decrease of twenty-one compared with last year's return, explained by the difference between the deaths, twenty-one, against the births, thirteen, and the absence of three or four families that have remained in the woods.

The mortality to some extent was due to lung troubles, but in the majority of cases death was caused by measles, which raged in a dreadful manner until late in the fall of 1897.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the band at the present time, with the exception of three cases of consumption, is fairly good.

The Indians are in general quite clean in their persons, as well as in their houses, which are commodiously built and sufficiently isolated from each other, many of them being built in a modern style and well painted, which largely contributes to the attractive appearance of the place.

Religion.—The members of this band, with the exception of twenty-five, are Roman Catholics.

The churches are conveniently situated. There are two: the Roman Catholic, which is still under the supervision of the Rev. Oblate Fathers, and the Protestant under that of Rev. E. H. Dunn of the Episcopalian Church of Quebec.

Divine service is held daily in the former and monthly in the latter and is, in general, very well attended.

Education.—The school, under the supervision of Miss E. M. Spence, who holds a first-class provincial diploma, is well managed, the teaching being now conducted in both French and English. There are in the band ninety-eight children of school age, with a total of sixty-three on the roll. The average attendance is over thirty-three. The different subjects taught are: spelling, reading, writing, grammar, arithmetic, geography, the history of Canada, Latin reading, &c.

No special industries have ever been taught in this school, but drawing and the elements of agriculture will hereafter be a part of the programme. The discipline is good and the progress excellent.

Occupation.—The principal occupations of the Indians are still hunting and fishing during the winter season, while in summer a good many are earning quite a good sum by carting and by guiding tourists to the different fishing places that are so numerous here. The manufacture of bark canoes, snow-shoes, moccasins, mitts, &c., provides for a few the greater part of their income, and if it were not for their proverbial prodigality many of them would certainly be in a very fair condition.

Agriculture.—A good deal of progress in the farming industry has been manifested by the Indians during the year. As much as seventy-three acres of land have been cleared and put into cultivation, while about an equal proportion has been sown in grass

and timothy seed for hay and pasturage. The fencing has also progressed fairly, as much as two hundred and sixty-six acres having been put up during the year.

Stock and Crops.—The stock of domestic animals of good quality is well kept and increases in a fair proportion.

There was quite a deficiency in the last year's crop, owing to the early frosts of August, when the wheat, pease and buckwheat suffered considerably. The other cereals, however, yielded fairly.

Temperance.—Notwithstanding certain reports, there are but few inveterate drunkards in the band.

It is true, however, that they would nearly all freely indulge in drinking but for the severe action taken against the liquor-providers, who are punished as soon as they can be detected.

I have, &c.,

P. L. MARCOTTE,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
ALGONQUINS OF TEMISCAMINGUE,
NORTH TEMISCAMINGUE, 30th June, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my annual report and statistical statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserve.—The reserve of these Indians is situated on the north bank of the River Quinzie at the head of Lake Temiscamingue.

It covers an area of thirty-eight thousand two hundred acres, of which twenty-two thousand eight hundred and ten have been surrendered for the benefit of the band, leaving an area of fifteen thousand three hundred and ninety acres for the use of the band.

Occupation.—The chief occupations of these Indians are farming, fishing and fur-hunting. The fur-bearing animals are on the decrease, also the farming has not been what it should, but there is every prospect of the future being better. The Indians are often engaged as guides by sportsmen and tourists.

Education.—There is one school on the reserve. The teacher, Miss Marion Legge, is efficient, and attentive to her duties.

The school is well equipped with all requisites, the attendance is good and the pupils are making good progress.

The number of children attending school is forty-nine, twenty-two boys and twenty-seven girls. The daily average attendance is twenty-eight.

Religion.—The Indians on this reserve are all Roman Catholics. They have a neat church furnished in modern style. The church lot and graveyard are inclosed by substantial fences.

Health.—During the last winter there was a great deal of sickness among the Indians, and indeed among the people generally. La grippe, resulting in pneumonia and other pulmonary diseases, caused many deaths. At present there are very few cases of sickness. During the past year there have been nineteen deaths and six births.

I have, &c.,

A. McBRIDE,
Indian Agent.

NEW BRUNSWICK,

NORTHERN DIVISION,

FREDERICTON, 20th July, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and statistical statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

EDMUNDSTON BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated at Little Falls, Madawaska County. It consists of a fine tract of high and intervale lands, fronting on the River St. John, and contains between four and five hundred acres. The soil throughout is excellent, and the place is beautifully situated.

Vital Statistics.—The population comprises nine families, consisting of twenty-one males and nineteen females.

Occupation.—These Indians derive their living from farming, milling, hunting, acting as guides, and the manufacture of Indian wares. A few of the band are poor farmers, preferring to work their holdings on shares with their white neighbours; others, however, are giving more attention to this industry, as several acres of new land have been cleared and cropped the past spring. As a rule, these Indians, excepting an aged couple, are very industrious and in a manner self-supporting.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The dwellings of the band are a respectable distance apart. They are kept neat and clean. All of the Indians have been very fortunate, there having been no disease of a contagious nature amongst them during the past year.

Temperance and Morals.—These Indians, from all information gathered, are, I am pleased to report, law-abiding, free from the use of intoxicants, and of good morals.

Religion.—All the members of this band are Roman Catholics; they worship in a church at Edmundston Village. Their spiritual affairs are looked after by the Rev. L. A. Damour.

TOBIQUE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated in the county of Victoria, at the junction of the Tobique and St. John Rivers. It contains an area of about sixteen thousand acres, extending from the Tobique rocks, along the River St. John eight miles, with a depth of from four to five miles, the greater part of which is lumbering lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the band is two hundred and two, consisting of ninety-two males and one hundred and ten females.

Occupation.—The chief occupations of the band are farming, hunting, stream driving and rafting, acting as guides, and the manufacture of Indian wares. The lumbering business is engaged in by the able-bodied men, whilst the Indian ware business is carried on by those of advanced years, and the articles are readily disposed of at good prices in the locality. Last winter quite a profitable trade in snow-shoes was carried on by the Indians, as good prices were realized. Another very profitable employment engaged in by these Indians is their acting as guides for tourists who visit the Tobique River and its tributaries both summer and winter. The usual wages received for this service is from \$1.50 to \$1.75 per day, with board.

Farming.—Owing to a preference for employment that will yield a speedy return of cash, the Indians of this reserve, although they possess some of the finest farming lands on the River St. John, are not practical farmers. They as a rule grow some potatoes, oats and buckwheat, sufficient to supply their wants. Their crops, such as referred to, were a fair average last year.

Temperance.—The great majority of the band are strictly temperate, and of good habits and morals. There are some of them, however, that will occasionally indulge in the use of intoxicants. In some of these cases it is difficult to bring the party from whom they procure the liquor to justice, owing to the cunning and reserved manner of Indians. But whenever evidence is forthcoming that will lead to conviction of persons supplying the same, they are promptly dealt with.

Education.—The school during the past year was under the supervision of Miss O'Brien, a teacher holding a second-class provincial license. The school, leaving out recognized holy-days and holidays, has been regularly taught. The number of pupils enrolled ranged from twenty to twenty-eight, with an average attendance for the year of over fourteen. The school is pleasant and healthfully situated. It is well provided with maps, books, &c., for the instruction of pupils. Some of the children who attend regularly, are well advanced in the subjects taught, and all are making fair progress.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Early in May last, all winter refuse was removed from their premises. Their dwellings, excepting a few shanties, are frame houses, neatly finished and painted, affording both health and comfort to their inmates. Since the introduction, a year ago, of a supply of pure water to the reserve, the health of the Indians has been good, none of the band having been visited by a case of contagious disease during the past year. The deaths were six, some of which were due to consumption.

Religion.—All the members of this band are Roman Catholics. They have a neat church of their own, finished and furnished with the most modern seating, &c. Their church, priest's house and graveyard are close to each other, all of them inclosed with a picket fence, and painted. These buildings surrounded by the dwellings of Indians, make a striking appearance for miles around and are much admired by visitors. The spiritual affairs of the band are attended to by the Rev. M. A. O'Keefe, who at all times manifests a warm interest in the welfare of all.

General Remarks.—In concluding this report I have to remark that the Tobique Indians as a whole are an industrious, thrifty and active people.

I have, &c.,

JAMES FARRELL,
Indian Agent.

NEW BRUNSWICK,
NORTH-EASTERN DIVISION,
RICHIBUCTO, 26th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I beg to submit my annual report for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location of Agency.—This agency is situated in the north-eastern part of New Brunswick and includes all the reserves in the counties of Restigouche, Gloucester, Northumberland, Kent and Westmorland.

Reserves.—The reserves are:—Eel River Reserve in Restigouche County; Bathurst, St. Peter's Island and Pockmouche Reserves, in Gloucester County; Burnt Church,

Eel Ground, Red Bank, Indian Point, Big Hole and Renous Reserves, in Northumberland County; Big Cove, Indian Island and Buctouche Reserves in Kent; and Shediac and Fort Folly Reserves in Westmorland County. Pockmouche, Tabusintac, Big Hole, Renous and Shediac Reserves are unoccupied. The Indians from these places have joined the Indians of the other reserves.

Area and Resources.—These reserves cover an area of about thirty-four thousand acres. Big Hole, Red Bank and Tabusintac contain valuable lumber privileges. All the reserves except Indian Island, Buctouche and St. Peter's Island contain a plentiful supply of firewood. The salmon fishing privileges in connection with Big Hole and Bathurst Reserves, are valuable.

Tribe.—The Indians of this agency are of the Micmac tribe and comprise all the Indians of that tribe in the province of New Brunswick.

Population.—The Indian population of this agency is nine hundred and twenty-six, a decrease of eleven since last census. The decrease is caused by the removal of several families residing along the Intercolonial Railway, to other localities. They will, no doubt, return during the present summer. Of the total population, two hundred and seventy are adult males and two hundred and fifty-nine adult females. Big Cove Reserve in Kent County, with two hundred and eighty, leads in population. About a dozen families have left the reserves and settled along the Intercolonial Railway in Westmorland and King's Counties.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The death-rate during the year has been heavy. The greater number of deaths have been due to pneumonia and consumption. At present there are several cases of consumption; otherwise there are very few cases of sickness. Unless consumption can be classed as such, there have been no infectious or contagious diseases, except measles. Last spring all the bands removed from near their premises all the filth and refuse matter that had accumulated during the winter. Many of the Indians whitewashed or lime-washed their dwellings thoroughly inside and outside.

Occupation.—The principal pursuits are agriculture, fishing and the manufacture of Indian wares. The Indians of Restigouche, Gloucester and Northumberland Counties work in the salmon, bass and smelt fisheries, those of Kent in the lobster, mackerel, herring, gaspereaux and smelt fisheries. Many of the Eel Ground and Red Bank Indians engage in the lumber woods in winter and at stream-driving and in the saw-mills in spring and summer. A number of the Red Bank and Bathurst Bands make good wages in summer acting as guides for fishing parties up the Miramichi and Nepisiguit Rivers. All engage in farming to a limited extent and in the manufacture of Indian wares.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The majority of the Indians on the reserves occupy small frame houses, but those living off the reserve live in rude huts or shanties which afford very poor protection from the cold.

The Indians keep very little stock and very few farming implements about them. The majority engage white men to plough their land and put in their crops.

Education.—There are in this agency two hundred and twelve children of school age. There are three schools, attended by about ninety pupils. The school at Eel Ground is taught by Mr. Michael Flinn, who holds a second-class provincial license. The Burnt Church school, under the management of Mr. John Flanagan, who is also a regularly licensed teacher, continues to do good work. The Big Cove school, opened about two years ago, has been lately in charge of Miss Mary N. Babain, a painstaking and efficient teacher. A number of the children of the other reserves attend neighbouring white schools.

Religion.—The Indians of this agency are all Roman Catholics, and all manifest a deep interest in their religion. They have churches at Big Cove, Indian Island, Burnt Church, Eel Ground and Red Bank. The Indians of the other reserves attend worship in the churches of adjoining white people.

Characteristics and Progress.—As a rule these Indians are peaceable and law-abiding, indolent and easy-going, never caring to provide for to-morrow as long as they have enough for to-day. As a result, there is some times a great deal of destitution amongst

them. There are not more than a dozen Indians in the agency who show a disposition to better their condition. The others are careless and improvident.

Temperance and Morality.—The greater number of these Indians are temperate, and considering their condition and method of living, they are remarkably free from immorality. There are, however, on all the reserves, a few who manage to obtain liquor and get drunk, notwithstanding every effort to prevent it.

I have, &c.,

WM. D. CARTER,
Indian Superintendent.

NEW BRUNSWICK,
SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION,
FREDERICTON, 20th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and statistical statement for year ended 30th June, 1898.

WOODSTOCK BAND.

Reserve.—Some of the Indians of this band reside at Upper Woodstock, the others on the reserve, which is situated three miles below the town of Woodstock, and fronting on the River St. John. It contains an area of two hundred and sixty acres, of which there are about thirty-five acres of cleared land, the remainder being wilderness.

Population.—The total population on the reserve and vicinity is seventy-seven, namely, thirty-one males and forty-six females.

Occupation.—The manufacture of Indian wares, which are disposed of in the town of Woodstock and to farmers above and below the city, at fair prices, is the sole industry of these Indians.

Farming.—In view of the Indians on the reserve having failed to make good use of the seeds supplied in 1896, I withheld the supply in 1897. Therefore, although good land was available, no crops were raised last year. This year in view of promises made I supplied the Indians with seed, chiefly potatoes, to enable them to raise some produce, and judging from the present appearance of the crops, some benefit will be received from them.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians has been fairly good. The surroundings are clean and healthful. The shanties that some of the Indians live in are small and not properly finished, they are at times overcrowded, and it is a wonder that there is not more sickness, especially in the winter season; however the Indians seem to be happy, and have been free from diseases of a contagious nature for the past year. There have been four deaths during the year, all the result of consumption.

Religion.—All the members of this band are Roman Catholics, their spiritual affairs are seen to by the Rev. William Chapman, parish priest of Woodstock. With but one or two exceptions, these Indians are of quiet and good moral habits.

KINGSCLEAR BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of these Indians is situated on the River St. John, eleven miles from Fredericton. It contains an area of four hundred and sixty acres, of which about one hundred are cleared land, the rest of it being woodland.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is ninety-seven, namely, fifty-one males and forty-six females.

Occupation.—The most important industry engaged in by these Indians, and what they depend largely on for a living, is the manufacture of all kinds of Indian wares, which are sold in the city of Fredericton and country districts. Owing to the demand, quite a trade was done last winter at snowshoe-making, for which a much better price was realized than for years past. Another means of employment from which some of the band earn good wages, is the picking up and rafting of logs in front of their reserve for the Fredericton Boom Company. Then there are others of the able-bodied who labour in the woods in the winter season and follow stream-driving in the spring, for which fair wages are received.

Agriculture.—Owing to the time devoted to other industries, farming—unless by a few Indians—is more or less neglected. The few who give most of their time to farming raise good crops; whilst those who keep no cattle to furnish manure for the soil, only raise half the produce. For the past year or more the only seeds supplied were potatoes, buckwheat and oats, the returns from which in some cases were a good average, while others, for the reasons set forth, were poor. This year from all appearance there will be an abundant crop of everything.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the band has been remarkably good during the past year. There has been very little sickness of any kind, and but one death, a child.

As a rule these Indians are tasty about their dwellings and surroundings. The situation of the reserve, its climate, &c., all tend to health. No disease of a contagious nature has visited them during the year.

Education.—The school on this reserve has been under the supervision of Miss Frances McGinn, a very competent teacher, for the past year. The highest number of pupils on the register for any quarter was twenty-three. The average for the fiscal year was 18.4, and an average of over twenty for three-quarters of said term. The subjects taught are reading, writing, geography, arithmetic, &c. In all of these the pupils are making rapid progress. In fact the attendance, deportment and general habits of these children are most satisfactory. This state of affairs is largely due to the interest manifested in educational affairs by their resident clergyman, the Rev. William O'Leary, and the zeal in her work by the teacher.

Temperance.—Their habits in respect to the use of intoxicants are good.

Religion.—All the members of this band are Roman Catholics. They worship in a church of modern style and finish, situated on the reserve.

It is one of the oldest churches in the province. The priest also resides on the reserve, his house being close to the church. Consequently with these advantages the morals of the Indians are good.

ST. MARY'S BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated directly opposite Fredericton, in the parish of St. Mary's, York County. In area it is but two and one-quarter acres.

Population.—The population of the band is one hundred and seven, namely, fifty-nine males and forty-eight females, a decrease of twenty, who have removed to the Oro-mocto Reserve since last census was taken.

Occupation.—Most of these Indians pursue the same occupations to obtain a living as those of the Kingsclear Reservation, namely, the manufacture of Indian wares, whilst others find employment at sawing deals, hunting, acting as guides, milling and stream-driving. Some of the Indians that are industrious make a fair living. The drones, however, only eke out an existence from day to day.

Farming.—Owing to the extent of the reserve being limited to a few garden patches, and the planting of some potatoes, &c., on adjoining lands of their white neighbours, the produce raised merely supplies their immediate wants.

Education.—The school is in charge of Miss M. J. Rush, who holds a second-class certificate. Since the removal of several families from St. Mary's to the Oromocto Reserve, there has been a great falling off in attendance. Another draw-back to a proper attendance at this school is the indifference of the parents, and the attractions of city life; therefore, whilst the teacher and myself do our utmost to force the children to attend, we get little or no support from parents. The number on the register ranged from twelve to twenty, and shows an average of $10\frac{1}{4}$ for the year. The subjects taught are primer, reading, spelling, writing, &c. A few of the children, who are regular attendants, are making progress.

Sanitary Condition.—In accordance with instructions, all winter refuse was removed from about the Indian dwellings in the latter part of May last.

The health of the band for the year past was good, there being but one death (a child). And though surrounded by the city of St. Mary's and Gibson people, where diphtheria, typhoid fever, &c., are prevalent, at certain times, the Indians for years past have escaped such diseases.

Temperance.—The temptations to indulge in the use of intoxicants on this reserve are many, and whilst it is difficult for Indians given to intemperance to procure liquor from parties engaged in the business, yet it is had through indirect means. These Indians, when found intoxicated, are arrested and arraigned, but they are so reticent in their nature that is impossible to induce them to admit who the offending parties are. These habits are confined to a few of the band, the majority of the Indians being a sober, moral and industrious people.

OROMOCTO BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the River St. John, seven miles below the city of Fredericton. It contains an area of one hundred and twenty-five acres, of which about thirty acres are cleared, the remainder being forest lands.

Population.—The population of the band is seventy-six, forty-one males and thirty-five females, being an increase of eighteen compared with last year's returns.

Occupation.—The business engaged in by the band is similar to that of Indians of other parts of the agency, namely, the manufacture of Indian wares, for which they find a ready market in St. John and amongst farmers of Maugerville and Sheffield.

Farming.—Last spring these Indians received seeds, chiefly potatoes, and a supply of superphosphate as a fertilizer. The seeds referred to, were divided amongst eleven families, each receiving from five to seven bushels, all of which were neatly planted and hoed in season, and I am pleased to report that the produce raised by each family was an extra good average. This crop proved very useful to them, as they had several barrels that they sold, the money from which they bought flour with, retaining sufficient to supply the wants of their families.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—This reserve is favourably situated in a country district. The surroundings are clean, and all refuse matter was removed as directed in May last. The health of the Indians was good, there having been only a few cases of ordinary sickness amongst them during the past year. The births for the year were six, and the deaths two.

Temperance.—The habits and morals of this band are excellent. Although intoxicants are to be had at Oromocto, in the vicinity of the reserve, yet, on inquiry, I find that unless in very rare cases, these Indians do not use them, and are spoken highly of by their white neighbours for civility and good behaviour.

Religion.—All the members of this band are Roman Catholics. There is a neat church within fifty rods of the reserve, where they worship. Their spiritual affairs are carefully looked after by the Rev. Father McDermott, of Petersville.

General Remarks.—The remainder of the Indians of this agency reside at Apohaqui, King's County; Hampstead, Upper and Lower Gagetown, Queen's County; St. John and St. Andrew Charlotte County. Their chief industry is much the same as that of

other Indians. Their wares are disposed of in their respective localities, and in the city of St. John. A few follow milling and other employments for a living. As a rule the majority of the Indians of this agency, prefer the manufacture of Indian wares, hunting, &c., to any other means of employment. In other respects a marked improvement is noticeable in their former customs and habits. They are law-abiding, and do their utmost to earn a living.

I have, &c.,

JAMES FARRELL,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICHAMPS OF ANNAPOLIS COUNTY,
ANNAPOLIS, 15th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR.—I have the honour to submit my annual report and tabular statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location.—There are no Indians living upon reserves: they occupy land of their own situated at Lequille, Paradise and Middleton. The reserves situated at Milford and Maitland are unoccupied.

Population.—The population of this agency is seventy-two.

Health.—The health of the Indians at Lequille has been good. There has been some sickness at Paradise and Middleton. Their dwellings and surroundings are kept clean and in a healthful condition.

Occupation.—These Indians are mostly engaged in basket-making, fishing, hunting, coopering, lumbering and stream-driving and some farming.

Education.—The children have the privilege of attending the common school at Lequille, and are making fair progress.

Religion.—They are all members of the Roman Catholic Church and have the privilege of attending chapel at Annapolis and Bridgetown.

General Remarks.—The Indians of my agency are a temperate, quiet, and law-abiding people.

I have, &c.,

GEO. WELLS, Sr.,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF ANTIGONISH AND GUYSBOROUGH COUNTIES,
HEATHERTON, 25th August, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and tabular statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Vital Statistics.—The number of Indians in this agency is one hundred and fifty-four. There were four deaths and five births during the year.

Sanitary Condition.—La grippe has been very prevalent among the Indians during the past winter, and rheumatism is a constant malady.

Buildings.—Although the Indians seem indifferent to farming, they have taken a great deal of interest in building during the past year. Since my last report seven dwelling houses and two barns have been erected.

I have, &c.,

J. R. McDONALD,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF CAPE BRETON COUNTY,
CHRISTMAS ISLAND, 7th September, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour of submitting my annual report and tabular statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Population.—The total population of the Indians of this agency is two hundred and sixty-five, an increase of twenty-two over last year. This increase was largely due to the return of eighteen who left the reserve some years ago.

Health.—The general health of the Indians has been better during the past year than in any other year since I became agent. There has been no epidemic or contagious disease of any kind among them.

Occupation.—Agriculture, which is engaged in only on the Eskasoni Reserve, contributes largely to their support; but, after all, their native handicraft, such as coopering, basket-making, &c., is what they chiefly rely upon to keep the wolf from the door.

Characteristics.—They are an honest, sober, law-abiding class of people; but seem to have no ambition to better their circumstances. They are industrious, but their industry is with the view to tide over present needs. If they have enough for to-day, they let to-morrow look out for itself.

I have, &c.,

A. CAMERON, P.P.,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,

MICMACS OF COLCHESTER COUNTY,

TRURO, 8th August, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and tabular statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserve.—The Millbrook Reserve is situated three miles south of Truro. It contains an area of thirty-five acres.

Population.—The population of this band is one hundred and thirty-six.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—These may be said to be fairly good.

Occupation.—Among the occupations of these Indians are hunting, cooping, &c.

Education.—Education has been somewhat neglected in the past, but a school house is to be erected this year.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are fairly industrious, and some of them are improving their land and buildings.

I have, &c.,

THOS. B. SMITH,

Indian Agent

NOVA SCOTIA,

MICMACS OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY,

PARRSBORO', 28th July, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and statistical statement for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserve.—The reserve occupied by these Indians is situated in the county of Cumberland, fourteen miles from the town of Parrsboro', and contains one thousand acres of good land.

Vital Statistics.—The population on this reserve, and scattered throughout the county, amounts altogether to one hundred and three, an increase of one as compared with last year. During the year there were ten births and only seven deaths, but owing to changes due to migration the actual increase in population was only one. As in the past, most of the deaths were due to some form of lung disease.

Religion.—All the Indians in this county are Roman Catholics.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—During the winter and early spring months there was a good deal of sickness among the Indians in this county. The sanitary measures recommended by the department have been carefully carried out, and for the most part the houses are clean and comfortable.

Occupation.—Very few of these Indians have a taste for farming, although when seed is furnished by the department, owing to the natural fertility of the soil, they usually raise very fair crops. The men hunt, make baskets, tubs, and mast-hoops and work in the mills and lumber woods when they can get employment.

Education.—There is no school-house on the reserve; but in the immediate vicinity there is a public school, to which the department gives an annual grant. This school is not as well patronized by the Indians as I could wish. A few of the children have attended regularly during the past year and are making good progress. Want of proper clothing is largely the excuse given for the non-attendance of the remaining children. I am in hopes to be able to report next year a much larger attendance.

I have, &c.,

F. A. RAND,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF DIGBY COUNTY,
ST. BERNARD, 30th June, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location.—This agency comprises the whole of Digby County. The Indians are located chiefly on the reserve at Bear River. There are six families living at St. Bernard, and a few others at Little River. The reserve contains sixteen hundred acres: forty under cultivation, two hundred used as pasture, and thirteen hundred and sixty uncultivated.

Resources.—The resources of the reserve are lumbering and farming.

Population.—The present number of Indians in this county is about one hundred and sixty.

Health.—During the past year la grippe has been quite prevalent, and in a few cases fatal. Apart, however, from this epidemic, the health of our people is good.

Occupation.—These Indians are generally occupied in basket-making, hunting, fishing and farming. The total income of the reserve may be placed at about \$4,000.

Stock.—The stock consists of one horse, three cows, one heifer, one steer and one pig.

Education.—The Indians have good facilities for obtaining an education equal to that imparted to the children of this province through our public school system. The present teacher, Mr. DeVany, is devoted to his work, and the children are making satisfactory progress.

Religion.—In faith the Indians are Roman Catholic, and are devoted to their Church. Their religious exercises are conducted in a neat church which stands on the reserve, and is attended and supported by the Roman Catholics of Bear River.

I have, &c.,

J. J. SULLIVAN,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
 MICMACS OF HALIFAX COUNTY,
 SHEET HARBOUR, 28th Nov., 1898.

The Honourable
 The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
 Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and tabular statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location.—The Indians of this county are scattered all over it and so it is hard to get acquainted with all. They move about considerably, and this adds to the difficulty of keeping account of them. They are now residing at Sheet Harbour, Cole Harbour, Dartmouth, Wellington, Windsor Junction and Elmsdale.

Changes in Population.—During the past year, two Indians died. Several families have moved from one place to another in the same county, while one woman has left the county. Some few more have migrated from other parts of the province.

Occupation and Characteristics.—The Indians are fairly industrious, being engaged in hunting, fishing, lumbering, basket-making, &c. They cultivate little or no ground. They are generally law-abiding and sober.

Education.—The children attend school pretty regularly.

I have, &c.,

CHAS. E. McMANUS, P.P.,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
 MICMACS OF HANTS COUNTY,
 SHUBENACADIE, 1st August, 1898.

The Honourable
 The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
 Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my annual report and tabular statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserves.—Indian Brook Reserve is located in Hants County, and is naturally well adapted to farming.

This reserve comprises one of the three under my care and upon which all the Indians now in Hants County live who are interested in agriculture.

The three reserves in this agency are as follows: West Shubenacadie, Great Lake, one thousand eight hundred and fifty acres; Indian Brook, four hundred and Pon-hook, one thousand.

Resources.—The Indians during the year have largely supported themselves from such work as making oars and hockey sticks, besides always keeping the market well supplied with such goods as butter-tubs and baskets; and although they do not take as much interest in farming as is desirable, still they do quite a good deal of gardening, besides raising such produce as hay, oats and potatoes.

Tribe or Nation.—What is left here now are all descendants of the once great nation called Micmacs.

Population.—The population now numbers ninety-five.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—During the year several deaths have occurred and with one exception have been caused by consumption, which appeared to prevail to a marked degree among the band, although at present no new cases are apparent. All due precautions have been taken to prevent the spread of diseases arising from neglected premises.

Occupation.—Generally speaking, the Indians have no special occupation but have the natural ability of adapting themselves to their surroundings and circumstances, and succeed wonderfully in providing for themselves.

Buildings, Stock, &c.—With a very few exceptions, all appear to be comfortable and happy, and have about as much stock as that generally owned by their white neighbours in the same circumstances, and although their buildings are in many cases needing small repairs, they are in the main comfortable, and the stock looks well, especially for this season of the year.

Education.—A great interest is manifested by some in the education of their children, and under the direction of their much-loved teacher, Mr. Robert Logan, all are advancing well with their studies.

Religion.—All are Roman Catholics. They have one church and attend services punctually.

Progress.—Owing to so many being connected with those whose deaths have been reported herein, there has been quite a despondent feeling among them at times during the past year, but now, as no more cases are apparent, they seem to have again been encouraged to go on with the struggle of life, Dr. McLean, their very efficient physician, at all times helping and encouraging them both with his wise counsels and proficient medical assistance.

Temperance.—No cases of indulgence in intoxicants have been reported during the year.

I have, &c.,

ALONZO WALLACE,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF INVERNESS COUNTY,
GLENDALE, 1st July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR.—I have the honour to submit my annual report and statistical statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserves.—This agency embraces two reserves,—one situated at Whycomah, the other at Malagawatch, in the county of Inverness. Their combined area is two thousand seven hundred and fifty-five acres.

Resources.—Farming, fishing, coopering, basket-making, &c., constitute the resources of these Indians.

Population.—The combined population of both reserves is one hundred and thirty.

Health.—La grippe was rather prevalent in spring, but otherwise the general health on both reserves was good.

Occupation.—Agriculture, in which most of these Indians are engaged, is the principal occupation. Coopering enables them to supply to a large extent the trade in that line, such as barrels, tubs and buckets; while moccasin and basket-making, fishing and occasionally acting as guides to sportsmen, form no unimportant sources of livelihood.

Characteristics.—The Indians of this agency are moral, honest and law-abiding, and in the majority of cases imbued with the ambition to be self-supporting.

General Remarks.—The food question is the crucial one with the Indians of these reserves during the current year; and that fact is due to the following exceptional causes (1) the total failure last year of their own potato crop, (2) the scarcity and exorbitantly high price of Prince Edward Island potatoes, ranging from 50 to 65 cents per bushel, and (3) the rise in the price of flour, owing to the Hispano-American war rendering the purchase of flour utterly out of the question.

Hence it is that on account of such severe conditions agriculturally, industrially and commercially, our Indians this year are forced to exceptionally hard living—their principal food or sustenance being milk, Indian corn meal and eels, even these being scarce enough.

I have &c.,

D. McISAAC,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,

MICMACS OF KING'S COUNTY,

STEAM MILLS, 3rd October, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to inclose tabular statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

The Indians of this county are peaceable and quiet, gaining their living by basket-making, coopering, and what help they get from the department. The great trouble with them is that they will not provide for to-morrow, and when they are laid up by accidents or sickness the department has to come to their relief.

They have no woodlands of their own and it is getting harder for them to procure material for their wares, which is also making it more expensive to the department. However, they are talking of getting the Government to sell their reserve and purchase a wooded lot for them.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES E. BECKWITH,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,

MICMACS OF PICTOU COUNTY,

EUREKA, 16th September, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report, with tabular statement, for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserves.—The Indian lands in this district are situated at Indian Cove, and at Indian Island in Merigonish Harbour. In the latter place there are two islands— island A and island B, so called. Island A contains about forty-five acres, and island B about twenty. Both these islands, if properly cultivated, are very fertile. The land at Indian Cove is largely under wood, and covered with loose free stone. This lot, when cleared and cultivated, produces good crops. The majority of the Indians make their home in this locality.

Occupation.—Their occupations are farming, loading and unloading vessels, fishing, coopering and making pick handles for the mines. The women attend principally to basket-making. They have all been taking more interest in farming for the last two years than formerly, and in other occupations are becoming more industrious.

Buildings.—The wigwams, except for camping out in the woods, or for temporary abode in some other locality, have almost disappeared. They are replaced by comfortable houses.

Vital Statistics.—There were nine deaths among the Indians of this district during the year—six adults and three children. Four of the adults died of consumption. Eight children were born and are still living, reducing the loss in population to one.

Education.—The school-house at Indian Island has been thoroughly repaired and school will be opened in a week or two.

Religion.—The Indians are Roman Catholics, and practice their religion with fervour and devotion.

Morality.—They are exceedingly careful of their morals.

I have, &c.,

RODERICK McDONALD,

Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,

MICMACS OF QUEEN'S AND LUNENBURG COUNTIES,

CALEDONIA CORNER, 23rd August, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my first annual report and statistical statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserves.—This agency comprises three reserves, one located at New Germany, another at Gold River, both in the county of Lunenburg, and the third at Wildcat,

county of Queen's. Besides the Indians living on these reserves there are those residing at Lunenburg, Bridgewater, Milton and Caledonia. The area of each of the above reserves is one thousand acres.

Health.—The Indians of this agency have enjoyed general good health. They are careful to observe the sanitary regulations of the department in and around their dwellings.

Occupation.—The Indians on the reserves live chiefly by farming; those not residing on the reserves live principally by hunting, fishing and basket-making.

Education.—The Indians seem to take quite an interest in educational matters. The school provided for them at New Germany has been fairly well attended, and, I trust, will be a success during the coming year. At other places the Indian children attend the public schools whenever possible.

Religion.—The Indians of this agency are all Roman Catholics, and are quite attentive to religious duties.

Characteristics.—In this agency the Indians are moral, honest and law-abiding; and in the majority of cases are imbued with the ambition to be self-supporting.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES HARLOW,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,

MICMACS OF RICHMOND COUNTY,

ST. PETER'S, 5th October, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I respectfully submit this annual report of Chapel Island Indian Reserve. There is very little to be added to my report of last year.

Population.—The population has increased since last year by only one.

Health.—The general health of the Indians has been good, no epidemic having prevailed.

Education.—The children attending the school are making good progress. Many of them can read and write very well. The school this year is under the efficient charge of Miss Boyd.

Religion.—This last summer the reserve was honoured by a visit from His Lordship Bishop Cameron, who held confirmation on the island.

Characteristics.—The Indians of this reserve are truly law-abiding, sober and industrious.

I have, &c.,

JOHN FRASER,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF SHELBURNE COUNTY,
SHELBURNE, 15th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and tabular statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Vital Statistics.—During the past year there has been a net increase of three in the band under my supervision, bringing the Micmac population of this district up to sixty-six.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general sanitary condition is good. In some cases there has been a marked improvement in tidiness.

Occupation.—Some members of this band are fairly good farmers, but the main employments are lumbering, hunting, making mast-hoops and baskets.

Education.—A few children attend the public schools. The majority, unfortunately, reside at such a distance from the school that attendance is almost impossible.

Temperance.—With the exception of one man, these Indians are temperate.

I have, &c.,

JOHN J. E. DE MOLITOR,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF VICTORIA COUNTY,
BADDECK, 17th September, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and statistical statement for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the reserve, in which there has been a decrease of two, is ninety-seven, including adults and children. The latter number forty-three under the age of sixteen years.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There has been very little sickness among the Indians of this county during the past year. The sanitary measures recommended by the department have been carried out. The houses are neat and kept very clean and tidy. The condition of the reserve from a sanitary point is excellent.

Occupation.—The Indians live chiefly by coopering, basket-making, hunting, fishing and farming. Quite a few families are taking a great interest in farming. Some of the Indians are employed by the farmers in the neighbourhood of the reserve during the summer season, for which they receive fair wages.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. There is no church on the reserve, the nearest church of that denomination being at Baddeck, a distance of nine miles from the reserve. They are very prompt in their attendance at divine service in the church at this place.

Education.—School has been kept on the reserve during the last year, and the average attendance was considerably larger than for some years past. Many repairs were made to the school-house during last year.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians on this reserve are a very temperate, moral and law-abiding people.

I have, &c.,

A. J. MACDONALD,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF YARMOUTH COUNTY,
YARMOUTH, 23rd July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit my annual report and statistical statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserve.—The reserve is situated about three miles outside the town of Yarmouth, and contains twenty-one acres partly covered with a small growth of spruce and fir.

Vital Statistics.—The present number of the band consists of nineteen men, fifteen women and twenty-nine children, making a total of sixty-three.

Since my last report there have been three deaths and two births. Also twenty-two removed to adjoining counties, which accounts for the decrease in population since last year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There has been but little sickness during the past year, and the general health of the Indians is good.

Occupation.—The principal occupations of the Indians are basket-making, hunting and fishing. Some of them find employment about the lumber mills and on farms.

Religion.—The Indians of this band are Roman Catholics.

Characteristics.—Some of these Indians are industrious, while others are indolent and wander about over this and adjoining counties.

Temperance and Morality.—As a rule they are temperate and not inclined to immorality.

I have, &c.,

GEO. R. SMITH,
Indian Agent.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND,

HIGGIN'S ROAD, 26th August, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit herewith my annual report and tabular statement on Indian affairs for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserves.—There are two reserves in Prince Edward Island, namely, Lennox Island and Morell Reserve.

The former reserve is an island in Richmond Bay. It contains one thousand three hundred and twenty acres.

The Morell Reserve is situated on lot 40 in King's County. It contains two hundred and four acres of superior land.

Population.—There are in this superintendency, comprising both reserves and other localities in Prince Edward Island, three hundred and fourteen souls; an increase of eleven since last census.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There has been considerable sickness among the Indians during the winter and spring, but now I am glad to report that their sanitary condition has greatly improved.

Occupation.—The principal pursuits are farming, the manufacture of Indian wares and fishing.

The Indians of the Morell Reserve raise good crops every year. Six families live on this reserve. One of the most successful Indians of this reserve is Benjamin Nicholas. He works constantly on his farm, lives wholly from its products, has a fine orchard of some twenty apple trees. He is quite independent.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The Indians on the reserves occupy frame houses, but those scattered off the reserves live in camps or shanties which afford very little comfort.

Those living on the reserves keep horses, cows, sheep and poultry. They are well provided with farming implements, ploughs, spring tooth-harrows, &c.

Education.—There is but one school situated on Lennox Island and attended by twenty-eight children. The children who are attending regularly make good progress.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. They have a church, built two years ago, which is a credit to them.

Temperance.—On this subject I am happy to be able to report that, with the exception of a few, the Indians living on the reserves are sober. They organized a temperance society some years ago on Lennox Island; the members meet monthly. Mr. Anthony Mitchell is the president. This society is doing a great deal of good on this reserve.

I have, &c.,

JEAN O. ARSENAULT,
Indian Superintendent.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
BERENS RIVER AGENCY,

BERENS RIVER, September, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit for your information this, my first report, I having been appointed to this agency in July, 1897.

Location.—This agency is situated on the shores of Lake Winnipeg, extending from Black River Reserve at the south, to Cross Lake about ninety miles from the source of the Nelson River, and is made up of twelve different reserves, as follows: Black River, Hollow Water, Blood Vein, Loon Straits, Fisher River, Jack Head, Berens River, Poplar River, Cross Lake, Norway House, Grand Rapids and Pee-kange-kum.

Population.—The population of the entire agency is two thousand one hundred and sixty-eight. There is an increase of twenty-one over 1897. Of this number there are on Black River Reserve, thirteen men, sixteen women, fifteen boys and seventeen girls. At Hollow Water Reserve there are twenty-three men, twenty-four women, thirty-four boys and twenty-nine girls. At Blood Vein, ten men, fifteen women, nineteen boys and ten girls. At Loon Straits, three men, seven women, three boys and three girls. At Fisher River Reserve there are seventy-nine men, eighty-eight women, ninety-one boys and seventy girls. At Jack Head there are nineteen men, seventy-two women, twenty-seven boys and twenty-one girls. At Berens River Reserve there are forty-six men, fifty-four women, one hundred boys and seventy-three girls. At Poplar River there are twenty-three men, thirty-four women, fifty-six boys and thirty-three girls. At Norway House Reserve there are one hundred and eighteen men, one hundred and fifty-four women, one hundred and forty boys and one hundred and seventy girls. At Cross Lake there are fifty-seven men, seventy-three women, sixty-two boys and sixty-seven girls. At Grand Rapids there are thirty-three men, thirty-nine women, fifty-five boys and forty-two girls. At Pee-kange-kum there are thirteen men, nineteen women, twenty-one boys and twenty-four girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians on the different reserves has been generally good, the mortality not having been greater than that experienced among the white people, there having been only fifty-two deaths, and of these thirty were children. The greatest mortality occurred where there are few houses on the reserve. The sanitary condition of the Indians will improve from year to year as they build homes to live in. The principal sickness among adults is consumption and other pulmonary diseases. Contagious and infectious diseases are almost entirely absent. There are quite a number of cases of scrofula. Dr. Jamieson, who accompanied me on my trip paying annuities, vaccinated a very large proportion of the children, he visiting the school for that purpose, and left a good supply of medicine at each reserve, generally placing it in the hands of the missionary to dispense, being careful to give ample and explicit instructions as to the administration of it.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of the Indians, I am pleased to say, are becoming enlarged by the cultivation of the land, although at many points there seems to have been a scarcity of fish, particularly at Berens River Reserve and those to the north. The Indians on these reserves were unable to get enough fish to supply their own needs during the winter; but at Black River, Loon Straits and Blood Vein it was up to the average. Since spring the Indians at Berens River and Poplar River have done exceedingly well, catching sturgeon, for which they received a good price, varying from \$1 to \$1.50 each. At the former place they sold these fish to the amount of at least \$300. I am in hopes that with an enlarged market on the lake, their resources in this direction will be greatly increased.

Hunting.—As an income this has not been up to the average, at Black River, Hollow Water, Blood Vein and Loon Straits; but at those reserves from Fisher River

and to the north, the more valuable fur-bearing animals were plentiful and proved a source of revenue to the Indians.

Many of the Indians, where opportunity offers, avail themselves of it and earn considerable money working in the saw-mills, cutting saw-logs or chopping wood, but unfortunately these opportunities are only at those reserves lying to the south of Berens River.

Buildings.—I am pleased to report that on a great many of the reserves there has been a great improvement in this direction, and judging from present appearances next year's report will be still more favourable.

Stock.—I regret that I am unable to report much progress in this direction, with the exception of Fisher River Reserve.

Farm Implements.—There is an increased demand for these, which is very encouraging. I do not think as much care is taken of them as there ought to be, but the people are recognizing the necessity of more carefulness in this matter.

Education.—I have visited all the schools in this agency with the exception of that at Black River, which owing to the absence of the teacher was not in session. Judging from what I saw, I am satisfied that the teachers are doing all that lies in their power to carry out their instructions in teaching the children to read and write and getting them as far as possible to adopt the manners and customs of the whites. They have difficulties to contend with that are unknown to teachers of white children. The greatest is that of irregular attendance. The parents are as yet unable to appreciate properly the benefits that would accrue to their children from a good elementary education.

Some of the school-houses are in a somewhat dilapidated condition. Next year's report, will, I am certain, contain a record of new school-houses.

Religion.—At Black River Reserve there is a very commodious Anglican church, which is well attended. At Hollow Water Reserve religious services are held in the school-house under the Church of England. At Blood Vein the people are mostly pagans. At Berens River the Methodists have a large church, Rev. Mr. McLaughlin being in charge. There is a fine residence here for the missionary. Services are well attended. At Poplar River there is another Methodist mission under the charge of Rev. Mr. McLaughlin of Berens River; in his absence services are conducted by Mr. Dargue, the teacher of the school, services being held in the school-house. At Fisher River there is a very large and prosperous Methodist mission in charge of Rev. Mr. Desbrough, services being held in a fine church, capable of holding four hundred people, and I am told it is taxed to its utmost capacity. At Jack Head there is a Church of England mission, services being held in a church.

At Norway House there is a very large Methodist mission in charge of Mr. Nelson, assisted by two local preachers. There is a large and tasteful church, capable of seating fully four hundred people, and filled twice a day. There is also at this place a good parsonage. At Cross Lake there is another Methodist mission in charge of Rev. Edward Papanikis, an Indian, service being held in a church. This mission, I am informed, is in a prosperous condition. At Grand Rapids there is no regular mission established; Rev. Mr. McLaughlin visits this reserve occasionally. At Pee-kange-kum there is no mission; the Indians are all pagans.

Undoubtedly, through the indefatigable exertions of the Rev. John McDougall of the Methodist Church and Ven. Archdeacon Phair of the Church of England, the Indians are being rapidly raised to a higher plane. Too much cannot be said in praise of the resident missionaries and teachers in the performance of their respective arduous duties.

Character.—My experience and observations so far lead me to the conclusion that the Indians in this agency are industrious, law-abiding and temperate. Intoxication is unknown now. I had one case, but it was promptly brought to justice and punishment was inflicted.

I have, &c.,

J. W. SHORT, *Indian Agent.*

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,

CLANDEBOYE AGENCY,

WINNIPEG, November, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report of the Clandeboye Agency for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserves.—In the Clandeboye Agency there are three reserves, embracing about seventy-three thousand three hundred and ninety-four acres, namely: St. Peter's, located a few miles north of Selkirk; Broken Head River Reserve, at the mouth of the river of that name on the south-east of Lake Winnipeg; and Fort Alexander, at the mouth of the Winnipeg River.

Resources.—The resources from which the Indians obtain their livelihood are farming, stock-raising, lumber, cordwood, fish, game and fur.

Tribe.—The tribe to which these bands originally belonged was the Ojibbewa, but subsequently a large emigration of Swampy Crees from the shores of the Hudson's Bay settled among them, and so tenacious are they of their nationality that frequently in the election of chief and councillors this issue decides the contest.

Population.—The number of Indians who were paid annuity this year were seventeen hundred and ninety-two, namely: St. Peter's, one thousand and ninety-nine; Broken Head, one hundred and ninety-three; and Fort Alexander, five hundred; but this number does not include absentees.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The sanitary regulations of the department are generally observed, and houses and premises are very clean and tastefully kept.

The health of the Indians is generally satisfactory, there being no epidemic among them; the most frequent diseases with which they are afflicted are consumption, scrofula and syphilis. Dr. Steep, the medical officer, makes an official visit to St. Peter's Reserve once every month, and every three months to Broken Head and Fort Alexander Reserves, and oftener when occasion requires.

Occupation.—Many of these Indians are employed as voyageurs, guides to tourists, at fisheries, lumber camps and saw-mills, cutting cordwood, hunting, &c., while others are farming, stock-raising and hay-cutting, from all of which they make a comfortable living.

Buildings.—There are two hundred and twenty-two log dwellings in St. Peter's, thirty-two at Broken Head River, and eighty-one at Fort Alexander, and two hundred and ninety-four cattle stables,—two hundred and twenty-five at St. Peter's, seventeen at Broken Head and fifty-two at Fort Alexander.

Stock.—The number of stock of all descriptions in this agency, is ten hundred and fifty-eight, of which seven hundred and sixty-nine are owned by the Indians of St. Peter's, seventy-one by those of Broken Head River and two hundred and eighteen by the Fort Alexander Band.

Implements and Vehicles.—The Indians have one thousand and eighty-one implements, of which eight hundred and eighty belong to St. Peter's Indians, sixty-seven to Broken Head and one hundred and thirty-four to Fort Alexander.

It may be observed that fifty ploughs, fifty-two harrows, seventy mowers and seventy horse-rakes are owned by the St. Peter's Band; the last three articles were purchased by the Indians. This band also possesses from its own earnings one hundred and seventy-nine wagons, carts, sleighs and buggies.

Education.—Eight schools are in operation in this agency, viz.:—five at St. Peter's, one at Broken Head and two at Fort Alexander. The schools are commodious and equipped with everything necessary for the efficient instruction of pupils; but, owing to their irregular attendance, their advancement in learning is materially retarded.

Religion.—In this agency there are five Anglican churches having a membership of twelve hundred and twenty-nine; three Roman Catholic churches with a membership of four hundred and forty-one, and one Baptist, having a membership of forty-four. The Anglican churches are presided over by the Rev. Messrs Anderson, Coates and Thomas; the Roman Catholics by the Rev. Fathers Allard and Magnan, and the Baptist by the Rev. William Henry Prince. The Indians zealously attend regularly their different churches and manifest profound interest in the various ceremonies and observances.

Characteristics and Progress.—The general characteristic of the Indian is a lack of application for any continued pursuit when left to himself, but he works diligently under constant controlling influence; on the slightest discouragement Indians abandon any undertaking. They delight in dressing gorgeously and are most improvident; they are very tractable when kindly and firmly treated, but sullen and ungrateful when rebuked for any misdemeanour. They are law-abiding and peaceable as any other community, and they are gradually progressing in the appreciation of the comforts of life.

Temperance.—A large majority of them are strictly temperate and shun all alcoholic beverages as they would poison, but some of them indulge in intoxicants whenever they have an opportunity, which is often given them by unscrupulous vagabonds.

Morality.—The marriage relation was not always sacredly observed by Indians. The habit of taking a wife and "throwing her away" for the most trivial cause, and taking another was frequent among them; but I am happy to say that instances of this description are very rare in this agency, and when they do occur the parties become social outcasts. The chief and councillors have been urging me to lay the matter before the department in order that a law might be enacted so as to empower them to deal with such illegal practices.

General Remarks.—The soil in this agency is exceptionally fertile, and with proper cultivation yields abundantly all kinds of cereals, vegetables and roots. The hay crops of the St. Peter's and Broken Head Reserves are simply immense, thousands of tons are cut annually, a large portion of which finds a ready market at Selkirk and Winnipeg. Upwards of six thousand bushels of cereals were harvested and nearly ten thousand bushels of roots secured this year.

These Indians own about twelve thousand boats, guns, nets and traps, and they earned approximately \$20,000 by fishing and hunting, and realized a large amount from the sale of cordwood, berries, wild rice, and by working at saw-mills, on steamers and with farmers. As an evidence that these Indians are largely self-sustaining, only a limited supply of provisions for the infirm and destitute, and a few implements and garden seed are furnished them.

I have, &c.,

E. McCOLL,

Inspector of Indian Agencies.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
COUTCHEECHING AGENCY.

FORT FRANCES, ONT., 15th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my report and tabular statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Agency.—The Coutcheeching Agency is situated in the Rainy River District, Treaty No. 3.

Reserves.—The agency embraces the following reserves: Hungry Hall No. 1 and No. 2, Long Sault No. 1 and No. 2, Manitou, No. 1 and No. 2, Little Forks, Coutcheeching, Stangecoming, Naicatchewenin Nickickonsemenecanning, Seine River and Lac la Croix.

The first four reserves are situated on Rainy River, the next four on Rainy Lake, the last two on Seine River and Lac la Croix respectively.

The total area of all the above reserves is sixty-six thousand one hundred and twenty-six acres.

Resources.—The reserves on Rainy River contain a large proportion of farming land, there is also considerable pine timber, also large quantities of timber suitable for firewood and cordwood for steamers. There is good fishing and hunting at certain seasons of the year. The reserves on the lakes are mostly rocky, but good mineral locations may yet be discovered on them, which would be a steady source of revenue for the Indians. There is also considerable pine on Nickickonsemenecanning Reserve, also on Seine River Reserve. The fishing and hunting are also good at certain seasons of the year.

Tribe.—The Indians of this agency belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population at treaty payments was eight hundred and forty-three souls, made up as follows: one hundred and sixty-nine men, two hundred and thirty-one women, two hundred and twenty boys and two hundred and twenty-three girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the Indians during the year has been good, they have been very carefully attended to by Dr. Moore, who also vaccinated those requiring it. The villages are kept clean, all the refuse being burnt up. No epidemics have taken place. There are a number of cases of consumption and scrofula, but not more than usual.

Occupation.—These Indians have been occupied in attending to their fields and gardens, building and repairing houses, hunting and fishing, working in saw-mills, lumber camps, steamboats, river-driving, acting as guides to tourists and prospectors, also making and selling bark canoes, selling berries and bead-work, in fact taking any opportunity to make a living.

Buildings.—The agency buildings have been repaired and present a very neat appearance, and a number of dwellings have been erected by the Indians, on the different reserves, finished with shingle roofs, partitions, floors and ceilings put in.

I may mention four on Coutcheeching Reserve, built by Joseph Jourdain, jr, Esquibenesse, William Mainville and Joseph Grimo. There are others at Long Sault and Seine River Reserves, where the Indians have taken out logs to be sawn on shares by the saw-mills to finish their houses. They are taking a pride in having their dwellings as nearly like a white man's as possible. The stables for stock are small but comfortable and clean.

Education.—There are in this agency four hundred and forty-three children, one-third of whom are of school age. There are four day schools, one at Long Sault, one at Manitou, and one at Little Forks. A new building has been purchased to replace the old one at Manitou, so that the three buildings are in every way satisfactory. Water-closets have also been built at each. There is also a day school at Coutcheeching Reserve. The standard course of studies is followed as nearly as possible; the attendance is neither regular nor large, consequently the progress of the pupils is not good.

The parents do not appear to take much interest in the education of their children. I continue to impress on them the importance of education, and have frequently pointed out to the teachers the necessity of continuing their efforts in getting a larger and more regular attendance.

Religion.—Rev. Mr. Johnston, of Long Sault Mission, has a very nice church built where service is held regularly, and well attended. Service is also held at Little Forks, in the teacher's house, which was built by the Church of England Mission. Rev. Mr. Gover is teacher at Long Sault, Mr. Wood at Manitou, and Mr. Bagshaw at Little Forks, all of whom hold service in Rev. Mr. Johnston's absence.

Rev. Father St. Almont holds service every alternate Sunday on Coutcheeching Reserve at the school-house, which is very well attended. Both missionaries take great interest in their work.

In the agency there are one hundred Roman Catholics, and fifty Church of England converts, the rest being pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians in this agency are generally honest and law-abiding, I not having received any complaints, except of interference with the fishing nets of Captain Hooper of Seine River, which was done, because, as they thought at the time, he was interfering with their means of making a living. There was also a case of assault against the chief at Hungry Hall, by one of his own band. The assault was provoked.

I notice considerable progress in their way of living. Two Indians, namely, Ange-ke-jick and Ma-che-king-ung, of Long Sault and Manitou, act as pilots on steamers on Rainy River, and receive large wages, which are expended in improvements to their houses. Mis-che-keke-jick, councillor at Seine River, Windgoes, councillor at Nickick-onsemencanning Reserve, and the Mainville brothers of Coutcheeching Reserve, and many others, deserve credit for their progress.

Temperance and Morality.—In general, the Indians in this agency are temperate and not immoral, but in the vicinity of white villages there are a certain number of them that are enticed into drinking. During the year the liquor traffic has, I am glad to say, been considerably reduced. In three cases where warrants were issued for arrest, the parties left for the American side and cannot return. It is difficult to make convictions, as the party selling is very secret in his dealings, and the international boundary line is very close.

General Remarks.—During the year Mr. Inspector Leveque visited this agency and made a careful inspection.

I regret to record the death of Chief Kee-way-quon-astung, also that of his son-in-law and cousin, of Nickickonsemencanning Reserve, by drowning last fall. The bodies have not yet been recovered.

In conclusion I may say that, taken altogether, the Indians in this agency have made fair progress, and have conducted themselves well.

I have, &c.,

MAGNUS BEGG,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,
LAKE MANITOBA INSPECTORATE,
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, 1st October, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to present my first annual report upon Indian affairs in this inspectorate during the fiscal year ended 30th June last, and to the date above mentioned in the current fiscal term.

This inspectorate includes Portage la Prairie, Manitowapah and Pas Agencies, the first two being within the province of Manitoba, and the latter in the district of Saskatchewan, North-west Territories.

There are eighteen reserves in the inspectorate, viz.: three in Portage la Prairie, nine in Manitowapah and six in the Pas.

The reserves in Portage la Prairie Agency are all situated in good agricultural districts, those of Manitowapah on Lakes Manitoba, Winnipegosis and St. Martin, those of the Pas on Lower Saskatchewan River and tributary streams.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE AGENCY.

ROSSEAU BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated at the confluence of the Red and Rosseau Rivers in township 2, range 2, east of the first principal meridian. There is also an auxiliary to this reserve known as "Rosseau Rapids," situated about eleven miles up the Rosseau River from the principal reserve. The principal reserve has an area of about thirteen thousand five hundred acres, and the auxiliary eight hundred acres.

Population.—The combined population at the last annuity payments was sixty-five men, seventy-four women and one hundred children,—total two hundred and thirty-nine. About sixty per cent of the population reside at the Rosseau proper and the rest at the Rapids.

Resources.—The principal reserve is well adapted for mixed farming, with plenty of wood on the river banks to do the Indians for many years. Wild hay grows in immense quantities on the reserve, and there is a large amount of very choice grain land. If the Indians would only apply themselves to stock and grain raising they would soon become independent. I am pleased to be able to state that latterly they are taking more interest in farming operations, and I trust to be able to report an improved condition next year. A farm instructor has lately been appointed, which should have a good effect. The reserve at the Rapids is grain land and the soil is lighter than at the principal reserve.

The Indians here are thrifty and anxious to provide for themselves. This year there were ninety acres under crop at the reserve proper, and sixty-five at the Rapids.

As the threshing returns are not yet in, I cannot give you the result.

Stock.—The combined reserve has twenty-eight head of cattle and thirty-six horses and ponies.

SWAN LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated in township 5, range 11, west, with an auxiliary known as "Indian Gardens," being section 11, township 9, range 9, west.

The principal reserve contains about eleven thousand eight hundred acres, and the Gardens six hundred and forty acres. The combined population at this date is thirty-three men, forty-four women and forty-three children,—total one hundred and twenty. Seventy-five per cent of the population reside at Swan Lake.

Resources.—The principal reserve is mostly high rolling prairie interspersed with poplar bluffs of timber. The soil is good and well adapted for mixed farming. Large quantities of wild hay are to be had on the reserve on the margin of the lake. The Northern Pacific Railway runs through the reserve, and has a station situated about the centre.

This season the Indians have one hundred and twenty-five acres under crop, which at the time of my visit promised well. Mr. Malcolm Campbell is farm instructor, and under his supervision it is expected that the condition of the band will greatly improve.

The smaller reserve is situated on the south bank of the Assiniboine River and is a magnificent section of wheat land. This season there were seventy-two acres under cultivation, which is expected to turn out well. It is not adapted for stock-raising, as hay is scarce, there being only a small quantity on the reserve. The Indians living here are not progressive and are rather a difficult lot to handle.

LONG PLAINS BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the north bank of the Assiniboine River about fifteen miles south-west of Portage la Prairie. It contains about ten thousand eight hundred acres, the greater part of which is heavily wooded. It is not so well adapted for farming as the other reserves in the agency; the soil is a light sandy loam. There are about one thousand acres that could be cultivated. There are also a number of hay marshes where large quantities of hay can be cut when the season is not too wet. This season there were one hundred and forty acres under crop, which is expected will be a good average.

Population.—The population consists of thirty-eight men, fifty women and forty-eight children,—total one hundred and thirty six.

Farming Implements.—These Indians show an improvement during the last year. This spring they were supplied with a good stock of farming implements, &c., purchased from their non-capitalized funds, and it is expected that real progress will be made in the future.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Under this heading the same remarks will apply to all reserves in this agency.

Progress.—The Indians are making fair progress and appear to be contented with their lot.

Religion.—They are all pagans excepting a few Roman Catholics at the Rosseau Reserve. A small Roman Catholic church was erected at the above place last season. They are very much opposed to missionaries and schools. Some of the younger men would like to educate their children but are overawed by the older ones. However, I am pleased to state that this feeling is gradually losing ground. During the present year two or three families have broken through the old order of things and are sending their children to school.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health and sanitary condition is good as shown by an increase of five of births over deaths. Scrofula and consumption are the principal diseases. On the whole these Indians are law-abiding and obedient to instructions given them.

Farming Implements.—The different reserves have had quite a supply of farming implements and seed this season, and, if their crops turn out as well as is expected, they will be much encouraged to proceed with farming operations.

Household Effects.—They are gradually surrounding themselves with the comforts of the white man. In many of the houses will be found box and cooking stoves, lamps, clocks and other household effects which add much to their comfort.

Occupation.—Numerous occupations are open to the Indians of this agency. Outside of their farming operations on the reserves, the men can and do earn considerable money as farm labourers during the summer months, and the women and children dig senega root, for which they find a ready market.

SIoux INDIANS.

In concluding my report on this agency I would like to draw your attention to the Sioux Indians living within the limits of the town of Portage la Prairie. These Indians, as the department is aware, are aliens from the United States, and their descendants, once a part of the great Sioux nation, which was obliged to take refuge here after the fearful massacre of white settlers in Minnesota and the Dakotas in 1862. Although a superior race of Indians, these people had sunk to almost the lowest point of human degradation when some twelve years ago they were taken in hand by a number of the citizens here. A small school was started by some of the ladies, which after many discouragements has now developed into a well equipped boarding school with an attendance of nearly forty pupils. The men and women were induced largely by the efforts of Mr. A. D. MacKay, cashier of the Manitoba and North-western Railway, to save and deposit a portion of their earnings for the purpose of buying land.

In this way they saved nearly \$400, with which they purchased twenty-six acres of land situated on the Assiniboine River within the limits of this town. Here they are now living and prospering as a village community. They have good houses and gardens and have surrounded themselves with many of the comforts and conveniences of life. The Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church in Canada has built a neat and comfortable church, which is well attended.

I am pleased to state that an Order in Council has recently been passed granting them lot 14 of the parish of Portage la Prairie for farming purposes.

MANITOWAPAH AGENCY.

SANDY BAY BAND.

Reserve.—I visited this band on the 6th July, 1897, and on the 4th August, 1898. The reserve is situated on the south-west shore of Lake Manitoba, and contains an area of twelve thousand one hundred and two acres. It is fairly well wooded. The land is low and not adapted for agricultural purposes, but is well suited for cattle-raising. Some years the hay lands were submerged by the overflow from the lake.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of forty-three men, fifty-two women and one hundred and fifty-seven children,—total two hundred and fifty-two. There were twenty-two births and six deaths.

Resources.—Fishing, hunting, gardening, cattle-raising and gathering senega root, are the chief resources of these Indians. The men earn a little during the summer months as farm labourers.

Education.—There is a good frame school-house on the reserve, which is fairly well attended.

Religion.—Nearly all these Indians are Roman Catholics, and their spiritual welfare is attended to by Father Comeau. A neat little church has been completed this year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The younger members of this band are very much afflicted with scrofula, in fact it is the exception to find a child who does not show traces of it.

Strong measures have of late years been taken to improve their sanitary condition; the houses and yards are kept clean, and this year the death-rate is much lower than usual.

Stock.—The members of this band take considerable interest in cattle. Their herd consists of nearly one hundred head. They also have seventy-seven ponies and a number of swine.

LAKE MANITOBA BAND.

Reserve.—I visited these Indians on the 8th July, 1897, and the 5th August, 1898. The reserve is situated on the east side of Lake Manitoba. It contains an area of eleven thousand eight hundred and eighty-one acres. The reserve is mostly heavily timbered with poplar. There are large hay meadows which are subject to overflow from the lake. For this reason some years the Indians find it difficult to get hay for their cattle, of which they have about one hundred and fifty head. The land on this reserve is very low, so much so that gardening is not very successful.

Population.—The population consists of twenty-three men, twenty-seven women, sixty-six children,—total one hundred and sixteen.

Religion.—In religion nearly all are Roman Catholics.

Education.—The school is not very well attended. The parents are indifferent, and some are too far away.

Buildings.—The houses are fairly comfortable, built of logs with thatched roofs.

Occupation.—These Indians obtain the greater part of their living from fishing and hunting. They do not depend much on gardens, for the reason above mentioned.

EBB AND FLOW Lake BAND.

Reserve.—I visited these Indians on the 10th July, 1897, and 6th August, 1898. Their reserve contains an area of ten thousand eight hundred and sixty-five acres.

Population.—The population consists of sixteen men, twenty women and twenty-seven children,—total sixty-three.

Religion.—Most of these Indians are Roman Catholics, a few are Anglicans, and there are two families of pagans.

Stock.—They have about seventy head of cattle.

Education.—The school is well attended and ably conducted.

Material Condition.—This band, although small, is in good circumstances. The chief is an excellent man, doing all in his power to influence his people in the right direction. During the past year they have made considerable improvement in their houses, and have built two very substantial bridges.

They burn their own lime and the houses are kept as white as lime can make them. They have good gardens and raise quite a quantity of potatoes and other vegetables.

William Richard is worthy of special note for having the neatest house, garden and outbuildings on the reserve.

Occupation.—Fishing and hunting are good and some money is made by the men in the lumber woods.

FAIRFORD BAND.

Reserve.—I visited these Indians on the 13th and 14th July, 1897, and on the 19th August, 1898.

This is the most progressive reserve in the agency, and is situated on the Fairford River. It contains an area of eleven thousand seven hundred and twenty-three acres.

Population.—The population consists of forty-two men, forty-five women and ninety-five children,—total one hundred and eighty-two.

The chief and councillors are energetic in furthering the interests of their people. The land is higher than in most of the reserves in this agency, and consequently the gardens are better.

Education and Religion.—There are two day schools and two churches (one Anglican and one Baptist). The Hudson's Bay Company has a post here, and there is also a post office.

Resources.—Besides hunting, fishing, farming and gardening considerable money is made by work in the lumber camps in winter and farm labouring in summer.

It is at this place that it is proposed to dig a canal to lower the waters of Lake Manitoba, and while this work is under way the Indians should find employment for all who are able to work.

LITTLE SASKATCHEWAN BAND.

Reserve.—I visited these Indians on the 15th July, 1897, and 20th August, 1898. This reserve is situated on the north-west shore of Lake St. Martin, and has an area of three thousand two hundred acres.

Population.—The population consists of twenty-seven men, twenty-seven women and fifty-two children,—total one hundred and six.

Resources.—This reserve is better adapted for stock-raising than for gardening. The land is generally low and the soil cold and soggy; however, the Indians grow considerable quantities of potatoes.

Religion.—Most of these Indians are Anglicans, and a few are Baptists.

General Remarks.—The people of this reserve are healthy, and attend well to sanitary matters. They have quite a nice herd of cattle, and take very good care of them. The chief occupation of the band is hunting and fishing. The school is fairly well attended.

LAKE ST. MARTIN BAND.

Reserve.—I visited these Indians on the 17th July 1897 and 20th August 1898. This reserve is situated at the north end of Lake St. Martin, and comprises four thousand acres. The description of the last mentioned reserve will apply to this, as they are very much alike in all respects. Both are well wooded.

Population.—The population consists of twenty-six men, twenty-nine women and forty-nine children,—total one hundred and four.

CRANE RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—I visited these Indians on the 23rd July, 1897, and 8th August 1898. This reserve is situated near the north-west end of Lake Manitoba, and has an area of eight thousand seven hundred and sixty acres.

Population.—The population consists of eleven men, nine women and thirty-three children,—total fifty-three.

Resources.—This reserve is very much isolated, and there is not the same opportunity for making a living as at some of the other reserves; but I am pleased to report that in spite of all drawbacks the members of this small band are doing well. They have over fifty head of cattle, and this year their gardens are good.

Fishing and hunting are good, and it is from these sources the Indians obtain the greater part of their living.

Education.—Considering the number of children, the school is well attended, and shows marked improvement over last year.

Religion.—Nine of the population are Anglicans, and the rest are pagans.

WATER HEN RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—I visited these Indians on the 25th and 26th July, 1897, and 10th August, 1898. This reserve is situated on the Water Hen Lake, between the two

Water Hen Rivers. It contains an area of four thousand six hundred and sixteen acres.

Population.—The population consists of thirty-two men, twenty-eight women and sixty-nine children,—total one hundred and twenty-nine.

Resources.—Physically this reserve is poorly situated, but owing to the indefatigable exertions of the school teacher, Mr. Isaac Adams, well seconded by the chief and councillors, it is one of the most prosperous reserves in the agency. Wood is scarce and hay is some distance away. The land is salty, but in the face of all these difficulties the people are progressing. They have over sixty cattle and eighteen horses. Hunting, fishing and trapping are the principal occupations.

Education.—There is a combined boarding and day school on this reserve under the Roman Catholic denomination. The boarding department receives a grant for fifteen pupils. The average attendance at the day school was twenty-five for the last quarter. The work done in this school is the best of any in my inspectorate.

PINE CREEK BAND.

Reserve.—I visited these Indians on the 29th and 30th July, 1897, and on the 13th August, 1898. This reserve, as its name suggests, is situated on Pine Creek, a small stream running into Lake Winnipegosis. The village is situated about two miles from the lake on high dry ground. The soil is somewhat stony; otherwise it is good for gardening and farming on a small scale. Part of the reserve is well timbered with spruce and poplar. It contains an area of nine thousand one hundred and forty-five acres.

Population.—The population consists of sixteen men, twenty six women and forty-three children,—total eighty-five.

Occupation.—These Indians make use of all the resources, viz., fishing, hunting trapping, gardening and cattle-raising. Their stock of cattle is small.

Education.—A boarding and day school is situated here and operated on the same lines as the one referred to on the Water Hen River Reserve. The progress in this school is not as marked as in the former, but I understand some changes are to be made soon which no doubt will be beneficial.

PAS AGENCY.

GRAND RAPIDS BAND.

Reserve.—I visited these Indians on the 20th and 21st August, 1897, and on the 4th, 5th and 6th September, 1898. This reserve is situated on the south side of the Saskatchewan River at its mouth, and has an area of four thousand six hundred and fifty-one acres.

Resources.—Fishing, hunting, gardening and cattle-raising, are the principal resources of these Indians.

Tribe.—The members of this band are Swampy Crees.

Population.—The population consists of twenty-three men, twenty-seven women, sixty-four children,—total, one hundred and fourteen.

Resources.—Some progress has been made by this band during the past year, but not as much as I had looked for. These Indians should do well. All the able-bodied men can find employment during the summer with the Fish Company. The soil is very fair for gardening. Fish is very plentiful; large game is abundant at certain seasons. As this is a summer resort, considerable money is made from the sale of curios.

Education.—There is a good school, conducted by Mr. Lamb. The average attendance is seventeen.

CHEMAWAWIN BAND.

Reserve.—I visited these Indians on the 5th and 6th August, 1897, and on the 17th September, 1898. The reserve is situated on the Saskatchewan River, at the west end of Cedar Lake. The area is two thousand nine hundred and eighty-one acres. The land is rocky, but the soil is good. Potatoes and other vegetables are raised. There is plenty of hay and the Indians raise a few cattle, but make their living mostly by fishing and hunting. There is not much opportunity for employment. The Hudson's Bay Company employs a few of them at times as boatmen.

Education and Religion.—The people move around a good deal to different hunting grounds; consequently the attendance at the school is very irregular. The Church Missionary Society has lately placed a missionary on the reserve, which may have the effect of keeping them more at home.

Population.—The population at the last payment was one hundred and fifty-one, consisting of thirty-three men, forty women and seventy-eight children.

MOOSE LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve I visited on the 19th September, 1898. I did not have an opportunity of visiting it last year. It is situated on Moose Lake and on an island in the lake. Some of the Indians live on the mainland and some on the island. The area of the reserve is three thousand five hundred and thirty-five acres.

Population.—The population at the last payment was twenty-nine men, thirty-five women and fifty-nine children,—total one hundred and twenty-three.

Resources.—The Indians depend largely on fishing and hunting for a livelihood. The soil is not very well adapted for cultivation, being very stony and swampy. However, I found some very good gardens and obtained a promise of better ones next year. The Indians give some attention to stock-raising, but do not seem to realize the benefits they might derive from this pursuit. The reserve is heavily wooded with spruce and poplar.

Buildings.—The houses are not so good as on some of the reserves.

Religion and Education.—The Church Missionary Society has a chapel here which is used for school purposes.

The children are backward, which is accounted for by the roving habits of the parents.

PAS BAND.

I visited these Indians on the 11th and 12th August, 1897, and on the 21st and 22nd September, 1898.

Reserve.—The reserve contains an area of four thousand two hundred and thirty-eight acres.

This reserve may be called the Hub of the agency and is situated on the Saskatchewan River one hundred and fifty miles from its mouth. Naturally it is not nearly so well adapted for a reserve as some of the others, but, owing to its central situation, it is the place of largest population. The agency office is located here. The Rev. Rural Dean Hines, in charge of mission work for the Church Missionary Society, also resides here.

Education and Religion.—The Roman Catholics have a chapel, and there are three schools on the reserve. A new frame school-house was erected this summer, containing two class-rooms.

The other school is four miles up the river at what is known as "The Big Eddy." The spiritual welfare of the Protestant Indians is closely looked after by Dean Hines and Mr. Reader. Father Charlebois of Cumberland does not neglect the Roman Catholics.

Chief and Councillors.—The temporal affairs are in the hands of Mr Agent Courtenay, who is ably assisted by Chief Antoine Constant and Councillors Cook and Henderson. Too much praise cannot be given to the chief and councillors for their efforts on behalf of their people. They fully understand their position as intermediary between the Government and the Indians, and are always ready and willing to carry out to the best of their ability all requests made to them by the officers of the department.

Resources.—Much of the land on the reserve is stony, and it is not nearly so well timbered as the other reserves. Wild hay is abundant, and the Indians have quite a large herd of cattle. Fishing is not so good as at the reserves lower down the river. Water-fowl are abundant in the spring and fall, but large game and fur-bearing animals are scarce. Most of the Indians have comfortable log houses and good gardens.

There is very little employment; a few are engaged as boatmen in the summer by the Hudson's Bay Company.

In spite of many drawbacks some of the people are doing well, notably the Cook family, father and sons.

SHOAL LAKE AND RED EARTH BANDS, PAS MOUNTAIN.

I visited these Indians on the 26th and 27th September, 1898.

Reserves.—About one-third of the population reside at Shoal Lake, the rest at Red Earth. Shoal Lake is situate on the Carrot River about one hundred and seventeen miles from its mouth, and has an area of two thousand one hundred and ninety acres. Red Earth is about fifteen miles further up the river, and has an area of four thousand seven hundred and fifty-one acres.

Population.—The population of the two reserves is forty men, thirty-nine women and one hundred and ten children, making a total of one hundred and eighty-nine.

Resources.—Physically these are the best reserves in the agency. At Shoal Lake the soil is rich and free of stones. Hay is abundant. The finest spruce timber I have seen in the North-west is at the doors of these Indians. They have several salt springs of pure brine and make their own salt. The same remarks apply to Red Earth except that the Indians on that reserve have not the salt springs. The Indians on both reserves depend largely on their gardens for food.

Fish are scarce, but water-fowl and large game are abundant. From the isolated position of these reserves, the Indians have little opportunity of earning anything, and the great trouble they have to contend with is lack of clothing. Were it not for the second-hand clothing sent out by the Church Missionary Society, this matter would be very serious. As it is, I understand there is much suffering during the winter months. Of course a little is earned by trapping, but it is very uncertain.

Religion.—Many of these Indians are pagans, but the Church Missionary Society has chapels at both reserves, and gradually the people are becoming Christianized. The schools are fairly well attended at both reserves.

Stock.—Considerable interest is taken in cattle-raising, and both places have small herds.

Health.—The health of this people is remarkably good. During the past year only one death occurred. I attribute this state of affairs to the free use of vegetables and abundance of salt. I only noticed one case of scrofula.

CUMBERLAND BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Saskatchewan River about eighty miles west of the Pas, and has an area of twelve hundred and forty-three acres.

Population.—The population is composed of thirty-two men, forty-three women and seventy children,—total one hundred and forty-five.

Occupation.—The Indians on this reserve are mostly hunters, and obtain a living by the trap and gun. A few reside at the reserve and have gardens, but the soil is not prolific, being very low and wet. A few of the men obtain employment for a short time with the Hudson's Bay Company as boatmen.

Education.—This is the only reserve in the agency where we have no school. It has been tried, but owing to the roving habits of the parents it was not a success.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The general condition of the Indians of this inspectorate is good, and I am pleased to be able to say that there have been no epidemics of any kind.

A slight increase of population is shown. I find the Indians loyal, law-abiding, reasonable and obedient. Parents are beginning to see the benefits of education, and there is not the same difficulty as formerly in getting them to send their children to school. No great advancement is made at the day schools, but the children learn a little restraint and the rudiments of an English education, which fits them to be more contented when they are taken to the boarding or industrial institution. Many of the Indians are beginning to realize that the time is coming when they must change their mode of life, and for this reason they are anxious to learn the white man's ways and methods.

The process of evolution is hard, but they have the interest of their children at heart, and for their sakes they try to carry out the wishes of the department in respect to their advancement.

Intemperance is almost unknown in the Manitowapah and Pas Agencies, owing to their isolation. In the Portage la Prairie Reserves there is more or less trouble all the time. The Indian likes liquor and he has no difficulty in procuring it, if he has the money, in the face of the most stringent laws.

The Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches have the care of the Indians of the northern agencies and have many faithful and zealous missionaries working there. So far, the Portage la Prairie bands have been almost unapproachable by missionaries of any denomination.

The agency work for Portage la Prairie and Manitowapah is now conducted from this office, and so far works satisfactorily. Mr. Martineau performs this work to the satisfaction of the Indians and, I hope, of the department. His long experience in agency work is of great assistance to the writer.

The agency office at the Pas Reserve has this summer been removed from an out-of-the-way place known as "Uno Cup" to the large central Pas Reserve. This change is very much appreciated by the Indians and will save considerable money for the department.

Mr. Courtenay, the newly appointed agent, promises well, and I hope and expect considerable advancement from all agencies next year.

In conclusion, I am pleased to be able to state that during my visits to the various reserves in this inspectorate, during the past three months, I have not heard of a single case of illegitimacy.

I have, &c.,

S. R. MARLATT,
Inspector of Indian Agencies.

MANITOBA,
MANITOWAPAH AGENCY, TREATY No. 2,
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, 10th September, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit, for your information, my twenty-second annual report and tabular statement for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898

SANDY BAY BAND—TREATY No 1.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the south-west shore of Lake Manitoba. The land is high, a ridge of considerable height running the entire length of the reserve. With a sufficient quantity of timber near, and the lake affording plenty of good water, it has a pleasant location. It has an area of twelve thousand one hundred and two acres.

Resources.—The principal resources are hunting, fishing, digging senega root, and cattle-raising.

Tribe.—The pure-blooded Indians of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe; the remainder are English, French and Scotch half-breeds.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of forty-three men, fifty-two women, and one hundred and fifty-nine children,—total two hundred and fifty-four. There have been twenty-one births and six deaths, making an increase of fifteen since the previous year. In the majority of cases the deaths were caused by consumption. One Indian joined the band and twelve left it during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians is good, the diseases most prevalent being whooping cough and consumption. Sanitary precautions are taken as far as possible by having the houses kept in a state of cleanliness and by enforcing the liberal use of mud-wash and lime-wash in the spring and fall of the year.

Occupation.—Numerous occupations are open to the members of this band, among the principal being hunting, fishing, digging senega root, acting as guides to tourists, working for the farmers during harvest time, and manufacturing flat sleighs, single and double sleighs, carts and cart wheels, harness, snow-shoes, &c. The dairying industry is making good strides, and the women perform the duties of milking, making butter and attending the poultry in a creditable manner. The housewifery is also very satisfactory and many of the women have acquired the art of making bread.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There are in all ninety-eight buildings. During the year, the Roman Catholic mission completed a new chapel on the reserve. There has been much rebuilding of houses recently, and the improvement is such that most of the buildings are roomy, well ventilated and substantial. Of the one hundred and twenty-nine head of cattle (an increase of thirty-one over last year), twenty-four belong to the Government and one hundred and five are the personal property of Indians. These Indians have also seventy-seven horses, thirty pigs and about one hundred and fifty-five head of poultry. They have a good equipment of all necessary tools, wagons, buckboards, implements, &c.

Education.—There are in all about ninety children of school age, and the average attendance for the year has been thirty-five. There is only one school, under the management of one competent teacher, and it is of the Roman Catholic denomination. The following is the course of studies taught in this school:—English, writing, arithmetic, geography, reading, elocution, history, vocal music, calisthenics, religious instruc-

tion, ethics (the practice of cleanliness, obedience, order, neatness, right and wrong, truth, independence, self-respect, reasons for proper behaviour, and appearance, industry, honesty, thrift), and general knowledge. The last head embraces facts concerning things in school, days of the week, months, seasons, measures of length and weight in common use, colours, animal and vegetable kingdoms—their parts and uses, cultivation, growth, &c., money, the useful metals, use of railways, canals and ships, &c., manufacture of articles in common use, the races of man. All the above mentioned studies are taught as far as Standard IV. in this school. The building is properly lighted and heated, and the hygienic conditions are all that could be desired. It is provided with the requisite number of desks, a table, chairs, blackboard, cupboard, &c., and also with a sufficient quantity of school materials, books, and biscuits. It will easily accommodate sixty pupils. The discipline maintained is good, and the progress of the pupils is, on the whole, satisfactory. Quite a few boys and girls were sent from here to the St. Boniface Industrial School during the year, and the parents are willing to send some more when there is room. I am pleased to note that the parents seem anxious that their children should put in their time at school.

Religion.—There are thirty-two Anglican, two hundred and seven Roman Catholics and fifteen pagans on the reserve.

LAKE MANITOBA BAND—TREATY NO. 2.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the east shore of Lake Manitoba. It has an area of eleven thousand eight hundred and eighty-one acres.

Resources.—The principal resources are fishing, hunting, trapping and cattle-raising.

Tribe.—The members of this band belong to the Ojibway tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of twenty-six men, twenty-nine women and sixty-one children, making a total of one hundred and sixteen. During the year there were seven births and two deaths, three joined the band and one left it. The deaths were caused by old age and consumption.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The Indians are in good health, and sanitary measures have been put into effect, such as lime-washing and mud-washing the houses, burning refuse, &c.

Occupation.—These Indians are generally occupied in hunting, trapping, fishing, manufacturing wooden and flat sleighs, single and double sleighs, and in butter-making.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There are about fifty-five buildings on this reserve. Of the cattle, one hundred and thirty are Government property and the remaining twenty-nine are the personal property of the Indians. Four of the horses belong to the Government, the Indians owning the remaining thirty-three. The members of this band are well equipped with all necessary tools, rigs, implements, &c.

Education.—There are thirty-two children of school age. The average attendance is about nine. During severe winter weather it is impossible for the children to attend. As a rule they are well supplied with clothing. The holidays are taken to suit the absence of the Indians, thus filling the full number of school days (two hundred and sixteen) required by the department. The teacher is competent and energetic. The programme of studies prescribed by the department is followed, and the pupils are advanced to Standard II. The school is of the Roman Catholic denomination. The new school-house was completed this year, and is conducive to the health and comfort of the pupils. The school is well supplied with materials, &c., the progress of the pupils is fair and the discipline and behaviour good.

Religion.—There are five Anglicans, eighty-six Roman Catholics and twenty-five pagans here. The interest in religious matters is on the increase. The Roman Catholic mission has completed a new chapel.

EBB AND FLOW LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the east shore of Ebb and Flow Lake. It has an area of ten thousand eight hundred and sixty-five acres.

Resources.—The principal resources of these Indians are hunting, trapping and cattle-raising.

Tribe.—The pure Indians of this band belong to the Ojibway tribe, while the remainder are French and Scotch half-breeds.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of fifteen men, nineteen women and twenty-nine children, making a total of sixty-three. There was one birth and no death during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—These Indians are healthy. Sanitary precautions have been observed, and the houses are kept clean.

Occupation.—The members of this band are engaged principally in hunting, trapping, and acting as guides to tourists and boatmen. They also work in the lumber camps in the winter.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There are about thirty-nine buildings here. Of the cattle, fifty-five are Government property and ten are the personal property of the Indians. There are also sixteen horses. The Indians have all that is required in the way of implements, tools, wagons, rigs, &c.

Education.—There are eleven children of school age, and an average attendance of eight. The school is situated in the centre of the reserve, and the children have only a short distance to go, the longest distance being one mile. The teacher is competent, and the general course of studies prescribed by the department is followed as far as Standard IV. There is only one school and that is of the Roman Catholic denomination. The school is well equipped with all necessary books, materials, &c., and is well heated and comfortable. The progress is good, as is also the discipline and order.

Religion.—There are five Anglicans, forty-six Roman Catholics and twelve pagans on this reserve, and an intelligent interest with regard to religious matters is manifest.

Progress.—There has been marked progress on this reserve during the year. The Indians have built two more bridges, made ditches and roads, and constructed a good wharf with an approach of corduroy over two hundred feet long through a swamp, and have burnt about three hundred bushels of lime. They have also erected substantial new buildings, such as private residences, larger stables and storehouses, and have made better fences.

FAIRFORD BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Fairford River and on the south-west shore of Lake St. Martin. It has an area of eleven thousand and twenty-three acres.

Resources.—Besides hunting, fishing and cattle-raising, the members of this band work in the lumber camps and mills near Fairford in winter, and act as guides to tourists and boatmen in summer and fall.

Tribe.—This band is composed of Indians of the Ojibway tribe and Scotch half-breeds.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of forty-four men, forty-eight women and ninety children, making a total of one hundred and eighty-two. There have been nine births and two deaths, and seven joined the band during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians on the whole, is good ; consumption is the most prevalent disease. The houses of the half-breeds at Upper Fairford are neat and clean, and those of the Indians at Lower Fairford, though small, are generally clean. Lime is liberally used, the whole population being in the habit of burning lime-kilns every year. Lime-wash is used in the houses periodically.

Occupation.—The principal occupations of these Indians are hunting, fishing, trapping, boat and canoe-building, making wooden and flat sleighs, single and double sleighs, harness, &c. ; some of them are also carpenters. They also work out at harvesting, and as bargemen, millmen and shantymen.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There are in all about one hundred and five buildings. Under Government control there are one hundred and ten head of cattle and four sheep. The personal property of the Indians consists of two hundred and seventy-six head of cattle, fifty-two horses and fifty-five pigs. They are well supplied with all tools and implements, wagons, ploughs, harrows, grist-mill, spinning-wheel, &c., requisite for their use.

Education.—There are forty-two children of school age on this reserve, and there are two schools, one at Lower and one at Upper Fairford. The average attendance is twenty-nine, which would be better but for the state of the river. As a rule the clothing is good, owing to the free distribution of clothes by the Church Missionary Society. The teachers are competent and discharge their duties satisfactorily. The programme of studies prescribed by the department is followed as far as Standard IV. at the Lower school, and Standard V. at the Upper school. Progress is good. Both schools are under the auspices of the Church of England. The school-houses are provided with the requisite number of books, materials, &c. The discipline at both schools is very good. The parents, having received the benefit of a primary school established about forty years ago by the Church of England, are alive to the advantages of education and take great interest in the education of their children.

Religion.—Of the inhabitants, one hundred and forty-eight belong to the Church of England, thirty-three are Baptists and one is a Roman Catholic. At Upper Fairford there is a fine church and a parsonage under the charge of the Rev George Bruce. There is also a cemetery attached to the church. The mission, which is accomplishing much good, has been established for over forty years, and to it in a great measure is due the marked civilization of this band. The Baptists have built a new church and parsonage since last year and are also doing good work among the Indians.

SANDY BAY BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is located on the west shore of Lake St. Martin. It has an area of three thousand and two hundred acres.

Resources.—Hunting, fishing, cattle-raising digging senega root, building boats and birch bark canoes, making snow-shoes, wooden flat sleighs, &c., are the principal resources of these Indians.

Tribe.—Most of the members of this band belong to the Ojibway tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of twenty-six men, twenty-nine women and fifty-one children, making a total of one hundred and six. During the year there were five births and two deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians is, generally speaking, good, their houses and premises are kept clean, and lime-wash is freely used.

Occupation.—The chief occupations of this band are hunting, fishing, digging senega root, boat and canoe-building, making sleighs, &c. They also hire out as shanty-men and millmen.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There are in all about fifty-two buildings. The Government cattle number thirty-one head, while as personal property the Indians have twenty-seven head of cattle and five horses. They are well supplied with all necessary tools and farming implements.

Education.—There are twenty-three children of school age, and an average attendance of fifteen, which is fairly good, considering that many of these Indians and their families are still living at the lower mouth of the Little Saskatchewan River and many of the pupils have quite a distance to walk. The school is of the Church of England denomination, and the same course of studies is taught as on the other reserves. The teacher is competent, the progress is good, and discipline and order are well maintained. The school is supplied with every requisite in the way of furniture, books, material, biscuit, &c., and the interest taken by the parents in the education of the children is satisfactory.

Religion.—Of this band seventy-nine belong to the Church of England and twenty-seven are of the Baptist persuasion, and there is an active interest taken by all in religious concerns.

LAKE ST. MARTIN BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the north shore of Lake St. Martin and east of the narrows of the same lake. It comprises an area of four thousand acres.

Tribe.—This band is composed mostly of the Ojibway tribe.

Vital Statistics.—There are twenty-three men, twenty-seven women and fifty-four children, making a total of one hundred and four. There were four births and one death, making an increase of three since last annuity payment. The death was the result of consumption and fever.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Generally speaking, the health of these Indians is good. Their houses are kept clean, and lime-wash is liberally used. There is no disease.

Education.—There are twenty-four children of school age, and an average school attendance of twelve. The low average is owing to poor clothing in the winter, and families being away from the reserve hunting in the spring, fishing in the winter, and visiting during the summer. The school is kept in very good order by a competent teacher. The course of studies is the same as taught on the other reserves. The school is of the Church of England denomination. The equipment of furniture, books, material, &c., is all that is requisite, and order and discipline are well maintained.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There are fifty-one buildings on this reserve. Of the cattle, fifty-three belong to the Government and eighty-five are the personal property of the Indians; they have also fifteen horses. Their equipment of tools, implements, &c., is all that is necessary.

Religion.—There are fifty-nine of the Church of England and fifteen of the Baptist persuasion, while the remaining thirty hold other beliefs.

CRANE RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the north-east side of Crane River and on the north-west side of Lake Manitoba. Its area comprises eight thousand seven hundred and sixty acres.

Resources.—Hunting, fishing and cattle-raising are almost the only resources of these Indians.

Tribe.—This band is composed of Indians belonging to the Ojibway tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of ten men, nine women and thirty-four children, making a total of fifty-three. There were four births and two deaths, making an increase of two since last year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians is good, and sanitary precautions are taken by the use of lime-wash frequently.

Occupation.—The principal occupations are hunting, fishing, and cattle-raising on a very small scale.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There are twenty-nine buildings on this reserve. Of the cattle, eighteen belong to the Government, while as personal property there are thirty-seven cattle, one horse and five pigs.

Education.—There are thirteen children of school age, and an average school attendance of eight. The school is of the Church of England denomination and is kept in good order. The programme of studies prescribed by the department is carried out; the teacher is competent, and the equipment of school material, books, &c., is all that is requisite. The parents take quite an interest in the education of their children.

Religion.—Ten of these Indians are Anglicans and the remainder are pagans.

WATER HEN RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated south of Water Hen Lake, between the two Water Hen Rivers. It comprises an area of four thousand six hundred and sixteen acres.

Resources.—The principal resources of these Indians are hunting, trapping, fishing and cattle-raising.

Tribe.—This band forms part of the Ojibway tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of thirty-one men, twenty-eight women and seventy children, making a total of one hundred and twenty-nine. Eight births and four deaths took place during the year, and two having joined the band, there is an increase of six since last year.

Occupation.—Hunting, fishing, trapping and cattle-raising are the principal occupations of these Indians.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There are fifty-nine buildings. Of the cattle, forty-six are the property of the Government, while the personal property of the Indians consists of twenty cattle and fifteen horses.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the band is good. The houses and premises are kept clean, and sanitary regulations are observed.

Education.—There are thirty children of school age on this reserve, with an average attendance of thirteen for the day school and fifteen for the boarding school. Both schools are under the able management of Mr. and Mrs. Adam, are of the Roman Catholic denomination and are a credit to both teachers and pupils. English is fluently spoken by the scholars, and the girls receive instruction in the arts of housekeeping, sewing, knitting, cooking, making dresses, &c. The progress is very satisfactory, and order and discipline are well maintained. The parents manifest a great interest in the education of their children.

Religion.—The Indians on this reserve are all Roman Catholics.

PINE CREEK BAND—TREATY NO. 4.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated at the mouth of Pine Creek River, on the west shore of Lake Winnipegosis. It has an area of nine thousand one hundred and forty-five acres.

Resources.—Hunting, fishing, trapping, and stock-raising constitute the principal resources of these Indians.

Tribe.—The members of this band belong to the Ojibway tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of fourteen men, twenty-two women and thirty-six children, making a total of seventy-two. Five births and one death occurred during the year and seven joined the band, making an increase of ten since last annuity payment.

Occupation.—Hunting, fishing, trapping and cattle-raising are the chief occupations of these Indians.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There are about thirty-three buildings on this reserve. Of the cattle, twenty-one are under Government control, while the personal property of the Indians consists of thirty-six cattle, twenty horses and eight pigs. They have all necessary tools, implements, &c.

Education.—There are twenty-two children of school age on the reserve, and some Indians outside the reserve send their children to school. The average attendance of the day school is fourteen, and of the boarding school fifteen, that being the number attending that institution from this agency only. Both schools are of the Roman Catholic denomination, and are under a staff of competent teachers. The course of studies is the same as taught at Water Hen River, with the addition of the pupils being taught the useful art of husbandry, a farm of one hundred and sixty acres being attached

to the school. The progress is good, and order and discipline are well maintained. The parents manifest great interest in the education of their children.

Religion.—The Indians on this reserve are all of the Roman Catholic denomination. There is one church, which is large and comfortable and is well attended.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE AGENCY.

This agency comprises five bands as follows:—

ROSSEAU RIVER BAND PROPER.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated at the confluence of the Red and Rosseau Rivers. It has an area of thirteen thousand five hundred and fifty-four acres.

Resources.—This reserve is well adapted for farming and stock-raising, as there is an abundance of hay and the Rosseau River runs through a portion of it. The soil cannot be surpassed in any part of Manitoba.

ROSSEAU RIVER RAPIDS BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Rosseau River, eighteen miles from its mouth. It has an area of only eight hundred acres.

Resources.—This reserve is well adapted for farming, as it is high and dry. There is no hay on it and the soil is much lighter than at the mouth of the river, but grain does well on it, as also potatoes and other roots.

Tribe.—These bands belong to the Chippewas and speak their language.

Vital Statistics.—They have a population of two hundred and sixty-four, consisting of sixty-three men, sixty-nine women and one hundred and thirty-two children. There were eleven births and nine deaths. Two joined the band and twenty-six left it, making a decrease of twenty-two from last year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians in general was pretty good. The deaths were from natural causes. There were no infectious diseases.

Occupation.—Some of these Indians farm and raise stock, but the majority of them make a great deal out of digging senega root.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Their stock looks well. Only a few of these Indians have good buildings. Their farming implements are in pretty fair condition.

Education.—These bands have no schools and only a few of them attend the industrial school at St. Boniface. There are about forty-four children of school age in these bands. These Indians, with few exceptions, are not interested in education, especially the band at the Rapids.

Religion.—There are eighty-nine Indians at the Rosseau River proper who are members of the Roman Catholic Church. They have built a small chapel and they seem to be interested in religion, and they are requesting their pastor to give them a competent teacher for a school. But the other Indians, numbering one hundred and seventy-five, are pagans, and they are not much interested in religion.

LONG PLAIN BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the north side of the Assiniboine River, fifteen miles west of Portage la Prairie. It has an area of ten thousand eight hundred and seventy acres.

This reserve is pretty well adapted for farming, the soil is of a light sand, but better land is found in the river valley where the soil is very good. The greater part of the reserve is wood and hay meadow alternating. These Indians have good stock and take good care of it.

Resources.—The principal resources are hunting, digging senega root, and cattle-raising.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are Chippewas.

Vital Statistics.—There are thirty-seven men, forty-seven women and fifty-two children, making a total of one hundred and thirty-six. There were eleven births and six deaths; nine joined the band and seven left it; making an increase of seven over last year. In the majority of cases the deaths were caused by consumption.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians is pretty good. There were no infectious diseases among them, and they generally keep their premises clean. The diseases most prevalent were whooping cough and consumption.

Occupation.—A number of this band farm, they cultivate one hundred and fifty-seven acres. Some of these Indians work for the farmers when harvesting and threshing, and receive good wages for their labour, and during the winter months they cut and haul firewood to market.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The members of this band have good stock, which is in fine condition. A few of them have thatched roofs on their houses, others have nothing but flat mud roofs yet. Their implements were getting pretty well used up, as they had them for a number of years. New ones were given them this year and they are careful of them.

Education.—This band has no school on its reserve yet, but lately these Indians have expressed themselves in favour of accepting a school for their children, as they have at least eighteen children of school age.

Religion.—With the exception of two Indians that belong to the Church of England and two to the Roman Catholic Church, they are all pagans.

SWAN LAKE AND GARDEN BANDS.

The larger number of these Indians formerly constituting one band have settled down at Swan Lake and the smaller number at Indian Gardens.

SWAN LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the north side of Swan Lake, in township 5, range 11, west of the 1st meridian, in the province of Manitoba.

It contains eleven thousand eight hundred and three acres. This reserve is very well adapted for farming and stock-raising, as there is plenty of hay and a fine spring creek running through it and a large amount of good clean prairie with a gravelly subsoil well adapted for grain-raising. The only drawback is that the country in the neighbourhood of Swan Lake is subject to early frosts.

INDIAN GARDENS BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated near the south bank of the Assiniboine River. It comprises section 11 in township 9, range 9, west of the 1st principal meridian, in the province of Manitoba, and contains six hundred and forty acres.

Resources.—This small reserve is well adapted for farming, especially wheat growing, the soil is of the very best quality, and the crops come in early; but it is not suitable for stock, as there is no hay on it, and, the "Herd Law" being in force, the cattle are not allowed to run at large.

Tribe.—These Indians are also Chippewas.

Vital Statistics.—There are twenty-nine men, thirty-nine women and fifty-two children, making a total of one hundred and twenty. There were three births and five deaths, five joined the band and two left it, making an increase of one over last year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians is good, and no infectious disease appeared among them during the year. They keep their premises clean, and the few deaths that occurred were from natural causes.

Occupation.—Five of the band reside at the Indian Gardens, and ten of those residing at Swan Lake farm each from five to twenty and thirty acres, and last season they had a good crop, but at Swan Lake the crops were impaired by frost. When not engaged at their own crop, some of them dig snake root and others work for the farmers in time of harvest and threshing.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The members of this band have not as many cattle as the other band, owing to the fact that they have not enough hay on their reserve, and in consequence they lose some of them nearly every winter. They have no good buildings on their reserves; the dwellings are all log shanties with flat mud roofs. Their implements are in fairly good condition, as their chief, Yellow Quill, is careful of them.

Education.—This band has no school. These Indians are very much opposed to education, and will not allow any denomination to come on their reserves to open a school.

Religion.—The members of this band are all pagans, and are very much opposed to having clergymen, or anybody else, come among them.

Characteristics and Progress.—As a rule the Indians are a very law-abiding people, and industrious in the pursuit of their occupations. The progress of recent years has been very creditable. Indians who a few years ago had only their furs and fish to rely upon have by their industry acquired a considerable number of cattle, horses, implements and other personal property. They are energetic, and put up large quantities of hay in the summer, when practicable, for winter use.

Last winter quite a number of cattle, however, were lost owing to the insufficiency of hay caused by the encroaching waters of Lake Manitoba, and this year, the lake being still higher, considerable difficulty is experienced in obtaining hay. Many of the Indians have, during the year, built substantial boats, for which a ready market is found on their reserves.

Temperance and Morality.—There is little, if any, intemperance; and the morality is improving.

General Remarks.—The Indians are fast becoming more civilized and self-sustaining. The indoor life shows much more refinement, and many of the houses are supplied with good cooking stoves; open chimneys and fireplaces are found in every house, also cooking utensils, dishes, ordinary beds, tables, chairs, cupboards and clocks. With a few exceptions I found their houses clean and well kept when I inspected them last winter. The Indians live mostly under canvas in the summer months, and it may reasonably be supposed that this conduces greatly towards their general good health, especially as the houses are lime-washed before being occupied in the winter and again when leaving in the spring. English is taught in all the schools, and the children are fast learning to speak the language. In the instruction of the children the lessons are interspersed with singing, and an effort is made to make the studies as interesting to the pupils as possible. There is a competent staff of teachers, and the progress of the children indicates energy, patience and perseverance on their part, and I must admit that I have been well supported during the year by said teachers in the general management of their respective reserves in the Manitowapah Agency. The teachers are all liberally supplied with medicine to be dispensed in cases of sickness, and the results have been thoroughly satisfactory. The health of the Indians on the whole, is fairly good.

It will be observed that I have massed my general remarks on "Characteristics" for all the reserves. This is owing to the fact that the same remarks apply to all the Indians

in my two agencies. The Ebb and Flow Lake and Crane River Indians have, however, made more marked improvement than the others. This year Mr. Inspector Marlatt and the Medical Superintendent for my agencies, Dr. Frank B. Lundy, accompanied me while making the annuity payments in the Manitowapah Agency, which proved of great advantage and benefit to the Indians. The doctor vaccinated all the Indians who had not been vaccinated before, and attended promptly to all cases that came before him, to the great satisfaction of the Indians. In conclusion I would say that no effort on my part has been spared in doing all in my power to carry out the instructions of the department, and in enforcing proper submission to the authorities. I have, at the same time, been very particular that the Indians' wants and comforts were attended to, and have endeavoured, not without success, to advance their civilization.

I have, &c.,

H. MARTINEAU,
Indian Agent.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
RAT PORTAGE INSPECTORATE,
RAT PORTAGE, ONT., 12th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report, showing the condition of the various bands in this inspectorate, for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

SAVANNE AGENCY.

LAC DES MILLE LACS BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated at Poplar Point, on Lac des Mille Lacs. It contains an area of two thousand nine hundred and fifty acres.

Tribe or Nation.—The Indians of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is eighty six, consisting of sixteen men, fifteen women, twenty-four boys and thirty-one girls. During the year there were three births and two deaths; one woman was transferred to the Robinson Treaty, another has married a member of the Fort William Band, five absent last year have returned home.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of this band during the past year has been good. The great majority are very clean in their persons. The water supply from the lake is good. The garbage around their wigwams and houses was burned. Their camp is in good condition as well as their premises.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of this band are fishing and hunting for home consumption and sale. These Indians secure employment at odd jobs of work with prospectors in the mining districts.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The buildings are few in number and small. They are built of logs, and of altogether too small dimensions to allow of the proper accommodation of the occupants. The buildings are occupied only during the winter months, with the exception of Kaskebinance's house, which he occupies permanently. The other Indians, from the beginning of the spring till late in fall, live in wig-

wams along the shore of the lake. Of stock and agricultural implements they practically have none.

Education.—There are twenty-four children of school age in the band. There is no school on this reserve, and the Indians do not seem anxious to have one, although they erected the walls for a school-house three years ago, and the same are still standing.

Religion.—There is no church or missionary on the reserve. All the Indians are pagans.

Characteristics.—The main characteristics of this band are unwillingness to engage in any work for any length of time and indolence while at home.

Temperance and Morality.—The members of the band adhere to the principles of temperance and morality as well as can be expected.

KAWAWIAGAMOK BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Kanninpininamkoka Lake, on the Kawawiagamok River. It contains an area of one thousand four hundred and fifty-eight acres.

Vital Statistics.—The band has a population of twenty-seven, consisting of eight men, seven women, eight boys and four girls. During the year there were two births and one death, and two persons absent for some time returned to the reserve.

Tribe or Nation.—The Indians of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians is fairly good. Only a few show cleanliness of their person. The others are very dirty and ragged. There has not been any contagious disease. The majority were vaccinated three years ago. The others, owing to their roaming habits, could not be operated upon.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians do not cultivate the soil at all; they depend entirely upon hunting and fishing for their subsistence.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There is only one small log building on the reserve, the property of the chief. The Indians have no stock whatever, and the few small implements on hand are adequate for their wants.

Education.—There is no school on the reserve, and this band has no desire to educate the few children of school age.

Religion.—All the members of this band are pagans.

Characteristics.—These Indians do not seem anxious to improve their condition. They are law-abiding and quiet in their manner.

Temperance and Morality.—They are generally temperate, and respect the laws of morality fairly well.

WABIGOON BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on Little Wabigoon Lake. It contains an area of twelve thousand eight hundred and seventy-two acres.

Tribe or Nation.—The Indians of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population is eighty-six, consisting of thirteen men, twenty-four women, twenty-six boys and twenty-three girls. During the year there have been three births and two deaths, making an increase of one.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians during the past year has been fairly good; there was no serious case of sickness nor contagious disease. All the garbage has been removed and burnt, and their houses and surroundings are kept fairly clean.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources are fishing and hunting for home consumption and sale; also odd jobs of work with prospectors in the mining district, and the making of birch bark canoes.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—Most of the buildings are composed of logs. There are a few frame buildings. The dwelling houses are mostly whitewashed and kept in a very neat condition. This band has no stock. The few agricultural implements, consisting of ploughs and harrows, are in good condition.

Education.—There is one school on this reserve. The number of children of school age is twenty-seven. The school is under the supervision of the Church of England, and very fair progress is being made in the education of the children, on account of the anxiety of some of the Indians to have their children educated, and to have them attend school more regularly than is usually the case with Indian children.

Religion.—All the Indians of this band are pagans. The Church of England has a missionary station near this reserve, which the incumbent visits for the spiritual welfare of this band.

Characteristics.—These Indians are fairly industrious and law-abiding, and are slowly improving.

Temperance and Morality.—In the matter of temperance they have improved, while morally their conduct is fair.

EAGLE LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the lake of the same name. It contains an area of eight thousand eight hundred and eighty-two acres.

Natural Features.—This reserve contains much good merchantable timber. The lake and small streams are well stocked with various species of fish, while game and fur-bearing animals are numerous throughout the country.

Tribe or Nation.—The Indians of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population is sixty-one, consisting of eighteen men, thirteen women, sixteen boys and fourteen girls. During the year there were two births and three deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the band is good. There was no serious sickness during the year, and sanitary precautions are attended to.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians make a living by hunting and fishing. Berry-picking is also one of their principal resources. They live also on the product of their gardens.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—Their dwelling houses, mostly of log, are comfortable and have been much improved, especially by those residing continuously on the reserve. With the lumber supplied to them they are now making them larger, with good sized windows, doors and other comforts. A young bull has been supplied to their stock, and the same is in good condition and well attended to. Of agricultural implements there are a few, consisting of ploughs, harrows and hoes. These are well cared for.

Education.—A school-house has been erected on this reserve. There are eleven children of school age, but no teacher has been appointed to take charge of the school.

Religion.—All the members of this band are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding, and are gradually improving, particularly Councillor Keewaycabometing, whose house is comfortable, contains good furniture and a sewing-machine, and is very clean.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians of this band are generally temperate and respect the laws of morality fairly well.

FRENCHMAN'S HEAD BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of these Indians is situated near Lac Seul. It contains an area of twenty-four thousand acres.

Natural Features.—This reserve is well timbered with poplar, birch and spruce. Some portions are good for farming. On [the swamp at low water there is an almost inexhaustible supply of hay.

Tribe or Nation.—The Indians of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and ninety, consisting of forty-five men, forty-three women, fifty-three boys and forty-nine girls. During the year there were eleven births and eight deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the members of this band has been fairly good. There are a few cases of scrofula among them, and sanitary measures have been put into effect.

Resources and Occupation.—The chief means of livelihood of these Indians is hunting and fishing. The young men are employed as guides and canoeemen by prospectors, and some are employed by the Hudson's Bay Company and other traders. They attend to their gardens, and appear also to be making some progress in the art of building.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—Most of the dwellings are of logs and are in good repair. The outbuildings are not as good as could be wished. Their stock, which consists of a few cows, a bull and a few young animals, is in good condition and well cared for. Their farming implements are sufficient for the requirements of the band.

Education.—There are thirty-nine children of an age to attend school, but several are most of the time absent with their parents from the reserve, and only attend school during annuity payments; therefore the attendance is irregular, thus making it exceedingly difficult to make progress.

Religion.—Nearly three-fourths of the members of this band belong to the Church of England, the remainder being Roman Catholics. The Church of England has a church, a manse and a missionary on the reserve, and regular services are held, which are well attended by the adherents of that Church.

Characteristics.—These Indians appear to be unusually hardy, as evidenced by the arduous work they perform with the paddle and in portaging, their ability in the former respect being superior to anything I have ever seen.

Temperance and Morality.—In general they adhere to the principles of temperance and morality as well as can be expected.

LAC SEUL BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on Lac Seul. It contains an area of twenty-five thousand acres.

Tribe or Nation.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population is three hundred and thirty-one, consisting of sixty-nine men, sixty-seven women, one hundred and five boys and ninety girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians is usually good; there are a few cases of scrofula among them. Due care is taken as to their sanitary condition. A number of children were vaccinated last fall.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources are an abundance of fish, especially whitefish, game indigenous to the district, and fur-bearing animals. The occupations in the main are hunting, fishing and trapping, and attending to their potato patch. Some of the young men find employment with the Hudson's Bay Company, traders, and prospectors.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The houses on this reserve are all built of logs and above the average and more or less substantially well built. These Indians appear to take more interest in the erection of good, comfortable houses, almost every family having stoves and having abandoned the open fireplaces. This is a mistake, because they are doing away with a good source of ventilation. Their stock is in good condition and well cared for. Their agricultural implements, consisting of ploughs and harrows, are properly stored.

Education.—The Indians of this band take more interest in the education of their children than the majority of the Indians in this treaty, and the result shows fairly good progress. Several of their children are pupils of the Rupert's Land Industrial School.

Religion.—The great majority are members of the Church of England. That denomination has a mission station and church near the reserve, and the services are well attend.

Characteristics.—These Indians are well-meaning and very intelligent. They have greatly improved their habitations, surroundings and mode of living.

Temperance and Morality.—As a rule they are temperate and not inclined to immorality.

WABUSKANG BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on Wabus kang Lake. It contains an area of eight thousand and forty-two acres.

Tribe or Nation.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—There are sixty-five persons in the band, seventeen men, seventeen women, eleven boys and twenty girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—All the Indians on this reserve are healthy and free from contagious diseases; their houses are clean, and no garbage can be seen around them. Several drains have been made which carry all the water coming from the hills to the lake, so the ground is always dry and clean.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians hunt and fish. Every family puts in a small area of corn and potatoes and a little garden. A few are employed by the Hudson's Bay Company and other traders.

Buildings and Implements.—There are a few good log houses on this reserve, covered with shingles, which are well kept and tidy, especially those of Chief Pierrot and his two brothers Francis and Alexander. Their equipment of small implements is sufficient and well cared for.

Education.—There are only thirteen children of school age in this band. The school has been closed for want of a teacher.

Religion.—In this band there are twenty-seven belonging to the Church of England, five Roman Catholics and thirty-three pagans.

Characteristics.—The majority of these Indians are industrious. They are a law-abiding people and some have improved fairly well.

Temperance and Morality.—As a rule they are temperate and appear to respect the laws of morality.

GRASSY NARROWS BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the English River. It has an area of ten thousand two hundred and forty-four acres.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—This band numbers ninety-eight, consisting of twenty-one men, twenty-three women, thirty-one boys and twenty-three girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—With the exception of Councillor Ocheck's wife, who has been laid up for upwards of three years, all the Indian of this band are healthy. They have been slow in adopting the sanitary measures over and over again inculcated for their benefit, and they are still not too clean in their persons and about their premises. But this remark happily does not apply to the entire band.

Resources and Occupation.—Hunting, fishing and picking berries are the main occupations of the members of this band.

Buildings and Stock.—Their dwellings consist of small log houses, not too comfortable, but fairly built. They do not occupy these dwellings during the spring and summer months, living in their wigwams. The few animals in their possession are well attended to.

Education.—The school has been closed for want of attendance and on account of the indifference manifested by the majority of the Indians regarding education.

Religion.—There are fifty-four Roman Catholics, ten members of the Church of England, and thirty-four pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians have made less progress than the Indians of other reserves, owing to their indolence and inclination to go on in the same quiet style. Although poor, they are more contented than the generality of Indians in better circumstances.

Temperance and Morality.—The same remarks under this heading apply to this band as to the Wabuskang Band.

RAT PORTAGE AGENCY.

RAT PORTAGE BAND.

Reserves.—This band has three reserves, Nos. 38 A, B and C. The two former are situated about six and ten miles from Rat Portage, and the latter on the Winnipeg River, about ten miles from Rat Portage. They contain an area of twenty-one thousand two hundred and eighty-nine acres.

Tribe or Nation.—The Indians of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—They have a population of one hundred and fifty-two, consisting of thirty-six men, thirty-nine women, forty-four boys and thirty-three girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of this band is fairly good. Consumption is the most prevalent disease. Sanitary precautions have been enforced with difficulty, and it will take a long time to persuade these Indians to adopt sanitary measures. They do not occupy their houses during the spring and summer months.

Resources and Occupation.—The reserves on the lake are rocky. There is little doubt that more good mines will be discovered on them like the Sultana on Reserve B. The one situated on the Winnipeg River has good farming land. These Indians have small gardens of potatoes and corn. They fish and hunt for a living. Most of them are employed during the winter cutting cordwood, and some as guides and canoe men.

Buildings and Stock.—Only a few dwellings might be considered fairly good, the general character of their houses is poor. The fragment of the band living on the river reserve have two working oxen in fairly good condition.

Education.—There is a day school on Reserve No. 38 C, but the attendance is irregular; consequently little progress has been made. A few of the children are pupils of the boarding school near Rat Portage.

Religion.—Two-thirds of this band are pagans. The teacher is a catechist of the Church of England, and holds service in the school-house. The Roman Catholics are visited by Rev. Father Cahill, who attends to their spiritual welfare.

Temperance and Morality.—A great number of these Indians are addicted to the use of liquor, and a constant watch is required when they come up to town. Several arrests have been made during the year of the culprits, and those who have supplied them with intoxicants have also been arrested and convicted. Some of them, also, are immoral.

SHOAL LAKE BAND, No. 39.

Reserve.—The members of this band reside on Shoal Lake. Part of this reserve is in Manitoba. Its area is nine thousand nine hundred and forty six acres.

Natural Features.—This reserve is timbered with cedar and spruce. Good mining locations have been found on it.

Tribe or Nation.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population is eighty-one, consisting of twenty-two women, twenty-one men, sixteen boys and twenty-two girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The members of this band are fairly healthy, although slow in adopting the sanitary measures over and over again inculcated for their benefit. There has been no epidemic or infectious disease among them.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians depend chiefly on hunting and fishing for a living. With the exception of planting corn and potatoes, no farming is done by any of them.

Buildings.—The usual log house forms the winter quarters for these Indians, but in summer they live in wigwams. The houses are fairly well made, and show improvement as to cleanliness.

Education.—There is no school-house on this reserve, and only thirteen children of school age. These Indians are indifferent as regards education.

Religion.—All the members of this band are pagans.

Temperance and Morality.—A few of them are addicted to liquor, but as a rule they are temperate and moral.

Characteristics.—Some of these Indians are industrious, while others are indolent and wander about from one part of the district to another.

SHOAL LAKE BAND, No. 40.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on Shoal Lake; the area is six thousand seven hundred and sixty-two acres.

Natural Features.—This reserve is timbered with cedar, birch and spruce. Good mine indications have been found on it.

Tribe or Nation.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population of this band is sixty-one, consisting of fourteen men, fourteen women, seventeen boys and sixteen girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Like their neighbours at Shoal Lake, Band No. 39, these Indians are slow to become clean and tidy. Their health is fairly good.

Resources and Occupation.—Fishing and hunting are their principal resources. They attend to their gardens, gather berries and rice, and also work in wood camps.

Buildings.—Their houses are poor; they are used as winter quarters only, in summer the Indians live in wigwams.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve, although there are twenty-four children of school age, but the Indians do not seem anxious to have a school.

Religion.—All the members of this band are pagans.

Characteristics.—Some of the Indians are industrious, but the majority are inclined to be indolent; they are law-abiding.

Temperance and Morality.—There has been much improvement in the former respect, though there is room for more; the Indians are also becoming more moral.

NORTH-WEST ANGLE BAND, No. 37.

Reserves.—This band has several reserves, but the Indians reside on only two, one at the entrance of Rainy River, and the other at the North-west Angle. The area of their reserve is twenty-seven thousand three hundred and twenty-nine acres.

Natural Features.—These reserves are timbered with poplar, birch and spruce; some portions are good for farming, and on the swamp lands the Indians obtain large quantities of hay when the water is low.

Tribe or Nation.—The Indians of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population of this reserve is one hundred and nineteen, consisting of twenty-four men, twenty-eight women, twenty-six boys and forty-one girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians is fairly good. There are a few cases of scrofula, but no epidemic disease among them. There is a little improvement in the cleanliness of some of the houses.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians are hunters and trappers. Several get employment during the summer from the fish companies. They plant corn and potatoes and a few small seeds.

Buildings and Stock.—Their dwellings are of the ordinary kind of log houses, poorly built and not very comfortable. They occupy them during the winter months only. Their stock suffered last winter for want of hay and on account of the indolent and roaming habits of the Indians.

Education.—There is no school on the reserve. There are twenty-nine children of school age, but these Indians are not anxious to have their children educated.

Religion.—The members of this band are all pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—Though some of these Indians are industrious, not much can be said of their progress. Their time is too much taken up in wandering around the lake in indolence; therefore their condition is far from improving.

Temperance and Morality.—As a rule, they are not given to liquor, and are generally moral, owing to the isolation of their reserve.

NORTH-WEST ANGLE BAND, No. 33.

Reserve.—The Indians of this band reside at the North-west Angle. They have several other small reserves. The area of the same is four thousand six hundred and eight acres.

Tribe or Nation.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population numbers fifty-four, consisting of twelve men, sixteen women, twelve boys and fourteen girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians is good. There is no epidemic among them, and their sanitary condition has materially improved.

Resources and Occupation.—Their chief resource is hunting. Some are employed by the fishing companies and others by explorers.

Buildings and Stock.—They have only a few buildings for their winter quarters, built of log, which need improvement, but are fairly clean. They have no stock.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve; there are only ten children of school age, and their parents do not seem anxious to educate them.

Religion.—All the members of this band are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—Some of them are more or less intelligent and seem anxious to better their condition. They are law-abiding and quiet in their manner.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians, living as they do far from the town, are not thrown much in the way of temptation, and I believe that they are on the whole temperate and moral.

NORTH-WEST ANGLE BAND, No. 34.

Reserve.—These Indians have several reserves. They reside on one of their reserves, about three miles from Assabascasing payment grounds on Gull Bay. The total area of their several reserves is five thousand one hundred and twenty acres.

Tribe or Nation.—The Indians of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population is twenty-two, consisting of seven men, nine women, one boy and five girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians is good, and their sanitary condition is also good.

Resources and Occupation.—They hunt and fish for a living, and attend to their gardens. Some are employed by contractors, cutting cordwood for steamers.

Buildings and Stock.—Their few log houses are fairly comfortable and are kept clean. Their stock is well cared for and in good condition.

Education.—There is no school-house on this reserve. There are only three children of school age.

Religion.—All the members of this band are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—The majority of these Indians are industrious and law-abiding. Councillor Weniteecoose, in particular, has made considerable advancement. He has a large garden. All their cattle are properly attended to.

Temperance and Morality.—A few of these Indians are addicted to liquor, but as a rule they are temperate and moral.

BUFFALO BAY BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is located on Buffalo Bay, Lake of the Woods, and is in the province of Manitoba. Its area is four thousand seven hundred and thirty-six acres.

Natural Features.—The reserve is well timbered with different kinds of wood, and its land is good for farming, with an abundance of hay land.

Population.—The population of this band is fifty-one, consisting of nine men, thirteen women, twelve boys and seventeen girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians is fairly good and they are exempt from contagious disease. Sanitary instructions are in general complied with.

Resources and Occupation.—Their principal resources are hunting and fishing. Several of them are employed by American fishermen. They attend properly to their gardens, mostly planted with corn and potatoes.

Buildings and Stock.—Their dwelling-houses, built of logs, are of a fair size and well constructed, and fairly clean. Their stock consists of a few horses.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve. Sixteen children are of school age. These Indians are very indifferent in regard to education.

Religion.—All the members of this band are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—There are a few good workers in this band, but there are also those who are indolent. Aneemekeese and Maishnanaqueba have improved their habitations considerably of late, and they are kept clean and neat.

Temperance and Morality.—As far as I can learn, these Indians are temperate and moral.

BIG ISLAND BAND.

Reserves.—These Indians have nine separate reserves, but they reside on only two: Big Island and 31 A, on the south end of the large peninsula. The area of these reserves is ten thousand three hundred and sixty acres.

Tribe or Nation.—The members of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The combined population of these reserves is one hundred and forty-one, consisting of thirty men, thirty-three women, forty-eight boys and thirty girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been very good. The sanitary instructions have been fairly followed. With the exception of a few cases of scrofula, there has been no epidemic disease among them, and as a rule their houses are kept fairly clean.

Resources and Occupation.—Hunting is the principal resource of these Indians. Some are employed in cutting cordwood for steamers, and during the summer by fishermen and explorers.

Buildings and Stock.—Their buildings—the majority of them—are in a fairly good state of repair, but are small and not very comfortable. Their stock is well kept.

Education.—There are thirty-six children of an age to attend school, but there is no school on the reserve. These Indians do not seem anxious for the education of their children.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are peaceful and law-abiding. Their progress is greatly hindered by indolence.

Religion.—All the members of this band are pagans.

Temperance and Morality.—Several of them are addicted to liquor, but as a rule the majority are temperate and moral.

WHITEFISH BAY BAND.

Reserves.—This band has several separate reserves, but the Indians reside on only two, one at Whitefish Bay, the other at Yellow Girl Bay. The combined area of these reserves is nine thousand seven hundred and twenty-nine acres.

Tribe or Nation.—The members of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population is fifty-one, consisting of twelve men, thirteen women, ten boys and sixteen girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—These Indians have been slow in adopting the sanitary measures over and over again inculcated for their benefit; consequently they have suffered. But this happily does not apply to the entire band. Those living at Gull Bay are better in this respect in keeping their houses and premises clean.

Resources and Occupation.—Hunting, fishing, gardening and boating are the chief employments of this band. Some work at the Regina Mine, (which is in the vicinity of the reserve), cutting cordwood.

Buildings and Stock.—The general character of the houses is poor and dilapidated. Their little stock of cattle is in good condition.

Education.—The school on the reserve has been closed for want of attendance. Some of the children attend the Indian boarding school at Rat Portage.

Religion.—There are six Roman Catholics belonging to this band, the others are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—Speaking generally, the Indians of this band are indifferent. I do not know an instance where any one of them can be said to be getting poorer.

Temperance and Morality.—Many are addicted to strong drink and will, when they get the chance, imbibe freely. Several persons have been fined for supplying them with liquor. Their morality, so far as I can discern, compares favourably with that of other bands.

ASSABASKA BAND.

Reserves.—This band has nine reserves. The Indians reside on a large reserve near Turtle Portage, and on Reserve 35A, on the north-east shore of Lake of the Woods, Grassy River. The combined area of these reserves is seventeen thousand six hundred and thirty-nine acres.

Natural Features.—These reserves are well timbered with merchantable wood.

Tribe.—The members of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population is one hundred and ninety-two—thirty-eight men, fifty women, forty-two boys, and sixty-two girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of this band was fairly good during the year; there was no epidemic disease among them. These Indians are slow to become clean and tidy, but they are urged to improve by the new school teacher.

Resources and Occupation.—Hunting and fishing are their principal resources. Some of them were employed by lumbermen in cutting cordwood for steamers, and by the Fishing Company.

Buildings and Stock.—Their log houses are in good repair and kept fairly clean. Their stables, also and their stock of horses and cattle are kept in good condition.

Education.—There is one school under Government control on the Assabaska Reserve. Twenty-two children of age to attend school live in the vicinity, but the attendance is very irregular, as the children must leave with their parents when they go hunting; therefore their progress is nil.

Religion.—All the members of this band are pagans, and are very much opposed to the clergy of any denomination visiting their reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—There are a number of very good workers in this band, but the great majority are indolent and like to wander about.

Temperance and Morality.—A number of this band are apparently fond of intoxicants. Two white men were convicted of supplying liquor to them, and it is needless to say that the Indians have been supplied with it on other occasions, but were not detected. I have heard that some members of the band are not as moral as they ought to be.

ISLINGTON BAND.

Reserve.—This band has several reserves and the Indians reside on Islington, Swan Lake and "One Man" Reserves. The combined area of these reserves is twenty-four thousand two hundred and thirty-one acres.

Natural Features.—These reserves are fairly well adapted for farming and stock-raising, as there is good pasture and meadow land within their borders. Potatoes and other roots do fairly well. Game is plentiful, and fish in the lakes that are within accessible distance of these reserves.

Tribe.—The members of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population is one hundred and fifty-seven—forty men, forty-one women, thirty-nine boys and thirty-seven girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There are several cases of chronic disease, but the general health of the Indians is good. Their houses are fairly clean, and sanitary instructions are followed.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians are all hunters. Some are employed by the Hudson's Bay Company. They attend to their gardens, and also gather a large quantity of blueberries.

Buildings and Stock.—Their log houses are well built, clean and tidy. Several new houses have been built during the year. Their stock of cattle is in good condition and better attended to.

Education.—This band has a day school on the Islington Reserve, but the attendance is irregular. Some of the children are enrolled in the Rupert's Land and St. Boniface Industrial Schools in Manitoba.

Religion.—The Church of England has a church near the reserve, with a resident minister. There are one hundred and twenty-nine members of the Church of England, a few Roman Catholics, and the remainder are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—Although no great strides have been made by the members of this band, they are depending more upon their own exertions and are year by year making their dwellings more comfortable by adding furniture, such as bedsteads, tables and chairs, and keeping them clean and tidy; and in this connection I am pleased to mention the names of David William, Michel Sandon, and James McDonald.

Temperance and Morality.—There are four or five members of this band who, I believe, would take intoxicants if opportunity offered, but as a rule these Indians are temperate. Although there may be some immorality among themselves, I do not think that any of this is for gain.

COUTCHEECHING AGENCY.

I commenced my inspection of the Coutcheeching Agency on the 1st September.

Agency Buildings.—The agency buildings are situated on Pither's Point, about three miles from Fort Frances (which is the nearest and most available post office), on the margin of Rainy Lake, and in consequence of their position form a most agreeable place of residence. Then there are the agent's residence, the agency office, storehouse, barn, stable, and wood shed; all these latter named buildings are in a fairly good condition of repair.

Agency Office.—I audited the receipts and issues of supplies, bringing out balances of each account in the ledger, and took stock of the goods in store, and everything came out true to weight and agreed to the balance shown to be on hand in the ledger. The flour was of excellent quality, and the bacon was also of good quality. I audited the cash book and found all cash and cheques entered as received and all paid out again and supported by receipts and values. The letter book was indexed to date and all other papers properly filed.

Reserves.—The following are the names of the reserves within this agency:—Hungry Hall, No. 1 and No. 2; Long Sault, No. 1 and No. 2; Manitou, No. 1 and No. 2; Little Forks; Coutcheeching; Stangecomig; Naicatchewenin; Nickickonsemenecanning; Rivière la Seine; and Lac la Croix.

The total area of all these reserves is sixty-six thousand one hundred and twenty-six acres.

Natural Features.—The reserves on the Rainy River are mostly good farming land. They also afford good fishing and hunting. There is some pine on Rivière la Seine and a larger quantity on Nickickonsemenecanning Reserve. The other reserves on Rainy Lake are rocky, as well as that on Lac la Croix; there is little doubt that good mines will be discovered on some of them, as good locations have been found adjoining.

Tribe or Nation.—All the members of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

HUNGRY HALL BANDS, NO. 1 AND NO. 2.

Reserves.—The reserves of these bands are at the mouth of Rainy River.

Population.—The combined population of these two bands is sixty-five, consisting of seventeen men, twenty-six women, eleven boys and eleven girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—These Indians are healthy and they were not visited by epidemics. Sanitary precautions are insisted upon. Their houses are generally clean. All Indians were vaccinated. Their being away from the houses they occupy in winter has a good effect on their health.

Resources and Occupation.—Hunting and fishing are the chief occupations of these Indians. Some got work in the saw-mills and booms in the vicinity of the reserves; they also attend to their gardens.

Buildings and Stock.—Very little has been done in building. Their old log houses are in fairly good repair, the principal defect of the buildings being in the roofs, which are all covered with cedar bark. Their stock is in good condition and well provided for.

Education.—There is no school-house on these reserves. One was opened years ago, but closed for want of attendance. There are only ten children of school age.

Religion.—All the members of these bands are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—On account of their nomadic habits, little progress, if any, has been made by these Indians of late years. They are too close to the international boundary, to which they pay frequent visits in detriment to their welfare.

Temperance and Morality.—A certain number of these Indians I believe to be both temperate and moral, but a great number, I fear, are both intemperate and immoral.

LONG SAULT BANDS, NOS. 1 AND 2.

Reserves.—The reserves of these bands are situated on the north bank of Rainy River, opposite the rapids of that name.

Tribe or Nation.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population is one hundred and one, consisting of twenty-five men, thirty-three women, nineteen boys and twenty-four girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these bands has been fairly good, there having been no epidemics that I am aware of during the year. Consumption and scrofula are the most common diseases. The affliction is gradually disappearing, however, through better morality, plenty of medicines and the survival of the fittest.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians are mostly engaged in hunting, attending to their gardens, keeping their houses in repair, and some are employed by the lumbermen as guides in the rapids, and helping the white settlers on their farms.

Buildings and Stock.—A remarkable improvement is noticed in their houses; some are comfortable and well kept, covered with shingles, and they have suitable furniture. Their horses and cattle are well attended to, and good stables have been erected for them.

Education.—There are eighteen of an age to attend school. The school is conducted under the direction of the Anglican Church Missionary Society, with fair progress, but the attendance is somewhat irregular.

Religion.—The Church of England has a church and a resident missionary on this reserve, with but few adherents; the great majority are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—There are some members of these bands who will take intoxicants whenever they can procure them, and being so close to the international boundary gives them ample opportunities to procure the same. As to morality, there has been improvement in this respect, though there is room for a great deal more.

MANITOU RAPIDS BANDS, NOS. 1 AND 2.

Reserves.—The reserves of these bands are situated on the north bank of the Rainy River, opposite the rapids of that name.

Tribe or Nation.—The members of these bands belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population is one hundred and twenty-three, consisting of twenty-five men, twenty-seven women, forty-eight boys and twenty-three girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good during the year. There has been no epidemic or contagious disease among them, unless consumption can be classed with the latter. There is improvement in the cleanliness of many of the houses.

Resources and Occupation.—Mixed farming, working as farm hands for white settlers, guides to lumbermen, hunting and fishing, are the chief occupations of these Indians.

Buildings and Stock.—Their houses are of log, some covered with shingles and others with cedar bark; they are comfortable and fairly well kept. Stables are small but kept clean. Their cattle and horses are well provided for.

Education.—The children of school age number sixteen, but the attendance at school is irregular. Very little interest is taken by the parents in the education of their children.

Religion.—Nine only are members of the Church of England, the rest are all pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are slowly but surely changing under the pressure of circumstances. As the chances of success in hunting and fishing grow gradually less, they take more kindly to farming, and their little fields bear comparison favourably.

Temperance and Morality.—A few of the Indians are addicted to liquor, and the proximity of the reserves to the American boundary gives opportunity for smuggling intoxicants to them. In reference to morality they are the same as in other places where there are a large number of whites in constant relation with them.

LITTLE FORKS BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the north bank of Rainy River, twelve miles distant from Fort Frances.

Tribe or Nation.—The members of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population is fifty-two, consisting of eleven men, seventeen women, thirteen boys and eleven girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—These Indians are healthy, and they were not visited by epidemics. Sanitary measures are carried out by them. They have all been vaccinated.

Resources and Occupation.—The principal resources of these Indians are hunting, fishing, attending to their gardens, and working on farm lands for white settlers.

Buildings and Stock.—There are some improvements in the buildings, at least so far as the inside is concerned, and several of the smaller buildings are comfortable inside and nicely kept. The few head of cattle and ponies kept by the Indians are in good condition and well provided for.

Education.—There is a substantial school-house on this reserve, but I regret to say that the same state of affairs exists here; for want of a teacher and attendance the school was closed part of the year, and consequently there was little progress made by the children. There are only twelve children of age to attend school.

Religion.—With the exception of four, who are members of the Church of England, these Indians are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—The members of this band are law-abiding. Some of them are fairly industrious, but, owing to their improvidence, they do not appear to make much progress in material welfare.

Temperance and Morality.—There are many of them who do not make use of intoxicants, but others will, if they can get them. Their morality has improved.

COUTCHEECHING BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on Rainy Lake, near Fort Frances.

Tribe or Nation.—These Indians nominally belong to the Ojibbewa tribe, but many are half-breeds with a large admixture of French blood.

Population.—The population of this band is one hundred and thirty-three—twenty-nine men, forty-three women, thirty-two boys and twenty-nine girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of this band has been fairly good during the year; in fact, I believe quite as good as that of the whites living in the vicinity. They are free of epidemic diseases, and all have been vaccinated. The houses and premises are for the most part kept clean.

Resources and Occupation.—The Indians of this band, like most other Indians, would rather do almost any other work than cultivate the land; some, however, raise fairly good crops of oats and potatoes, but for the most part they hunt and fish and

work at lumbering, helping to chop logs for white men during the winter; some few others are employed by the Hudson's Bay Company.

Buildings and Stock.—Some of their buildings are frame, boarded and shingled; but the majority are of log, fairly comfortable and whitewashed inside, with some furniture. As the Indians on the reserve own ponies and cattle, they have built themselves barns for their hay, which are an improvement.

Education.—There is one school on the reserve, and the pupils are making fair progress. Good discipline is enforced. The full blood Indians of this band are careless about the education of their children. Even those living in proximity to the school are not regular attendants.

Religion.—This band is composed of one hundred and two Roman Catholics, five of the Church of England and twenty-six pagans. There is no church situated on the reserve, but the Roman Catholic priest stationed at Fort Frances holds service every alternate Sunday in the school-house, which is well attended.

Characteristics and Progress.—The members of this band are industrious and law-abiding. They are mostly self-supporting. They are not becoming either richer or poorer.

Temperance and Morality.—As a rule these Indians are temperate, and if the law of temperance is violated by them, it is because they frequently visit the adjacent town, where they find half-breeds and even white men who supply them with intoxicants. I regret to say that there are a few cases of immorality in this band, and this even the priest cannot put a stop to.

STANGECOMING BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on Rainy Lake, about eight miles from Fort Frances.

Tribe or Nation.—The Indians of this band are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population is forty-seven—eight men, nine women, eleven boys and nineteen girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians is good. None of them occupy their dwellings during the spring and summer months; this has a good effect on their general health. All have been vaccinated.

Resources and Occupation.—The members of this band live by hunting and fishing and attending to their little gardens.

Buildings and Stock.—There are only a few log buildings on this reserve. With the exception of Natawin's dwelling they have a miserable appearance with their poles and cedar bark roofs. The chief has the wall of a new house erected near his old one and has promised to build it as indicated to him.

Education.—A good substantial school-house was built on this reserve a few years ago, under the supervision of Rev. Father Cahill, but it had to be closed for want of attendance. The parents are not interested in education.

Religion.—With the exception of three members of the band, who are Roman Catholics, these Indians are all pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are law-abiding but indolent, and although they are poor they seem contented.

Temperance and Morality.—Their conduct in this respect is satisfactory.

NAICATCHEWENIN BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve upon which these Indians reside is situated on North-west Bay, Rainy Lake.

Tribe or Nation.—They are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population of this band is fifty-three—ten men, fifteen women, thirteen boys and fifteen girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians as a whole has been good. One of their members has been sick upwards of two years with consumption. They have been free from epidemic disease.

Resources and Occupation.—Their principal occupations are hunting, fishing and attending to their gardens.

Buildings and Stock.—Their buildings, which are built of logs, are, I regret to say, of inferior character, only two are covered with shingles, the others with poles and cedar bark. They are, however, fairly clean. The only two head of cattle in their possession are well provided for.

Education.—There is no school-house on this reserve, and only ten children of age to attend school.

Religion.—All the Indians of this band are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—I cannot say that the Indians of this band are either industrious or indolent, but they do not appear to make much progress.

Temperance and Morality.—In the band itself the principles of morality and temperance are fairly well observed.

NICKICKISOMENECANING BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve on which these Indians reside is situated on Porter Inlet, Red Gut Bay, Rainy River.

Tribe or Nation.—They are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population is sixty-eight—twelve men, nineteen women, twenty-two boys and fifteen girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—During the past year the health of this band has been fairly good. They have not suffered from disease of any moment. Sanitary precautions in the way of premises being kept clean have been pointed out and urged, and in most cases have been observed, but not in all cases.

Resources and Occupation.—The principal resources and occupations of this band are hunting and fishing. A few work with prospectors and in lumber camps.

Buildings and Stock.—The buildings are of log, some covered with poles and mud, and others with cedar bark. The dwelling-houses are fairly clean, but this cannot be said of their stables.

Education.—There is no school-house on this reserve. Twelve children are of age to attend school.

Religion.—All the Indians of this band are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—Without saying that the members of this band are as industrious as could be desired, they compare favorably with some of the best in the district, but an exception must be made in favour of Councillor Windegoes, who is a hard worker. He has cleared about five acres of land during the last three years, most of which is planted with potatoes, corn and different seeds.

Temperance and Morality.—Their character in these respects is altogether satisfactory.

RIVIÈRE LA SEINE BAND.

Reserve.—The Indians of this band reside on two reserves. One situated near the mouth of the river of that name, and the chief with a few followers near Sturgeon Falls.

Tribe or Nation.—They are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population numbers one hundred and forty-two—twenty seven men, thirty one women, forty boys and forty-four girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of this band may be considered fairly good, though at the time of my visit there were a few cases of sickness. Nothing of an epidemic nature has affected the band and they ignore all sanitary precautions.

Resources and Occupation.—The majority of this band engage in hunting and fishing. Some find work in the several mines in operation on this river, in chopping wood and other manual labor.

Buildings and Stock.—The buildings are small, made of logs and quite insufficient for the number of occupants. They were all deserted at the time of my visit and left in a filthy condition.

Education.—There is no school on these reserves. Twenty children are of age to attend school, but the parents are indifferent in regard to education.

Religion.—All the Indians of this band are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—Although some cultivate a kind of garden, the main characteristics of this band are indolence and a disregard for cleanliness.

Temperance and Morality.—Their character in these respects is altogether unsatisfactory. Their intercourse with miners and shantymen gives them the opportunity of getting liquor when required.

LAC LA CROIX BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on Namaka River, and on the lake of that name.

Tribe or Nation.—The Indians of this reserve are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population numbers one hundred and five—eighteen men, thirty women, twenty-one boys and thirty-six girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians, so far as it could be ascertained is fairly good. They are visited only once a year, during payment of annuity money, and very little is seen of them after, as they then start on their various pursuits.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians live principally by hunting and fishing and planting small gardens of potatoes and corn.

Buildings.—These, I regret to say, are of inferior character, built of logs and covered with bark. There is no prospect of much improvement in this respect. They do not occupy their dwelling-houses during the spring and summer months.

Education.—There is no school-house on this reserve, though twenty children are of age to attend school, but their parents are indifferent in regard to education.

Religion.—Only ten members of this band are Roman Catholics, the rest are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—The main characteristics of this band are indolence and a disregard for cleanliness.

Temperance and Morality.—In the band itself the principles of morality and temperance are fairly well observed.

General Remarks.—The past year was marked by an absence of epidemic diseases amongst the Indians of this inspectorate. With a fair return of the fur catch the proceeds of their occupations were satisfactory.

I have &c.,

L. J. ARTHUR LÉVÊQUE,
Inspector of Indian Agencies.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,

MEDICAL REPORT,

RAT PORTAGE, ONT., 30th June, 1898

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to report that I have visited all the reserves under my care during the year.

In July I visited the treaty payment at Assabaskashing and remained a week among the Indians, attending to all the sick and vaccinating all those that required to

have it done. I found very few cases of venereal disease, which was so prevalent among them some years ago.

In August I visited Eagle Lake where there were a few sick with sore throat and quinsy.

In September I visited Wabigoon and attended to all that required treatment. At Frenchman's Head I found a number sick with fever. I remained all one day with them on the reserve and attended to them and left medicine with the schoolmaster for their use when required.

At Lac Seul I found a good many sick with coughs, spitting blood and rheumatism. Consumption seems to be getting more prevalent among these Indians than formerly.

At Wasbuskang I found very little sickness among them. I vaccinated all that required vaccinating.

At Grassy Narrows I found a large number sick with scrofula and sore throat. I attended them and left medicine for their use.

At One Man's Lake I visited all the wigwams and attended a few for coughs and rheumatism and some children for brain fever.

At White Dog I visited all the houses and attended to all the sick and left medicine with the schoolmaster for their use when required.

At the Dalles there has been a good deal of sickness among the children; several of them having brain fever and sore throat.

In December I visited Clear Water Bay to attend a case supposed to be small-pox; on my arrival there I found the case to be blood poisoning. I attended him and he got all right.

During the year I have attended a large number of Indians in my office from the different reserves for venereal disease, coughs and rheumatism. I have also performed several operations and pulled a number of teeth for them. On the whole there has been less sickness among them than usual.

There has been no contagious disease among them during the year.

I have &c.

THOS. HANSON, M.D.,
Medical Officer.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

ASSINIBOIA—ASSINIBOINE AGENCY,

WOLSELEY, 12th August, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my first annual report for the year ended 30th June, 1898, accompanied by a statistical statement and inventory of Government property under my charge.

ASSINIBOINE BAND, No. 76.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is bounded by a line beginning at the post and mound on the fifth base line at the north-east corner of section 36, township 16, range 11, west of the second initial meridian, and running west along said base line seven hundred and twenty-eight chains more or less to the north-west corner of section 34, township 16, range 12; thence south six hundred and forty-three chains more or less to a post in mound; thence east seven hundred and twenty-eight chains more or less to a

post and mound on the eastern boundary of section 25, township 15, range 11, and thence north six hundred and forty-three chains more or less to the point of beginning, containing an area of seventy-three and two-tenths square miles more or less.

Resources.—The natural resources of this reserve are firewood and hay. The Indians trade a good deal of wood at the mill at Wolseley for flour.

Tribe.—The Indians on this reserve are Assiniboinés or Stonies.

Population.—The population consists of fifty-eight men, sixty-nine women, forty-six boys and forty-three girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the Indians for the past year has been good. The births and deaths have been even. All rubbish which has accumulated during the winter around the houses is burnt in the spring, and the Indians move out and live in tents during the summer.

Occupation.—The Indians cut and sell wood (dry) and hay. They have also dug and sold some senega-root, but the low price of this article has somewhat discouraged them. Some of the young men work for the settlers at haying, harvesting and threshing. The women also tan hides for the white people. These Indians raise a considerable quantity of wheat and roots. They keep enough wheat for seed and for flour and sell the surplus to buy clothing and other necessaries for their families.

Buildings.—Most of the houses and stables of these Indians are poor; however, I have persuaded many of them to build new ones, which are in course of erection. Some of the more ambitious intend putting good floors and shingled roofs on; using the money which they receive for the sale of beef cattle and hay for this purpose. The Indians have made all new fencing around their fields this year. The total length of new fencing put up will exceed twelve miles, which will give an idea of the work done in this direction alone.

Agency Buildings.—The agent's house and also office building and clerk's house have had two coats of paint on the outside and have also been painted and whitened on the inside. The kitchen and wash-house have been new plastered, and a blacksmith's shop has been fitted up and floored. All log buildings have been whitewashed and repaired thoroughly. A new fence has been put around the agency garden to replace the old one, which was very dilapidated. The fencing around the agency fields and pasture is very rotten and requires renewing.

Stock.—Upon taking charge here last July I found the stock in rather a bad way. The cattle roamed all around the reserve; none of the Indians appeared to care what became of them. No care seemed to have been taken by the Indians to have their calves castrated and the number of bulls from one year old to three was out of all proportion to the cows in the herd. As soon as the weather permitted I had them all castrated. The cattle are now herded and the calves are altered when about three months old. The Indians do not care much to have cattle. I think the difficulty of getting water handy has a good deal to do with it, also that they can sell their hay well for cash at Indian Head, Sinteluta and Wolseley. Waiting for a steer to grow till he is three years old before they can realize anything out of him seems slow to them when they can make the same money out of hay in a much shorter time.

The farming implements are well cared for and are put away in the sheds when not in use. Some of the Indians own mowers and rakes of their own which they have purchased out of money received for sale of beef and hay. I am getting some more to do this, as our haying season is short owing to the harvest coming and it is discouraging for an Indian who wishes to get a lot of hay up to have to wait till five or six others get through with the mower.

Religion.—A few of the Indians profess the Roman Catholic faith, and some the Presbyterian, but most of the Indians are pagan. The Presbyterian denomination has a very substantial stone mission house, in charge of the Rev. E. McKenzie. Services are held regularly; also Mrs. McKenzie teaches the Indian women to built, knit, etc. A feature of this mission is the distribution in the fall of a large quantity of warm clothing and blankets to the infirm and sick.

Characteristics and Progress.—Some of the Indians are fairly industrious and wish to go ahead, there are others who will work well for a time and then take a wandering spell and thereby lose what they have gained by their work. This inclination to wander around will no doubt die out in time. It is not so strong in the rising generation as in the older Indians. These Indians as a whole are law-abiding and quiet.

Temperance and Morality.—I have heard no complaints regarding these Indians in these respects. There are one or two Indians who frequent the towns in the vicinity who may procure intoxicants occasionally, but since I have been here I have not heard of any case.

General Remarks.—I took over this agency from Mr. Swinford on the 9th July and paid the Indians their annuity money on the 13th of the same month.

Before Mr. Swinford left, he gave me all the information he could. As, however, he had been here only a short time and as he had no interpreter, I had to be content with what it was in his power to give. Mr. Swinford informed me that the Indians were in a mean state over the changes and that they were very much disinclined to do any work at all. I found them suspicious and inclined to be domineering. Many of them had pulled down their fences and other improvements and sold them for firewood.

I may say that I knew this band over twenty years ago, and also having now been on the reserve a year with them, I do not consider them naturally mean, but am of opinion that certain outside influences had been at work that were calculated to make them discontented. Very little crop having been put in, it has taken a larger quantity of supplies to carry us through the winter and working season. Being all alone on the departure of Mr. Swinford, and taking into consideration the state of the Indians at that time, I naturally found the situation awkward and the duties very onerous. The first thing I did was to get the Indians at haying and managed to get them to put up enough to carry them through the long and tedious winter without loss.

The staff of employees here has been reduced by one-half and considerable saving effected thereby.

A. E. Forget, Esq., Indian Commissioner, visited the reserve in September last, on matters pertaining to the agency.

The reserve was thoroughly inspected in January by Major McGibbon, Inspector of Agencies.

The new well auger purchased by the department is now at work on the reserve and I hope to get some good wells for the Indians.

In conclusion, I may say that the Indians appear contented and happy and have got in a large crop this season. Everything points to a good harvest to repay them for their labours.

I have, &c.,

THOS. W. ASPDIN,
Farmer in Charge.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

SASKATCHEWAN—BATTLEFORD AGENCY,

BATTLEFORD, 2nd July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report, together with tabular statement and inventory of all Government property under my charge for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserves.—No. 108, Red Pheasant's.....	24,320 acres.
No. 109, Stony's.....	46,208 "
situated in the Eagle Hills south of Battleford.	
No. 113, Sweet Grass.....	42,528 "
No. 114, Poundmaker's.....	19,200 "
No. 116, Little Pine's.....	16,000 "
situated on the south side of the Battle River, and west of Battleford..	
No. 112, Moosomin's.....	16,000 "
No. 115, Thunderchild's.....	20,820 "
situated between the Battle River and the North Saskatchewan, and west of Battleford.	

Natural Features.—Rolling prairie diversified with bluffs of poplar, rivers and lakes constitutes the character of these reserves.

Tribe.—All are Crees with the exception of the Stony Reserve Band.

Population.—Eight hundred and fifty-seven men, women, and children form the population of this agency. Twenty-eight births, sixty-five deaths, and thirty-four migrations occurred during the year, making the total decrease seventy-one from last year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the various bands has not been good. In addition to the many old cases of scrofula and consumption, la grippe was prevalent this spring. The doctor attended to those who required vaccination. Premises were all cleaned, rubbish and refuse removed and burnt. Houses were whitewashed in the fall. During the summer nearly all live in tents and teepees, which can easily be removed from place to place as required.

Resources and Occupation.—Mixed farming, cattle-raising, sale of hay, wood, lime, and charcoal are the chief occupations of these Indians. During the year they have earned \$73.75 by labour, \$44 by hunting, \$2,088 by sale of hay, wood, lime, charcoal, and a few ponies. The department paid them \$4,316.15 for beef. Their total earnings from all sources amounted to \$6,565.90. There is very little hunting in this district; and only a few fish are caught in the spring for private use.

Buildings, Stock, and Farming Implements.—Agricultural implements are in good condition, buildings are in fair state of repair. Many old houses and stables not required have been pulled down, and the remainder put in fair order. Stock at the different hay camps and reserves came through the winter well, and are now in splendid condition. There are twelve hundred and fifty head of cattle, exclusive of this year's calves; and sixteen thoroughbred bulls of the Shorthorn, Durham, Galloway and Polled Angus breeds. There are also eighty-five sheep, doing well.

Education.—There are one hundred and eighty-eight children of school age and five schools,—three Protestant and two Roman Catholic. The children are in Standards I, II, and III. Equipment, discipline and order are good, and the progress is very fair.

The industrial school, under the charge of Rev. E. Matheson, Church of England, has about one hundred and ten pupils and is doing well. The school and its surroundings are very much improved.

Religion.—There are seven churches and buildings used for divine service,—three Roman Catholic, and four Protestant, with four missionaries. Some are fairly well attended by the Indians.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians with a few exceptions are law-abiding. They are considered fairly industrious and are beginning to do better for themselves. A few this fall will (if their crops turn out good) be able to support themselves by farming and through the sale of their cattle, viz., "Whitecap" of Moosomin, "Baptiste," "Jean-Baptiste," "Pechawis," and probably one or two more on Red Pheasant's Reserve. I trust that, in the course of another year, the number will be considerably increased.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians are temperate, and very few cases of immorality come to my notice.

General Remarks.—The grain crops on the different reserves are looking splendid after the rains we have had, and there is every prospect of a fair yield. Potatoes were frozen down in the middle of June, which will somewhat reduce the yield.

I am sorry to say the wood supply on the different reserves of the agency is getting very limited on account of the fires running through the country during the last few years.

I have, &c.,

C. M. DAUNAIS,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST SUPERINTENDENCY,

BIRTLE AGENCY,

BIRTLE, MAN., 2nd July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report, together with the statistical statement for the fiscal year ended 30th June, ult.

The headquarters of this agency is at the town of Birtle, which is located in township 17, range 26, west of the first principal meridian, on the Bird Tail River and the Manitoba and North-western Railway.

There are nine reserves under my supervision, namely:—Bird Tail, Oak River, Oak Lake, Turtle Mountain, Kee-see-koo-wenin's, Way-way-see-cappo's, Valley River, Gambler's and Rolling River.

BIRD TAIL BAND, No. 57.

Reserve.—This reserve is located about thirteen miles south of the town of Birtle, at the junction of the Bird Tail and Assiniboine Rivers, and has an area of about ten square miles.

Resources.—The upland portion of the reserve, which comprises about four sections, is fairly level, light undulating prairie, free from stone and scrub, and although it

seldom returns a heavy yield of grain, it can always, with proper tilling, be depended upon to give a matured crop of wheat; in fact during the sixteen years that I have known this reserve I only remember of one crop of corn that was frozen before maturity.

The banks of the Bird Tail River at this point are steep, and the valley of narrow width and covered sparsely with timber and scrub; but the Assiniboine River valley is a mile in width, and the river from the point where it reaches the reserve until it leaves it, hugs the opposite bank, consequently the bottom lands of this river, at this point, are mostly within the reserve. Less than twenty years ago a goodly portion of this bottom land produced grass of sufficient length to mow, but frequent cutting, without an overflow of the river for many years, has almost depleted the grass crops, and little hay is now secured on this portion of the reserve. The cattle have to be fed largely on straw, during the winter months. About ten acres of the upland is now cropped with the brome grass, but so far it has not given a heavy yield. The soil appears to be too light to produce a heavy yield of the brome grass. This season two members of the band provided sufficient alfalfa, Bokhara and Alsike clovers, to seed about two acres. It germinated nicely, but whether it will prove a success or not remains yet to be ascertained. It is to be hoped that they will stand the winter.

The Indians of this band stick tenaciously to corn-growing, and when all other food is scarce with them, they usually have some corn stored away to fall back on. Every family has a few chickens, and two have turkeys, geese or ducks.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are principally Wah-pa-tou-wan and Sivo branches of the Sioux nation.

Population.—The band comprises twenty men, nineteen women and thirty-three children—these Indians are not prolific—total seventy-two.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—On the whole the members of this band are not strong and robust. They are fairly clean in their habits and housekeeping, and each spring they rake up and burn all the refuse which collects about their dwellings during the winter months.

Occupation.—Farming is their chief occupation. Very little hunting is done by members of this band. Some make baskets, rush mats and beadwork, while others take odd jobs of work, and from these various sources they gain a fairly good living.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—All have warm comfortable dwellings, with good floors, and a fair supply of furniture therein. Their cattle are not increasing, and until the supply of hay is larger than it has been for the past ten or more years, they are not likely to increase. Some members of the band could get along with fewer implements than they hold. There are dealers in implements who encourage the Indians to purchase, whether the Indians really require the machinery or not, if there is any prospect of collecting the price of the implement.

Religion.—There is a church on the reserve, but it has been in use about fifteen years, and as the walls were put up without a proper foundation underneath, it is decaying at the foundation, and as it is dilapidated in other ways, a new building is required. This mission is under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church, and the Rev. Mr. McArthur is still the minister. The Sabbath services are regularly held, so also are the evening prayer meetings and the "Ladies' Aid Society."

Education.—All children of school age and in good health are pupils of the Regina Industrial and the Birtle Boarding Schools.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians of this band are, with very few exceptions, very industrious, and although they are not becoming rapidly richer, they are gradually adding to their accumulations.

Moses Bunn is the most extensive farmer, and possibly the most progressive. He has eighty acres under wheat, ten under oats and about two acres under corn, potatoes and garden. He has eleven head of cattle, good working horses, chickens, turkeys, geese and pigs, besides which he holds ploughs, harrows, grain-binder, seed-drill, mower and rake and other articles too numerous to mention. He has a very good house, with a kitchen annex, horse stable, cattle stable, granary, fowl-house, and last but not

of less importance, a shed in which to store his implements. Of course these buildings are not of the modern style, and finish, yet they meet his requirements.

Temperance and Morality.—I am glad to be able to report that these Indians still retain their manhood, and abstain from the use of intoxicants. They are, I believe, as moral and well-behaved as any band of Indians in the Dominion.

OAK RIVER BAND, No. 58.

Reserve.—This reserve is located at the junction of the Oak and Assiniboine Rivers. It is about four miles north of Griswold, a station on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and in township 10, range 23, west of the first principal meridian; and has an area of about nine thousand seven hundred acres.

Resources.—This reserve is adapted both for grain-growing and stock-raising, but of late years, principally for the former. The supply of hay of late years has decreased, which no doubt is owing to the frequent mowing of the grass without allowing it to seed and from the want of a sufficient rainfall or overflow of the streams which flow through and bound the southern portion of the reserve.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Sesseston, Wa-pa-tou-wan and the Mdewakan-tanisan branches of what was once the great Sioux nation.

Population.—There are seventy men, eighty-five women and one hundred and forty-seven children in this band,—total three hundred and two.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Their general health has been fairly good during the year, and free from epidemics. Their habitations and premises are kept fairly clean, and each spring the refuse that collects during the winter is raked up and burned.

Occupation.—From the growing of grain and vegetables and the sale of surplus cattle each year the Indians of this band gain their livelihood principally. During the harvest and haying season, some members of the band also work for the whites, and in that way gain small sums; but diversified farming on their own account is the main support of this band.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—There are four balloon frame dwellings on this reserve with cedar shingle roofs. One of these when fully completed, would be taken as evidence of prosperity in almost any neighbourhood. Of late years these Indians have exhibited a commendable disposition to provide themselves with houses, and discard the shanties that a few years ago they appeared to be content with. The housekeeping of late years has greatly improved, and each year furnishings are added within. Better care of their cattle is noticeable each year. They have a fair supply of implements, and are providing sheds in which to keep them.

Education.—The lack of interest in education, which was so evident a few years ago, is gradually giving way. In addition to those who attend the day school on the reserve, there are children at the Birtle and Portage la Prairie Boarding and the Elkhorn and Brandon Industrial Schools. The Rev. J. F. Cox is the teacher of the day school.

Religion.—There is a church near the eastern boundary of the reserve which is maintained solely for the benefit of these Indians. It is under the auspices of the Episcopalian denomination, with the Rev. Mr. Cox as missionary.

The majority of the band attend the services, and a fair proportion of the church-goers also worship with the pagans. They apparently follow the old adage "that it is not safe to carry all the eggs in one basket" in their spiritual concerns at least.

Characteristics and Progress.—There are three sections of the Sioux tribe within this reserve, and they are continually quarrelling over some petty matter, and, as would be expected, these contentions have no beneficial influence, but in fact are demoralizing in more ways than one.

Of late years less money and time is expended in feasting and dancing. I am glad to be able to report this in their favour.

The advancement in the line of improved dwellings and housekeeping is also worthy of note.

Temperance and Morality.—Only the fear of punishment restrains a proportion of this band from intemperance.

They are fairly moral, although their marriage contracts are so elastic as to savour of immorality. Only four heads of families have been married according to the rules of our country.

General Remarks.—Mr. John Taylor is their direct supervisor.

OAK LAKE BAND, No. 59.

Reserve.—This reserve is located on the Pipestone Creek, in townships 7 and 8, range 26, west of the first principal meridian. The Pipestone Creek empties into the Oak Lake, a few miles to the north-east of the reserve.

The reserve has an area of approximately twenty-five hundred acres.

Resources.—Of this reserve about one thousand acres is suitable for cultivation, two hundred acres is covered with scrub and timber and the remainder is fairly good pasturage land. Of late years there has been very little native grass of a sufficient length to mow, and the few cattle that the Indians have in their possession have been largely wintered on straw.

As the land which is suitable for farming is light and sandy, it has never produced a heavy crop, but being a rapid producer, both corn and wheat have seldom suffered from frost.

Tribe.—These Indians with one or two exceptions belong to the Walpe-kutes branch of the Sioux tribe.

Population.—There are thirteen men, sixteen women and thirty-two children in this band,—total sixty-one.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—During the past year their general health has been fair and no epidemics have prevailed. Each year they are paying more attention to the sanitary condition of their homes.

Occupation.—Farming and gardening are engaged in by most of the heads of families on the reserve and the products from these sources supply them to a large extent with food. They also do a little hunting, and during the harvesting and threshing season a few find employment with the settlers.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—With one exception all the dwellings are of log and only one is covered with shingles. They are all floored and contain a fair assortment of bedding and furniture. The few cattle have been fairly well looked after. Their supply of implements is limited, but they possess too many buckboards.

Education.—There are few children in this band. Those of school age are at the Regina Industrial School.

Religion.—The Presbyterian denomination has a frame building on the reserve. The ground floor is used as a church, whilst the missionary occupies the upper flat as a dwelling. A fair proportion of the band attend service on the Sabbath day. John Thunder, a member of the Bird Tail Sioux Band, holds the position of missionary.

Characteristics and Progress.—Although they have not made great strides towards advancement, they have gained their own living and I have noticed that they have shown a disposition to keep their dwellings cleaner than in years gone by.

Temperance and Morality.—I do not know of any inebriates in this band, although there are some amongst them who will take intoxicants when offered to them. From their own standpoint they are fairly moral.

General Remarks.—Three families removed from the Turtle Mountain Reserve last May and settled on this reserve. They were the three best families on that reserve, and their influence on this reserve I trust will be beneficial.

TURTLE MOUNTAIN BAND, No. 60.

Reserve.—This reserve lies along the northern base of the Turtle Mountain, and has an area of only one square mile, or 640 acres.

Resources.—This reserve has a fair supply of arable land, good pasturage, water, and a few good meadows, although of small extent, and is thus adapted for mixed farming.

Population.—Three families removed from this reserve during May to the Oak Lake Reserve, No. 59. This leaves only three families that properly belong to the original band on this reserve, and they number eleven souls. The population varies nearly every day by the arrival and departure of stragglers from all points of the compass.

Tribe.—These Indians are Sioux and principally of the Wah-pa-tou-wan branch.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The members of this band cannot be considered as strong and healthy. The sanitary condition is moderately good.

Occupation.—Those remaining on the reserve, do not farm at all and garden little. They occupy their time by fishing, hunting, berry-picking, basket-making, &c.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The three families who vacated this reserve for the Oak Lake Reserve, removed such portions of their buildings as would be of use to them. The three remaining families have a poor class of dwellings and the stables are in poor order. There are no cattle now on this reserve and few implements.

Education.—There are few children of school age, and parents and guardians will not voluntarily place them in school.

Religion.—These Indians are pagans.

Temperance and Morality.—They are not greatly addicted to the use of intoxicants, as their financial position keeps them from imbibing very freely.

Characteristics and Progress.—Little progress, if any, has been made. This is largely due to the too frequent visiting of vagabond Indians from beyond the international boundary.

KEE-SEE-KOO-WENIN'S BAND, No. 61.

Reserve.—This reserve is located on the Little Saskatchewan River, at the southern base of the Riding Mountains, by which name the reserve is also known.

1897
The reserve proper has an area of eight and three-quarters square miles. In addition to this, a fishing reserve containing eight hundred acres, was set apart for this band last year on the northern shore of Clear Lake, in township 20, range 19, west of the first principal meridian.

Resources.—The soil of this reserve appears to be too rich and cold for wheat growing, although oats, barley and potatoes do fairly well. In fact, after several years trial at wheat-raising, the Indians have decided to abandon it—for a time at least.

This reserve is better adapted for stock, as the uplands afford excellent pasturage, while the river, which flows from the northern to the southern boundary of the reserve, supplies an unlimited quantity of pure spring water for the cattle the year round. The area of river bottom land produces a heavy but insufficient crop of grass suitable for winter feeding. Last year they commenced the cultivation of the brome grass, and if it proves to be as successful here as on other reserves, sufficient fodder can soon be grown to supply all requirements.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are of the Saulteaux tribe, with a sprinkling of white blood.

Population.—There are twenty-seven men, thirty-nine women and seventy-six children, or a total of one hundred and forty-two in this band.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—On the whole, the health of this band is fairly good and the sanitary conditions very fair.

Occupation.—The Indians of this band who reside on the reserve obtain a living by farming, by hunting at certain periods of the year, by working in the lumber camps, and from the proceeds from the sale of surplus cattle, which alone brings them several hundred dollars. Nearly half of them reside, however, without the reserve, on and about the Riding Mountain, where they gain a livelihood by fishing, hunting, gathering senega root, and doing odd jobs for settlers.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The dwellings which on the whole are very good are built of log with shingle roofs, and with several apartments. These they have furnished with the necessary modern comforts. Almost every family has the farming implements which may be found on the average farm. Their stables are large and well kept, and their stock is fairly well cared for.

Education.—There is a day school in operation on this reserve, besides which they have children at the Regina industrial and the Birtle boarding school. It is under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. R. C. McPherson is both teacher and missionary, and he is untiring in his efforts to elevate the youth and aged into a higher sphere of living.

Religion.—The buildings that were used for a good many years for a church, and for a manse, were considerably dilapidated. They were both abandoned during the year, and the new school-house was used for Sabbath and other services, and a neat, comfortable and suitable manse costing over \$1,000, was erected within a short distance of the school buildings. This mission is known as "Okanase." I have been told that every man, woman and child residing on the reserve attends the services fairly regularly.

Characteristics and Progress.—Their dwellings and stables have been improved, fences built and other little improvements have been added here and there. I have found George Bone of this band of late years to be one of the most progressive Indians in my agency. He has a good helpmate in the person of Mrs. Bone. Whilst the members of this band do the bulk of their trading near at home, there are some who have not given all their patronage to the local dealers, but they have instead followed in the tread of many of their white brethren, and have done some "shopping by mail."

Temperance and Morality.—Moral and legal suasions have been freely used to stop the use of intoxicants. These two antidotes have checked this canker, but they have failed to eradicate it. It is undermining the work of both the church and the State, and as it leads to other vices of which immorality is one, there is room for improvement in the morals of some members of this band.

WAY-WAY-SEE-CAPPO'S BAND, No. 62.

Reserve.—This reserve is located on the Bird Tail Creek, about eighteen miles north-easterly from Birtle. It has an area of thirty-nine square miles.

Resources.—The soil on the reserve is a very rich black loam and grain grows so rank that it seldom ripens before the autumn frosts, but potatoes have proved to be a sure crop. There is a good supply of poplar timber on this reserve and in the small lakes, of which there are several on this reserve and adjacent to it. Fish are plentiful and game is abundant on the Riding Mountain which is close at hand. This is a splendid point for cattle, for the timber provides good shelter in winter, while there is plenty of good pasturage, water and available grass for winter use.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are Saulteaux.

Population.—There are thirty-four men, forty-two women and seventy-four children—total one hundred and fifty.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of this band has on the whole been fairly good. These Indians have of late years shown a disposition to improve the sanitary condition of their premises by collecting that which accumulates about their dwellings and burning it.

Occupation—These Indians gain their livelihood from the sale of fire-wood and hay, from the tanning of hides, by gathering senega-root and berries, from the sale of potatoes which they grow, from the sale of skins and also from the sale of surplus stock.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—All the dwellings are of log, two of which have shingle roofs. The others are covered with thatch and sod. All are floored. There is now, I am glad to be able to say, a disposition to put up a better class of dwellings and provide more furnishings. A goodly number of this band now have bedsteads, chairs, tables, &c. The stables are year by year of a better class and kept more tidily, and more interest is taken in the care of cattle. They have a fair assortment of wagons, mowers, rakes and other farming implements of a less important kind.

Education.—A great change has come over this band in this respect during the last ten years. Practically all children of school age are now enrolled in the Birtle Boarding, and Regina and St. Boniface Industrial Schools, whilst there are five who have spent terms in boarding and industrial schools and received honourable discharge and are now at service as living examples to the rest.

Religion.—The Presbyterians have a mission on this reserve. Mr. Hugh McKay, an ex-pupil of the Birtle Boarding and Regina Industrial School, is temporarily filling the position of missionary and doing it creditably. The pagan beliefs of this band are, I believe, gradually being eradicated.

Characteristics and Progress.—In years gone by the Indians of this band were deeply impressed with the belief that success could only be obtained by them through liberal assistance from the Government. This erroneous notion, I am glad to say, is decaying and in its stead is growing up the true sentiment that success can only be obtained by constant, individual exertion.

Temperance and Morality.—A very limited number of this band are friendly to intoxicants. A section of them brought a small quantity on the reserve during the festive season. They were reported by fellow members of the band, convicted on the evidence of Indians and imprisoned for the offence. This gave great satisfaction to a majority of the band, who say that they have seen what intoxicants have wrought on other reserves and that they are bound to stamp out any encroachment of this evil on their reserve.

VALLEY RIVER BAND, No. 62½.

Reserve.—This reserve is located on the divisional lines of ranges 25 and 26, and in township 26. The area is eighteen and one-quarter square miles. The reserve derived its name from the river on which it is located. It is a beautiful stream of pure crystal water and takes its rise in the Duck Mountains and flows in an easterly direction. The valley is about three miles wide at the western limit of the reserve and gradually widens to the eastward. It is a picturesque spot at all seasons. There are open plains, with clumps of poplar here and there and along the stream on the mountain slopes the poplar, evergreen, tamarack and spruce seem to vie with each other in their desire to get their heads heavenward and view the beautiful landscape around and about them.

Resources.—This reserve is better adapted for stock than grain-farming. Summer frosts have in the past been quite the rule, and the small attempt at grain-growing has not been a success. Potatoes and garden stuff have done fairly well, however. There is a meadow on the Short Creek, and within the limits of the reserve, that promises to give a supply of hay for a limited number of animals for all time to come. There are numberless vicious flies that are locally known under a very appropriate name as "bull-dogs." They worry animals on the warm, sunny, windless days of summer to such an extent that they will not feed, and then at night the animals have to take chances with mosquitoes, which some seasons are very plentiful in that locality. Cattle cannot thrive when worried by these pests. Game is yet plentiful on the two mountains to the north and south of the reserve, and fish are taken from the river and from the lakes that are within reasonable distance from the reserve.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are *Saulteaux*; some have a little white blood.

Population.—There are fifteen men, twenty-two women and thirty-one children belonging to this band,—total sixty-eight.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—During the past year the health of these Indians has been fairly good, and their dwellings are clean. All rubbish that accumulates during the winter is collected and burned up in the early spring.

Occupation.—The members of this band gain their livelihood by hunting, fishing, tanning hides, the sale of *senega* root, of which they gather considerable quantity during the summer months, and the vegetables which they grow in their gardens.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—All their dwellings, which are of hewn logs, are of good size. Two have shingle roofs and others are covered with thatch and sod. In their dwellings may be found most of the necessary furnishings. They have fairly good stables, and they provide sufficient hay for their cattle. As very little farming has been done, they have not required many implements and have but few.

Education.—The *Episcopalian* Church opened a day school on the reserve a few years ago, but it has been closed for over a year, the majority of the children having been placed in the *Pine Creek Boarding School*.

Religion.—This band is a small one, and as the Indians are divided in their religious leanings, the number of each is too small to expect either the *Roman Catholics* or *Protestants* to provide regular service for them.

Characteristics and Progress.—The members of this band have had little *Government* help and therefore they have been obliged to depend upon their own exertions and are consequently in better circumstances than some other bands.

Temperance and Morality.—When an intoxicant is offered to some members of this band, they will no doubt take it, probably more from their desire to be on friendly terms with the donor than because they have a liking for the stuff. I do not think all can lay a claim to strict morality.

GAMBLER'S BAND, No. 63.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the eastern side of the *Assiniboine River* and a little above the point where the *Silver Creek* empties into the *Assiniboine*, and within range 29, townships 18 and 19.

About eight thousand five hundred and fifty acres of the reserve were surrendered during the year, which leaves about ten hundred and fifty acres.

Tribe.—The members of this band are *Saulteaux* with a fraction of white blood.

Population.—There are seventeen names on the pay-list of this band, four men, six women, and seven children, but of these *John Tanner* and his family are the only residents. The others reside with relatives outside the reserve or are pupils at one of the schools. *John Tanner* has about twenty-one acres under crop besides a summer fallow. He has a good herd of private cattle besides several good horses and about all the farming implements he requires. He is now putting up a new log house with a shingle roof, and has roomy and well constructed stables and outbuildings.

Religion.—He attends the church at *St. Lazaire*, which is about ten miles southerly from the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—He is a hard worker and progressing fairly well.

Temperance and Morality.—He holds the view that a little intoxicant now and then for the stomach is the right thing—and a little during the festive season—and when opportunity offers, I suspect that he lives up to his convictions.

ROLLING RIVER BAND, No. 67.

Reserve.—This reserve is located in range 19, township 17, to the north of the *Little Saskatchewan River* and on the river from which it derives its name.

The area is about twenty square miles, or 12,800 acres. The town of Minnedosa is about fifteen miles to the south-east of this reserve.

Resources.—The southern portion of the reserve is rolling prairie intersected with ponds and a little scrub, whilst the northern portion has a number of small lakes and is covered with poplar timber, some of which is of good dimensions. Hay is procurable in limited quantities around the small lakes and sloughs.

Tribe and Population.—This band numbers one hundred and thirteen souls and they are of the "Saulteaux" tribe. There are thirty-six men, thirty-two women and forty-five children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—During the winter some form of la grippe attacked several members of the band, but the fatalities were few. The majority reside in tents during the summer months, and when living in their dwellings during the winter, I visited them and found them clean.

Occupation.—The members of this band do not take to farming, they prefer to hunt and fish during the winter and gather senega root during the summer. A considerable sum is gained by them for wolf bounties.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—Several old dwellings were discarded last autumn and new ones erected, but they were all of a temporary kind. Whilst there are some who take splendid care of their cattle, there are others who do not give them the attention they deserve.

Education.—There are in this band several who have a strong dislike to schools. They claim that the placing of children in schools is sure to bring the wrath of the Great Spirit upon them, and they preach this doctrine in and out of season. Whether all believe this doctrine or not I am unable to state, but I do know that if left to their own choice they would act on it. Pressure on the parents has resulted in getting a number of children in the Birtle Boarding and Regina Industrial Schools.

Religion.—The Presbyterians have a resident missionary on the reserve and services are held in an annex of the mission house and in the homes of friendly Indians. Whilst I believe that there are a few in this band whose hearts are inclined to accept the Gospel, the majority cling tenaciously to the beliefs of their forefathers.

Characteristics and Progress.—The adult male portion of this band show more disposition to work year by year and the women unquestionably show progress in house-keeping, but the trait of saving seems to be foreign to their nature, and few, if any, are any richer than they were a year ago.

Temperance and Morality.—Few of this band refuse liquor when opportunity offers for them to get it, and they unquestionably do and will get it so long as it is a chief article of commerce in the villages at which they do their shopping. More pity than blame nevertheless should, I think, be attached to this weak-minded race when they walk into such deadfalls of the white man's construction. I believe that they are fairly moral.

INDIAN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

Children from this agency are pupils at the St. Boniface, Brandon, Elkhorn, Qu'Appelle and Regina Industrial Schools, and the Pine Creek, Portage la Prairie and Birtle Boarding Schools, in addition to the two day schools that are operated on the Kee-see-koo-wenin's, No. 61, and the Oak River, No. 58, Reserves. Whilst I believe the teachers of the two day schools are striving to advance their pupils, it cannot be gained that they are working under great disadvantages as compared with the working of the industrial and boarding schools. As a rule the day school pupils attend irregularly, the home influence is not of a high standard, little or no home studies are done, and all conversation is carried on at home in the native language.

Mr. W. J. Small, B.A., is still principal and class tutor of the Birtle Boarding School with Miss McLaren as matron, and Miss McLeod, assistant matron. The average attendance for the year was forty-two.

The girls of an age to work, take their share of the work about the school, such as baking bread, cooking, laundrying, sewing, knitting, darning, whilst the large boys assist in the care of the cows, attend the garden, of which there is about four acres, and do other general work.

Three of the boys have been working out on farms for the last month or two, so also were three girls. It is a loss to the earning power of the school to place out pupils, as during the time they are at service the school does not draw a grant for these pupils, and the running expense of the school is practically the same. The school authorities, however, prefer to lose the grant than to turn out "gentlemen or lady beggars." Literate education without the manual is often of this tendency with this simple-minded race, who are too prone to grasp the wrong signification of education.

GENERAL REMARKS.

There are over nine hundred Indian souls within this agency, and the issue of provisions for the fiscal year was about five hundred pounds of meat and less than sixty sacks of flour, and as this was largely given to the aged and widows, it is evidence that the majority of the able-bodied Indians do some work.

I have, &c.,

J. A. MARKLE,

Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

ALBERTA—BLACKFOOT AGENCY,

GLEICHEN, 15th August, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my annual report, with tabular statement and inventory of Government property under my charge, for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserve.—The Blackfoot Reserve is situated on both sides of the Bow River, and includes townships 19, 20 and 22 west of the 4th meridian. It is bounded on the north by the Canadian Pacific Railway, and on the south by a range of hills called the Buffalo Hills; and Gleichen, the end of a Canadian Pacific Railway division, is the nearest village and post office.

The reserve contains about four hundred and seventy square miles, more or less.

Natural Features.—The land is open prairie with rolling hills and deep coulees. What are called the drifting sand hills, extending about six miles long and three miles wide, are on the north side of Bow River. The pasture is good, and considerable hay is cut in these hills. There is no water to speak of, the small sloughs dry up in the early part of the season; Arrowwood Creek in the south-west part and Crowfoot Creek in the north-east part are the only creeks on the reserve which contain water all the year round. There is a little timber, mostly cottonwood and poplar, and only found on the flats along the river.

Tribe.—These Indians are the Blackfeet proper; the Bloods, Piegons and South Piegons, on the other side of the line, who speak the same language, are branches of the Blackfoot nation. The late Chief Crowfoot was the recognized head of all the tribes, during his lifetime.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the reserve at the end of the fi ten hundred and ninety-nine, consisting of two hundred and sixty-seven men, three hundred and forty-seven women, and four hundred and eighty-five minors. During the year there were twenty-seven births, eleven boys and sixteen girls. The deaths numbered forty eight,—nine men, fourteen women, fourteen girls and eleven boys. The migrations numbered twenty six and one transfer from the Blood Agency, which makes a decrease of forty-six.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the Indians has been good. There have been no epidemics during the year. Several scrofulous cases are being treated by Dr. Lafferty at the Holy Cross Hospital, Calgary, and a number have also been treated at the Queen Victoria Jubilee Hospital, on the reserve. The staff at this hospital has been increased by an assistant matron. Good work is being done, as the sick are given nourishing food, as well as medicine. Dr. Lafferty makes semi-monthly visits to both reserves, and is doing good work.

Resources and Occupation.—The Indians are engaged in farming and raising cattle, and are also employed by the ranchers in the vicinity, receiving from fifty cents to one dollar per day. A number were also employed by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company last winter, shovelling snow off the tracks, giving good satisfaction, and receiving one dollar and twenty-five cents per day for the work. The irrigation canal was completed up to the slaughter-house, enabling us to have the water running all summer, and we shall be in a position to have all the land under crop irrigated this summer and fall. The quantity of hay cut on the reserve was nine hundred and twenty-three tons as follows: six hundred and forty seven tons for Indian cattle, ninety tons for farms, twenty-four tons for agency, forty-three tons for schools, eighty-five tons for Conrad Bros., Queenstown, and thirty-four tons for the North-west Mounted Police post, Gleichen. This was our first effort at contracting, and I am pleased to say that our Indians performed the work satisfactorily. The amount of coal mined and sold during the year was four hundred and ninety-one tons, distributed as follows:—D. Henderson, Calgary, sixty-six tons; the Calgary Industrial School, forty-eight tons; the North-west Mounted Police detachment, Gleichen, twenty tons; the Crow-foot school, ten tons; the White Eagle's and Old Sun's Boarding Schools, two hundred and four tons; agency and farms, seventy-eight tons, and sixty-five tons to settlers in the vicinity. There is an abundance of coal on the reserve, four mines were in operation during the winter months. In two of the mines, the seams were only six inches thick, and the coal taken out was sold to the boarding schools and settlers in the vicinity. The mine at the south reserve, is the only one that can be worked to advantage, as this seam is five feet thick and the coal is of fair quality.

Buildings.—The Indians are located along the flats on both sides of the river; a number have good houses with shingled roofs, good stables and sheds for sheltering cattle. The houses on the reserve are nearly all built of logs, there are three frame ones, one built for the late Chief Crowfoot by the department, one owned by Dog Child's widow, and one by Bear Chief. Most of the houses have good floors, and the Indians take an interest in keeping them clean. Considering the scarcity of timber, the houses and stables are very fair. Twenty-three new houses have been erected and ten rebuilt, and three stables, nine store-houses and seven root-houses built during the year.

Stock.—There are now three hundred and five head of cattle owned by the Indians, an increase of one hundred and nineteen over last year. There are fifty-three to be taken over by the Indians in exchange for ponies, which will bring the total up to three hundred and fifty-eight. We have received six yearling shorthorn pedigreed bulls this year, which brings our number of bulls up to eight. We have an increase of eighty calves. There were twenty-four deaths from different causes, and eleven head were butchered for beef, and issued as rations. The Indians are gradually beginning to see the benefit of raising cattle, and in a few years, it will be the general thing for each head of a family to have a few cattle, as the prejudice against taking cattle is dying out.

Farm Implements.—Five mowing-machines and four horse-rakes have been bought by the Indians during the year, and a number of sets of harness. The industrious and progressive Indians take better care of their tools, implements and harness since they began to purchase them out of their own earnings. Running Rabbit purchased a top buggy and harness and has a wagon, a mowing-machine and a horse-rake of his own. A number of the progressive Indians have put up sheds for the protection of their implements and wagons.

Education.—The majority of the Indians on this reserve have no sympathy with the schools, and are not very willing to send their children to them. This feeling is very strong, but I believe it will eventually die out. There are two boarding schools under the auspices of the Church of England; one, White Eagle's, for boys, which has twenty-nine on the roll; and the other, Old Sun's, for girls, which has eleven pupils. One day school, (Crowfoot) Roman Catholic, has twenty-four on the register, with an average attendance of ten. The usual studies, as nearly as practicable, are carried on according to the regulations of the department. The progress made by the girls in Old Sun's school is very marked, and the improvement in speaking English, knitting, cooking and baking bread, is very gratifying, and reflects great credit on the staff. The day school shows very little progress. This is accounted for by the moving about of the parents during the summer months, causing irregular attendance; and what little is taught while attending school is forgotten, and has to be taught over again on the child's return to school. There are twenty boys and one girl from this reserve attending the industrial schools at High River and Calgary.

Religion.—These Indians are pagans, but some are beginning to take an interest in religion. At the North Reserve the Church of England missionary, the Rev. H. W. G. Stocken, has baptized twelve adults, and His Lordship Bishop Pinkham confirmed them. A service in their own language is held for the Blackfoot Indians every Sunday morning in the memorial building; there is also an afternoon service in English, which a number of the Indians attend. The Rev. C. P. H. Owen, Church of England, holds an afternoon service in English at the White Eagle's home for the boys, and an Indian occasionally drops in. The Rev. Father Danais is the Roman Catholic missionary, and is located at the South Reserve.

Temperance and Morality.—Some of our Indians, as a rule, when visiting Calgary, are addicted to the use of liquor, which they buy from half-breeds and white men. The North-west Mounted Police keep a close supervision on the Indians when in Calgary, and do not allow them to stay in town any longer than is necessary. There were six cases of drunkenness reported during the year. One case, tried on the reserve, was dismissed, there being no evidence, and the punishment received by the others, who were tried in Calgary, was from fourteen days to one month. The women, generally, are moral, and I find that their own code of morals has improved a little, as very few cases of immorality have come under my notice during the year. The North-west Mounted Police at Gleichen keep a sharp lookout for any cases of this kind, and the good advice constantly given by the missionaries must result in good.

Characteristics and Progress.—The progress has been slow, but we have advanced a little. The irrigation canal is completed, and the water running all round the flat fenced in, at the North Reserve. We raised, last season, thirteen hundred and ninety-four bushels of barley, besides our usual root crop, on partly irrigated land. We sold one thousand bushels of barley, and out of the proceeds bought new seed oats and potatoes, and besides this the Indians had a little to spend. Good Young Man, Weasel Calf, Yellow Horse, Northern Eagle and Little Axe have purchased mowing-machines and rakes. Raw Eater and Northern Eagle have purchased two new wagons. Calf Bull, Bear Robe and Medicine Shield have purchased teams of heavier horses, paying from \$60 to \$100 a team for them. In their houses the improvement is very perceptible by the number of bedsteads, chairs, good stoves, lamps, clocks and household utensils in use. Their earnings, as a rule, are well spent, and the Indians who work and earn money spend it for their own benefit, and do not share up with their friends, as formerly. As a mark of individual progress, I might mention Little Axe and Calf Bull.

These Indians between them, have eighty-five cattle, four wagons, three mowing-machines and two horse-rakes, five sets of double harness, one of single, two teams of heavy horses and two saddles. Their farm buildings are very good, and all the work has been done by themselves. Little Axe turned in six steers for beef, and out of the proceeds he bought a good team of horses, harness, lumber and household utensils. The other Indians who own cattle have fairly good buildings, and considering the timber supply on the reserve, the buildings are very creditable. There is now a spirit of rivalry to see who will have the best stables, cattle and horses.

The Indians have earned, during the year, \$9,295, an increase of \$4,831; this money was earned by working for ranchers, freighting, work on irrigation canal, sale of beef cattle, coal, barley, hay and ponies to Klondikers.

General Remarks.—The new buildings erected during the year were an addition to the slaughter-house, a new ration-house at the North Reserve, and a new implement shed at the south reserve. The Indians had no assistance given to them for any of their festivals or dances this year, and as we have a contract to put up five hundred tons of hay, besides what we shall require for the reserve stock, it will be readily seen that the working Indians will have no time to waste on dances, and the sun dance this year will be a poor affair.

The treaty payments took place on the 20th and 21st October, and passed off quietly. The North-west Mounted Police gave the usual escort, and performed their duties in an able manner.

The only change in the staff was the resignation of the clerk, Mr. Kemeys-Tynte, and the appointment of Mr. W. R. Haynes, who has given good satisfaction.

The department employees have given me all the assistance possible, in carrying on the work of the agency.

I have, &c.,

G. H. WHEATLEY,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

ALBERTA—BLOOD AGENCY,

MACLEOD, 31st August, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report on this agency, together with accompanying statistical statement and inventory of Government property, for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserve.—The reserve is situated between the Belly and St. Mary's Rivers in Southern Alberta about thirty miles from the international boundary, and contains some five hundred and forty-eight square miles of good grazing land.

Tribe and Population.—These Blood Indians are the most numerous family of the Blackfoot nation, which comprises the North Piegans, South Piegans (United States) and the Blackfeet near Calgary. The population at last payment was three hundred and eighty men, five hundred and twenty-three women, two hundred and twenty boys and one hundred and sixty-eight girls, being a decrease of nine souls. The births during the year numbered thirty-seven boys and thirty-six girls, while the deaths amounted to fourteen men, twenty-four women, twenty boys and eighteen girls—the difference being accounted for by the migration of the Indians.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians has been fairly good during the period and there has been an entire absence of epidemics in any form.

The sanitary condition of the various villages has been good and all refuse is carefully taken away in spring. The Indian children are regularly vaccinated.

The hospital, which is a Government one, has been better patronized and the patients are well looked after by the Sisters who act as nurses. Minor Chief White Calf who was the recognized orator of the tribe, died during the year.

Occupation.—Unlike most reserves, this one is entirely unsuited for farming and consequently little occupation is found for the Indians at agricultural operations. Their small gardens and care of their cattle form the principal work in this line, and every effort is being put forth to increase their herds. They give great care to their stock, and as each individual holds his cattle round his farm, this gives them a certain amount of work in watering and feeding them all the winter and spring months.

The acreage under crop in 1897 was small and the result was almost an entire failure—potatoes being the only crop which gave any yield. This spring, very little crop was put in, as it seems almost impossible to grow one without irrigation, and the Indians now recognize this.

But if the cereal crop was a failure, it was otherwise with the hay crop. The season was the best ever experienced, and, the crop being good, a very large tonnage was cut. The demand, owing to the construction of the Crow's Nest Pass Railway, which runs through the northern part of the reserve, was good and prices were high. The Indians put up one thousand nine hundred and five tons in all. Of this amount some one thousand one hundred and sixteen were sold, six hundred and eighty-two kept for use of their own cattle and horses, and one hundred and seven tons delivered free of cost for use of agency, farms and hospital stock. The haying outfit under Farmer Clarke put up four hundred and seventy-four tons for the Cochrane Rancho Company, one hundred and seven tons for Walrond Rancho Company, seventy for the various North-west Mounted Police detachments, besides some eighty tons to settlers in Macleod and district, earning a little over \$4,000 in all, which was distributed in the proportion of \$80 for each wagon and the same amount for each mower, leaving a fair balance in hand for renewals for next season. The Lower Indians, after putting up their own cattle hay, delivered what was required by the Crow's Nest contractors, which amounted to nearly two hundred tons, and also a considerable quantity to settlers in the immediate district.

Besides the usual coal mining and hauling for the agency farms and schools, which take about three hundred and twenty tons, I was fortunate in securing the contract for the coal supply for the North-west Mounted Police at Macleod and outposts, amounting to six hundred tons. This work gave occupation to the Indians all winter and spring, and the whole supply was satisfactorily delivered.

Buildings.—There have been some twenty-one new houses, four stables, and ten cattle sheds erected by the Indians during the period under review. A number have been pulling down their old dwelling houses and replacing them by new ones, and in the majority of cases they have put on shingle roofs. The houses are, as a rule, larger and more airy than the old ones and have much better windows.

A new boarding school is being built by the department for the Roman Catholics, which will accommodate seventy or eighty pupils. It is not quite finished yet, but will be a good suitable building for the purpose. The addition of an ice-house, milk-house and laundry combined at the hospital has also been made and these are great conveniences.

The sheds at Farmer Clarke's and at Farmer Baker's are almost completed and will be very useful and allow the farmers to have all implements, &c., under cover during the whole of the year.

Live Stock.—The cattle in the hands of the Indians on 30th June numbered nine hundred and fifty-three head and there are fifty head of heifers to be issued which brings our total herd of cattle to over one thousand. As this industry was only commenced in 1894, it will be seen that these Indians are fast becoming large cattle-holders. The Indians take good care of them during the winter and have always a good supply of hay, while open water is always at hand. At the spring calf

round-up we branded one hundred and ninety, and there are still a number to be added to this list. The weather during the early spring was bad—the month of March being one continued succession of storms—and early calves had a hard time to pull through. Bulls are now, however, herded till 1st July and the early calf question will soon be at an end. Three steers out of our Indian herd were killed during the season and these gave good returns, Crop Ear Wolf receiving \$84.60 for two head, while Blackfoot Old Woman got \$36 for his. A few cases of death from black leg took place during the season.

There was a very active demand for Indian ponies for the gold fields during the year and these Indians sold over five hundred head, getting prices ranging from \$6 to \$15.

Education.—The want of education has not yet begun to be felt by the Indians, consequently little, if any, interest is taken in it. Three day schools (two Roman Catholic and one Church of England) and one boarding school (St. Paul's Episcopal) have been open during the season, and a new Roman Catholic boarding school is almost ready for pupils.

The more one sees of these Indian schools the more one becomes convinced of the absolute necessity of none but certificated teachers being appointed, and I trust the day is not far off when the department will refuse to grant an allowance to any but this class of teachers.

Religion.—The religious welfare of the Indians is looked after by the two denominations with schools, but the religion of the white man has very little interest for them. There are two churches on the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—For the past few years, these Indians have shown great anxiety to work, and the lazy indolent man is now the exception. The great trouble lately has been to get sufficient work for them of a remunerative nature.

The progress made during the year has been very marked. During the hay season every wagon on the reserve was being worked and only the old men and women were left at home. The earnings of the season have increased very considerably, being \$27,465, or an increase of over \$11,000 for the year. The earnings have been carefully spent, and during the year the Indians have purchased out of this money nine new mowers, ten new wagons from local merchants, which have cost from \$80 to \$120 each, while they also bought through the department twenty-four new Bain wagons. A very large quantity of new harness has also been purchased at prices from \$20 to \$35 per set, while work horses of a heavier type are also being bought at from \$25 to \$40. There is also a considerable amount of money being spent upon the improvement of their dwelling houses and in the furnishing of the same. Progress is also very noticeable even in their food supply—the old diet of beef and flour is being improved by the addition of vegetables and fruits—some of the richer Indians actually living what might, from a western standpoint, be considered well.

Temperance and Morality.—The conduct of the Indians has been good, but in a large population living as the Indians do, some few exceptional cases are always to be found. There were a few cases of drunkenness, and the result in one case was that three men gave false evidence to try and save their friends and were brought up before the judge and sentenced—two to three months and one to six months imprisonment.

General Remarks.—The Indians did not attempt to hold any sun dance during the summer of 1897, but during the winter and spring months they have held dances very frequently, which have a very demoralizing effect. An attempt has been made to suppress these, which I trust will be successful.

The treaty payments took place during November and passed off in their usual quiet and orderly manner, and the Indians left for Macleod, Lethbridge and Cardston to do their trading.

During the year, Mr. C. W. H. Sanders, the agency clerk, resigned, and his place has been filled by the appointment of Mr. William Black, of Macleod. The farmers continue to take an interest in their work, and to their able assistance is due the advancement which has been made.

I have, &c.,

JAS. WILSON, *Indian Agent.*

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

SASKATCHEWAN—CARLTON AGENCY,

MISTAWASIS, 31st October, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report for the Carlton Agency, for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898.

This agency comprises that part of the provisional district of Saskatchewan lying north of the North Saskatchewan River and between the 104th and 108th degrees of longitude. The agency buildings are situated on Mistawasis' Reserve, twenty-four miles north of Fort Carlton, and fifty-five miles west of Prince Albert.

STURGEON LAKE BAND, No. 101.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band has an area of twenty-two thousand and sixteen acres, and is situated about twenty-five miles north of Prince Albert. The lake from which the reserve is named is twelve miles long by one mile wide, and traverses it from west to east. The north side is well wooded, a large part of the timber being spruce; the south side is chiefly prairie, a portion of which is sufficiently fertile.

Population.—The population numbers one hundred and fifty-one souls, being forty men, forty-three women, and sixty-eight children.

Education.—Little interest is taken in this matter. The day school is now closed for lack of attendance, while only one child is enrolled in an industrial school.

Religion.—Those that have been Christianized belong to the Church of England, but in general the Indians of this band are particularly obstinate in their heathen notions and customs, and that notwithstanding much earnest missionary effort.

Resources and Occupation.—About one-half of the Indians of this band engage in farming and cattle-raising, but only on a small scale, supporting themselves largely, as the remainder of the band do entirely, by hunting and fishing, in which pursuits they travel abroad from the reserve.

PETAQUAKEY'S BAND, No. 102.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band, consisting of twenty-six thousand eight hundred and eighty acres, is situated at Muskeg Lake, south-west of and contiguous to Mistawasis' Reserve. It has considerable hay-lands, fertile soil, abundance of water, and a good supply of spruce and poplar wood.

Population.—The population numbers seventy men, twenty-one women and thirty-five children, or one hundred and twenty-six in all.

Education.—There is no day school on this reserve, but twenty-seven of the thirty-five children belonging to the band are in attendance at boarding or industrial schools, to which the parents seek admission for them quite voluntarily.

Religion.—The Rev. Father Vachon has charge of the mission here. The Indians, all Roman Catholics, attend service regularly.

MISTAWASIS' BAND, No. 103.

Reserve.—This reserve has an area of forty-nine thousand three hundred and eighty acres, and is situated on the main trail from Fort Carlton to Green Lake, and on the

north trail from Prince Albert to Battleford. The reserve affords much variety of soil for agricultural purposes, and is traversed by a fine stream giving an abundant supply of good water. It is also well supplied with timber well suited for fuel and fencing.

Population.—Twenty-nine men, thirty-eight women and sixty children—total one hundred and twenty-seven—form the population.

Education.—The day school, with an average daily attendance of eight pupils, is doing good work, notwithstanding the difficulty of a small and irregular attendance. There are also twenty-two children from this reserve in the industrial schools.

Religion.—The Rev. W. S. Moore, M.A., has charge of the Presbyterian mission here, and the services are attended by about two-thirds of the band. The remainder belong chiefly to the Roman Catholic Church, and, living in the part of the reserve adjacent to Muskeg Lake, attend service there.

AHTAHKAKOOP'S BAND, No. 104.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band has an area of forty-two thousand nine hundred and eighty-seven acres, and is situated eighteen miles north of the agency buildings at Mistawasis. The reserve is well adapted for mixed farming, having an undulating surface, with a consequent variety of soil and vegetation, and abundance of hay and water. The beautiful Sandy Lake, five miles in length, lies wholly within its limits, while the Shell River, with its rich hay-lands traverses the eastern portion.

Population.—The population is composed of forty-eight men, fifty-seven women and one hundred and seven children,—two hundred and twelve in all.

Education.—There is an excellent day school on this reserve, with an average attendance of nearly twelve pupils daily. Rather more than usual interest is taken in this school by the members of the band. There are, besides, seventeen children in the industrial schools.

Religion.—The Indians of this band belong chiefly to the Church of England. The Rev. James Taylor has charge of the mission and the Indians attend the Sunday services morning and afternoon in large numbers, while at three o'clock about twenty children attend Sunday school.

KAHPAHAWEKENUM'S BAND, No. 105.

Reserve.—This band has a reserve of eight thousand nine hundred and sixty acres at the Meadow Lake, forty miles west of Green Lake, and one hundred and fifty miles north-west from the agency. The reserve on its southern boundary touches the Meadow Lake and crosses the river of the same name. Along the shores of this lake and river, on and in the immediate neighbourhood of the reserve, there are rich and extensive hay meadows as yet unowned, but producing annually hay sufficient for the wintering of many thousand head of cattle. The soil on the upland is also fertile, producing wherever cultivated good crops of grain or vegetables.

Population.—The band numbers sixty-six, consisting of fourteen men, fifteen women and thirty-seven children.

Occupation.—These Indians live mainly by hunting, the moose and the bear being their principal game; and for this purpose range over a considerable area, along with a large non-treaty element occupying the hunting-grounds between Green Lake and Ile à la Crosse.

Education.—For the children of nomadic Indians, as described above, to attend a day school to any profit is impossible, and so the day school on this reserve, maintained for a length of time under adverse circumstances, is now closed. Yet they absolutely refuse to send their children elsewhere to be educated, in spite of the very evident advantages of boarding schools for Indians so situated.

Religion.—About half these Indians are Christianized. They belong to the Roman Catholic Church and are under the care of the Rev. Father Teston, of Green Lake.

KENEMOTAYOO'S BAND, No. 106.

Location.—These Indians have their winter quarters on the shores of the Whitefish and Stony Lakes, lying respectively twenty and fifty miles north of Ahtahkakoop's Reserve.

Population.—They number twenty-one men, twenty-nine women and fifty-four children,—one hundred and four in all.

Religion.—They are largely Christianized and are under the care of the Rev. Mr. Taylor of the Sandy Lake Mission.

Education.—They have no day school, but four children are in attendance at the Battleford Industrial School.

THE PELICAN LAKE INDIANS.

These Indians have their camp on the shores of this lake, which lies eight miles off the Green Lake trail to the west, and about sixty-five miles north-west from Mistawasis. The treaty Indians of this band number eleven men, sixteen women and twenty-six children, or fifty-three in all; but several who once took treaty have withdrawn, and a few have never taken treaty. They have no means of education, and are all pagans. A reserve is being surveyed for this band and the next above at Devil's Lake on the Big River, where it is expected that a number will presently settle. Their lakes are well supplied with fish of a good quality, but game is becoming scarce in these regions. Hence their apparent willingness to settle down to agricultural pursuits.

WILLIAM CHARLES' BAND.

During the past year a reserve has been located to the north-east of Sturgeon Lake Reserve and contiguous to it, for such Indians of the northern hunting tribes as desire to settle down to agricultural life. Some twenty Indians from William Charles' and James Roberts' Bands have settled on this reserve, and are thus far exhibiting much industry in their efforts to establish homes for themselves and to bring a portion of the soil under cultivation. They reached the reserve early enough to put in half an acre of potatoes in the fresh-turned sod, and have since been engaged in breaking more land and in building houses and stables. Thirteen head of cattle brought from Montreal Lake, and two yoke of oxen furnished by the department, will be wintered by these Indians, a liberal supply of hay being put up for the purpose.

WAHSPATON'S BAND, No. 96A.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band consists of two thousand four hundred acres, and is located eight miles north-west of Prince Albert. The soil is light, but moderately well adapted for farming. The area of hay land is small.

Population and Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Sioux nation and number twenty-five, namely, six men, four women and fifteen children.

Education.—There is a good day school on the reserve, which is much appreciated by the Indians and well attended.

Religion.—They belong to the Presbyterian Church, Miss L. M. Baker being the teacher and missionary on the reserve.

Occupation.—They still earn part of their livelihood by working off the reserve, but this season they have been chiefly occupied with their own farms on the reserve, where they have a larger area than usual under crop.

OTHER SIOUX INDIANS.

The remaining Sioux of this agency occupy an encampment or village about two miles east of Prince Albert, on the north bank of the river. They number eighteen men,

twenty-four women and forty children,—eighty-two in all. They have no educational facilities, are chiefly pagan, occupy poor shanties and live by their labour in the town of Prince Albert and among the farmers of the surrounding district.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Population.—With the exception of the Sioux just mentioned, all the Indians of this agency belong to the Cree nation.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—No cases of contagious or infectious diseases have occurred during the year, and the health of the Indians generally has been good. There have been, as usual, a few bad cases of consumption, scrofula and scrofulous eye-disease. Vaccination was performed in a number of instances at the time of treaty payments, and the houses and premises of those Indians who are permanent residents of the reserves received careful attention in respect to cleanliness.

Temperance and Morality.—Temperance may be regarded as the rule among these Indians, and the laws regarding the furnishing of intoxicants seem to have been well observed throughout the year. There is also a steadily improving moral tone.

Occupation and Resources.—The Indians of this agency who are regularly settled on reserves engage very generally in grain-growing and cattle-raising, and to a less extent and less successfully in gardening and dairying. They earn a few dollars annually from the sale of furs, chiefly fox, badger, wolf and lynx, and a small sum by freighting and by their labour in the neighbouring settlements and in the lumber-woods.

Buildings.—Connected with this agency there are a grist-mill, a saw-mill and a shingle-mill, the power for all of which is furnished by one twenty-horse-power engine. All of these have been provided by the Government except the shingle-mill, which was bought by the Indians of Petaquakey's, Mistawasis' and Ahtahkakoop's Bands out of their treaty money. The benefits of the saw-mill and shingle-mill are readily seen in the superior class of houses found everywhere in the older reserves of this agency. They are well built in respect to walls, roofs, floors and windows. Several new houses were built during the year and several of the old ones improved.

Stock.—The cattle throughout this agency are of a good class, and in respect to numbers are approaching the limit of profitable handling. Oxen are used chiefly for work, the horses being of a poor class and not numerous. There are very few sheep or pigs as yet, but an effort is being made to introduce this last class of stock and to establish hog-raising as a permanent industry on these reserves, where the conditions are particularly favourable.

Farming Implements.—These were formerly supplied by the Government, but latterly to some extent by the Indians. They are carefully handled when in use, and when not in use are, as a rule, properly stored away and protected from the weather.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are in general characterized by more than ordinary industry and thrift. Several of them exhibit very good judgment in the management of their own affairs, and are consequently gathering some property around them. They show a desire to meet the requirements of the department, whose liberality towards them they recognize and appreciate; and they aim to know and to observe the laws and customs of the land in so far as they have any relation to their affairs.

I have, &c.,

W. J. CHISHOLM,
Inspector of Indian Affairs in Charge of Agency.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

EASTERN ASSINIBOIA—CROOKED LAKE AGENCY,

BROADVIEW, 25th August, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report with agricultural and industrial statistics, together with the inventory of Government property under my charge up to the 30th June, 1898.

Location of Agency.—The agency buildings are situated on the south-east corner of township 18, range 5, west of the 2nd meridian, about nine miles north-west of Broadview, a station on the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Reserves.—The reserves here are as follows: Ochapowace's No. 71; Kahkewistahaw, No. 72; Cowesess', No. 73, and Sakimay's, No. 74, all being north of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and running from Whitewood on the east, passing Broadview and extending west nearly as far as Grenfell, and bounded on the north by the Qu'Appelle River from below Round Lake on the east to a distance above Crooked Lake on the west.

Little Bone's Reserve, situated at Leech Lake, No. 73A, is also attached to this agency and lies about forty miles north.

The total area of these reserves is one hundred and eighty-five thousand and sixteen acres.

OCHAPOWACE'S BAND, No. 71.

Reserve.—This reserve is on the eastern side of the agency and lies north-west of Whitewood, a short distance from the line of railway to the Qu'Appelle Valley. It contains fifty-two thousand six hundred acres.

Natural Features.—The southern portion is prairie with many hay swamps and bluffs of poplar and willow. The northern part, sloping to the Qu'Appelle River, is thickly wooded with poplar and balm of gilead, much broken by immense ravines which are all thickly wooded, and the soil is very gravelly and stony, being unfit for cultivation; on the southern portion the soil is sandy and clay loam with gravelly spots here and there in the prairie.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Cree tribe.

Population.—The population is composed of thirty-four men, thirty-eight women and forty-four children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health has been fairly good, there being no diseases of an epidemic nature. The Indians are steadily improving in the matter of cleanliness and due attention is paid to the destruction of rubbish from about their dwellings. There are a number of good springs on this reserve which it is proposed to have properly cribbed up this fall.

Resources and Occupation.—Many of the Indians farm and nearly all keep stock. They also sell firewood and hay in the town of Whitewood, they also tan skins and gather senega root, for which they find a ready sale. The Round Lake is fairly well stocked with fish, of which they catch a number for their own consumption.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Their houses are of a poor class with a few exceptions, are built of logs, in which they live during the winter, moving into tents in the summer. Their cattle are of a fairly good class and at the last round-up

there were nineteen calves. As will be seen by the statistics, they have a good outfit both of cattle and farming implements.

Education.—Eight of the children on the reserve attend the Round Lake (Presbyterian) Boarding School, where they receive a good training, as well as the boys being taught farming and caring for stock, the girls being taught general housework. Four of the older children are attending the industrial school at Qu'Appelle and one at Elkhorn. All healthy children of school age on the reserve are attending school.

Religion.—The bulk of these Indians are pagans, although quite a number belong to the Roman Catholic and Presbyterian religions. No clergy or missionaries reside on this reserve with the exception of the Rev. Hugh McKay, principal of the boarding school, and Jacob Bear, who is employed by the Presbyterians as a missionary.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are moderately industrious, but need careful watching to keep them up to their work, a few of them are too indolent to do anything but loaf about the country. Their progress is necessarily slow. Last year their crop was a total failure owing to the drought, and they did not make much headway; but notwithstanding this, they have broken seventy acres of new land and summer-fallowed thirty-one acres. Pierre Bélanger has a good story and a half log house with a shingle roof, and he has summer-fallowed and broken fifteen acres. The Little Assiniboine has summer-fallowed and broken twenty-six acres. The others have done lesser quantities.

Temperance and Morality.—A number of these Indians are more or less addicted to the use of intoxicants mainly in the form of "essences," which it is presumed they procure in Whitewood. The only case in which I was enabled to convict, was recently, when two men were fined each \$50 and costs for supplying liquor to an Indian and his wife, who were sentenced to one month at Regina Barracks for being drunk.

KAHKEWISTAHAW'S BAND, No. 72.

Reserve.—This reserve adjoins that of Ochapowace's Band on the west side, lying north of Broadview on the Canadian Pacific Railway to the Qu'Appelle Valley as the north boundary, with a small fishing station at the eastern end of Crooked Lake.

This reserve contains forty-six thousand seven hundred and twenty acres.

Natural Features.—The land is undulating prairie of fair quality interspersed with ponds and hay sloughs, dotted here and there with bluffs of poplar. There are some very good hay lands on the prairie in the southern part.

Tribe.—The members of this band are Crees.

Population.—The population consists of twenty-nine men, thirty-seven women and fifty-seven children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Having had no epidemics, there has only been an ordinary amount of sickness such as is found in all districts. They are well looked after to see that their surroundings are kept clean, rubbish destroyed, and during the last annuity payments, all those who had not been operated upon before were vaccinated.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians follow the usual avocation of farmers and raising stock, dispose of their surplus hay and firewood at Broadview, dress hides, and also in the spring gather a considerable quantity of senega root, for which they get twelve to fifteen cents per pound. They had little, if any, grain to dispose of last year, as the crops were a failure.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—They all have the usual log houses and stables, which are kept moderately clean and tidy, although like others, they only occupy them during the winter, as they live in tents during the summer, it being healthier and better for them. Their cattle are all in excellent condition, and thirty-two calves have been dropped this spring. They have a fair supply of farming implements such as wagons, mowers, rakes, two binders, ploughs, harrows, &c.

Education.—Thirteen of the children of school age attend the Round Lake Boarding School, seven at Qu'Appelle and two at Elkhorn Industrial Schools, where in addition to

the ordinary course of education, they are instructed in farming, stock-raising, black-smithing and carpentering. All healthy children of school age are attending school.

Religion.—It may be said that over half the Indians on this reserve are pagans. It is extremely difficult to get the older Indians to forsake the ways of their forefathers, but the children attending the schools will doubtless follow the religion in which they are now being brought up. The others belong to the Roman Catholic, Presbyterian and Anglican Churches.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians, as a rule, work well at their various occupations, although they have been rather discouraged the past season by poor grain and hay crops, yet they have this year worked well in preparing land for next year's crop, having ninety-nine acres summer-fallowed and twenty-six acres of new land broken.

Temperance and Morality.—They lead temperate and moral lives with a few exceptions. One Indian was convicted of holding a give away dance, and sent to Regina jail for one month, which would have its due effect upon the others, as they fear the law and obey it.

Another Indian and his wife were sentenced to one month each at Regina jail for being drunk.

COWESESSE' BAND, No. 73.

Reserve.—This reserve is also situated between the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway on the south and the Qu'Appelle Valley to the north and is west of Kahkewistahaw's Reserve.

Forty-nine thousand nine hundred and twenty acres constitutes the area of this reserve.

Natural Features.—Weed Creek runs through this reserve and empties into the Qu'Appelle Valley through a large thickly wooded ravine, very tortuous in its course, and its banks are heavily covered with poplar, balm of gilead and a few elms. The southern part is undulating prairie with a few good hay marshes here and there. The soil throughout is uniformly good.

Tribe.—The majority of these Indians are French half-breeds with a few Saulteaux and Cree.

Population.—Thirty-seven men, fifty-two women and eighty-six children form the population.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—As on the other reserves, the health of the Indians has been fairly good—no epidemics of any kind but the usual run of colds, lung and scrofulous troubles. All who required it were vaccinated at the treaty payments, and strict attention is shown in the matter of cleanliness, probably more so on this reserve than on any of the others, as they nearly all reside in their houses the year round.

Resources and Occupation.—All are farming and keep more or less stock. Some of them have over twenty head of cattle each. They sell grain, hay and firewood at Broadview and Grenfell, but the demand for the two latter products being only local, the prices do not rule very high. A few fish are caught for their own consumption.

Buildings.—Every family on this reserve has good log houses, the majority with thatched and some with shingled roofs, also good log stables and barns.

Stock.—A good class of stock is kept on this reserve, having had the benefit of good shorthorn and Galloway thoroughbred bulls, and in a very few years, if they can be kept from selling and killing their young stock, the Indians will have herds of a respectable size. The difficulty is to persuade the Indians to look to the future: they generally when they get a few head of cattle want to begin selling or trading them off and let the future take care of itself.

Farming Implements.—Several of the Indians possess binders, mowers, horse-rakes, harrows, and are gradually getting together a good outfit.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve. Four children attend the Round Lake Boarding School. Twenty-nine children attend the Qu'Appelle school. Two

attend the Regina school and two at Elkhorn Industrial School. There are a few ex-pupils of the industrial schools who are beginning to farm and are doing as well as their limited means will permit. It is a work of time getting together a working outfit of stock and farming implements, and all the assistance possible is given to aid them in their endeavours.

Religion.—These Indians are mostly Roman Catholics, Presbyterians and pagans. There are two resident Roman Catholic priests on this reserve, who have a neat little church and mission buildings situated in the Qu'Appelle Valley at the north end of the reserve. The services are apparently well and regularly attended. The Presbyterians also hold a semi-monthly service at the house of Headman Alex. Gaddie.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians may be termed industrious, some of them working quite a large area for Indians and attending to from ten to thirty head of cattle each, whilst one or two of them have not the energy or health to do the steady work farming requires. They are obedient to the law and there have been no convictions during the year for any criminal offence. They are gradually making advancement and next year will see a larger area under crop than they have ever had before, notwithstanding that last year the crop was only fairly good. One of the headmen, Alex. Gaddie, has seventy-five acres under crop, with twenty-seven acres of breaking and summer-fallow. He also owns thirty head of cattle and three teams of good heavy working horses. In 1897 he had about one thousand bushels of wheat and oats.

Headman Ambrose Delorme has forty-one acres under crop, twenty-nine acres broken and summer-fallowed, and owns ten head of cattle with three good working horses.

Chief Nepahpiness has thirty-four acres under crop, with twenty acres summer-fallowed and broken; has a splendid team of Canadian working mares, from which he has got a team of colts; and owns sixteen head of cattle.

Zac LeRat is cropping nine acres, summer-fallowed eighteen acres, and owns over thirty head of cattle. All the other Indians have extended their acreage and there is a noticeable improvement.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians do not appear to be addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors, and no cases of immorality have been detected. These Indians are monogamous and do not follow the old practice of possessing two and three wives each. I know of no case on the reserve of an Indian having more than one wife.

SAKIMAY'S BAND, No. 74.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the west side of the northern half of Cowesses' Reserve, being bounded on the south by that reserve and on the north by Crooked Lake and the Qu'Appelle Valley, a portion of the reserve being on the north side of the river and lake. The reserve contains twenty eight thousand eight hundred acres. In addition to this is Leech Lake Reserve, forty miles north, containing six thousand nine hundred and seventy six acres.

Natural Features.—This reserve is mostly undulating prairie with bluffs of poplar and willow. In the northern part adjacent to the valley it is much broken by ravines which are heavily wooded with poplar and balm of gilead. There were formerly large ponds on the reserve which are now dried up. About half the land is good loam and the other half is of a sandy and gravelly nature. There are good hay lands in the valley. Leech Lake Reserve is a valuable adjunct, being composed of magnificent hay lands yielding large quantities of hay each year.

Tribe.—Most of these Indians are Saulteaux with a few Crees.

Population.—Forty-one men, fifty-five women and one hundred and nineteen children form the population.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, only the ordinary minor ailments having been suffered. All in Yellow Calf's party who required it were vaccinated at the recent annuity payments, but the members of She-

Sheep's party objected to having their children vaccinated. Strict attention is observed in having them clean up their houses and premises, and no infectious diseases have occurred.

Resources and Occupation.—There are two separate parties on the reserve, Yellow Calf's and She-Sheep's. The former who live on the southern portion of the reserve, follow farming and stock-raising, sell firewood, hay and senega root at Grenfell.

The Indians of She-Sheep's party occupy the northern portion of the reserve in the valley where all the good hay land is. They do no farming, accept no assistance from the Government, and make their living by selling hay, hunting and working for white settlers.

In a dry season Yellow Calf's party have to depend upon Leech Lake Reserve for their supply of hay, where there is always an abundance. As for instance this year besides supplying their needs, we have sold permits to white settlers in that district for about seven hundred tons.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—They have the usual log houses and stables, living in their tents during the summer. They are getting together a fair amount of implements and stock, and have got an increase of thirty-six calves this season.

Education.—Seven of the children of Yellow Calf's party attend the school at Round Lake, and there are seven at the Qu'Appelle Industrial School, but the members of She-Sheep's party absolutely refuse to allow their children to attend any school, and I fear will never do so until the Compulsory Education Act is put into force, which is now under consideration.

Religion.—No clergy or missionaries reside on this reserve. The Indians are mostly pagans, with a very few exceptions, who are of the Roman Catholic and Presbyterian denominations. There appears to be little, if any, interest manifested in religion by them.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians have been more or less of a roaming nature, but in the case of Yellow Calf's party have been gradually settling down to farming and have done more in this line the past twelve months than ever before, although their crops, the present and past season, were a total failure, but nevertheless, they have gone on breaking, and summer-fallowing their land, having one hundred and sixteen acres summer-fallowed and thirty-one acres broken. They are making progress slowly.

She-Sheep's party, although they do no farming, cannot be classed as idle, as they put up a considerable quantity of hay, which they sell, as well as working for white settlers and hunting.

They keep no cattle, in fact have always refused assistance from the Government in this line.

Temperance and Morality.—They are fairly moderate and moral in their habits, although some of them still adhere to the old custom of having more than one wife, which practice is being stamped out as much as possible. One Indian was sentenced to one month's hard labour for being under the influence of liquor.

General Remarks.—I regret to report that owing to the extreme dry season we have had this year so far, and to the severe and frequent frosts, our crops are about a total failure, in fact, on some of the reserves they are a total failure, both grain and root crops.

The grain was all put in on well prepared land in splendid condition and was looking extremely well until the 27th May last, when we had 14° of frost which cut down all the growing crops. They afterwards revived and began to look fairly well again when another severe frost cut them down in June, and again in July and August. This, combined with the dry weather, killed out the grain entirely in most places, and in others where it was not entirely cut down, especially in summer-fallowed land: it stunted the growth so much that the weeds gained headway and overcame the grain.

This was not only on the reserves, but also occurred amongst the white settlers in the adjoining districts. Notwithstanding this, the Indians on the agency have prepared for seeding next spring by summer-fallowing and breaking six hundred and forty-five acres, which together with the land which will be fall-ploughed will make about eight hundred acres ready for crop in the spring of 1899, if by any means we are able to procure sufficient seed for it.

This has been an exceptionally unfortunate year for farming operations in this district, and most discouraging to the Indians, the whole of their hard work being destroyed.

Considerable trouble was had in stopping the Indians from holding a sun dance this season, which dance I understand they have been in the habit of holding the past ten years. I think in future there will not be so much difficulty in stopping it, as it having been firmly impressed upon them that it is against the law and that the offenders would most certainly be prosecuted, I think that they will refrain from agitating for one in the future.

I have, &c.,

JNO. P. WRIGHT,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

SASKATCHEWAN—DUCK LAKE AGENCY,

DUCK LAKE, 7th September, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith my eleventh annual report, together with statistical statement and inventory of Government property under my charge for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

ONE ARROW'S BAND, No. 95.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the eastern side of the South Saskatchewan River, about four miles east of Batoche, and contains an area of sixteen square miles.

Resources.—This reserve is of a rich sandy loam, being rolling prairie, with poplar bluffs, and is suited for mixed farming.

Tribe.—These Indians are Crees.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is ninety-six persons. They have no chief or councillors. During this year there were five births and two deaths, and one woman left the band by marriage, making an increase of two.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of these Indians is good; consumption and scurfula being the principal cause of death. In the spring they are very particular in cleaning up their houses and yards, and putting every place in proper order.

Occupation.—These Indians are employed in mixed farming, hunting, picking roots and dressing hides for white settlers, with which earnings they supply themselves with tea, tobacco and clothing.

Stock.—The herd under department control consists of one hundred and sixty-four head, all of which are in fine condition. During the year the band sold twelve head of cattle, besides killing fifteen head for department and private beef.

Farm Implements.—All the best Indians have their own wagons, mowers, rakes, self-binders ; other implements, chiefly ploughs, harrows, spades, forks, and hoes belong to the department, all of which are kept in good repair.

Education.—All healthy children of school age are either at Qu'Appelle Industrial School or at the Duck Lake Boarding School.

Religion.—There are sixty Roman Catholics and thirty-six pagans in the band.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are, on the whole, temperate and moral.

General Remarks.—These Indians are under Farmer Marion's supervision, and are making good progress and are more contented to remain on their reserve and are more industrious and provident than formerly.

OKEMASIS AND BEARDY'S BANDS, NOS. 96 AND 97.

Reserves.—Both reserves are situated on the Carlton trail at Duck Lake. The combined area is forty-four square miles.

Resources.—The natural features of these reserves, are scattered bluffs of poplar, with rolling prairie. The land is of a rich sandy loam and is suitable for mixed farming.

Tribe.—These Indians are Crees.

Vital Statistics.—The combined population of these two bands is one hundred and forty-eight. During the year there were eight births and seven deaths, one woman with her daughter joined this band by marriage ; two absentees returned, making an increase of five.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of this band is only fair. As a number of the Indians are subject to scrofula and consumption, I am pleased to say that this is gradually disappearing. Sanitary precautions are strictly enforced, and the Indians are now particular in this matter themselves, by keeping their houses neat and clean, and well ventilated.

Occupation.—These Indians are employed in farming and stock-raising. They also earn considerable by picking roots, dressing hides for white settlers, freighting and hunting, which enables them to purchase clothing and other household necessaries for their families.

Farm Implements.—The bands are well supplied with all requisite implements except wagons, principally purchased out of the proceeds of cattle killed for beef or sold by the Indians.

Stock.—The stock held by these bands under Government control, number three hundred and nineteen head, which includes five thoroughbred bulls. During the year thirty-two head of cattle were sold, and forty-one head were killed for department beef.

Education.—All healthy children of school age are at the Regina Industrial School or Duck Lake Boarding School.

Religion.—Religious denominations are represented by one Anglican, three Presbyterians, seventy-five Roman Catholics and sixty-nine pagans. A number of the Indians attend the Roman Catholic church at Duck Lake.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are honest and law-abiding. The majority of them are industrious, civil, and gradually becoming more provident. They are putting up better houses, and they are doing their best to copy the ways of the white settlers.

Temperance and Morality.—Generally speaking, they are moral and temperate. Yet there are a few of them that will make use of intoxicants if they can possibly procure them without the knowledge of the department officials. But on the whole they conduct themselves much better than the majority of the native settlers.

General Remarks.—There has been no Farm Instructor in charge of these bands, during the last six months of the year, consequently this work devolved on myself. I

am pleased to say the Indians worked well and have been obedient and industrious throughout the winter and spring.

JOHN SMITH'S BAND, No. 99.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated about twelve miles south-east of Prince Albert, and is intersected by the South Saskatchewan River. It has an area of thirty-seven square miles. The land is rolling prairie, interspersed with poplar bluffs. The soil is rich black loam, and is well suited for mixed farming.

Tribe.—These Indians are half-breed Crees.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is one hundred and thirty. There have been five deaths, and five births during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the band on the whole has been good. During the winter, they were visited with an attack of measles, also scarlatina, but with the doctor's attention there were but few bad results. These Indians are very strict in observing sanitary measures, as they keep their houses and yards neat and clean. All buildings are well ventilated.

Occupation.—Stock-raising, mixed farming and freighting are the chief occupations of these Indians. They also derive considerable income from hunting, picking roots and dressing hides. Their grain and root crops were excellent last fall, the Indians being able to provide themselves with flour for the most part of the year. They also disposed of a portion of their grain to purchase other necessaries, such as clothing and groceries.

Buildings.—On this reserve the buildings are a credit to the Indians, being well and neatly built, with good bed-rooms up stairs, and having shingled roofs.

Stock.—The stock in the hands of the band under Government control, including three thoroughbred bulls, number two hundred and eighty-six head of cattle, eleven sheep and seventeen pigs.

Farm Implements.—The band is well supplied with mowers, rakes, wagons, forks, spades and shovels purchased by the proceeds of cattle sold or killed for beef. Ploughs, harrows and other implements have been supplied by the department, and are kept in good order.

Education.—On this reserve there is a day school, Miss M. Thompson being in charge as teacher, and she appears to take great interest in her work. The progress made by the children is very good. The school is always found neat and clean, also the children.

Religion.—This band consists of one hundred and twenty-six Anglicans, one Presbyterian, two Roman Catholics and one pagan. There is a resident Anglican clergyman on this reserve. They have a very neat church and services are regularly held, the Indians being excellent adherents.

Characteristics and Progress.—This reserve is under the supervision of Farmer J. S. Letellier, and the progress made by the band towards civilization is good. No one could distinguish the difference between these Indians and the native half-breed settlers. They are law-abiding and civil.

Temperance and Morality.—While a portion of the band are temperate, there are some of them addicted to the use of liquor if they can possibly procure it. They are, on the whole, moral in their general habits.

JAMES SMITH'S AND CUMBERLAND BANDS, Nos. 100 AND 100A.

Reserves.—These reserves adjoin each other and are dealt with as one. They are situated about fifteen miles below the forks of the North and South Saskatchewan Rivers, near Fort à la Corne. The combined area is ninety-two square miles.

Natural Features.—The soil varies from sandy to rich black loam. The principal portions are low, wet, and thickly wooded with willow, poplar and scrub. The surface

is rough and undulating and broken with shallow lakes of blackish water, and is of little value for agricultural purposes. The herbage is luxuriant; hay of the finest quality grows in abundance, and only for the fly pest it would be admirably adapted for stock-raising.

Tribe.—These Indians are Crees.

Vital Statistics.—The joint population of the two bands is two hundred and twenty-eight. There were twelve deaths and ten births during the year, making a decrease of two.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the bands has not been as good as it might have been, owing to a prevalence of consumption and scrofula amongst these Indians. They were also visited by an attack of scarlatina during the winter. But I am pleased to say that it has quite disappeared without any serious result. The majority of these Indians are particular about sanitary precautions, and keep their houses and premises neat and clean, while there are a few who are not so cleanly, but are gradually doing better.

Occupation.—Some of the occupations of these Indians are stock-raising, with very little farming, freighting, dressing hides and picking roots. Hunting is the principal occupation.

Buildings.—There has not been much done in the way of building during the year. There are three very good houses in the course of erection, which will be finished during the approaching year. All stables are kept clean and in good order and fitted with stanchions.

Stock.—The stock is in first-class order, and numbers four hundred and eighty-six head, including three thoroughbred bulls. During the year we have sold for the Indians, thirteen head of cattle, and killed for department beef and for Indians' private use, twenty-eight head of cattle. The stock came through the winter in good order and condition with nothing more than the usual casualties.

Education.—There is no day school on this reserve, as the Indians are of such an erratic nature that we could not get a regular attendance, particularly as most of the children have been sent to the Battleford Industrial School or to Emmanuel College at Prince Albert.

Emmanuel College at Prince Albert is under the auspices of the Church of England, the Venerable Archdeacon J. A. McKay being principal. The subjects taught are, the English language, reading, writing, geography, history, arithmetic, general knowledge, recitations, vocal and instrumental music, as well as religious instruction. Excellent progress has been made in all the studies.

Duck Lake Boarding School is under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church, the Reverend Father Paquette being principal. There are ninety-five pupils in this school, forty-nine boys and forty-six girls. The subjects taught are the same as those at Emmanuel College, and excellent progress is being made in all the studies. Several new buildings have been erected during the year, and the whole place is a marvel of neatness. The children are happy and contented. The whole institution appears to them more like a home than otherwise.

The reverend principal being an extremely energetic and progressive man, the great progress this school has made in such a short time will show how thoroughly his heart is in the work. He deserves great credit for the able manner in which this institution is conducted. I may say he is ably assisted by the reverend mother and sisters.

Religion.—Of these Indians one hundred and eighty-six are Anglicans, and forty-two pagans. There is a neat church on the reserve, with a resident clergyman, and the Indians are strict in their attendance. They have a very well laid out cemetery, connected with the church, which is kept in good order.

Progress.—These Indians are of a lazy and indolent disposition, but law-abiding. Their mode of living, I am pleased to say, is gradually becoming more like that of a white man, and they are also becoming more industrious.

Temperance and Morality.—They are on the whole moral, but they are in a measure addicted to the use of intoxicants, if they can procure them in any way. This

reserve is under the supervision of farmer J. H. Price and since he has had charge there a marked improvement is noticeable.

General Remarks.—A large amount of repairs has been made during the year, new stone foundations have been placed under the agent's house, office and storehouse. They have also been painted and otherwise repaired.

In conclusion I would say that although the staff of this agency has been considerably reduced, yet no effort on my part has been omitted in doing my utmost to carry out the department's instructions. At the same time the comforts and wants of the Indians have not been neglected.

I have, &c.,

R. S. MCKENZIE,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
ALBERTA—EDMONTON AGENCY,
EDMONTON, 30th June, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith my annual report together with tabular statement and inventory of Government property for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898.

Agency.—The official name of this agency is Edmonton Agency, with headquarters on Enoch's Reserve, about twelve miles from the town of Edmonton. Its jurisdiction extends over five bands as follows:—

ENOCH'S BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the left bank of the Saskatchewan River, about six miles south-west of Edmonton on the trail to Stony Plain, and contains an area of forty-four square miles.

Natural Features.—The reserve is principally a wooded country, containing numerous swamps and woods consisting of poplar, willow, spruce, tamarack, birch and hazel. The soil is very good and there is plenty of hay land.

Tribe.—The Indians on this reserve are Crees.

Population.—The population is one hundred and twenty four, made up as follows: thirty-seven men, forty women and forty-seven children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—This band has been fairly healthy during the year although there have been a good many cases of venereal disease. The houses are all kept clean and are well ventilated and the premises kept free from refuse. The water used for domestic purposes is principally taken from wells and lakes located in places to ensure freedom from contamination.

Occupation.—Nearly all the men are farming, hunting being a thing of the past; with but few exceptions these Indians reside permanently on the reserve.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—On this reserve there are forty-three houses and forty stables, all of which are built of logs. The stock consists of the following:—three bulls, thirty oxen, thirty-eight cows, thirty steers and seventy-three head of young stock, thirty-six sheep, eighteen pigs and forty-two domestic fowls. The implements are twelve ploughs, eight harrows, six mowers, one fanning-mill, also a binder and

threshing-machine, six wagons and sundry small tools. This enumeration includes the private ones.

Education.—There are no schools open on this reserve. Some of the children attend the Roman Catholic boarding school at St. Albert and some the Presbyterian industrial school at Regina.

Religion.—With the exception of a few Methodists, these Indians are all Roman Catholics. The resident missionary is the Rev. Father Simonin. There is a good church and the services are always well attended. The Methodists are visited once a month by the Rev. W. G. Blewett, missionary at White Whale Lake.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are progressing favourably both as regards farming and in their domestic life. Perhaps the most marked feature in their advancement is the manner in which they cook and serve their meals.

Temperance and Morality.—Owing to the reserve being close to Edmonton some of these Indians are tempted to buy liquor occasionally although every precaution is taken to prevent their doing so. The morality of this band is fair.

MICHEL'S BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated about sixteen miles from Edmonton on the southern side of the Sturgeon River and contains an area of forty square miles.

Natural Features.—It is well timbered, principally with poplar and fir. Nearly one-half of the reserve is high rolling prairie, the soil is clay loam; and there is an abundance of hay land.

Tribe.—The Indians occupying this reserve are of the Iroquois tribe.

Population.—There are eighty-two members in this band,—twelve men, seventeen women and fifty-three children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There has been very little sickness during the year. The houses and premises without any exception are all kept in first-rate order.

Occupation.—With the exception of a few who make a living by hunting, these Indians engage in mixed farming, and the homesteads compare very favourably with those of any white settlement. Butter is made by each family, although there is not much sale for it, as there is a strong prejudice against butter made by Indians.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The houses are of a superior kind and well furnished. The stables and corrals are all substantial and well put up. The cattle number one hundred and eight head. These Indians also possess some good horses, sheep, pigs and poultry. They are well equipped with implements.

Education.—All the children of school age attend the industrial school at High River or the boarding school at Prince Albert.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics, and attend a church which has lately been erected close to the reserve, the logs for the purpose having been taken from the reserve, which entitles this band to seating accommodation.

Characteristics and Progress.—All these families are industrious and law-abiding, and are far advanced in farming and civilization generally.

Temperance and Morality.—Temperance and morality may be said to prevail on this reserve.

ALEXANDER'S BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated about twenty-five miles from Edmonton, on the Lac la Nonne trail. Its area is forty-one square miles. About sixteen square miles is rolling prairie of excellent soil; the remainder is more or less wooded with spruce and poplar. Sandy Lake, lying at its south-western corner, is a beautiful sheet of water from one to two miles wide, and about six or eight miles long. In this lake there is an abundance of fish.

Tribe.—These Indians are Crees.

Population.—Forty-six men, fifty-four women and eighty-seven children, in all one hundred and eighty-seven souls form the population.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There have been no infectious diseases, and the children of a suitable age have been vaccinated. All the houses were whitewashed in the spring, and the winter refuse collected and burnt.

Occupation.—Most of the men farm, although nearly all make a portion of their living by hunting and fishing.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—There are fifty-nine houses and forty-two stables. The cattle number one hundred and twenty head; there are also forty-five sheep. This band is fairly well equipped with implements.

Education.—Owing to poor attendance the day school on this reserve has been closed. A good many of the children attend the boarding school at Prince Albert.

Religion.—This is a Roman Catholic reserve. The resident missionary is the Rev. Father Dauphin. There is a nice church and a good organ. The services are all well attended.

Characteristics and Progress.—These people are amenable to advice and authority, but are too prone to ramble about the country to make much progress in their farming.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians will buy liquor when they get the chance, although perhaps there is not as much bought as formerly. Their morals on the whole are fair.

JOSEPH'S BAND.

Reserve.—The situation of the reserve of this band is the northern side of Lac Ste. Anne, about fifty miles from Edmonton, and it contains an area of twenty-three square miles.

Natural Features.—About three-quarters of the reserve is covered with spruce and poplar, the remainder being prairie, hay and bottom lands. The soil is a sandy loam. Lac Ste. Anne is the principal fishing ground of the Indians of the district.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Stony tribe.

Population.—Twenty-six men, thirty-five women and seventy-six children, making one hundred and thirty-seven souls, form the population.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—This band is the healthiest in this agency and is very free from any chronic disease; all these people are clean and tidy in appearance, and are generally well dressed.

Occupation.—The farming done on this reserve is only on a limited scale, hunting and fishing being the principal occupations.

Stock and Buildings.—The cattle number thirty head. The houses are of logs and are of good size and well built.

Education.—The day school is under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church. The teacher is fairly successful in her work. She is a daughter of Chief Michel and is an ex-pupil of the High River Industrial School.

Religion.—The Indians of this reserve all attend the Roman Catholic church at Lac Ste. Anne. The priest of this parish is the Rev. Father d'Egreville, who also pays frequent visits to the reserve.

Temperance.—A considerable quantity of liquor is traded to Indians at Lac Ste. Anne, in spite of every effort to stop this nefarious traffic.

WHITE WHALE LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated at White Whale Lake, about forty-five miles west of Edmonton, and contains an area of thirty-two and seven-tenths square miles.

Natural Features.—The reserve is heavily timbered with poplar and fir. A portion of it is high rolling prairie. There is an abundance of fish in White Whale Lake.

Tribe.—The Indians of this reserve are Stonies.

Population.—The population consists of twenty-nine men, forty-two women and seventy-four children, in all one hundred and forty-five souls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—This band is fairly healthy, although there is great room for improvement as regards the cleanliness of the women and children.

Occupation.—Up to date the farming done has only been on a limited scale, but as a farmer has recently been appointed, Mr. Thos. McGee, who says he considers it his duty to raise these Indians "financially, socially and morally," it is to be hoped that the Indians of this band will make great strides both in their farming and domestic life. There is great scope for Mr. McGee in this direction.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—There are twenty-three houses and twenty-three stables. The cattle number seventy-eight head; of this number the department supplied this spring two yoke of oxen, six heifers and a bull, besides a wagon and sundry other smaller implements, which pleased these Indians very much.

Education.—There is a very good day school on this reserve under the auspices of the Methodist Church, although the attendance has not been very large. This is partly due to a number of the children having been sent to the industrial school at Red Deer, the principal of that school, Rev. C. E. Somerset, having been formerly the missionary of this reserve, which perhaps accounts for the willingness of these people to send their children to that school. The teacher of the day school is the Rev. W. G. Blewett, who is also the missionary. He has proved himself to be an efficient teacher. As is not often the case with day schools, the pupils will speak English out of school hours.

St. Albert Boarding School.—The present principal is the Rev. Sister Dandurand. This school is a great credit to all who are concerned in its management. The pupils are always tidy and clean in their dress and persons and the premises are kept scrupulously clean. There is a very good brass band, the members of it being boys under fifteen years of age. Under the able conductorship of Mr. Varin they have made great progress and are often asked to play outside of the institution. On the whole this school is a great success and deserves generous support.

Religion.—These Indians with the exception of a few families are Methodists. Services are held in the school-house, which is a good roomy building. In the absence of the missionary, the services are held by the Indians themselves.

Temperance and Morality.—This band spends nothing on drink and is fairly moral.

General Remarks.—Owing to my having being in charge of this agency for the past six weeks only, I am unable to write as full a report on the working of the different reserves as I should like to do. The agent, Mr. de Cazes, I regret very much to have to say, has been a confirmed invalid for the past six months and is at present dangerously ill, no hopes being entertained of his recovery.

I have, &c.,

A. E. LAKE,
Acting Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

ASSINIBOIA—FILE HILLS AGENCY,

FORT QU'APPELLE, 14th August, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report, together with statistical statement and inventory of Government property under my charge for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserves.—The File Hills Agency comprises four reserves: Pee-pee-kesis, No. 81, Okanees, No. 82, Star Blanket, No. 83, and Little Black Bear, No. 84, and contains a total area of eighty-four thousand four hundred and fifty-four acres. The reserves adjoin each other and are situated in the File Hills, about twenty miles north-east of Fort Qu'Appelle.

Resources.—The principal resources of these reserves are hay and wood.

Tribe.—The Indians of all four bands in this agency belong to the Cree tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the four bands is two hundred and eighty-one souls. There were fifteen births and twenty-one deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the Indians during the year has been fairly good; consumption and scrofula were the chief causes of illness. The sanitary condition of these Indians is improving each year, most of them keep clean and tidy houses, and every spring all refuse matter that has accumulated during the winter is collected and burnt.

Occupation.—The principal occupation of these Indians is cattle-raising and mixed farming. They put up a large quantity of hay every season, for which they find a good market, they also sell a large quantity of dry firewood and house logs.

Buildings, Fences, Implements, Stock, &c.—The agency buildings are in good repair. Many of the Indians have built good houses and stables, the latter being roomy with pitch roofs. The fences are all in good repair. The implements are housed every winter and put in repair before being used in the spring. The cattle are all in good condition and the calf crop this spring is a very satisfactory one. During the year we received three very fine shorthorn bulls, which will improve the herds very much.

Education.—The File Hills Boarding School gives the usual satisfaction. Mr. Skene, the principal, is a very efficient teacher and understands his work thoroughly. There are seventeen children from this agency attending the school. A large number of children from this agency attend the Qu'Appelle Industrial School and are making good progress.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians have a good name for morality; there are a few, however, who will take liquor whenever it is procurable. I had a few liquor cases during the year, and in every case the offenders were found guilty and punished.

General Remarks.—The Indians have done very little dancing this year. They have worked well all through and seem contented and happy.

We have five married couples ex-pupils of the Qu'Appelle Industrial School, residing on the reserves and with one exception these young people are doing well, four of them have built good comfortable houses, one and a-half story, with shingled roofs. They have also built good stables and have land prepared for next spring.

In conclusion I wish to say that Wm. McNab, my interpreter and farmer, has given me great assistance throughout the year.

I have, &c.,

W. M. GRAHAM,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

ALBERTA—HOBBEMA AGENCY,

HOLLBROKE P.O., 29th September, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report, together with statistical statement and inventory of all Government property under my charge, for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Agency.—The agency head-quarters is on Samson's Reserve near the Battle River. The agency comprises the following reserves :—

Reserves.—No. 137—Ermineskin's, 39,360 acres, situated in the Bear's or Peace Hills.

No. 138—Samson's, 39,360 acres, situated on the Battle River.

No. 140—Louis Bull's on the north-western part of Ermineskin's Reserve, no subdividing line having as yet been run between them.

No. ———Montana or Little Bear's Band, 20,160 acres. This was originally the Bob Tail Reserve on the south side of Battle River, near Ponoka Station on the Calgary and Edmonton Railway.

There is also a fishing reserve at Pigeon Lake, containing 4,980 acres.

Tribe.—The Indians of this agency are Crees with the exception of a few Stonies who have joined them through marriage.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of six hundred and seventeen men, women and children, being a decrease of forty-nine since last year, accounted for principally by the deportation of Crees to Montana who came over two years ago.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the bands has been fairly good, considering the many old cases of scrofula and consumption. The doctor attended to those requiring vaccination. Premises were all cleaned, rubbish removed and burnt, and all were thoroughly whitewashed inside and out. During the summer the Indians generally live in tents and teepees, which are more conducive to health.

Resources and Occupation.—Their principal occupation is general farming, cattle-raising, hunting, fishing, and freighting.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Implements are in a fair state of repair. Several houses and stables were built during the year to take the places of old ones which had been pulled down.

The stock numbers seven hundred and seventy-five head exclusive of twenty-one bulls which are shown in agency herd; there will still be quite a number of calves to add when the fall round-up occurs.

Education.—There are one hundred and fifty-five children of school age and two schools, viz.: the boarding school on Ermineskin's Reserve under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church and taught by the Reverend Sisters of the Assumption, and the new school which is completed, and is being well patronized by the parents, who have already sent more than forty pupils. Discipline and progress are very satisfactory.

There is also a day school on Samson's Reserve under the auspices of the Methodist Church. Attendance is not regular owing to the distance many children have to go to attend.

Religion.—With a few exceptions the Indians are Roman Catholics and Methodists. Three buildings are used for divine services, which are regular and well attended.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians with a few exceptions are law-abiding and fairly industrious, many are seeing the fruits of their industry, and are doing much better for themselves.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate, and very few cases of immorality come to my notice.

General Remarks.—The grist-mill has been steadily employed grinding the department's and Indian wheat.

A quantity of lumber was sawn during the year for repairs, fencing, &c.

I am sorry to report the grain crops this year are almost an entire failure on a count of the dry season.

The cattle came through the winter in splendid condition, the loss from all causes did not amount to one per cent and considerable hay was left over.

Pigs are doing well and some of the Indians are taking quite an interest in them.

In conclusion I wish to say that the members of the staff have performed their duties in a most satisfactory manner.

I have, &c.,

W. S. GRANT,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
EAST ASSINIBOIA—MOOSE MOUNTAIN AGENCY,
CANNINGTON MANOR, 4th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ended 30th June, 1898, accompanied by a statistical statement, and inventory of Government property under my charge.

PHEASANT RUMP'S BAND, No. 68.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the western part of Moose Mountain, with an area of twenty-three thousand and forty-six acres, and is suitable for mixed farming, there being plenty of good arable land, poplar woods which provide fuel and fencing, and a large number of hay sloughs.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are Assiniboines.

Vital Statistics.—There are now thirty-nine Indians living on this reserve, made up as follows: thirteen men, thirteen women, five boys and eight girls. There have been six deaths during the year, and no births; with one exception the deaths were caused by consumption and scrofula.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the Indians during the year has been good and upon one occasion only did I have to call in a medical man. Every sanitary measure possible is observed, the houses and premises were kept fairly clean. I did not think any of the Indians of this band required vaccination during the year, as they all seem to have been successfully operated upon in previous years.

Occupation.—Mixed farming is the chief industry of these Indians. They had a fair crop of grain last year, but the root crop was poor on the reserve, as was general through the district where the reserve is situated. They provided themselves with a good deal of flour, and also had a good quantity of wheat to sell, for which they got

the best price paid on the market at White wood. These Indians live about ten miles from any well-settled district, and therefore have not the same advantages that some other bands have in the way of the sale of wood and hay ; a few of the men still hunt a little, but I do not think they make much out of it ; the women of the band do a good deal of work tanning hides for the settlers. A little fishing is also done.

Buildings.—There is a change for the better being made in the buildings on this reserve. The Indians are making them much larger than formerly. Nearly all the houses have good lumber floors, and have chimneys, and are well lighted and ventilated.

Stock.—Their stock consists of one hundred and two head and they are as good as any in the country. They have always had good bulls for their herd, (thoroughbred pedigreed animals), and we have always obtained from cattlemen the highest price paid. The cattle were well attended to during the past winter. The stables were kept clean and comfortable ; and each cattle-owner has at this date some hay for sale.

Farming Implements.—This band is well supplied with all implements necessary for farm work, and they are kept in good repair, and stored at the farm implement shed during the winter, at which season the necessary work of repairing is done.

Education.—There are five children of school age in the band, and out of this number three are attending the Qu'Appelle Industrial School.

Religion.—With two exceptions the Indians of this band are pagans, but during the past year there has been a very satisfactory disposition noticeable among them towards the missionary of the Presbyterian Church (Mr. T. F. Dodds), who visits them from time to time. There have been no regular services held on the reserve as yet, but Mr. Dodds makes house-to-house visits, and is always received in a friendly manner by all. If kindness and patience will gain these people, I feel confident that Mr. Dodds will make a success of the work he has undertaken, which is up-hill in more ways than one.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious, but require constant supervision and direction. In their houses, one can see that progress is being made. They keep their houses and premises much cleaner and neater both outside and in. The Indians of this band are becoming better off every year, and they are beginning to see the good results of caring well for their cattle. They are law-abiding and seem anxious to get on. All the members of this band are well dressed, comfortable and contented.

Temperance and Morality.—I am pleased to say there has not been a case of intemperance on the reserve during the year, and no case of immorality has been brought to my notice.

General Remarks.—Mr. W. Murison has this band under his care, and is working hard to get the Indians out of the careless, slovenly manner of farming which they had fallen into during the last few years.

Mr. Murison took charge of the band last year, and with his experience as a farmer I expect to see good results. I am sure I have at all times his hearty co-operation in the work connected with the reserve.

STRIPED BLANKET'S BAND, No. 69.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated south of and adjoining Pheasant Rump's Reserve, and has an area of twenty-three thousand six hundred and eighty acres, and the soil and general features are the same as the reserve which it adjoins.

Tribe.—The Indians on this reserve are for the most part Assiniboines, with a slight mixture of Cree.

Vital Statistics.—This band at present numbers thirty-five, made up of twelve men, thirteen women, seven boys and three girls. During the year there were three deaths and one birth ; the deaths were all caused by consumption and scrofula.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the band has been good, and all sanitary measures possible were well attended to.

Occupation.—These Indians have but little chance to earn anything outside of the reserve. They are too far away from a town or settlement to sell much wood or hay, or to get regular work. They work well on their reserve, however, and all those who own cattle are untiring in their efforts to secure a sufficient quantity of hay for all their needs, and most of them stack hay at their stables in the fall for winter use. The women of the band tan hides, do bead and leather work, such as coats, mitts and moc-casins, which they sell to settlers when possible.

Buildings.—As on Pheasant Rump's Reserve, a change for the better is noticeable in their houses and stables, and when Mr. Inspector McGibbon visited the reserve in January last, he was much pleased with the change for the better, and congratulated many of the women on the advance made in their domestic work during the year since his last inspection.

Stock.—The number of their cattle at present is eighty head, and the increase in young stock is satisfactory. They look after their cattle very well. Their stables are always clean and comfortable, and they have had plenty of hay for all their needs, and some over still, for sale.

Education.—The number of children of school age on this reserve is only three, and two of them are attending the industrial school at Fort Qu'Appelle.

Religion.—All the Indians at present living on the reserve are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—I am very much pleased to be able to say that there has been a great improvement in many ways on this reserve during the past year. Headman Camminuhay, Mato Sapa, Papa, and Wash-tay-Oakshid, have all purchased new lumber wagons for their own use. They all have good houses; Mato Sapa's is especially worthy of note. He has ordinary beds, table, chairs, lamps, and other household articles, both for comfort and convenience, the floors of his two-roomed house were as clean as soap and brush could make them when visited by the inspector; and I always found the house clean and tidy whenever I visited it. The other men mentioned above are making good progress, and seem very anxious to please their instructor and to get along.

Morality and Temperance.—They are law-abiding, and I think their morals will compare favourably with the general run of Indians, and they live so far from any town where they could obtain any intoxicating liquor they are of necessity temperate.

General Remarks.—This band is also under the care of Mr. Murison.

On the whole, everything is in a very satisfactory condition on this reserve.

WHITE BEAR'S BAND, No. 70.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated in the south-east part of Moose Mountain, with an area of thirty thousand seven hundred and twenty acres. A large portion of the reserve is wooded; there are also a number of small lakes, in some of which the Indians do a little fishing. The soil on this reserve is a rich black loam, and well suited for farming. Hay of the finest quality grows in abundance, and altogether these Indians have as fine a reserve for mixed farming as there is in the Territories. The Indians do a good trade in the winter with settlers, selling dry logs and firewood, which they cut and haul to their houses, where the white people come for it. These Indians are now beginning to reap some benefit from their cattle. In favourable seasons all sorts of wild fruit is abundant.

Vital Statistics.—The band at present numbers one hundred and twenty-six, made up of thirty men, thirty-eight woman and fifty-eight children. During the year there were six births and six deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the band has been good, and all sanitary measures were properly attended to.

Occupation.—Cattle-raising and mixed farming are the principal occupations of these Indians, some few men find work, and earn good wages by working for the settlers

in the neighbourhood. The women are kept busy tanning hides, wolf-skins, and other small furs for people in the settlement. They also gather and sell large quantities of wild fruit and senega root, make moccasins, leather mitts, and coats, and they do a little fishing during the season.

The men attend to the usual farm work during the summer, and in the winter they find their time fully occupied hauling hay and attending to their cattle, cutting and hauling dry logs and firewood for sale, making hay-racks, bob-sleighs and jumpers. A few of them do a little trapping and hunting; but as very little fur is caught now in this district, they do not stick to it for any length of time, and prefer some other work at which they are sure of making something. They put up last summer the largest quantity of hay ever put up on the reserve, and after feeding their stock well during the winter, had a great deal to sell this spring.

Fifty-eight acres of new land have been broken since the snow went away, and I hope to have at least one hundred acres of new land ready for crop next spring; about four miles of new fence has been built, and about one hundred loads of manure put on the fields.

Crops.—The grain crop last fall was a failure and the Indians got very little benefit from it; the yield of root crops was also very much below the average. The poor yield was in a great measure owing to the poor state of the land, which had been used for years without rest, and no attempt made to better it, by manuring, or summer-fallowing. This season they have in the largest crop ever put in on the reserve, some of it on new breaking, and the prospects of a good yield are encouraging.

The department kindly gave me authority to purchase some seed potatoes from the Experimental farm at Indian Head, and I am in hopes of being able next spring to make a change of seed potatoes all round. The varieties sown are the "Polaris," "Everett," and "Empire State," which were recommended by Mr. McKay of the Experimental farm. The Indian gardens are looking well.

Stock.—The herd now numbers one hundred and fifty-five head, an increase of thirty-six since this time last year; and during the year the Indians killed for beef, and sold, seventeen head. The cattle were never better attended to than they were last winter, and the increase in young stock this spring is very satisfactory. The cattle belonging to this band are extra good: all the bulls used here have been thoroughbred pedigreed animals, and we always get the highest price from cattlemen for any we may have for sale.

The Indians are showing much more interest in their cattle than they did, and there are a few Indians on the reserve now, anxious to own cattle, who previously have refused them.

Buildings.—The buildings are about the same as last year. Three new houses and two stables have been built during the year; the stables are an improvement on the old ones, being higher.

Education.—There are twenty-five children of school age in the band, and seven of them are attending the industrial schools at Qu'Appelle and Elkhorn. Out of the number still on the reserve and not going to school, I think there are three who would pass the doctor's examination as being fit to be placed in an industrial school; the remainder are more or less the victims of scrofula and other kindred diseases, and would not, under the present regulations, be received in any boarding or industrial institution.

I am pleased to say that Old White Bear, since his reinstatement by the department as chief, has not been so much against having the children educated, but he still holds back with regard to allowing them to be sent far from home to school.

Religion.—The Indians of this band are for the most part pagans.

The Presbyterian Church has a mission on this reserve in charge of Mr. T. F. Dodds who has been here for over a year, and he is well thought of by the Indians, who always receive him pleasantly in their houses, and listen with patience to what he says to them. There is no church on the reserve, and no regular services are held, but Mr. Dodds makes house-to-house visits, and reads to them from the Bible in their own language; Mr. Dodds is making good progress in the Indian language, and now after only one year can make himself well understood by the Indians. Both he and his wife are kind and patient with

the Indians under all circumstances, and never tire in helping them in any way possible. They have visited the sick from day to day, Mrs. Dodds taking with her on her visits any little luxury in the way of food that she thought would help the sick. The work and life of such people as Mr. and Mrs. Dodds must, and I doubt not, will, have a good effect upon the Indians, though it may be a long time before there are any signs of the good work going on. Mr. Dodds has given many of the Indians Bibles printed in their own language, and there are many of them that can read very well.

Characteristics and Progress.—I am glad to be able to say that the progress of these Indians during the year has been marked. In their houses one can see the progress made, nearly every house has ordinary beds, and every house but one has a good lumber floor. They are as a rule kept clean and neat. The doors are properly hung on iron hinges, and windows, in most cases, have been well put in.

Red Star and Shewack both bought new lumber wagons last fall, from the proceeds of cattle sold by them; Notchokao and Mus-quah-kah-ween-apit bought a mower in partnership. Lone Child bought a fine set of double harness to enable him to use his ponies when hay-making. He also bought a second-hand wagon from a settler in the neighbourhood. He now owns a mower, horse-rake, wagon and sleighs and has twenty-three head of private cattle.

Shewack has twenty-five head of cattle, and Red Star seventeen head. The following Indians have broken over ten acres of new land this season: Lone Child, Red Star, John and Fred Waywinche. Kappo, Shewack and Ka-ka-ke-way have broken between them about nine acres; some others have done a little breaking, and all are looking forward to a large acreage for next year. There has been no charge brought against any of these Indians during the year.

Temperance and Morality.—Taken altogether the Indians of this band are quiet and orderly; there are, however, a few exceptions, but I hope by firmness and kind treatment, they will come round with the more respectable members of the band. I do not know of any immoral intercourse with white men, but I fear they are not so strict among themselves.

General Remarks.—All the Indians under my charge are contented and are advancing towards civilization and self-support, and visitors to the reserve wonder at the upward step they have made during the past year, especially on White Bear's Reserve. Old White Bear since his reinstatement as chief has done all in his power to get his sons to work on the reserve, with the result that two of them are amongst my best workers.

Inspector McGibbon visited the agency in January last, and I think was pleased with what he saw, and his kind and encouraging words to the Indians have had the effect of making many of them work better than they might otherwise have done.

Mr. Murison is still in charge of Pheasant Rump's and Striped Blanket's Bands, and does all in his power to advance the Indians of those bands.

In conclusion, I beg to thank the department for the assistance in the way of new implements and seed grain given these Indians this spring, and without which they could not have put in a crop of any kind. The Indians appreciate what the department has done, and it has had a good effect upon them. I would say that no effort has been spared on my part to carry out the instructions of the department, at the same time the interests of the Indians have been attended to.

I have, &c.,

H. R. HALPIN,
Farmer in Charge.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

ASSINIBOIA—MUSCOWPETUNG'S AGENCY,

5th September, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to present my annual report, together with statistical statement and inventory of Government property under my charge for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898.

PIAPOT'S BAND, NO. 75.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band comprises township 20 and part of 21, range 18, west of the 2nd initial meridian, Qu'Appelle Valley.

This reserve contains an area of fifty-eight square miles.

Natural Features.—The soil of this reserve is generally a clay or sandy loam, there is but little timber on the high land fit for any useful purpose but firewood, the bottom lands contain extensive hay meadows of the choicest quality.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band belong to the Cree tribe.

Population.—The population is composed of sixty-nine men, ninety-nine women, and ninety-five children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The Indians on the whole have enjoyed good health, consumption being the general cause of illness. The sanitary condition of the houses and premises is satisfactory.

Resources and Occupation.—The Indians supply the Regina market to a large extent with firewood and hay, and last season filled a contract at the North-west Mounted Police barracks of two hundred tons. General farming, gathering senega root, hunting, fishing, tanning hides, freighting, trading, working and looking after their stock are their principal occupations throughout the year.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The houses and stables are all log buildings and consequently require constant repairs. The majority of the houses are floored, and furniture is becoming more general every year. The timber for building purposes is small, but is used to the best advantage and the buildings on the whole are generally comfortable. The stock have a splendid grazing range, and good supply of water, and are stabled during the winter. Implements are put under cover for winter when the working season closes.

Education.—The industrial schools at Qu'Appelle and Regina have a number of pupils from this reserve, and there are very few children of school age left on the reserve.

Religion.—These Indians take very little interest in religion, and with a few exceptions are pagans. Missionaries of the Roman Catholic and Presbyterian denominations visit the reserve and hold services in the different houses and tents, as there are no churches on the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians cannot be called industrious as compared with white people, and cannot be depended upon to keep steadily at work, a trifle will at any time upset their good resolutions; however, for Indians, they are making headway and a slight improvement is noticeable during the year. They have conformed to the laws and given no trouble in that respect.

Temperance and Morality.—I have not had any complaints as to the behaviour of these Indians during the year.

MUSCOWPETUNG'S BAND, No. 80.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the right bank of the Qu'Appelle River at its intersection with the western boundary of section 18, township 21, range 17, west of the 2nd initial meridian, and is adjacent to the west of Pasquah's Reserve.

The area of this reserve is fifty-eight square miles.

Natural Features.—The soil of this reserve is a sandy clay loam. It is partially wooded with groves of small poplar and clumps of willows, and in the gullies leading to the Qu'Appelle Vally there is a small supply of poplar fit for building and fencing purposes; a few white birch and maples are also to be found. The elevated parts of the rich alluvial bottom lands along the river afford valuable quantities of hay.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are of the Saulteaux tribe.

Population.—The population consists of thirty-two men, forty-four women and thirty-two children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the Indians has been good; consumption and tuberculous complaints continue to be the principal diseases from which the Indians are suffering. The houses have been kept clean, and all refuse matter collected and destroyed.

Resources and Occupation.—The Indians derive a good revenue from the sale of hay and firewood, they are also engaged in general farming, hunting, fishing, freighting, trading, attending to their own stock as well as assisting in doing the necessary work required in providing fodder for the Government herd of cattle kept on this reserve. During the winter this work is steady and keeps them fully employed.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The houses are small but are kept in good repair, and are thoroughly overhauled every year. Stock are doing well, have a fine grazing range and plenty of water, and are stabled in the winter.

Government Herd.—The surplus in this herd this year, fifty-one head, were sent to Touchwood Hills Agency, that is over and above the beef required for all purposes in this agency. Last fall black-leg, which has been prevalent in the district for some time, made its appearance in both the Government herd and the Indian herd of cattle on Muscowpetung's Reserve. The disease only attacked the spring calves, and we lost a number in each herd. Implements are protected from the weather during the winter.

Education.—There are very few children in this band of school age that are not attending the industrial schools at Regina and Qu'Appelle.

Religion.—The majority of these Indians are pagans; very little interest is taken in religion by the members of the band. Presbyterian and Roman Catholic missionaries visit the Indians in their houses on the reserve, as there are no churches.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are law-abiding, and although not making rapid strides in advancement, are not losing ground, they make a good living which appears to be the height of their ambition; they require more attention than any other band in the agency, as they do not possess the self-reliance of other Indians.

Temperance and Morality.—The general behaviour of the members of this band has been good during the year.

PASQUAH'S BAND, No. 79.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the right bank of the Qu'Appelle River, about six miles west of Fort Qu'Appelle.

This reserve has an area of sixty square miles.

Natural Features.—The soil in this reserve is a clay loam, the surface is level and undulating and partially wooded with poplar and willow. Fish and wild-fowl abound in the lake and swamp in the valley of the Qu'Appelle.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band belong to the Saulteaux tribe.

Population.—The population comprises thirty-six men, sixty-one women and seventy children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Apart from consumption and infantile diseases, the general health of the Indians has been fairly good. An epidemic of measles was in the district and a few cases among the Indians on the reserve, but with no fatal results. The houses were kept in good order and all sanitary measures complied with.

Resources and Occupation.—Firewood is the staple source of revenue, and the Indians sell a large quantity every year; they were also successful with their grain crops last year, which added largely to their income. Fishing, hunting, tanning hides, freighting and working off the reserve, putting up hay for and attending to their stock, and general farming are the usual occupations of the Indians.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The dwelling houses on this reserve are being improved every year, shingle roofs are becoming more general, the houses better fitted up with more accommodation, and a more thrifty appearance in the general surroundings. The stables are kept in good order and the stock attended to. The Indians are adding to their stock of private implements to keep pace with the settlers in the vicinity.

Education.—The children attend the industrial schools at Qu'Appelle and Regina.

Religion.—Roman Catholic and Presbyterian missionaries visit the reserve and hold service in their respective churches, as each denomination has a church on the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are more industrious than others, as they are placed on their own resources to make a living. They get very little assistance from the department and have to rely on their own exertions to provide for themselves, they have done very well the past year, and I see no reason why they should not continue to improve and shortly be in a position to supply all their requirements entirely. They fully conform to the laws.

Temperance and Morality.—A number of the members of this band will take intoxicants whenever opportunity offers, and as they come in contact with half-breeds in the towns, a strict watch has to be kept over them, as it is through half-breeds they are able to procure liquor; we only had one case during the year in which a conviction was made, and a fine of \$50 imposed. These Indians are fairly moral.

STANDING BUFFALO BAND, No. 78.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the north side of the Qu'Appelle or Fishing Lakes, on the east side of Jumping Creek, about four miles from Fort Qu'Appelle. The area of this reserve is seven square miles.

Natural Features.—The soil of this reserve is a sandy clay loam, wooded with poplar timber of small size. Hay is scarcer. Along Jumping Creek there is a strip of land much broken by coulées.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band belong to the Sioux tribe.

Population.—The population consists of forty-three men, fifty-two women and sixty-one children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians on this reserve has been good, and the houses and surroundings kept clean and tidy. Dr. Edwards attends the Indians in this agency as medical officer.

Resources and Occupation.—The occupations of these Indians are fishing in the lakes, farming (but giving more attention to root crops than grain), hunting, putting up hay, and caring for their cattle, working off the reserve in the harvest fields and in the settlement, from which they derive a good income, and furnish their own supplies entirely.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The dwelling houses on this reserve are small, but kept in good order, and some of them very well furnished. The herd of cattle is not large on account of the scarcity of hay in the vicinity, but the animals are well

attended to and stabled during the winter. The implements are put under cover when the working season closes.

Education.—The Qu'Appelle Industrial School has a number of children from this reserve on the roll.

Religion.—The Indians in this band who profess religion belong to the Roman Catholic faith. There is a very nice stone church adjoining the reserve, where services are held and attended by the Indians and settlers in the district. The Indians outside of the above mentioned are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians on the whole are fairly industrious and law-abiding, and are making a comfortable living.

Temperance and Morality.—No complaints have been made against these Indians during the year.

General Remarks.—The work in connection with the general management has been cheerfully and faithfully performed to my satisfaction, by the different officers on their respective reserves.

I have, &c.,

J. B. LASH,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
SASKATCHEWAN—ONION LAKE AGENCY,
ONION LAKE, 1st July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith my annual report for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898.

SEEKASKOOTCH BAND, No. 119.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the north side of the Saskatchewan River, and about twelve miles from Fort Pitt, containing an area of one hundred and seventeen thousand one hundred and twenty acres.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band belong to the Cree tribe.

Population.—The population of this band is five hundred and thirty-five souls, consisting of one hundred and forty-five men, one hundred and eighty-one women, and two hundred and nine children. There has been an increase of thirteen over last year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the members of this band has been good throughout the year, with the exception of a mild form of influenza and whooping cough. No diseases of a contagious nature prevailed.

Sanitary precautions are strictly observed by the Indians: in the autumn all the buildings were whitewashed inside and out, and this spring all the refuse accumulating in the vicinity of the dwellings during winter months was removed and burned. The houses and premises are kept in good order, and in their personal appearance the Indians are neat and clean.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of this reserve consist of farming and stock-raising.

These Indians are engaged in mixed farming and raising cattle; in the latter industry they are becoming very successful. Last year the grain crop was a failure owing to the drought, but in connection with their farms each Indian had a very good vegetable garden, containing potatoes, turnips, carrots and onions. During the winter months the men make bob-sleighs, jumpers, axe and fork handles, also articles of furniture for their houses.

The women continue to make butter for home consumption, knit, sew, make moccasins and tan hides.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The buildings are all of log with the exception of one frame, and in good repair.

The cattle in the hands of these Indians number five hundred and forty-nine head. The animals are in splendid condition and the increase in calves satisfactory.

Government Herd.—The ranches are four in number, located at Long Lake where there is an abundance of hay and good water. There are eight hundred and eighty-three animals in the herd against eight hundred and sixty last year, notwithstanding that during the year, as usual, all the beef requirements for the agency have been furnished from the increase in stock, besides a number of surplus cattle sold.

This band has a fair supply of machinery, considerable of which was private purchases with money derived from the sales of their cattle. The implements receive very good care and when not in use are stored away in a building especially for the purpose and use of the band.

Education.—The two schools on this reserve continue the same; one is under the management of the Roman Catholic mission and Reverend Sisters of the Assumption. The school building is large, well lighted and ventilated. Fifty pupils are enrolled as earners of the department's per capita grant and in the English studies and industries the pupils have made very satisfactory progress. The other is under the auspices of the Church of England mission, the Rev. J. R. Matheson, principal.

Religion.—On this reserve there are two churches, the Roman Catholic and the Anglican. The former is in charge of the Rev. Father Comiré, and the latter presided over by the Rev. J. R. Matheson, missionary.

The Indians show a great deal of interest in religion and regularly attend their respective places of worship.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are progressing favourably and their mode of living has improved, they are industrious and law-abiding. During the year the individual earnings amounted to \$2,792; this was expended by the Indians in procuring machinery, tools, work harness, clothing and other necessities.

Temperance and Morality.—During the year no cases of intemperance have come to my notice, and the general morality of the band is fair.

General Remarks.—The annuity payments took place at this agency on 17th July and were completed on the 20th; as usual everything passed over quietly.

The 1st July was celebrated by the Indians, with horse races, athletic sports, &c. The amusements of the day proved to be a success and were thoroughly enjoyed by the people.

CHIPPEWAYAN BAND, No. 124.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Beaver River, and is not yet surveyed.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Chippewayan tribe.

Population.—The population is composed of fifty-five men, sixty-two women and eighty-four children, making a total of two hundred and one.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—For the past year the health of the members of this band has been good, no epidemics having visited the Indians.

The sanitary condition of the dwellings and premises has been looked after.

Resources and Occupation.—Hunting, fishing, trapping and cattle-raising are the chief resources and occupation—by this means the Indians subsist very well. The

farming done is limited to a few acres of barley and gardens containing potatoes and turnips.

The women tan hides and make moccasins for sale, also a few birch bark baskets and butter for their home use.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The buildings on this reserve are of log and kept in good order.

The stock held by the Indians is chiefly private and numbers three hundred and forty-nine head, and all in good condition.

In the way of farming implements there are a few mowers and rakes on the reserve, private purchases. They are sufficient for the use of this band.

Education.—There is a day school on this reserve, which is under the direction of the Roman Catholic denomination, teacher Mr. L. O. Lamoureux. The attendance during the year has been irregular owing to the Indians being away at their hunting grounds.

Religion.—The Roman Catholic church is the only one in this settlement, the Rev. Father Legoff resident missionary. The Indians of this band all belong to the Roman Catholic faith and regularly attend the services.

I have, &c.,

GEO. G. MANN.

Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

ALBERTA—PIEGAN AGENCY,

MACLEOD, 22nd September, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the report of this agency for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898, together with the usual statement of agricultural and industrial statistics covering the same period.

Reserve.—The Piegan Reserve is situated on the Old Man's River, west of Macleod. Its form is almost square and its area one hundred and eighty-one and two-fifths square miles, or more than one hundred and sixteen thousand acres. In addition to the reserve proper the Piegans have, in the Porcupine Hills, a timber limit containing eleven and a half square miles. The lately constructed Crow's Nest Railway passes through the reserve from the north-east to the south-west corners, there being fifteen miles of track and two sidings (Nos. 5 and 6) within the reserve limits.

Natural Features.—This reserve is composed of undulating prairie land and untimbered hills, all being suitable for grazing purposes. Favourably situated among the hills are several large springs of good water to which the range cattle have easy access throughout the whole year, while the Old Man's River which flows through the reserve, and Beaver Creek, which enters from the north, afford an abundance of water during the open seasons.

Tribe.—The Piegans are a portion of one of the three tribes—Blackfeet, Bloods and Piegans—which form the Blackfoot nation or family in the great Algonkian linguistic stock. These Piegans are commonly, and more accurately, designated the "North Piegans" in order to distinguish them from the larger branch of the tribe—the "South Piegans"—who are United States Indians located in Montana.

Population.—The population of the reserve is six hundred and fifty-eight, of which total number one hundred and seventy are men, two hundred and seven are women, and two hundred and eighty-one are children under sixteen years of age. Further details in connection with this subject are shown in the tabular statement.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the Indians has been satisfactory. Consumption of the lungs and scrofula are the most serious diseases to be contended with and a large proportion of the annual mortality is attributable to them. Vaccination of the children is performed to whatever extent the prejudices of parents permit. Every effort is made to induce the Indians to keep their premises in a sanitary condition, to which end a large quantity of lime was supplied by the department early in the spring and freely issued to the Indians, who were loaned brushes from the agency office and instructed to whitewash their dwellings and outbuildings. In the month of March an alarming number of cases of diphtheria were reported from localities close to the reserve. The Indians were promptly forbidden to visit the proximity of the infected points, and the principals of the two boarding schools were requested to adopt every safeguard against the introduction of the disease among the Indian children under their charge. With the assistance of the Mounted Police authorities, these precautionary measures were continued until all danger had passed, with the desired effect that no diphtheria appeared among the Piegans.

Resources and Occupation.—Climatic conditions of wind, drought and frost prohibit successful farming on this reserve. For about fifteen years a large outlay has been annually made in labour and seed while fruitlessly attempting to grow grain here. While the preparation of the ground was wholesome—though discouraging—occupation for the Indians, the seed grain was literally thrown away, and it is, therefore, the intention of the agency to make no further efforts in that direction but to concentrate all possible attention to cattle-raising, for which the reserve and its inhabitants are better suited. The growing of potatoes, however, is still to be encouraged, as fair crops of them occur nearly every year.

Cattle.—The late winter was an exceptionally severe one on cattle throughout the whole district and the Piegans suffered heavy losses, together with other owners of range cattle. The Indian cattle are now in first-class condition, and among them are to be seen a large percentage of remarkably fine cows. Most of the cattle-owning Piegans take an active interest in their stock and there appears to be no obstacle to a steady increase in the various herds, under proper management.

Buildings and Implements.—A large number of new houses were erected during the year by these Indians, who are building larger and better houses than in the past. While ploughs and other implements formerly used for farming are now only required for putting in the root crop, the Indians, at their own expense, are rapidly becoming possessed of an ample supply of mowers, rakes, and wagons for hay-making, which is work of the greatest importance here.

New Agency Buildings.—The old log building formerly used for rationing purposes having been washed away by the high water of last year, a new frame ration-house has lately been completed, size 18 x 42 feet, containing a waiting-room, 12 x 18, for the accommodation of the women in inclement weather. It will thus be no longer necessary, as hitherto, for the people to stand outside, for an hour or more, in the coldest weather while awaiting their turn during the process of receiving the usual issue of beef and flour.

Education.—With the aid of a grant from the department of \$1,100, the Church of England mission authorities have erected a boarding school near Pincher Creek and close to this reserve. The building is a well built lumber structure, capable of accommodating forty pupils, and it seems to have been admirably planned to meet the requirements of such an institution. Under the superintendence of the Rev. J. Hinchliffe this school is ably conducted, the good effect of school life upon the children being apparent to the most casual observer. As a large number of boys have been drafted from this institution to the Calgary Industrial School, the attendance at present is somewhat lower than usual.

In the heart of the reserve and but a few hundred yards from this agency, the department has just completed, at a cost of \$3,600, a boarding school to be conducted under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church. This consists, of a central three-story building, thirty feet square, facing the south, with two-story wings upon the east and west sides. The wings being each twenty-six feet in width and thirty feet in length give the building a frontage of ninety feet. The central portion of the building contains, on the ground floor, a hallway, reception-room, and two dining-rooms. The second floor is divided into a sewing-room and apartments for the teaching staff. The eastern wing is occupied by the girl pupils and the western by the boys, the ground floor of each being divided into a school-room and a recreation or play-room, while the upper story contains in each wing a single large dormitory. In addition to the stairway in the main building, there is also one located in the extreme end of each dormitory and connecting it with an outer door in the play-room down stairs. There is also a passage running through the centre of the building connecting the dormitories with each other and with the third stairway so that it is impossible for exit from the sleeping rooms to be cut off by fire unless the conflagration occurred at both ends of the building and in the centre simultaneously, an extremely improbable event. The third flat in the central part of the structure is unfinished, but may be fitted up as another dormitory should occasion demand. The building is plastered throughout and well constructed on a stone foundation. Being erected upon high ground in a commanding situation, it is easily the most prominent and attractive building on the reserve.

The school work is in charge of the reverend Sisters of Charity, under the direction of their Superior, the Rev. Sister St. George, who for many years taught one of the Indian day schools on the Blood Reserve. Although this Piegan boarding school has been opened too lately to permit an expression of opinion regarding its strictly educational worth, it would be unjust to refer to the institution without showing appreciation of the tireless care bestowed by the Reverend Sisters upon the Indian children intrusted to them. It has been the writer's fortune to see something of Indian boarding school children elsewhere and to be acquainted with the fact that an enormous amount of labour is entailed in keeping their clothes in order and their persons clean. It is this knowledge of the difficulties of the work which makes it pleasant to state here that too much praise cannot be given to the Rev. Sister St. George and her assistants for the very creditable appearance of their pupils, as such well dressed, clean and respectable looking Indian girls are rarely seen.

Religion.—With a single dubious exception, these Indians are pagan and bid fair to remain so for at least another generation. They are, or until lately were, intensely religious in their own way and seem to have failed to perceive any attraction in Christianity, in spite of the fact that it has been expounded to them incessantly for about twenty years. The missionary labour here is performed by the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church, the former being represented by the Rev. J. Hinchliffe who conducts regular service at the Church of England boarding school, and the latter by the Rev. Father Doucet, who has a good church on the reserve and near the agency. The Indians are not averse to attending the divine service of either denomination, a crowded meeting being quite a common event. Believing it to be a species of charm with material benefits attached to it, the christening of Piegan infants is cheerfully consented to. The missionaries are frequently called upon to marry Indian couples, and in various other ways appear to be acquiring a spiritual influence over their respective flocks, but, regrettable to relate, it is only appearance, for it would be difficult to find a Piegan Indian who has more than the vaguest or most grotesque conception of the religion of civilization. The cause of this apathetic indifference concerning Christianity is not difficult to locate. It is to be found in the following simple fact: the primitive Blackfoot religion was essentially a religion of this material life; there were no rewards or punishments beyond the grave, but every sin brought its penalty and every good act its reward in the present state. While these Blackfoot Indians believed in a future state, it was a mere existence in a land of spirits, an aimless, endless condition in connection with which there was nothing to hope for, nothing to fear, except in so far as it deprived one of the pleasures of this life. Old age, therefore, was the greatest boon that a Blackfoot prayed for, and, according to his cult, that and all

lesser blessings were obtainable by whoever shaped his life in accordance with the will of the pantheon of nature gods which he worshipped. It would seem that the Christian doctrine of immortality should be attractive to such a mind as offering eternal life in place of the short span covered by human existence. But the Blackfoot Indian cannot be persuaded to look so far ahead. It is not clear to an observer whether these peculiar people absolutely discredit the Christian belief in eternal life, or not, but it is certain that they draw a line at the grave and decline to consider benefits to be conferred beyond that mark as adequate compensation for pleasures obtainable this side of it. They are, therefore, reluctant to give up a religion the faithful observance of which brings its material rewards to-day, as it were, in exchange for Christianity, which holds out no such inducements. It will thus be readily seen that the missionaries have undertaken here a somewhat colossal task, as is evidenced by the before mentioned fact that two decades of arduous zeal upon their part have failed to produce a single *bona fide* convert among the Blackfoot tribes. Although the older men and women thus show every indication that they will die in the faith of their fathers, it will, of course, be different in the case of the rising generation, whom the Christian teachers will find to be comparatively unprejudiced listeners.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Piegans, like other prairie Indians, are naturally disinclined to labour, but they are willing enough to do a certain amount of work, though compensation in some tangible form must be discernible. For instance, they do not object to working in the hayfield for a month or more providing hay for their cattle, because they have experienced the profits arising from beef sales. For the same reason many give constant attention to their stock throughout the whole year. They require, however, continuous supervision by agency officials in all matters connected with labour, as they are extremely impractical and must be repeatedly instructed. They are law-abiding to such a satisfactory extent that no possible complaint could be made against them, as a tribe, on that score. There is a remarkable absence of crime on the reserve, much less than in any white community of the same population.

Temperance and Morality.—While extremely fond of intoxicating liquor these Indians do not make a practice of endeavouring to procure it. The few cases of drunkenness that have been dealt with during the year have arisen from the cupidity of white men and half-breeds who purchase the liquor and re-sell it to the Indian for several times its value. This traffic, however, is not now carried on to an alarming extent, a wholesome preventive being the vigilance of the North-west Mounted Police. With reference to the subject of morality, it is unquestionable that the Piegan women are the most moral in the three Blackfoot tribes.

I have, &c.,

R. N. WILSON,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
ALBERTA,—SADDLE LAKE AGENCY,
SADDLE LAKE, 1st July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898, also a statistical statement and an inventory of Government property under my charge.

SADDLE LAKE BAND, No. 125.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated in townships 57 and 58, ranges 10, 11, 12 and 13, west of the 4th meridian. The area, including the south-western portion, occupied by Blue Quill's Band, No. 127, is eighty-two thousand five hundred and sixty acres. Eight thousand nine hundred and sixty acres were surveyed and added to this reserve during the year, given in exchange for the reserve formerly occupied by the Wahsatanow Band, No. 126, which has been surrendered to the Government.

Natural Features.—The surface of the north and west portions is undulating, while to the south-east it is comparatively level. Poplar groves abound all over with an occasional clump of spruce. The pasture is good, but so far, although good for root crops, the soil has not proved itself capable of making grain-growing profitable. There are numerous hay swamps scattered throughout the reserve but none of them large. Saddle Lake, abounding in whitefish and jackfish, is situated close to the northern boundary, about midway between the north-west and north-east corners.

Tribe.—The Indians occupying this reserve belong to the Cree nation.

Population.—The population, including Blue Quill's Band, is two hundred and twenty-two, made up as follows: fifty-one men, sixty-one women and one hundred and ten children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—With the exception of a few standing cases of consumption and scrofula there has been very little sickness on the reserve, due in a great measure to stricter attention to cleanliness and better clothing. Houses and premises are kept cleaner than formerly, and the clearing and burning up of refuse collected about the houses during winter was a duty properly attended to last spring.

Resources and Occupation.—An attempt is made every year to raise grain, but with no great success. Several Indians have taken up new places round the lake (Saddle Lake) and have ploughed and cropped new fields. Last season the crop was a failure, but the prospects are brighter for the harvest approaching. Stock-raising is the principal industry followed and there are several families owning good herds of cattle. It requires constant work during hay time to put up a sufficiency for winter, and owing to the distances that have to be travelled, cold weather has set in before any quantity can be hauled to the stables; this necessitates hauling in the winter, which, in addition to otherwise attending to their cattle, keeps stockholders pretty well employed until spring. Some of the Indians are very handy at making sleighs and the greater number of those used on the reserve are home made.

Buildings.—The dwelling-houses are all log and one roomed, warm and well built. In summer they have a neglected appearance as the Indians prefer living in their tents during the warm weather and move off to different places, finding it more conducive to health and comfort. In autumn the houses are remudded and washed with "whitemud," a substitute for lime, there not being any limestone to be found in the neighbourhood.

Stock.—The live stock has been in good condition all through the year with the exception of two of the new bulls received which on their arrival here were pulled down by the journey, and which partly accounts for a small crop of calves. The bulls are, however, now in fine condition.

Implements.—The Indians who hold any number of cattle have their private mowers, rakes and wagons and those that cultivate most land have private ploughs and harrows, all of which, as well as the department implements, are kept in good repair by the farmer.

Education.—The day school on this reserve is situated in the quarter occupied by the Saddle Lake Band and is under the auspices of the Methodist Church. Of this division nine children are pupils at the Methodist industrial school at Red Deer, three are at the Regina Presbyterian industrial school and two at the Roman Catholic boarding school at Lac la Biche.

At present the portion of the reserve occupied by Blue Quill's Band is without a school, but within a few weeks the buildings for a boarding school under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church will be completed, when the school at Lac la Biche will be closed and the children moved to the new building at Blue Quill's. There are now thirteen children of Blue Quill's Band at the school at Lac la Biche.

Religion.—The Indians of Saddle Lake Band are mostly Methodist, the remainder being Roman Catholic. Service is held every Sunday morning in the school-house, and in the afternoons and evenings at some Indian's house. The Rev. A. G. McKetrick is the missionary and he also fills the position of teacher at the Saddle Lake day school. The Roman Catholics of this band attend service at the mission at Blue Quill's.

The Indians of Blue Quill's Band are almost entirely Roman Catholic and attend service conducted by the Rev. Father Grandin and the Rev. Father Boulin at the mission situated on the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—Treating the Saddle Lake and Blue Quill's Bands collectively the Indians are advancing; one, namely Augustine Steinhauer, may be called entirely self-supporting, and I hope soon to see another as independent.

WHITEFISH LAKE BAND, No. 128.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated north of Saddle Lake in townships 61 and 62, ranges 12 and 13, west of the 4th meridian, and measures eleven thousand two hundred acres. It is long and narrow, stretching about ten miles in a northerly direction along the shores of Goodfish Lake and Whitefish Lake.

Natural Features.—The greater part of this reserve is rolling surface, thickly wooded with poplar with a few patches of spruce. There are several large hay swamps, but, owing to continual cutting from year to year, the yield is falling short. The ground is very stony, but the cultivated parts show that the soil is favourable for raising crops, both grain and root, when the weather affords proper help.

Tribe.—The Whitefish Lake Indians belong to the Cree nation. Pakan or James Seenum, who is chief of the three bands, Saddle Lake, Blue Quill's and Whitefish Lake, lives on this reserve.

Population.—The Indians living on the reserve number three hundred and twenty-eight, made up of sixty-seven men, ninety-two women and one hundred and sixty-nine children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has improved, there are, of course, cases of consumption and scrofula which are always to be found, but with these exceptions there has been very little sickness during the year. Sanitary measures are enforced as strictly as possible.

Resources and Occupation.—Mixed farming is followed here with greater success than at Saddle Lake, and those not employed at farm work earn a little by freighting for traders and the different missions throughout the country, some get work on the Hudson's Bay Company's boats while others do a little hunting.

Two fishing lakes forming part of the western boundary of the reserve from which a goodly supply of fish is drawn, are a valuable assistance to the Indian, especially in winter time.

Buildings.—All the dwellings are built of logs and are nearly all one roomed, every autumn they are mudded and made warm for the winter. Open fireplaces are general and only very few have stoves. Tables, chairs, bedsteads and modern cooking utensils are to be seen in many of the houses.

Stock.—The cattle are all looking in excellent condition, and the natural increase is satisfactory.

Implements.—The largest stockholders have their own mowers, rakes and wagons. One mower, one rake and two wagons have been added to the number during the year.

Education.—There are two day schools on this reserve, one at Goodfish Lake towards the south end and the second at Whitefish Lake towards the north end. In order to reach the children midway between the two schools, too far distant for them to walk to either, classes are held once or twice a week at an Indian house in the neighbourhood, and at Whitefish Lake for the accommodation of children who live at a distance and wish to attend school, and for others if they choose. There is a small boarding house, supported by the Methodist Mission, excepting that the rations which the children would receive if they were living with their parents are allowed by the department. The matron and school teacher live in this building.

Religion.—The Indians of this reserve are mostly Methodist. The mission is situated at the north end of the reserve where there is a church in which service is held on Sunday mornings by the Rev. E. B. Glass. Service is also held on Sunday afternoons or evenings at the school-house at the south end of the reserve, and occasionally there is a service in the blacksmith's shop at the farm, midway between the church and school-house at the south end.

The Indians belonging to the Roman Catholic Church are visited by the missionaries of that denomination from Lac la Biche and Blue Quill's.

Characteristics and Progress.—The spirit of independence is strongly developed in some of these Indians, they try to get on without help from the department and will, no doubt, eventually succeed. Others, on the contrary, are indolent and indifferent and think only of to-day.

Saw-mill.—About fifty thousand feet of lumber were sawn during the months of March and April, a considerable portion of which will be used by the Indians in improving their houses. The toll taken is one in every three logs.

Grist-mill.—A little over one hundred and fifty sacks of flour were ground, which was owned chiefly by Indians who call least upon the department for help. Four small grists were made for settlers, for which a small toll was charged and the grain received therefrom used for change of seed for the Indians.

The mill was originally intended to be driven by water power and was therefore built by the side of a creek from which it was expected a lasting supply of water would be received; the supply, however, diminished, and steam had to be resorted to. The site was found to be very inconvenient, the approach being difficult from all sides, and in spring the melting snow from the creek banks flooded the mill. The building, therefore, has this summer been moved closer to the farmhouse, where an ample supply of water for the engine has been found by sinking a well. There was much difficulty in finding water; several wells had to be sunk before a site could be decided upon. The building has now been erected, a great improvement on the old one, and the machinery is being re-arranged, and when completed we shall have a very nice little mill. The work is being very satisfactorily carried on by the miller, ably assisted by the farmer. The cash cost of this improvement will not exceed \$65.

Another improvement on this reserve will be the flooding of an extent of hay land which of late has suffered for want of moisture. A dam across the creek, not far from the farm has been commenced, which, besides having the desired effect, will serve as a bridge to cross the creek.

LAC LA BICHE BAND, No. 129.

This is a little band of treaty half-breeds, consisting of four men, eight women and six children, together numbering eighteen persons. They obtain their living by hunting and trapping.

CHIPPEWAYAN BAND, No. 130.

These Indians live in the Heart Lake district and rely almost entirely on hunting and fishing for a living. They number sixty-six persons, made up as follows: twelve men, seventeen women and eighteen boys and nineteen girls.

BEAVER LAKE BAND No. 131.

These Indians inhabit the country round about Beaver Lake, about twelve miles from Lac la Biche. They receive very little help from the department and make a living hunting and fishing. The population at last census was one hundred and nine—twenty-five men, thirty one women, twenty-three boys and thirty girls. Two boys and one girl are pupils at the Lac la Biche boarding school.

TEMPERANCE AND MORALITY.

I do not know of a single case of any of the Indians under my charge having been supplied with liquor, and I have no reason to believe that any of them are inclined to intemperance, but they are not free from immorality.

On the whole the Indians seem contented and are slowly progressing.

I have, &c.,

W. SIBBALD,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
ALBERTA—SARCEE AGENCY,
CALGARY, 1st September, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit for your information the following report for the year ended 30th June, 1898, along with a statistical statement and inventory of all Government property under my charge.

Reserve.—The area of the Sarcee Reserve is sixty-nine thousand one hundred and twenty acres. The soil is a dark loam with clay subsoil. The land is rolling and a considerable portion of the reserve is well wooded, specially in the western end, where there is some good spruce, poplar and jack pine.

The Fish Creek, Elbow River and several small streams traverse the reserve at different points. There are also numerous hay meadows scattered over the reserve from which the Indians put up considerable quantities of hay each season.

Tribe.—The members of this band are Sarcee or Beaver Indians.

Population.—The population consists of seventy-five men, ninety-nine women and fifty-three children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health, generally speaking, has been very good. There has been no epidemic or disease of a serious nature on the reserve. All sanitary precautions are duly observed and the Indians are gradually becoming more alive to the necessity of cleanliness around their premises than formerly. The birth-rate for the year was fifty-two per thousand, while the death-rate was only forty-four. The deaths were principally from scrofula and consumption. Dr. Lafferty, the medical officer, visits the reserve when his services are required. He is painstaking and sympathetic with the Indians.

Resources and Occupation.—A number of the Indians are engaged in farming, stock-raising, hay-making, drawing wood and hay to town for sale, tanning hides, hunting, picking berries and working for ranchers in the neighbourhood.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Most of the Indians have comfortable houses built of logs with shingle roofs, with good upstairs, whitewash used in and out, well floored, with good doors and windows. Many have cooking stoves and comfortable bedsteads, and chairs and tables. These Indians are gradually getting into stock and some will have beef cattle to sell this season. Most of the implements and machinery are owned by the department and are loaned to the Indians when required.

Education.—The parents take considerable interest in the education of their children and all of school age are now either in the Calgary industrial or boarding school on the reserve. The boarding school under the Venerable Archdeacon Tims is situated near the agency. This institution is visited by me once a month. The boys are taught gardening, milking, sawing and cutting wood, and the girls sewing, cooking and house-keeping, in addition to the class work.

Religion.—Twenty-three claim to belong to the Anglican Church, seven to the Roman Catholic, and one hundred and ninety-seven are pagans. Venerable Archdeacon Tims is the resident missionary on the reserve, and services are held regularly in the English church on the reserve. Some of the Indians are very regular attendants.

Characteristics and Progress.—Speaking generally, these Indians are naturally lazy and indifferent. They are, however, law-abiding. A few are becoming better off, and in a short time, if they only continue as they are doing now, should be independent.

Among them I may mention Big Crow, Many Swans, Big Belly, Crow Child, Jim Big Plume, One Spot, Bull Collar, Pat Grasshopper.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are passionately fond of strong drink, and will, when an opportunity occurs, indulge freely. They are looked after very closely, and their great dread of the North-west Mounted Police guard-room has more to do with their sobriety than anything else.

No complaints have been made against these Indians of cattle-killing on the ranges, and, outside of a few cases of drunkenness, their conduct has been good.

General Remarks.—A number of tourists, both American and European, visited the reserve at different times during the year, and seemed deeply interested in the red man and his life on the reserve. Many were surprised to find him engaged in farming, and so far advanced in the ways of the white man. They expected to see him the same as depicted in the Fenimore Cooper novels a century or two ago.

In concluding this report, I have much pleasure in testifying to the valuable assistance rendered me by my staff.

I have, &c.,

A. J. McNEILL,
Indian Agent

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
STONY RESERVE,
MORLEY, 31st August, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report, together with statistical statement and inventory of Government property under my charge for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserve.—The reserve is situated on the Bow River some forty miles west of Calgary and immediately on the line of the C. P. R., Morley station being near the centre of the reserve. The total area is sixty-nine thousand seven hundred and twenty acres, about one-third of which is under timber.

Resources.—The resources of this reserve are stock-raising and root-growing.

Tribe.—These Indians nearly all belong to the Stony tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is five hundred and eighty-one.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—On the whole the general health of the band is improving, consumption and scrofula are the principal ailments; the latter, however, has been successfully treated by Dr. Lafferty and is disappearing.

Occupation.—Hunting and fishing is their chief occupation, but during the past year they have cut a good deal of wood for sale and are devoting more time to their stock.

Buildings.—They are building a better class of houses and repairing the old ones, the sod roof is being replaced by shingles and floors are more generally used.

Stock.—The cattle came through the severe winter fairly well, the loss being principally among old cows and calves. A good part of the beef for rations has been supplied by the Indians. Two four-year-old thoroughbred short-horn bulls were supplied by Mr. J. E. Smith, of Brandon, last spring and are doing very well. The Indians have a large number of horses, some very good and the quality is improving fast.

Implements.—The Indians have this year purchased six mowers and three horse rakes with their own money, also eight new wagons, and are showing a greater interest in this direction.

Education.—The McDougall Orphanage boarding school has now thirty-nine pupils, about as many as can be accommodated, and under the management of Mr. J. W. Niddrie seems to be giving good satisfaction. Increased space and a water supply are the things needful.

The two day schools are practically closed.

Religion and Morality.—The Stonies are all Methodists and the services held in the mission church on Sunday are well attended. The Rev. John McDougall, Superintendent of Indian Missions, resides here and is assisted by the Rev. R. B. Steinhauer.

Characteristics and Progress.—As a band the Stonies are industrious, the growing interest in their individual holdings, the purchasing of wagons, machinery, cook-stoves, household furniture, and the fencing of pasture, all seem to point to permanent civilization. Three or four at least will wean their calves and feed them during the coming winter.

General Remarks.—Some improvements have been made in the agent's house by finishing off a kitchen and enlarging the dining-room.

Root-growing is very uncertain, but the brome grass sown last year seems to be coming on nicely and the hay gives promise of a good crop.

I have, &c.,

E. J. BANGS,
Farmer in Charge.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

ASSINIBOIA—SWAN RIVER AGENCY,

CÔTÉ, 9th August, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report, statistical statement and inventory of Government property on hand 30th June, 1898.

CÔTÉ RESEVE No. 64 (SAULTEAUX)

Reserve and Population.—This reserve is situated on the east side of the Assiniboine River, and has an area of thirty-six thousand one hundred and sixteen acres, with a population of two hundred and sixty-one, consisting of sixty-five men, seventy-two women, and one hundred and twenty-four children. The soil is a rich heavy clay that is very slow to ripen crops with any certainty, and subject to summer frosts. In the River (Assiniboine) bottoms are the hay field, which if the river overflows in the spring, always give a good yield, but this is not enough for the increasing demand. There is no large timber, but many bluffs of small poplar.

Resources and Occupation.—The Indians are limited as to their earnings; they are too far from any settlement to sell wood or hay, so have to depend chiefly on their stock of cattle and sheep. The root crop is generally a fair one. There are a few who make a living by the hunt, but settlement coming in, will soon end this. They have acquired, chiefly through the sale of cattle, a number of mowers, rakes and wagons. Buildings are improving yearly and I may say are above the average.

Education.—There is a boarding school on this reserve, having an attendance of twenty-nine, there are also about sixteen pupils at the Regina industrial school.

Religion.—The band is chiefly Presbyterian, having a church in the centre of the reserve, which is very well attended.

Progress.—These Indians no longer live in villages, but have homes scattered about, miles apart, and which they are fond of. Many have secured enough property about them to interest and occupy their minds. All the women can milk and considerable revenue comes from this in certain seasons of the year. A number have between thirty and forty head of cattle each, also sheep, fowls, wagons, mowers, cook-stoves and good household furniture. The band has of all kinds one hundred and ten head of horses.

KEY'S BAND, No. 65, (CREES).

Reserve and Population.—The reserve abuts on the Assiniboine River, sixteen miles from the agency headquarters on Côté Reserve in a north-westerly direction. It has an area of nineteen thousand five hundred and sixty acres, with a population of two hundred and twenty-seven souls (about one hundred and forty of these live at the fishing reserve at Shoal River, Lake Winnipegosis). This band has fifty men, sixty women and one hundred and seventeen children.

The reserve is well wooded, the soil is not a heavy clay and is of good quality. There is a considerable quantity of hay on the north side.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians are chiefly occupied with their stock. William and Thomas Brass are handy men, and do odd jobs of carpenter work, they grow roots and some barley. Susan Brass, daughter of William, makes and sells a good deal of butter during the summer. They all have fowls. The dwellings are extra good and clean. On the whole they live very comfortably.

The portion of the band residing at Shoal River, Lake Winnipegosis, live chiefly by their hunt and on fish. They have seventy head of cattle, very good gardens of potatoes, turnips, onions and carrots. They have built a number of new houses, and are progressing.

Education.—There are two day schools for this band, one here and one at Shoal River. Both are well attended.

Religion.—All the members of the band belong to the Church of England excepting the chief, his three brothers, and three other families, who are pagans. These Indians have two churches, one at each of their respective settlements.

Progress.—These Indians are progressing, they fully understand the value of their stock, and know it is about the only means to give them their living. Over two-thirds of them are self-supporting.

KEESEKOUSE BAND, No. 66 (SWAMPY CREES.)

Reserve and Population.—The area of this reserve is eighteen thousand three hundred and two acres, and abuts on the Assiniboine River.

The population consists of thirty-eight men, forty-nine women and sixty-eight children, making a total of one hundred and fifty-five.

Natural Features.—Part of the reserve has a quantity of good-sized poplar, a number of hay meadows, but the latter are not nearly sufficient for the wants of the Indians. The soil is generally good, excepting a small portion which is sand. The pasturage is all that could be desired.

Resources and Occupation.—The Indians of this band are chiefly engaged with their stock, which is of superior quality. Quencezance and Kitchimonia farm about twenty acres each of oats and barley with fair success. They all grow roots, this is supplemented with their hunting and fishing, attending cattle and hauling hay, some of it a long distance.

Buildings and Implements.—The former are of good size, chiefly built of spruce, and are warm and comfortable. Nearly all the Indians have double wagons, mowers and rakes.

Education and Religion.—There is a day school which is fairly attended considering the long distance some children have to travel, also a mission church under the direction of the Rev. Father DeCorby.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health has been good, we have had to contend with an epidemic of la grippe and some cases of chronic scrofula, which was the cause of a few deaths, beyond this I find their health has improved. Certainly if sanitary precautions are of any avail, they should improve, for the greatest care has been taken in these matters; they understand why it is done and accede to all directions relating hereto.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious if continually pushed and looked after, morally they are afraid of being scolded for negligence, the best economy is sufficient supervision, certainly they have advanced in manhood, in the knowledge of living and the value of money. Also they are kinder to animals. Their stock has so improved by breeding that they have received the highest figure for their steers, no one in this district has been paid a higher price than they got. Tribal influence is a mere shadow, they have their home and property about them, and their business with the agent is no one else's, so there is no necessity for further talk with chief or headmen or anybody else in the matter. They have been taught that their first care should be to provide for their own families and the future: this has been taken up to such an extent, that in some cases they have become mean and close with their property.

In religious matters they are very good and their attendance at church regular, but their truthfulness could be improved. They are law-abiding and have been taught to understand what law means; that it is the protector and friend of all that do right, the law protects their property and their lives; since this is its object, it has lost its terrors except to the evil doers.

I have, &c.,

W. E. JONES,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
ASSINIBOIA—TOUCHWOODS HILLS AGENCY,
KUTAWA, 20th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following annual report of my agency for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Reserves.—There are six reserves in this agency, viz:—Muscowequan's, No. 85, Saulteaux; George Gordon's, No. 86, Day Star's, No. 87, Poor Man's, No. 88, all Crees; and Yellow Quill's Band, Nos. 89 and 90, Saulteaux.

Location.—The reserves immediately around the agency are situated in townships 26 to 29, and ranges 14 to 17; while the Indians of Yellow Quill's Band, who live one hundred miles north from the agency, have two reserves, known as the Nut and Fishing Lake Reserves which are situated in townships 33, 38 and 39, ranges 12 and 13, all west of 2nd initial meridian. The agency headquarters is very prettily situated on section 16, range 16, township 28. Gordon and Muscowequan's Reserves are located in what are locally called the Little Touchwood Hills that were until a few years ago heavily timbered, but prairie fires have destroyed the greater part of it. Day Star and Poor Man Reserves, in what are locally called the Big Touchwood Hills, have yet a fair supply of good timber still standing. The agency headquarters is about sixty miles from Fort Qu'Appelle and about seventy-five from Qu'Appelle Station and Regina.

Area, and Natural Features.—The total area of the six reserves is one hundred and thirteen thousand three hundred and eighty-six acres. About thirty-two thousand acres of this is covered with wood, but not in the sense of what is considered woods in the east, as our largest timber here is poplar, and a great deal of the above wooded area only consists of willow, scrub, and small bluffs. We have no running streams here nearer than the Qu'Appelle River, but the reserves are interspersed with a number of ponds and lakes, some of which are a considerable size. Fishing Lake, part of which is on the

reserve, is about six miles across and Nut Lake is still larger. These are the only lake^s in the agency that contain fish, which are not plentiful by any means at the present time.

Population.—The population of the different reserves is as follows: Muscowequan's, thirty-six men, forty-eight women, sixty-six children; George Gordon's, fifty men, forty-four women, sixty-nine children; Day Star's, twenty-two men, twenty-two women, thirty-three children; Poor Man's, thirty-two men, thirty-three women, thirty-eight children; Yellow Quill's, one hundred and three men, one hundred and twenty-five women and one hundred and thirty-eight children; a total of two hundred and forty-three men, two hundred and seventy-two women, and three hundred and forty-four children; making a grand total of eight hundred and fifty nine souls all told.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the Indians this year has been good, no particular form of disease has appeared amongst them. There have been several cases of inflammation of the bowels, three of which terminated fatally, and in such serious cases it is unfortunate that we are so far from a medical practitioner, *i.e.* sixty miles, as before medical advice can be obtained it is too late to benefit the patient. With respect to deaths among the children, the majority of those that die appear to suddenly take a decline, and although they may last for a length of time, they seem to give up hope, "let go the ropes," medicine has little or no effect on them, and they gradually fade away. Scrofula and consumption are ever present on the reserves, and little can be done to help those affected, outside of a hospital, as even those suffering from the disease will, in the middle of winter, drive a distance of twenty miles in an evening to a friend's invitation to a tea dance, and after being in a profuse perspiration all night, will drive home in the morning with the thermometer standing at from thirty to forty below zero. This would naturally have an effect upon the strongest man, but whether they believe it affects them or not, nothing will induce them to forego the pleasures of a dance, except incapability. Scrofula is no doubt hereditary with them, and it is impossible to get them to take proper means to lessen the disease. Their efforts are to heal up the outward sores, without first purifying the blood, and the usual result is that shortly after the outward sores are healed up, it breaks internally, and then has the appearance sometimes of changing to consumption. Picking at the sores with dirty fingers and bandaging with dirty linen is another impediment to their improvement. But so long as cleanliness is a trouble, they will not participate. The usual sanitary precautions of whitewashing houses, cleaning up all dirt, chips and other refuse around the houses in the spring, and burning, have been carried out. At the present time nine-tenths of the Indians in the agency are living in their canvas lodges, and as they move a short distance every few days, their camp is always clean. One peculiar characteristic of the Indian is his choice of drinking water: he will pass by the finest well or spring in the country to go and get his drinking and cooking water from a good grassy slough, and I have seen them take a dipper from a pail of fresh spring water in the house, go outside and take a drink from the rain-water barrel in preference.

Resources and Occupation.—The principal occupation and source of profit on all the reserves in the agency, with the exception of Nut Lake, is cattle-raising, and this no doubt can be carried on very successfully in this district. The greatest trouble is to induce the Indian to take sufficient interest in his stock during the first few years while his herd is small and he gets but little cash return. His impressions are that he ought to be well fed by the Government for looking after his cattle and it is sometimes necessary to allow him to kill a steer and sell part of it in order to prove to him that there is some real benefit to be obtained by caring for and increasing his herd. The department having ceased to provide the Indians with mowers, rakes, and harness, it now takes all the money received from their surplus stock to provide themselves with these necessities for caring for a large herd of cattle, and there are now a large number here who have from fifteen to thirty head each, but until such time as they have provided themselves with these necessities, it is imperative that the department should assist them with food. Some few of the Indians have this year completed their outfit of mower, rake, harness, and team of horses, and next year they will be dropped from the list of those requiring assistance from the department. Last winter a few Indians who had

more hay than they required for their own stock, wintered cattle for the traders at \$4.00 per head, and at present a number of others intend going into this next winter. So long as they do not neglect their own cattle, I see no reason to object to it, as many half-breeds and white settlers in the district make their winter's supplies that way.

I have now fifty head of cattle on the Fishing Lake Reserve and hope to induce the Indians there to take a greater interest in stock-raising in the future. As soon as a railway reaches that district via Yorkton I am convinced it will prove a good wheat country. There is a small party of Indians, belonging to Yellow Quill's Band, who have lived for the last fifty years in the same locality, about forty miles north-west of Nut Lake. They go by the name of the Kinistino family and show very different traits of character from the Indians on either side of them. They do not attend the medicine or other dances of the Indians given annually in the district. They have planted garden seeds for many years, purchased by themselves, and now have twenty-four head of cattle obtained by the proceeds of furs sold. This they have done without any instruction or guidance other than that they picked up from observation amongst the few scattered settlers in that district. I relate this merely to show that one occasionally runs across Indians who instinctively follow the ways of the white man without force or persuasion.

On Gordon's Reserve, wheat-growing is carried on very successfully without injury from summer frosts, and our great trouble there is to get sufficient land clear enough to cultivate. On Poor Man's Reserve we can also grow wheat successfully, some years being slightly touched with frost. On this reserve we can get a large acreage of good wheat land. Last season's good crop so encouraged the Indians in farming that this spring they subscribed sufficient money out of their annuity and beef receipts to purchase a seeder, which I hope in the future will insure more even growth and better results in the crop. On Day Stars and Muscowequan' Reserves frost has greatly interfered with farming in the way of grain-raising and gardens; on the latter reserve about twenty acres of new land has been broken this spring with the intention of once more giving a thorough good trial to grain-raising before abandoning it. Should it not prove successful it is my intention to seed the cultivated land to bromus grass.

There not being any town near us, the Indians do not get many opportunities of earning money, as there is little sale for hay or wood. Small amounts are, however, earned by freighting for the department and traders, sale of bead-work, wild fruit, tanning hides, herding, haying, and putting up log buildings for the settlers, the latter being done by the half-breeds only. At Nut Lake hunting and trapping is still successfully carried on, the Indians there securing about \$11,000 worth of furs last winter.

Buildings.—The buildings upon all the reserves are of log, a few on Gordon's Reserve have shingled roofs and floors, the rest have thatched or pole and mud roofs. The houses are not all that is desired, but the inclination is towards advancement, as every new house built by an Indian is always a very great improvement on the old one, and as soon as they can afford it they all procure lumber for floors, tables, and cupboards. The stables when repaired in the fall are all warm and comfortable and of sufficient size to accommodate all the live stock during the winter.

Stock.—The total quantity of live stock upon all the reserves together, is as follows:—four stallions, two hundred and fifty-five horses, fourteen bulls, fifty-one oxen, two hundred and fifty-three steers, two hundred and eighty cows, three hundred and seventeen young cattle, nineteen sheep and lambs, three pigs and four turkeys.

The stock all wintered well and are now in splendid condition. With the exception of Muscowequan's Reserve, we have had a good crop of calves in all the herds, and it is still increasing. The Muscowequan herd has been unfortunate in the bulls supplied for two or three years, resulting in few calves and a number of barren cows. This year, however, I have supplied a young thoroughbred shorthorn bull from Ontario and I now think the shortage will be rectified. As the Indians accumulate property around them, purchased from the proceeds of their herd, they gradually take more interest in their cattle, particularly in the steers. Their want of forethought prevents them from taking the care of calves and heifers that they should do. But no doubt as the years go on and their herds and profit increase, their interests and management of the herds will be in proportion.

Since the department ceased issuing cattle to Indians, many of those who previously refused to take cattle, now realize that they missed their opportunity, and are now anxious to get them. This spring I obtained fifty head of surplus cows and heifers from the Government herd at Muscowpetung Agency, twenty-five of which I sent to the Fishing Lake Reserve and distributed the rest among young men of the other reserves who were anxious to make a start in cattle-raising.

The Indian ponies are but scrubs and of little use to the Indians except to ride around on or pull a jumper in winter. Nevertheless, the Indian still has a greater love for a five dollar cayuse than he has for a forty dollar steer, and will never neglect to care for his pony regularly in feed and water, although he will abuse it cruelly when riding or driving. This, no doubt, is a trait inherited from bygone days when the Indian reckoned his wealth by the number of horses he owned. About fifteen head of good sized horses have been bought by the Indians during the year, for use on their mowers and other work at the hay, as the oxen which they had previously used were too slow to cut and save sufficient hay for the increasing herds of cattle.

Implements.—Since the department ceased to supply implements to these Indians they have made rapid strides in providing themselves with the necessary machinery, out of money received for beef, and it is wonderful to see the careful manner in which they will run it and care for it, compared with the careless, malicious manner they used to handle the department's machinery. It is difficult now to get them to lend to each other, although they will do work for each other for a consideration.

Owning their wagons, mowers, rakes, harness and horses is a great stride of advancement in every way. They have bought during the year nine wagons, eight mowers, six rakes and eight sets of horse harness.

Education.—There is a day school on Day Star's Reserve in charge of Mrs. S. E. Smythe, the teacher, at which the attendance is most regular and no trouble is experienced in keeping up a good average. On Gordon's Reserve there is a large stone boarding school conducted under the care of the Church of England. Mr. Mark Williams is now principal and Mrs. Williams matron. The attendance is regular and progress in studies is satisfactory. The children appear to be happy and contented and take an interest in their work. The interior of the buildings and surroundings are very clean and well kept, while the large vegetable garden would be a credit to any institution. On Muscowequan's Reserve there is a large stone boarding school, or, I should be more correct in saying, it is on a quarter section of land owned by the Roman Catholic Church authorities that jogs into the reserve limits. It is conducted under the care of the above church and always has its full complement of children allowed by the department. Here a professional lady teacher belonging to the sisterhood is doing excellent work, and I cannot speak too highly of the lady superintendent, Sister Mary Xavier. The principal, Rev. Father Perrault, has only been a short time in charge, he is most energetic and painstaking in his endeavours to carry on the school successfully. The cleanliness in and around the whole building is extreme and the children appear to be perfectly happy and contented with their surroundings. There are a number of children attending the Elkhorn and Qu'Appelle industrial schools. Some of the early scholars having learned a trade have returned to the reserves, and it seems a pity they cannot be found a position to work at their trade away from the reserve influences.

Religion.—With the exception of a few on Gordon's Reserve, the Indians here do not develop much interest in the Christian religion, nor, in my estimation, is this to be wondered at, as it certainly takes a developed mind to grasp with any amount of faith the tenets of the Christian religion. The old and middle-aged still cling to their old beliefs and the younger people do not take any interest in religion of any kind; the young children growing up at schools will in all probability incline towards Christianity, and their children will not know anything about their grandparents' beliefs.

Characteristics and Progress.—We have every degree of the industrious Indian here, from the man who is willing to do anything and go anywhere for a job, to the lazy, indolent old-timer who travels continually visiting, living upon his friends, and who considers it a disgrace and beneath his dignity to do a hand's turn. There are very few, however, who will not work willingly and well, if they are to be paid in cash; but

they do not consider that being paid in Government food is to be compared as the equivalent to money, although they may receive a very much greater value. The greatest trouble is their improvidence, sufficient for the time being seems to be as far as they can see, and even those in fair circumstances do not see the good of having more than they can eat and wear, and I am inclined to think this trait will not disappear until the Government ration-house is a thing of the past.

Progress is slow but assured, their principal revenue is from cattle, which simply requires time to increase sufficiently to render them independent. There is hardly a non-treaty half-breed in the country that grows wheat for profit, and it is doubtful if the Indian will continue to cultivate the land when Government coercion is withdrawn.

I have not found it necessary in a single instance during the year to call in the aid of the law.

Temperance and Morality.—It was rumoured on one or two occasions that there had been liquor on Gordon's Reserve, but I never could get any proof of it. We are so isolated from towns or settlement that there are few, if any, opportunities for the Indians to procure intoxicants, and I have no reason to suppose that any of them are addicted to the use of it. As regards immorality, I can assuredly say that outside of the reserves I have seen less of it here than at any of the eight agencies where I have lived. Among themselves, their own ideas must be considered, and if occasional cases do occur, they are well within their own code, and will gradually disappear with the coming generations.

General Remarks.—Last winter, although not very severe, was extremely long. For five months steady we had to feed and water all live stock. And although some of the Indians ran out of hay, they were able to buy from others, and we succeeded in getting through without losing an animal for want of food. This year (1898) we have had all the extremes in weather, most violent rain and wind storms seen for years, the heat up to ninety-five in the shade, after which we had a slight frost and were glad to put on overcoats. The spring growth was very slow, although there was plenty of rain, potatoes in some instances lying in the ground for a month before they sprouted; growth is now very fast, and I think we shall have but little trouble in getting a good supply of hay for next winter.

No attempt was made by the Indians to get up a sun dance this spring, and I think there are very few really in favour of that sort of thing, although if it were started many would feel bound to help in the hub-bub.

The agency house and office have had a stone foundation put under them and have been willowed and plastered, it has made them very much warmer and increased their value, in my estimation, twenty-five per cent. The stable was also willowed and mudded, which makes a very complete job for that class of building.

It is unfortunate the North-west Mounted Police have reduced their post here to one man, as should it ever be my misfortune to have to call in the aid of the police, one man would be utterly useless, and it is too far to the next post (seventy-five miles) to get timely assistance.

Before closing I wish to say that my staff have given me their hearty assistance.

I have, &c.,

S. SWINFORD,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
BATTLEFORD INSPECTORATE,
PRINCE ALBERT, 4th Nov., 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report on the inspection of Indian agencies and reserves for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898.

Limits of Inspectorate.—The Battleford Inspectorate comprises that portion of Treaty No. 6 lying north of the 52nd parallel of latitude, and between the 104th and the 112th degrees of longitude, in addition to a large band of hunting Indians located in the valley of the Churchill River and Whitecap's Reserve at Moose Woods in Assiniboia.

MOOSE WOODS BAND.

My duties within the Battleford inspectorate began with the inspection of the reserve of this band on the 26th of July, 1897.

Buildings.—The houses are small but well built and comfortable, and are furnished with all the most essential household articles, chiefly bought, but in some instances home-made, as tables and benches. These things were neatly arranged; an effort was made to ornament the walls. The houses and premises were clean and in good order.

Occupation.—The chief employment of these Indians is cattle-raising and dairying, and under the favourable conditions existing, the reserve being well watered and rich in hay-lands, these industries are a pronounced success. The cattle are of a particularly fine class, the result evidently of careful attention to breeding and to wintering. At the date of inspection a sale of three-year-old steers had just been completed in which the prices ranged from \$37 to \$42. Little attention is here given to grain-growing, the soil having been found unfavourable, but gardens are cultivated with success, the best parts of the reserve being selected for this purpose.

General Condition.—These Indians are industrious and are now almost self-supporting. They show much willingness to adopt, and aptness to imitate, civilized modes of life.

WILLIAM CHARLES' BAND.

This band was inspected at the time of the annuity payments, August 28th, 1897.

Reserve.—Their reserve, situated at Montreal Lake, one hundred miles north of Prince Albert, consists chiefly of heavily timbered land, the only exception being occasional swamps and muskegs producing a poor quality of hay.

Occupation.—This band had at the date of inspection twenty-four head of cattle, which they wintered with difficulty on account of the scarcity of good feed. As a rule each family cultivates a garden of potatoes; but apart from this their sole employments are hunting and fishing, both of which yield as yet moderately good returns.

Population.—The band consists of Cree Indians, numbering in all one hundred and forty-three.

Education.—There is a day school on the reserve, but as only a few families are ever settled in the neighbourhood of the school and those only for a few months in the year, the attendance is small and irregular.

Religion.—These Indians belong to the Church of England, and are under the charge of the Rev. T. Clarke, who acts as missionary and teacher and overseer of the reserve.

JAMES ROBERTS' BAND.

This band has its headquarters at Lac la Ronge, on the northern boundary of the District of Saskatchewan, about one hundred miles north-east from Montreal Lake. They have no surveyed reserve at this point, but a reserve recently located thirty miles north of Prince Albert is intended for such Indians of this band and of William Charles' Band as desire to abandon hunting as a means of livelihood and to engage in agricultural and kindred pursuits.

Occupation.—Apart from the cultivation of a few small gardens their sole occupation at present is hunting and fishing. The hunt yields moose, bear, beaver, mink and otter, though in constantly diminishing numbers, while the lakes are well supplied with various kinds of fish, including whitefish of excellent quality, which constitute a large portion of the food of the band.

Population, Education and Religion.—This band consists of Cree Indians and numbers four hundred and ninety-eight. They have a day school at Little Hills, where a portion of the band encamp for a few months during the year, but owing to lack of attendance little was being accomplished. These Indians are all thoroughly Christianized and are very attentive to religious services. They belong to the Church of England and are under the charge of the Rev. R. McLennan of Stanley Mission.

General Condition.—In manners, morals, dress and general civilization these Indians are among the most advanced within this inspectorate. They are most peaceful and law-abiding, and apparently know no such thing as intemperance. In pursuit of a livelihood they range over a very wide area, from the forests and lakes of which they procure a liberal and very healthful means of subsistence. During the year preceding the payments of 1897 there was but one death in this large band. Their diet and their mode of life both tend to robustness of health. They travel on water by canoe, or overland on foot in summer and by dog train in winter, having no horses nor domestic animals other than dogs.

DUCK LAKE AGENCY.

This agency was inspected 15th October and following days. R. S. McKenzie is the agent.

Houses.—The facilities for house-building throughout this agency are not the best, the only timber available for the purpose on the reserves being poplar. The Indians on John Smith's Reserve, however, which is but fifteen miles from the saw-mills of Prince Albert, have in most instances comfortable and well-built houses, occasionally with an upstairs and divided with partitions of dressed lumber. On Beardy's and Okemasis' Reserves there are three well-built houses, logs neatly cornered, doors and windows well fitted and floors properly laid. The rest of the houses on this reserve and all the houses on One Arrow's are small and flat-roofed, but warm, being well mudded and whitewashed with a bluish-white mud, which, besides improving the appearance of the walls, renders them for a season at least utterly wind-proof. On the reserves at La Corne, especially the Cumberland Reserve, there is great room for improvement in the houses, both within and without. With only one exception on this reserve they are small, roughly built, ill-furnished and ill-kept.

Occupation.—In general the Indians of this agency live by farming, cattle-raising and dairying, but those of One Arrow's and James Smith's Reserves spend much of their time in hunting, for this purpose often leaving the reserves in the fall before their season's work is completed and sufficient preparation made for the wintering of their stock.

Stock.—The La Corne Reserves possess rare facilities for cattle-raising, water being convenient and the hay lands extensive and rich. Thus, the Indians of these reserves could profitably handle twice the number of cattle they have at present. On all the other reserves of this agency the hay supply is very limited and cattle-raising is at present carried to the furthest profitable extent. The cattle were in first-class condition for wintering, and were everywhere of a good class, except on John Smith's Reserve, where they were of smaller growth, owing apparently to poor wintering, the hay supply being at times insufficient, and also in part to the very general use of the cows for dairying purposes. For this season the hay supply was everywhere sufficient, the stables were in good order and properly prepared for winter except in the case of those Indians who had gone abroad hunting.

General Condition.—The Indians of this agency are as a rule moderately advanced, with some ambition to acquire property and live after the manner of civilized life. This season their agricultural operations were very successful, and many would have a crop sufficient to furnish, in addition to seed, a year's supply of flour and in a few instances some wheat to spare for marketing. Gardening also has been fairly well attended to and with good results. The thriftiest individual Indian was George Sanderson, of Cumberland Reserve, who had forty-three head of fine cattle, six acres of wheat harvested and a cellar well stored with vegetables.

Agency Books.—The records of every description were found in good form and very satisfactory.

Buildings.—The agency buildings are well arranged and present a neat appearance; and among the farm buildings those at La Corne deserve special mention for their completeness and the order in which they are kept.

BATTLEFORD AGENCY.

This agency was inspected on the 20th January and following days. C. M. Daunais is agent, and T. J. Fleetham, clerk.

Houses.—These are of a poor class and poorly kept. As a rule they have flat, or nearly flat, sod roofs, often but one small window; doors five to five and a-half feet high, badly made and badly hung, with wooden latches and a pull. This last in itself is not to be deemed a fault. As lumber of the roughest class is here worth \$25 per thousand feet, and as there is no pine timber on the reserves, it is not surprising that very little lumber is employed in the construction of the Indians' houses. There are, however, four houses well built in almost every particular. The furniture and housekeeping vary in general with the character of the houses. There are few chairs or benches, many houses without a bedstead or a table, while cupboards and kitchen utensils are scarce. The housekeeping is correspondingly untidy. There are, however, a few notable exceptions on Red Pheasant's, Sweet Grass' and Thunderchild's Reserves, and one on Moosomin's.

Occupation.—One advantage which Indian Department officials have in fostering civilized pursuits among these Indians is to be found in the fact that hunting and fishing as a means of livelihood have almost entirely disappeared, thus bringing necessity to the aid of the farmer in his endeavour to lead them on in the cultivation of the soil, the care of stock, &c.; thus agriculture and stock-raising are at present the main employments, but as yet, chiefly the latter, while grain-growing and gardening are somewhat neglected. A change is being brought about in this matter, and a very desirable one, since the conditions are generally favourable for mixed farming, especially on Red Pheasant's, Moosomin's and Thunderchild's Reserves.

Stock.—The hay supply was abundant and the cattle were receiving great care, and were in excellent condition. On Red Pheasant's and the Stony Reserves they are of a superior class; they were housed and fed by the individual owners; and in almost every instance the stables and yards were in particularly good order. The cattle belonging to Moosomin's and Thunderchild's Reserves were wintered in bands at Round Hill and Buffalo Lake, points twenty and fifty miles respectively from the reserves;

and the cattle belonging to Sweet Grass, Poundmaker's and Little Pine's Reserves were wintered some seventy miles west of the last named reserve. This last herd numbered some four hundred head and were under the charge of Mr. W. R. Waines, assisted by a number of Indians. At all these camps suitable stables and sheds had been erected, hay was abundant and of good quality, water was convenient, and the cattle were being well cared for and were in good condition. While this method of wintering cattle is for the present very successful, it will be seen that, apart from the two reserves first named, the resources of this agency for stock-raising are very limited, and seem to preclude the possibility of this industry continuing long to be, as it is now, the almost entire support of the Indians apart from Government aid.

Particular attention was wisely given to the wintering of the work oxen, which were not sent abroad to the winter camps, but were kept on the reserves and properly housed and cared for by the Indians under the direction of the farmers.

The one important branch of agriculture which here, as everywhere throughout this inspectorate, has thus far been neglected, or a failure if attempted, is hog-raising. It is hoped that another year may show a decided change in respect in this industry.

Sheep-raising has been tried and in the hands of three Indians is proving a moderate success.

General Condition.—The Indians of this agency are, on the average, still rather backward as regards property, means of subsistence, clothing and domestic habits. They are tolerably industrious when working with a definite aim, as in putting up hay or caring for stock, but their pursuits are not at present sufficiently varied to employ their time to advantage the year round. There are, however, a few well-to-do Indians on these reserves, the thriftiest of whom are Jean Baptiste of Red Pheasant's and White-cap of Moosomin's, men who have good houses and well kept, together with cattle, sheep, implements, and in general the means of maintaining themselves and their families in moderate comfort without Government assistance. Such men on a reserve serve a very good purpose as an example to the rest.

The agency buildings had been much improved during the preceding summer. A new and suitable office had replaced the old one, and the warehouse had been removed from the Barracks square, which was at an inconvenient distance from the agency, and rebuilt on a site immediately adjacent to the new office on the south side of the Battle River.

The agent and his staff had the good-will of the Indians everywhere, and much zeal was manifested in carrying out his instructions. The office work was systematically performed, and the records were neat and there was, moreover, among the officials of this agency a conspicuous absence of that lack of sympathy with the Indians, and lack of confidence in their advancement which are prevailing causes of failure in Indian work.

SADDLE LAKE AGENCY.

This agency was inspected 11th March and following days. Wm. Sibbald is the agent.

The season of the year was particularly favourable for a close examination of the houses and domestic life of the Indians.

Houses.—These are, with few exceptions, of a good class, fairly large, well built and well lighted, the product of the agency saw-mill being used to good advantage. Within they are usually clean and tidy, and with more than the ordinary supply of furniture, including in many instances tables, chairs or benches, bedsteads, cupboards, stoves, milk-pans, pails, tubs, wash-basins, brooms, lamps, and occasionally a clock, also in some cases a shelf or rack with a set of the commonest carpenter's tools.

Occupation.—The regular employment of these Indians is mixed farming, for which their reserves are specially adapted. Agriculture, cattle-raising and dairying all receive a fair share of attention. The department has established, for the benefit of these Indians, as at the Carlton and Onion Lake Agencies, a grist-mill and a saw-mill. Gristing was finished and the saw-mill was already running on the 14th March.

Thus the Indians of the Whitefish Lake Reserve were all employed either attending the saw-mill or taking out logs. On the other reserves many were occupied in taking out house-logs or fence-rails. I noticed also several pairs of well-made heavy bob-sleighs, the product of home industry during the winter.

Stock.—The hay supply was sufficient, the stables were warm and well kept; the cattle were in good condition for the season and were likely to come through the winter well. They were for the most part cared for by the individual owners, and the hay was economically handled in feeding. Some fifty sheep, in charge of three Indians, were of a good class, well cared for and thriving.

General Condition.—The Indians of this agency are of a class rather superior to the ordinary, somewhat civilized in language and manners, tolerably industrious, in several instances almost or entirely self-supporting. The assertion and recognition of individual rights and ownership are more marked here than usual.

The agent and farmers were well informed on all matters pertaining to their respective duties. The Indians of the different bands have confidence in them and strive to follow their directions.

ONION LAKE AGENCY.

This agency was inspected on 24th March and following days. George G. Mann is agent; Miss Blanche Mann, clerk.

Houses.—There are on the Onion Lake Reserve a few neat, well-built houses, comfortable and in good order within, furnished with table, bedstead, benches and other essential articles. Some of the best have been deserted on account of a death having occurred in the house, or for some similar cause. But the majority of the houses are of an inferior class, and the housekeeping is equally bad.

Occupation.—The Indians actually resident on the reserve engage almost solely in agriculture, stock-raising and dairying. In the cultivation of the soil for grain-growing and gardening they have been somewhat discouraged of late by the poor results, the consequence of dry seasons. But they continue to raise a considerable quantity of barley, which is used both for flour and cattle feed, and a moderate supply of vegetables for home use. There is practically no market for produce at this remote point.

Stock.—The Indians' cattle have been steadily increasing until the number is now quite as great as can be well handled. Hay is not plentiful on or in the immediate neighbourhood of the reserve, and in case of a dry season, such as the past, it is with the greatest difficulty that the present stock is wintered. The Government herd, which is cared for entirely by the Indians, who receive the benefits of all sales and of all animals slaughtered, is wintered at a point sixty miles distant from the reserve, where there are extensive hay swamps. The cattle throughout are of a tolerably good class.

Sheep-raising has been attended with some success and there are at present upwards of one hundred head in the hands of the Indians.

There are very few hogs on the reserve, notwithstanding the abundance of suitable feed afforded annually in the barley crop.

General Condition.—The Indians of this agency collectively have been brought to be in a fair degree self-supporting. In other respects, in manners, dress, and habits of life they are still a somewhat primitive class. The propensity of the race for trading and giving away their property is even more marked here than elsewhere. In numerous instances when an Indian of a neighbouring agency desires a pass, his business is "to go to Onion Lake to get a horse" (a present). This is most discouraging, as it has in it the element neither of enlightened generosity, nor of thrift. I am glad to notice, however, that the receiving, as well as the reckless giving, of such presents is constantly discountenanced.

Buildings.—The agency buildings are of a good class, well arranged, and kept in perfect order, and in good repair. The Government implements were securely stored away in a building for the purpose. In a blacksmith's and carpenter's shop combined, where the work is performed by Joseph Taylor, an ex-pupil of the Battleford industrial

school, the Indians are able to get all ordinary repairs for wagons, ploughs and other implements, a matter of great convenience to the reserve, and an excellent way to turn to account the industrial training of the schools.

Management.—The agent's control of these Indians is almost absolute, and they look to him for guidance throughout all the details of their work. The Chippeweyan Reserve at Cold Lake, on account of its remoteness, (being sixty miles from the agency headquarter,) is necessarily seldom visited; but these Indians are particularly industrious, and with a little direction and but little assistance, take care of a herd of two hundred and seventy head of cattle, and do a little farming, winning the rest of their livelihood by hunting and fishing, the trout and whitefish of the Cold Lake being of excellent quality.

Agency Books.—The various records were examined throughout, and were found to be kept with the greatest neatness and accuracy.

As I had charge of the Carlton Agency from the 16th April, my observations on that agency will be found in connection with the annual report for the same, and may, no doubt, be omitted here.

I have, &c.,

W. J. CHISHOLM,
Inspector of Indian Agencies.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

CALGARY INSPECTORATE, 6th Sept., 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to present my twentieth annual report of my work of inspecting Indian agencies, reserves and farms.

During the past fiscal year I have visited and inspected the Piegan, Blood and Edmonton Agencies.

PIEGAN AGENCY.

I inspected this agency in August, 1897, and it was my privilege to spend three months at the same agency in midwinter (after the resignation of Mr. Nash), and while there to make the annuity payments for 1897.

I can report these Indians amenable to discipline, law-abiding, and industrious. They spent their annuity money in useful household articles, and in clothing. There was not any gambling or horse-racing, as has been customary upon previous occasions of this kind.

Cattle-ranching is the principal industry of this band; from their herds they were able to supply the ration-house with all the beef required during July and August.

They cut and stacked hay, and did some freighting on the Crow's Nest Railway construction.

I found them eager to turn out and work their teams, when money was in sight for the work required to be done, and their terms were not extortionate, they would willingly agree to \$1.50 or \$2 a day for a two-horse team, if higher prices could not be made for them.

BLOOD AGENCY.

Agent James Wilson continues to conduct the affairs of this large and important agency in such a manner as to conserve the interests of the department, and hold the confidence of its wards.

Cattle-ranching is still in its infancy, but the Indians' interest in it is growing rapidly; already they have become thoroughly proficient in one of its chief rudiments, namely, to make hay and stack it properly.

In 1897 they delivered properly stacked, to different purchasers in the district, one thousand and seventy-six tons, receiving for it \$6,249, at the same time they put into stack for their own and agency use, six hundred and ninety-four tons, valued at \$3,470, or, in round figures, \$10,000 worth was manufactured from this natural product of the prairie, which, if left undisturbed was valueless.

A careful audit of the books proved them in a satisfactory condition.

Statistics of the herds and farming operations, will be given by the agents, of later date than any I can now furnish, but my assurance can be accepted that "progress" is the watchword, both as regards their moral habits, and their temporal affairs.

EDMONTON AGENCY.

I inspected this agency in November.

I made thorough audit of the agency and farm books; the former were exceedingly well kept. I sent in to the Commissioner's office list of goods received, issued and on hand, also a list of those goods worn out and of no further use.

The cash book audit was satisfactory, vouchers for payments were on file, accounting for every entry therein.

An agency account was opened with the Imperial Bank (Edmonton), which is exclusively official in its character.

For the grist-mill were kept a wheat book, and a sales book.

The agency buildings were in good repair, and the whole establishment reflects credit upon the officials in charge.

I found the condition of the Indians on Alexander, Joseph and White Whale Lake Reserves, unprogressive; while those of Michel and Enoch, which are under the direct supervision of the agency, are prosperous, their advancement in farming and cattle-raising is marked, their houses and stables are good, and they live in a civilized manner.

Their crops were good, and a fair acreage was cultivated.

Their cattle were in fine condition, there was a good percentage of calves.

These Indians continued to invest the proceeds of their cattle, sold for beef to the department, in useful money-making improvements, such as wagons, mowers, harness, &c.

I have, &c.,

T. P. WADSWORTH,
Inspector of Indian Agencies.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
MEDICAL REPORT,

BLOOD AGENCY, 1st July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report of the Blood Reserve hospital, with a few considerations on the health of the Indians under my care as well as remarks on sanitation and hygiene.

As appears in the tabular statement herewith attached, the number of Indians admitted for treatment during the fiscal year 1897-98 is forty-six; compared with last year (28) it shows that they have a mind to benefit from the expenditure incurred by the department for their welfare. Most of the patients, with the exception of six who died in the institution, were discharged cured or nearly so, three were incurable; those nearly cured chose to go back to camp with their relations, expecting to effect the cure at home.

Both the wards for male and female patients are well kept; there is free ventilation and perfect cleanliness; the sisters (nurses) do not spare time nor trouble to make life pleasant and agreeable to the patients, who highly appreciate them.

In my monthly return for March, 1898, I pointed out the necessity of more rooms, viz.: two wards for those that I consider ought to be kept separate (scrofulous cases), one for male and another for female. This could be easily done in carrying out the plan at first laid down (the erection of the west wing), such provisions would admit all cases without neglect of the one or the other class of patients; a comparatively small amount will suffice to complete the building and fill the want so badly felt at the time I reported on and even now. So long as the Indians are under treatment, they are properly cared for as far as sanitary, hygienic and dietetic measures are concerned, but when away in camps they fall on their own resources which are very limited; and not to go into details on the subject of diseases, causes, &c., I would refer you to my report of 31st March, 1895, and of 11th July, 1896, where you will find accurate statements.

I beg to state here that in their outward relations with the white population the Indians have greatly improved; under proper training they become hard and good workers, but in camp life (at home) there is very little improvement, if any. Men as a rule wear good clothing, but women are poorly clad. Most of the women know how to make yeast bread, but, on account of their nomadic life in summer and the cold in winter (not prepared to save the yeast from freezing) they still use the short process (broad flat cakes).

The houses are too narrow, lack ventilation and light and room at least for sleeping purposes. Several Indians have good substantial houses with two or more rooms, but they do not enjoy much of them. As soon as cold weather sets in the whole family gather in one room or what is termed the summer kitchen, and they spend there the winter months in close confinement. They are not any better after all than those who have only a poorly built log house. All lack comfort, proper ventilation, light and all other hygienic conditions.

Having a saw-mill for their use, convenience and benefit, it would be advisable to urge those who lack good houses to go to work and put up either a frame or log house, spacious, lighted and ventilated, and to teach every one of them to provide early in the fall a good supply of fuel for storm and emergencies of the weather.

In due time they might be taught to keep their houses clean, to sweep, wash the floor, walls and ceiling, or whitewash properly. In this way they would get ease and comfort, without enumerating the advantages realized in health for every member of the community.

I have, &c.,

F. X. GIRARD, M.D.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
QU'APPELLE INSPECTORATE,

FORT QU'APPELLE, ASSA., 27th Sept., 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my thirteenth annual report of my work of inspection of Indian agencies and reserves in the North-west Territories from 1st July, 1897, to 30th September, 1898.

WORK AT REGINA WAREHOUSE.

From July until December, 1897, I was occupied at the department warehouse, Regina, in receiving and distributing the supplies received on contract 1897-8, and during this time I visited Regina industrial school, and on 11th October I proceeded to Winnipeg and examined and shipped a quantity of tea to the different agencies. On the 18th I went to St. Paul's school, Middle Church, and was occupied there until the 31st. Particulars of my inspection will appear in school report.

REGINA INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

On 6th November I returned to Regina, and from 27th November to 10th December I was at Regina industrial school auditing the books of that institution, less a trip made to Fort Qu'Appelle from 3rd to 8th December, to inquire into the fire there by which the felt factory in connection with the industrial school was burnt, with all its contents, on the morning of the 27th November.

The building was a frame one 70 x 24, 2½ story, stone foundation. From all that could be traced, the fire was accidental. The total loss was \$9,358.33, made up of building, machinery and material in course of manufacture, &c. Full particulars were furnished the Indian Commissioner.

FILE HILLS AGENCY.

After completing my inspection of Regina industrial school, and closing up the work of the department warehouse, I left Regina on 14th December for my headquarters, Fort Qu'Appelle, and on the 20th I commenced my inspection of File Hills Agency.

W. M. Graham is the agent, and Wm. McNabb interpreter, farmer and teamster.

The agency buildings had been improved by putting a stone foundation under the agent's house, new siding and papering and painting. A new lean-to shed had been erected, 40 x 18 feet, by which all implements could be kept under cover. The bulk of the work was done by Indians. The whole premises were in capital order.

BLACK BEAR'S BAND. No. 84.

Black Bear's No. 84, was the first reserve inspected. Each house and stable was examined, and the cattle counted from stable to stable. A number of new stables had been built of a superior class, also some new houses—the houses were comfortable, nearly all had open chimneys and bedsteads.

Petwak Shane built two new stables 33 x 15 feet, each with pitched roofs, made of rails and sod put on in shingle fashion, making a solid dry roof. The doors were good. Each stable on the reserve had a hay corral also, and for the cattle hay was all stacked at the stables, and there was an abundance of it. The stacking at the stables, when it can be done, is an advantage, for it gives the Indians time to haul wood in winter, but in some places hay has to be stacked in the meadows, as it can only be hauled in the winter time to the stables, after the creeks, sloughs and muskegs freeze up, and in other cases Indians have not wagons enough to haul as fast as it is cut.

I found, in going from house to house, the women, as a rule, thrifty, and working at something or other. The houses were clean, and the women and children were comfortably dressed, a few old people were rather scant in their clothing.

Piere Lacree built three new stables, and a new house with open chimney, nicely furnished, and it was tidy and clean.

Big Sky built a new stone house 24 x 10 feet.

Ruebin, three new stables.

The Blood, a new house.

Jos. Bellgard, two new stables.

Jno. Bellgard, nice new house with up-stair rooms. His wife is an ex-pupil of Qu'Appelle school, and is a capital house-keeper.

Otter Skin from Silver Creek, has a new house and stable. The latter had eight compartments and a slab floor.

Lee Kutch has two large new stables, each 42 x 26 feet, with a shed in the centre also 42 x 26 feet, and a large corral for cattle and one for hay and racks for feeding. Seventy-five head of cattle were wintering at this point. A new house is to be built during the summer. The cattle were in fine condition.

This reserve showed decided progress, and the Indians were contented. They had no complaints and they were pleased to be called upon.

STAR BLANKET'S BAND, No. 83.

Star Blanket's, No. 83, was next inspected. The chief has a good house with three divisions, also three good stables, and all were well kept, clean and dry, and the cattle seemed to have every attention given them.

Pawastin has a new house and stable. The house had no wooden floor, and it was untidy. This was the only house on the reserve without a wooden floor. The houses here are better scattered over the reserve than formerly, which is an improvement. Hay was stacked at the stables here also.

Chief Star Blanket was very pleasant. He takes good care of his cattle, and they were correct in number.

OKANASE BAND, No. 82.

A number of good new houses and stables had been built on the reserve of this band since last inspection, and the farm-yards looked well, each having from three to four large stacks of hay in the corrals.

Dumont had a new house 1½ story, with shingled roof, up-stair rooms, panel doors, lean-to kitchen to be added. There is a new stable, 40 x 16 feet, high ceiling. This man had twenty-two head of cattle. The whole place was clean and comfortable looking.

Tuck-way-now had a tidy place, good house and stables, root-house. He had one hundred and fifty bushels of potatoes to sell, after reserving enough for use and seed. He had a nice lot of cattle; good heavy work horses; also pigs and poultry. He is a thrifty, industrious man and has a good wife.

The Flag had built a new house and three cattle stables and one for horses.

Moostoosokohe has a nice house with a thatch roof, up-stair rooms. He has also a new stable 43 x 22 feet with pitched roof. He is an industrious man and is doing

well. The Roman Catholic mission is on this reserve, and it had been enlarged and improved during the year.

Okanase Boarding School.—The Presbyterian boarding school borders on the reserve, and it was in good order. The school-room had been enlarged by an addition to its length.

The view from the agency headquarters was a pretty one; square fields and straight fences, the white houses and good stables, and the number of hay stacks and herds of good-looking cattle at each farm-yard gave one the impression that these Indians were prospering. The whole surroundings would compare favourably with any white settlement, and reflected credit on the management of Mr. Graham, the energetic agent.

PEEPEKEESIS BAND, No. 81.

The houses on the reserve of this band are smaller, as a rule, than on the others, but they were clean and comfortable. Only two were without wooden floors.

The cattle were looking well. The Indians were busy hauling wood to the town and mission at Qu'Appelle, earning money to buy tea and provisions for the new year's festivities.

The various books and accounts were audited and an inventory taken, and all were found in a business-like condition. Two large branding corrals had been built during the year. The Indians, besides putting up hay for themselves, sold \$200 worth to the mission, and they would have a quantity to dispose of in the spring. They purchased with the proceeds of beef money nine sets of double harness, three new wagons, one mower and rake, one hundred hay forks, and six teams of heavy work horses, to be used instead of oxen. The blacksmithing is done by one of the boys from Qu'Appelle industrial school.

The total population of the agency is two hundred and eighty-eight. The total number of cattle is five hundred after deducting thirty-six killed for beef, and twenty-seven sold for shipment. The whole agency showed that the Indians were prospering and were receiving careful attention. One good feature of these Indians is that they keep out of debt. The number of new houses built during the year is fifteen and thirty-one stables. The health of the Indians at the time was very good.

ASSINIBOINE AGENCY.

I commenced my inspection here on the 4th Jan., 1898, Mr. Graham kindly driving me from File Hills.

Staff.—Mr. Thos. Aspdin has been farmer in charge since July, 1897. David Kennedy, ex-pupil of Qu'Appelle industrial school, is interpreter and labourer. Being a carpenter by trade, he does many odd jobs in this line around the agency.

The former agent, Mr. Grant, left early in April, 1897, for Hobbema Agency and the management from that time until the arrival of Mr. Aspdin in July, was very indifferent, so much so that no crop worth speaking about was put in, not even the agency garden, which was always one of the best in the district, and only a crop of weeds was the result. Only two Indians planted any potatoes, although there were plenty on hand for seed, as Mr. Aspdin had to throw a lot into the manure heap after he arrived. Mr. Aspdin, however, after a good deal of patience and perseverance got things once more into working order and prospects were bright for better showing in the future.

Buildings.—Houses and stables were all examined and on the whole they were comfortable. Eleven houses were found clean and tidy, twelve fairly so, and four I classed as dirty; about half had open chimneys. The best houses have no open chimneys. The Indians say the chimney is the poor man's stove, and they consider they are too advanced and would be making a backward step to adopt a chimney. I told them a chimney need not prevent their having a stove; that the former was the best ventilator they could have, and for the sake of the health of their families they should have one in every house. Two houses were entirely too small, being 10 x 12 and 10 x 10. Mr. Aspdin was to have these taken down and larger ones put up. Twelve houses had bedsteads, some of them factory-made, six houses had no wooden floors. Chief Carry the Kettle has a fine new house, 20 x 40 feet, with shingled roof and two divisions. His son occupies one end and the chief the other. Both divisions were clean and well furnished. The stables were on the whole comfortable, some of them were too low in the roofs. Mr. Aspdin was to get out logs and have larger ones built during the summer. The dancing hall was occupied by three families as a dwelling.

Painted faces.—The older people still paint their faces.

Religion.—The Rev. Mr. McKenzie is the Presbyterian missionary, and Sunday services are held regularly, the attendance being from eighteen to thirty-five. Four young men, too old to go to industrial schools, attend on week afternoons and are taught reading, writing and arithmetic, and were making capital progress. Mrs McKenzie has a class for women and they make patch quilts and other things. One quilt was being completed at the time of my visit. A large quantity of clothing for women, children and old people, including the quilts made by themselves, is given by the mission. A Christmas tree was held and there was a large attendance of Indians, and both young and old got a gift of some kind. W. Grant, son of the chief, was acting as interpreter for Mr. McKenzie. He is a pupil of the Regina industrial school.

Agriculture.—I advised Mr. Aspdin to get as large an acreage as possible put in this year, and as he is active and progressive, I have every confidence that these Indians will make a good showing under his management.

Stock.—The herd numbers one hundred and two head, held by twenty-one of the band. Eighty acres were summer-fallowed for crops in 1898, besides some new breaking.

The agency books were audited and an inventory taken, and a detailed report sent to the Commissioner, Winnipeg. Mr. Aspdin was showing himself to be a careful and capable official. I heard no complaint.

Health.—The health of the band was good. Dr. Edwards makes monthly visits, and a supply of medicines, neatly labelled, is kept at the agency.

Population.—The population is about two hundred and fifteen.

MOOSE MOUNTAIN AGENCY.

I commenced inspection at Moose Mountain Agency on 13th January, 1898.

Staff.—Mr. H. R. Halpin is agent and farmer for Band No. 70; Mr. Wm. Murison is farmer for Nos. 68 and 69.

The two latter were the first inspected.

PHEASANT RUMP'S BAND, No. 68.

These Indians were found more industrious and taking better care of their cattle than I ever found them before.

Buildings.—The houses were better kept. I did not find one I could call dirty; more than half of them had wooden floors.

Crops.—The Indians had a good crop in 1897, and all had flour in their houses from three to fifteen sacks each, of their own gristing or in exchange for wheat. A good deal of land had been prepared for the crop of 1898.

Stock.—The cattle were in good condition. Numerous fire-guards were ploughed around the reserves.

STRIPED BLANKET'S BAND, No. 69.

Affairs with this band were found to be much the same as with Pheasant Rump's Band.

Nine houses had open chimneys, six had wooden floors. Cattle were in good condition, and stables were comfortable and there was an abundance of the best of hay and straw, and nearly all the Indians had sufficient flour of their own.

It was pleasant to find these two bands so comfortably situated, and taking such an interest in their cattle, and having their houses and stables in good order. Four new houses had been put up, and others repaired. These two bands may be classed as independent of the ration-house or nearly so.

WHITE BEAR BAND, No. 70.

Buildings.—The agency buildings are situated on the reserve of this band. This band also shows a marked improvement. Out of twenty houses visited, all had wooden floors but one. The old chief had a nice large house and it had a new floor since my last visit. It has an open chimney. The old man looked comfortable and happy and was pleased to be occupying his old position as chief. He had his flag up in honour of our vi-it, and was very glad to be called on.

John has a good house, and two good stables, and he charges settlers twenty-five cents for stable-room when they happen to camp over, in hauling wood from the mountains. This man milks his cows and makes butter.

Lone Child has a fine place about five miles north on the borders of White Bear Lake. He has good stables and twenty head of cattle. He is a thrifty, hard-working man and is doing well.

Religion.—The mission building of the Presbyterian Church is on this reserve, and had been completed since my last visit. It is frame, cottage style. Mr. Dodds is the missionary, and the Indians are pleased with his visits. Services of a Sunday school character are held every Sunday. Mrs. Dodds was doing excellent work also, teaching the women to make dresses, knitting, making bread, &c. There was an air of prosperity and plenty about the whole reserve.

Agriculture.—The agent was to break up one hundred acres of new land during the year.

A number of fire-guards were ploughed, and the Indians worked for nearly three weeks in keeping the fires off the reserve.

The Indians owe very little, in fact may be said to be free from debt.

The number of cattle was two hundred and eighty-three after deducting thirty-two for beef, and thirteen sold. Hay was plentiful, and a lot would be over for sale in the spring; over a thousand tons were stacked. Four thousand rails and pickets were got out for new fences.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Buildings.—Ten new houses and six stables were put up in the agency during the year.

Population.—The total population of the three bands is two hundred.

Office Work.—The office work was correctly done and the inventory showed careful management, Mr. Halpin was proving himself to be a successful agent, and he was ably assisted by Mr. Murison.

BIRTLE AGENCY.

I commenced my inspection at this point on the 24th January.

Staff.—Mr. J. A. Markle is agent ; Mr. S. M. Dickenson, clerk ; Mr. A. Sutherland, interpreter and teamster, and Mr. John Taylor, farmer on Oak River Reserve.

WAY-WAY-SEE-CAPPO'S BAND, No. 63.

Buildings.—This band was first inspected and was found to be in good condition. I visited twenty-seven houses, and found them all in good order. All had wooden floors, and nearly all had open fire-places. They were comfortably furnished with chairs, tables, beds, &c. I examined over eighty horse and cattle stables and outbuildings. The stables were airy and dry. Some new houses had been put up ; one by Manitou-Wigwam may be given as a sample. The house proper is 18 x 24 feet and wing for kitchen 14 x 14 feet with up-stair room. Shingle roof, well finished doors and windows.

Agriculture.—The members of this band do little if anything in raising grain, but all had root crops, and I strongly advised them to get land ready this summer, and have oats, barley and wheat in 1899, say ten acres each.

Population.—The population is one hundred and forty-two.

Occupation.—These Indians make a living by selling hay, wood and cattle, and some of them work for settlers, but they should have farms of their own to work. Settlers alongside of them raised crops of all kinds and so should the Indians. Eight hundred tons of hay had been stacked. Their earnings during the year amounted to \$4,240 80.

There are a good many widows on the reserve, and these have, to a more or less extent, to be helped, but this reserve may fairly be classed as self-supporting.

Stock.—An inventory of the cattle was taken from stable to stable, and the number was one hundred and sixty-one head—all looking in the best of condition.

The Indians make their own sleighs, yokes, fork handles, whiffletrees, hay racks and other articles.

General Remarks.—One pleasing fact I noticed was that there were no idle women. Some were knitting, some sewing, others baking bannocks, washing or scrubbing. A good many children attend the Birtle boarding school, and the visiting of the parents to the school and the pupils to their parents has had the effect of making the women more tidy in their mode of housekeeping. Some of the houses would equal those of many white people in cleanliness and tidiness, and every little knick-knack such as Christmas cards, &c., is used to good account in adorning the walls.

BIRD TAIL (SIOUX) BAND, No. 57.

This band was next reached.

Population.—The population is seventy-four.

Buildings.—Nineteen houses and forty stables were examined, and all were found in good order clean and comfortable. Each house had a wooden floor. Hens, ducks and geese could be seen at most of the places, these added to the cheerfulness of the homesteads, besides being a source of profit, as the Indians sell eggs in Birtle. Some new implement sheds had been put up during the year.

Agriculture.—The crop put in in 1897 was four hundred and two acres, and the yield was three thousand one hundred and twenty-seven bushels of wheat and oats and one thousand and sixty-nine bushels of potatoes, corn, &c. Two hundred and fifty-five tons of hay were stacked. The earnings for the year were \$4,062 45. Each Indian had his seed on hand for next crop. This is a thrifty band of Indians, and they are doing well. Owing to a hail storm in 1896, by which their crop was almost totally damaged, a little help was given them, and seed grain was also furnished them

for 1897. They got three thousand and fifty pounds of flour, two hundred and nineteen pounds of bacon, and nine pounds of tea.

Religion.—The church, built twenty years ago, was getting dilapidated, and a new building was contemplated; and I understand a new frame church has been built since my visit, capable of holding one hundred persons.

Characteristics.—These Indians are a quiet-living people, and are anxious to get along. They are industrious, and the women are good housekeepers.

Stock.—The cattle are in good condition. The herd numbered sixty-two head.

ROLLING RIVER BAND, No. 67.

This band was next visited.

Population.—The population is ninety-nine.

Buildings.—Twenty-one houses and forty-five stables were examined, and on the whole found in good order. Six new houses had been built since last inspection. One is given as a sample. Kaka Penece house is 18 x 22 feet, shingled roof, upper flat, panel doors, and furnished with chairs, tables, cook and box stoves, bedsteads, &c.

Occupation.—These Indians do little in farming. The crop consisted of five acres of oats and two of potatoes, and eighty bushels of oats were harvested and thirteen bushels of potatoes. The Indians were advised to go more into farming and cattle-raising, and some of them promised to break land this summer. Mr. Wright, Presbyterian missionary, was willing to help them all he could in doing more farming. Their earnings during the year were \$5,069.25, derived from hunting, bounties for wolf-killing, selling wood and cattle, tanning hides, and working for settlers. It is a splendid reserve for wood and hay. Three hundred and ninety-five tons of hay were stacked.

Stock.—The herd numbered, including private cattle, fifty-seven head.

Religion.—The mission buildings were in good order, and Mr. Wright was doing good work among the Indians. They look to him as their friend and go to him for advice in any of their little troubles.

The Indians were pleasant, and were glad to be called upon.

Health.—The births during the year were three, and the deaths twenty-one, a severe attack of la grippe the previous winter being the cause of so many deaths. At the time of inspection there were no cases of sickness.

Resources.—The quantity of timber on this reserve will always be a source of profit to these Indians, and with the abundance of hay for more cattle-raising and farming to a reasonable extent, they should make a good living without depending on the hunt. They are self-supporting now; all the help the entire band got during the year being five hundred and twenty-five pounds of flour and twenty-one pounds of bacon.

RIDING MOUNTAIN OR KEE-SEE-KOO-WENIN'S BAND, No. 61.

This band was next reached.

Population.—The population is one hundred and nine.

Buildings.—The reserve was found in its usual good condition. I visited and examined thirteen houses and thirty stables, all in excellent order. Houses very clean and comfortable.

Crops.—The total crop put in by the band was eighty-four acres, and one thousand four hundred and fifteen bushels of oats were harvested and four hundred bushels of potatoes, and four hundred and eighteen tons of hay stacked.

Stock.—The herd, including private cattle, numbered one hundred and fifty head. The earnings for the year were \$4,017.90. The help given during the year was four hundred pounds of flour, twenty-two pounds of bacon and half a pound of tea. The health of these Indians at time of inspection was good.

Education and Religion.—A new school building had been put up during the year, also a new mission at a cost of \$1,000 built by the Presbyterian Church. The building is frame, cottage style, stone foundation, with three rooms—kitchen, hall and pantry—down stairs, and two bed-rooms up stairs. It is neatly painted, and built on the plateau; the view of the valley up and down and of the Indian homesteads is a pretty one.

Mr. McPherson is the missionary and teacher of the day school and is doing good solid work. The church is well filled at the Sunday services, and the Indians hold two prayer meetings on week nights at different points of the reserve, and these are also well attended.

General Remarks.—The total amount received from cheese factory was \$220.85, and the calves did not suffer.

I consider this band, taking it all in all, one of the most advanced and intelligent, and the houses and housekeeping would leave many white people in the background.

OAK LAKE (SIOUX) BAND, No. 59.

This was the next reserve reached.

Buildings.—Eleven houses and sixteen stables were examined and an improvement was noticed over last year.

Agriculture.—The band had one hundred and twenty-two acres under crop, and harvested seven hundred and four bushels of wheat and fifty-three bushels of potatoes and corn. The earnings during the year were \$1,034.40, and the only help they got from the agent was thirty pounds of flour.

Three young men, beginners, had broken forty acres of land for crop this year, and the agent was to try to give them a heifer or two each for a start and to encourage them.

The band had not kept seed grain and would have to sell ponies to purchase what was needed. These Indians could not be said to be well off, in fact, some were very poor; work being scarce, they had no opportunity of earning a dollar. The agent, to help them out, ordered one thousand posts for a new fence, and for each man furnishing one hundred posts he was to get fifty pounds of flour and five pounds of bacon, so that ten families would be benefited by this arrangement.

Stock.—The band had eleven head of cattle, including four work oxen.

Religion.—The mission (Presbyterian) building had been improved by sheeting the ceiling with dressed lumber and inclosing the outside stairway to the upper flat.

The Rev. John Thunder occupies the upper part as a dwelling, and the lower part is the church. Mrs. Thunder teaches the women knitting and sewing, and the yarn given them last year was much appreciated and of much use, the women taking particular pride in showing me what they had made. When here last year I told them that if I found they had kept their houses cleaner on my next visit I would give them some tea. I therefore sent them out four pounds of tea from Virden. A little help goes a long way with these people. The neighbours living at Pipestone, I was told, were very kind especially to the old and helpless during the winter.

OAK RIVER (SIOUX) BAND, No. 58.

This band was the last visited. Mr. John Taylor is farmer in charge.

Population.—The population is two hundred and eighty-three.

Buildings.—A new granary had been put up during the year, 46 x 18 feet frame with stone foundation, shingled roof, divided into twelve compartments or bins, each bin capable of holding two hundred and fifty bushels of grain. Seed wheat was on hand for next crop. Fifty-three houses and one hundred stables were examined in company with the agent and farmer, and with one exception I found all the houses clean and well kept, and stables airy and roomy. Four new frame houses had been

built during the year, six new log houses and twelve stables. The chief, who is always willing to carry out the wishes of the department, promised last year to build an implement shed. He kept his promise and built one of the best sheds I had seen. White settlers near by would do well to take a pattern from it and not have their expensive machinery going to ruin in the snow and exposed to all kinds of weather. The chief's example had been followed by seven others who had good sheds put up during the year.

Crops.—The crop sown and planted was one thousand one hundred and eighty-six acres, and there were harvested seven thousand six hundred and thirty-one bushels of wheat, five hundred and seventy-two of oats, one thousand three hundred and eighty six bushels potatoes, two hundred and thirty-two of corn and two hundred and forty-nine bushels of garden produce, four hundred and sixty-four tons of hay stacked, one hundred and twenty-five acres of new breaking, two hundred summer-fallowed and one hundred and twenty-five fall-ploughed. The Indians were reducing their indebtedness and paying for what they were buying.

Earnings.—The earnings of the band were \$4,841.76. The Indians are entirely self-supporting, the only items charged against them being twenty-five pounds of flour, ten pounds of bacon and one-quarter pound of tea. The reserve was in a prosperous condition, the Indians are good workers. I found them very pleasant. Mr. Taylor was doing very well and was losing no opportunity of helping his Indians along.

Stock.—The cattle were in fair order; the herd numbers one hundred and six head, a small herd in proportion to the number in the band, but hay is scarce and of poor quality, and if it were not for the straw the cattle would be badly off. The one hundred and six are held by twenty-six of the band.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Office Work.—The office work was written up to date, and Mr. Dickenson was painstaking and correct in his work.

Mr. Markle, the agent, continues to discharge his duties with marked ability, and it was surprising how familiar he was with every detail of his extensive agency, the habits and peculiarities of each man, woman and child were well known, so that he could deal intelligently with each case.

Temperance.—The practice of Indians getting liquor seemed to be on the decrease, at all events there were not so many trial cases as formerly. The agent is constantly on the alert in this respect, and one Indian told me the agent was getting more cranky on the drinking question the older he got and that he could smell whisky a mile off.

SWAN RIVER AGENCY.

I commenced my inspection of this agency on 18th March, 1898.

Staff.—Mr. W. E. Jones is agent; Mr. A. Caldwell, teamster and interpreter (a Regina graduate); David Porter, labourer.

Agency Buildings.—The agency buildings were in good condition.

COTE'S BAND, No. 64.

This was the first inspected.

Population.—The population is two hundred and sixty-one.

Buildings.—Thirty-six houses and seventy-seven stables were examined. The houses were found, without an exception, cleanly kept and were above the average of Indian houses in comfort, all had wooden floors, some new ones were noticed. The stables also were in good condition, some extra large well-built ones, but stable room

had not been increased in proportion to the herd, and consequently some of the cattle had not shelter.

Stock.—An inventory of the cattle was taken from stable to stable and the number was four hundred and forty-six head, sixty-nine sheep and one hundred and ten horses. Hay was getting short and cattle were on smaller rations than usual; sufficient was put up on this reserve, but owing to one hundred and forty tons having been burnt by a prairie fire on Keeseekouse Reserve, Cote's Band had to come to the rescue and furnish help. The supply of hay at Key's Reserve was also short, and a number of the cattle from there had to be sent to Cote's Reserve to be fed. If the winter season had lasted much longer, the results might have been disastrous. Fortunately the snow went away with a rush and cattle could get a little feed, and I understand few losses, if any, occurred, but it is a lesson to run no more such chances in not securing a sufficient supply. Some of the settlers were worse off than the Indians, and not a bundle of hay could be purchased for love or money, and chop feed was brought from Yorkton to keep the cattle alive. Some of Key's Band brought chop feed also.

Crops.—About sixty-five acres were under crop and the yield was reported to be: oats, ninety bushels; barley, one hundred and thirty bushels; of potatoes, three hundred and eighty-four bushels, and hay put up was reported to be one thousand four hundred and eighty tons; new land broken, twenty acres.

General Remarks.—Albert Fidler, a graduate of Regina school, had built a house for himself 16 x 20, shingled roof, and was preparing to go into farming. I spoke to the Indians about cultivating more land, that I would like to see some straw stacks around their home steads. The chief's daughter had returned from Regina school, and was proving a good housekeeper, as I never found the house so clean and tidy before. Wm. Favel had also put up a new house, and his daughter from Regina school was keeping it in good order.

The Indians were pleasant and contented.

KEESEKOUSE BAND, No. 66,

Was next visited. The population is one hundred and fifty-five. Nineteen houses and thirty-six stables were examined. The cattle were counted at each stable; the number was two hundred and twenty-eight head, twenty-four sheep and fifty-one horses. Eight hundred and sixty tons of hay were reported as having been stacked; of this one hundred and forty tons were burnt by prairie fire. About forty acres were in crop, yielding two hundred and twenty-five bushels of oats, fifty-five of barley and one hundred and three bushels of potatoes. The houses were comfortable, a few of them rather small. There were some very fine stables and good homesteads.

KEY'S BAND, No. 65.

Population.—The population is two hundred and twenty-seven, including those at Swan Lake.

Buildings.—Nine houses and sixteen stables were examined. Some of the best houses are on this reserve, and also the poorest.

Stock.—The cattle were counted and the number was two hundred and twelve. Sheep nine, horses twenty-five. The total cattle in the agency was eight hundred and ninety-seven head, held by eighty-seven Indians. Sheep one hundred and two, poultry one hundred and fifty-eight, horses two hundred and twenty including stock at the agency headquarters. Forty-seven head of cattle were killed for beef, and one hundred and twelve sold and traded. The price obtained for large animals was $3\frac{1}{2}$ cents live weight and $2\frac{1}{2}$ for the smaller ones. The younger cattle had not been branded.

The earnings of the three bands from furs, freighting, &c., were reported to be from 31st Jan., 1897 to 31st March, 1898, \$5,076.70, and from sale of cattle, \$5,403.57

The books and accounts were audited and an inventory of all Government property taken, and detailed reports forwarded to the Commissioner, Winnipeg.

There was a good deal of sickness among the children on the three reserves, and Dr. Cash was attending to them.

The agent was constant in looking after his Indians. I heard no complaints. The usual quantities of flour, bacon and beef were being issued. The flour and bacon were both up to standard.

Key's Band had twenty-two acres in crop, and harvested ninety bushels of grain and one hundred and twenty-two bushels of potatoes, and seven hundred tons of hay were reported as having been stacked.

I now returned to Yorkton and drove across country to Touchwood some one hundred and fifty-five miles. I inspected Fishing Lake Reserve on my way. Chas. Favel, farmer, had been stationed here during the year and a new farm house put up 19 x 16, shingled roof. The Indian houses, some six in number, were poor, miserable, dirty shacks, unoccupied at the time, the Indians being away on the hunt. I told the farmer to burn the whole of them down in the spring and get logs out for new houses.

There were sixteen head of cattle and barely enough of hay, but I arranged with Mr. Milligan, to give hay should any be required: on no account were cattle to be allowed to die from starvation.

Five acres of new land had been broken for gardens.

THE NUT LAKE INDIANS OR YELLOW QUILL'S BAND.

These Indians comprise Nos. 88 and 89, and the population is three hundred and fifty-one,—men sixty-eight, women eighty-nine, boys ninety-seven, girls ninety-seven. Boys and girls include all unmarried, and many of them are grown up men and women. The bulk of them can only be seen at treaty payments, they live entirely by hunting. A mission was commenced a year ago, but it was closed up at the time of my visit. At treaty time as many as sixty lodges are in one camp, and five or six trading outfits, the whole looking like a thriving village and looked picturesque, lit up at nights amongst the trees. I heard, but could trace nothing definite, that the Indians during these gatherings carry on a good deal of gambling amongst themselves and with the half-breed settlers, and even with traders. A trader who would rob an Indian in this fashion should not be allowed a permit and I have told Mr. Favel to be on the look out on these occasions. There used to be a police patrol here but it has been discontinued.

TOUCHWOOD HILL AGENCY.

I now drove to Touchwood Agency fifty miles, and commenced my inspection there on 12th April, 1898.

Staff.—Mr. S. Swinford is agent, Mr. H. A. Carruthers, clerk, and farmer on Gordon Reserve; J. Brass, teamster and interpreter; Edmund Stanley, farmer, Poor Man's and Day Star Reserves; P. J. Hamilton, farmer, Muscowequan's Reserve; Chas. Favel, farmer at Fishing Lake.

The buildings at the agency headquarters were in good condition. The agent's house, office and stable had been willowed and plastered and stone foundations put under the house and office.

POOR MAN'S BAND, No. 88.

This band was the first inspected.

The population is ninety-five. A new stable had been put up by the farmer, Mr. Stanley, and an implement shed re-roofed. All the farm buildings were in good order and the place tidy and neat. I visited twenty houses and thirty-five stables and found them all in good condition, houses particularly clean and stables large, airy, and affording ample room for the cattle, stable accommodation having kept pace with the increasing

herd. The chief built two new stables, a new granary, and had land ready for a new garden and was busy fencing it, and had manure hauled to the fields. The cattle looked well, the herd numbered one hundred and forty-three and there was plenty of hay. The Indians were busy preparing to put in their crop. These Indians have an antipathy to bedsteads, and consequently lie on the floor. A few who had been induced to have bedsteads, gave them up and these could be seen lying outside.

The farm books were checked and an inventory of property taken. Mr. Stanley is careful and correct in his work, and was getting along well with his Indians. His quiet, gentlemanly manners give him complete control over them.

The crop of 1897 was sixty-seven acres, yielding one thousand four hundred and forty-five bushels of wheat and oats, and four hundred bushels potatoes; four hundred and sixty-two tons of hay were stacked; twelve acres of new land broken, and eight acres summer-fallowed; seven new houses and eleven new stables were built; two thousand logs and rails were got out during the winter for repairs, fences, &c. The band had nine sheep, and poultry could be seen in many farm yards.

Fire-guards were at different points for the safety of the reserve and there was an air of prosperity all around.

The health of the band was good, I only saw two cases of sickness.

GORDON'S BAND, No. 86.

This band is under the charge of Mr. Carruthers.

The population is one hundred and fifty-three. I visited twenty houses and forty stables and with one exception the houses were clean and well furnished and nearly all had bedsteads. The stables were good and roomy and there was plenty of hay for the large herd, two hundred and sixty-five head. Two new stables had been built and others enlarged and roofs raised.

The crop put in in 1897 was one hundred and ten acres, and there were two thousand four hundred and forty-four bushels of wheat and oats harvested; seven hundred and fifty-five bushels of roots; eight hundred and seventy-three tons of hay put up; six acres of new breaking; logs and rails were on hand for repairs, &c.

Mr. Carruthers was proving himself to be as much at home in farm as he is in office work and had his Indians well in hand.

This reserve will compare with any white settlement in good houses and stables, cattle and fields, the Indians being thrifty generally.

DAY STAR BAND, No. 87.

This band under Mr. Stanley, was next visited.

The population is seventy-seven. Thirteen houses and 29 stables were inspected. Houses were clean, most had thatched roofs.

When spring showed signs of being late these Indians made six snow-ploughs to be used in case of necessity in clearing the snow from the prairie or meadows, so that the cattle could feed, but, fortunately the strong sun and south winds did the work more effectually in clearing the snow. The fact, however, of the Indians having the ploughs shows the interest they take in their cattle.

Fire-guards were in many parts of the reserve.

This band had about thirty acres in crop and harvested two hundred and sixty bushels of grain and four hundred and sixty-one bushels of potatoes.

The herd numbered two hundred and one head. Two new houses and two kitchens and nine new stables were built. Three thousand logs and rails were hauled out for repairs and fences. Four hundred and sixty-two tons of hay were stacked.

These Indians were pleasant and had no complaints. They are good workers, and are always ready and willing to earn a dollar when an opportunity offers, such as freighting or putting up fences for settlers, etc.

MUSCOWEQUAN'S BAND, No. 85.

Staff.—P. J. Hamilton, farmer in charge since September, 1897.

The population is one hundred and forty-nine.

Twelve houses and twenty-five stables were inspected and were found in fairly good order. Many of the Indians were in the act of moving into their lodges, so that their houses were seen to disadvantage, but as a rule the houses on this reserve are inferior to those on the others. The stables were commodious, and there was plenty of room for all the cattle. The herd numbered one hundred and twenty-seven head, and was in prime condition, many of the animals fit for the butcher. There was an abundance of hay, and the cattle came through the winter without any loss whatever. No casualties of any kind occurred since inspection in 1897.

The farm-house is an old one, and logs and lumber were on hand for a new one. The place was clean, however, and was made as comfortable as possible. The Indians were busy at their gardens and fields.

Mr. Hamilton had made a good beginning, and was energetic and practical, and, having a thorough knowledge of cattle and farming, he is likely to be a success in his work on this reserve.

Sixty acres were under crop in 1897, and three hundred and eighty-four bushels of grain and one hundred and seventy-seven bushels potatoes and turnips were harvested. Three hundred and thirty-two tons of hay were stacked, eight acres of new land broken, and fifteen acres summer fallowed. Three new stables and two houses were built, one hundred and five logs and one thousand four hundred rails were on hand. A large branding corral had been put up also.

The Indians were exceedingly pleasant and seemed contented. They made no complaints.

The usual inventory of property in the hands of the farmer was taken and the books were checked and cattle records balanced.

The total number of cattle on the agency was seven hundred and ninety; horses, two hundred and sixty-six; sheep, nine; and eighty-four poultry.

The office and warehouse were both attended to by Mr. Carruthers, and the audit and inventory taken proved Mr. Carruthers' care and business like methods.

The new agent, Mr. Swinford, was doing very well, and was a general favourite with the Indians and settlers.

I completed my inspection on 23rd April, and Mr. Swinford, having got leave of absence to go to Winnipeg, I was instructed to take charge of the agency until his return. I was therefore in charge until the 21st of May, when I left for Fort Qu'Appelle and Mr. Swinford returned by the agency team which drove me in. Before I left the crop had all been put in and the Indians were busy putting fences in order and some of them enlarging their houses by raising the roofs, and giving up-stair rooms.

When I reached the fort I found instructions waiting for me to proceed to Regina, and forward the warehouse equipment to Winnipeg. On the 30th May I left for Winnipeg and put the warehouse there into running order, and the groceries on contract, 1898-9. Having been delivered a few days after 1st June, I examined them, and shipped them to the various agencies. I also visited St. Paul's school and adjusted a small matter there, and on the 15th I left for Edmonton, arriving there on the 17th June. I made inquiries into and on two special questions, and reported results to the Indian Commissioner. Owing to the severe illness of Mr. DeCazes, Indian agent, I was told to give the clerk, Mr. Lake, assistance, and on 4th July commenced my regular inspection of the Edmonton Agency.

EDMONTON AGENCY.

Staff.—Chas. DeCazes was Indian Agent; E. E. Lake, clerk; Henry Blanc, interpreter and teamster; S. Larue, miller, and in charge of piggery; A. Guilbault, farmer at Alexander's and Joseph's Reserve; Thos. McGee, farmer at White Whale Lake Reserve.

Mr. DeCazes died on 10th July and was buried at St. Albert on the 12th July, and the funeral was largely attended by settlers and friends from Edmonton and by many of the Indians. Mr. DeCazes had been ailing for over nine months.

Windmill.—The windmill had been erected since I was here in 1895. It is situated about an eighth of a mile from the agency headquarters on rising ground, so as to get the benefit of any wind blowing. This is a substantial structure.

The piggery is in a large ravine or coulée near the mill and consists of several sheds made of logs. It is a comfortable looking place.

There is a field of about twenty acres connecting the sheds with the lake, and the pigs have the run of this field. There were one hundred pigs, young and old, and they seemed to be thriving well.

ENOCH'S BAND, No. 135,

Under charge of the agent was the first inspected. The Indians were all in lodges. Some good houses and stables had been built since my last visit. The cattle were corralled and counted, and numbered one hundred and seventy-four head. There were thirty-six sheep, seventeen pigs, forty-five horses and forty-two poultry.

The crop put in this year was one hundred and eight acres, and the whole grain and roots were looking very well.

Seventeen of the band had broken about eighty acres of new land so as to have wheat enough to give them their own flour and not to depend on the ration house. The fields averaged about four and one-half acres each. This was to be in addition to the land under crop this year.

The population of this band is one hundred and eighty-four.

The payments commenced on the 14th July and lasted nine days.

WHITE WHALE LAKE BAND, No. 133A.

The population is one hundred and fifteen.

This band has been in charge of Mr. Thos. McGee since 1st May last.

The reserve is a good one, the best of land, and plenty of timber and hay, and the lake full of fish.

Thirty-six acres had been put under crop, but prospects were poor at the time, except for potatoes. The appearance of the fields and gardens showed carelessness, and imperfect cultivation, no fault, however, of Mr. McGee's, as he was late in taking charge. It is to be hoped that now with a resident farmer another year will make a better showing, already about forty acres of new land had been broken.

The cattle were in good condition. They could not well be anything else, from the fine pasturage and clear running water always to be had. The herd numbered seventy-eight head. There are also thirty horses on the reserve. Chief Paul had built a good corral.

The farmer was living in the teacher's house, and the teacher was occupying the mission building, Rev. Mr. Blewett being missionary as well as teacher.

The Indians were all present at the payments. The Hudson Bay Company and a St. Albert merchant had large tents and good stocks of dry goods, flour, &c., and from what I noticed Indians got good value for their money, and little was spent on paint, cheap jewellery and useless trinkets. One good feature, the Indians paid up all debts and could begin another year with a clean sheet. These Indians are a very pleasant lot of people and, if properly handled, should soon be self-supporting.

JOSEPH'S BAND, No. 133.

This band is under charge of Mr. Guilbeault, of Alexander's Reserve. Population one hundred and thirty-seven.

These Indians are hunters and put in little crop, hay and a few roots. They are well off and were well dressed. They have thirty head of cattle and twenty-five horses. They are independent of the ration house, only a few old widows visit it for help.

ALEXANDER'S BAND, No. 134, OR FARM 17.

A. Guilbeault is in charge of this band. Population, one hundred and eighty-seven. Owing to changes in farmers there since Mr. O'Donnell left, the reserve had not made the progress in should have done, considering the help it received. These Indians are backward in farming. Eighty acres were in crop this year. The chief was told that two hundred acres should be got ready for wheat alone next year, and before I left I heard that forty acres had been done, and work was still going on. Old fields which had been idle were being ploughed up afresh.

The farm buildings were in good order, and the inventory showed that good care had been taken of the property in the farmer's hands. Bridges and fences were repaired. The herd numbered one hundred and twenty head, sheep forty-five, pigs twelve, horses fifty, and poultry twenty-five.

MICHEL'S BAND, No. 132.

The population is eighty-two. This band may be called the banner reserve of the agency, in commodious houses and stables, good fields and in the general thrift of the Indians, they may be classed as self-supporting—a little help only being given at seeding and haying. The crop put in this year was one hundred and fifteen acres, and it was looking well. The cattle were in fine condition, the herd numbered ninety-three head : sheep, nineteen ; pigs, fifty-five ; horses, twenty-five ; and one hundred poultry, such as hens, turkeys and ducks. Nineteen acres had been summer-fallowed at the time, and some new breaking was done. As an example of what a little enterprise and steady work can do, I give the case of Louis Calihoo, a young man who commenced with little or nothing a few years ago, since I have been inspecting, and to-day he has a fine house $1\frac{1}{2}$ story, lean-to kitchen, shingled roof, up-stair rooms and comfortably furnished, large cattle and horse stables, two implement sheds, granary and was building a larger one, milk-house, hennery, piggery, storehouse, three sets of double harness, one fanning-mill, one binder, mower and horse-rake, two double wagons and buggy, two pair bob-sleighs, jumpers and set iron harrows, two ploughs, one seeder, all private property. One thousand and forty-two bushels grain harvested last year. Has thirty-six head of cattle, seven heavy work horses, fifteen sheep, nineteen pigs, twenty-six turkeys and thirty-two hens and ducks. Makes butter. A fine spring of water bubbles up close to the house and never fails winter or summer—a boon for the cattle. Calihoo's son, an ex-pupil of High River school, although only a boy, is of great use to his father and does most of the ploughing and stable work. The little fellow keeps a book and has the number and description of each animal entered down, number of hens, turkeys, &c., number of bushels of grain sown and potatoes planted, and the crop harvested last year, in fact a regular farm book. In addition to the profits from the farm and cattle, Calihoo does a lot of freighting, for the Hudson's Bay Co., to Athabasca Landing and other points.

Others on this reserve are equally prosperous, including the old chief himself. The whole reserve had an air of prosperity about it and the Indians were cheerful and happy.

The health of the Indians at the time was fairly good.

Owing to the Indians on Alexander's Reserve being exposed to getting liquor from parties going to the Klondike, the trail going through the reserve, a constable was placed on the reserve, and his presence has had the desired effect in stopping the giving of liquor to Indians.

The office work and warehouse were both attended to by Mr. Lake, and everything was found in splendid order. I audited all the books and took an inventory of all Government property and sent detail reports and statements to the Commissioner, Winnipeg.

HOBBEMA AGENCY.

I now proceeded to the Hobbema Agency and commenced my inspection there on the 4th August, 1898.

Staff.—W. S. Grant is agent; C. J. Johnson, clerk; Donald Whitford, interpreter; E. Moore, farmer, Ermineskin's and Louis Bull's Reserves; Gilbert Whitford, farmer, Montana Band, Bobtail's old Reserve.

Many improvements have been made at the agency and it was in better condition than I ever found it at previous inspections.

The grist-mill had been sided with the clapboards taken from the agent's house. An addition to the mill 20 x 22 for storage and a shed 13 x 50 affording covering for the saw and shingle-mill machinery. A new head gate had been built where the water is taken from the river, and all the bank of the tail-race repaired. A new waste gate had also been built on the most improved plan, and the tail-race extended fifty feet, a new well dug in agency's premises, a neat, strong fence enclosing the agent's and clerk's houses, posts and rails are spruce with the bark peeled off, giving the fence a neat appearance, rails fastened into the posts. A board fence had been placed around the warehouse, ration house and office, the boards being the slabs taken from the logs sawn at the mill. The ration house was repaired and conveniently fitted up for the purpose. Two implement sheds, 25 x 40 and 20 x 45, had been built for bulky implements, wagons, &c., so that all implements, whether large or small, can be kept under cover with plenty of room to move them out and in.

There were sheds for the pigs and a large enclosure bordering on the river to keep them from wandering over the whole agency as formerly. A driving house between the cattle and horse stables had also been completed.

The huge piles of manure which were allowed to accumulate in front of the stables—when it was a question which to remove, the stables or the manure—had been hauled out to the fields.

Two large corrals had been built in rear of the stables, one with a chute for branding purposes.

The agent and clerk had each a nice garden. The agent's house had also received considerable repairs.

A wide fire-guard had been ploughed around the agency and mill premises, connecting with the mill-dam at one end and the river at the other. A new bridge had been built over Battle River, the work being done by Indians under directions of the agent, without any extra cost to the department, usual rations only having been giving. Brick chimneys had been built in the mill and in the interpreter's house, also in the small house for boiling pig feed.

A pasture field of about three hundred acres or more had been fenced in, taking in part of the river: the bulls are kept in this pasture in the spring and agency stock at other times.

SAMSON'S BAND, No. 138.

This band was first visited, and was found in good condition.

Crops.—The crop put in was three hundred and thirty-three and three-quarter acres, and seemed to be well put in. Potatoes and turnips were looking very well. The grain owing want of rain until July, was backward, but if the warm, fine weather continued, the crop would turn out better than was expected. Twenty-seven acres of new land had been broken and fifty-eight acres summer fallowed, and a good deal of new fencing done.

Stock.—The cattle were in fine condition, and were all corralled, the number of the herd being three hundred and sixty head. The calves were a superior lot, the bulls on this agency being above the average of shorthorns.

Four new houses and three stables had been built during the year. The old cattle sheds at the meadows were accidentally burnt this spring, no great loss as they were getting dilapidated. The agent was getting the Indians to divide up more into smaller groups instead of having so many cattle in one place, consequently new stables were

being put up at suitable points near hay and water. The work was done on wet days when haying was stopped.

ERMINESKIN'S BAND, No. 137.

The reserve of this band was about the same as Samson's. The crop put in was ninety-six and a half acres; thirty acres were summer-fallowed. Four new stables and five new houses and three wells dug, water having been got at a depth of twenty feet.

The farm buildings (E. Moore, farmer) had been much improved. An implement shed 18 x 30 had been put up, and an addition to the stables, a small store house, all being inclosed by a fence similar to the one at the agency headquarters. There were two good wells.

The farmer keeps his place in good order, and Mrs. Moore had her house in the pink of neatness and good taste, and a pretty flower and vegetable garden, attended to by Mrs. Moore herself, the whole being an object lesson for the Indians when visiting the place. I noticed that some of the Indians had already adopted the same style of fence around their places. A good example goes a long way with Indians, and, of course, one of a slovenly nature has just the opposite effect.

A new large corral had been put up for branding, in which all the cattle were collected. A fine lot, numbering two hundred and fifty-six head in all.

The new boarding school (Roman Catholic) is on this reserve, notice of which will appear in my school report.

LOUIS BULL BAND, No. 140.

The reserve of this band borders on Ermineskin's, and is also under charge of Mr. Moore. Crops were about the same as on the other two. Acres sown and planted, forty-one and three-eighths. Four new houses and five stables, also large cattle sheds and corrals. The herd numbered one hundred and seven head, and cattle were in fine condition. When oxen and cows get old they are turned into beef.

The Indians were all busy getting ready for haying, and a blacksmith was at the agency repairing mowers and rakes, binders, ploughs and wagons, so that all equipment was in perfect order for work.

Some five thousand loads of hay, or three thousand tons or more, would be required besides the straw to feed the large herd. It meant a lot of work on the part of these Indians besides the harvesting immediately following or rather at the same time this year, as I fancy hay will be cut until the snow falls. Hay was left over from last year.

MONTANA BAND, No. 139.

This band is located on Bobtail's old reserve, and the Indians came from Montana in 1896. About one hundred and fifty came then to this agency, but one hundred returned, either to where they came from or other parts, leaving fifty on the reserve. They are capital workers, and have built nine houses and they had as many fields from four to five acres each, or a total of forty-one and a quarter acres, in wheat, oats and roots, all looking very well; square fields and good straight fences, and the root crops had been well looked after.

There is one large stable in common; it is on the banks of Battle River. The herd numbered fifty-two head, twenty-six head had been distributed among the band and twenty-six were still in the name of the band to be distributed as demands would arise. It was expected some of those who had left would return.

Twelve acres of new land had been broken this year. Gilbert Whitford, the farmer in charge, was doing very well, and the neat houses and fields and gardens were a credit to him and his Indians. The farm house is the one formerly used at Wolf Creek Reserve. It was hauled down by the Indians and located on a pretty spot selected by Inspector Wadsworth, at a bend on Battle River, and is surrounded by bluffs. Stable and ration or storehouse put up also. Logs were cut and hewn for three new houses to

be put up before winter. I was much pleased with the appearance of this reserve, and on a second visit I found the Indians busy haying. They are principally young men, active and above the average in intelligence, and were likely to make comfortable homes for themselves and families.

The agency stock consisted of fifty-two head.

The warehouse was well kept and good care was taken of property.

The flour ground at the mill was of good quality, wholesome and sweet, although not so white as the contract flour.

The usual inventory was taken and books audited and office work generally gone over and all were found to be correctly kept by Mr. Johnson, who is painstaking and particular in all his work.

Population.—The total population, as per pay-sheets this year, was six hundred and twenty-seven.

Health.—The health at the time was good. I heard of no cases of sickness. The Indians were cheerful and were in good health.

The cattle are well distributed: Samson's herd is held by sixty of the band, Ermieskin's twenty-five, Louis Bull fifteen and Montana thirteen, or a total of one hundred and twenty-three families holding cattle.

The agency was in a prosperous condition, and Mr. Grant was not sparing himself, being early and late attending to his extensive agency. He had the confidence and respect of his Indians, so there was not one word of discontent expressed, on the contrary the chiefs and many of the Indians said they were pleased to have an agent who was always kind to them.

Hospital.—I now returned to Calgary and spent Sunday and Monday, 28th and 29th August, there. On Sunday I visited the Red Cross Hospital in company with Dr. Lafferty, and saw cases of scrofula which had been cured by the doctor, and I was informed that over thirty similar cases had been successfully treated in the same way. The doctor was certainly conferring a boon on these poor people, and it is to be hoped the same success will be met with at other points, as this is the most common trouble, especially among the young, so much so, that many of them are refused admittance into industrial and boarding schools.

Dr. Lafferty's plan was to bring all such cases in his district to the hospital in Calgary, where he could attend to them properly. He said it was impossible for him to do this in their own houses or lodges.

SARCEE AGENCY.

On Monday, I made a hurried visit to the Sarcee Agency and boarding school there.

The agency was in excellent order, and the Indian houses looked very well, walls whitewashed, and roofs painted red.

The crop was a good one and the Indians were busy harvesting.

Mr. McNeill, the agent, was bringing these Indians on in a way which showed substantial progress.

The school building had undergone some changes since my last visit.

The pupils were neat and clean, and seemed to be getting along well with their lessons.

I now returned to Qu'Appelle, and after spending a couple of days there in my office, I left for Moose Mountain Agency, and commenced my inspection there on the 6th September, 1898.

MOOSE MOUNTAIN AGENCY.

Staff.—H. R. Halpin is agent, and farmer on White Bear's Reserve; Wm. Murison, farmer on Pheasant Rump's and Striped Blanket's or Western Reserves, being about thirty-five miles west of the agency head quarters. I inspected this agency in January.

WHITE BEAR'S BAND.

These Indians had in crop this year seventy-one acres, wheat, oats, barley and roots, all of a good yield, and an estimate would give about thirteen or fourteen hundred bushels of grain. Ninety-two acres of new breaking had been done, and it is Mr. Halpin's intention to have one hundred and fifty acres in wheat alone on this reserve next year. The breaking was done by eight of the band, and the ploughing was well done.

Hay fields were gone over, and the numerous large well-made stacks proved that ample provision was made for the cattle, in fact more was put up than will be required, as it is expected there will be a demand for hay in the spring, owing to the proposed building of a railway up the valley. There was a lot of hay over from last year, and the Indians got good prices for it in the spring.

The band has wagons, mowers, rakes, harness, and also a new binder. The old chief, who is blind, was seen. He said he was pleased that we called on him. He said he had nothing to say unusual with an Indian chief, that all was going on well.

PLEASANT RUMP'S AND STRIPED BLANKET'S BANDS.

The Indians at the two western reserves were busy at their grain, and the pretty fields dotted over with stooks showed they were being liberally rewarded for their labours.

Pheasant Rump's Band had eighty-six and a quarter acres in crop, Striped Blanket seventy-nine acres in crop, and a moderate estimate would give them about two thousand five hundred bushels of wheat and oats. Twenty acres of new land broken on Pheasant Rump's, and forty-eight acres summer-fallowed, and on Striped Blanket's sixty-two acres summer fallowed. A fire-break eight miles long and twenty-four feet wide surrounded the two reserves. Part of this work was done last fall, and the remainder this year.

Mr. Murison was doing good work with these two small bands, and they were contented and pleasant. Mr. Murison says he has no trouble with them, and they carry out his wishes cheerfully at all times. The amount of work done, crop put in and harvested, new breaking and summer fallow, new houses and stables and other work, are the best proof of the progress going on.

Mr. Dodds, the Presbyterian missionary on White Bear's Reserve, makes regular visits, and he is always well received.

The inventory of the warehouse, and articles in use, was taken, and books and office work checked and all were found satisfactory.

The total number of cattle is three hundred and fourteen, and horses one hundred and thirty. This balance of cattle is after deducting twenty-seven head sold a few days before inspection. The price obtained was $3\frac{1}{4}$ c. a pound live weight for steers, and $2\frac{3}{4}$ c. for cows. The crop of calves was satisfactory, being seventy-three from eighty-three cows. The amount of money received for the cattle was \$988.74, or an average of \$36.62 per animal. The Indians used the money paying for wagons, mowers, provisions and dry goods, Mr. Halpin and Mr. Murison seeing that they got good value. These Indians may be said to be out of debt. The sum of \$80 was retained to purchase heifers to replace some of those sold. Cattle were all properly branded. The health at the time of inspection was fairly good. Dr. Hardy was attending to a few cases.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The agency, as a whole was in good order and decided progress had been made during the year. It was looking its best; the tinted leaves and rich foliage and pasturage, with the numerous lakes, and pretty fields dotted over with stooks of the best of grain, together with the fine fat cattle roaming about, gave one the impression that these Indians have a goodly heritage.

It was my intention to have visited all the agencies, reserves and schools in my inspectorate twice a year, once in summer and once in winter, but, owing to other duties, I have not been able to carry this programme out fully.

I have, &c.,

ALEX. MCGIBBON,
Inspector Indian Agencies and Reserves

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
BABINE AND UPPER SKEENA RIVER AGENCY

HAZELTON, 11th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour herewith to inclose my annual report and statistical statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location of Agency.—This agency is bounded towards the north and west by the North-west Coast Agency, towards the south by the Williams Lake Agency and to the east by the Rocky Mountains.

Reserves.—Five only of the numerous reserves in this agency have been surveyed; but it is estimated that the total area reserved will aggregate about forty-four thousand six hundred and thirty-one acres. Except, however, in the five cases above referred to, no mention will be made of the area of the individual reserves.

Apart from many special reserves, this agency contains twenty-two villages, besides four semi-nomadic bands. Of these, seven villages belong to the Kit-Ksun Division, and fifteen villages, with the four outlying bands, to the Hoguel-get Division.

THE KIT-KSUN DIVISION.

This division includes the seven villages of the Kit-Ksun nation. This race is identical with the Tsimpsons of the coast. The latter have sprung from a large body of the Kit-Ksuns who, abandoning their villages, the traces of which are still to be seen, forced their way to the coast, where they obtained the name of Tsum-Ksun, or Tsimpsonian, that is, men from the Skeena.

With the exception of Kit-wan-cool, which lies about half way between the Skeena and the Naas, the Kit-Ksun villages are all upon the Skeena, their territory extending from Kit-so-las Cañon, some ninety miles below Hazelton, to beyond the headwaters of the river, or about one hundred and sixty miles. In the following account the villages will be taken in order, ascending the river.

KIT-WAN-GAH BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the right bank of the Skeena, near the mouth of the Kit-wan-gah River.

Resources.—Salmon fishing, hunting, trapping, and gathering wild berries, constitute the principal resources of this band.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and fifty-one, consisting of fifty-three men, fifty-eight women and forty children, being an increase of two. During the

year there were five deaths, principally from old age, and seven births. No emigration or immigration.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The people of the village enjoyed excellent health. Care was taken to ensure cleanliness. Several were vaccinated, mostly children.

Occupation.—The principal occupations of this band are fishing, hunting and trapping, and cutting cordwood; while the women and children gather wild berries, to be dried for the winter.

Buildings, Stock, and Farm Implements.—No less than seven frame houses were erected on this reserve, making twenty-two in all; of stock, they have one bull and three cows, with two calves.

These Indians have only ordinary hand tools.

Education.—The school, which had been established by the Anglican Church Missionary Society, was burnt down during last February. The Indians, however, have been making reasonable progress.

Religion.—I am happy to report that almost the whole band have now adopted the Christian faith, there being one hundred and thirty-four Anglicans, and seventeen pagans. The Anglican Church Missionary Society has established a church and school.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are in the main honest, courteous, and appreciative of improvements. They have continued to improve their gardens with good results.

KIT-WAN-COOL VILLAGE.

Location.—This village, the only settlement of the Kit-Ksuns not situated on the Skeena, lies on the left bank of the Kit-wan-gah River, about four miles below Lake Kit-wan-cool. It is about thirty-five miles from Kit-wan-gah, and forty-five from Ayensk, on the Naas, and is situated on the trail from Kit-wan-gah to Ayensk.

Resources.—The resources of the people of this village are abundant; salmon from the lake, hunting and trapping, and wild berries gathered by the women.

Vital Statistics.—The population is sixty-seven, consisting of twenty-two men, twenty women and twenty-five children, an increase of one. There were three births and two deaths during the year, the latter of old age. No emigration or immigration.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—All the members of this band enjoyed excellent health during the year. This may in some measure be ascribed to the interest in sanitary matters taken by the Indians themselves. Several were vaccinated, mostly children.

Occupation.—These Indians work in the coast salmon canneries during the season, and hunt and trap during the rest of the year. In common with all the Kit-Ksuns, these Indians have of late been giving increased attention to their gardens, and clearing new ground.

Buildings, Stock, and Implements.—During the past year two frame houses were put up, the first in Kit-wan-cool. The people of the village have no horses or cattle of any kind, and only the common hand implements are used.

Education.—There is no school at Kit-wan-cool, but some of the children attend school at Kincolith, at Ayensk and at Kil-wan-gah, as opportunity occurs.

Religion.—There is no church or resident minister, but almost all of the band have become Christians, of the Anglican denomination, there being fifty-four Anglicans and thirteen pagans, and are ministered to from Kit-wan-gah, and also from the Naas.

Characteristics and Progress.—In spite of their isolation, it is gratifying to observe a distinct advance in dress and comfort.

KITSE-GUKLA BAND.

Location.—This band has two villages, the old and the new, both situated on the left bank of the Skeena, and the latter about nine miles above the former.

Resources.—Salmon fishing, hunting and trapping are the chief resources of this band. The women and children dry great quantities of wild berries for the winter.

Vital Statistics.—The combined population of both old and new villages is eighty-six, consisting of thirty-two men, thirty women and twenty-four children, being an increase of three. There were four births and only one death. No emigration or immigration during the past year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The Indians enjoyed very good health. They kept their premises fairly clean. Six children were vaccinated.

Occupation.—The chief occupations of these Indians are working for the coast canneries during the salmon season, getting out cordwood and trapping. The women dry stores of wild berries for the winter. More attention has again this year been paid to potato growing.

Buildings, Stock, and Implements.—There are in all eight frame and thirty-two log houses. No new houses have been erected this year. These people have no stock, and only common hand tools.

Education.—The attendance is still very irregular, owing to parents taking their children with them when leaving for work, but reasonable progress has been made.

Religion.—The Methodist body has taken in hand the charge of the band, and through the efforts of that church almost all have now adopted the Christian faith, there being sixty-six Methodists and but twenty pagans, the progress made last year being continued in this.

Characteristics and Progress.—The improvement noticeable in recent years was continued in the present under consideration, as to dress, mode of living and the comfort and cleanliness of the surroundings.

GET-AN-MAX BAND, HAZELTON.

Reserve.—This band has a reserve on the left bank of the Skeena, adjoining and almost surrounding the township of Hazelton.

Resources.—The principal resources of these Indians are fishing, during the salmon season, hunting and trapping. Great quantities of wild berries are also gathered, and a good deal of potatoes grown, as well as some hay.

Vital Statistics.—The population is two hundred and forty-three, consisting of ninety-four men, ninety women and fifty-nine children, being an increase of two over last year. There were ten births and eight deaths; the latter all from natural causes. Two persons moved to the village, one from Kis-piox and one from Kis-ge-gas, and two left it, one to each of the above places.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of these Indians has been very good. Several persons have been vaccinated, chiefly children, and much attention was paid to cleaning of premises and sanitary precautions.

Occupation.—Opportunities for employment have of late been exceptionally good, and many of the Indians have done extremely well. Their old avocations, however, such as hunting and trapping, have been by no means entirely neglected, but the returns have not been equal to those of past years, and the prospect for the future will be still less. Much attention is paid to potato-growing.

Buildings, Stock, and Implements.—There are forty-one frame houses, of which fourteen were newly erected this year; sixty-nine cedar and log-houses, and thirteen stables. There are seventy-five horses in all, but no cattle. The Indians have only the common hand-tools; however, they are glad to avail themselves of the use of the Government ploughs, which are lent them upon fitting occasions.

Education.—The school is founded and maintained under the management of the Anglican Church Missionary Society. Some progress has been made in spite of the extreme irregularity of attendance, due mainly to parents taking their children with them when leaving for work.

Religion.—Almost the whole population has now adopted the Christian faith, there being two hundred and thirty-one Anglicans and twelve pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—The steady improvement of recent years has been decidedly noticeable in this, the Indians,—many of whom are very good workmen,—having of late had excellent opportunities for turning themselves to account. In their homes the same advance can be observed. One or two sewing-machines have been imported by the Indians.

KIS-PIOX BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the right bank of the Skeena, about nine miles above Hazelton, at the mouth of the Kis-piox River.

Resources.—Salmon fishing, hunting and trapping are the principal resources of these Indians. Potatoes are also grown to a considerable extent.

Vital Statistics.—The population is two hundred and twenty-four, consisting of eighty-nine men, eighty-eight women and forty-seven children, an increase of one. There were eight births and seven deaths. One person removed to Get-an-max and another came from that reserve to Kis-piox.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The Indians' health has been very good the past year. Their premises were kept in very fair order throughout the year. A continuous improvement is observable in that respect. Several children were vaccinated.

Occupation.—Working in the canneries on the coast during the salmon season, working in the mines, and hunting and trapping are the chief occupations of these Indians. The women and children gather great quantities of berries for the winter's use.

Buildings, Stock, and Improvements.—There are thirty-seven frame houses, forty-three of log and split cedar, and seventeen stables. Twelve frame houses were put up this year. There are twenty-nine horses in all and one heifer. Only the ordinary hand-tools are used.

Education.—The school on the reserve is under the management of the Methodist Church and is doing very well, though much hampered by parents taking their children with them to work, as in other localities.

Religion.—Almost the whole band has been converted by the Methodist Church which is also contemplating the erection of an excellent church. The Methodists now number one hundred and eighty-one to forty-three pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians continue to advance in a very satisfactory manner. They are law-abiding and industrious, and are yearly improving both in dress and in the comfort and neatness of their homes.

KIS-GE-GAS VILLAGE.

Location.—This village is situated about sixty-eight miles north of Hazelton, on the right bank of the Babine River, three miles above its confluence with the Skeena. The reserve for the people of this village has not yet been apportioned.

Resources.—The resources of the Indians of this village are salmon fishing, hunting and trapping. This band's hunting grounds extend far beyond the headwaters of the Skeena. The returns, however, have of late been falling off, and threaten a further decline.

Vital Statistics.—The population is two hundred and sixty-six, consisting of one hundred and five men, one hundred and two women and fifty-nine children, a decrease of three. There were nine births and twelve deaths, the latter chiefly from pneumonia and old age. One person removed to Get-an-max and one came here from there.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians has been very fair, except for several cases of pneumonia. The Indians have shown a marked improvement in regard to sanitation, largely attributable to the efforts of the Anglican minister. Several were vaccinated.

Occupation.—These Indians depend comparatively little on their earnings at the canneries on the coast, and far more on hunting and trapping, and pay increasing attention to their potato grounds.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The band has eight frame houses, of which two were put up during this year, forty-three log houses and fifteen outhouses. There is no stock and only the ordinary gardening tools.

Education.—The school was established by, and is under the direction of, the Anglican Church Missionary Society. In spite of the usual irregularity of attendance, the children have made great progress.

Religion.—More than three-quarters of the population have accepted the Christian faith through the efforts of the Anglican Church Missionary Society, there being now two hundred and four Anglicans to sixty-two pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are remarkably intelligent, and though comparatively poor, have greatly improved both in their mode of life, in comfort, and in the cleanliness of their surroundings.

KOLDOE VILLAGE.

Location.—This village is situated on the right bank of the Skeena about fifteen miles from Kis-ge-gas, with which it is connected by an almost impassable trail. No reserve has yet been assigned to the people of this village.

Resources.—The river yields great quantities of salmon, the hunting grounds are large and comparatively productive, and wild berries are unusually plentiful in the neighbourhood.

Vital Statistics.—The population is forty-eight, consisting of sixteen men, thirteen women and nineteen children, an increase of three. One death and four births occurred during the year. There was no emigration or immigration.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The Indians enjoyed excellent health. Though so remote, the people are beginning to understand the importance of keeping their premises and surroundings clean. Four adults and two children were vaccinated, and some re-vaccinated.

Occupation.—Salmon fishing, hunting and trapping are the chief occupations of these Indians. Increased attention is also paid to potato-growing.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—One frame house was erected this year; there are also seven houses of log and split cedar, with five outhouses. These Indians have no stock and only a few ordinary garden tools.

Education.—Some of the children attend school in Kis-ge-gas as opportunity offers.

Religion.—Almost all belong to the Anglican Church, having learnt the Christian faith at Kis-ge-gas. There are now forty-one Anglicans and seven pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—It is very satisfactory to observe that, though so isolated and comparatively poor, the people show a keen intelligence, and continue to advance relatively as fast as the other villages of their nation.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The remarkable advance, both moral and material, made by all the Kit-Ksun villages of late years has this year been fully continued.

With the exception of Hazelton, all the villages are connected by trails with Ayensk on the Naas, where the Indians used to obtain their oulachon grease. This industry, however, is not nearly so much followed as in former years, and is becoming obsolete.

Temperance and Morality.—The following remarks apply to all the foregoing villages. These Indians are not on the whole inclined to intemperance, and by occa-

sionally searching suspected canoes coming up from the coast they are further deprived of the opportunity. As regards morality their conduct leaves little to be complained of.

Timber and Bush Fires.—The total absence of forest fires this year was very noticeable, the more so, as generally the smoke of raging bush fires could be seen in every direction. The prevention of these fires depends mainly on the care with which camp fires are extinguished, in which respect the Indians have lately become very cautious and painstaking.

THE HOGUEL-GET DIVISION.

Location.—This division begins three miles to the east of Hazelton, and ends at Fort St. George on the Fraser River, a distance of about three hundred and twenty-five miles.

General Remarks.—This division contains fifteen villages, of which four belong to the Babine Group and eleven to the Carrier Group, and four nomadic or semi-nomadic bands, of which two are Sikanees and two Na-anees. All are of the Roman Catholic faith and all belong to what is known as the Dèni nation, though it may be observed that the original meaning of the word Dèni or Tenne is simply "people," as "Natlohtenne", the people of Natloh or Fraser's Lake.

The Babine Group.

MORICETOWN BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Hoguel-get River, embracing both banks.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and fifty-five, consisting of fifty-four men, fifty-seven women and forty-four children, an increase of two. During the year there were seven births and five deaths. No emigration or immigration.

Buildings, Stock, and Implements.—Five frame houses were erected this year. In addition to these there are twenty-six houses of logs and split cedar, and nine outhouses. The band owns forty-nine horses, eleven head of cattle and a few garden tools.

HOGUEL-GET BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on both banks of the Hoguel-get River.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and fifty-seven, consisting of fifty-seven men, fifty-three women and forty-seven children, an increase of two over last year. There were five births and three deaths. No emigration or immigration.

Buildings, Stock, and Implements.—There are five frame houses, of which three were erected this year, and thirty three houses of logs and split cedar, besides twelve outhouses and five stables. The band owns twenty-eight horses and eleven head of cattle in all. Only the ordinary garden tools are used.

FORT BABINE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on Babine Lake, with a timber reserve on the lake near its outlet into the Babine River and on the left bank.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and seventy, consisting of sixty-one men, sixty-three women and forty-six children, being an increase of three. There were six births and three deaths during the past year. No emigration or immigration.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—There are seven frame houses, of which five were erected during the year, also thirty-eight houses of logs and split cedar, fourteen outhouses and five stables. These Indians have twenty-six horses, fourteen cattle and the ordinary garden tools.

OLD FORT BABINE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve and village of this band are situated on the right bank of the Babine Lake.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and fifty-two, consisting of fifty-four men, fifty women, and forty eight children, the same as last year. During the year four births and four deaths occurred. There was no emigration or immigration.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—Two frame houses were put up this year. There are also forty log houses, besides ten outhouses and six stables. These Indians have twenty head of cattle, and the usual garden tools.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The following remarks apply to all the villages of the Babine Group.

Area.—All the reserve are still unsurveyed.

Resources.—Fishing, hunting and trapping, and the cultivation of potatoes are the chief resources.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians has been excellent. They appreciate for the most part the necessity of sanitary precautions. Almost all are vaccinated.

Education.—There is no school, but the people have been taught by the Roman Catholic clergy the use of a syllabary in their own language, a system widely used in the interior of British Columbia.

Religion.—All the people belong to the Roman Catholic Church, and every village has a church.

Characteristics and Progress.—These people are tractable and law-abiding, devout in their faith, and are good hunters and trappers. In spite of some falling off in the returns from the latter source, their general condition continues to improve.

The Carrier Group.

YU-CUT-CE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated at the head of Stuart's Lake (Fond du Lac), and embraces a portion of the strip of land nine miles in width with the portage between Babine and Stuart's Lakes.

Vital Statistics.—The band numbers twenty-two, as last year, consisting of nine men, six women, and seven children. There were no births or deaths.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—These Indians have four log houses, three outhouses and three stables; also five horses, two heifers and a few garden tools.

THATCE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the left bank of Stuart's Lake and at the mouth and left bank of Thatce River.

Vital Statistics.—The population is forty-two, consisting of fifteen men, fourteen women and thirteen children, being an increase of one. There was one birth and no deaths.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—There is one new frame house, erected during the year, besides twelve log houses, six outhouses, and three stables. These Indians have fourteen horses, thirty-two cattle, and the usual garden tools.

GRAND RAPIDS BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on Thatce River, which at this point is commonly called Trembleur River.

Vital Statistics.—The population is fifteen, consisting of three men, five women, and seven children. No births or deaths occurred.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—These Indians this year erected a frame house. They have also five log houses, five outhouses and a stable. They have fourteen head of cattle.

TSIS-TLAN-LI BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated at the head of Lake Trembleur on the left bank, at the mouth of Tatla River.

Vital Statistics.—The population is sixteen, consisting of six men, four women and six children, being an increase of one, with one birth and no deaths.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—These Indians have six log dwellings, three outhouses and one stable; also twelve cattle and a few garden tools.

PINTCE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is on the left bank of Stuart's Lake, and at the mouth and on the left bank of Pintce River.

Vital Statistics.—The population is forty-one, consisting of fifteen men, fourteen women and twelve children, an increase of two. There were three births and one death during the year.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—There are two frame houses, nineteen log houses, seven outhouses and five stables; also twenty-three horses and thirty-one cattle; and only a few garden tools.

STUART'S LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the left bank of Stuart's Lake, near its outlet into Stuart's River.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and sixty-three, consisting of sixty-one men, sixty-two women and forty children, being a decrease of one. Three births and four deaths occurred during the year.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The band has fourteen frame houses, of which five were erected last year, thirty-three log houses, fifteen outhouses, and nine stables. Of stock, there are fifty-eight horses and fifty-two head of cattle. There are the usual garden tools.

FRASER'S LAKE BAND.

Reserve—The reserve of this band is principally situated on the left bank of Fraser's Lake, and at its discharge into Natloh River. It comprises four thousand and seventy-six acres of agricultural, grazing, hay, and timber land.

Vital Statistics.—The population is sixty, consisting of nineteen men, seventeen women and twenty-four children, being a decrease of one. During the year two births and three deaths occurred.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—These Indians have four frame houses and nine log houses, with nine stables and outbuildings. They have also sixteen horses, twenty-nine head of cattle, and a few garden tools.

STONY CREEK BAND.

Village and Reserve.—The village of this band is situated on the right bank, and the reserve on both sides of Stony Creek, at its discharge into Noolk Lake. The reserve comprises seven thousand three hundred and seventy-nine acres of agricultural, grazing, and timber land.

Vital Statistics.—The population is ninety-nine, consisting of thirty-three men, thirty-seven women and twenty-nine children, being an increase of one. There were three births and two deaths during the year.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—This band has sixteen log houses and twelve stables and outhouses. Also thirty-one horses, thirty-seven cattle and a few garden tools.

FORT GEORGE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated mainly on the right bank of the Fraser River. It contains three thousand and ninety-five acres of agricultural, grazing, hay, and timber land.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and twenty-four, consisting of forty-four men, forty-one women and thirty-nine children, being a decrease of one. There were three births last year and four deaths.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The band has three frame and twenty-six log houses, with fourteen stables and out houses; also forty-two horses, forty-two cattle and a few garden tools.

TSIS-TLATHO BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is composed of three divisions known as Reserves Nos. 1, 2 and 3. Reserve No. 1 is situated on the right bank of the Fraser; No. 2 on the right bank of Black Water River; and No. 3 on the eastern bank of Nattesby or Bob-tail Lake. The three divisions together contain five hundred and thirty-seven acres of agricultural, grazing, hay and timber land.

Vital Statistics.—The population is seventy-four, consisting of twenty-five men, twenty-three women and twenty-six children, being an increase of two. There were five births and three deaths during the year.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—This band has eleven log houses; no stock; but a few garden tools.

MCLEOD'S LAKE BAND.

Village and Reserve.—The village is situated on the western bank of McLeod's Lake, and the reserve on both sides of Long River. This reserve contains two hundred and eighty-six acres of land.

Vital Statistics.—The population is ninety-four, consisting of thirty men, twenty-eight women and thirty-six children. Three births and two deaths occurred, making an increase of one.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—These Indians have nineteen dwellings. They have no stock; and only one or two gardening tools.

OUTLYING BANDS OF SIKANEES.

BAND AT FORT GRAHAME.

Location.—A nomadic band of Sikanees generally camps for the winter about Fort Grahame, on the Finlay River.

Vital Statistics.—The band numbers ninety-nine, consisting of thirty-three men, thirty women and thirty-six children. Three births and three deaths occurred during the year.

BAND AT LAKE CONNELLY.

Location.—Another nomadic band of Sikanees usually camps for the winter on the western bank of Lake Connelly.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers one hundred and twenty souls, consisting of forty-three men, forty-three women and thirty-four children, being an increase of one. Five births occurred and four men died during the year.

OUTLYING BANDS OF NA-ANEES.

Location.—There are two bands of semi-nomadic Na-anees roving to the north of Lake Connelly, and wintering on that lake.

Vital Statistics.—The combined population is one hundred and fifty-two, consisting of fifty-two men, forty-seven women and fifty-three children, being an increase of one. There were five births and four deaths.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The following remarks apply to all the Carrier Group and outlying bands.

Area.—Except the five above mentioned, the reserves of the respective bands are not surveyed.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians has been singularly good. They are being taught the necessity for cleanliness, and most of them are vaccinated.

Occupation.—The principal occupations are fishing, hunting and trapping, and at Stuart's Lake and at Fort George boating and freight-canoeing. All except the Sikanees and Na-anees grow potatoes and are paying increased attention to their cultivation.

Education.—There are no schools on any of the reserves, but the people have learnt to use the syllabic writing in their own language.

Religion.—All the Indians of this group belong to the Roman Catholic Church. At Stuart's Lake there is a large church and a mission, and there are also churches at Thatce, Pintce, Fraser's Lake Village, Stony Creek, Fort George, McLeod's Lake and Blackwater.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians as a rule are very devout, and are excellent hunters and trappers; but the proceeds of the fur-hunting industry have on the whole been declining, and threaten to diminish still further. In so remote a region there have hitherto been few opportunities of obtaining a livelihood by other means. Notwithstanding, these Indians have on the whole made distinct progress.

Temperance and Morality.—During the past year there has been little, if any, trouble in regard to intoxicating liquor. The Indians cannot be said to be inclined to intemperance, and they have no opportunities for it. For their morality they deserve high commendation.

General Remarks.—It is highly satisfactory to observe the steady and sustained progress made from year to year, even by those tribes whose opportunities might appear the most limited. Thanks, partly to the happy immunity from epidemics, the population maintains itself, and indeed is generally increasing, and it may be hoped that when any visitation comes (as must at some time or other be expected) it will find the Indians in some degree prepared to meet it. One serious trial threatens all these tribes in the apparently inevitable decay of the trapping industry, which is already

showing an appreciable decline ; but it may very fairly be hoped that, before that decline becomes so serious as to threaten the welfare of these bands, they will have become sufficiently advanced to be able to avail themselves in some shape or other of the vast and varied resources now lying hidden in their almost unpeopled land.

I have, &c.,

R. E. LORING,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
COWICHAN AGENCY,
QUAMICHAN, 19th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward herewith my annual report and statistical statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location of Agency.—This agency is situated on the east coast of Vancouver Island and extends from Cape Mudge on the north to Sooke in the south, including the reserves on the different islands in the Gulf of Georgia.

Area.—The area of these reserves is nineteen thousand six hundred and thirty-seven acres forming a portion of the territory occupied by the Cowichan nation, whose language and influence formerly extended to the bays and sounds on the American side of the gulf and up the Fraser River as far as Fort Yale.

Resources.—The resources are various. In some bands grain and fruit growing prevails ; in others little attention is given to agriculture, or only spasmodic efforts are made, the Indians wasting much time and money in fencing and clearing land from which they derive no benefit, as just at the time they should be attending to their crops some other occupation offers from which immediate returns may or may not result and all former work is a thing of the past, only to be repeated at some future time. Some bands depend almost entirely on boat-building, and fishing for an immediate market ; these are the strongest, healthiest, and almost the only bands who increase in population. Others who have not sufficient good lands on their reserve to support them must depend on wages earned by various means. When these fail, they are extremely destitute, as by nature they are not provident, and when a hard time comes, they suffer much more than those who have small farms on which they have always something they can sell.

The Fraser canneries attract many, to the detriment of those engaged in agriculture : many weeks are spent waiting for fish. Nothing is earned, everything has to be bought, while everything at home is going to ruin for want of attention.

Population.—There has been a decrease in the population of about twenty-seven owing to the excess of deaths over births.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There has been no epidemic during the year. Nearly all the deaths have been from pulmonary diseases. Any sanitary measures advised are at once attended to, and when any epidemic is feared, nearly all assist in the work of preventing it taking hold. Of course there are still medicine men who earn their living by singing, &c., over consumptive or paralytic patients, and when medical men report they can only give relief, these men are often called on to act even by those who we all thought knew better, and were averse to the old Indian customs.

I attribute the deaths from consumption chiefly to causes—first, to the new style of houses in which there is no chance of proper ventilation, and the whole family live either in the open air, out of doors, or in the air of an oven, in doors. When any member is sick, the place is still more crowded; and it is very difficult to prevent this crowding, as parents and relatives have not the moral courage to deny admission to any one who comes to see the sick; secondly—to the early marriages which take place. Formerly, under patriarchal rule, marriage did not take place until the man could fight, hunt, or fish and support a family. But now parents hurry their children into marrying when they are only in their early teens, with the result that the offspring all die within a few years. This has been pointed out to all, for many years, with no results.

Education.—All are now feeling the real necessity of having their children educated, but it is yet a problem whether, when they leave school they will not relapse to their original customs. At the Kuper Island Industrial School much good is being done: Indians see this themselves and are anxious to get their children admitted. The Saanich school has also done good work,—formerly the children were only lying about the different villages ill clothed and always dirty; now all are at least clean on school days and most of them are careful of their attire, and good progress is being made. The same may be said in a less degree of Nanaimo, but there the families move about so much that the teacher has not such a chance of proving what can be done.

Religion.—With the exception of the Nanaimo Indians and the few at Comox who attend the Methodist and Presbyterian missions, the Indians of the agency are Roman Catholics, and as often as they are able attend the services of their Church.

Morality.—Cases of intemperance were less during the year than formerly. This, of course, in some measure is owing to the smaller amount of money at the disposal of the Indians. Parties supplying liquor were severely punished.

The Act of last session relating to desertion by either husband or wife will have a good effect, as during the year there were several desertions. Otherwise, the Cowichan Indians bear a good name for morality.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Under this head I would make a few remarks about some of the different bands.

The Comox Bands have continued to improve, though it is very uphill work with them, having for years lived so much away from their reserve, working on wharfs at Nanaimo and Union. They have been very much encouraged by several white families of the neighbourhood. Miss Barnes had a school for the children in a private house which she hired, and Mr. Wm. Duncan holds services and instruction classes there on Sunday.

At Qualicum, the old chief Mahoy died during the year. At this reserve there are only two families, Mahoy's and Qualicum Tom's. Their children are all grown up and married. They are all good workers, and, living on such a dangerous coast, are expert boatmen. A curious feature of the village is that their only language is Chinook; no other language is spoken. The reason is that formerly this village stood between two nations constantly at war, and suffered from both. On one occasion all the children and women were carried away and raised in the Tsimpsonian country, and years afterwards old Mahoy either bought back or arranged for the return of the survivors. When they did return they could speak only Chinook or Tsimpsonian. The latter Mahoy's family did not understand, so the result is that Chinook became the means of intercourse ever since.

The Nanaimos have been working more peacefully together this year than formerly still there is a feeling of distrust of each other not present in other bands. On the river reserve a good acreage of land is cultivated. The work done on the banks of the river conjointly by both Governments has stood very well, and has been a benefit to both Indians and white farmers.

The Chemainus and Siccameen Bands worked steadily during the spring for three weeks to make a wagon road to connect their village with the Victoria and Nanaimo Trunk Road. They succeeded in constructing the necessary two miles wider and better than the trunk road itself. In fact, when I went to see it first, I thought they had laid out a bicycle track.

The Valdez I-land men have also done considerable roadwork, though they spend most of their time in boatbuilding and fishing, by which they earn more than they could possibly do on their large but rocky reserve. They are generally well off, as they sell boats, cod-fish, and halibut. The chief's family owns a large flock of sheep.

At Penelakut, on Kuper Island, a good deal of work was done in the spring, and one or two small houses were built to replace the old ranches, some of which are now used as boat-building houses. This is one of the bands that work at clearing and fencing land and then leave their crops to breechy horses and cattle while they go away to the canneries, seldom coming back with enough money to keep them during the winter. Still they repeat the same thing year after year.

The Cowichan Indians as a rule do not build boats, but depend more on agriculture, and their crops are quite a sight to see, a large portion of their reserve being alluvial land on which the river leaves a deposit each year. Many, however, stay away when they ought to be harvesting. The winter and spring were very mild, and they did a great deal of road-work on public roads and on the different reserve roads, much more than the road laws call for. In several cases when it was pointed out to them that public roads which they use needed repair, as many as one hundred men turned out with wagons and worked for two or three days until the work was done. Any one who fails to appear when the council calls upon him to assist has to show cause for his absence or lose caste.

The Indians of the four villages on the Saanich peninsula either work their own farms, or are working for neighbouring farmers. Their two southern villages have some very good land, but the two northern ones have a very small acreage of good land. These bands have made wonderful progress in their social condition during the last few years, most of which is owing to the devoted efforts of the Rev. Father Villingh— who at his own expense has erected a day school, provided the instruments for a brass band, and in many ways denied himself that he might assist the Indians. The results have not been unsatisfactory. The school (to which the department now gives assistance) has a record for being the best attended in the agency. The teacher, Mr. Wm. Thompson and his wife, have done good work there; and now the pupils, besides attending regularly, are clean and tidy, a great difference from what they were when they first attended school. Besides this Mr. Thompson is an old soldier, carrying the medal of Lucknow and Cawnpore, and therefore drills the boys well, and being an efficient bandmaster has trained a band of twenty-four instruments, which now plays very creditably. The members consist of young men from the four Saanich Bands who, living far apart, still attend regular practices.

The Indians on Discovery Islands form a branch of the Songhees tribe. Their chief industry is sheep farming and catching different kinds of fish which they peddle in the Victoria markets.

The Victoria Songhees Bands are placed at a decided disadvantage, having little if any land that can be relied upon for cultivation without irrigation, and not finding, as formerly, employment on the public roads, wharfs and mills, they are often in very destitute circumstances. The Roman Catholic school on this reserve is very well attended, and when all families are at home very few pupils are absent. Chief Cooper and the council see that all children of school age attend regularly. The Beecher Bay and Sooke Bands cultivate very little land. Both bands lost most of their men in the disaster to the sealing schooner "Earle," and have not yet recovered from the effects. The widows and children, however, have been making good efforts to support themselves.

I have, &c.,

W. H. LOMAS,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,

FRASER RIVER AGENCY,

NEW WESTMINSTER, 6th October, 1898

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward this my annual report of the Fraser River Agency for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898, together with statistical statement for the same period.

All the Indians in my agency belong to branches of the Salish nation.

BANDS IN CHILLIWACK DISTRICT.

Reserves.—The following bands occupy reserves in close proximity to the Chilliwack district, forming a total area of three thousand eight hundred and forty-one acres:—Aitchelitz, Kwaw-Kwaw-a-pilt, Sqwahla, Skwah, Skulkayu, Skway, Tsoo-wah-lie, Tzeachten, Yuk-kwe-kwi-oose.

Vital Statistics.—The eight bands named have a combined population of two hundred and ninety-eight. During the year there were six births and six deaths. No immigration nor emigration.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature having occurred. The villages are kept in a sanitary condition, and to this fact, I believe, they owe to a great extent their immunity from serious disease. Nearly all the Indians have been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupation.—They engage chiefly in agricultural and fishing pursuits. A little is earned also by working for their white neighbours. It is mixed farming that is carried on by them.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Practically all their dwellings are of a fairly good class, and are kept in a good state of repair.

The stock is of the variety usually seen on the farms of their white neighbours, the Indian ponies being in most cases replaced by heavy draught horses.

Most families have their own farming implements.

Education.—A lively interest is at all times taken by these Indians in educational matters, the Roman Catholic Indians sending their children to the school at St. Mary's Mission, and those of the Methodist religion to the Coqualeetza Institute, both of which schools are doing a good work for the Indians.

Religion.—These Indians respectively follow the Roman Catholic, Church of England, and Methodist persuasions, and take considerable interest in religious matters.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are fairly industrious and law-abiding, and are better off in every way than in former years.

Temperance and Morality.—They are on the whole moral, but unfortunately are fond of liquor and require close watching at all times.

BANDS ON BURRARD INLET, HOWE SOUND AND SQUAMISH RIVER.

These bands residing on reserves of the same name containing a total area of six thousand seven hundred and eighty-six acres, are as follows:—

Burrard Inlet No. 3, False Creek, Mission Burrard Inlet, Kapilano, Skwaw-amish Howe Sound, Seymour Creek, Hastings Saw-Mill.

Vital Statistics.—The combined population of these bands is four hundred and sixty-eight. During the year there were nine births and nine deaths; no emigrations; an increase of one as compared with last year's return, one woman having married into the band.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature having occurred. The villages are kept in a clean and sanitary condition, the Indians realizing that cleanliness keeps them to a great extent free from sickness of an epidemic nature. All of these Indians have been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupation.—The chief occupations are fishing, hunting, logging, and loading lumber in vessels at the saw-mills, but little farming being carried on.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The Indians residing on these reserves have fairly good dwelling-houses and outhouses. Their stock are well cared for and of good breed. Farm implements are in good condition.

Education.—None of the children of the Indians on these reserves are attending any school, there being no room for them at the school at St. Mary's Mission, and as they are all either Roman Catholics or pagans, they will not send their children to schools conducted under Protestant auspices.

Religion.—These Indians are all either Roman Catholics or pagans, those of them professing the Roman Catholic religion being regular attendants at church and taking great interest in religious matters.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are an industrious and law-abiding community, the younger members of the group giving a good deal of attention to the advice of the older Indians, or more especially to the older chiefs, who are men of good sense and advise their Indians wisely and in the right direction.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are on the whole moral and, excepting a few, are not given to drink.

CHEAM BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the south bank of the Fraser River and about eighty-five miles from its mouth. It contains an area of fourteen hundred and thirty-three acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is one hundred and eighteen. During the year there were two births and five deaths; no emigration; decrease in population, as compared with last year, two, one woman having married into the band.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature having occurred. The village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition. All these Indians have been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupation.—The members of this band engage chiefly in agricultural and fishing pursuits. A little money is also earned from their white neighbours. Mixed farming is carried on.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians have all good dwellings with fairly good barns and stables; their cattle and horses are well taken care of, as are also their farming implements.

Education.—A lively interest is manifested in education, and nearly all the children of school age attend the Indian school at St. Mary's Mission.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics, with the exception of one who became a Methodist whilst a pupil at the Coqualeetza Institute. They have a nice church at their village, which they attend regularly.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding and are good people.

Temperance and Morality.—They are on the whole moral and temperate, a few of them only being fond of liquor.

BANDS ON HARRISON RIVER.

Reserve.—The Chehalis and Scowlitz Bands occupy reserves on Harrison River, Scowlitz Reserve being at the mouth of the river and Chehalis' about four miles up stream from the mouth of the river, forming a combined area of three thousand one hundred and forty-four acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of these two bands is one hundred and seventy-one. During the year there were seven births and seven deaths; no immigration, no emigration.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians has been good, no sickness of any serious nature having occurred among them during the past year. Their villages are kept clean and in a sanitary condition. All of these Indians have been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupation.—Agriculture, fishing, hunting and mixed farming are the chief occupations of these bands, also some dairying is being carried on.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Most of these Indians have comfortable frame dwellings. They have fairly good barns and stables, and take good care of their stock, putting up plenty of hay for them during the winter. They have fairly good farming implements, and they take good care of them.

Education.—Most of the children of these two bands attend the Indian boarding school at St. Mary's Mission.

Religion.—These Indians attend strictly to the religious instruction given them by their priest, a small church being built and used by them regularly on each reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are progressing and live much more comfortably than in years gone by.

Temperance and Morality.—They are on the whole a temperate and moral people.

COQUITLAM BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Coquitlam River, about six miles from New Westminster. It contains an area of two hundred and eight acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is only twenty-five. There were neither births nor deaths during the past year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature occurring among them. One Indian (Joseph) met with a serious accident, having been struck and seriously injured by the train whilst walking on the railway track. He is now convalescent.

Occupation.—These Indians engage chiefly in fishing and hunting, only a little farming being done by them. Residing near New Westminster, they furnish the local market with a good deal of the fresh fish and game required.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Most of these Indians have fairly good houses. They do not raise much stock, preferring to make a living by fishing and hunting. Farm implements are kept in good condition.

Education.—Only a few of the Indians of this band have ever received any education.

Religion.—These Indians are attentive to the religious instruction given them by their priest. They have a nice church on their reserve built by themselves about two years ago.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are an industrious, law-abiding people.

Temperance and Morality.—They are on the whole moral and temperate, a few of them only being addicted to the use of liquor.

DOUGLAS, SKOOKUM CHUCK, SAM AH QUAM AND PEMBERTON MEADOWS BANDS.

Reserves.—These bands occupy reserves situated from the head of Harrison Lake, along the Lillooet Portage, to Pemberton, containing a combined area of three thousand four hundred and eighty-five acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of these bands is four hundred and eighty. During the year there were twenty-three births and nine deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature having occurred during the year. The villages occupied by them are kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and to this fact they owe to a great extent their immunity from illness.

Occupation.—Fishing, hunting, packing, acting as guides to prospectors and agricultural pursuits, are the chief occupations of these Indians. Only a small amount of mixed farming is being done by each individual Indian.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians have fairly good dwellings, barns and stables, and these are in good repair. The lumber for most of the dwelling houses was whipsawed by the Indians themselves. The barns and stables are mostly log buildings.

The horses used by these Indians are mostly small cayuse breed. The cattle, on the other hand, are excellent animals of good breed and are fairly well taken care of, a plentiful supply of hay being put up to carry them through the winter. The farming implements used by these Indians are well taken care of.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics and are attached very much to their priests. They have three churches; one situated at Douglas, the next at Skookum Chuck, and the third at Pemberton Meadows. All the Indians attend divine service regularly at their respective village churches.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding.

Temperance and Morality.—They are on the whole a temperate and moral people, and are strictly honest.

EWAWOOS AND TEXAS LAKE BANDS.

Reserves.—The reserves of these bands are situated, the former on the south bank of the Fraser about a mile and a half east of Hope, and the latter on the north bank of the Fraser about six miles east of Hope. They contain a combined area of eight hundred and ninety-three acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of these two bands is sixty. There were two births and three deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good; no sickness of a serious nature making its appearance. The deaths were owing to old age. The villages occupied by these Indians are kept clean and in a sanitary condition. All of these Indians have been vaccinated by me from time to time.

Occupation.—The chief occupations are fishing, hunting and agriculture, a little mixed farming being done by each family.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Nearly all of these Indians have comfortable dwellings and keep them in good order, four new dwellings having been erected at Texas Lake last spring, to replace old and worthless dwellings. Their stock is of the same variety and breed as may be seen on the farms of their white neighbours. Each family has its own farming implements, which although not numerous are suitable for their requirements.

Education.—A lively interest in education is taken by the younger members of these two groups, the older members do not bother themselves. Most of the children are attending the school at St. Mary's Mission, and All Hallows, Yale.

Religion.—These Indians are mostly Roman Catholics. A few belong to the Church of England. They are simple-minded, good Indians with scarcely a trouble-

some one among them, which fact is mostly due to the good advice and instruction given them by their pastors. There is a church at each village, and service is held frequently.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are an industrious, law-abiding people, and obliging and kind to their white neighbours.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate, moral and good people. They are not given to the use of intoxicants and are in comfortable circumstances.

HOPE BAND.

Reserve.—This band occupies a reserve about one hundred miles from the mouth of the Fraser River, on the north and south banks of the said river, containing an area of fourteen hundred acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of eighty-eight. During the year there were two births and two deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature making its appearance. One Indian woman belonging to this band, whilst being treated for lung troubles in St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver, contracted small-pox. She was away from the reserve at the time and no other Indian caught the disease. She had not a severe attack and recovered. She had been vaccinated by me four years ago, which I think tended to make her recovery more easy.

Occupation.—These Indians engage in agriculture and fishing. Each family belonging to this reserve does more or less mixed farming and fruit culture.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians all have comfortable dwellings and fairly good barns and stables. They take good care of their horses and cattle, putting up sufficient fodder to feed them during the winter. They have a sufficient supply of farming implements, including a threshing-machine, of which they take good care.

Education.—The largest number of the Hope Indians have been educated at the Indian boarding school at St. Mary's Mission, and all are anxious to have their children educated.

Religion.—These Indians have a nice church on their reserve, where service is held regularly, they being very much attached to their religion.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are an industrious and law-abiding people, and live better and more like their white neighbours than any other band in the district.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate and moral people, and show a good example to other bands.

HOMALKO AND KLAHOOSE BANDS.

Reserves.—The reserves of these bands are situated in the vicinity of Bute Inlet and Malaspina Straits. They contain a combined area of four thousand seven hundred and thirty-eight acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of these two bands is one hundred and seventy-four. During the year there were seven births and eight deaths. Four families numbering fourteen persons who formerly lived at Sliammon, but who really belonged to Homalko, returned to live at Homalko, having become dissatisfied with their friends at Sliammon.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature having appeared among them during the past year. Their villages are kept in a sanitary condition. I vaccinated all of these Indians about two years ago.

Occupation.—Fishing, hunting, logging and farming constitute the chief occupations, only a small amount of farming being done by these Indians.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The buildings occupied by most of these Indians are fairly good, although there is room for improvement in a good many of them. Their stock is allowed to run wild: they never milk any of their cows, and have no horses. Each family cultivates a small garden patch.

Education.—These Indians have no school, and none of their children are attending any school, there being no accommodation for them in the Indian schools already established. The parents are anxious that their children should be educated.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics, and are very attentive to their religious duties. They have two churches built by themselves, one on their reserve at Squirrel Cove, and the other at the mouth of Bute Inlet.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are a simple-minded, good-natured people, and as a rule provide for all their wants, very seldom looking for or asking any assistance.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate, moral, good people, and are easy to get along with.

KATSEY BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the north bank of the Fraser River, about ten miles from New Westminster. It contains an area of three hundred and eighty-five acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is eighty-four. There were two births and four deaths, a decrease of two since last year. Two of the deaths were from old age, and one from drowning.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature having occurred among them during the past year. Their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition. Most of these Indians have been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupation.—The chief occupations of this band are fishing and farming. These Indians supply a good deal of the fresh fish used in the New Westminster market during the year. Each family does a little farming, raising sufficient vegetables, &c., for its own use.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians have fairly good dwellings; their cattle and horses are similar to those of their white neighbours. They take good care of their cattle during the winter and also take care of their farming implements.

Education.—A number of the Indians of this band have attended the St. Mary's Mission school. All of them are most anxious to have their children educated.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. They have a small church on their reserve and are very attentive to their religious instructions. They are visited frequently by their priest.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are an industrious, law-abiding people.

Temperance and Morality.—Owing to their close proximity to New Westminster and the ease with which they can procure liquor, many of these Indians are in the habit of getting intoxicated. In other respects they are a moral people.

LANGLEY AND WHARNOCK BANDS.

Reserves.—The reserves of these bands are situated, the former on McMillan Island, in the Fraser River, about twenty miles east of New Westminster, and the latter about twenty four miles east of New Westminster, on the north bank of the Fraser River. They contain a combined area of one thousand four hundred and fifty-two acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of these two bands is seventy-nine. There were four deaths and no births. Cause of death: two from consumption and two from infantile diseases.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Excepting consumption, no sickness of a serious nature has appeared among these Indians. The villages are kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and all of the Indians have been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupation.—These Indians all do more or less mixed farming, and during the fishing season fish for the canneries.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians all have comfortable dwelling houses of a good class, which are kept clean and in a good state of repair. They have good stock and take good care of them, and have a fairly good supply of farming implements.

Education.—Many of these Indians have been educated at St. Mary's Mission Indian school, and all of them take an active interest in educational matters.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics; they have a church in their village on McMillan Island, and also one at Wharnock. They are very good people and practice their religion faithfully.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are an industrious and law-abiding people.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate, moral people; there is very little drunkenness among them, and no immorality.

MUSQUEAM BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the north arm of the Fraser River, close to its mouth. It contains an area of four hundred and fifty-two acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of ninety-four. During the year there were two births and four deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—No sickness of a serious nature occurred among these Indians during the past year. Their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and most of them have been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupation.—These Indians all do more or less mixed farming, and during the fishing season fish for the canneries.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Most of them have comfortable dwellings with fairly good outhouses.

They are improving the breed of their horses. Their cattle are of the same class as those of their white neighbours, and are of a suitable quality.

They all have their own farming implements and take fairly good care of them.

Education.—These Indians are all anxious to have their children educated, but owing to the fact of the school at St. Mary's Mission being full, many of the children are compelled to remain at home. Those of them who are Methodists send their children to the Coqualeetza Institute.

Religion.—Eighty of these Indians are Roman Catholics, ten are Methodists, and four are pagans. They are not very religiously inclined. They have a small hall built by themselves where the Roman Catholic portion of them hold divine service from time to time.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious, and on the whole are improving, although quite a few of them prefer to live as they used to in olden times.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are on the whole a temperate and moral people, a few only of them being addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors.

MATSQUI BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the south bank of the Fraser River, about thirty miles from New Westminster. It contains an area of one thousand and seventy-two acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of forty-four. During the year there was one birth and one death.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature having occurred among them since last year.

Occupation.—They all do more or less mixed farming, and during the fishing season fish for the canneries.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Most of these Indians have comfortable dwellings, with fairly good barns and outhouses, which are kept in good repair.

Their stock is of the same breed and quality as those of their white neighbours.

Their farming implements are taken good care of, and whilst not numerous are sufficient for their wants.

Education.—These Indians take considerable interest in educational matters, most of the younger Indians having attended the mission school.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics and attend church every Sunday at St. Mary's Mission. They are very attentive to their religious duties.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are an industrious, law-abiding, simple people.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral, only a few of them being fond of liquor.

INDIANS AT NEW WESTMINSTER.

Reserve.—These Indians own land in New Westminster city and at Brownsville on the south bank of the Fraser River opposite New Westminster, comprising an area of ten acres.

Vital Statistics.—These Indians number sixty-nine. During the year there were two deaths and one birth. One girl went to live at Tchewassan, having married a Tchewassan Indian.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature having occurred since last year.

Occupation.—They make a living chiefly by fishing, supplying the New Westminster market most of the season with the fish required.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Most of these Indians have comfortable dwellings, a few of them in the city of New Westminster, on which they pay taxes, others on the reserve at Brownsville opposite New Westminster.

Very little farming is done by them, just a few gardens.

They do not go much into stock.

Education.—They all take considerable interest in education, and are anxious that their children should receive an education, but, owing to the school at St. Mary's Mission being full, they are compelled to keep their children at home.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. They have a nice church on their reserve at Brownsville, where divine service is held regularly.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are an industrious, good people. They do not belong to any particular band, but have come here from several parts of the province and settled.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are on the whole a temperate and moral people, some of them being exceedingly good. A few are addicted to the use of liquor; those, I am sorry to say, are not of a good moral character.

NICOMEN AND SKWEAHM BANDS.

Reserves.—These Indians occupy two reserves on the north bank of the Fraser River, about forty-four miles from New Westminster, comprising an area of six hundred and thirty-six acres. Only the Nicomen Slough divides these two reserves.

Vital Statistics.—The population of these two bands is forty-eight. There have been no births and no deaths during the year, nor any other change in the population.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature having occurred among them during the past year. Their villages are kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and most of the Indians have been vaccinated by me from time to time.

Occupation.—Farming and fishing are the chief occupations of these bands. Nearly all of these Indians do more or less mixed farming, and during the fishing season fish for the canneries. They also earn a little money working for their white neighbours.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians have fairly good dwellings and outhouses. Their stock are of the same breed as are found with their white neighbours. They take reasonably good care of their farming implements.

Education.—These Indians do not bother themselves very much about education, and only a few of them have ever gone to school.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics, but pay little attention to religion. They have a small church at Skweahm, but it is very seldom used.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are a simple-minded people. They prefer to follow their old ways a good deal, although they are improving.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are a good deal inclined to drink, and unfortunately can always find unscrupulous white men who will supply them with liquor.

OHAMIL BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the south bank of the Fraser River, about seventy-four miles east of New Westminster. It contains an area of six hundred and twenty-nine acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of sixty. During the year there were no births and no deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature having occurred among them during the past year. Their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition. They have all been vaccinated by me from time to time.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians have all fairly good dwellings, barns and stables, which they keep clean and in good repair. Their cattle and horses are similar to those of their white neighbours. Their farm implements are well taken care of.

Education.—These Indians all take an active interest in education, most of the children of school age attending the school at St. Mary's Mission.

Religion.—These Indians are very fond of their religion. Five of them are Episcopalians, three are Methodists and fifty-two are Roman Catholics. They have two small churches, one used by the Roman Catholics and one by the Episcopalians.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are an industrious and law-abiding people.

Temperance and Morality.—They are on the whole a temperate and moral people.

POPCUM AND SQUATITS BANDS.

Reserves.—The reserves of these two bands are situated on the south bank of the Fraser River, about sixty-five miles from New Westminster. They contain an area of

five thousand three hundred and twenty-six acres. Popcum and Squatits are about two miles apart.

Vital Statistics.—The population of these two bands is sixty-six. During the year there were two births and two deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature having occurred among them during the past year. Their villages are kept clean and in a sanitary condition. Nearly all of the Indians have been vaccinated by me from time to time.

Occupation.—Mixed farming is the chief occupation of these two bands, but during the fishing season all hands work for the canneries, some fishing and others inside the cannery filling cans, &c.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Most of these Indians have fairly good dwellings and outhouses. Their horses are nearly all small Indian ponies. Their cattle are of good breed, the same as are to be seen with their white neighbours. Their farming implements are taken fairly good care of.

Education.—These Indians take a lively interest in educational matters, and most of the parents are anxious to send their children to school. A few of them take no interest whatever in education.

Religion.—Thirty-two are Episcopalians, eleven are Methodists and twenty-three are Roman Catholics. The members of each denomination have their own church, and are attentive to their religious duties.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are a simple-minded, law-abiding people. They stick a good deal to their old customs.

Temperance and Morality.—They are on the whole temperate and moral, only a few of them being addicted to drink.

SEMAHMUO BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band borders on the international boundary line and fronts on Semiahmoo Bay. It contains an area of three hundred and ninety-two acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is forty-two. During the year there was one birth and two deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature having occurred among them during the past year. Their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and the majority of the Indians have been vaccinated by me from time to time.

Occupation.—The chief occupations of this band are fishing and a small amount of mixed farming or gardening.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Most of these Indians have comfortable dwellings and outhouses, which are kept in tolerable repair. Their cattle and horses are similar to those owned by their white neighbours. Their farming implements are kept in good order.

Education.—Only a few of these Indians have ever been to school, and owing to the school at St. Mary's Mission being full, there is no room for any of the children of this band at the school.

Religion.—All of these Indians are Roman Catholics. They have a small church on their reserve, where they hold religious services from time to time.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are an easy-going, simple-minded people; having sufficient for to-day, they hardly think of to-morrow.

Temperance and Morality.—They are on the whole temperate and moral, but owing to their close proximity to the American boundary, white men from the American side of the line supply them with liquor, which causes trouble sometimes. On the whole there is little reason to find fault.

SECHELT BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on Sechelt peninsula, Malaspina Straits. It contains an area of eighteen hundred acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is two hundred and twenty-two. There were six births and six deaths, and a decrease in population of two since last year, owing to marriage with other Indians.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature having occurred during the year. Their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition. I vaccinated all the children on the reserve during one of my visits.

Occupation.—Fishing, hunting, logging and a little gardening are the chief occupations of this band.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians all have comfortable dwellings, which they keep in good repair. Their stock are usually allowed to run through the bush, both summer and winter, and on the whole do very well.

Education.—Only a few of these Indians have ever been to school. They are all most anxious to have their children educated, but there is no school provided where they can send their children.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. They have a very beautiful church at their village where religious services are held.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are a simple-minded, kind people, and are easy to get along with. They are scrupulously honest in their dealings with their white neighbours and with each other.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate and moral people. Drunkenness is practically unknown among them.

SUMASS BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated at Miller's Landing on the south bank of the Fraser River, and at Sumass Bar on the north bank of the Fraser River opposite Miller's Landing, and at Upper Sumass on Sumass Lake. It contains an area of thirteen hundred and seventy acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of fifty-eight. During the year there were three births and three deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of this band has been good, no sickness of a serious nature having occurred among them during the year. Their villages are kept clean and in a good sanitary condition. Most of these Indians have been vaccinated by me from time to time.

Occupation.—Mixed farming and fishing are the chief occupations of these Indians.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—They all have comfortable dwellings and fairly good barns and stables. Their stock are of fairly good quality and are well looked after during the winter, plenty of hay being provided. Their farming implements are well taken care of.

Education.—Only a few of these Indians have ever been to school. Those of them who have show a marked improvement over those who have not.

Religion.—Of this band twenty-one are Methodists and thirty-seven are Roman Catholics. They are all very enthusiastic in religious matters, each denomination having its own church.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are a simple-minded, kind people. They are rather indolent, but not troublesome.

Temperance and Morality.—They are on the whole a temperate and moral people, a few only of them being addicted to the use of liquor.

SLIAMMON BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on Malaspina Straits. It contains an area of four thousand seven hundred and twelve acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of two hundred and sixty. During the year there were three births and nine deaths. Ten have left the band and gone to live at Homalko. Of those who died four were children. In the case of the adults, three deaths were from old age and two from la grippe.

Occupation.—The chief occupations of these Indians are fishing, hunting, logging and farming or gardening.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians are improving their dwellings very much from what they were some years ago. Their stock all run wild through the bush.

So far they have not done much farming.

Education.—None of these Indians have ever received any education, no school accommodation having been provided for them.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics, and are very much attached to their religion. They are at the present time getting out logs for the construction of a new church, the building now used by them being deemed too old and rotten for further service.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are a simple minded, easy-going people, rather indolent, but are obedient to authority.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate, moral people.

SKWAW-AH-LOOKS BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the north bank of the Fraser River, between Ruby Creek and Hope. It contains an area of one hundred and ninety-six acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of twenty-four. During the year there were two births and two deaths.

Occupation.—Mixed farming and fishing constitute the chief occupations of this band.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians have fairly good dwellings and outhouses. They take good care of their stock during the winter. They have a fair supply of farming implements, which they take good care of.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the members of this band has been good. Their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and no contagious disease has broken out among them. Of the deaths, one was from consumption and the other from puerperal fits.

Education.—Although there are only a few children in this band, the older members take an active interest in education, as they wish to see all their people put on a level with their white neighbours.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics, and are very much attached to their religion. They have a small church on their reserve, where they hold divine service regularly.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are a simple-minded, easy-going people, obedient to authority and are on the best of terms with their white neighbours.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate and moral people.

TCHE-WASSAN BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Gulf of Georgia, near Point Roberts, and only a short distance from the international boundary line. It contains an area of six hundred and four acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of forty-two. During the year there was one birth and one death.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature having made its appearance among them during the past year. Their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition.

Occupation.—The chief occupations of the members of this band are farming and fishing. During the fishing season all of these Indians work at the canneries, the remainder of the year on their farms.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians have fairly good dwellings, barns and stables. They have good horses and cattle, having got rid of their Indian ponies years ago. They have good wagons and other farm implements, of which they take good care.

Education.—Only a few of these Indians have ever received any education and owing to the fact that the school at St. Mary's Mission is full, some of them have sent their children to the Kuper Island school.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. They are not very religious in the same sense as other bands, They have no church, and when they attend divine service they come to Kie-Kiel (Brownsville), which they usually do at Christmas and Easter.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are on the whole a good-natured, simple people, having enough for to-day they hardly ever trouble themselves about to-morrow. They live at peace among themselves and also with their white neighbours.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are a moral, but, I am sorry to say, not a temperate people. Owing to their location being in close proximity to the centre of the fishing industry, a great many worthless white men congregate in the locality who will procure liquor for them at any time. I am glad to say, just at present, all of them are teetotallers, if they will only remain so.

YALE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Fraser River about one hundred and twelve miles from its mouth. It contains an area of eleven hundred acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is ninety-one. During the year there were three births and three deaths. Two women married and went to live with their husbands on other reserves. The two deaths were caused by consumption.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—A good deal of consumption exists among these Indians, otherwise no serious illness has appeared among them. Their villages are kept clean and in a sanitary condition. All the Indians have been vaccinated by me from time to time.

Occupation.—The chief occupations of the members of this band are farming or gardening and fishing. A little money is also earned by them in cutting and hauling cordwood for their white neighbours.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians have all fairly good dwellings and outhouses. They do not keep much stock, their reserve not being suitable for many cattle. Each family does a little farming or gardening and has sufficient implements for its requirements. Their horses are the usual Indian cayuse breed.

Education.—These Indians take a good deal of interest in the education of their children and are anxious to see them on a par in this respect with their white neighbours. Those of them who are Protestants send their children to All Hallows School,

Yale, and those who are Roman Catholics send their children to the school at St. Mary's Mission.

Religion.—Thirty-three of these Indians belong to the Episcopal Church and fifty-eight to the Roman Catholic Church. They are very much attached to their religion and are good people. Each denomination has its own church in the village where divine service is held from time to time.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are a simple-minded, good people, very easy to get along with, and live at peace with their white neighbours.

Temperance and Morality.—They are on the whole a temperate and moral people.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The Indians throughout the agency are on the whole becoming more intelligent and industrious. Their homes are kept fairly comfortable, and whenever they can afford it they live comfortably, even extravagantly, having little forethought, and seldom thinking of providing for a rainy day.

Too much praise cannot be given to those in charge of the Indian boarding and industrial schools in this agency, viz., the All Hallows School, Yale, the St. Mary's Mission School at Mission City, and the Coqualeetza Institute at Chilliwack, for the care and attention which they bestow on the children under their charge and for the substantial advancement made by the pupils in the various branches taught at these institutions.

I have, &c.,

FRANK DEVLIN,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
KAMLOOPS-OKANAGAN AGENCY,
KAMLOOPS, 25th August, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my first annual report, together with census return and tabular statement, for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location.—The Kamloops-Okanagan Agency is located in and scattered over the greater portion of the Yale District, which contains approximately twenty-four thousand square miles. It contains an aggregate area of three hundred and thirty thousand three hundred and ten acres.

Subdivisions.—Kamloops Agency, containing one hundred and twenty-six thousand one hundred and twenty-eight acres, and Okanagan Agency, two hundred and four thousand one hundred and eighty-two acres, embrace respectively thirty-one and eighteen bands. Some of these bands are composed of several small bands belonging to the same tribe and united under one chief.

Means of Conveyance.—The Canadian Pacific Railway, with its extension of the Shuswap and Okanagan branch, and a stretch of steamboat navigation of some seventy miles, encircles the agency somewhat in the form of a horseshoe, from Spuzzum to Penticton, a distance of three hundred and forty-two miles. Other portions extending beyond and lying within this segment are reached by stage lines, by saddle-horses, and, in some of the more rugged and inaccessible portions,—particularly along the Fraser River—on foot.

Tribe or Nation.—The Indians belong to the Shuswap and Thompson River tribes and speak the languages known as Thompson and Shuswap. Many of the younger Indians speak fairly good English.

Vital Statistics.—There are three thousand seven hundred and forty-six men, women and children in the agency. During the year there have been one hundred and eighty-four deaths and one hundred and fifty-two births.

Occupation.—All of the bands give more or less attention to farming and stock-raising, and throughout the Okanagan division of the agency (the better agricultural and grazing portion) and parts of the Kamloops division many of them do so quite extensively. They possess large bands of horses which they are improving rapidly; also cattle and other domestic stock. Along the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway many of them find ready employment as section hands, earn good wages, and give satisfaction. In the grazing sections they (with their horses) are employed by stock-raisers as cowboys, and they are experts in this occupation. In the mining portions, men, women and children make a good deal of money by mining, mostly by the primitive method of "rocking." As fishermen they earn a large amount, very difficult to estimate, in addition to providing food for themselves. The women earn a good deal as domestic servants and by dressing skins and making them into articles of clothing, such as moccasins, mitts and gloves, either for their own use or for sale; also by gathering wild berries, which grow in abundance.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians generally has been good. With the exception of a mild outbreak of measles around Osayoo, no contagious disease has appeared among them. They keep their houses and premises fairly neat and clean—in some instances commendably so—during the fall, winter and spring seasons. During the warmer season they adopt camp life, dwelling in tents.

Medical Treatment.—Considerable attention has been given to the Indians by medical men located in different portions of the agency, and much benefit has resulted from such professional treatment. In outlying portions, where doctors are rarely available, small quantities of medicines have been distributed, mostly through the agency of the priests.

Lytton Hospital.—This institution continues to benefit many Indians by treatment, surgical and otherwise, and by dispensing medicines, under the management of the energetic secretary, the Venerable Archdeacon R. Small, of the Anglican denomination. Doctor Wade, of Kamloops, makes regular monthly professional visits to this institution.

Buildings.—Their houses and outbuildings on most of the reserves are comparatively good. They do their own building and many of them can do good carpenter work. Sixteen dwelling houses and twenty outbuildings have been completed during the year, and there is a fine church at Spallumcheen progressing towards completion.

Progress.—In portions of the agency better adapted and situated for farming, progress is being made in clearing, fencing, breaking and bringing under cultivation a larger acreage. In other portions, where the amount of tillable land is either limited, of inferior quality or comparatively useless through lack of water for irrigation purposes, things remain in much the same condition from year to year.

Farm Implements.—These Indians are well supplied with wagons, sleighs, ploughs, &c., harness and saddles. Besides using their wagons and saddles on their farms, they do a good deal of freighting and packing in some parts. The latter trade is diminishing.

Irrigation.—This is required more or less on nearly every reserve in the agency. The natural facilities are good, and no very great amount of labour is necessary to construct ditches for this purpose. There are exceptions, however. At Halaut and Haltkam Reserves adjoining, where they have a large area of tillable land, the irrigation of which involved a great amount of work and expense, it was found necessary to ask assistance for the Indians. This has been given to a considerable extent in the way of supplies and in the employment of a foreman to direct the Indians and to supervise the work, which is now well advanced. Though the Indians there have derived no direct benefit from the work, still they have, on the expectation of being able to apply some

of the water, sown a much greater area than usual, and on account of the unusual quantity of rain this season they have succeeded in raising good crops. The Indians of Skichistan (Deadman's Creek) Band have also been assisted to the extent of some \$140 in extending and repairing their ditch, which for a number of years had been broken and useless, all attempts to repair it having resulted in failure. The ditch is now in operation.

Food Supply.—The past year has been an extra good one for salmon, and the Indians were able to lay by good stores for winter consumption. The supply of food furnished by hunting is diminishing year by year.

Crops.—These are good all over the agency. In quantity and quality they range much above the average, and prices promise to be good.

Distribution to the Destitute.—The sum of \$195.94 has been distributed among those destitute of food and clothing.

Kamloops Industrial School.—This institution continues to be run to its fullest capacity and in a very efficient manner, under the management of the Reverend Principal, A. M. Carion, and sisters of the Roman Catholic denomination. Progress is apparent in every branch of study and industry. A brass band of seventeen pieces was started during the year, and the progress the pupils have made has been remarkable.

Religion.—With the exception of one, who is classed as pagan, all the Indians profess Christianity and belong to the Roman Catholic and Anglican denominations, the Roman Catholics numbering two thousand two hundred and thirty, Anglicans one thousand five hundred and fifteen. They are very strict in the observance of the rites and ceremonies of their respective denominations, and on nearly every reserve the principal and most conspicuous building is a church. The priests and clergy are assiduous in their labours.

I have, &c.,

A. IRWIN,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,

KOOTENAY AGENCY,

FORT STEELE, 15th August, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,

Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and statistical statement for the year ended 30th June, 1898,—an inventory of the Government property, as required by the department, having already been forwarded.

Location of Agency.—The agency is situated in the south-east portion of British Columbia, and is bounded by the Rocky Mountains on the north and east and the United States territory on the south and the Okanagan Agency on the west.

Reserves.—The reserves embrace an area of forty-two thousand and sixty-one acres.

Tribe.—The reserves are occupied by the Kootenays and a small band of the Shuswaps, known as the Kinbasket Band.

Population.—The combined population of the several bands is five hundred and forty-three, including men, women and children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians was good until the beginning of spring, when the weather turned cold and wet and a number of the old Indians and some of the younger ones died of consumption and la grippe. The sanitary

regulations were carefully looked after on the different reserves, and at the village of St. Eugene, near the St. Mary's Reserve, where the Indians gather from time to time to attend their religious duties; the dwellings and streets were cleaned and swept and the refuse gathered up, removed and burned. Vaccination was also attended to.

Occupation.—*St. Mary's Band.*—The Indians of this band depend upon farming, cattle-raising, cattle and horse herding and packing, for a living. They are industrious and trustworthy. During the past year an irrigation ditch was built for them by the department, which will give an abundant supply of water for irrigation. Those who used it since its completion see the advantage of it, as their crops promise an excellent yield.

Tobacco Plains Band.—The Indians of this band follow farming, cattle-raising and hunting. They have a good reserve, well watered and timbered, and a good range for stock. They are only twenty-five miles from the line of the Crow's Nest Railway, where they now find a ready market for all the grain and vegetables they raise. They are beginning to pay more attention to agriculture. The Provincial Government is building a bridge on the Elk River, which will give them easy access to and from the railway at every season of the year.

Columbia Lake Kootenays.—This band keeps up its reputation for good farming. All the conditions are favourable—plenty of water, timber for fencing, very little clearing to be done, as the land is partly prairie and open timber, with very little underbrush. They follow farming and cattle-raising almost entirely, and now find a good market at Windermere, where the mines are most promising, and where several important mineral discoveries have recently been made.

Lower Kootenays.—The Indians of this band depend mostly on packing, canoeing, acting as guides for prospectors, hunters and others. Very little farming is done, as the land on the Kootenay River is subject to overflow, and crops cannot be depended on. The Indians of late are making an effort to raise cattle, and cut wild hay; they will have an opportunity of disposing of both from time to time, as the Crow's Nest Railway comes near their reserve at Goat River.

The Shuswap Band.—The members of this small band still keep the lead for industry and progress. They depend upon cattle, horses and farming as their means of living. They have the best kept farms in the agency, and their land is easily cultivated and is well supplied with water for irrigation, and their crops seldom fail.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The few dwellings that were built during the past year on the reserves show a very great improvement. They have lumber floors, larger windows, and are covered with shakes or shingles. The work was done by two ex-pupils of the industrial school, François and Ignatius, and reflects great credit on them. The improvement, it is hoped, will induce others to follow the example set, and erect a better class of dwellings.

The Indians of the several bands continue to improve their stock by purchasing a better class of bulls and stallions, they are trying to rid themselves of their cayuses by selling them to prospectors and others, although they bring only a very small price.

The Indians are beginning to recognize the use and value of sheds, where they can store their wagons, tools, farming implements and harness.

Education.—The Indians of this agency are pleased when an opening occurs so that they can send their children to the industrial school, and no difficulty is found in keeping up the attendance. The Rev. N. Coccola, O.M.I., is principal, with the Sisters of Charity as his assistants. During the year satisfactory progress has been made by the pupils in their several studies. The teachers are painstaking and earnest, and discharge their duties with zeal and fidelity. The boys are taught farming, gardening, care of cows and horses, shoemaking and carpentry, and the girls general housework, such as cooking and baking bread, knitting, darning, mending and making clothes, laundrying and butter-making; also the use of the sewing-machine.

Religion.—The Rev. Messrs. Coccola and Ouelette of the Oblates have charge of the missionary work in this agency. All the Indians are Roman Catholics, and are zealous and attentive to their religion. At the village of St. Eugene a beautiful church

was recently opened for the use of the Indians, a monument to the energy of the Rev N. Coccola, to whom all credit is due for its erection and completion. There are churches at the Shuswap and Tobacco Plains Reserves, and one has been built recently at the Lower Kootenay Reserve, where services are held regularly every Sunday.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians of the several bands are industrious and law-abiding, and are steadily becoming richer and more self-supporting.

On the St. Mary's Reserve the most industrious Indians are François, André Como, Pierre and Abram, who carefully look after and attend to their little farms and their stock. They are seldom found in Fort Steele, but keep to work on the reserve. Catshan-mi-yuke built himself a new house and renewed his fencing.

At Tobacco Plains, Semo, François and Toma are certainly the most industrious and set a good example to the others by being constantly at work.

At the Columbia Lakes, Little Tim brought in an irrigation ditch, and fenced in a nice field. John, Joseph and Louis Abel of this band have improved their farms and put up good fencing.

On the Lower Kootenay Reserve Eustace the Chief, Colose, Anasta, and others are trying to raise cattle and cut hay, as their little farms are destroyed yearly by the overflow of the river.

Of those on the Shuswap Reserve, I may mention Isaac, Louis Stowekin, Alexander Kinbasket, Eugene and Louis Paul and his two sons, all good workers, and careful and industrious. Their farms will compare favourably with those of their white neighbours living near them. Isaac and Louis Stowekin last year purchased some fruit trees, which look well, and it is to be hoped that others will follow their example, as this country is admirably adapted for fruit farming, which would give a good return.

Temperance and Morality.—Intemperance and immorality are almost unknown amongst these Indians, and their conduct has been excellent.

I have, &c.,

R. L. T. GALBRAITH,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
KWAUKEWLTH AGENCY,
CAPE MUDGE, 29th August, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my agricultural and industrial statistics together with my annual report and list of Government property under my charge for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location of Agency.—This agency includes all the Indian villages and reserves that lie between Cape Mudge on Valdes Island and Smith's Inlet on the mainland of British Columbia, and all the villages and reserves in Quatsino Sound on the west coast of Vancouver Island.

Tribe or Nation.—These Indians belong to the Kwaukwelth nation, excepting three bands which are known as Licukwiltah Indians; but all speak the same language.

Population.—There are one thousand five hundred and ninety-seven Indians in this agency, including men, women and children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health generally of the Indians has been very good, though there was an outbreak of measles in the industrial school and girls'

home, but there were only some twelve or fourteen cases altogether, and the disease was of a very mild form. The cases as they appeared were promptly isolated. Scrofula is the prevalent disease among them, and quite a number are more or less afflicted with it. I visited as many villages as I could in the spring, and had all objectionable matter removed. I also vaccinated those that needed it, except in the case of some of the old people, who are very averse to it.

Resources and Occupation.—It may be stated first that these Indians have no regular occupation. They go to the salmon canneries during the season, and, if the run is good, earn fair wages, but not nearly as much as formerly, owing to the greater competition by whites and Japanese. They cut cordwood and saw logs, act as guides to tourists and prospectors, make canoes and cedar bark mats and baskets, catch fish for sale, and hire themselves out to any one wanting them. They work well for a short time, but are averse to steady occupation. They have an unlimited supply of food ready to their hand in the shape of fish of all kinds, and obtain a fair amount of venison and seal meat, besides large quantities of berries in the spring and summer.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Heretofore the dwelling houses of these Indians have been of the roughest description, many of them not weather-tight, and most of them large, but the Indians are improving in this way and are building many smaller frame houses, and seem to like the privacy and comfort of the smaller dwellings. So very little farming is done among these Indians, owing chiefly to the scarcity of good land, most of which is densely wooded, that it is hardly worth mentioning. There are only two reserves on which farming can be done at all, and on one of them only in a very limited way. They have only one plough and no other implements except hoes and mattocks. Farming can never become an occupation with them, except on the two reserves mentioned.

Education.—There is a more general desire among these people for the education of their children; perhaps I ought to say the desire comes from the children themselves, and the parents are less opposed to it than formerly. The schools are fairly well attended, and good progress is being made by the pupils who attend at all regularly, particularly at the industrial school and girls' home at Alert Bay, where the progress made is most encouraging.

Religion.—Most of the Indians who profess Christianity belong to the Anglican Church, some few are Methodists and Roman Catholics, but a large proportion are still pagans. They do not take much interest in religion, even those who profess Christianity.

Characteristics and Progress.—All these Indians are more or less indolent. The fact that it is so easy for them to procure sufficient food is no doubt the chief cause of it. Another reason is that living as they do in a kind of commonwealth, there is no incentive to better their condition, for as soon as they accumulate a few hundred dollars it has to go into the general fund. As a rule they are very law-abiding and compare favourably with the whites in this respect. I think, as a whole, they are better off than they were ten years ago, and are getting more comforts about them than formerly.

Temperance and Morality.—Temperance is not a virtue among these Indians; they do not seem able to resist the temptation to drink when it is placed in their way. They do not get nearly so much liquor as in former years, owing to the increasing difficulty of obtaining it, but they still get it at times in small quantities.

They are still very immoral, but there is, I think, a slight improvement in this respect.

General Remarks.—That there is some improvement among these Indians there is no doubt, but a great difficulty lies in the fact that no occupation can be found for them to keep them at home. Farming is out of the question, as there is no land, and until private enterprise provides some occupation near their homes, it seems that they will have to go away to find employment.

I have, &c.,

R. H. PIDCOCK,

Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
NORTH-WEST COAST AGENCY,
METLAKAHTLA, 3rd August, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward this my annual report of Indian matters for the year ended 30th June, 1898, together with my tabular statement.

Haida Nation.

Location.—The Haida nation of Indians belong to the Queen Charlotte group of islands, and are now gathered together from various small settlements into two villages named respectively Massett and Skidegate.

The centralizing of the Haida population has been effected for the convenience of trade, and (through the influence of missionary teachers) for the accommodation of educational and religious teaching.

Population.—The Haidas number this year six hundred and twenty-five souls, an increase of sixteen for the year, being the most noticeable natural increase since the Haida nation was ravaged by small-pox and other diseases many years ago.

Reserves.—Their reserves amount to two thousand nine hundred and seventy-eight acres.

Three hundred and seventy men, women and children claim to belong to the Anglican Church, two hundred and twenty-five to the Methodist Church, and twenty-seven adults to the Salvation Army.

Nishgar Nation.

General Remarks.—The Nishgar nation of Indians, inhabiting the Naas River Valley, are steadily improving in educational and religious training, temperance and morality, and are becoming richer every year. They are, however, barely holding their own in numbers, being at present eight hundred and forty-eight souls, divided into seven bands.

The Nishgars have large reserves aggregating sixteen thousand four hundred and fifty-four acres, much of it fairly good land.

Religion.—In religious matters they are divided as follows: Three hundred and eighty belong to the Anglican Church, one hundred and twenty-one to the Methodist Church, and three hundred and forty are pagans.

Tsimpsean Nation.

Location.—The Tsimpsean Indians inhabit the Skeena River Valley, the sea-shores of the mainland near the mouth of the Skeena, and the islands near the Skeena River.

Population.—They number one thousand three hundred and seventy-six, and are divided into six bands.

Reserves.—They have reserves aggregating one hundred and sixteen thousand eight hundred and fifty-five acres.

Religion.—The Anglican Church claims four hundred and nine souls, the Methodist Church eight hundred and forty-seven, and the Salvation Army one hundred and forty-five.

OWEEKAYNO NATION.

Location.—These Indians are settled at the head of Douglas and Gardner's Channels, Rivers Inlet, and upon the islands in the vicinity of Milbank Sound.

Population.—They number one thousand two hundred and sixty-four souls. This nation is divided into five bands.

Reserves.—Their reserves aggregate seven thousand six hundred and fifty-six acres.

Religion.—Six hundred and seventy-eight claim to belong to the Methodist Church, and two hundred and twenty-one are classed as pagans.

TALLION NATION.

Location.—The Indians of the Tallion nation inhabit the land at the head of Dean's Channel and the head of Bentinck Arm and South Bentinck Arm.

Population.—They number three hundred and thirty-four; live in three different villages, and form three bands. There has been an increase in the Indian population during the year of thirty births over deaths.

Reserves.—Their reserve lands comprise four thousand nine hundred and thirty-seven acres.

Religion.—Amongst these Indians there are thirty Methodists and three hundred pagans.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Language.—Each of these five nations speaks a different language.

Many of the Haidas and Oweekaynos understand and speak English, and fully one-half of the Nishgars and Tsimpseans speak and understand the English language.

Sanitary Condition.—The sanitary condition of the Indians of these twenty-three bands is improving each year, and excepting that of Tallion and Kimsquit, is very good. It has been difficult so far to stir up the pagan Indians of Tallion and Kimsquit to clean up their village streets and houses, as well as their persons; and yet they seem to be as free from epidemic diseases as any. The greatest proportion of deaths occurring in this agency during the year was at Port Simpson.

Agriculture.—There is a steady increase in the quantity of potatoes and other roots raised by the Indians. The cultivation of roots and vegetables is the only agricultural industry that can succeed on the coast so far north; and it is likely to become an important source of food supply.

Buildings.—Very little building has been done this year by the Indians for themselves owing to an unusual lack of money through a partial failure of the salmon catch of last year at Rivers Inlet and Skeena River. A few good dwelling houses have been erected at Port Simpson.

Hunting.—Some of the coast tribes were quite successful last spring at hunting and catching fur seals near their villages, and the fur catch, both by land and sea, has been good.

Temperance and Morality.—Drunkennes amongst our northern Indians is steadily decreasing, so that the cases brought to the knowledge of the authorities have this year been less than a tenth part of that of eight or ten years ago. The morality of the Indians has also wonderfully improved within the last few years.

Religion.—Religious contention amongst Indians has this year almost wholly subsided, although the Haidas of Skidegate have still some bitter feelings against each other, because of agitations still kept up amongst them.

Education.—Secular and religious education is going on increasingly. The system adopted by the department of establishing industrial schools, and assisting mission

schools, together with the increasing efforts of missionary societies and teachers, is rapidly educating and enlightening the North-west Coast Indians.

Loyalty.—There is a growing desire amongst our Indians for enfranchisement, and it is noticeable that this desire arises mostly from pride of being “British,” and a strong ambition to become citizens of the country. Many of them will become good citizens.

General Remarks.—The destitute sick amongst the Indians have been few, and they have been helped by the department with food and clothing to the amount of \$108 during the year.

The departmental steamer “Vigilant” is in good running order, and, with the present engineer, D. P. Wilson, is running with greater economy of fuel per mile than ever before, and with equal speed.

I have, &c.,

C. TODD,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,

WEST COAST AGENCY,

ALBERNI, 27th October, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my annual report to the 30th June, 1898.

Agency.—The West Coast Agency extends from Otter Point to Cape Cook, comprising two hundred miles of the west coast of Vancouver Island.

Reserves.—There are eighteen tribes in this agency. They have one hundred and fifty reserves and fishing stations, aggregating twelve thousand four hundred and twenty acres. There are two large reserves in Barclay Sound, one at Alberni, belonging to the Tseshahs, containing one thousand and thirty acres, and the other at Numakamis, belonging to the Oiahts, containing one thousand seven hundred acres of good land. The acreage of the other reserves ranges from two acres to two hundred and fifty acres each. These reserves are mostly rocky, timbered, and tidal lands, with only small patches suitable for cultivation.

Tribe.—These tribes all speak the same language with dialectic differences, and have been called the Aht nation, this synonym comes from Mr. Sproat, a pioneer of the West Coast, and was adopted as the termination of the tribal names of these people by the former Indian Superintendent of British Columbia, but is not known or used by the Indians, it is taken from Mahty, house, and Mahtymas, people, but the termination signifying people is really “ut” pronounced as in rut with the “t” more accented, but in use slightly altered to suit the euphony of the name preceding it, thus, while Mo-utch, the Indian name for deer, makes Mo-utch-ut, the name of the Nootka tribe; Opitches the name of a village, gives Opitcheset the name of the tribe; Tsesha the name of the first settlement of this tribe in Barclay Sound, Tseshat; Heshque, Heshque-ert; King George-ut signifies Englishmen, and Boston-ut Americans.

PRINCIPAL RESERVES.

Tseshah, No. 1 Reserve, Tsahaheh, west bank of the Somass River, Alberni, one thousand acres; population, one hundred and thirty,—thirty-seven men, forty-two women, fifty-one children and young people.

Opitches-aht, No. 1 Reserve, Ahahswinis, east bank of the Somass River, ninety-six acres; population, sixty-six,—fifteen men, twenty-eight women and twenty-three children.

Howchuk-lis-aht, No. 2 Reserve, Elh-la-teese, at the head of Uchucklesit Harbour, Alberni Canal, four hundred acres; population, fifty-one,—seventeen men, seventeen women, and seventeen children.

Oiaht, Nos. 7 and 8 Reserves, Ah-adz-oas, part of Diana Island, one hundred and fifteen acres, and Haines Island, thirty acres, eastern entrance of Barclay Sound; population, one hundred and eighty-three,—seventy men, sixty-four women and forty-nine children.

To-quaht No. 1 Reserve, Mahcoah, Village Passage, Barclay Sound, one hundred and twenty-four acres; population nineteen,—nine men, six women and four children.

Ewlh-u-ilh-laht, No. 1 Reserve, It-tat-so, one hundred and sixty-two acres; population, one hundred and seventy,—fifty-eight men, fifty-six women and fifty-six children.

Cla-o-quaht, No. 1 Reserve, Opitsat, Clayoquot Sound, one hundred and eighty acres; population, two hundred and sixty-seven,—ninety-one men, one hundred and three women, and seventy-three children.

Kelsemaht, No. 11 Reserve, Yahksis, Flores Island, Clayoquot Sound, one hundred and eighty acres; population, seventy-five,—twenty-eight men, twenty-nine women and eighteen children.

Ahousaht, No. 15 Reserve, Mahktosis, Matilda Creek, Clayoquot Sound, two hundred and fifty acres; population, two hundred and seventy-six,—ninety-three men, ninety-six women and eighty-seven children.

Heshquiaht, No. 1 Reserve, Heshque, Heshquiut Harbour, two hundred and twenty-two acres; population, one hundred and fifty-five,—fifty men, fifty-three women and fifty-two children.

Moo-a-chaht, No. 1 Reserve, Yuquot, Friendly Cove, Nootka Sound, two hundred and ten acres; population, two hundred—seventy-three men, seventy-eight women and forty-nine children.

Matchitlaht, No. 15 Reserve, Cheshish, back of Bligh Island, Nootka Sound, twenty-nine acres; population, fifty-seven—twenty-four men, nineteen women and fourteen children.

Noochahtlaht, No. 1 Reserve, Nuchatl, Esperanza Inlet, sixteen acres; population, seventy-six—thirty-three men, twenty-nine women and fourteen children.

Ehattisaht, No. 10 Reserve, Oke, Esperanza Inlet, thirty-two acres; population, one hundred and sixteen—forty-one men, forty-three women and thirty-two children.

Kyukaht, Nos. 1 and 2 Reserves, Aktese, Village Island, one hundred and eighteen acres; Kukamukamees, Mission Island, seventy-five acres, Barrier Islands, Kyuquot; population, three hundred and eighty-four—one hundred and fifty-eight men, one hundred and fifty-three women and seventy-three children.

Chaicclesaht, No. 1 Reserve, A-co-us, Battle Bay, Ou-ou-kinsh Inlet, one hundred acres; population, one hundred and twenty-three,—forty-five men, thirty-nine women and thirty-nine children.

NITINAHT TRIBE.

These Indians live in four villages at the entrance of Juan de Fuca Strait, viz. :—
Tsooquahna, No. 2 Reserve, two hundred and thirty-five acres; population, thirty-one,—ten men, ten women and eleven children.

Wyah, No. 3 Reserve, one hundred and thirty-two acres; population, seventy-seven,—twenty-seven men, thirty-two women and eighteen children.

Clo-oose, No. 4 Reserve, two hundred and forty-eight acres; population, fifty-nine,—seventeen men, twenty-one women and twenty-one children.

Carmanah, No. 6 Reserve, one hundred and fifty-eight acres; population, forty-eight,—fourteen men, twenty women and fourteen children.

Pacheenaht, No. 1 Reserve, Pacheena Port San Juan, one hundred and fifty-three acres; population, seventy-two,—nineteen men, thirty women and twenty-three children. This tribe is a distinct tribe from the Nitinahts, with their own chiefs, but are allied to them and speak the same dialect, and at sealing time all the Nitinahts congregate at Pacheena Reserve, it being the only harbour on their coast.

Nitinaht Villages.—Each of these four villages has its own chief, but there is one head chief of the Nitinaht tribe, who resides at Wyah, and to this village nearly the whole of the tribe resort for the fall salmon fishing, and generally stay there part of the winter.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Population.—The population of the whole agency is two thousand six hundred and thirty-five: nine hundred and twenty-nine men, nine hundred and sixty-eight women, and seven hundred and thirty-eight children and young people under sixteen years of age.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—While the birth-rate is about the same as last year, the death-rate has been heavier, deaths chiefly from tuberculous diseases. An epidemic of whooping cough began along the coast in the spring months, and was fatal in some cases, where it attacked weakly children, or was complicated with bronchitis; the Indian's constitution does not resist lung disease well. In the month of March a case of smallpox was reported at the Kelsemaht village, Clayoquot Sound. The patient was isolated by the local authorities, and the provincial government sent a doctor and official from Victoria to take charge. However, it proved to be a bad case of syphilitic eruption. I visited Clayoquot Sound myself with a supply of vaccine and vaccinated forty-six at Ahousaht, including twenty-eight school children. I found the village there in a good sanitary condition, the Indians under the direction of Mr. J. Russell, the Presbyterian missionary, cleaned up the houses and removed all refuse matter. I also vaccinated some Indians at Kelsemaht and Uclueiet; these vaccinations were all successful except in the case of one girl at Ahousaht. There is some advance in the sanitary condition of the villages generally, but there is still room for improvement.

Resources and Occupation.—There was a further decrease of over \$40,000 in the income derived by the Indians from the sealing industry, not so many schooners being employed and seals being scarce, the average catches are much less than formerly and decreasing yearly; about nine hundred skins were taken by canoe from shore along the coast, and the Nootka Indians secured twelve sea otter skins, eight of which brought from \$160 to \$185 each. If the demand for Indian hunters on sealing schooners ceased, the Indians would turn their attention more to hunting from shore by canoe, also to the making of dogfish oil, if a market could be found for it; a little is still made in Barclay Sound, Nootka and Kyuquot, but the demand is limited and the price given twenty per cent less than formerly. Some trade is still done with the East Coast Indians in canoes, and there is a good market for dried halibut of which the Kyukahts particularly make a good deal. A little trade was done by the Clayoquot Indians in sending fresh halibut to Victoria by steamer, and some of the Nitinahts, who own several small schooners, do a regular trade in supplying Victoria with the same fish. The Indians at Alberni earn some wages by canoe work transporting prospectors to places in Alberni Canal and Barclay Sound, and some of the young men have made money supplying logs to the local saw-mills, while others have supplied cedar blocks for shingle-making. The Clayoquots also earn some wages by transport of prospectors, and there is a small cannery there which gives employment to the women for the fishing season, cleaning and cutting fish. Those from the different tribes who went to the Fraser River canneries did fairly well, although some were unable to get work owing to the number of Japanese employed. The women earned from \$45 to \$60 each cleaning and cutting salmon.

Buildings, Stock, and Farming Implements.—Owing to the decrease of the sealing industry and consequent scarcity of money, not many new houses have been built during the past year. At Alberni one new house has been put up but is not yet finished, and a little new fencing and clearing have been done. At Clayoquot a couple of new houses have been partially built, a few garden patches fenced in, and a few fruit trees planted. At Ucluelet there are four small houses in course of erection and several others have been painted and finished. At Heshquiatic one new house has been finished and several others lined and painted; the Roman Catholic church and mission house have also been repainted. At Clo-oose, Nitinaht, adjoining the Methodist Mission, George Sitecub, who has several children attending school, has built a new house; altogether nineteen houses have been erected during the year. The Alberni Indians have less horses than they had last year, several have been sold, and others died last winter. A few cattle have been sold at Alberni and Ucluelet and there is an increase in the number of stock in the agency. These Indians have no work oxen or plough horses and do not buy any farming implements except a few scythes and gardening tools. The Alberni Indians have a few buggies and road carts, which they use for driving about the settlement and occasionally over the road to Nanaimo. In Barclay Sound, Clayoquot Sound, and Nootka, a few of the Indians are acquiring cattle. On the coast they require little, if any, feed in the winter, and are saleable where there are any white settlers adjacent.

Education.—The Alberni Indian Home still has the average number of inmates, a few deaths have occurred since last year, but other children have been taken in, and the pupils attend the day school with regularity, make fair progress, and appear happy and contented. Garden work is done by the boys under the superintendency of Harry Thomas, a late pupil, who is employed to do the outside work at the mission; a root and store house has also been built and some clearing and improvements, taking out stumps, &c. The pupils are fed and mostly clothed by the Presbyterian mission. A wind-mill has been erected, connected with a force-pump, and iron piping from the river to a tank built near the top of the mission building, so that now they have a plentiful supply of water. At the Presbyterian day school at Ahousaht the lads learn rapidly, Mr. Jno. Russell is most painstaking in his endeavours to teach the boys English, and is himself learning the native language at the same time. On my last visit to the school several of the pupils were writing letters in English to their friends who were away from home. At the Presbyterian school at Ucluelet some of the children attend regularly and are learning well. The Rev. Mr. Swartout teaches himself at Oiaht when not otherwise employed, renting an Indian house there, and hopes to secure a resident teacher for this place next year. Except the grants to Alberni and Ucluelet day schools, this work is carried on without aid from the department.

The Roman Catholic school at Clayoquot is well attended, except during the summer months, when the Indians are mostly away, by the young men as well as boys and girls. The Rev. Father Van Nevel has to rent an Indian house for teaching purposes. He is an experienced teacher, and has a school-house at the outer village, moving with the Indians there in the spring to continue teaching. The Rev. Father Sobry has reopened school at Kyuquot. He labours under disadvantage, as the village is situated on two islands, the mission being at the smaller settlement of the two, and the majority of the children are unable to get to school in bad weather. All the day schools labour under disadvantages from the roving habits of the Indians; the lads when they arrive at the age of fourteen generally go sealing, and the adults have to move to various fishing stations and to the canneries to make a living and generally take their children with them, although there seems an increasing desire to get education.

Religion.—The Roman Catholic missions still carry on their work at Kyuquot, Heshquiatic, and Clayoquot where they have resident priests and churches, there have been no services at the churches at Alberni and Oiaht during the past year. The other churches are well attended, particularly at Heshquiatic and Clayoquot. There is also a church at Nootka, to which place the Rev. Father Brabant of Heshquiatic pays occasional visits. The church at Clayoquot is now handsomely finished and provided with new and commodious seats.

The Rev. Mr. Tate of the Methodist Church resided part of the year on the Opitsat Reserve, Clayoquot, and held regular services at Opitsat and Kelsemaht. The Methodist Church proposes to establish a mission at Clayoquot. The Rev. Mr. Stone is carrying on the work at the Nitinaht Methodist Mission, half of the school-house being used for church purposes. The Rev. Mr. Swartout, Presbyterian missionary, is at work in Barclay Sound, Miss Armstrong at Ucluelet, and Mr. Russell at Ahousaht, holding services in the school-houses on Sundays and attending to the sick, besides teaching, and have great hopes for the success of their missions. Services for the Indians with Sunday school are held in the Alberni school-house, and the pupils from the Home and some of the Indians attend the services at the Presbyterian church, the Rev. Mr. Taylor, home missionary, attending to the spiritual wants of the Indians.

The Roman Catholics, whose missions have been many years established on this coast, number one thousand and sixty-six, Presbyterians in Barclay Sound and Ahousaht two hundred and eighty-nine, and the Methodists at Clayoquot and Nitinaht two hundred and seventy-one; the remainder, one thousand and nine, are classed as pagans, although they have no form of pagan worship and seem always to have acknowledged one supreme being, but this belief mixed up with a vast amount of superstition.

Characteristics and Progress.—The West Coast Indians as a race are industrious and law-abiding; no serious crime has been committed by any of them during the past year. While, as in all communities, there are some lazy and indolent, the majority, especially the older men, are generally at work. They do not take to agricultural pursuits, for which the most of their reserves are unsuitable. The gardening work is mostly done by the women; the men when not in their canoes, fishing or hunting, are at work round the houses putting their fishing gear in order, making paddles, &c. Many of the young and middle-aged men are good axemen and take naturally to the use of tools. A few of them work in silver. Many of them are good carpenters, imitating the whites in the finishing and ornamentation of the outside of their houses. The women spend their spare time in making mats of the bulrush and cedar bark, and table mats and baskets of various sizes and shapes of coloured grass to sell to the whites. They are naturally quick at cutting out and making their own clothes and quite a number possess sewing-machines. I do not consider that they are becoming materially poorer as a community. They are not provident, and except in a few individual cases, do not accumulate money. With the young men, when they made more at sealing it was all spent before the next season and advances taken before shipping again. The fact of there being less money earned affects the old and sick most, as friends are not so able to help, and there are not so many potlaches and feasts given. Although I have had no occasion to enforce the law against the potlach, this custom seems to be gradually dying out, not nearly so many are given as formerly, and those given are in moderation and chiefly among friends.

Temperance and Morality.—I may still report favourably under these heads: there has been little drunkenness or traffic in whisky, and while there have been some cases of men leaving their wives and children, the efforts and teaching of the missionaries on the coast have a good affect in mitigating the evils arising from intoxication and immorality.

I have, &c.,

HARRY GUILLOD,
Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,

WILLIAMS LAKE AGENCY,

CLINTON, 28th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my annual report, together with statistical statement and list of Government property in my charge, for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location of Agency.—This agency is situated north and partly west of the Kamloops-Okanagan Agency, south of the Babine Agency, having the Rocky Mountains as a portion of the eastern boundary, and the Fraser Agency for its west boundary.

Area.—There are seventy-four thousand and sixty-five acres reserved for this agency.

Resources.—Most of the reserves contain land fit for cultivation, and farming is carried on with fair success, many of the Indians being now able to sell considerable quantities of hay and grain. Some are turning their attention to the raising of cattle, for which there is always a market. The lakes and streams are well supplied with fish, and large game, such as mountain sheep, deer and goats are plentiful. At low water considerable quantities of gold dust are secured from the bars of the Fraser and other streams.

Tribe or Nation.—These Indians belong chiefly to the Salish and Tinneh peoples.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one thousand nine hundred and twenty, composed of six hundred and eighty-seven men, seven hundred and sixteen women and five hundred and seventeen children, an increase of thirty-six since my last report. The number of births was one hundred and two, and the number of deaths sixty-three, and migrations three.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of these Indians is good. During the year just ended they were not visited by epidemic diseases of any kind; sanitary precautions are insisted on; most of the deaths were those of very old people and young children. After a great deal of persuasion I have succeeded in making them understand that refuse matter around their houses is a source of disease, and I was glad to see on my last visit that all such was removed, and the yards swept clean. I vaccinated all those who had not already been vaccinated.

Occupation.—The chief occupations of these Indians are farming, stock-raising, working as farm hands for white settlers, guides to tourists, teamsters and packers, while quite a number are engaged as labourers on gold-dredgers.

Buildings, Stock, and Farming Implements.—Their houses are comfortable and fairly well kept. There are quite a number of stables, well supplied with horses and a fair quantity of farming implements of all kinds.

Education.—There are one hundred and fifty-five children of school age, but only one school in the agency, the Williams Lake Industrial under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church. There are fifty pupils cared for at this school.

Religion.—Twenty-four are of the Anglican faith; the rest are all Roman Catholics. There are several Roman Catholic missionaries stationed in different parts of the agency, and at nearly all the reserves there are churches or places of worship, there being nineteen churches in all. Some of the buildings are very fine and finished off in the most modern style. These Indians manifest great interest in religion.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding, and the majority are becoming better off. Quite a number own their own horses and wagons and are constantly engaged as freighters.

Temperance and Morality.—Intemperance is decreasing, while in other respects the morality of these Indians is not below the average standard.

General Remarks.—At the Alkali Lake, Auchan, Kenim Lake and Soda Creek Reserve these Indians have made extensive improvements during the year, having fenced nearly the whole of their reserves, in this way preventing stock from trespassing; and in the winter season many of the stock-raisers will willingly pay them for a chance to turn their cattle inside these inclosures.

I have, &c.

E. BELL,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,

INDIAN SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE,

VICTORIA, 31st October, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour herein to present my annual report upon Indian affairs in the province of British Columbia for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

From the respective Indian agents throughout my superintendency the yearly reports, together with their statistical statements, have been received and in each case without delay forwarded to the department.

It is hoped that the above reports and statements sent in by the agents may meet with the requirements in that direction, especially as the latter have repeatedly been urged by me to be most particular in carrying out the instructions of the department so clearly laid down for their guidance in the "circular" issued to that end, a copy of which was forwarded to each agent in due course.

The following brief summary under the different headings designated will, I am sure, be gratifying to the department, as indicating in a general way the satisfactory condition of the native peoples in this superintendency.

Population.—According to the returns received, and judging from my own personal observation, I may state that there is no appreciable increase or diminution in the native population as a whole.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—A satisfactory advance is noticeable in improved sanitary measures, the outcome of continued and effective supervision exercised by the agents, and of an improved intelligence on the part of the Indians respecting a matter of such vital importance to themselves; to this, and also in a measure to the mildness of the winter during the year reported upon, may be attributed the unusually good health that prevailed and the freedom from epidemics of a serious nature, and from fatal contagious diseases. In the Kamloops-Okanagan Agency a mild type of measles appeared, which by careful attention soon passed away, leaving no disastrous traces behind. In the industrial school and in the girls' home at Alert Bay an epidemic of a like nature appeared, attacking some of the pupils, but prompt measures for the isolation and proper care of those affected being taken by those in charge, the spread of the disease was prevented and the epidemic stamped out before any fatal results occurred. In the Cowichan Agency the deaths therein recorded were mostly caused by pulmonary disease, and in the Kootenay Agency, owing to the prevalence of heavy rains and unusually

cold winds, several of the very old and some of the younger Indians passed away, whilst suffering from consumption, in the early spring

Very satisfactory results continue to be reported from the hospitals assisted by the department, these charitable and healing institutions being looked upon by the white and Indian population in their vicinity as a boon of priceless value to such as may be afflicted with ill health and indigent circumstances. Too much praise cannot be given to those under whose kindly supervision the charitable and medical offices are administered in these establishments.

Buildings, Stock, Farm Implements, &c.—Improved dwelling houses and out-offices, such as stables, barns, &c., are noticeable throughout many of the agencies, and a desire to increase the area of land under cultivation is also observed. In some instances cattle are gradually taking the place of comparatively worthless and useless Indian ponies, and upon many of the reserves, especially where the land is being cultivated to any extent, a great advance has been made in the class of horses now being bred and used. There is an increase also in farming implements, which gives satisfactory assurance of a steady progress in agricultural industries.

Education.—Reports from the respective industrial and boarding schools carried on in the superintendency have been duly forwarded and are well worth consideration as showing the steady, and it is to be hoped, lasting benefits to be expected from these places of instruction. The different denominations under whose auspices these schools are carried on are deserving of all praise for their devotion to the work in hand, and it is gratifying to know that each year the native people, as a whole, seem to appreciate more and more the provision, both as affects the present and the future, made in these establishments for their children, and, instead of any feeling of distrust now existing, it is rather with a feeling of appreciation and thankfulness that such efforts for their civilization and advancement are regarded. This commendable feeling produces, as a natural consequence, amongst those without such means within reach for the education and general care of their offspring, a most fervid desire for the establishment of such institutions amongst them.

The day schools, as has previously been reported upon, are not as successful as it is wished they might be. The Indians, in their struggle for existence, having periodically to move from place to place in pursuit of work and food, as their necessities require, and by taking, as they are obliged to do, their children with them, they prevent the latter from reaping the full benefit of the education and training otherwise at their disposal, precluding the possibility of such advantages as under more favourable circumstances might reasonably be expected.

Religion.—Religious services and observances continue to be practised with much zeal by such of the natives as have embraced Christianity, and the tendency to forsake their heathenish customs and join the majority at the respective missions seems to gain headway year by year among the pagans. Some new and very well built churches have been erected during the year, and others are in course of construction, and under this head it may be said that everything seems most encouraging.

Characteristics and Progress.—The aborigines of British Columbia are, as a people, industrious; when hired out as farm labourers, stock-drivers, boatmen, packers, guides, loggers, fishermen, section men on the railway, &c., they give good satisfaction in every way. In some of the agencies they turn out voluntarily in large gangs with teams and wagons, &c., and do extensive and valuable work upon the public roads in the vicinity of their reserves. They also in some cases have fenced in their reserves for miles, and cultivate large tracts of land profitably. At the Okanagan Lake Reserve some hundreds of tons of wheat are raised and delivered at the mills annually; and at Enderby the Spallumcheen Indians, a small band, have delivered as much as one hundred and fifty tons of wheat in the season. In other localities there are also striking instances of the capabilities of the natives as farmers and stock-raisers, besides creditable performances as house and boat-builders, carpenters, blacksmiths, &c. Many of the Indians, especially those who have good reserves and stay by them, are becoming, if not rich, at least very comfortably off. Throughout the province the Indians have been peaceably disposed, fairly industrious, law-abiding to a commendable degree, and friendly in their relations with the white people and those in authority.

Temperance and Morality.—The consumption of intoxicants, and consequent ill-effects arising therefrom, has not been as great as during preceding years; whether this “falling off” in a habit so prejudicial to the general advancement of the Indians is to be attributed to the fact that their earnings at the canneries have not been as great as in former years, or to a general improvement in their morals, it is at all events a pleasing feature in the condition of the Indians during the period under consideration. In other respects appearances and reports would seem to indicate a general improvement as to morality.

The following remarks show approximately the condition of the Indians at the close of the year in the different agencies:—

THE NORTH-WEST COAST AGENCY.

These Indians have an abundant supply of timber, fish, game and fur-bearing animals frequenting land and sea. They also manufacture considerable fish-oil, which is a source of much profit. They find during the season employment at the salmon canneries, and, although their is not a farming country, there is a steady increase in the quantity of potatoes and other root crops grown by these Indians; the climate and the quality of the land admit of no other agricultural produce, but that named promises to become an important item in their food supply.

WEST COAST AGENCY.

The Indians of this agency are not inclined towards farming pursuits, even where the nature of the soil in their reserves is fit for cultivation. They are, however, intelligent and active and industrious in other respects. Some of these people own schooners and are fairly expert seamen. They make good wages at sealing, both on their own account and when employed on sealing schooners owned by white men. The bays and inlets abound in fish all the year round. Fish-oil is a staple amongst them, and the poorest without any great effort can always provide themselves with food.

KWAWKEWLTH AGENCY.

These Indians have no regular occupation. They visit the salmon canneries during the season in search of employment, and, if the run is good and conditions favourable, they earn good wages; each year, however, their opportunities in that direction are becoming less favourable owing to the increasing competition created by the influx of whites and Japanese. During other seasons of the year they get out saw-logs for the mills, cut cordwood, make canoes, cedar-bark mats and baskets, catch fish for sale, and hire themselves out as occasion offers to tourists and prospectors, and others. As a rule they work well for short periods, but cannot endure steady work. They have an unlimited supply of food ready to their hands in the nature of fish of many kinds, deer, hair-seal, with large quantities of berries in the spring and summer.

KAMLOOPS-OKANAGAN AGENCY.

The Indians of this agency for the most part carry on farming and stock-raising with very fair success. Many of them find employment as section hands along the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway and always give good satisfaction to their employers. In the sections favourable for stock-raising, they and their horses find employment on the stock ranches of their white neighbours as cowboys, in which pursuits they are experts. In the mining localities men, women and children, during the season of low water do very well mining with rockers upon the different bars, &c. They realize a considerable profit from fish taken for sale and for their own use. The women earn money as domestic “helps” and by dressing skins and converting them into articles of

clothing such as moccasins, gloves and mittens. They also gather large quantities of berries, which prove an acceptable and wholesome addition to their food supply.

COWICHAN AGENCY.

Many of the able-bodied men and women of this agency find considerable employment during the summer months at the Fraser River salmon canneries and at the hop-fields. They also to a certain extent raise cereals and root crops and cultivate fruit, but unfortunately in many instances the attention they give to the latter is of a desultory character owing to the attraction found at the canneries and hopfields. Boat-building for the canneries affords, to such as engage in that occupation, good wages. Some of these Indians also act as packers and guides to mining prospectors and tourists; and their women engage in making articles of domestic manufacture, which contributes to their support.

FRASER RIVER AGENCY.

Considerable farming of a mixed nature is carried on by these Indians; they also go in for stock-raising to a limited extent. Many of them seek employment at the salmon canneries during the summer, and find remunerative employment gathering hops, &c., on the farms in their vicinity. Some of the Indians in the fall mine for gold on the bars of the Fraser; money is also earned in cutting cordwood, in logging and in the taking of fish and game. The Indian women work profitably at making baskets, mats, &c., and add considerably to their food supply by the gathering of roots and berries in their season.

KOOTENAY AGENCY.

Farming and stock-raising is carried on chiefly by the Indians in this agency. The reserves are of fairly good land, and, when irrigated, produce good crops. There are good summer ranges and meadows also embraced within the reserves, of which the Indians make profitable use. The settlement of the country produces good markets for all kinds of produce; mining industries and railroads, &c., creating the increased demand for such supplies. Packing with horses for mining prospectors and mine-owners also enables many of the natives to earn a good deal of money. The lakes and streams abound with fish; in the mountains game and fur-bearing animals are hunted and trapped though not as successfully as in former years when the animals sought after were much more plentiful.

WILLIAMS LAKE AGENCY.

The occupation and resources of these Indians may be classified as farming, stock-raising, working as farm-hands on white men's ranches, packers, teamsters (in both instances, as a rule, using their own horses and wagons) guides to tourists and mining prospectors, and (during the year reported upon) finding remunerative employment upon the gold-dredgers in operation upon the rivers in their neighbourhood. They find good markets for their produce and labour owing to the extensive mining carried on in the Cariboo country. The rivers and streams are well stocked with fish and wildfowl. Fur-bearing animals and game are found in the mountains, and in some localities gold can be taken from the river bars during low water; and salmon for their winter supply is taken from the Fraser River.

BABINE AGENCY.

These Indians from their more or less isolated position in the interior, and their remoteness from centres of civilization, have been slower in their advancement than others of their race more favourably situated. The facilities for getting in and out of

their country are yet amongst the most backward in British Columbia, causing disappointment to the traveller whose business takes him to those regions not only by unforeseen delays retarding his progress, but also by the excessive rates demanded for all transport requirements. The natives are, however, intelligent and active, have as a rule kindly dispositions, and of late years, in accordance with the constant advice and teachings of the Indian agent and missionaries, have done much towards improving their condition.

The chief food supply of these Indians is fish, and large game found in the mountains. They also possess some few cattle and horses and grow potatoes and other roots, which materially adds to their means of sustenance. Fur-bearing animals are in places fairly abundant, the trapping of which affords them considerable profit. Employment during the season is also found at the canneries on the Naas, the Skeena, and at Rivers Inlet. The women and children also gather, and dry for winter use, large quantities of berries during the summer and autumn months.

GENERAL REMARKS.

I may here state that in accordance with the desire of the department, medicines have been supplied to the different missionaries and agents throughout the superintendency for dispensing among such of the Indians as require assistance in that respect, and were unable through other means to procure medicinal aid; medical attendance has also been provided for those suffering under similar circumstances. Such of the natives as were through sickness, old age, or other causes, absolutely in want of food or clothing have been relieved to a reasonable extent, and every effort has been made to induce those that could do so to help their indigent friends, and to instil a feeling of self-dependence and support amongst them.

The earnings of the Indians at the canneries in 1897, were less than in any previous year. The salmon run at the northern canneries was a complete failure, and, owing to the unprecedented numbers of salmon running up the Fraser, the prices paid per fish were totally unremunerative and did not meet the general expenses incurred by the fishermen there employed.

The favourable opportunities existing in past years for the earning of good wages by the Indians have passed away, returns showing that during the last few years there has been a great falling off in the gross earnings of the natives in British Columbia. This is accounted for by the ever increasing influx of settlers of every nationality into the province. Where the natives used to be the only people available, white men, Japanese and Chinamen are at the present time to be found in great numbers competing with them in the labour market and in the pursuit of fish, fur-bearing animals, and game of all kinds. In view of these conditions, the Indians are being constantly warned to prepare for their future support and welfare by giving up their wandering habits in search of labour that does not pay and to devote themselves more to the cultivation and improvement of their reserves; to the raising of cattle, &c., and to such means as nature has, in many cases, with a prodigal hand placed within their reach.

The assistance given by the department to the Indians of the Halaut and Haltkum Bands on the Thompson River, in the Kamloops-Okanagan Agency, towards constructing dams and ditches for irrigation purposes, has been received by these Indians with feelings of gratitude and the expressed intention of profiting to the utmost by the consideration shown them. They have, under the supervision of the foreman provided by the department, done some very heavy and extensive work; and next year, when it is hoped that the ditches, &c., will be completed and the much required water available for the season's irrigation, some hundreds of acres will be rendered productive that hitherto have been comparatively worthless.

The irrigation ditch constructed by the department on the St. Mary's Reserve in Kootenay has been of incalculable service to the Indians of that agency, not only benefiting those upon whose land the water is used, but also the entire native community, as the good crops now made possible upon the reserve mentioned incites the other

Indians to increased efforts in the cultivation of all such land as may be at their disposal.

On the West Coast the Indians have always made large sums of money by the sale of fur-seal skins taken by them, these natives being expert hunters; and it is hoped that they may not in any way be interfered with in such pursuits, which to a great extent is the chief support of many.

In my visitations among the Indians, I have been pleased by the evidence in most cases of a steady advance in civilization and comfort, their houses and mode of living become better each year, and more attention is being given to the improvement of their reserves in fencing and cultivation, &c. The children in many places appear clean and well dressed, and the families to a certain extent give one the idea of becoming less nomadic and more inclined to establish homes, &c.

This report should have been completed and forwarded at an earlier date were it not that I have been waiting for the reports of some of the agents.

I have, &c.,

A. W. VOWELL,
Indian Superintendent for British Columbia.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,

INDIAN RESERVE COMMISSION,

VICTORIA, 5th November, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to present for your information, a report of the work performed by the Indian Reserve Commission, and by the two surveyors employed in the survey of Indian reserves in British Columbia, during the past year.

The late Reserve Commissioner, Mr. O'Reilly, retired from office on the 28th February last, upon which date I assumed the duties pertaining to that office.

On the 1st April I directed Mr. Green, the surveyor attached to the Indian Reserve Commission, to proceed to Metlakahtla for the purpose of subdividing a portion of the reserve at that place into garden allotments, the Indians having many times applied to the department expressing their desire to secure garden patches in severalty.

On the completion of this work, Mr. Green surveyed forty-six additional lots as an extension of the Port Simpson townsite. This duty occupied him until the 23rd April, when he returned to Victoria.

Acting under your instructions two parties of surveyors were placed in the field, at as early a date as practicable, during the present year.

Mr. Skinner left Victoria for the Upper Skeena River on the 12th May, and surveyed the reserves for the Kuldoe, Kisgegas, Hazelton and Kitsumkaylum Bands of Indians. In the early part of the season he was much delayed by high water; he, however, has completed a fair amount of work when the inaccessible nature of the country, and the long distances to be travelled, are taken into consideration.

Mr. Devereux was detailed to survey reserves on the Stuart and Babine Lakes. Leaving Victoria on the 15th June, he completed the reserves for the Necoslie, Trembleur Lake, and Tache Indians; but while *en route* to the Babine an abscess on the back of his head, requiring immediate surgical treatment, compelled him to abandon further operations for the season. He returned to Victoria on the 29th September.

The amount of work performed by Mr. Devereux was, for the short time he was employed, very satisfactory; this may be partly accounted for by the easy transport

obtainable on the lakes, and by the lightly timbered and comparatively level country in which he operated.

I inclose the reports of Messrs. Skinner and Devereux, with a schedule showing the reserves surveyed and the mileage run.

On the 30th June, accompanied by Mr. Surveyor Green, I proceeded to the Upper Skeena River for the purpose of defining reserves for the tribes which had not as yet been visited by the Commission. At Hazelton I secured the services of an interpreter, who accompanied me during my stay in that vicinity.

The allotment of lands for the Kuldoe, Kisgegas, and Kispyoux Indians was satisfactorily accomplished, and no difficulty was experienced with the latter tribe, who, it will be remembered, in 1891 obstructed the late Reserve Commissioner in the execution of his duty, preventing him from defining the reserves, &c.

At Kitwancool I found the Indians were not unanimous in their opinion regarding their lands. The younger members of the tribe were in favour of reservations being made, but the principal chiefs and older men were strenuously opposed to it, thus preventing the possibility of any satisfactory arrangement being arrived at. I have no doubt that before another year expires petitions will be presented by these people praying that reserves be laid off for them, the same as has been done for other bands; it would then be much easier to deal with them, as they will be less exacting and more reasonable in every way.

I have, &c.,

A. W. VOWELL,
I. R. Commissioner and Indian Supt.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,

VICTORIA, 3rd October, 1898.

A. W. VOWELL, Esq.,
Indian Reserve Commissioner,
Victoria, B.C.

SIR,—I have the honour to present the following report covering the past season's work in the survey of Indian reserves in New Caledonia District.

In obedience to your instructions of June last, I left Victoria with a party of three for Fort St. James, situated on Stuart Lake, arriving at that place on the 3rd July.

Owing to the unprecedented rush of gold-seekers into the Omenica and other districts in that locality this year, much difficulty was met with in obtaining means of transportation for the party and supplies from Quesnelle to Fort St. James, and I may add that the rates charged for freighting in supplies were excessive on this account, and far beyond my anticipation.

The surveys of the reserves allotted to the Necoslie tribe of Indians were begun on 7th July and completed a fortnight later.

A start was made for Pinche, on Stuart Lake, which belongs to the Tache tribe of Indians, on the 25th July and the party was engaged upon the survey of this reserve until the 30th.

On the 3rd August the Trembleur Lake work was taken up and the surveys of the five reserves belonging to this tribe were finished on the 18th.

The party was then moved back to Stuart Lake, and the surveys of the allotments for the Tache tribe were continued and brought to a completion on the 2nd September. We next started for Babine outpost, situated on Babine Lake, intending to complete the surveys for this tribe before the close of the season; but while *en route* an abscess broke out on my head with such severity that I was obliged to disband the party and make all haste to obtain medical treatment.

The camp outfit was carefully dried and stored for the winter at Babine, and the party left for Victoria where they arrived and were paid off on the 29th September.

I have inclosed herewith a schedule showing the reserves surveyed and the mileage run, and I must say that though the season was a very short one a great deal of work has been accomplished ; we having run sixty miles of line while in the field.

I have, &c.,

F. A. DEVEREUX.

SCHEDULE of Reserves Surveyed by F. A. Devereux, 1898.

Date.	Tribe.	Chains.	Miles.	Remarks.
<i>Necoslie Indians.</i>				
July.....	Reserve No. 1.....	475 00	14 94	
".....	" 4.....	500 00		
".....	" 3.....	220 00		
<i>Trembleur Lake Indians.</i>				
August.....	Reserve No. 1.....	610 00	20 03	
".....	" 2.....	90 00		
".....	" 3.....	211 00		
".....	" 4.....	92 00		
".....	" 5.....	500 00		
<i>Tache Indians.</i>				
July.....	Reserve No. 2.....	475 00	25 06	
August.....	" 1.....	640 00		
".....	" 5.....	175 00		
".....	" 4.....	305 00		
".....	" 3.....	410 00		
			60 03	

F. A. DEVEREUX,
I. R. Surveyor.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,

VICTORIA, 31st October, 1898.

A. W. VOWELL, Esq.,
Indian Reserve Commissioner,
Victoria, B.C.

SIR,—I have the honour to present the following report covering the past season's work.

In obedience to your instructions I left Victoria on the 12th May by the steamer "Boscowitz," en route to Hazelton on the Skeena River, for the purpose of surveying the Indian reserves in that locality, and I arrived at Essington at the entrance of the river on the 17th.

Leaving Essington on the 20th May, I proceeded up the river by canoe, making slow progress owing to the high water.

Before reaching Kitselas, one hundred miles from Hazelton, where I had decided to commence work a sudden rise in the river caused a delay of three days, preventing further progress and compelling me to return to Kitsumkaylum, fifteen miles lower on the river, where I dismissed the Indian canoemen and commenced the survey of the reserves for the Kitsumkaylum tribe.

Commencing work on the 1st June I completed the surveys on the 24th, having experienced much difficulty owing to continued freshets on the river, the land being in many places overflowed.

The steamer "Caledonia" arriving at Kitsumkaylum on the 1st July, on her way to Hazelton, I took passage on board and arrived at Hazelton late in the evening of the 10th. Pitching camp on the 11th, I commenced the surveys for the Hazelton tribe of Indians.

Having completed Hazelton Reserve No. 1, on the 5th August I next went to Tsitsk, No. 3, on the Hogwilget River and completed the survey of that reserve on the 12th, returning to Hazelton on the 13th. I then made preparations to proceed to Kisgegas on the Babine River.

Leaving Hazelton on the 15th August, I arrived at Kisgegas on the 19th, and commenced the survey of the reserve at that place.

On Monday, 22nd August, I proceeded from Kisgegas to Kuldoe, on the Skeena River, twenty-seven miles across the mountains, and surveyed the reserve for the Kuldoe Indians, returning to Kisgegas on the 27th.

Having completed the reserve at Kisgegas on the 17th September, I left on the 19th and arrived at Hazelton Reserve No. 4 on the 22nd, completing it on the 26th.

Thence I moved to Hazelton, and surveyed the Timber Reserve No. 2, thus completing the surveys for the Hazelton tribe on the 3rd October.

I had much difficulty with the work during the latter portion of the season, my transit instrument being seriously damaged by a fall while engaged on the survey at Kisgegas. This accident caused me much delay, and compelled me to abandon my intention of surveying the Kispyouks reserves this season.

The rough nature of the country, coupled with the dense growth of timber and underbrush in most places, prevented a larger amount of survey work being accomplished.

Leaving Hazelton on the 6th October I travelled to Essington by canoe, arriving on the 10th, and taking passage on the steamer "Danube" on the 14th, arrived in Victoria on the 17th, where I paid off the men and stored the Government property in my charge.

I inclose a schedule of reserves surveyed, the mileage run, and the acreage, which will, I trust, prove satisfactory.

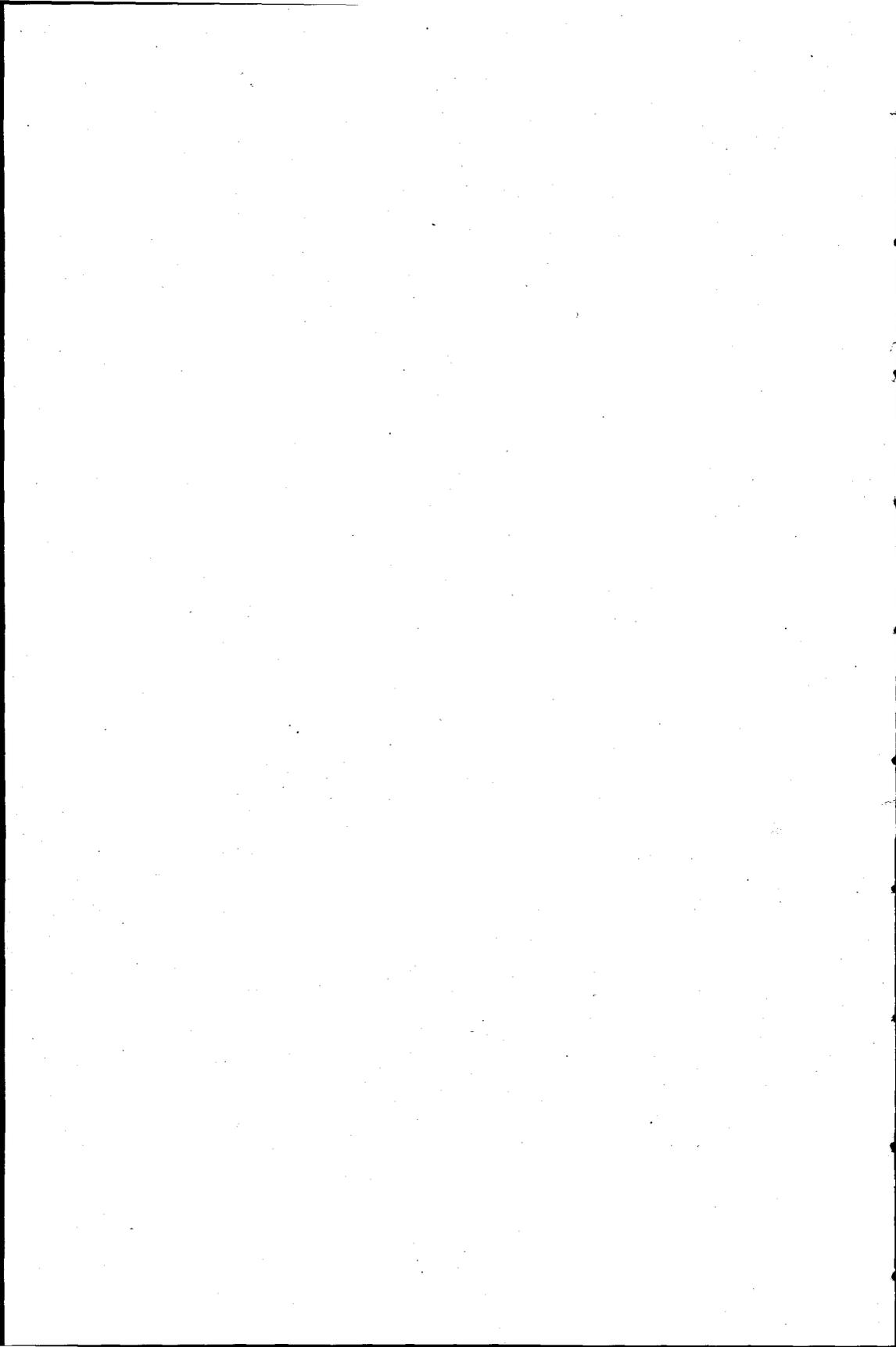
I have, &c.,

E. M. SKINNER.

SCHEDULE of Reserves Surveyed by E. M. Skinner, 1898.

Date.	Tribe.	Reserve.	Miles.	Chains.	Acres.
June.....	Kitsumkaylum.....	Kitsumkaylum No. 1.....	.....	599·46	1,042
"	"	Zimagord No. 3.....	.....	116·71	72
"	"	Fishery No. 2.....	11·23·10	186·93	130
July.....	Hazelton.....	Hazelton No. 1.....	19·38·26	1,558·26	2,605
August.....	"	Connection to No. 2.....	.....	124·05	.....
"	"	Tsitsk No. 3.....	.....	377·69	450
"	Kuldoe.....	Kuldoe.....	.....	345·94	455
"	Kisgegas.....	Kisgegas traverse.....	13·28·72	221·04	.....
September..	"	Kisgegas.....	.....	868·18	2,415
"	Hazelton.....	Aulaw No. 4.....	.....	243·02	129
"	"	Timber Reserve No. 2.....	17·10·75	259·55	360
October.....	"	Connection No. 2.....	.....	33·16	.....
"	"	" to No. 3.....	1·11·53	58·37	.....
		Total mileage.....	62·32·36		

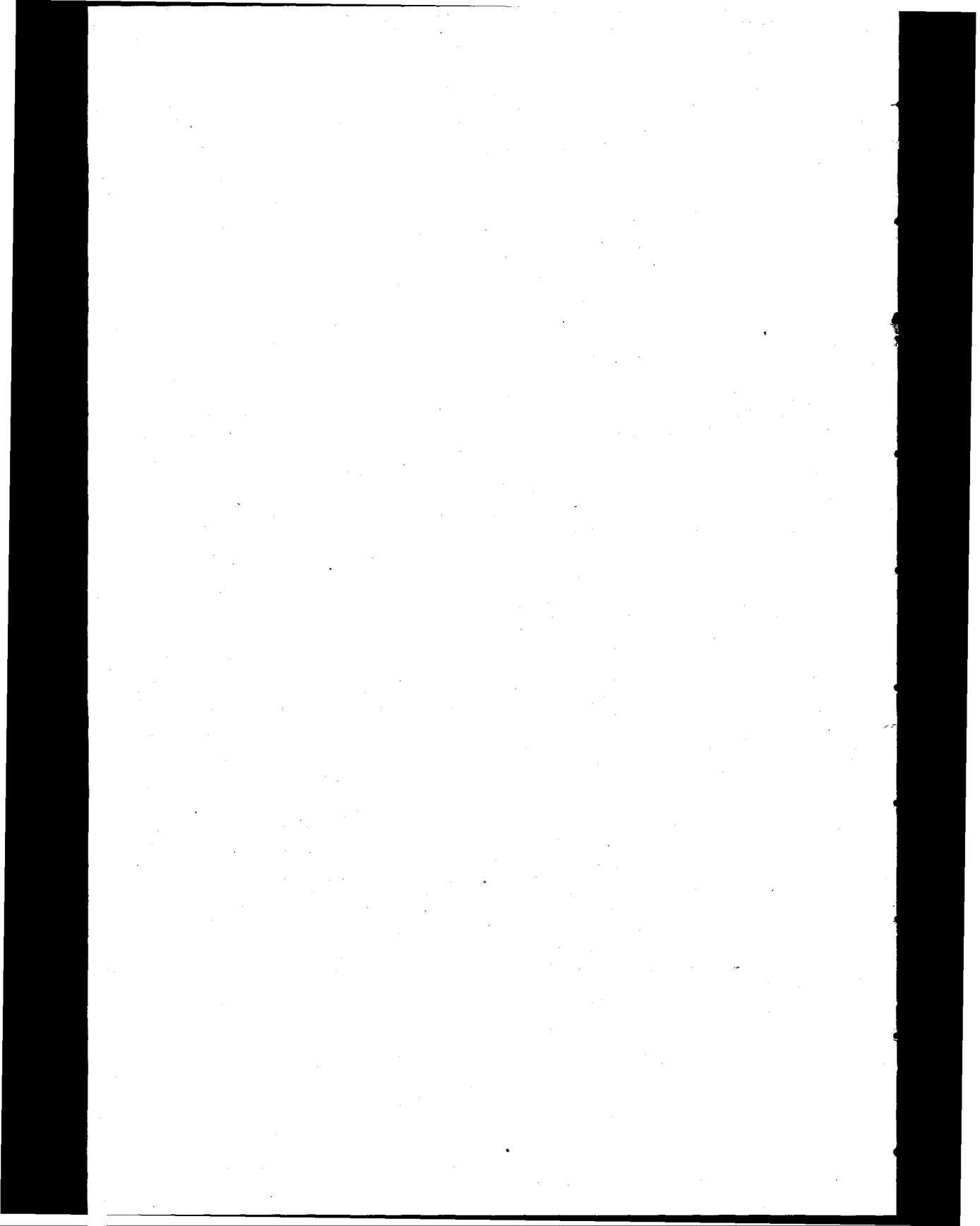
E. M. SKINNER,
I. R. Surveyor.



REPORTS OF PRINCIPALS

OF

INDUSTRIAL AND BOARDING SCHOOLS



PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

ST. JOSEPH'S INDIAN HOME,

FORT WILLIAM MISSION, 1st July, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—We have the honour to submit our annual report for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location.—The St. Joseph's Home is situated on the Kaministiquia River, on the Fort William Indian Reserve. There is one acre of land in connection with it.

Buildings.—The home is a frame building 70 x 45 feet, two stories and basement, with a stone foundation. The basement comprises: two play-rooms, two furnace-rooms, laundry, kitchen and refectories for sisters and pupils; on the first floor are boys' dormitory, infirmary, lavatory, music hall and chapel; on the second floor: girls' dormitory, infirmary, lavatory, sewing-room and the sisters' apartments. The school is an old frame building 44 by 20 feet. Last fall the department had the school painted on the outside, also cleaned and painted inside, which adds very much to its appearance.

Accommodation.—There is accommodation for thirty-five pupils.

Attendance.—The total attendance during the year has been twenty-two, of these sixteen were girls and six were boys. The average attendance for the year has been twenty. We sent one boy to the Wikwemikong industrial school last September.

Class-room Work.—The pupils' course of work is that laid down by the department in its programme of studies.

Industries Taught.—The girls are taught housework, sewing, mending, knitting, cooking, bread-baking, and washing.

The boys do the gardening, all their own chores and go messages (with the approval of the department). When old enough to learn a trade they are sent to Wikwemikong Industrial School.

Moral and Religious Training.—Careful attention is paid to moral and religious training, discipline and order. Punishments are rarely resorted to, the conduct of the pupils being generally good.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the pupils has in general been excellent. With the exception of one little girl who died of consumption, contracted before entering the home, there have been no serious cases of illness. The sanitary condition of the house is very good.

Water Supply and Fire Protection.—By means of a force pump the house is supplied with water from the river. For fire protection we have four Star glass-lined fire extinguishers and two fireman's axes.

Heating.—The building is heated by two furnaces in which wood is burned.

Recreation.—As to recreation of pupils, this is provided for in the play-grounds, where the boys indulge in ball and other games while the girls have games and amusements of their own in their play-grounds and in their recreation room.

We have, &c.,

SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
MOHAWK INSTITUTION,
BRANTFORD, 4th August, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit herewith a report on the Mohawk Institution for the year ending 30th June, 1898.

This institution was established by "The Corporation for Propagating the Gospel in New England," briefly "The New England Company," in the year 1831.

Location.—It is situated a mile and a quarter from the centre of the city of Brantford, most of the farm lying within the city boundary.

Lands occupied by the school comprise 416 acres, of which two hundred (the Mohawk Glebe) are rented.

Buildings.—The buildings are of white brick having a basement, first and second floors, with a third floor in part arranged in case of need as a hospital for contagious diseases.

The basement comprises girls' play-room, boot-room, clothes-room and lavatories, kitchen and dining-rooms for officers and pupils.

The first floor : two school rooms, sewing room, officers' quarters, visiting room and offices.

The second floor : dormitories, and sick rooms in both boys' and girls' departments. The west wing of the building forms the Superintendent's residence.

The laundry, a detached two-story brick building is fully equipped and has shower-baths for the girls.

A detached play-house for the boys. The basement, of brick, contains clothes and dressing-room and a lavatory with shower baths ; the upper story, frame, contains reading, play-rooms and band-room.

All floors are of hardwood, oiled, excepting the play-rooms which have cement floors.

The farm buildings are extensive, having accommodation for sixty cattle and twenty horses, and there are two greenhouses.

Accommodation is provided for one hundred and twenty-five pupils (fifty-five boys and seventy girls).

Attendance.—On the 30th June there were fifty-six boys and seventy-one girls, classified as follows :

Standard I	8 pupils.
" II	10 "
" III	24 "
" IV	20 "
" V	39 "
" VI and advanced	26 "

127

The average attendance for the year was one hundred and twenty-one.

Class-room Work.—Covers the full course of the public schools of Ontario, the public-school leaving examination being the "pass" standard of the school. The work during the past year has been thoroughly satisfactory.

The school hours are from 8.30 to 12 a.m. and from 1.30 to 4 p.m. in summer ; and in winter from 8.45 to 12 a.m., and 1.30 to 4 p.m., and from 7 to 8 p.m.

All pupils in Standards V and VI have private study from 8.30 to 9.30 p.m.

Pupils form two divisions, A. and B.; 1st week A. division attends school in the morning, B. division in the afternoon; 2nd week the order is reversed.

Standard I is in school full time throughout the year and Standard II during the winter months.

One boy obtained a "Commercial" certificate end of second year's course in the Collegiate Institute; he continues his studies at Deseronto. One girl and one boy passed the "entrance" examination.

Farm and Garden.—The farming operations were very successful, showing the balance of \$1,258.85 after defraying the cost of two silos \$300, an addition to the greenhouse \$57.20, a large amount of repairs to buildings and implements and the writing of ten per cent off tools and implements in stock. The cash received from sales was \$2,293.82, and the supplies to the institution \$2,618.47. The value of the stock on hand increased \$217.

Industries Taught.—Industrial work is carried on by the division out of school, *all* pupils being employed from 7 to 8 a.m. and 5 to 6 p.m.

The girls are trained in domestic work, including sewing, knitting, baking, laundrying and butter-making.

Farming and gardening form the principal occupation of the boys, including the management of hot-houses, and a dairy of forty cows.

A few boys are also instructed in carpentry, painting, &c., and under direction of the trade master erect and repair all buildings connected with the institution, the mission stations and schools (nine) on the reserve.

Other boys may be apprenticed to any trade they wish in the city shops.

Nineteen of the boys receive instruction from the bandmaster and form a brass band.

Moral and Religious Training.—Morning and evening prayers are conducted for the whole school daily, and divine service at the Mohawk church at 11 a.m. on Sundays.

Religious instruction is given daily in the schools, and on Sunday from 9 to 10 a.m., 2.30 to 3.30 p.m., and 7 to 8 p.m.

The boys are organized as a company of cadets, divided into four sections under senior boys who are responsible for the cleanliness and order of their respective sections. Four section monitresses exercise similar supervision over the girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The year has been marked by a very serious outbreak of typhoid fever in August and continuing for several months, the last case commencing 31st December.

There were nineteen cases in all, two of which proved fatal. There was also one death from acute tuberculosis. In the preceding twenty-five years there were but five deaths, none of which were from fever. At the present time the health of the pupils is excellent.

No cause could be assigned for the fever, but a complete system of sewers and drains connecting with the main sewer of the city of Brantford has been put in and water-closets have taken the place of dry earth in the girls' department.

Water Supply.—The water is supplied by a wind-mill from a well, and by recent tests has proved to be of excellent quality. To keep up the supply of water rendered necessary by the introduction of water-closets a horse-power has been attached to the wind-mill for use when there is no wind.

Fire Protection.—The buildings are lighted by electricity. Every dormitory is furnished with two or more fire escapes, and for further protection we have one "fire-king," twelve "ever-ready fire-extinguishers," fire grenades in all principal buildings, axes and buckets filled with water in specified places.

Heating.—The buildings are heated throughout with coal furnaces, furnishing a constant supply of warm fresh air, the foul air being removed by heated flues drawing it off the floors.

Recreation.—The recreation hours are one hour at noon, two hours in the evening in summer, and one hour in the winter, and for school-divisions throughout the year from 4 to 5 p.m.; also one half-holiday each week.

There is no school from the 16th July to 21st August, during this time the master and governess take their vacation, each pupil has half a day holiday, the industrial work of the institution goes on as usual.

The boys are furnished in their play-ground with swings and horizontal bars, they also have a field where they play cricket, baseball and football. The girls are provided with swings, croquet, balls, skipping ropes, &c. Those who prefer to read are furnished with magazines and books from the school library, the boys have the daily newspapers sent to their reading-room.

I have, &c.,

R. ASHTON,
Superintendent.

REPORT OF SIX NATION INDIAN RESERVE SCHOOL BOARD.

REPORT on the schools of the School Board, Six Nation Indian Reserve, for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

This board was established in 1878. The present members are:—

E. D. Cameron, Esq., Indian Superintendent, chairman.

Rev. R. Ashton, Superintendent of Mohawk Institute, hon. secretary.

Rev. J. L. Strong, Missionary.

W. Wilkinson, Esq., M.A., Principal of Public Schools, Brantford.

Joab Martin,

J. S. Johnson, } Chiefs of the Six Nations.

Wm. Smith, }

The nine schools are inspected twice a month by the Rev. I. Bearfoot, the board's superintendent. The teachers are all Indians who have been specially trained at the Mohawk institution; one holds a public school certificate, and most of the others have attended a high school for terms varying from one to three years.

Attendance.—The table appended shows an increase of thirteen names on the roll, and of 24.6 in average attendance, and of 4 in the rate per cent of average attendance, making the latter 41.4.

There were two hundred and nineteen school days. Six pupils made full attendance, twenty-six attended two hundred days and over; seventy-four one hundred and fifty and over; two hundred and two, less than fifty days.

Nearly twenty-five per cent of children of school age never enter a school.

The teachers make constant inquiries after absentees, and the board offers to the children money prizes, highest attendance, \$2; next, \$1.50; two hundred days, \$1; one hundred and seventy-five days, 75 cents; one hundred and fifty days, 50 cents.

During the year a brick school-house was erected and opened in section No. 9, at a cost of \$750, exclusive of which the expenditure was \$14.37 per pupil on the average attendance.

REPORT for the year ended 30th June, 1898, Comparative Condition of Schools.

No. of School.	Name of Teacher.	No. on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Rate per cent of average upon Register No.	Number present at Examination.	Standard of Attainment.
1	Mr. E. Bearfoot.....	44	19.6	44.5	21	V 1 IV 3 III 1 II 3 I 13
2	Miss L. Davis.....	58	26.9	46.3	22	III 3 II 5 I 14
3	Mrs. W. Smith.....	51	17.3	33.9	23	IV 3 III 3 II 4 I 13
5	Mrs. M. J. Scott.....	44	20.9	47.5	18	V 2 IV 2 III 3 II 1 I 10
6	Mrs. W. Curley.....	31	10.7	34.5	8	III 2 II 3 I 3
7	Miss N. Latham.....	84	35.1	41.8	43	V 1 IV 1 III 7 II 14 I 20
9	Mr. J. Lickers.....	60	35.4	59.0	35	V 4 IV 6 III 9 II 10 I 6
10	Miss S. Davis.....	62	20.3	32.7	25	VI 1 V 3 IV 3 III 2 II 5 I 11
11	Mr. P. Adams.....	65	20.4	31.4	17	IV 1 III 4 II 6 I 6
	Totals.....	499	206.6	41.4	212	212
Total number in each Standard.....						VI 1 V 11 IV 19 III 34 II 51 I 96

BALANCE SHEET, Year ended 30th June, 1898.

RECEIPTS.	Amount.		Total.
	\$	cts.	\$ cts.
To Balance brought forward.....			782 85
Department of Indian Affairs.....	2,950	00	
Sale of School Building No. 9.....	50	00	
Methodist Conference.....	250	00	
			3,250 00
EXPENDITURE.			4,032 85
By Salaries.....	2,566	17	
Building and grounds.....	796	66	
Fuel.....	122	75	
School requisites.....	53	36	
Printing and office expenses.....	18	78	
Prizes.....	68	75	
Sundries.....	15	30	
School fees.....	13	45	
Insurance.....	47	88	
Bank interest.....	7	49	
			3,710 59
Balance in bank.....			322 26
			4,032 85

R. ASHTON,
Hon. Secretary,

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
MOUNT ELGIN INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTION,
MUNCEY, 25th August, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—In reporting on the condition and prospects of the Mount Elgin Industrial Institution for the year ending 30th June, 1898, I want to say that the magnificent new institution, with all its modern appliances, is greatly admired by visitors from many lands. This, together with the extensive improvements now being carried forward on the outbuildings, to bring them up to the level of the new, has drawn out much commendation from the surrounding public. The high state of cultivation and the wonderful yield of the industrial farm, together with the select quality as well as quantity of live stock, has been greatly admired and is an illustration of the possibilities of the farm.

Farm.—With the best of machinery, down to the latest, the corn harvester; with silos, cold storage, milk separators and steam cooked food for stock, farming is fast becoming little more than a recreation. The comparative ease and brevity with which our boys become familiar with all classes of farming machinery and the care of live stock is highly commendable. It is safe to say that scores of the boys, who have been trained on the farm, and the girls, who have been trained in general house work, laundry and repairing, have and are now filling good positions as a consequence.

Shops.—In regard to the work of the shoe and carpenter shops I cannot speak so hopefully. The introduction of machinery in the manufacture of all styles of boots and

shoes has left but little for the ordinary shoemaker but repairing, and that at greatly reduced prices. The wisdom of learning the trade in the old manner is, to say the most, very doubtful and the trade itself a very unpromising business.

School.—Under our system of careful classification we have all the advantages of a graded school so that two second-class professional teachers have handled an average of over one hundred pupils successfully. Our school days, text books, promotion papers, examinations for entrance to high school and public school leaving, are all the same as the public schools of Ontario, and we are subject to the county school inspection. Our long list of successful competition for the high school entrance examination was increased this year by two who made high marks.

Inspection.—The boys' department, including play-room, lavatory, assembly-room, dormitories and clothing-rooms, is all under daily inspection by the male teacher, while the corresponding inspection of the girls' department is a part of the daily charge of the matron.

Accommodation.—Our Government number of pupils is one hundred, and our average for the year has been slightly in excess of that number. When the two attic dormitories are completed and the kindergarten school department provided for we can accommodate fifteen more girls and a like number more boys. When the present improvements are completed on the outside buildings this summer we hope to undertake the work of reconstructing the old building, so as to furnish kindergarten school accommodation, music hall and hospital, &c., with home for male cook and watchman.

Girls enrolled, fifteen; girls withdrawn, twelve. Boys enrolled, fifteen; boys withdrawn, eighteen.

Our pupils represent eighteen reserves, so that, while we may know their whereabouts for a few months, it is difficult to trace them afterwards.

Religious Training.—The regular family worship and Sabbath school services are rendered more attractive by the alternate reading of the Scriptures, judicious questions, illustrations with the use of the maps, blackboards, charts and plenty of music. We are blessed with a missionary and church on two sides of the institution at less than a mile, to which the pupils go once a Sabbath accompanied by an officer. The church that furnishes the best music and brightest services, with plenty of illustrations, is the drawing card.

Heating and Fire Protection.—The building is heated with hot water, and is provided with a complete system of hose and chemicals on each flat as a protection against fire.

I have, &c.,

W. W. SHEPHERD,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

SHINGWAUK HOUSE,

SAULT STE. MARIE, 6th September, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report of the Shingwauk Industrial School for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location.—The Shingwauk Industrial School is situated on the banks of the St. Mary's River, one and a-half miles east of the town of Sault Ste. Marie, in the province of Ontario.

Land.—The area of land in connection therewith is ninety acres, which is the property of the school.

Buildings.—The buildings consist of: Shingwauk Home, main block 74 x 37 ft., three stories; north wing, 21 x 27 ft., three stories; west wing, 32 x 30 ft., two stories; bake-kitchen, 24 x 16 ft., one story; south-east corner wing (principal's residence), 38 ft. 6 in. x 48 ft. 6 in., two stories; visitors' entrance hall on southwest corner, 17 ft. 6 in. x 17 ft. 2 in., one story; drill hall and school, 30 x 60 ft., two stories; chapel, nave and chancel, 57 ft. x 30 ft.; vestry, 7 x 11 ft.; porch at west end, 10 x 14 ft.; industrial building, 30 ft. 6 in. x 20 ft. 6 in., two stories, and 20 ft. 6 in. x 36 ft., one story; factory, 24 ft. x 40, two stories, 14 x 24 ft., one story; hospital, 20 ft. 6 in. x 20 ft., two stories; hospital kitchen, 12 x 12 ft., one story; cottage, 29 ft. 6 in. x 20 ft., one story; cottage wood-shed, 12 x 10 ft., one story; band-stand, 7 ft. 6 in., diameter inside; dairy, 27 ft. 6 in. x 21 ft.; stables and loft, 20 ft. 6 in. x 43 ft. 6 in.; cart shed, 16 x 40 ft.; wood shed, 24 x 16 ft.; farm cottage, 31 x 18 ft. 6 in., one story; barn and cow stabling, 35 x 50 ft.; carpenter's cottage, 24 x 16 ft., two stories; 24 x 14 ft., one story; closets, 16 x 16 ft.

Accommodation.—Under present arrangements there is sleeping accommodation for sixty-five boys; in other respects, school-rooms, dining hall, &c., ninety pupils could easily be accommodated.

Attendance.—The total attendance at the school during the year was seventy-three, fifteen boys were admitted, and five were discharged. The average daily attendance was sixty-four.

Class-room Work.—The school is divided into senior and junior schools, under the tuition of two male teachers in separate buildings.

The majority of our pupils during the past year were in the former. The subjects taught are: Scripture, arithmetic, geography, history, grammar, reading, spelling, writing and drawing. The hours of attendance are from 8.30 to 12 and 1.30 to 5 p.m. with fifteen minutes for recess in the middle of each session. There is also an hour of study from 7 to 8 p.m., Wednesdays and Saturdays excepted. Satisfactory progress was made in both schools.

The standing of pupils at present in attendance is as follows:—

10	boys	in	Standard	I.	reading	Book	I.,	Part	I.
24	"	"	"	I.	"	"	I.	"	II.
14	"	"	"	II.					
12	"	"	"	III.					
8	"	"	"	IV.					

Industries Taught.—The following industries have been in operation during the past year: Carpentering, farming, shoe-making, tailoring, and for a time, weaving.

Our carpenter boys under the supervision of a competent foreman, have been steadily occupied in repairs and renovations to the various buildings comprising the Shingwauk Home, and deserve great credit for the effective manner in which their work has been carried out. Every branch of carpentry work is taught, from the dressing of a board to the building of a house. Our shop is well supplied with all necessary tools, a steam plant for sawing, planing-mills, &c.

The farm is worked by a number of boys with a practical farmer in charge. About forty acres are under cultivation, twenty of which consists of hay land. The soil is light and is only worked to advantage when, like last year, the season is a particularly good one. Sufficient roots and vegetables for our requirements and fodder for the use of the cattle were raised. In winter, besides the care of stock, the farmer and his boys are engaged in teaming, chopping, and sawing of wood for the institution. Our funds not permitting the employment of a professional shoemaker, the shoe-shop has been in charge of two of our senior boys. All the patching and repairing of boots and shoes and shoe-packs for the school has been done in this department, with the exception of about \$9 paid out for work done during part of vacation. With the exception of new uniforms (contracted for), all the sewing of the institution, patching and mending has

been done in our tailor shop, as well as the making up of new material into coats, trousers and vests for everyday wear.

Moral and Religious Training.—The religious training is that of the Church of England. Two services are conducted each Sunday in the Shingwauk chapel, except when the pupils attend St. Luke's pro-cathedral in town, which has been frequently the case during the year. Morning and evening prayers are held in the school-room every day, and Sunday-school on Sunday afternoons. The pupils are well-behaved and reverent during the services. Nine boys were confirmed in May. The conduct of the pupils generally has been very good. Methods of punishment adopted are fines, impositions and keeping in to work on half-holidays. Corporal punishment is administered in cases of gross disobedience only, and as a last resource.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—With the exception of one boy who was laid up seven weeks in an hospital suffering from pelvic scrofula, the health of the pupils during the year has been very satisfactory. The sanitary conditions of the school is good. Drains are kept clean and regularly flushed. Lime and other disinfectants are used. All large refuse is placed in a barrel and carted to the farm daily.

Water Supply.—An excellent supply of water is obtained from the river, and is pumped by steam power through iron pipes into large tanks placed on the roof of the main building and laundry.

Fire Protection.—Hydrants are situated at convenient distances outside of the main building and on each flat of the interior, to which fifty feet of hose with nozzle kept ready for use in case of fire can be readily attached. The home is also supplied with four chemical fire-engines and fireman's axes.

Heating.—The main building is heated throughout by a hot water system. The system is satisfactory. Wood stoves are used for heating the factory, boot shop, senior school room, laundry, hospital and other detached buildings.

Recreation of Pupils.—Outdoor games are encouraged and freely indulged in by the pupils.

In summer the chief recreations are football and baseball. Indoor games are provided in the winter, but skating on the St. Mary's River is the principal attraction.

I have, &c.,

GEO. LEY KING,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

WIKWEMIKONG INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,

WIKWEMIKONG, 1st July, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report on this institution for the past year.

Location.—This industrial school is located on the unceded part of Manitoulin Island, ten miles north of Manitowaning Agency, in the Wikwemikong village, on the hillside which forms the west shore of Smith Bay. The school is operated in connection with the mission, and the Indians some years ago granted us the use of about two hundred acres of land for the support of both institutions together.

Buildings.—The boys and girls are educated in two different institutions, about two hundred yards apart, which are managed by two separate staffs of men and women

respectively, under the common superintendence of the principal. The boys' school is a two-story frame building 50 x 100 feet; it contains on the first floor two class-rooms each 24 x 40 feet, one of which is allotted to the day scholars, and a play-room 48 x 40 feet, with a hall between. On the upper floor is the dormitory with a floor area of 3,250 square feet; the infirmary, the dining room and the wardrobe. The staff have their lodgings in the mission building, in which are also the kitchen, the chapel, the library, &c. The girls' school is also a frame building 108 x 50 feet; on the first floor is a class room 40 x 20 feet for the day scholars, the dining room for the girls and another one for the staff; the kitchen and two parlours. On the second floor is another class room 40 x 20 feet; the chapel; a sewing-room and rooms for the staff. On the third floor are the dormitories and wardrobes. A new wash-house has been finished during the year, a two-story frame building 40 x 50 feet. Towards the shore stand the blacksmith, tinsmith, and paint shops combined. Close to the shore is the carpenter shop in connection with the saw-mill, and wood-working machinery for planing, matching, turning, making mouldings, doors and sashes, &c. The shoemaker shop and the bakery are in the old mission building. There are, besides, in connection with the farm three barns with spacious stables in the basement of each, piggeries, henneries, a silo, and sheds for agricultural implements and carriages.

The grounds adjacent to the schools and for the immediate use of the pupils are rather limited, and cannot be easily enlarged on account of the hilly nature of the land and the neighbours that surround the school property; but the pupils have the use of a large football ground for their sports, at a distance of half a mile, besides an unlimited tract of wooded land for their promenades.

Accommodation.—No more than sixty boys can be accommodated in the school proper, but, using vacant rooms in the mission buildings, we could accommodate comfortably ninety boys altogether. There is accommodation for about sixty girls.

Attendance.—We have had present in the course of the year sixty boys and fifty girls, making a total of 110 pupils. The department allows a grant of \$60 per capita for ninety pupils only, the balance of twenty pupils are provided for at the expense of the mission.

Class-room Work.—The class-room work is governed by the official programme of studies for Indian schools. The time appointed for it is from 9 to 11.30 a.m., and from 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m., with a short recess in the middle of each session. There is also another hour of study at 7 p.m. for religious instruction and private work such as reading, letter writing, &c. The boys of the 5th Standard were present in class only $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours, the rest of the time being employed at their trades. All the girls attend class the full time, except such as are detained by turn to help in the general housework. The pupils are about equally divided into four sections and are under the tuition of four different teachers. The lower grades are taught in the same room with the day scholars. The annual entertainment at Christmas and the public examination held at the close of the year were well appreciated.

Farm and Garden.—About a hundred acres of the land at our disposal are tilled and the rest is used as a pasture. The farm is managed with a view of supplying the mission and school with meat, vegetables, milk and butter. The quality of the land is fairly good, but very stony. The farm is well stocked with cattle, sheep, horses, hogs, and chickens. The work is done partly by the boys with the help of Indian workmen. About two acres are laid out and cultivated as a kitchen garden.

Industries Taught.—Boys in the 5th Standard are trained to different industries from 7 to 9 a.m., and from 4.30 to 6 p.m. We had this year five carpenters, two shoemakers and sixteen farmers. Our trade instructor for tinsmithing and blacksmithing died last fall and was not replaced, chiefly because experience proved that our young men, owing to particular circumstances of the village, drew very little benefit from those trades.

Besides this special training given to a limited number of boys, all the other pupils are employed three hours daily, each one according to sex and ability, at various kinds of labour, such as sweeping, scrubbing, washing, sawing and splitting wood, dairying

gardening, stock-feeding, helping in the kitchen, in the mill, on the farm, &c. They like these various occupations and become quite industrious.

The laundry work has been done at the girls' school, and so far under very trying circumstances, there being no sufficient supply of soft water and no other appliances but the tub and washboard. We are now erecting a wind-mill and a tank that will supply the water necessary to the whole institution. A grant of \$2,125 has been made by the Department of Indian Affairs for this object. A boiler for steam heating and drying is already in use to the great satisfaction of the ladies in charge of the girls' department.

Morals and Religion.—The pupils are instructed very carefully in morals and religion by the missionaries themselves, and I am pleased to say that the general conduct has been good, and but few punishments had to be administered last year. The discipline is enforced almost exclusively by means of religious exhortation, prizes and distinctions of honour. However, the scattering of the boys all over the premises for their daily work and industrial training, has a tendency towards weakening their spirit of obedience and relaxing the discipline. They attend all the religious services held in the parish church and receive twice a week special religious and moral instruction.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the pupils has been generally good until early in the spring, when we had several cases of influenza. All recovered with the exception of one boy, who is yet very sick.

The sanitary condition of both schools is good, owing to their healthy location and their general arrangement. There are infirmaries provided for those who may be unwell at times. No refuse matter is allowed to decay around the premises. A new system of ventilation has been placed in the boys' school, which works fairly satisfactorily.

Water Supply.—A new system of water supply is now in course of erection, with wind-mill and tank, as already said.

Fire Protection.—The principal protection against fire will be the new wind-mill and tank for water supply. Besides we have ten Star fire extinguishers, five firemen's axes and buckets full of sand against lamp explosions, all of which are distributed in the various rooms of the school. There are also barrels full of water and buckets on the upper floors.

Heating.—Both schools are heated with box stoves and kept quite comfortable.

Recreation.—Two hours daily, besides Saturday afternoon, are given exclusively to recreation. On the Saturday of each month all pupils who have deserved it by their good conduct are allowed to spend the day at home or with relatives or friends. Both schools have good playgrounds, although small, furnished with suitable games and gymnastic appliances. The boys' favourite game is football; they also take much interest in gymnastic exercises. The girls love the swing better and other quieter amusements. They have also play-halls for rainy weather, winter and evening recreations.

General Remarks.—The pupils progressed this year very much in general good manners. They are docile and pleased with their stay at school.

English alone is allowed in the school, and most of the older pupils speak it quite fluently.

The institution is becoming more and more popular among the Indians and many are very anxious to place their children here, and they bear very impatiently the delay of two or three years imposed upon them, for the want of room, or rather for want of means to support a larger number of pupils.

I have, &c.,

G. A. ARTUS, S.J.,

Principal.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,

BRANDON INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,

BRANDON, 1st July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—The Brandon industrial school is situated about two and seven-eighths miles north-west of the city whose name it bears. It is two-thirds of the way up the hill which must have formed the bank of the Assiniboine River in earlier days. The farm, in the midst of which the school has been built, has three hundred and twenty acres of land, about two hundred of which are available for purposes of cultivation. The remainder, which is unbroken, is made up of barren hill-sides, spring creeks and lakelets. Nearly two hundred acres are under tillage this year, and present appearances indicate an excellent return.

Buildings.—The buildings at present erected and in use are as follows:—

Principal's residence, 32 x 28 feet, ten rooms.

Assistant principal's residence, 22 x 28 feet, five rooms.

Farmer's residence, 18 x 30 feet, six rooms.

Carpenter's shop, 20 x 30 feet, with store-room overhead.

Ice-house, 14 x 20 feet, capable of holding fifty tons of ice.

Root-house, 60 x 30 feet, " eight hundred bushels of roots.

Laundry, 30 x 33 feet.

Bake-house, 23 x 16 feet.

School-room, 30 x 33 feet.

Barn and stable, 80 x 36 feet.

Main building, 93 x 93 feet.

In this last mentioned which is the Institute proper, there is accommodation for nine members of staff, and also for one hundred and twenty-five children. This is a large, convenient and substantial edifice, ninety-three feet front, ninety-three feet in depth, and thirty feet in width, has an excellent stone basement surmounted by two storeys of brick veneer, and one story covered by mansard roof.

Within are two class-rooms, two dormitories, two play-rooms, one dining-room, one kitchen, one buttery, one pantry, two wash-rooms, two bath-rooms, one store-room, two closet-rooms, two cold air rooms, three furnace-rooms, one wood-room, one coal-room, and nine rooms for the accommodation of the members of the staff.

During the past year a laundry-room and an extra school-room have been added. The whole building as at present constituted is valued at \$31,000.

Accommodation.—There is accommodation here for nine single members of the staff, allowing one large, airy room for each person. There is sufficient dormitory room for fifty girls on the second floor, and the third floor will allow us to place seventy-five beds for boys. The two school-rooms have accommodation for one hundred pupils. Supposing that thirty-five would be on duty at any one time, it is considered that the school has sufficient room for one hundred and twenty-five pupils.

Attendance.—The total attendance at the school during the year has been eighty-three. Of these forty-two are boys from nine to eighteen years of age. Forty-one of our number are girls, at ages ranging from seven to eighteen years. The average attendance at the school for the year has been 74.5.

Class-room Work.—Class work is the same both morning and afternoon, and consists of reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling, drilling and calisthenics. Very few of the children can attend school through the whole of the day, owing to the duties claiming their attention here and there about the farm.

Grade of Pupils.—Standard I, 21 ; Standard II, 22 ; Standard III, 35 ; Standard IV, 5.

Besides the class work immediately connected with the school, there are regular lessons given each day in sewing, cooking, baking, laundry work, dining-room work and general housekeeping. There are also classes under the direction of the farmer and the carpenter, and the assistant matron.

The hours observed in the school proper are from 9 to 12, and from 1.30 to 4.

Work hours for pupils are from 8 to 12, and from 1 to 5. No child is required to work more than half a day, unless under the most pressing circumstances and at rare intervals, and they are then consulted and asked if they will work during the extra hours.

Farm and Garden.—The farm consists of three hundred and twenty acres, which are disposed of in the following proportions :—

	Acres.
Uncultivated land	100
Pasture land	60
Unreclaimable land	48
Fallow land	27
Sown in wheat	25
Sown with vegetables	10
" oats	25
" millet or grass	25
The crops reaped last year are as follows :—	
Bushels of wheat	250
" oats	300
" potatoes	500
" turnips	300
" mangels	400
" beets	40
Tons of hay	15

It is our purpose to devote increasing attention to the growth of garden produce, inasmuch as the boys may never become extensive grain growers, but all of them may grow roots with a minimum of labour and a maximum of profit.

Industrial Work.—The exercises under this heading are conducted within somewhat narrow lines. The boys' duties consist of labour in the fields, construction of fences, care of stock, care of horses, the duties of the carpenter's shop, mending clothes and the baking of bread.

The duties of the girls consist of sewing, cooking, dairy work, dining-room work, and general housekeeping.

It is pleasant to be able to refer to the pupils as being obedient and willing to work. They have also evinced no ordinary degree of ability along industrial lines.

Moral and Religious Training.—The following is a list of the services held for the moral benefit of the pupils of our school :—

1. Prayers after breakfast in the school-room.
2. School is opened every day with prayer.
3. The singing of hymns is frequently interspersed with the duties of the day.
4. Public prayers held every evening at 8 o'clock.
5. Private prayers are frequently held in the dormitory and with the sick children in the hospital room.

On Sabbath morning those of the pupils who so desire are permitted to attend the church in the city. In the afternoon of the Lord's Day we have a Sabbath school service for the benefit of all.

At the close of the Sabbath we have a service of song and prayer and exhortation attended by all the pupils.

With rare exceptions the conduct of our pupils has been very good indeed. They manifest a good deal of carelessness, but there is nothing in the conduct of those who

are now with us that can be called malicious. At times they are cunning, and sometimes forgetful, but speaking generally they are submissive and faithful. Severe punishment has seldom been administered. We have kept within the lines of our written instructions in all matters pertaining to corporal punishment. Conversations have been held with the erring ones, in which the right and the wrong have been clearly defined. Those who have done wrong have been put upon their honour and have been taught to make apology to those whom they have injured. In this way efforts have been made to build up an intelligent and conscientious moral nature.

Health of the Pupils.—The average health of the pupils during the year has been very good, and through the mercy of a kind Providence no child has died. There have been serious cases of sickness, three cases of scarlet fever have developed from time to time. There has been one case of inflammation of the lungs. Hemorrhages, more or less serious, have occurred. There has been an epidemic of chicken-pox. There is at present but one person sick and it is feared that her case may be serious enough to warrant her return to the reserve. Everything is being done to mitigate suffering; but consumption seems once more to be doing its deadly work, with the usual symptoms of physical distress and mental unrest.

A number have been taken to their homes during the year, and pleasing contrasts in manners and general appearance has helped our zeal and awakened feelings of respect for our work in the minds of observers.

Sanitary Conditions.—Under this head reference may be made to the excellent facilities afforded for ventilation, drainage and the removal of waste matter. All our windows can be lifted from the bottom and pulled down from the top, thus admitting free and ample circulation of air. In the winter when the storm sash is on, the Smead-Dowd system draws off the cold air from the floor and supplies an abundant supply of fresh air which has first been heated by the large furnaces. Direct vents opened into the foul air flue have much improved the general condition of things in this respect.

All waste water is conveyed into the main sewer underneath the basement floor and thence to a cesspool one thousand one hundred feet south-west of the main building. A wind-mill keeps the catch basin empty and the drainage clear.

Hospital Accommodation.—We have also hospital accommodation for both boys and girls in the north-west corner of the building, where it is possible for us to isolate all serious cases when danger of infection or contagion is feared. Great care is exercised, where there is anything resembling scrofula, to keep the patients from the wash dishes and towels used by healthy pupils. Our school is remarkably free from this scourge because children showing signs of this disease have been systematically refused admission. Due regard is also had to both quality and quantity of food supplied so as not to occasion physical disturbance either by over-richness of articles of diet or by over-indulgence in the good things placed upon the table.

Our surgeon has been regularly in attendance when required, and both skill and diligence have frequently been called into exercise in the treatment of the several ailments which have befallen the pupils during the year.

Water Supply.—A well on the hillside has afforded us a never-failing supply of excellent water. A powerful air motor wind-mill, sixty feet above the ground level, pumps the water into two tanks having a capacity of one thousand gallons each. From these the water supply is distributed by means of lead pipes to all parts of the building. On every floor we have fifty feet of hose connected and nozzled, and behind these is all the pressure of the quantity contained in the tanks.

Fire Protection.—Every possible precaution is taken against danger from fire. Two Babcock extinguishers, three Star extinguishers, and twelve Canadian extinguishers, charged and ready for action, are placed at strategic points throughout the building. Forty-eight hand-grenades are distributed wherever it is thought they might be most required. Thirty-six pails of water are placed in groups of four throughout the building. Hose attachments are found in the basement, in the kitchen and in the several halls of the building; and hose, ample in length and size, is hung at convenient points so as to be in readiness for emergencies. It is difficult to see how with all these appliances fire could attain very great headway.

Heating.—The building is heated exclusively by hot air to most of the private rooms by furnaces manufactured by McClary of London, and by Stewart, Burrow & Milne, of Hamilton. The class-rooms, dormitories and halls are heated by two large Smead-Dowd furnaces. There has been no trouble whatever in heating the building sufficiently, only the amount of fuel, always very great, has increased considerably during the past winter. I attribute this to the fact that as the building grows older, cracks and openings increase, making it more necessary to run the furnaces at high pressure.

Recreation.—For the physical development of the pupils of our school there have been provided games and amusements of sufficient variety. Swings have been built on both boys' and girls' sides. A large double croquet set has been provided for the amusement of the girls. Football and lacrosse are among the special attractions afforded for the boys. The one game which seems to be popular with the boys is football; but the girls pay most attention to their swing. The boys are looking forward very anxiously to the time when they shall be able to organize a brass band. This is looked upon as the climax of prospective advantage.

General Remarks.—While recognizing with pleasure and gratitude the kind and ample support given to our work by the department during the past year, we desire to give expression to the earnest hope that we may be authorized to proceed with the erection of the building at the rear commenced during the past year. We are very much in need of extra room, especially in the upper story, and we earnestly hope that we may be directed to proceed in this direction at an early date.

I must not close my report without making due recognition of the valuable help afforded by the several members of the staff whose individual exertions have contributed no little towards the success attained during the year. Special mention might very properly be made of certain members of the staff, but suffice it to say that taking them as a whole we have very little to complain of and very much to commend.

Last season the great difficulty in our way seemed to be the unwillingness of the parents to send their children to the Brandon industrial school owing to its remoteness. This has been rather increased in the experience of the past year. It is claimed that boarding schools are to be erected on the principal reserves, around Lake Winnipeg, and the people are convinced that it would not be wise to send their children to distant points when there are good schools at their doors. Applications for admission are being made from beyond the treaty limits in advance of our power to accommodate. This change of front has, I believe, resulted mainly from the letters which the children themselves have written home, and some who have returned from the school to their homes have spoken so well of it that numbers are trying to have their names entered as prospective pupils.

Gratified at the effective work already done, and hopeful that future action may far outdo the efficiency of the past.

I have, &c.,

JOHN SEMMENS,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,
ELKHORN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,

ELKHORN, 27th August, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I herewith have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Buildings.—During the past year we have still occupied the buildings which were rented after the disastrous fire of 13th November, 1895, when the Boys' Home was the only building left standing. As, however, we hope in a very short time to take possession of the magnificent home which has been erected for us, I purpose now giving a description of the same.

The new home is situated about one-quarter of a mile from the town of Elkhorn and stands in about the centre of what was formerly known as the Gore, a level piece of excellent turf some forty-two acres in extent and bounded on one side by the Canadian Pacific Railway main line. West of this land and immediately adjoining it lies our farm of 320 acres, which contains excellent pasturage and wheat land.

The main building fronting the town possesses a large back wing and a smaller front wing. It is a three-storied building with basement on stone foundation, having frame walls with brick veneer and a mansard roof covered with metallic shingles, deck of same being covered with galvanized iron. It possesses an octagon shaped bell-tower also covered with metallic shingles. Its dimensions are as follows:—

Main building 32 ft. x 113 ft., back wing 32 x 40, front wing 6 x 32, height from ground to top roof 46 ft., bell-tower 26 ft. x 6 ft. (average diameter).

The basement is floored with cement and contains two large rain water tanks of solid brick, plastered with cement, two store-rooms, a large boiler-room, two lavatories, a pantry and one large extra room 32 ft. square.

On the first floor are the two school-rooms, one at each end of the main building and each measuring 24 ft. x 32 ft.

In the back wing of the same floor is the dining-room, 32 ft. x 34 ft., while the remainder of the floor contains the kitchen, office, reception-room and two spare rooms.

The second and third floors contain each two large dormitories 32 ft. x 36 ft. and a large number of smaller rooms to be used as sick-rooms and for the accommodation of the staff, while the third floor also contains a large water tank lined with lead.

Particular attention has been paid to the matter of stairways and exits. There are two large main stairs running from basement to top floor, one back stair from basement to top floor, and one front stair from first floor to second floor.

There are no less than eight separate exits from the ground floor and three from the basement, while two wrought-iron fire-escapes run from top to bottom of the outside of the building. Not the least noticeable thing about the building is the finished appearance of the inside. Hardwood floors have been put in each of the three stories, while all the corridors, halls and large rooms have a wainscoting of beautifully grained fir. All the woodwork has had several coats of oil and varnish which considerably brightens the interior and makes a fine contrast to the plaster above.

One of the most pleasing features in connection with the building is the fact that a large amount of the carpenter work has been done by our own Indian boys. In all, nine boys have done steady work there, which has included work on the construction outside, the lathing of the whole building, the making of a large number of the frames' sashes and stairs and also a part of the finer work known as "finishing."

The foreman, Mr. Manson, speaks most highly of their work and states that they have given him complete satisfaction. The names of these boys are: J. J. Stevenson,

J. H. Thomas, H. Cook, A. Smith, J. Brass, A. Brass, J. Bunn, Joseph Thomas and A. W. Anderson. Mr. Manson also states that as workmen some of them are now worth two dollars a day.

Accommodation.—Our new home will accommodate one hundred children.

Attendance.—There are now eighty-two pupils on the roll, with a daily attendance of seventy. These numbers are below our previous average, but it was thought wiser to obtain new pupils when we enter our new building than to obtain them in numbers during the past year and thus to overcrowd the temporary buildings we now occupy.

Class-room Work.—In the school-room the system of shortened hours has been maintained, as the same room has to do duty as a dining-hall and the children naturally require some time to prepare the room for use as a class-room.

During the past year Victoria Sutherland, one of the senior pupils, has been acting as pupil-teacher and has made most excellent progress in her work with the junior standards. After the change of buildings is made she will take the position of assistant teacher and have charge of one of the two school-rooms which will then be used. In the senior standards there has been good, steady progress. Arithmetic, reading and composition are all good and a good deal of progress has been made in geography, history and other subjects.

Farm and Garden.—We have now about six acres planted in potatoes and other vegetables and a very fair crop is expected. All the junior boys help with this branch of the work as well as a few of the seniors. As we have not yet received the necessary implements and teams with which to work our wheat land, this has been let on the share-system to a neighbouring farmer. He with the help of some of the boys has put in about fifty acres of wheat, which promise a fairly good yield.

INDUSTRIES TAUGHT.

Boot-making.—Very good progress has been made by the pupils working in this shop, instruction being still received by them although the shop is no longer in connection with the institution.

Printing.—In this office which is in a like manner no longer under the control of the institution, steady work has been done by the pupils. Job-work is done of a most varied nature and the *Elkhorn Advocate*, a weekly local paper, is issued from this office. All the mechanical work, from the original type-setting to the proof-correcting, being done by the boys.

Carpentry.—Most excellent progress has been made by the pupils in this shop under the foremanship of J. Cook, an ex-pupil of the institution. As previously mentioned, a great deal of the work on the new buildings has been done by the boys, while in the shop itself cabinet-making, all branches of the wheelwright's art, and repairing of every description has been taught.

Harness-making.—Charles Macdonald, Angus Anderson and Francis Brass have been working steadily at this trade in the local harness store, and their employer speaks most highly of the progress made by them.

Girls, Industrial Training.—The girls receive instruction in knitting, sewing and dressmaking at the hands of a competent resident dressmaker. They perform all the necessary household work, and among other branches are thoroughly taught the cooking and laundry work. Many of the girls are becoming most competent in the work, and I consider the results obtained from them as reflecting great credit on the work done.

Moral and Religious Training.—Prayers are held morning and evening in the school-room. On Sundays the children attend St. Mark's Church, the rector of which also holds a weekly Bible-class in the home. Sunday school is held in the institution for the junior pupils, the seniors attending the town school. A number of the pupils are regular communicants, while all of them take considerable interest in their religious training. The conduct of the children during the past year has been very good indeed. Punishments have been of rare occurrence and no serious offences have been committed.

Both girls and boys have their time fully taken up with either work or play, and thus the main incentive to wrong-doing is done away with.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—During the year we have been almost entirely free from any sickness of a serious nature and we hope under new conditions to maintain and if possible improve this satisfactory state of affairs.

It is impossible to speak definitely of the sanitary condition of the new buildings yet, but this will be noticed in our next year's report.

Water Supply.—The water supply at the new buildings is excellent, water being obtained at a depth of ten feet.

Fire Protection.—There is a well organized fire brigade in the institution, the boys receiving weekly drill. In the new buildings the McCrobie fire extinguishing apparatus has been placed. This consists of a large chemical in the basement with a hundred feet of hose on each floor. At a recent trial 198 lbs. of pressure was produced in 25 seconds and a stream of water thrown to a height of 85 ft., so that any part of the building can be played upon in a very short period of time after the discovery of fire.

Heating.—The heating will be done by a system of hot water pipes, but as they have not yet been placed in the building I cannot speak definitely of the working of the system.

Recreation.—Sports are encouraged in the home in every possible way. This year the football team has again succeeded in winning the district championship and has thus become the owner of the fine cup held by it last year. In the winter skating and hockey are favourite amusements of the boys. The girls have their own playground. Their chief games are croquet and others of a similar nature, while some slight variation is given them in the way of walks and picnics on the prairie.

The band has made most excellent progress during the past year, and in the early part of the summer successfully undertook several engagements to play at other towns where in every case the report of both the boys' playing and of their conduct while away from home was most satisfactory.

General Remarks.—During the past year there has been steady progress in the work done by the children, and we trust under the more favourable conditions which lie before us to materially increase this progress.

I have, &c.,

A. E. WILSON,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,
PINE CREEK BOARDING SCHOOL,
WINNIPEGOSIS POST OFFICE, 1st July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour of submitting my report on the Pine Creek school for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location.—The Pine Creek school is located at the mouth of the Pine Creek River on the shore of Lake Winnipegosis.

Land.—There are one hundred and sixty acres of land connected with the school which belong to the Roman Catholic mission.

Buildings.—The class-room is 30 x 25 ft. the dormitory for the girls 32 x 15, the boys' dormitory 18 x 15, the kitchen 13 x 15, the recreation hall 18 x 20, the working room 20 x 18, the chapel 26 x 22.

Attendance.—With few exceptions the attendance is very good.

Class-room Work.—Most of the children work very well.

Farm and Garden.—Five acres of land are under cultivation. Potatoes and barley are our principal products. We have in our garden onions, pease, beets, carrots, rhubarb and lettuce.

Industries Taught.—The boys are taught farming, gardening, haying, raising cattle and care of horses. The girls are taught sewing, knitting, cooking, washing, dairy work and care of poultry.

Moral and Religious Training.—Every day there is one hour for religious training.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—All the boarders have enjoyed good health during the whole year. There was no serious illness. A little cold now and then, fever and bile were the only things we had to contend with. The buildings are well aired, and the exercise is plentiful.

Water Supply.—The river and the lake supply the water.

Heating.—The buildings are heated by ordinary stoves.

Recreation.—The children have recreation after breakfast, at noon, at four o'clock and after supper.

I have, &c.,

A. CHAUMONT, Ptre., O.M.I.,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE BOARDING SCHOOL,

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, 9th November, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward to you herewith, the annual report of the Portage la Prairie boarding school up to the 30th June last.

Location of School.—The school is located at the extreme east end of the town.

Area of Land.—The land in connection with the school consists of twelve lots which surround the buildings.

Buildings.—The buildings comprise one dwelling-house with eleven rooms, woodshed, play-room and school-house adjoining.

Attendance.—The average attendance for the past year is thirty-two.

Class-room Work.—The classes range from Standard I to Standard V, and the progress made in class work during the year has been satisfactory.

Industries.—Gardening is taught, and the girls are trained in all branches of domestic work. A number of pupils are now out at service and are giving satisfaction.

Moral and Religion Training.—Careful attention is paid to the moral and religious welfare of the pupils.

Sanitary Condition.—The sanitary condition of the surroundings has been carefully attended to and the health of the pupils is good.

Water Supply.—The water supply is excellent and the fire protection good.

Heating.—The building is heated by a wood furnace.

Recreation.—Out-door exercise is insisted upon, and all recreation necessary for the health of the pupils is allowed.

I have, &c.,

ANNIE FRASER,
Principal, (per BESSIE WALKER).

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,

RAT PORTAGE BOARDING SCHOOL,

RAT PORTAGE, ONT., 1st July, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report on the Rat Portage boarding school for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Opening of School.—This school was opened towards the end of the last fiscal year, in the month of May, 1897. The present commodious structure, however, was not ready for occupation till the fall of the same year, but the work of the school was carried on in buildings already existing on the property. The present is the first annual report in connection with the school.

Location.—This school is situated near the town of Rat Portage, on the shores of the far-famed Lake of the Woods. A narrow inlet separates the property from the town proper and secures privacy. For scenic effect a more beautiful location could not be desired. It was the purpose of the management to erect a structure worthy of its surroundings and of its destination, and, judging from popular comment, the object in view has been fairly well attained.

Land.—There are fifty-one acres of land in connection with the school, the property of the Catholic mission.

Buildings.—The new building is frame with brick veneer. It is composed of a main body 36 x 30 feet, three stories high and an extension 36 x 26 feet, two stories high, the whole resting on a stone foundation. The interior is plaster finish, except the ceilings which are of wood. Sufficient room has been provided in the basement for furnaces and cellar. A summer kitchen 16 x 14 has been added to the rear of the building during the present year.

A temporary store-house and shed was put up at the time the house was built.

Besides these new buildings there is a cottage 20 x 16 feet, two stories high and stone foundation, with kitchen and wood-shed attached; also a carpenter's shop 20 x 14 feet. These buildings were on the property when purchased by the mission. The cottage has been thoroughly renovated and will likely become the principal's quarters.

Accommodation.—There is suitable accommodation for forty children in the institution. The upper flats are dormitories for boys and girls respectively. The second flat of the main building comprises office, principal's room, infirmary, girls' sewing and recreation-room. On the first floor are found the parlour, chapel, class-room, children's dining-room, private dining-room, pantry and boys' recreation-hall.

Attendance.—The number of children on the roll for last quarter was twenty-nine, and the average attendance for the year was eighteen.

Class Work.—The class-room is finely equipped with desks of the latest design, and a wall blackboard extending around two sides of the room. The work of the class-room

extends over the three first standards. Boys and girls are taken to class alternately, and the hours being short little excuse is found for absence. The children like to go to class, and as a rule, are very attentive and diligent.

Farm and Garden.—A vegetable garden was put in this spring, which entailed much labour, as most of the land had to be cleared for the purpose.

Industries Taught.—The boys are exercised in all the occupations that go to the making and keeping of a country home. The principal aim is to instil into them habits of industry. Very gratifying progress is noticeable in this line. The girls, under the supervision of a competent matron, attend to all the duties of good housekeeping. They also do considerable hand and machine sewing, and a seamstress directs them in this department.

Moral and Religious Training.—The moral training of the children is the object of continued attention and vigilance. The spy system, though, is discounted as much as possible and individual conscience and character gradually built up. The children attend devotional exercises morning and evening in the chapel, and religious instruction is given them every evening in their own language. About half of the children admitted were heathens, and four of the best prepared have been admitted to baptism at their own request during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Barring a few cases of a scrofulous nature, on account of which the discharge of one boy was called for, the health of the children has been excellent. The physique of the children has notably improved during the few months of their stay here.

The sanitary conditions of the school are, I believe, all that could be desired. The grounds are dry, the house is roomy, bright, clean and well ventilated.

Water Supply.—The water is supplied from the lake and is hauled to the house by horse and cart. It is not very good during the hot season.

Fire Protection.—No special provision has yet been made in the way of fire protection. There is easy access from the girls' dormitory on the third floor to the flat roof of the extension, and there are several ladders around the house.

Heating.—The building is heated by two hot air furnaces which give great satisfaction so far. In addition there is a stove in the boys' hall.

Recreation.—One hour is allowed for recreation at noon and the same in the evening. In summer an extra half hour is granted in the evening. Skating and coasting are the boys' principal amusements in winter. Bathing and boating are favourite pastimes during the summer season.

General Remarks.—Periodical visits from our genial inspector, Mr. J. A. Levêque, have had a tendency to stimulate the class work and encourage the efforts of the management. Our boys took part in the cantata "Esther" which was so successfully rendered in Rat Portage last winter, and acquitted themselves very creditably. The majority of our children have good voices, and they have already mastered several pieces of the ordinary school repertoire. The singing of hymns adds also to the interest of the religious exercises.

In conclusion, I must acknowledge the sympathy and support the school has received from the people of Rat Portage irrespective of creed. Calls for special assistance have been always generously responded to, and the genuine sympathy extended the institution by a large number of citizens has been of immense comfort to the management.

I have, &c.,

C. CAHILL, O.M.I.,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,
RUPERT'S LAND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,
MIDDLECHURCH, 6th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report for the year ending 30th June, 1898, the eighth in the history of the school.

Location.—The school is situated on the banks of the Red River, about seven miles north of the city of Winnipeg, being river lot No. 18, in St. Paul's parish, twelve chains wide and about four miles long, containing about three hundred and sixty acres. The West Selkirk branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway crosses the property near the school and we have the convenience of a flag station and siding on our own lot.

Buildings.—The buildings are of white brick, resting on a stone basement, and having first, second and third floors.

The basement contains the lavatories, furnace-rooms and engine, and the balance of the space is used for storing coal and wood in winter.

On the first floor are the dining-rooms and kitchen, junior school-room and visitors' room.

On the second floor are the sewing-room, office, officers' quarters and girls' dormitories. Here also are bath-rooms and lavatories, clothing-room and store-room.

On the third floor are the boys' dormitories, with their clothing-rooms, tank-room and master's room.

At the back of the main building is a small frame building which serves temporarily for a laundry, and to the north of the main building stands a large frame building, 60 x 30 feet, with basement for furnace and coal, recreation-room for boys on first floor and senior school-room on the second floor.

About fifty yards further north there is a small frame building of one and a half stories, used as residence for the farm instructor, and printing office.

The carpenter shop and blacksmith shop are east of the main building about one hundred yards.

The farm buildings are in good repair and are capable of holding thirty head of cattle, six horses and twelve hogs, and we keep them filled to their utmost capacity.

The grounds in the front are nicely laid out in gardens and lawns and the trees and shrubbery well cared for.

Attendance.—The attendance has been good throughout the year; the school has been kept full with scarcely a break. I have been able to place a number of children in good situations. One boy working with a farmer has put \$40 in the bank, another boy has over \$60 saved, one is working as carpenter in Winnipeg at \$2 a day, another as a blacksmith in Winnipeg at \$1.50 a day, another gets \$6 a week in the department warehouse, Winnipeg, one was placed with a surveying party at \$1 a day and board, and several others are doing steady work. I am pleased to be able to state that with only one exception every boy placed during the year has proved sober and reliable.

Class-room Work.—The work in the class-rooms has been excellent and the children have made great progress. For part of the year I had a male teacher in charge of the upper school, but I changed and put lady teachers in charge of both schools and it has been a great improvement. The pupils' papers at the annual examination in June would be creditable to any white school.

Farm and Garden.—Our farm yielded during the year over five hundred bushels of grain, eight hundred bushels of roots and over eighty tons of hay, besides small fruit and vegetables. We also had a couple of good beeves to kill and about fifteen hundred

weight of pork. This spring we put in nearly eighty acres of crop, and if the yield is good we will have much more of everything than last year.

My aim is to make the farm supply all the flour and coarse feed needed and the beef and bacon for at least six months of the year, but this cannot be accomplished until nearly double the quantity of land has been brought under cultivation, which is of course a gradual process. We have broken up twenty acres more this year.

Industrial Work.—The industrial work is chiefly confined to farming and carpentry for the boys and to all branches of domestic work, sewing, knitting, laundry work, bread and butter-making for the girls.

Our school took the first prize and diploma at the Winnipeg Industrial Fair for its exhibit of industrial work, and also took ten firsts and as many seconds at the St. Paul's and Kildonan Fair. Our boys put up about fifteen hundred rods of new fencing this spring, and without boasting I can say that many of our girls cannot be excelled by any family in this part of the country for bread-making or butter-making. Whenever we have butter to sell it brings the highest price in the city.

Moral and Religious Training.—Religious instruction is given in the schools daily as part of the curriculum, and on Sunday from 2.30 to 3.30 p.m. Morning and evening prayers are read daily in the school, and on Sundays we attend divine service at the parish church at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the school has been excellent throughout the year, with the exception of la grippe or influenza we have had practically no sickness, for though we had three consumptives that required a great deal of careful nursing, it was inherited disease of long standing.

The sanitary condition of the school is good as shown by the health bill.

Water Supply.—The water supply is obtained from an artesian well which gives an abundant supply for all household purposes. It is forced by a small hot air engine to a tank in the top story and thence distributed throughout the building.

Fire Protection.—This consists of hose attachments in each flat connected with a large tank in the attic. Three Babcock extinguishers and six household extinguishers, besides hand-grenades placed conveniently in various parts of the building.

There are two fire-escapes providing means of exit in case the stairs were rendered useless.

Heating.—The main building is heated by Smead Dowd furnaces and one wing by a hot water furnace. These heat the building comfortably.

Recreation.—The boys play all games, cricket, football, baseball, quoits and many others, which they enjoy heartily, the girls have ball croquet, swings, see-saw and such games out of which they take a great deal of pleasure.

In conclusion I may say that I am well satisfied with the year's work, it has been one of marked progress, and I thank the department for its ever ready assistance.

I have, &c.,

JNO. H. FAIRLIE,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,
ST. BONIFACE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,
ST. BONIFACE, 30th June, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—In reporting the condition and prospects of the St. Boniface industrial school for the year ended 30th June, 1898, I am happy to say that this year has in many respects been the best in the history of the institution.

Location.—The school is beautifully situated on Meuron Avenue, one mile from the town of St. Boniface, whose name it bears, and two miles from the city of Winnipeg. Owing to its admirable situation, natural advantages are enjoyed, and every effort has been made with the force under command to lay out the grounds to best advantage, so that in the future neatness of appearance and utility may be properly united. Many trees have been planted, walks laid out and gravelled, and the appearance of the property is materially benefited by it.

Buildings.—The buildings wholly constructed, which are in a very good state of repair, are the following :

(1.) The institution proper is a capacious and suitable edifice of two stories, brick veneered and covered by a gable roof. The dormitories, dining-rooms, kitchen, one of the school-rooms, infirmary, office and private sleeping-rooms are well laid out and admirably adapted for the purpose which they serve.

(2.) The recreation-halls which were last year at a distance from the main building, have been successfully removed near it. They rest on good stone foundations and have been fitted out and repaired anew.

(3.) The barn building is comfortable and affords good accommodation for fifteen head of cattle and four horses.

(4.) The ice-house is a substantial frame building having capacity for the storage of twenty tons of ice.

(5.) The carpenter-shop and shoe-shop are under the same roof. It is a spacious frame building having upstairs accommodation for the storage of sundry implements.

(6.) Last fall a hen-house was erected over the old root-house, which is now kept free from moisture and frost.

(7.) A new building has also been erected at the rear of the present main building. The new addition is in size 20 x 28, two stories high. It contains on its first floor a music-hall, on the upper floor is the senior school-room, airy and well lighted.

(8.) A laundry and a store-house also at the rear of the main building are very commodious. The laundry, whose attic is used as a drying room, affords all accommodation for the laundry work, which is much appreciated.

Accommodation.—Under present arrangements we have ample accommodation for the authorized number of one hundred and ten children, but find it impossible to complete the number, as the reserves are at a considerable distance.

Attendance.—The attendance this year showed an increase of about nine per cent.

Class-room Work.—The programme of studies authorized by the department is adhered to as closely as possible. A satisfactory progress is noted in the senior and junior school-rooms. Lessons in calisthenics, gymnastics, drill, dumb-bell exercises and singing are daily given to the children. In music the pupils take a very active interest; the band progresses rapidly under its skilful leader.

Farm and Garden.—There are forty acres of land in connection with the institution, sixteen acres being bush and the remaining twenty-four acres, excepting yard,

under cultivation. Last year the crop yielded satisfactorily, and present appearances indicate a better yield this year than last. Some means will have to be taken to bring more land under cultivation ; the needs of the institution require more. The raising of stock is most profitable, and attending to the same is what eight to ten boys are employed at in winter time. Outside of the roots grown on the farm, about two-thirds of an acre is set apart for a garden, which is worked and attended to by some of the boys.

Industrial Work.—The following trades are taught :—

Carpenter-shop.—From six to eight boys are employed in this shop under a competent instructor. They make all repairs to buildings and furniture, erect buildings, do all the painting and make household furniture, such as washstands, dressers, cupboards, &c.

Shoe-shop.—For this shop, where all repairing is done, an instructor is hired by the day such time as deemed necessary.

Sewing room.—All the girls receive instructions in making new clothes, cutting, repairing, knitting, &c. They make all their own clothes and nearly all of those worn by the boys. They also receive instruction in all kinds of household work, and learn to cook, bake and do laundry and dairy work.

Moral and Religious Training.—Being aware of the necessity and importance of developing the moral faculties of the children from their childhood, all efforts are made to teach them the principles of Christianity and their duty to God, to others and to themselves. They are brought up in the fear of God and in obedience to the authority which rules them. The pupils' conduct is all that can be desired ; they give us as much satisfaction as can be expected. There is no need of corporal punishment, and this alone is, I am convinced, a fair proof of their docility and good will.

Health.—The school has been free from contagious diseases during the year, the cases of sickness and death resulting from consumption, as is generally the case with Indians. Daily instruction is given in hygiene. Careful nursing is given to the children, and a doctor attends regularly.

Sanitary Condition.—The buildings are situated on a dry place, well drained, and nothing impure is allowed to remain about the place. The rooms are large and well ventilated. Our buildings were not planned on the most approved sanitary condition, but we have made alterations from time to time and now the school is placed in a fairly good sanitary condition. The old closet system, which was altogether defective, especially in the dormitories, has been replaced by flushed closets. The ventilation and light of the dormitories were also defective. Six new attic windows have been added. These alterations have made a great improvement.

Water Supply.—The water is forced up by a hot air engine into tanks in the attic. From these tanks the supply is distributed by means of pipes to all parts of the buildings. An ample provision is made for every need.

Fire Protection.—Every possible precaution is taken against danger from fire. Fire-extinguishers, Carr chemical fire engine, fire-pails, axes, pipes and hose nozzled ready for action, besides numerous hand-grenades are kept in conspicuous places about the buildings.

Heating.—The main building is heated by a hot water system which has always given satisfaction. The system has been extended through the recreation-hall, but did not prove quite satisfactory. Another furnace will have to be placed in the recreation-hall for its exclusive use.

Recreation.—Both boys and girls have large and well-laid-out play-grounds. The boys engage in the ordinary amusements of white people. Their favourite pastimes in summer are baseball, football, pitching quoits and other games ; they are also permitted to ramble in the bush near by, taking more extended meanders when accompanied by the disciplinarian. In winter they enjoy skating, curling, coasting and tobogganing. The girls are kept in their own play-ground, but very often take a walk with their teacher.

General Remarks.—The faithful efforts of the staff and employees have been crowned with due measure of success in the different departments.

I acknowledge with gratitude the considerable supply of equipment and the encouragement received from the department, and trusting that our success may be increased under the present and more favourable conditions.

I have, &c.,

J. B. DORAIS,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,
WATER HEN RIVER BOARDING SCHOOL,
WATER HEN RIVER RESERVE, 30th June, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit my annual report for the school under my charge for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location.—This school is situated on the bank of the Water Hen River.

Land.—The land in connection with the school embraces about ten acres, and it belongs to the school.

Buildings.—There are two buildings, the dimensions of which are 70 x 30 ft. and 31 x 24 ft., respectively.

Attendance.—The attendance during the year has been twenty-six.

Garden.—The garden contains potatoes, turnips, onions, carrots, cucumbers, &c.

Moral and Religious Training.—The Ten Commandments, Lord's Prayer, and Scripture reading constitute the moral and religious training of the pupils.

Recreation.—The pupils amuse themselves in their own way, singing, playing cards and other games.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—These are good.

Water Supply.—The water supply is obtained from Water Hen River.

Heating.—The school is heated by four stoves.

I have, &c.,

I. H. ADAMS,
Teacher.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
BATTLEFORD INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,
BATTLEFORD, SASK., 1st July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—The following report on this school for the fiscal year just ended is respectfully submitted.

Location.—The school is located on the south bank of the Battle River near its junction with the North Saskatchewan, and is nearly two miles from the town of Battleford.

Land.—There is a reserve of land in the immediate vicinity of the school comprising nearly five hundred acres, of which, however, only a comparatively small portion is suitable for farming purposes. We have about thirty acres under cultivation. The department also owns a hay marsh of about three hundred acres, distant three miles from the school, and from this we get nearly all the hay required for the stock.

Buildings.—The main building, with the exception of some additions and alterations found to be necessary for the present work, is that formerly occupied as a residence by the Hon. David Laird when he was Lieutenant-Governor of the North-west Territories and Battleford was the capital. The portion used as the council chamber during that period is now used for our class-room work.

The building as it now stands contains class-rooms, dining-room, kitchen, staff-rooms, dormitories, wash and bath-rooms, also sewing-room, sorting-room, &c. Apart from this, and from each other, are the Principal's residence, hospital, carpenter shop—with printing office in upper part—blacksmith-shop with paint-shop above and implement shed as a lean-to, recreation room, stable, piggery, cottage, laundry, bakery, coal-shed and other outbuildings.

Accommodation.—The school has accommodation for the authorized number, about one hundred and fifty, but under existing circumstances it has not been found possible to bring the number of pupils up to this, although there are more than enough children in this agency many of whom have not attended any school for years past. The policy of the department, if judiciously put into effect all over, should serve to settle this question satisfactorily here and elsewhere.

Admissions and Discharges.—During the year six boys and seven girls were enrolled as pupils, while twelve boys and six girls received their discharge; there were, besides these, four deaths.

Attendance.—The average attendance for the year was one hundred and three. The total on the roll at the end of the year is one hundred and nine, sixty-five boys and forty-four girls, representing three tribes, Bloods, Crees and Stonies.

Class-room Work.—This is carried on in two class-rooms by two teachers. Standards I and II are in the "junior" room, and Standards III, IV, V and VI, in the "senior." The course of studies prescribed by the department is well carried out, and a very marked improvement is noticeable all through. The hours are from nine to twelve, and from half past one to half past four, with a quarter of an hour intermission in both forenoon and afternoon. All pupils, excepting the smallest or most backward, attend on the "half-time" system. In order to equalize things and give the same chance to all, and also for convenience in every way, the whole school is divided about equally into two divisions, "A" and "B." One week "A" division attends class work in the forenoon while "B" is at trade work the next week the order is reversed. The system works well.

Industries Taught.—Sewing and mending, cutting out and making clothes, baking, cooking, washing, and all the ordinary household duties; also blacksmithing, carpentering, painting, printing, farming and gardening, dairy work, the care of horses and cattle, pigs and poultry.

Moral and Religious Training.—This is carefully attended to as being the only sure foundation on which to build up a truly useful life; there are daily prayers, morning and evening, Sunday services and Sunday school. Several members of the staff take part in teaching each a class in the Sunday school, and their assistance in this respect is very valuable; it tends also to give more effect to their efforts with the pupils in secular work.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of all generally has been very good. The sanitary arrangements are carefully watched and have been well spoken of by the medical officer.

Water Supply.—We have good wells on the premises; the water is pure.

Fire Protection.—All boys who are considered to be old enough for it, are formed into a fire brigade in squads assigned to stations in different parts of the main building, each squad under proper supervision. We have a good supply of Babcocks and some household fire extinguishers, ready for use; also hand-grenades, buckets and axes in different parts of the building, besides some hose connected with water tanks which are always kept full of water near the top of the house.

Heating.—The premises are heated by furnaces and stoves, wood being the regular fuel used.

Recreation.—The pupils are well supplied in this way, swings, lawn tennis, football, drill, walks, &c.

General Remarks.—The pupils are steadily and surely acquiring the English language and the practice of speaking out distinctly. Many of them never make use of the Cree at all now, although it is their mother tongue. Each member of the staff assists in accomplishing this. The more advanced pupils also aid in this way. The faithful efforts of the staff are producing good results in every department; the pupils are contented, happy and teachable. Under God's blessing the outlook is promising.

The boarding or industrial school system—away from the reserves, if possible—is the sure way to solve the long-debated "Indian problem." It is the way to civilize the Indian and merge him into the corporate life of the country—his true and proper destiny. He has given ample proof of this where he has had a fair opportunity. Most of those educated in these schools do not wish to return to the reserve life, but to strike out amongst the settlers and make their own way. Where the way for this has been open the pupils have, in most cases, shewn that they are capable of adapting themselves to the various requirements of modern civilization, and they are prospering.

The policy of the department—that of insisting on the education of *all* the children—is the proper one. But one thing remains, and that is to *put the policy into force*. Until this is done the full results desired cannot be shown.

I acknowledge with sincere gratitude the past kindness of the department to this school.

I have, &c.,

E. MATHESON,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST SUPERINTENDENCY,
BIRTLE BOARDING SCHOOL,
BIRTLE, MAN., 22nd Aug., 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith my annual report on the school under my charge for the year ended June 30th, 1898.

Location.—The school is located within the town of Birtle, in the province of Manitoba.

Land.—There are thirty acres of land belonging to the school. There are about five acres under cultivation. In these are grown sufficient vegetables for the supply of the school besides roots, such as turnips and mangolds, which are fed to the beef cattle.

Buildings.—The school is a large stone building with three flats above the basement. Besides the school building there is a good sized barn upon a stone foundation, which will accommodate fifteen head of stock. There is also a smaller shed stable for the accommodation of the Indians' ponies in the winter when they come to visit their children.

Accommodation.—There is ample accommodation for forty-five pupils.

Attendance.—The average attendance for the year was forty-two.

Industries.—The industries taught are, for girls, cooking, baking, washing, scrubbing, ironing, dressmaking, tailoring, knitting and butter-making; for boys, care of stock, gardening, sawing wood.

Religious Training.—The religious training consists of morning and evening worship, study of Bible and catechism in school-room, and as a rule all of the children attend the Sabbath school in the town Sabbath afternoon and most of them go to church at least once on each Sabbath.

Sanitary Conditions.—On account of the splendid situation of the school the health and sanitary conditions are all that could be desired.

Water Supply.—The water supply is not all that one might wish. The drinking water has to be drawn a distance of about three-quarters of a mile, but water for washing purposes is usually in abundance in the cistern, which is supplied from the roof of the school.

Two wells have been sunk but water has not been secured.

Fire Protection.—For fire protection the department supplied us with four chemical engines and one dozen pails. Besides these there are usually several barrels of water kept in convenient places.

Heating.—The building is heated by two furnaces which burn cordwood, and except in the very coldest weather are sufficient for the heating of the building.

Recreation.—In the summer the children have no lack of recreation. All of them can go outside and run and skip and jump to their heart's content.

In the winter season the boys have football, and the girls' chief recreation is skating, going to the rink usually twice a week.

The children in the school room are graded as follows: Seven in Standard IV, six in standard III, two in standard II, twenty-seven in standard I.

All the subjects of the programme of studies are taught, but chief stress has been laid on the acquisition of English, writing a legible hand, recognition of words and the thoughts conveyed by them, and a grasp of the necessary parts of arithmetic.

I have, &c.,

W. J. SMALL,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
BLACKFOOT BOARDING SCHOOLS,
GLEICHEN, ALTA., 26th August, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report of the St. John's Homes on this reserve, conducted by myself as agent of the Church Missionary Society, and to acknowledge with gratitude the substantial Government aid received by us during the past year.

Location.—The homes are situated at the north and south reserves, about ten miles or more apart, and within a few yards of the Bow River in each case. That at the north reserve (known as Old Sun's school) is almost the centre of the largest village and about four miles from Gleichen, on the Canadian Pacific Railway. The school at the south reserve (known as White Eagle's) has—with the exception of two or three shacks, likely soon to be forsaken, I believe—no village near it. In each case a few acres of land have been fenced off around the buildings, portions of which are under cultivation. The buildings are well situated both as regards drainage and as a good centre for the children. The post office is Gleichen in each case.

Buildings and Accommodation.—Old Sun's school comprises two good sized buildings. The boarding-school itself, for girls only, consists of two wings connected by the dining room and kitchen downstairs, an isolated dormitory and a clothing-room upstairs. The dining-hall, kitchen and staff sitting-room and the teacher's bedroom have been carefully plastered and improved. The hall of the south wing is also to be plastered and painted this month, and in many ways the building is very much improved. The school-house is a large, well ventilated building, heated by a furnace. Both buildings are enclosed by a picket fence. At the rear of the boarding school is a frame-built laundry, containing well and pump, cook stove and brick chimney, with stands and tubs for washing. This building is connected with the home by a wooden sidewalk, and other outhouses are also provided. This home has accommodation for about fifty children.

At the south reserve the house is in every way a large and pretentious looking building. It has been improved and made warmer since my last report. It was erected at the request of the Indians there and comprises under the one roof both home and school-room. It has large spacious dormitories and dining-hall and is capable of accommodating about fifty pupils. This building is for boys only. Stable, driving-shed and other outhouses are provided.

Attendance.—We have at present on the rolls twenty-nine boys and eleven girls. With accommodation for so many more children it is sad to see that so many are allowed to grow up under the influence of camp life without any of the benefits of these institutions. Unfortunately the Indians of "treaty seven" are for the most part strangely prejudiced against education.

Class room Work.—We have every reason to be satisfied with the progress that our children have made during the past year, we find that the younger the child is on entering, the quicker it picks up English and loses the influence of camp life.

Farm and Garden.—At our south camp, where we have about two acres under careful cultivation, the boys have raised an excellent crop of vegetables under the direction of the staff, which compares favourably with any in the district. The boys have in addition had the care of the stables and poultry, and have acquitted themselves in their work with credit. At the girls' home the garden was not, on the whole, a success. The soil evidently needed more careful preparation.

Industries Taught.—No special industries are taught to our boys. This is left to the industrial school, to which we trust all will in time be drafted. They are, however, in addition to the farm and garden work already mentioned, taught to make bread, to wash and mend their own clothes and to help in many other ways as required.

The girls have made considerable progress during the past year. In addition to their class-room work, they received regular and careful instruction in cooking (including bread-making), in all general laundry work, sewing and dressmaking, they are also taught to wait at table and to make themselves generally useful and are able to act without supervision.

Moral and Religious Training.—Particular attention is paid to this branch of instruction, both in the class room and in daily life; and the many old scholars who have, we trust, become sincere Christians and good workers encourage us to look for the same result in those at present in our homes. Several of our old boys have, I am pleased to report, taken cattle and settled down to a quiet farm life.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—I am pleased to report that another year has passed without a death; and the presence of our mission hospital has been of the very greatest assistance in maintaining the present healthy condition of our children. Every attention is given to the sanitary condition of our buildings and their surroundings.

Water Supply.—The homes are supplied with water from wells on the premises. As these are fed by the Bow River they need more attention than if they were fed by springs. That at the north home is in excellent condition, but the other needs re-ribbing and probably deepening a little.

Fire Protection.—Both homes are well provided with hand engines, buckets, grenades and axes sent up by the department, also with good fire-escapes from the upper stories. The buckets are kept full of water and are distributed through the buildings.

Heating.—The north home is heated by means of coal stoves in different parts of the building. The school house is heated by a furnace in the cellar. The south home has a large furnace in the cellar and several stoves about the building. The lofty nature of this building makes it difficult to heat satisfactorily.

Recreation.—A good deal is done to encourage the children in outdoor games, but nothing appeals to them so much as horse riding, and when we can obtain ponies for them from their parents they have all that they desire. They are also encouraged in indoor games in bad weather. The present healthy condition of the children is not a little due to their outdoor exercises.

I have, &c.,

H. W. GIBBON STOCKEN,

Missionary in charge and Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

BLOOD BOARDING SCHOOL,

MACLEOD, ALTA., 1st July, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith the following report on the above institution for the fiscal year ended June 30th last.

Location.—The school is situated on an island, on the borders of the Blood Reserve some thirteen miles from Macleod, in a southerly direction. The agency buildings are on the opposite side of the river.

Buildings.—The buildings connected with the school are as follows :—

1. Boys' home.
2. Girls' home.
3. Hospital (not completed.)
4. Church and school combined.
5. Wash-house.
6. Store-room.
7. Stables.

Grounds.—The quarter section of land belonging to the school is all fenced.

Accommodation.—There is accommodation for eighty pupils. At present there are forty-six pupils in attendance, evenly divided between boys and girls.

Sanitary Condition.—We have no system of laid on water, so that there is no system of sanitary work. Care is taken to see that all outhouses are kept clean, all the refuse is cleared away and burned, no accumulation of dirt of any kind is allowed and things are kept in as sanitary a condition as possible under the circumstances.

Water Supply.—Our water is supplied by three wells about the buildings, and there is an additional one in the garden for watering when necessary.

Fire Protection.—We have lately been granted a barrel on wheels for this purpose, with a force pump attached and hose. This supplements the chemical engine, buckets, hand-grenades, and axes previously on hand.

Heating.—The girls' home is heated by a furnace and auxiliary stoves. The boys' home is heated by stoves alone, and the church and school by another furnace.

Recreation.—The materials for games are not on hand, and the greater part of the time is taken up with the necessary work, but time is allowed which the pupils spend in their own way under supervision.

Class Work.—Classes are held with great regularity, and progress is marked. The work under the lady teacher is most satisfactory.

General Work.—The work of the school outside the school work proper is divided as evenly as possible. The boys assist the farmer in his work in the garden and stables, do their own home work, their own washing and mending.

The girls do the work of their own home, also cooking for the school, mending and making clothes, and all other kinds of household work that it is possible to teach them under our present conditions.

Garden.—We have been able to plant and cultivate about three acres of ground, and besides keeping us supplied through the growing season with all our vegetables, we hope the final result will be that we shall be able to store enough to supply us throughout the winter.

Moral and Religious Training.—In this we can, thank God, see a great improvement, and if the obedience and bright cheerful work of the children speaks for anything there is a decided advance.

Health.—This is not as good as we could wish, owing partly to the generally diseased condition of the parents, and partly to our need of a competent nurse.

Staff.—I have great pleasure in acknowledging here the faithful work done by the staff generally in the school. Without their co-operation the work would suffer, and I therefore feel it due to them to mention their continued willingness and cheerful alacrity and proficiency in their own departments.

I have, &c.,

ARTHUR DEB. OWEN,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

CALGARY INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,

CALGARY, 30th June, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I beg to submit herewith my report on the above institution for the year ended to-day.

Location.—The school is situated close to the Bow River, about four and a half miles below the city of Calgary, on a half section comprising about equal portions of the river flat and the higher bench land. The soil on the flat is very light and sandy, but with plenty of manure and water it will in time be capable of raising large crops. That on the benches is of very little use for cultivation, as it is too stony to be worked, so that we use it solely for grazing purposes. If our numbers increase, it is likely that the question of securing a little more arable land will come up for consideration.

Buildings.—With a full year's residence with much larger attendance, we still find the arrangements in our main building on the whole fairly satisfactory, considering that the building is in an unfinished state, and on account of that fact some parts not as convenient as might be otherwise.

The lower story or basement is the most inconvenient; the bath-room and wash-room give us most trouble, and I think we shall have to make arrangements before long to secure an out-door laundry to replace the present system of using a room in this basement, and from which the steam and heat and moisture ascend throughout the whole house.

The other buildings in connection with the school besides the main building are:—

1. A commodious dwelling-house, about three-eighths of a mile from the main building, occupied by the farm instructor and his family. This was purchased, with the land on which it is built, when the site of the school was secured originally.

2. A horse stable close to the farmer's house, which is now not large enough for our use.

3. Cow stables and sheds attached to the horse stable, which, being only rough shacks with sod roofs, are in a bad condition and require to be renewed. This we hope to be enabled to do this coming year.

4. A large two-storied shop which I reported as having been commenced last year. The ground floor of this is used as our carpenter-shop, the upper story being divided into two portions, one being used at present as a store-room and the other as a paint-shop. Beneath the shop is a large frost-proof cellar, in which we store the roots and other produce for the consumption of the inmates of the main building. This large and complete building is a record for the work done by the boys in the first year of their work, and is an evidence of what can be done by them under such good instruction as they receive from their present capable teacher in this department.

Grounds.—With the absence of any system of irrigation, the work of beautifying the grounds is a difficult matter; we are doing all we can in the way of tree-planting wherever there is any likelihood of success.

All the grounds are fenced in by post and picket fences, which were used as being cheapest for the time being; we hope to secure neat palings before long for the main approaches and for surrounding the main building.

Accommodation.—The present number of inmates completely fills the portion of the school now built; by squeezing we might get in a few more. The lack of accommodation is most apparent in the dormitories, where even now the beds are really too closely situated.

Attendance.—We close our year with an actual attendance of forty-five. About one-half of these have been admitted within the last three months, and all (with the exception of one boy from the Piegan Reserve, who was away sick,) have been in attendance the whole of the portion of the year that their names have been on the register.

Class-room Work.—Until the beginning of April we have been under the disadvantage of having no teacher employed in the school, so that the school-room work has left much to be desired. With the excess of outdoor work necessary in the case of a new building such as ours is, this disadvantage has been of service to us as it has enabled us with few hands to give more time to outdoor occupation and so get things in order much more expeditiously than we could have done had more time been spent in the study rooms.

However, since April lessons have been regularly held and the improvement noticed in many ways is very encouraging.

Farm and Garden.—All the pupils take their turn in the farm work both in the morning chores, such as milking and feeding the stock, as well as in the morning industrial work.

The results last fall of our first year's work were, I consider, very good under the circumstances. We stored twenty-five tons of turnips for winter use for ourselves and the cattle, two hundred and fifty bushels of potatoes, three thousand pounds of carrots, three thousand pounds of beet, three thousand pounds of parsnips, besides keeping our tables supplied with all manner of garden produce during the growing season.

We also grew about twenty tons of oats and rye for green feed, besides cutting fifteen tons of hay on our own premises. This spring we have a much larger acreage under cultivation and with a favourable season we should do much better than last year, but it depends entirely on the amount of moisture we get, hence the attention the matter of the best way in which to irrigate our land has received.

At first sight it appeared that we would be able to irrigate from a spring on our own land, but on closer professional examination made under your instructions by Mr. Ponton it was found not so easy as appeared from a cursory glance. I have no doubt you have already received his report and recommendation, so that a further reference to the matter here is unnecessary.

Industry.—Not being in a position to include girls in the admission to the school the industry includes housework of every kind for the boys. They do all the scrubbing in the house, all the laundry work, washing and ironing, all the baking, and under the cook assist in preparing the meals. Each takes his turn, so that all are learning how to do these things, and if when they leave here they do not do those things themselves they will at least be able to tell their wives how to do them.

Carpentry is the trade taught in addition to the farm work, and here a most gratifying advance can be noticed. I have already had occasion, under the head of "Buildings," to mention the efficient instruction the pupils are receiving in this department. The pupils here do all the repairs in their line of work and make as much of the new equipment required as they possibly can; so that the shop has always a great deal of work ahead and the boys get ample opportunity for work and use of the various tools with which they are to become acquainted.

Morals.—It is with the greatest thankfulness that I feel able to report a most apparent advance in moral feeling among the boys. Though we have had very little trouble actually in this way, yet one could not help feeling that there was an undercurrent of a tone which would bear improvement. The older young men have, without exception, been a great help in leading the younger pupils aright, and their co-operation in matters of this kind means everything in the way of success or failure.

Religious Training.—Services are regularly held, and are taken great interest in. The whole teaching is in the direction of making men of the lads, in the truest sense of the word.

Conduct.—The conduct has been uniformly good, and no severe punishments have been required. The boys have been found to be willing and obedient and discipline, when administered with an even hand, and understood, is always heartily assented to.

Health.—The year has not been free from sickness. We had a few cases last fall of a mild form of scarlet fever, none severe I am glad to say; and we are now recovering from an epidemic of measles. In other ways the boys have been thoroughly well and illness has been the exception.

Sanitary Condition.—With one exception the sanitary condition of the building is as nearly perfect as it well can be, the one exception being the bath-room which is also used as the wash-room. On the occasion of the last visit of the medical officer, he agreed with me that we are in need of some alteration there. So soon as I am able to obtain the necessary particulars, you shall be furnished with a statement showing how present danger may be avoided.

Water Supply.—Our supply still is as good as it ever was, the well gives all the water we require, and the hot air engine gives us great satisfaction.

Fire Protection.—The tanks in the attic give us a fair protection, and as the hose on each flat reaches to any corner of the flat on which it is situated, we are well provided in case of necessity. Buckets are kept always filled and axes always ready.

Heating.—The furnaces did not give us last winter quite the satisfaction we expected from them. From our experience then it appears that they really require some more responsible person to look after them; they require more attention than the pupils are capable of giving them. Whether it is from want of experience in the boys looking after them last winter or not I cannot say, but in the matter of fuel I think that they do not at all act up to their name. Their name is "Economy." I therefore think that the consumption of fuel is far too great for the size of the building to be heated.

Recreation.—The boys are allowed a very fair amount of recreation and the outdoor existence is a great factor in keeping them in health. In winter, skating and football are their pleasures, and indoors chess and draughts are well played by most of them. In summer, football and cricket are played, the staff helping them as much as possible.

General Remarks.—A large number of visitors have been received at the school, and all have expressed themselves as pleased with the general appearance of things.

It is a pleasure to record the help received from the staff as a whole, which leaves but little to be desired.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE H. HOGBIN,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
CROWSTAND BOARDING SCHOOL,
Coté P.O., 1st July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour herewith to present the annual report of the Crowstand boarding school for the fiscal year ending the 30th June, 1898.

Location.—The Crowstand school is situated on the south half of Section 19, Township 29, Range 31, west of the first principal meridian, and is forty-five miles north-east of the town of Yorkton, the present terminus of the Manitoba and North-western Railway.

Land.—The area of land connected with the school is three hundred and twenty acres, more or less, and is the property of the school.

Buildings.—The buildings comprise one stone building 30 x 40 ft., three stories high; one frame building 26 x 38 ft., two stories high, with log annex 27 x 40 ft., 1½ stories high; one log milk-house 11 x 16 ft.; one ice-house 12 x 16 ft.; one workshop 18 x 24 ft.; one store-room 14 x 18 ft.; three outbuildings; log-stabling to accommodate six horses, fifteen cattle and fifty sheep.

Accommodation.—The buildings are of a size and with all arrangements and appliances necessary for the accommodation of fifty pupils, as well as for the staff necessary to carry on the work.

Attendance.—The number of children for which a grant is paid by the Indian Department is thirty. The average attendance of grant-earners for the year was twenty-six. The attendance has been regular and the work done fairly satisfactory.

Class-room.—In the class-room very satisfactory progress has been made. All the subjects of a primary English education are taken up, and the Indian children have shown considerable aptitude in the pursuit of their studies.

Farm and Garden.—About twenty-five acres are under cultivation each year. A vegetable garden of four acres is cultivated, but owing to drought last year, there were no returns.

Industries Taught.—In addition to a little plain carpentering, boys are taught farming, with especial attention to gardening and care of stock. Girls are instructed in sewing, knitting, baking, cooking, dairying, washing and general house-work.

Moral and Religious Training.—Advantage is taken of every available means of instilling a high moral ideal. The religious training is carefully looked after. In addition to family worship every morning and evening, the children attend church Sunday morning, Sabbath school in the afternoon and a children's service in the evening. There is also a mid-week evening service for the children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—With the exception of a mild form of measles last winter the school has been free from any epidemic sickness, and throughout the year the general health of the school has been good. Every precaution has been taken to insure as perfect sanitary conditions as possible.

Water Supply.—The school depends upon the Assiniboine River for its supply of water, which is drawn up in barrels. So far as known the water of the Assiniboine is pure and wholesome.

Fire Protection.—For protection against fire there are, in addition to two Babcock extinguishers, two dozen hand-grenades distributed through the various halls of the buildings. Buckets filled with water are kept in readiness where most likely to be needed, and there is a fire-escape ladder from boys' dormitory.

Heating.—The buildings are heated throughout by stoves, with one furnace. Wood is used altogether for fuel.

Recreation.—The time-table of the school is arranged with a view to giving sufficient time for amusement, and provision is made for engaging in healthful sports. Altogether the children have seemed happy and contented.

Library.—The school has a library of over one hundred and fifty volumes, consisting of books most suitable for young people.

During the winter months much good is obtained from this library.

I have, &c.,

NEIL GILMOUR,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

DUCK LAKE BOARDING SCHOOL,

DUCK LAKE, SASK., 1st July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location of School and Area of Land.—The school is agreeably situated about half a mile from the town of Duck Lake, facing the lake of the same name, and from its proximity to the railway station affords it every convenience for traffic. The land belonging to the Government comprises one hundred acres, and its legal subdivision is Section 4, Township 44, Range 2, west third meridian.

Buildings.—The main structure consists of entrance hall, reception-room, principal's bed-room, offices, class-room, refectory and kitchen. On the second floor are the boys' and the girls' dormitories, sewing-room and employees' rooms. Outdoor buildings are stables, granary, piggery, coach-house, dairy, ice and meat-house, wood-sheds, store-room, shed for wintering cattle, also bake-house, hen-house and laundry.

Attendance.—We began the year with an average of sixty pupils, and we are happy to state that the prejudice which existed for some time amongst the Indians against sending their children to school is dying out, and that our numbers have now increased to ninety-five.

Class-room Work.—The authorized course of studies is adhered to as much as possible, and in addition the pupils receive vocal and instrumental music lessons every alternate day. To excite a greater spirit of emulation the week's lessons are reviewed every Friday, and slight rewards are promised to those who can attain first places, and the consequent improvement is very satisfactory. During the spring months the bigger boys could not give the full time to class-work, their services being required out of doors.

Farm and Garden.—Last fall our garden produce was better than we expected, and this year the bigger boys have ploughed, cleared the ground, and planted over a hundred bushels of potatoes, half an acre of turnips, carrots and onions, also a quantity of cabbages and parsnips. The front garden has been greatly improved with rows of maple trees and lilacs, and if it had not been for some frosty nights in June we should have had sufficient fruit to make preserves for winter use from our own garden.

Stock.—Our stock has increased considerably, and feeding and caring for the cattle gives a great deal of employment to the grown boys. The stock consists of one hundred and thirty head of cattle, seventy sheep, twenty-three pigs, four horses and one donkey, besides a great number of fowl of all kinds.

Trades.—This work consisted in training the bigger boys to do all the carpentering that is required, under the direction of Mr. Alfred Boyer. They also help at painting and tinsmithing, and mend the boots and shoes when needed. Four boys do the baking three times a week, and the younger ones according to their strength and ability gladly give their services in sweeping and cleaning, carrying wood and water. The girls are taught under the sisters all branches of house-work, such as washing, ironing, scrubbing, sweeping, cooking, baking, sewing, knitting, tailoring, dress-making, and are well employed in keeping their own, the boys' and the employees' clothes in good repair.

Moral and Religious Training.—The general conduct of the pupils has been uniformly good, and their prompt submission to the rules of the school is most remarkable. Half an hour each day is devoted to religious knowledge and their Bible history lesson is the one they consider the most interesting. Morning and night prayers are said in common, and all sing a hymn before retiring to rest.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Except an attack of measles in the early part of the year, there has been a general immunity from sickness of an epidemic nature in the school. This we consider very providential, as the children of the white people who surround us were not so fortunate, many having found an early grave. The Reaper, Death, did not, however, pass us over, three of our pupils went to their last home. It would not be out of place to mention here the first who was called away, viz., Gabriel Poundmaker, son of Poundmaker, one of the greatest chiefs of the whole North-west. During the month of November, Gabriel had an attack of hemorrhage of the lungs from which he never recovered, and though he rallied for a few days, great care having been bestowed on him, he expired peacefully and happily on the 27th, retaining full consciousness to the last. This boy was a general favourite in the school, being of a gentle and amiable disposition. He was particularly kind to the small boys, who often went to him for comfort in their childish troubles. Though never strong, nor possessed of much talent, he showed great taste for music, and his cornet-playing was admired by all who heard him.

Sanitary Conditions.—These laws have been well enforced; the house, premises and children being kept clean and orderly. Things would have been to greater advantage, and much time and trouble been spared, had we a fair supply of water. In fact for a lengthened time we had none, our two pumps would not work, so that we were obliged to melt ice and snow for all the wants of the house, as well as to water our cattle. The kindness of the department, has, however, given promise of this evil being remedied.

Fire Protection.—Two Babcock extinguishers are placed in convenient positions in case of fire, and a number of hand-grenades are hung up throughout the different rooms.

Heating.—This is accomplished by means of one hot air furnace and one stove for kitchen use.

Recreation.—The time given to recess varies according to the season, but no more than two hours and a half can be given, the little ones are allowed more, especially in fine weather. Two splendid pic-nics were given during the year, which all enjoyed immensely. Football, baseball and races are the boys' favourite sports; while the girls amuse themselves more quietly; in summer they walk towards the lake, where they can find wild fruit and flowers.

Remarks.—The great progress of the school is not only due to my efforts and those of my employees, but also to the devotedness of our good agent, Mr. McKenzie, who has not spared himself day and night to help and encourage me by his good advice, and also by his timely and wise manner of acting with all the Indians and people in general.

M. J. P. PAQUETTE, Ptre., O.M.I.,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

EMMANUEL COLLEGE,

PRINCE ALBERT, SASK., 30th Sept., 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report of the school under my charge for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location of School and Area of Land.—The school is located about two miles west of the town of Prince Albert. The land in connection therewith is a river lot, having twelve chains frontage and extending back two miles.

Buildings.—There are three buildings occupied by the staff and pupils. The main building is occupied by the female members of the staff and the girls. The bed-rooms, dormitories and lavatory are in the upper story, and in the lower story are the school-room for the senior classes, the dining-room, kitchen and pantry. In the second building is a dormitory for the younger boys, with a lavatory, also an office and apartment for the principal. The lower floor is used as a school-room for the junior classes. In the third building are dormitories, lavatory, bath-room, and recreation-room for the senior male pupils, and also a room for the head teacher.

Grounds.—The grounds, immediately attached to the buildings, are laid out to afford ample play-grounds for the pupils—both boys and girls.

Accommodation.—The buildings, as at present arranged, afford about sufficient accommodation for the number of pupils allowed.

Class-room Work.—The pupils all attend school twice daily, from 9.30 a.m. to 12, and from 1.30 to 3 p.m. Besides the regular school hours, they have study from 8 to 8.30 a.m. and from 7 to 8 p.m. The teaching generally is on the lines of the programme of studies authorized by the department. With the most advanced pupils, the work is directed specially to fit them for becoming, in due time, teachers of Indian schools, a work in which some of our former pupils are efficiently employed.

Farm and Garden.—Our crops last autumn amounted to one hundred and twenty bushels of wheat, three hundred and sixty bushels of oats, three hundred and forty bushels of potatoes, fifty bushels of onions, besides other vegetables. Turnips only were a failure. We had twenty acres under crop. This year we have twenty-three acres under crop and a prospect of a good yield. We have summer-fallowed three acres of old land and broken nine acres of new land.

Industrial Work.—All the general work required on the premises is performed by the pupils. The boys attend the horses and cattle, milk the cows, draw water, chop wood, do all the farm work and any other ordinary work required. We have a carpenter's shop, and they are practised in the use of tools. The girls are taught house-work, plain cooking, sewing and knitting.

Moral and Religious Training.—Half an hour each day is devoted to religious instruction, and every effort is made to instil into the minds of the pupils a sense of their duty to God and man.

Health of Pupils.—The health of the pupils has been generally good. The sanitary condition of the buildings and premises is fairly good, although the buildings are deficient in some of the arrangements that we find in those that have been constructed more recently and under more favourable conditions.

Water Supply.—We have three wells on the premises, which afford an ample supply of good wholesome water.

Fire Protection.—The department has supplied us with Babcock fire-extinguishers, hand-grenades, fire-buckets and axes.

Heating.—Stoves are used in all three buildings, as they were erected before the introduction of furnaces, for heating purposes, in this part of the country.

Attendance.—The number of pupils on the Indian Department list at the end of the fiscal year is fifty, with forty-three actually present. Besides these, we have eight pupils who receive no support from the department.

Recreation.—The boys and girls engage in the ordinary games and amusements of civilized people of their age. Most of them are fond of music, and, during the hours of recreation, the organ in the school-room is almost constantly in use. In this connection, I may mention that we always have two or three who are competent to act as organists in the church services.

I have, &c.,

J. A. MACKAY,
Principal

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
ERMINESKIN'S BOARDING SCHOOL,

HOBBEWA, ALTA., 4th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Buildings.—Thanks to the liberality of the department we have just completed a beautiful building 50 x 40 ft., three stories high with a French roof. On the first floor are two rooms equally divided. One is used as a dining-hall for the children and the other is the class-room. This last is also used as play-room when on account of bad weather the children must be kept indoors.

On the second floor are the boys' dormitory, the girls' sewing-room and another room for hospital purposes.

On the third floor is the girls' dormitory.

A fine kitchen, 25 x 18 ft., and a private chapel of the same dimensions are in a wing recently constructed. This unites the main building to the one in which the reverend sisters have their private apartments.

Wide and convenient stairs on each side of the building, doors of communication well disposed, would permit the children to escape easily in case of fire.

Location and Area.—These buildings are situated on a pretty hill from where we have very agreeable views.

The Calgary and Edmonton Railway passes at a little distance. We have a mile to reach Hobbema siding, Alberta. There is no post office, but our mail is delivered at the station. There is an area of twenty-two acres of land the Indians have conceded us.

Attendance.—We have in this establishment forty-two boarders, twelve of them are half-breeds or non-treaty Indians. The charges of these last are borne by the reverend sisters.

Class-room Work.—The programme of studies given by the department is closely adhered to. The pupils do all they can to improve in their studies, and I am glad to say that a true emulation exists amongst them and the progress of a great number is very satisfactory. They are also becoming much more familiar with the English language. All entirely give up their own language.

Industries Taught.—The boys prepare the wood, draw the water, attend the horses and cattle, milk the cows. They cultivate the garden and do any other ordinary work in and around the building. The girls are taught house-work in its different branches.

Moral and Religious Training.—Careful attention is paid to moral and religious training, discipline and order. The conduct in general is very good. We have no serious disorder and no severe punishment to register.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the pupils in general is excellent. They are neat and clean and tidily dressed. The food is substantial and of a good quality. All the rooms are spacious, well lighted and very clean.

Water Supply.—The water supply is sufficient. The quality of the water is excellent.

Fire Protection.—There are fire-extinguishers and pails given by the department. During the winter season barrels are kept full of water and distributed in convenient places. It is impossible to do the same in summer, for the water corrupts in a few days.

Heating.—The buildings are heated by box-stoves; being well constructed, it is easy to obtain a suitable and regular temperature.

Recreation.—At the door of the establishment there is a beautiful yard. During the fine season the children go on holidays to some agreeable places where they take their luncheon and enjoy themselves in all kinds of sports.

General Remarks.—I acknowledge with pleasure and gratitude the ample supply of class-room materials and house equipment given to this institution by the department during the last year. We are not in possession of all the furniture yet, but we expect the rest in a short time.

I have, &c.,

Z. LIZÉE, Ptre., O.M.I.,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
GORDON'S BOARDING SCHOOL,
KUTAWA, P. O., 4th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the annual report of this school for the year ending 30th June, 1898.

Location.—The school is located about twelve miles from the agency, on the west side of the reserve.

Land.—The area of land connected with the school is not known.

Buildings.—The buildings consist of the school, which is built of stone 42 x 48 feet, two stories high, with basement consisting of kitchen, dining-room, pantry, dairy and cellar.

The first floor consists of principal's room, matron's room, class-room school-room, boys' and girls lavatories.

The second floor consists of three bed-rooms, boys' and girls' lavatories.

The outbuildings are the old school, which is used for a laundry, store-house, and play-room, stables to accommodate ten head of cattle and five horses, besides a root-house, 16 x 24 feet, and an ice-house 12 x 16 feet, which were built last fall.

Accommodation.—We have ample accommodation for thirty-five pupils.

Attendance.—The average attendance for the past year is twenty-three. There were twenty-four children on the roll and one day scholar, making a total of twenty-five.

Class-room Work.—The pupils' course of work is that laid down by the department, a marked progress is noticeable in every division.

Farm and Garden.—We have about three acres under cultivation, in which were raised an abundance of vegetables required for table use, also a flower garden south and west of the building.

Industries Taught.—The boys help to do the gardening, attend horses and cattle, and do the milking and wood-chopping. They also have a plot of their own, in which they take great interest. The girls are taught sewing, knitting, bread-making, and general house-work, with very marked results, noticeable in the case of one of the girls who got married last fall.

Health.—During the past year the general health has been good, except one case of a boy, who took inflammation of the bowels, and died at his home.

Sanitary Condition.—The sanitary condition is good on account of the situation of the school.

Water Supply.—Our water supply is obtained from a well, about three hundred yards from the building, which is very good, and ample for all purposes. We also have a well within thirty feet of the building, with a good supply of water, but it is unfit for culinary purposes.

Fire Protection.—We have twelve fire-buckets which are always kept filled with water, and put in convenient places through the building, besides Babcocks and other extinguishers and axes, all of which are also kept in readiness. The children are also taught to turn out at any time by a bugle call, and take the places told off to them.

Heating.—The building is heated by stoves, and was very comfortable last winter, after having some slight repairs done to windows and doors.

Recreation.—In the winter coasting and other outside sports are engaged in, also different games during the evenings in the school-room; football is also indulged, and many other games during summer.

I have, &c.,

M. WILLIAMS,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
HIGH RIVER INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,
DUNBOW, ALTA., 20th September, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I beg to submit my annual report for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1897.

Location.—The school is situated in a valley near the junction of the Bow and High Rivers, twenty-five miles south-east of Calgary.

Land.—Nine hundred and sixty acres of land are owned by the institution. Half of this is located in the immediate neighbourhood of the school; the rest, chiefly hay land, is situated about twelve miles south-east. A great part of the land near the school is of a hilly nature.

Buildings.—There are two main buildings—one for the boys, and the other for the girls. Besides these there are the following:—

A brick veneered cottage, 32 x 26 feet, men's quarters.

Paint, coal and lumber shed, 56 x 8 feet.

Carpenters' and shoemakers'-shop, 24 x 30 feet, both well ventilated and lighted.

Shoe-shop on second story.

Blacksmiths' shop, 25 x 16 feet.

Bakery and flour-store, 45 x 15 feet.

Engine-house, 36½ x 16½ feet.

Hospital, brick veneered, 25 x 30 feet.

Laundry, 25 x 30 feet—a two-storied building with drying-room in second story.

Coal and wood-shed, 36 x 14 feet.

Ice-house and refrigerators, 32 x 16 feet.

New store-house, 36 x 18 feet.

Old store-house, 12 x 28 feet, used for storing storm-sashes, double windows, &c.

New and substantial horse and cow stable, 80 x 32 feet, with loft capable of holding eighty tons of hay. At the back and to one side of the stables are hay and cattle corrals. Wagon, implement and tool shed, 125 x 23 feet. At the other side:

Granary, 30 x 15 feet.

Calf-shed, 70 x 12 feet.

Pig-pen, 15 x 17 feet.

Grounds.—A large number of trees were planted this spring, and new flower beds laid out. Thus the work of improvement goes on year after year. The grounds near the building are divided to afford play-room for both boys and girls.

Accommodation.—There is accommodation for one hundred and forty children at present, and this is to be improved, as it is proposed to raise the walls of a part of the girls' building, and give better light and ventilation.

Attendance.—The average attendance for the year was only one hundred and one, exclusive of pupils at service or on sick leave. The actual attendance on the 30th June was one hundred and five, being twenty-five short of the number authorized. As I remarked last year, there is a falling off in the number of recruits, and the difficulty of obtaining children is increasing.

Admissions.—Eight. Three Bloods, two Piegans, one Blackfoot and two Crees.

Discharges.—Seventeen. Three Bloods, six Blackfeet and eight Crees.

There were no deaths during the year.

Class-room Work.—In the three class-rooms, the programme of studies adopted by the department is strictly followed, and improvement is general. The use of the English language is compulsory, and only after supper are the pupils permitted to converse in their own. The library continues to be used in winter evenings, and is a great aid to the pupils in learning English, beside fostering a love for reading.

The institution met with a severe loss in the death of R. P. Brangan, teacher of the junior division, who died April last. He was a very clever teacher, and had a brilliant professional future in store.

Farm and Garden.—The result of last fall's harvesting is as follows:—From forty acres of oats we received three thousand one hundred and seventy-five bushels. From six acres of potatoes, five hundred bushels, and from six acres of turnips and mangolds, one thousand five hundred and fifteen bushels. Our kitchen garden furnished us with all the onions, carrots, cabbages and cauliflowers necessary for our own consumption. Twenty-five acres of land were summer-fallowed last year, and one hundred and fifty tons of hay were cut. This year ninety-two acres are under cultivation. Twenty-six of these were borrowed for this season. The above consists of twenty-eight acres of oats, ten acres of wheat, thirty-five acres of rye (for fodder), sixty of barley, five of turnips, one and a-half of mangolds, one of corn (for fodder), and five and a-half of potatoes. Thirty-five acres of land have been broken, and we have left some twenty-six acres to be summer-fallowed. Our cattle are increasing in numbers, and the farm furnished the institution with over \$347 worth of beef, and our inventory of live stock shows an increase over last year of \$251. Our cattle number ninety-one head, and our horses twenty-four.

All boys do farm work, even the apprentices in different shops not only work on the school farm, but go out to work for the farmers during haying and harvesting.

The boys now own cattle purchased from their earnings to the number of seventy head. A large amount of freighting is done by the farm boys. Supplies and lumber are hauled from Calgary when work on the farm will permit, and all our coal is hauled from Dewinton, some nine miles distant.

Industries Taught.—*Carpentering.*—Seven boys are employed in this shop. They are occupied in erecting new buildings, in charge of the instructor, and keep the buildings and furniture in repair, besides making any furniture such as benches, cupboards, sideboards, washstands, &c., that may be required. Apprentices, after leaving the school, do not as a rule make as much use of their trade as might be expected; perhaps opportunities to do so do not occur. An engine-house, a large barn and a calf shed were erected during the past year.

Shoemaking.—The shop was closed in September last, when the apprentice in charge, a Blackfoot boy, was granted his discharge by the Commissioner. Although this young man was under salary, the work became too monotonous, and he desired a change. Very little work has been done in this department since, as the other apprentices were too young to be trusted with the management of the shop. From time to time they have done a certain amount of repairing.

Baking.—The apprentice in this shop was removed as he did not care for the work. No others could be found who wished to learn this trade, and none were urged to do so, as it is highly improbable that they would have an opportunity of using it when they return home. The tradesman, unassisted, bakes for the institution.

Blacksmithing.—There is not sufficient work to keep a blacksmith busy all the year round, so one is engaged only as need arises. On these occasions two apprentices are employed in the shop.

Sewing-room.—All the girls learn to sew and knit, to repair clothes and to darn. They are also taught the use of a sewing-machine, and to make new clothes. All their own clothing is made by them, as well as suits, shirts, &c., for the boys. In household work they receive daily instruction, and learn how to cook, bake and do laundry and dairy work.

Moral and Religious Training.—Instruction in the doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church is imparted to all pupils. Prayers are said in the dormitories, on arising and before retiring, by their bedsides. All assist at mass every morning at 6 o'clock in summer, and at certain times there are other religious exercises. Divine service is held twice on Sundays: at 9.30 a.m. and 6 p.m. The usual catechism class is also held in the afternoon.

The conduct of the children may be classed as good, and to enforce discipline it has been necessary in one or two cases only to use severe measures. The usual punishments are detention during play-hours or a little extra work. The system of employing monitors has been continued with good results.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Throughout the year the pupils' health has been good, although they suffered somewhat from an epidemic of measles in the month of June. I am pleased there is no death to record. Dr. J. D. Lafferty is very attentive, and has operated successfully on some scrofulous cases. Our drainage system works well and the sanitary condition is good.

Water Supply.—Our water supply is now excellent, and is pumped into tanks by a fourteen horse-power steam engine. The hot air engine before in use was not powerful enough to keep our supply of water up to the maximum quantity required.

Fire Protection.—The tanks are kept full in the different buildings, and we have hose and pipe connection to tanks on each flat. Babcocks, grenades, fire-axes and fire-pails ready for immediate use are distributed throughout the passages and rooms. Fire-escapes lead from all dormitories, besides the usual modes of exit.

Heating.—The boys' building is heated by hot air furnaces, and the girls' by stoves.

Recreation.—The three divisions have separate play grounds and recreation rooms. The pupils have two hours and a half recreation every day. They have the regular weekly half-holiday on Wednesday afternoons. The boys have a very good football and hockey team. They won the medals awarded to the champion association players at the tournament held in Calgary on the 24th May last. The tournament was open to the Territories and British Columbia. Their hockey team was also very successful. They defeated both the Dewdney and Millarville teams, and were only beaten by the Calgary Fire Brigade by one goal; and this only on a play off after time for first goal. Dominoes, checkers and other parlour games are favorite indoor amusements in winter.

General Remarks.—*Out-pupils.*—Thirty pupils worked out for periods ranging from two weeks to six months. Their earnings amounted to almost \$1,100. With this they purchased forty-six head of cattle (calves, yearlings and two-year olds), and spent the balance in clothing and presents for their parents. The reports received of their conduct and work were good indeed. If left too long in one place they get homesick and want to return to the school to see their companions, but a week at the school will satisfy them, and they are anxious to go out again.

Ex-pupils.—Good reports on the whole were received of our ex-pupils. Some were doing very well, others passably, and a few were disposed to be wild. If the discharged girls could be married before leaving school it would be to their benefit.

I have, &c.,

A. NAESSENS, *Principal.*

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

LAC LA BICHE BOARDING SCHOOL,

LAC LA BICHE, 1st July, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs.
Ottawa.

SIR,—I beg to forward you the annual report of our school for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location.—The school is built on the west shore of the lake. The location is healthy and the view of the lake and surrounding country beautiful.

Land.—About seventy acres of land are set apart for the use of the school; this land belongs to the reverend fathers of the mission.

Buildings.—The buildings are large enough with the exception of class-rooms and dormitories, but our new school building at Saddle Lake is almost completed. It is large and suitably divided into the various departments necessary for the convenience of the school.

Attendance.—Attendance is regular, owing to the fact that the pupils are all boarders at the institute.

Class-room Work.—Class-room work consists of reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, history, composition, drawing and vocal music.

Farm and Garden.—A certain portion of each day is devoted to farming and gardening. Besides this, the pupils are taught sewing, knitting, cooking, laundry and all kinds of house work.

Moral and Religious Training.—Careful attention is paid to moral and religious training, discipline and order.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the pupils and sanitary condition of the buildings have been very good. No deaths have occurred during the year.

Water Supply.—The lake supplies excellent water for all the wants of the school.

Fire Protection.—Ladders are attached to the house in case of fire, and fire-pails are always at hand.

Heating.—The school is heated by wood stoves.

Recreation.—Part of the recreation is passed in outdoor exercise, and the remainder in house games.

I have, &c.,

H. GRANDIN, *Ptre.*,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
LESSER SLAVE LAKE R.C. BOARDING SCHOOL,
LESSER SLAVE LAKE, 2nd July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my report on the above mentioned school for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location.—Saint Bernard's mission is situated on the north-eastern banks of Lesser Slave Lake, on a beautiful hill which slopes towards the lake and commands a view of the surrounding country.

Buildings.—There are three buildings, one of which is not entirely completed. This structure is 72 feet long by 28 wide, and of three stories; the two others are respectively 30 by 24 feet, one being of three stories, the other of two. All are well aired and have plenty of light.

Accommodation.—One house serves as dormitory and refectory for the boys and kitchen; the other as dormitory and refectory for the girls; there are also two classes for the younger children in this building. Several rooms are occupied in the convent, among them one as a class for the most advanced pupils, another as a recreation hall.

Land.—The area of land connected with the school is about nine acres and belongs to the mission.

Attendance.—Our pupils for the greater number enter school in September and leave at the end of June. The average attendance is between thirty and forty pupils; about twenty remain during the summer months.

Class-room Work.—The class-room work is done neatly and with much application.

Farm and Garden.—About two hundred and twenty-five acres of land are under tillage, the farm comprising two hundred and fourteen acres, the rest is cultivated as a vegetable garden.

Industries Taught.—The young girls learn the culinary art—washing, ironing, sewing, dress-making, in a word, everything that a good housekeeper should know; the boys are early accustomed to work on the farm, and some have commenced carpentering.

Moral and Religious Training.—Their moral and religious training is based upon the pure and unsullied doctrine of Holy Scripture and on the teaching and examples of our Saviour.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—With the exception of a few slight colds, the pupils have all enjoyed perfect health during the past year. The climate is most healthy.

Water Supply and Fire Protection.—Very good water is supplied by wells dug close to the house. These wells are our only protection against fire.

Heating.—Our houses are heated by stoves, in which we burn pine, spruce and birch. The surrounding forests abound in trees of this kind.

Recreation.—During the summer months the children amuse themselves with foot-balls, swings, skipping-ropes, bow and arrows, marbles and boating; in the winter they have tobogganing, skating and indoor amusements common to their age.

I have, &c.,

C. FALHER, O.M.I.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

MUSCOWEQUAN'S BOARDING SCHOOL,

TOUCHWOOD HILLS, ASSA., 12th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward you the annual report of the Muscowequan's Boarding School.

Location.—The Muscowequan's school is situated on the quarter of section 14 north-west, township 27, range 15. The ground on which the school stands, is a piece of table land, surrounded by big sloughs formerly full of water, but now dried up.

The little Touchwood Hills are a few miles away. They have the appearance of a long belt, rising gradually and gently to the north-west side.

Land.—The land connected with the school is a homestead of 160 acres, being the property of the Society of the Oblates. The school has the use and draws all the benefits from it, as if the land were rented, without paying anything to the Oblates.

Building.—The school building includes the old church which was turned into a school, 24 x 56, and another building put up two years ago having the following dimensions, 50 x 30 ft. This new building contains two stories, an attic and a large cellar, 7 feet high, of the same dimensions as the house itself.

The other part has a story downstairs, used as the class-room, the other story upstairs is used as boys' dormitory. There is no cellar to that part of the building.

Accommodation.—Although the architect combined his plan to accommodate fifty children, it seems to me difficult to find room for so many at least in the dormitories. So far as I can see the accommodation cannot be extended to more than forty children.

Attendance.—Thirty pupils have been attending school during the last quarter.

Class-room Work.—The four standards followed as nearly as possible the studies recommended in the programme for Indian schools. The pupils seem to be progressing.

Farm and Garden.—There is no farm attached to the school yet. Gardening is followed by the pupils to a certain extent.

Industries Taught.—There are no trades, but the boys are taught to mend boots and harness, also to do carpenter work.

Moral and Religious Training.—The pupils are taught the practice of cleanliness, politeness, obedience, respect, good behaviour, and are initiated in the principles and observances of the Roman Catholic religion, to which they belong.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Very rarely are the children ill, and then, simply with colds or mild cases of biliousness. There are a few cases of scrofula and skin diseases showing up, but with care and attention they can be kept back.

Water Supply.—Water is supplied to the school from two wells of very good water—one in the cellar, under the kitchen, and the other on the premises near the school.

Fire Protection.—The school has been provided by the department with two Babcocks, also fire-extinguishers, which so far have not been necessary; but are kept in readiness in case of need.

Heating.—The building is heated by stoves, four in each flat, with wood fires.

Recreation.—The pupils, in fine weather, spend their recreation hours in the open air, especially the boys; the girls sometimes take their recreation whilst doing needle-work and knitting. In wet or too cold weather, the pupils amuse themselves indoors, always under the eye of their guardians or teacher.

General Remarks.—Four of the pupils were discharged during the year, one on account of illness and the other three having attained eighteen, the age for dismissal from the school.

I have, &c.,

S. PERRAULT,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
UNION LAKE C. E. BOARDING SCHOOL,
UNION LAKE, SASK., 7th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I beg herewith to submit my annual report on matters connected with this school.

Location.—This school is situated on the north-east corner of Makoo's Reserve; the fence surrounding the mission and school, on the east side, being placed on the line dividing Seekaskooch's Reserve from Makoo's and about three hundred yards from the agency in a south-westerly direction.

Land.—There are about twenty-five acres of land inclosed for garden, pasture and cemetery or churchyard, and mission premises, used in connection with the school. This land is part of the reserve, but the use of it for mission and school purposes has been allowed by the department and the Indians.

Buildings.—There are three buildings, forming three sides of a square, and attached to one another. The two sides of the square (on the north and south) are respectively—the former 32 x 18 feet, two stories high, and the latter 36 x 24 feet, also two stories high. The east end of the square is a building 18 x 24 feet, two stories high with a "lean-to" attached of 12 x 20 feet used as a kitchen and pantry. The buildings are the property of the mission and the Indian Department jointly. The department furnished rough lumber and shingles sufficient for the erection of the building described as the "south side of the square," and the mission and mission workers doing all the work and paying all other expenses connected with it, and any other buildings used in the work. The department also furnished sufficient paint and oil to paint the outside of this building, and bricks sufficient for the chimneys, the mission workers doing all the work or paying to have it done.

Accommodation.—We feel the need of more room and intend to put up a building to be used for boys exclusively, and separate from the other buildings.

Attendance.—As the children all live in the home, the attendance has been perfectly regular. There has not been a single instance of any of the pupils playing truant or deserting school.

Class-room Work.—The progress made in the class-room is encouraging. The children are taught to read and write both Cree and English, and seem equally apt at both. Arithmetic, grammar, geography, and in fact all things taught in any common day school are taught to them here, even music and drawing.

Farm and Garden.—We do not attempt the raising of any cereals, but the growing of root crops and garden vegetables is very carefully and regularly taught, as well as culture of raspberries, currants, strawberries and other small fruit and flowers. The children seem to take great interest in this kind of work, and every encouragement is given them to do their best.

Industries Taught.—More attention is paid to dairy work, and the care of horses, cattle, pigs and poultry, than is devoted to any other particular industry or trade. Although carpentry and tanning leather is also carefully taught, owing to the youthfulness of our Indian pupils (boys) there is not so much progress to report on in that line.

The handling of milk, from the taking of it from the cow till it is in the shape of cheese or butter, is most carefully and scrupulously taught to boys and girls alike; while sewing, knitting, mending and making of clothes, baking of bread and general kitchen and house-work, and the preserving of fruits and beef and pork are by no means neglected. Some of the children show a remarkable proficiency in these things.

Moral and Religious Training.—Perhaps to no part of their education is so much attention paid as to the moral and religious part. We feel that if this part be neglected, or carelessly done, all our work is simply wasted, and that we should only be educating and training them to be a greater incubus on the department and society in general. "Seek first the Kingdom of God" is our motto.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Since we began this work, nearly six years ago, we have had no sickness worth mentioning except a few cases of something like influenza or grippe last spring, and one case of whooping-cough. We discharged one pupil about two years ago on account of scrofula, but the disease had broken out very badly before she came to us and we feared it might harm some of the other children.

Water Supply.—Abundance of good water is furnished for domestic purposes by two wells, one in the laundry and bath-room, and the other outside. The water is of a quality not always met with in the North-west Territories, and while being very cold and sweet, is also very good for laundry purposes. A third well, about two hundred yards away from the house, furnishes abundance of water for all the stock.

Fire Protection.—We have two good force-pumps with abundance of hose, and can throw water to any part of the buildings. The department sent us three small fire-extinguishers and ten pails to be used in case of fire.

Heating.—The whole place is heated with wood stoves. It requires six heating stoves and two cook stoves to do the work.

Recreation.—The principal recreations are foot-racing, wrestling, horizontal bar exercise, swing and merry-go-round, with football and tobogganing in their seasons. Besides these, the pupils always have an outing lasting from two to four weeks in July and August, when, camped on the bank of some creek or lake, fishing, boating, berry-picking, swimming and picnicking, is the order of the day.

I have, &c.,

J. R. MATHESON,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
ONION LAKE R. C. BOARDING SCHOOL,
ONION LAKE, SASK, 1st July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the fiscal year 1897-1898.

Location.—The school is situated on Seekaskootch Reserve, about twelve miles from Fort Pitt.

Land.—The school premises occupy about four acres of land taken up by buildings, gardens and play-grounds.

Buildings.—The school is a frame building 35 x 45 feet. On the first floor are class-room and dining-room. These rooms also serve at the same time as recreation-rooms in winter, one for the boys, the other for the girls. We are obliged to use the dining-room as a class-room for the lower standards. Second floor: boys' dormitory, girls' sewing-room. Third floor: all in one division, completed and painted, is the girls' dormitory. Convent, kitchen, laundry, bakery, store-house, separate buildings.

Accommodation.—There is good accommodation for fifty pupils.

Attendance.—Forty-six Indian children attended class regularly during the year—twenty-five boys and twenty-one girls. Four discharges were granted during the year, three girls and one boy. These pupils were old enough to leave the school and capable of earning their own living. Their conduct on the reserve is all that can be desired; they adhere to the habits formed at school, and are, we may say, a credit to it. One of the girls married a half-breed, and has a fair chance of continuing the life to which she has been trained. The other girls return to sew, wash and scrub at the convent, and, by their earnings, keep themselves clothed and neat, and help their parents also. We have every reason to hope that success answers our efforts. The conduct of all has been satisfactory.

Class-room Work.—Satisfactory progress has been made in all branches of study this year. The programme of studies authorized by the department is strictly followed. The standing in class is as follows:—

	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.
Standard I.	10	5	15
“ II.	4	4	8
“ III.	5	8	13
“ IV.	4	2	6
“ V.	0	2	2
“ VI.	1	0	1
	—	—	—
	24	21	45

English is spoken generally. Of course, it is not perfect, but good will is shown in the endeavour to speak correctly. Two sisters are constantly employed in the classes during the day. Special attention has been given to vocal music and freehand drawing this year, and I think fair progress is obtained. The boys, especially, show great interest in the latter.

Farm and Garden.—Two large gardens have been made by the pupils, but, up to the present date, do not promise well. The spring's great drought and a hard frost have annihilated the larger part of the flowers and roots.

Industrial Work.—*Boys*—The boys have the care of horses and cattle, the preparing of fuel, the drawing of water with a horse, baking and shoe-mending. They also have the care of their own apartments, dormitory, refectory and class-room, under the supervision of a sister.—*Girls*—The girls are taught to do all kinds of housework, cook, bake, sew, knit, wash, iron, scrub, hat-making, mat-making, &c., &c. They make all their own clothes and most of the boys', and have all the darning and mending of both. Thursday forenoon is set apart exclusively to industries for both boys and girls, and special instruction is given.

Moral and Religious Training.—Every care and attention is paid to this important point. All that can be done, by way of precept and example, to instil ideas of morality and righteousness into the minds of those confided to our care is done, and we have every reason to hope that success answers our efforts.

Health.—The pupils' health has been very good; there have been no deaths and no discharges on account of sickness. Whooping cough, grippe, and a few cases of sore eyes made their appearance. Several little ones were very ill but got over it all right.

Walks, exercise and work in the open air are the general means employed to maintain health.

Sanitary Condition.—The pupils' health is, I think, a good proof of the sanitary condition of the school which is ventilated thoroughly every day.

Besides the usual Saturday bath during the summer season, the boys go out bathing quite often and the girls occasionally, having to go too great a distance to find a suitable place.

Water Supply.—One good well at a short distance from the school supplies water.

Fire Protection.—All necessary precautions are taken against fire. No matches are left in the pupils' rooms, on any condition. Three small chemical extinguishers, fire-buckets and axes are distributed in places easy of access, but these appliances are, I fear, hardly sufficient in case of fire.

Heating.—The building is heated by box stoves; good temperature is maintained throughout.

Recreation.—The pupils take their recreations in the open air as much as possible, even in winter.

Coasting, skating, football, baseball, swing, croquet and arrow-shooting, are the principal outdoor amusements. Cards, checkers, dominoes and harmonicas are the winter pastimes. In summer, picnics are in great vogue.

General Remarks.—The school was examined by the inspector, Mr. Chisholm, in the month of March. In concluding my report, I beg to tender my most sincere thanks to our able agent, Mr. Mann, for his unvarying kindness and his earnest co-operation in all matters connected with the interests of the school.

I have, &c.,

W. COMIRÉ, O.M.I.,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

PIEGAN C. E. BOARDING SCHOOL,

PIEGAN RESERVE, 4th July, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—It is with pleasure that I give the following report of the Church of England Boarding School on the Piegan Reserve.

Location.—During the last year the school has been removed from its former position on the reserve proper, and is now situated just on the border. The school is built on the banks of Pincher Creek, about nine miles from the village of the same name. Its exact situation is on the north-east quarter of section 12, township 7, range 29, west of the 4th meridian.

Land.—The school owns forty acres of land, being legal subdivision 9 of the section mentioned above.

Buildings.—The buildings consist of the school proper, a small carpenter's-shop, a stable and other necessary outbuildings.

The school-house is a new building 78 feet by 32 feet over all. It is built of wood and is lathed and plastered throughout. It contains dining, play and sleeping-rooms for the children and rooms for the staff as well as store-rooms and lavatories.

The stable is not yet quite completed.

Accommodation.—The school affords accommodation for forty children, viz., twenty-four boys and sixteen girls. In addition there is accommodation for a staff of six persons.

Attendance.—The attendance has not been all that could be desired, the average being about twenty-eight for the year. In March we drafted some fifteen boys into the

industrial school at Calgary, and, as we have not yet been able to refill their places, this has tended to reduce the average attendance.

Class-room Work.—We found it necessary to divide the children into two divisions for class-room work. The more advanced are now taught in a separate room by a teacher of their own and apart from the smaller children. Having, as remarked above, transferred our most advanced pupils to the industrial school, the school on the whole does not seem to have progressed much in the class-room subjects. This standstill however is only apparent, as quite a number of our present pupils have been advanced a standard during the year.

Farm and Garden.—On account of the recent removal of the school and the large amount of other work that the removal entailed, such as putting up outbuildings, very little work could be done at gardening. A few potatoes and other root crops have been planted.

Part of the land owned by the school is very fine for garden purposes, and after a few years of thorough working we shall possess a very good garden.

Industries Taught.—In addition to garden work, the boys are taught how to take care of cattle, hogs, and poultry. They do all the heavy baking, and also take care of their own dormitory and other rooms, do their own washing and a great part of their own mending.

The girls are taught all the ordinary household work, knitting and sewing. The older girls also have lessons in practical cookery.

Moral and Religious Training.—Religious instruction is given daily, by the principal, or one of the teachers. Morning and evening prayers are held, and everything as far as possible is done, both by precept and example, to improve the morals of the pupils.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of our pupils has been very fair. Cases of scrofula and diseases of the eyes have been rather frequent.

The sanitary condition is good, and we have now a system of dry earth closets in use, which we find very satisfactory.

Water Supply.—All our water is drawn from a pump fixed in the kitchen. From this source we have an apparently inexhaustible supply, and as the pump is driven down to the water, under the building, there is no possible chance of the water becoming polluted.

Fire Protection.—Babcocks and fire-extinguishers are kept in convenient places, as well as pails filled with water.

The building is so arranged that any one of the three stair cases can be reached from any room on the upper floor, thus giving ample means for the escape of the children in case of fire.

Heating.—The building is heated by means of hot air, from two furnaces placed in the basement.

Recreation.—The children have ample grounds to play in, and they indulge in all the usual out-door games. The creek flows close by the school, and swimming is a favourite pastime in the hot weather.

In cold weather the children amuse themselves with gymnastic exercises in their play-rooms.

I have, &c.,

J. HINCHLIFFE,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

PIEGAN R. C. BOARDING SCHOOL,

PIEGAN RESERVE, MACLEOD, P.O., ALTA., 7th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to you a report of the Sacred Heart Boarding School, Piegan Reserve, conducted by the Roman Catholic Church.

Location.—The school is situated on elevated ground, in very healthy location, near the centre of the reserve, and in close proximity to the agency buildings.

Buildings.—The building consists of a large house 90 feet long by 20 feet wide, the kitchen and pantry not included, and the building affords accommodation for forty children.

Attendance.—We have an attendance of nineteen boarders—sixteen girls and three boys. There is no accommodation for outside children to attend day school.

Class Work.—The work in the school-room has been steadily pursued. The progress is good and very encouraging. From the first day of this school the programme of the department has been followed.

Industrial Work.—Our children have special hours during the day for manual work. The girls are kept busy knitting stockings, sewing, and doing general house-work. The few boys we have are too small to do any work yet.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the pupils has been good during this year. Headache, a little fever and other light indispositions are the only things we had to contend with.

Heating.—Stoves are used for heating purposes.

Fire Protection.—One fire-extinguisher and pails of water are put at convenient places.

Moral and Religious Training.—All the children are carefully instructed in moral and religious truth. We take special care on this point.

Recreation.—We have recreation rooms, but no recreation yard, and we need one badly.

The present building was finished and opened only in February last.

I have, &c.,

L. DOUCET, O.M.I.,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

QU'APPELLE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,

QU'APPELLE, ASSA., 1st September, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa,

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location.—The school is situated in the Qu'Appelle Valley, four miles east of Fort Qu'Appelle and twenty miles from the railroad; it is in a central position for the Crooked Lakes, Indian Head, File Hills, Touchwood Hills and Muscowpetung Agencies.

Buildings.—The buildings are all frame, brick-veneered; all the original portion has been resingled and repainted this year. As described in previous reports, they are all in good condition with the exception of the stable, which is a wooden structure, built in 1894 near the main building and afterwards removed some three hundred yards to a more convenient situation. The joists and sills of this building are rotten in many places, and the high winds this spring have blown it considerably out of shape and shifted the barn attached to it almost off its foundation; the barn was replaced and strengthened, but I would not recommend any further expenditure to keep the present stable in repair. The building above the root-house containing the felt shop, paint shop, wheelwright-shop, store-rooms and oil-shed was destroyed by fire on 27th November, 1897, causing a great loss to the school. The root-house has been repaired and a new building for paint-shop, shoe-shop, school-room and store is in course of construction.

Accommodation.—The accommodation is ample for two hundred and twenty-five pupils, the authorized number. Without compulsory education it will be impossible to maintain this attendance as those Indians who can be induced to send their children to school prefer to keep them near them by sending them to the numerous boarding schools on the reserves—of course the majority having children at home refuse to send them to any school at all.

Attendance.—The attendance has been satisfactory, though two hundred and twenty-five, the authorized number has not been complete.

Class-room Work.—Of the two hundred and fifteen pupils here at the end of June, one hundred and three were boys and one hundred and twelve were girls, whose grading was as follows :—

	Girls.	Boys.	Total.
Standard I.....	12	32	44
“ II.....	30	22	52
“ III.....	43	26	69
“ IV.....	14	12	26
“ V.....	13	11	24

Farm and Garden.—We have one hundred and seventeen acres under cultivation : eight sown with barley, seven with bromus, four in the garden, two sown with mangolds, forty with oats, four with pease, eight with potatoes, two and a half with turnips, thirty-one and a half under summer-fallow and ten breaking. Seventeen boys appear on the farm instructor's books as having worked with him regularly certain portions of the year. All the boys assisted when required both on the farm and in the garden.

The stock are in good order, and consist of one bull, nine cows, ten heifers, five work horses, four native ponies, three colts, nineteen swine, nine sheep and a lot of poultry.

It is becoming more difficult each year to obtain our supply of hay, and this summer we intend making it twenty-four miles from the school; as most of it has to be hauled during the winter, we are unable to keep as many cows as I should like, owing to the difficulty of bringing the hay in. We are going to break land this summer on which fodder will be sown next year.

Industrial Work.—1. *Blacksmith-shop.*—Ten boys worked at this trade and did a large amount of custom and Indian reserve work.

2. *Carpenter-shop.*—Seventeen boys were attached to this shop, and others assisted from time to time. The rebuilding of the root house and superstructure, and the resingling of the old portion of the buildings, and fitting up the felt factory were the principal items of work. A very large amount of other work was done for the school, besides custom work.

3. *Boot-shop.*—Nine boys assisted the shoemaker making new boots and repairing boots and harness.

4. *Paint-shop.*—The furnaceman who is also night watchman instructs the boys in this department, doing all the painting, kalsomining, repairing plaster, chimneys and stone and brick walls.

5. *Tinsmith-shop.*—Usually some of the blacksmith boys work with the tinsmith, who, besides making a considerable part of our tinware, does the plumbing, repairs kitchen utensils, roofs, sinks, stoves, &c., overhauls stoves, stovepipes, &c., and runs the sawing and pumping engines.

6. *Bake-shop.*—All the baking for the institution is done on the premises by the baker and his assistants, who also cut the meat into sizes suitable for the kitchen.

7. *Felt-shop.*—This industry was terminated at the end of November by the total destruction of plant, raw material, and manufactured goods by fire. The department did not consider it advisable to start the industry anew, but our felt and felt boots had obtained such a good name that a company was formed at Qu'Appelle Station, who are investing \$20,000 in the industry and having our late foreman, are turning out the highest grade of felt and felt boots, so our experience here has been the means of starting a most useful industry in the North-west Territories.

Girls' Work.—Under the direction of the reverend sisters the girls learn all kinds of housework, cooking, dairying, laundry work, &c., and make all their own clothes and the greater part of those worn by the boys; becoming experts in the management of the sewing and knitting machines.

Out Pupils.—Nineteen boys were hired out on farms and nineteen girls were in domestic service at wages ranging from \$4 to \$25 per month and board; some girls have been in continuous service now for over seven years.

Religious Instruction.—A course of religious instruction is given to the whole school during winter months after class hours.

Conduct.—The conduct has been satisfactory.

Discipline.—As there is regular system and an efficient staff there is no trouble in maintaining order; and corporal punishment is only resorted to in cases of insult or gross disobedience.

Health.—This on the whole has been excellent. We had an epidemic of scarlet fever, on account of which the school was quarantined for two months last fall. Over fifty pupils had this disease at one time; some were very low, but (D.V.) owing to the skill of Dr. Seymour and the hospital experience and devotion of the three reverend sisters who were quarantined with the patients, all made a happy recovery. The provision made by the department for isolated hospital accommodation was taxed to the utmost; but its position, arrangement and suitability in the emergency have fully justified the expenditure. Great care has been taken in only admitting healthy pupils, and several children had to be refused as physically unsound.

Sanitary Condition.—This will be improved next spring by the construction of a dam at Katepwe, which, by deepening the water in the lake in front of the school, will do away with the pools of stagnant water, wash away the decaying vegetable and animal refuse on the lake shore and raise the level of our wells.

Water Supply.—Water for domestic and fire protection is supplied by a hot-air pumping engine from one well.

Fire Protection.—Fire protection is ample and of the best description. It is under the charge of the furnaceman, part of whose duty is to inspect it regularly.

Heating.—Furnaces and coal and wood stoves are used. Owing to the construction of the building this is an expensive item, and it is difficult to maintain a regular temperature.

Recreation.—In outdoor games, cricket and football are preferred, as matches can be arranged with surrounding elevens. In the majority of games the school has proved victorious, having won some handsome silver trophies.

Indoor games are such as are usually found in white schools.

The brass band maintains its high efficiency, and is a source of much pleasure to pupils and visitors, and has filled several outside engagements.

Admissions and Discharges.—Twenty-one children were admitted during the year, nine boys and twelve girls. Thirty-three pupils appear on our discharge sheet for the

year, eighteen boys and fifteen girls. Eleven of these—seven girls and four boys—have married and have comfortable houses and give every indication of doing well. Four other girls had been in continuous service for from five to seven years each, and as they were in good situations in Winnipeg and were of age, their discharges were sent them.

I expect at least twenty-five more pupils will be discharged before winter, and see no possibility of replacing these and the number we are already short, unless education is made compulsory.

Ex-Pupils.—A large number of ex-pupils visited the school during the year, and were all clean, creditably dressed and well-behaved; most of them have now homes of their own, and appear to be contented and progressing.

General Remarks.—The numerous convictions obtained by Mr. Indian Agent Graham of half-breeds and Indians violating the liquor laws, have had a most salutary effect in the district, and there was only one case last year of a pupil being supplied with intoxicants.

Several public entertainments were given to appreciative audiences.

A large number of visitors registered during the year.

In conclusion I would say that the Indian agents on the surrounding reserves have given me every assistance; that when there has been necessity for their services, the North-west Mounted Police have always been prompt and efficient, and that the members of my staff and employees here have cheerfully performed their duties in a most satisfactory manner.

I have, &c.,

J. HUGONNARD,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
RED DEER INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,
RED DEER, ALTA., 25th July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location.—The school is situated about three miles west of the village of Red Deer, Alberta. It is built on the banks of the Red Deer River.

Land.—The area of land in connection with and owned by the school is four hundred and eighty acres.

Buildings.—The buildings are as follows: two main buildings, one built of stone and one of brick; a dwelling house for the principal; a dwelling house, now occupied by the assistant principal; a dwelling house, the upper part used as a store-room; a carpenter's-shop; a blacksmith-shop; an ice-house and store-room combined; a piggery; two stables; a dairy; a hen-house; a well-house, and three closets.

Accommodation.—The accommodation for the pupils is moderately good, quite ample at present for the girls but hardly sufficient for the boys. If I increase my staff, I shall be unable to give to each member a separate room.

Attendance.—The present attendance is seventy-one. I hope this summer to be able to reach the limit allowed by the department.

Class-room Work.—In the class-room fair progress has been made. Some of the last examination papers were good.

Farm and Garden.—We have had a very successful year on the farm. The crop last fall was very good. The cattle and horses in the spring were in good condition. We have been clearing land and hope to be able, during the present year, to do more breaking. There are again about fifty acres in crop. I fear that the crop this fall will not equal that of last year on account of the dry season.

Industrial Work.—*Carpenter-shop.*—Seven boys have been engaged in this shop most of the year. They have assisted in building the principal's house and the boys' building. The reports I have received from the instructor are most satisfactory.

Housework and Sewing-room.—The girls are making progress in every department. Again at the meeting of the Red Deer Agricultural Society our girls took many prizes for sewing, fancy work and butter-making.

Moral and Religious Training.—The moral and religious training has been carefully carried on. Sunday school and preaching services are held. Short meetings of a religious character are conducted during the week. The general conduct has much improved.

Health.—The health of the pupils has been good. The appointment of a medical man, who visits the school at least once each week, has resulted in great benefit to the pupils.

Sanitary Condition.—The sanitary condition is good. The drains are kept well flushed.

Water Supply.—I regret to have to report that the water supply is not at all satisfactory. Unfortunately we have so little wind that our mill is not of much use. Water has to be drawn from wells by hand and carried to the house, which entails considerable labour and as a result the supply is limited.

Fire Protection.—All furnaces and stoves are carefully watched. Fire appliances are kept in good order and at hand ready for use, but we are practically without water for fire protection.

Heating.—The heating in both the buildings is satisfactory.

Recreation.—Our football team has been fairly successful. The boys are taught swimming. During the winter both boys and girls are drilled. The setting-up drill has been a great benefit to all.

Camping.—Again our pupils were allowed to enjoy some days in camp at Snake Lake. Boys and girls went at different times. They all came back much improved in health.

I have, &c.,

C. E. SOMERSET,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

REGINA INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,

REGINA, ASSA., 6th August, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to present my annual report in connection with this school for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location.—This school is situated on elevated land, a little less than five miles west of Regina. A small river, the Wascana, winds through the grounds, and by damming up the river bed near its exit from school property quite a body of water is thrown back,

which adds considerably to the general appearance of the grounds, and furnishes in the early part of the winter some good skating for the pupils.

Land.—The area of land in connection with the school is three hundred and twenty acres. An additional section immediately to the west was leased three years ago for grazing purposes. The lease expires in two years.

Buildings.—The main building, in which are found all dormitories, school-rooms, dining-rooms and accommodation for the staff, is a large two-storied brick building with an extensive basement. All other buildings are frame. A cottage hospital 28 x 32 ft., with a kitchen 12 x 14 ft. was constructed during the year, also an ice-house 18 x 24 ft. and a piggery 25 x 30 ft. Most of the other buildings have been repainted, and are kept in thorough repair.

Accommodation.—There is accommodation for about one hundred and fifty pupils. The school was originally designed for two hundred pupils.

Attendance.—The average attendance for the year was sixty-one boys and forty-four girls, or a total of one hundred and five. This was a reduction from the past year of fifteen, accounted for in part by such a large graduating class.

Class-room Work.—In the winter months there are two departments for school work proper, but in the summer when the attendance is diminished by the outing system, and from other causes, the two departments are advantageously merged into one. Pupils attend school only half a day, and are appointed to suitable labour for the other half. The school hours are from 9 a.m. to 12 o'clock, and from 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. The work hours are from 7.45 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. with an hour and a-half for dinner. Each pupil attends school for three hours for five days of the week. The programme of studies authorized by the department is adhered to. The classes are mixed, boys and girls competing together. Quarterly written examinations are held, after which promotions, when desirable, are made. The daily papers are made use of and an interest fostered in present history. The books of the school library, all carefully selected, are in demand, especially during winter.

Farm and Garden.—The farm and garden are made as remunerative as possible. Last year's crop included three hundred and ninety-five bushels of wheat, six hundred and sixteen bushels of oats, and four hundred and thirty-three bushels of potatoes. This year's acreage stands as follows: twenty-six acres of wheat, twenty-eight acres of oats, six acres of rye, thirty-five acres of oats and barley for feed, twenty acres of brome grass, two acres of turnips and three acres for the garden.

Industries Taught.—All boys able for work are expected to labour some time or other during the year on the farm. Careful supervision is given to their work, but as many responsible duties as possible devolve on the boys themselves. It develops their self-reliance. Care is taken that the strength of any boy is not overtaxed. Some waterproof coats for summer and a few fur coats for winter are provided for some bigger boys who have work that must be done. We expect that nine-tenths of the boys who earn for themselves a comfortable living will do so through their knowledge of mixed farming, and accordingly give the place of honour to the farm and garden.

A number of boys receive instruction in the carpenter-shop, where lessons in cabinet-making and painting are also imparted. New buildings and general repairs have hitherto afforded constant employment to our force of carpenters, but time has been found for all outside remunerative work that could be obtained. Both the bake-shop and the printing office have been in charge of older boys, appointed at the beginning of each month for that purpose. They have nobly responded to their responsibilities.

A thorough and systematic training in all branches of household work is being given to the girls under the energetic supervision of the matron.

Moral and Religious Training.—Great emphasis is laid on the religious training. Since the school opened seventy-two boys and girls have been admitted into the Presbyterian Church by profession of faith. In this great work of character building all the members of the staff most cordially co-operate. The evil and wide-spread influences of alcoholic drinks, are plainly and repeatedly pointed out, and an effort made to have all pupils and ex-pupils consistent prohibitionists. Regular Sabbath services are held,

including a Sabbath school in the afternoon. The memorizing of Scripture verses, and of the answers to the shorter catechism are encouraged all the year round.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health has been fair, consumption and scrofula are enemies we have learned to dread. All the buildings and grounds are kept scrupulously clean, and the conditions of good health carefully studied. A very instructive series of lectures on physiological topics, was given by the school physician during some of the winter evenings.

Water Supply.—The well formerly in use in the basement of the main building was closed in, as it became impure ; another well about one hundred yards from the main building was dug, and gives us an abundant supply of purest water. So far it has all been carried into the house by the use of pails, but we expect at an early date to have underground connection between the well and our three large household tanks. The water from the extensive roof of the main building is conveyed to a large tank under the laundry, and furnishes an excellent supply for washing purposes.

Fire Protection.—Every possible precaution against fire is taken, warnings and instructions about lamps, stoves, ashes, and matches are frequently given. A dozen or more fire-pails are kept constantly filled, and in one of the rooms off the central hall, a supply of hand-grenades, patent fire-extinguishers, fire-axes and similar supplies are kept. The grenades are placed in large boxes, so that the box and its contents may immediately be carried to the seat of danger.

Heating.—Our coal bill is naturally a very heavy item of our expenditure ; we make use of Lethbridge coal. Some wood is purchased from the Indians, and some car-loads are obtained from Duck Lake and Prince Albert. The Smead-Dowd system of heating and ventilating has been in force since the opening of the school ; on the whole it proves satisfactory.

Recreation.—The most popular game in which the boys indulge is football, in which they have had many competitions with other teams, with varying success. A few years ago lacrosse was the chief sport. The playing of the brass band is a very refining and pleasing recreation for all engaged. During the mid-summer holidays the boys and girls at different times, and under proper protection, are sent away a distance of seven or eight miles from the school to live under canvas and the blue sky for a week or two. This is eagerly looked forward to each summer, and proves generally beneficial to the health. Saturday afternoon, summer and winter, is regarded as a half-holiday.

Graduation Day.—The second annual graduating exercises in connection with the school were held on the last Thursday of April. A considerable number of visitors were present during the afternoon. The programme lasted for about three hours, and consisted largely of drills, music and short addresses. The Indian Commissioner and other honoured guests were present. Amid general enthusiasm, certificates of honourable discharge were presented to twenty-three boys and twelve girls, thirty-five in all. Some of these young men and women have gone back to the reserve, but many are working in the neighbourhood of the school, which they still affectionately regard as their home. The reports that reach us respecting the life and work of these graduates are on the whole very satisfactory, and full of inspiration and hope.

I have, &c.,

A. J. McLEOD,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
ST. ALBERT BOARDING SCHOOL,
ST. ALBERT, ALTA., 1st July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my report on the St. Albert Boarding School for the year ended 30th June last.

Location.—This school is located at St. Albert settlement.

Land.—There are large yards connected with each building, all belonging to the Sisters of Charity.

Buildings.—There are two separate houses, one for boys—the other for girls.

Accommodation.—There is accommodation for one hundred and twenty-five children.

Attendance.—The attendance during the year has been from seventy to eighty-five.

Class-room Work.—We follow the public school programme for the Territories.

Farm and Garden.—There is a large farm and garden attached to the school.

Industries Taught.—The boys are taught farming in all its branches, gardening, milking, tailoring and shoemaking.

The girls learn, besides housekeeping and cooking, dairy work and also plain and fancy sewing on machine, making of men's clothes, carding, spinning, knitting and weaving.

Moral and Religious Training.—Great care is taken in forming the pupils' character and intellect and to avoid bad habits or influences.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Very good generally. This can be ascertained by the small number of deaths occurring in our school, which is well ventilated and provided with water-closets and bath-rooms.

Water Supply.—The water supply is obtained by a hot air pumping engine of five hundred gallons power per hour, which supplies the whole establishment with abundant and good water from three artesian wells.

Fire Protection.—The protection against fire consists of a tank of fifteen hundred gallons in the attic and taps in all departments, and buckets and hose kept at hand.

Heating.—The building is heated by hot air furnace and stoves.

Recreation.—Three times a day, after each meal; the evening recreation till eight. Vocal and instrumental music is taught regularly to boys and girls.

The land and buildings belong to the corporation of the Sisters of Charity.

I have, &c.,

SISTER L. A. DANDURAND,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
SARCEE BOARDING SCHOOL,
CALGARY P. O., ALTA, 1st July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith a report of the St. Barnabas Home, connected with the Church Missionary Society's Mission to the Sarcee Indians.

Location.—The school is located on the south-east corner of the reserve and near Fish Creek.

Land.—About ten acres are fenced in for school and mission purposes.

Buildings.—The building consists of boys' and girls' wings connected by the school-room.

Accommodation.—There is accommodation for thirty pupils, twenty boys and ten girls.

Attendance.—The attendance has been very good, and comprises, with two exceptions, all the children of school age on the reserve. In January two boys were drafted into the Calgary industrial school, and one boy died in the winter from tuberculosis. Three new scholars have been admitted, one boy and two girls.

Class-room Work.—There has been steady progress in this department.

Farm and Garden.—All our boys over fourteen years of age being drafted in the industrial school, there is not much to say under this head.

Moral and Religious Training.—Every effort is put forth to inculcate Christian teaching and morality, both by example and precept.

Health.—The health of the children, with one exception, is good. The boy who is the exception is troubled with an open scrofulous sore.

Sanitary Condition.—The sanitary condition is good.

Water Supply.—A well 33 feet deep, fed from the river bed, gives an ample supply of good water, which is raised to the surface by one of Anderson's double cylinder pumps.

Fire Protection.—Barrels of water are kept in different parts of the institution, and also fire-buckets.

Heating.—Wood and coal stoves are used.

Recreation.—Football, cricket, baseball, as well as horizontal bar exercise, are encouraged amongst the boys. The girls take a good walk about every day, under the charge of their matron.

General Remarks.—The children are encouraged to take an interest in events outside their own surroundings. Items from the newspapers are read or retailed to them, and a copy of the *Graphic* is obtained weekly for them to see. The staff, consisting of two ladies and a male teacher, who is also assistant principal, are thoroughly interested in their work and have the welfare of the children at heart.

I have, &c.,

J. W. TIMS, C.M.S.,
Archdeacon.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

BATTLEFORD INSPECTORATE,

PRINCE ALBERT, SASK., 17th Nov., 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report on the inspection of Indian schools for the fiscal year ended 30th June last.

There are within this inspectorate in all twenty-four schools which were open during the whole or a part of the year, namely, one industrial school, one training college, five boarding schools, and seventeen day schools. In the case of a few of the last named, which were temporarily closed owing to circumstances noted later in this report, an effort was made to ascertain the facilities for school work and the value of the work actually done, from an examination of the building and premises, the extent and condition of the school equipment and supplies, the register of attendance, the text-books, the exercise-books and the character of the work found in them, and also by conversation with the teacher, the councillors of the band, if any, and where possible, with the pupils.

EMMANUEL TRAINING COLLEGE.

Location.—This school is situated about two miles from Prince Albert, and was inspected on the 27th September and following days. Number of pupils enrolled, forty-five.

Staff.—The principal, the Venerable Archdeacon Mackay, is usually assisted by a staff of one male and three female assistants. But the teacher, Mr. Gale, had resigned a short time before the above date and his place was not yet filled. Hence the entire work of classification, discipline, teaching, and general management devolved for the time upon the principal—a work all the heavier on account of the recent enrolment of a considerable number of new pupils from the reserves.

The Class-room.—In the class examination the pupils acquitted themselves very creditably in reading, literature, composition and grammar. Writing, dictation, and all written exercises were done with the greatest neatness. Arithmetic and geography have been taught with fairly satisfactory results, while history has been somewhat neglected. In connection with all subjects much readiness was exhibited in the use of English. The pupils are well behaved, cheerful and contented. In general there are observable the results of firm discipline and faithful and well directed teaching.

Industrial Training.—The senior boys have some practice in the use of the commonest carpenter's tools, while all receive practical training in farming, gardening, and the care of stock, all of which are successfully carried on in connection with the institution. Under the direction of the matron and her assistant the girls do most of the housework.

Buildings, Equipment and Premises.—Three detached buildings are now devoted to school purposes, an additional one having been procured recently to meet the requirements of an increased attendance. These with some repairs, rearrangement and additional equipment promise ample accommodation for an attendance of sixty children. They are heated by ten stoves, and through a combination of devices a satisfactory state of ventilation is maintained. The outbuildings were in good repair. The premises include a farm of some thirty acres in a good state of cultivation, a garden of two acres affording an abundant supply of vegetables of good variety, and an area of uncultivated land suitably located for a recreation ground and used as such by the boys. All are well fenced.

General Remarks.—The water supply is abundant, convenient and of good quality. The children's food is wholesome and well cooked. The health of the school was good with the exception of two cases of scrofula, which, however, were receiving due attention.

ST. MICHAEL'S BOARDING SCHOOL.

This school is situated at Duck Lake and is under the management of the Rev. M. J. P. Paquette, O.M.I. It was inspected on the 6th December and following days. The staff consists, in addition to the principal, of six reverend sisters and four male assistants, a farmer, a carpenter, an engineer and a general assistant. The total enrolment at the above date was seventy-two, and the average attendance at classes was practically the same, the only instances of absence being due to occasional sickness. For class work the pupils are arranged in three divisions, consisting respectively of the senior boys, the senior girls, and the junior boys and girls. The institution has been established little more than three years, and the pupils admitted, for the most part at the earliest school age, are on the average younger than in most schools of a similar class.

The Class Work is as yet of an entirely elementary character. Much attention is rightly given to the various means of cultivating the use of English as important in itself and a condition of progress in all the other subjects. The most essential subjects, reading, spelling, writing and the use of numbers, are being taught well and with good results.

Accommodation.—At the above date there was a serious lack of accommodation as to space and equipment in both the class-rooms and the dormitories. The inconvenience arising from this materially retarded progress in school work, and rendered the care of the children much more burdensome to the staff than it otherwise would be. I am glad, however, to be able to say that this state of things has been much improved by recent extensive additions to the main school building.

Buildings and Premises.—With the exception just noted the buildings were very complete and convenient, consisting of an employees' residence, a bakery with a capacity of 250 loaves, a very complete laundry in course of erection, store-house, coal oil-house, wood-house, carriage-house, implement-shed, carpenter's-shop, dairy-house, meat-house, granary, barn, horse and cattle stables, besides numerous smaller buildings. All are admirably arranged and in perfect order. On each side of the main building there is a suitable recreation ground, and in front a large and well arranged flower-garden. The entire premises are surrounded by a close board fence nearly a mile in length, and fence and buildings are painted a uniform red-brown.

Industries.—Excellent facilities are here afforded for teaching the most essential industries. The senior and the intermediate boys have constant practice in farming, flower and vegetable gardening, dairying, and the care of horses, cattle and pigs; while according as they approach the age of eighteen, when by the rules of the department they are to be discharged, they are instructed in plain carpentry in a well equipped shop and under a competent instructor. The girls are trained in sewing, dairying, gardening, laundry work, baking, cooking, and general housework.

General Remarks.—The institution is supplied with good water, but only by hauling it a distance of nearly a mile, the wells on the premises having failed. The children were comfortably clothed, and much attention was given to their diet, which was varied and nutritious. Notwithstanding the overcrowded condition of the school, through the vigilance of the staff a good general state of health was preserved throughout. The discipline is excellent and severity is unknown. The children are happy in carrying out the wishes of the principal and his staff. Besides the more ordinary equipment the school has two fine sets of band instruments—wind and string—consisting of fourteen and nine pieces respectively, in the use of which the boys have attained much skill in a remarkably brief space of time.

BATTLEFORD INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

This school was inspected on 21st December and following days, and visited on several other occasions during the year.

Staff.—Rev. E. Matheson, principal; R. F. McDougall, teacher senior division; Miss Sara Bonis, B.A., teacher junior division; Mrs. R. F. McDougall, Matron; Miss N. Hayes, seamstress; Miss V. Taylor, cook; Miss McDonald, laundress; H. H. Hull, farmer; — Brown, carpenter; P. Taylor, blacksmith; J. T. Long, nightwatchman; — Hooker, general assistant.

Classification and Class-work.—There were one hundred and seven pupils enrolled, classified as follows:

Standard I	24
“ II	9
“ III	51
“ IV	17
“ V	12

Those of twelve years and over spend half time in the school-room and half time at their several industries, for this purpose being arranged in two divisions of equal number. Although in the above classification the pupils were in several instances found to be graded above their attainments, yet that fault was likely soon to be remedied and the condition of the school-room work was most promising. The difficulties of low speaking and diffidence in answering have largely disappeared. The pupils are attached to their studies and show much zeal in all their school exercises. A commendable promptness of word and action is being cultivated; and the general tone of the school-room work is decidedly good.

Discipline.—Among the boys especially the effects of regular drill and systematic physical exercises are distinctly perceptible in an improved bearing, a ready obedience to command and a growing courtesy of conduct and of speech. At an entertainment given in the school-room on Christmas eve the pupils performed most creditably in singing, recitation and dialogue.

Industries.—The most important industries—agriculture, gardening, care of stock, dairying, carpentry and blacksmithing are taught systematically, each by a competent instructor. In addition to this there are painting, shoemaking, and printing, in each of which some of the boys excel though without regular instruction. The girls show much proficiency in all the different departments of housekeeping, especially in cooking and sewing.

Buildings and Equipment.—The main building was not originally designed for school purposes, and is not as convenient as could be desired. It is, however, kept in good condition and utilized to the best advantage. The equipment is in most respects sufficient and in regard to fire-escapes, pails, axes, Babcocks, and other fire apparatus, is particularly complete. The heating is partly by furnace and partly by stoves, and there is no uniform system of ventilation; but with the exercise of the greatest care both are maintained in a satisfactory condition. The other buildings are the principal's residence, vice-principal's residence, hospital, store-house, carpenter's-shop, blacksmith's-shop, recreation hall, bakery, laundry, cattle and horse stable, piggery, and poultry-house. These are all frame buildings, well arranged, well equipped, and for the most part kept in excellent order. By means of two steel air motors recently erected an abundant supply of water is obtained from wells on the premises.

General Remarks.—The neatness of the pupils' clothing, which is also of suitable material and comfortable, reflects credit on the sewing department of the school. Due attention is given to physical exercises, regular hours being set apart for this purpose under the direction of a member of the staff. The health of the school was in general good. The opportunities for turning to profitable account the skill gained by pupils in their several industries are not the best, owing to the sparse settlement of the surround-

ing district, yet in several instances where they have been employed abroad their services have given much satisfaction.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND BOARDING SCHOOL, UNION LAKE.

This school was inspected March 28th. Rev. J. R. Matheson, principal. Pupils enrolled, thirteen; present in class, twelve. These are between six and fourteen years of age. The class-work is conducted with moderate success, but owing to the youth of the children none are far advanced. Their knowledge is limited to reading, writing, numbers and the use of English. No trades are regularly taught, but the children assist in nearly all the work connected with the school and so get a practical acquaintance with most kinds of work usual about a farmhouse, such as sweeping, scrubbing, sewing, washing, gardening and the care of horses, cattle and poultry. The buildings are sufficiently large and the equipment in all respects sufficient for this attendance. Water of excellent quality is obtained from wells on the premises. The children's food is abundant, well-cooked, and in every respect suitable. Their clothing is comfortable and there is a large stock in reserve. Healthful recreation is furnished for winter and summer.

ROMAN CATHOLIC BOARDING SCHOOL, UNION LAKE.

This school was inspected 29th March. Rev. Father Comiré, principal. Pupils enrolled, forty-eight; present in classes, forty-six, ranging in age from 6 to 17, graded up to Standard VI, and divided into two forms, senior and junior. The pupils were examined in reading, literature, composition, grammar, dictation, writing, geography and arithmetic, and the results were most gratifying, bearing evidence of enthusiasm on the part of the teachers in their work, and the constant exercise of well-devised methods, a close application to their work in the class, a prompt and cheerful obedience to every command, and general good order in and out of school characterized their conduct.

The main building is of frame, painted without but not within, well planned, but affording insufficient accommodation for present attendance. It is heated throughout with stoves, and the heating is uniform and satisfactory. The equipment in general is very complete, especially in the dormitories, where the bedsteads, bed clothing, wash-basins, towels, &c., are all that are required, as is also the children's clothing, which is suitable and kept in excellent order. Cleanliness and other sanitary conditions are scrupulously observed.

JOHN SMITH'S DAY SCHOOL.

Inspected on the 21st October. Miss A. Thompson, teacher. Pupils enrolled, fifteen; present, thirteen; average attendance, ten; graded up to Standard III. In the examination the children acquitted themselves creditably, although their attainments are but slight, yet the conditions of progress are present and a useful work is being done. The building, which was unfit for occupation, has since been replaced by a substantial and commodious one.

RED PHEASANT'S DAY SCHOOL.

Inspected on the 22nd January; Miss M. Wilson, teacher. Pupils enrolled, twenty-three; present, nineteen; average attendance for past twelve months, thirteen. All in Standards I, II, and III. They were clean and tidy, and besides making moderate progress in their studies they are learning to sew and knit. The building was clean and comfortable, and the school material is sufficient and well cared for.

SWEET GRASS' DAY SCHOOL.

Inspected January 25th; J. Pritchard, teacher. Pupils enrolled, ten; present, eight, all in Standards I and II. Average attendance for the past eighteen months, seven.

The school building was suitable and the equipment sufficient and in moderately good condition. The progress of the children was not quite satisfactory, but the teacher had not been long in the school, and was likely to be able to effect a change.

LITTLE PINE'S DAY SCHOOL.

Inspected January 26th ; C. F. Desmarais, teacher. Pupils enrolled, fifteen ; present, eleven, in Standards I and II. Average attendance for eighteen months, fourteen. Much carelessness was observable here in regard to punctuality and cleanliness. The pupils were ill occupied, listless and unwilling or unable to answer the simplest questions in English.

POUNDMAKER'S DAY SCHOOL.

Inspected January 27th. Miss V. Arcand, teacher. Pupils enrolled, fourteen ; present, eleven ; average attendance for eighteen months, ten. All in Standards I and II.

This school is in a very satisfactory condition. Punctuality, cleanliness and discipline are well attended to. The children show much animation in connection with their class exercises, and an eagerness at all times to do all they can. They are not far advanced as yet, but the school is in a healthy condition and progress may be looked for.

THUNDERCHILD'S DAY SCHOOL.

Inspected February 9th. Pupils enrolled, fifteen ; present, ten ; average attendance for eighteen months, fourteen. Building, equipment and school material sufficient, but badly kept. The attendance of the children was not well looked after, and their class-work had been much neglected. The teacher in charge, Mr. P. McDonald, was not as yet regularly appointed, and had not had time to bring about any material change ; but much might fairly be expected.

SADDLE LAKE DAY SCHOOL.

Inspected March 17th. Rev. A. G. McKittrick, teacher. Pupils enrolled, twenty-two ; present, ten ; average attendance for past twenty months, eight. The building is large and comfortable. Equipment and school material are sufficient and in good order. Thoughtful methods are employed in developing the mental powers of the children, and in cultivating civilized habits and the use of the English tongue. Yet the work of the school is only a partial success, chiefly on account of the irregular attendance that the above figures indicate.

GOODFISH LAKE DAY SCHOOL.

Inspected March 14th. Vincent Smith, teacher. This school is situated on Pakan's Reserve. Pupils enrolled, twenty-two ; present, ten ; average for twenty months, thirteen. The Indians occupying this reserve are a large band and much scattered. There are forty-four children of school age on the reserve, and although there are two day schools situated about six miles apart, yet many are remote from either. In this instance a considerable effort has been made to keep up the attendance, and with some success. The children were interested in their work, and were kept busy in school. They were examined in reading, writing, dictation, arithmetic, composition and geography, in all of which they did well, except composition, in which they have little facility. The answering of the pupils of Standard III in geography was particularly good.

WHITEFISH LAKE DAY SCHOOL.

Inspected March 15th. Miss M. G. German, teacher. Pupils enrolled, twenty-two; present, nine; average for twenty months, six. The buildings and premises were in good order. The children were particularly neat and clean. The examination revealed the results of thoughtful teaching, and the present tone of the school is good.

MISTAWASIS' DAY SCHOOL.

Inspected June 29th. Miss Kate Gillespie, teacher. Pupils enrolled, fourteen; present, eight; average for past twelve months, seven. The pupils are quite young and all in Standards I and II. The majority of the children of this reserve being in attendance at industrial schools, the work is going on most satisfactorily, except in respect to attendance, which continues irregular. The children are making good progress, not only in the ordinary studies, but also in sewing, knitting, and much attention is given to gardening.

AHTAHKAKOOP'S DAY SCHOOL.

Inspected June 30th. Louis Ahenakew, teacher. Pupils enrolled, seventeen; present, sixteen; average for twelve months, fourteen. This is one of the most successful day schools I have visited. The work being done is similar to that of a school of white children and of an equally thorough character. The children use freely the English they have learned, speak out distinctly in their recitations, and show a lively interest in all their work. The school material was insufficient and the desks were in bad repair.

WAHSPATON'S DAY SCHOOL.

Miss M. L. Baker, teacher. Pupils enrolled, twelve; average attendance, seven. The total population of the reserve is only twenty-five. These Indians are Sioux. The school is well conducted and is doing a useful work, and its benefits are appreciated by the Indians.

WHITECAP'S DAY SCHOOL.

Situated on the Sioux Reserve at Moose Woods, near Saskatoon. The teacher is Mrs. Tucker, wife of Mr. W. R. Tucker, overseer of the reserve and missionary. At the date of my visit, July 27th, 1897, the school was closed for summer holidays, and as measles were prevalent on the reserve, it was not thought well to call the pupils together. There were, however, in the school-room and in the Indians' houses sufficient evidences of a work of value being done by the school.

Other day schools temporarily closed are those at Montreal Lake, Little Hills, Sturgeon Lake and Meadow Lake.

I was unable to visit the boarding schools at Ile à la Crosse and Lac la Biche, owing to their remote location and the condition of the trails. The latter is now being removed from its present location to a site on Blue Quill's Reserve, near the Saddle Lake Agency, where a well planned and commodious building has just been completed.

I have, &c.,

W. J. CHISHOLM.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
 CALGARY INSPECTORATE,
 CALGARY, ALTA., 10th Sept., 1898.

The Honourable
 The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
 Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to report upon my inspection of Indian schools during the past fiscal year.

EDMONTON AGENCY.

Alexander Reserve Day School.—24th October, 1897. Miss Sarah Cyre has been teacher of this school since June quarter, 1896. The young lady is competent to teach, but there is an utter want of success in her efforts, through the irregularity of attendance of the pupils. At my inspection there were only four pupils present; number on the roll six. On the reserve there are sixteen children of school age.

Joseph Reserve Day School.—25th Oct., 1897. The teacher, Mrs. Josephine Laderante was present in the school-room, but there were no pupils; the Indians were off hunting, and had taken their children with them. The class list produced contained the names of thirteen pupils.

White Whale Lake Reserve Day School.—27th October, 1897. The teacher, Rev. W. G. Blewett, was on the school premises, at work in the carpenter shop adjacent to the school-house.

The school was closed, as all the children were away off the reserve with their parents, hunting and trapping.

The teacher stated there were thirty-seven children of a school age in this band. I observed the number enrolled to be twenty-six; eleven of them being between the ages of ten and fourteen, the remainder from six to ten.

The school building is in good order and repair, outside as well as inside.

A good large garden had been cultivated the past summer by the children. I checked the Government property at each of these day schools, and found it correct in each case, as per inventories on School Returns dated 30th Sept., 1897.

BLOOD AGENCY.

St. Paul's Boarding School and the Kissock Homes.—27th Sept., 1897. Rev. Arthur deB. Owen, principal. This is one of a system of Indian boarding schools in Treaty 7, conducted by the diocese of Calgary (Church of England); they are under the general supervision of the Venerable Archdeacon Tims, who resides on the Sarcee Reserve.

Having made an exhaustive report upon each one of these schools, immediately after each inspection, for the information of the Commissioner, it will not, I opine, be necessary for me to encumber this report with statistics, and items of interior economy, therein brought to his notice.

At the date of my inspection there were enrolled thirty-five boys and twenty-three girls.

Present in the school-room at my examination were, thirty-one boys, and seventeen girls; of the absentees some were ill, some absent on leave, and some at work.

The children were well clothed, and appeared to be in a healthy condition (excepting one boy and seven girls in the sick room).

I visited the different buildings, also the laundry, everything was clean and in good order, and the grounds were neatly kept.

Dormitories were clean and well ventilated, the beds were neatly made up, having clean linen.

The clothing-room contained large quantities of new clothing, received from friends in England, it was well made up, of excellent material, suitable for a cold climate.

Fire-extinguishing Appliances.—The fire-buckets (thirty-eight) were filled and in convenient places; also the fire hand-grenades (thirty-four), also chemical engines (two) and fire axes (four).

School-rooms.—I spent an hour each in the boys' school-room and in the girls' school-room. I checked the list of Government property as given upon the September quarter school return.

ROMAN CATHOLIC BOARDING SCHOOL.

A very fine large building was in course of erection to be used for this purpose. The site chosen for it was adjacent to the hospital.

PIEGAN AGENCY.

St. Paul Boarding School on this reserve is under the missionary charge of the Rev. Father Danis.

The school work is under the more direct supervision of the Rev. Sister Superior Jean à Dieu, assisted by the Rev. Sisters Julien and St. Anne, and Lay Brother John Birchman.

During the time I was in charge of this agency I had many opportunities of witnessing the progress of this school, and of receiving almost daily reports of its work.

The very limited accommodation of the old school building made it necessary to take only girls and to limit the number to ten, from seven to twelve years of age.

They were at all times becomingly dressed and they had every appearance of being very happy.

School-room.—In the school-room they showed extraordinary proficiency in a variety of subjects, and were being taught to sew and knit.

New School Building.—A fine new building had been erected and was nearing completion. It was intended to accommodate forty pupils and a complete staff of teachers.

A new church was already finished adjacent to the new school.

St. Peter's Boarding School and Victoria Jubilee Indian Home.—Rev. J. Hinchliffe, missionary and principal. I visited this school 8th February, 1898.

The fine new buildings were occupied and they will always be a monument to the energy, persistence and patience of the reverend principal, who has accomplished so much out of—I was going to say nothing—but from apparent blank he raised up friends who have shown such liberality that, augmented by a comparatively small Government grant, he has a school building in which he can accommodate, in a home-like manner, fifty pupils and a full staff of teachers. It is heated with furnaces and is supplied with bath-rooms.

The children assembled in the school-room, about thirty-five of them, they were well clothed and looked healthy, bright and happy.

High River Industrial School, or St. Joseph's, situate at the confluence of the Bow and High Rivers. Rev. Father Naessens, principal. I spent some weeks in this school during February and March auditing the accounts and books and introducing the double entry system of book-keeping.

I was well satisfied with the management throughout; punctuality, industry, courtesy, prevailed from the principal to the youngest child.

The pupils were well taught, well clothed and well fed. Their recreations were as much supervised by the staff as were the studies, trades and domestic work.

Religious instruction to the pupils was given daily, cheerfulness reigned, and the isolation of the school from civilization was not felt, as it formed a community within itself, composed of industrial and educational pursuits, intermixed with social life.

Elkhorn Industrial School.—Mr. A. E. Wilson, principal.

I visited the Elkhorn industrial school during April and May and made an audit of the accounts and books.

The school was handicapped by being obliged to occupy buildings made temporarily available, at considerable distance from each other, in consequence of the destruction of the main school buildings, by fire, two years ago.

Also, the school roll of pupils had been reduced thirty-three per cent, by those from Treaty seven being sent to their homes, and recruiting new ones had languished.

The principal "lived in hope" that when they occupy their fine new building (now so nearly completed) the present difficulties will vanish, and a new cycle entered upon, when the school's old-time reputation will revive, and prosperity shine again.

The pupils in the school are a credit to the training powers of the present staff, promising by their demeanour to become respectable, intelligent members of any community in which their future life may be cast.

Brandon Industrial School.—Rev. John Semmens, principal.

I spent three weeks in this school during June, auditing the accounts and introducing double entry book-keeping.

From its favourable situation and environment, this school should have a prosperous future.

It possesses within itself unique facilities for training the pupils, and it is surrounded by object lessons of high class farming, and rural homes; these must make a lasting impression upon their youthful minds; and being supplemented by religious teaching, and practical training in different trades, and in domestic economy, there must be results that will prove satisfactory to the most cynical critic.

Qu'Appelle Industrial School.—Rev. J. Hugonnard, principal.

I visited this school during August, auditing the accounts and books, and producing balance sheets, showing its financial position on June 30.

It continues to hold pre-eminence in attendance of pupils, there being two hundred and twenty-five at present on the school roll.

And it is, probably, the first of our industrial schools to enrol a pupil of the second generation, a pupil whose parents were graduated here.

It is from the children of graduates, that I expect to see the fruit of the system. But little permanent impression can be made on the child of a buffalo hunter, one who has heard from his parents' lips, the fine times they enjoyed in the buffalo hunting, horse stealing, Indian wars, days.

When these stories become mythical, the teaching will become easier, and training influences lasting.

The crops of the school were damaged by a frost on June 14th, but such a large school has great recuperative powers within itself, and that which would paralyse a smaller school, but slightly affects this one.

A felt factory was established at considerable expense, it was perfectly equipped for work, when it was destroyed by fire; this had a deterrent effect upon the financial condition of the school, but schools, like individuals, will have "set-backs," and "ex-perimentia docet" not to have "too many irons in the fire," and to "hew to the line."

There has been little, if any, sickness among the pupils this year; they are a fine lot of children, and their good behaviour makes my duty of inspection agreeable.

I have, &c.,

T. P. WADSWORTH,
Inspector Indian Agencies.

QU'APPELLE INSPECTORATE,

FORT QU'APPELLE, ASSA., 6th October, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report of my inspections of schools in Manitoba and the North-west Territories, during my inspection of agencies, from 30th June, 1897, to 30th September, 1898.

REGINA INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

This school was inspected on 9th July, 26th, 27th, 29th and 30th November, and 9th and 10th December, 1897.

Grading of Pupils.—The number of pupils present 9th July was one hundred and ten; sixty four boys and forty-six girls, classified as under :—

Standard I.....	18
“ II.....	20
“ III.....	16
“ IV.....	32
“ V.....	23
Ungraded.....	1
	<hr/>
	110
	<hr/>

Examination showed progress in all the classes.

The class-rooms were comfortable and well ventilated and the equipment was sufficient. A few articles were requisitioned for the winter's work.

Staff.—The staff of the institution at the time of my last visits in November and December consisted of: Rev. A. J. McLeod, principal; Mr. Stewart, asst principal; Miss Nicoll, teacher; Miss Cumming, matron; Mrs. Moffatt, seamstress; Miss Cummings, laundress; Mrs. Matheson, cook; Mr. Motion, farmer; Mr. Acheson, carpenter; Mr. Motion, night-watchman.

A teacher for the senior classes was to begin work on 1st January, 1898, in place of the much lamented D. C. Munro, whose death was a loss to the school. His whole soul was in his work, and his influence over his pupils can be seen to-day, even on those who have returned to the reserves.

Buildings.—A new kitchen had been added to the principal's house.

The new hospital, a neat building cottage style, was about being completed. A new ice-house and a house for the carpenter had been built, also a piggery 25 x 32 feet with several compartments; boiler-house, 8 x 6 ft.; pump-house, 8 x 8 ft.; granary, 16 x 24 ft., have all been put up since my last inspection. There was a new ceiling in the laundry.

The implement shed was made double the size so that all implements can be kept under cover. Articles made: ten cupboards, eight gates, two hay racks, two wheel-barrows, wagon boxes.

Benches and general repairs to the stables and main buildings.

Posts and wire were on hand to fence in a section for pasture. The whole premises were thoroughly examined, and were found clean and tidy, and the best possible care had been taken of all property.

The dormitories were neat and comfortable, walls being tinted and covered with mottoes and pictures, giving them a cheerful and bright appearance.

The dining-room was also a nice bright place.

Diet.—Meals were well cooked and served, and each pupil got what was needed of good wholesome food, and I noticed that vegetables formed a good portion of the mid-day meal.

The beef was of the best quality and was supplied by Mr. Darke, of Regina, at a contract price of \$4.40 per 100 lbs.

The laundry was also in perfect order, girls busy ironing and folding away and all work going on with system and no confusion. The kitchen work was also being done by the older girls.

The flour used was strong baker's of a second quality got in exchange for wheat. The supplies generally were of the best quality in their class, and obtained at the lowest wholesale prices and from such highly respectable firms as the A. MacDonald Co., Winnipeg, for groceries, and John McDonald & Co., Toronto, for dry goods; other firms also were patronized, but I noticed these two firms had the bulk of the trade for staple goods. Economy was observed without stinginess, and therefore there were no deficits to report; each month showed a balance to be brought forward for the next month.

Office Work.—I audited the various books and balanced each account after writing off articles worn out. Cash entries compared with all invoices. The books are kept by Mr. McLeod, and everything was found to be correct and every item properly accounted for both in receipts and expenditure in a simple yet an intelligent form.

Industrial Work.—The butter for the use of the house was made by the girls, and in this they get good training for after-life. I have found on some reserves, where girls returned from school, made butter where they knew nothing about it before. Some people ask what benefit is it to these Indian boys and girls to go to an industrial school. Well, this is one among many others.

Ten boys were working for farmers from four to six months during the season, earning from \$15 to \$20 a month and board. One boy brought in, after some personal expenditure, \$88, another had \$75, and a third \$74. These sums the principal deposits for them. Two girls were at service in the town earning \$8 a month each.

Graduates.—Five boys and five girls graduated on 28th April, and full particulars were given at the time in the papers.

The pupils had a pleasant outing during the summer at Wetmore's grove, a pretty spot about five miles up the Wascana Creek. Boys two weeks under charge of Mr. Stewart, and girls two weeks under charge of Miss Cumming; the principal also visiting them during the time, and conducting services on Sundays.

The usual banquet for returning pupils was held on 2nd March, 1897. This is always a red letter day at the school.

Amusements.—There is a band, senior and junior boys practising regularly, and the smaller boys were pushing the older ones hard.

There is a football club and the boys have matches with the town and police teams, and other clubs in the settlement, and generally hold their own, and what is best they always conduct themselves as gentlemen.

The school has a literary society, and meetings are held once a week during the winter months. There is also a temperance society, a Christian Endeavour and a missionary society.

The discipline and order of the school were excellent and the conduct of the pupils had seldom to be found fault with, and the good behaviour was not from fear, but the motive was rather that each boy and girl felt a pride in keeping up the good name of the school.

After a careful inspection, I have pleasure in stating that good, honest work is being done, and the results prove that value is being given for the money expended

Farm Work.—The crop put in during 1897 was one hundred and seven acres, and there were harvested: three hundred and ninety-four bushels wheat; six hundred and sixteen bushels oats; four hundred and fifty-two bushels potatoes; three hundred bushels

turnips ; one thousand cabbages, besides onions, carrots and beets ; twelve tons of rye grass ; sixty tons of green feed.

Forty acres summer-fallow, nine acres new breaking, eighteen acres fall ploughing, six acres back setting.

The live stock consisted of thirty-six head of cattle, eleven horses and mares, forty-four pigs and thirty-five poultry.

Boys follow farm work as a rule ; a few carpentry and printing, painting, &c., but farm-work, including, of course, the care of cattle, is what ninety-five per cent of these boys will have to depend on for a living.

The girls do the usual housework, besides sewing, mending, knitting, laundry work, &c.

Fire Protection.—All precautions were taken to guard against fire.

RUPERT'S LAND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

This school was inspected on 28th and 29th October, 1897. The number of pupils present was sixty-one ; number on the roll, seventy. Four were out working, four were on leave, and one was at St. John's College. The classification was : Junior classes, Standard I, seventeen ; junior classes, Standard II., twelve ; senior classes, Standard III., nineteen ; senior classes, Standard IV., fourteen ; senior classes, Standard V., eight ; total, seventy.

The school equipment was ample.

Staff.—T. H. Rhodes was master and teacher in the senior department. Miss Clayton, teacher in the junior. Both hold second-class professional certificates for Ontario, and Miss Clayton had attended Toronto University for three years, for the degree of B.A. School-rooms same as before. The junior classes met in the main building. Both departments were conducted with care and ability.

The twelve large desks I recommended in my last report had been provided, and were a comfort to the senior pupils.

In addition to the regular school hours, from 9 to 12 a.m. and from 1.30 to 4 p.m., classes were held three nights in the week, Mr. Rhodes taking the boys, and the principal the girls. Specimens of the pupils' composition and writing were sent to the Commissioner.

The inspection of the institution proper was commenced on 19th Oct. The staff consisted of Rev. J. H. Fairlie, principal ; Mrs. Fairlie, matron ; T. H. Rhodes, master and teacher of senior classes ; Miss Clayton, teacher junior classes ; Miss Lang, seamstress ; Miss Knight, laundress ; Miss Howard, cook ; Agnes Cameron (an ex-pupil), monitress ; Thos. Hunt (pupil), carpenter ; James Fraser, farmer ; Geo. Mitchell, carpenter ; A. J. Kayll, clerk. All boarded in the institution except the farmer, carpenter and clerk.

Farm Work.—The crop put in and harvested was : wheat, eleven acres, harvested one hundred and twenty-five bushels ; oats, twenty acres, harvested two hundred and seventy-five bushels ; barley, eighteen acres, harvested eighty-seven bushels ; potatoes, five acres, harvested four hundred and fifty bushels ; turnips, three-fourths of an acre, harvested two hundred and fifty bushels ; mangolds, one-fourth of an acre, harvested fifty bushels.

Nineteen bushels of beets, carrots and onions were stored away for winter use ; also four hundred and fifty cabbages, and the house was well supplied with vegetables during the season. One hundred tons of hay were stacked.

The farm is four miles long and runs back from the Red River. Forty acres of land under cultivation and sixty acres of fencing had been done. The school building looked well with nice grounds in front, prettily laid out and covered with trees and shrubs. The vegetable garden was also a good one. The cattle numbered thirty-two head : horses and colts, five ; pigs, twenty-one, and poultry, thirty-five. The cows furnish all the milk required for the school and for butter, besides having a lot of the latter for sale. The girls are expert butter-makers, and I have seldom seen as good as I saw and tasted here.

Buildings.—The outbuildings and surroundings were in capital order, not a speck of dirt could be seen lying around. The ice-house had been put into order for keeping ice. The carpenter boys were doing well, but the feature of the industries was the farm and garden work.

The main building had been improved by the removal of the old closets, on the Smead-Dowd system, and the introduction of water-closets, five for pupils and one for staff on the girls' side, and four for pupils and one for staff on the boys' side. These are supplied with water pumped up to the tanks by a steam engine from a well in the basement. There are outside water-closets for both boys and girls, which are used in the summer. There were no offensive odours in the building as formerly. The water-closets are on the ground floor, and the workmanship was of the highest order, and they were working well. The various rooms had been kalsomined and floors oiled, and every corner as clean as it was possible to make them.

The kitchen had been supplied with a "Prowse" (Montreal) range, on which the bread was made, and the girls do all the work, and beautiful bread was to be seen, strong baker's flour being used. The kitchen was clean and tidy, and everything was in its proper place. A new sink for dish-washing had also been added.

The dining-room was nicely arranged, boys' tables at one end, and girls at the other, and table for staff in the centre, and all take their meals at the same time. Meals were well cooked and served. The principal and matron give their personal attention during meal hours, and the best of order is observed, although the pupils are not forbidden to have a little conversation with each other. I confess I do not like to see the pupils bolting their food as if it was the last they were ever to get, and afraid to open their mouths except to swallow their food.

The two dormitories for girls are cheerful rooms, in fact the best in the building, and they were the pink of cleanliness and neatness. Iron bedsteads, each bed had a mattress, filled with new oat straw, a healthy thing to sleep on, which I know from experience, two sheets, pillows, three blankets, and a counterpane. Wardrobes were made for clothing, instead of having them hanging round.

Boys' dormitory No. 1 had thirty-eight iron bedsteads furnished the same as the girls. This dormitory was not, however, suitable, being too low in the ceiling, dark and hard to ventilate, besides being cramped in space and breathing room.

Boys' dormitory No. 2, at the other end of the building was satisfactory, being airy, roomy and comfortable.

Fire Protection.—Fire appliances were all over the building, pails kept full of water, &c. The girls' basement had a concrete floor. The old closets had been removed, and the places cleaned out to the depth of three feet, and the space filled up with lime.

The laundry was, as before, with drying-room upstairs, where the dry goods used to be kept. Seven hundred pieces were put through the washing and ironing weekly.

There are play-grounds for both boys and girls, suitably inclosed. A small shed for tools had been made. The old stable is now a granary, and bins put in capable of holding one thousand bushels of grain.

A number of other repairs had been made, and the whole place was in perfect order.

The staff was an efficient one, each member doing his or her duties faithfully and well, and work went on from morning until evening like clockwork. The supervision was complete. The principal was first and last around the place, and nothing escaped his notice.

Mrs. Fairlie, the matron, is a valuable official, and performs her particular duties in a most satisfactory manner.

The sewing-room under the capable management of Miss Lang, called for special notice. Miss Lang teaches the girls all kinds of sewing, mending, knitting, &c., and making dresses, and also boys' duck and tweed suits, cotton and flannel shirts, &c.

The school carried off ten first and ten second prizes at the Kildonan and St. Paul's Agricultural Show. The prizes were for "knitting," "boys' suits," "ladies' sewing bags," "scarfs," "darning," "laundry work," "crochet work," "aprons," and a number of other articles. The school also took first prize at the Winnipeg Exhibition, and

obtained medals from His Honour Lieutenant-Governor Patterson, in honour of the Queen's Jubilee, which they wear with considerable pride.

The health of the pupils was good, and no visits from the doctor were required from February to September.

The boys drill regularly and this exercise was improving them in their walking. They had got out of the slouching style so common among Indian boys. There is also a temperance society in connection with the school, and as many as forty attend the meetings, which are conducted entirely by the pupils themselves.

The books were audited from 1st January, 1896, to 30th September, 1897, and an inventory of all Government property taken,—goods in store and house equipment. The total cost for the twenty-one months was \$19,848.03.

The average attendance was seventy, the cost, therefore, per pupil is \$162.02, for twelve months, including everything, but deducting amounts for repairs, medicines, postage and school-room equipment, not chargeable on the per capita system, the cost for maintenance for twelve months is \$142.47 per pupil.

The new parish school building put up by the carpenter and his boys was completed. The work was commenced in August and completed 16th October. The building was painted outside and in, and the work was done to the entire satisfaction of the church committee, as expressed in a letter from the Rev. Sylva White, the rector of the parish.

The pupils attended the parish church every Sunday morning and evening, and the Indian girls compose the choir, and lead the singing very well.

The following are the places where pupils came from, and it will be noticed the distances are wide apart:—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
St. Peter's Reserve.....	27	23	50
Lac Seul.....	8	1	9
Fairford.....	2	3	5
Cumberland.....	1	1	2
York Factory.....		1	1
Lesser Slave Lake.....	1	..	1
Pas Mountain.....	1	..	1
Moose Lake.....	1	..	1
	41	29	70

Mr. Kayll, the clerk, is most careful and correct in his work, and he is a valuable official.

The running expenses were being considerably reduced, as was shown by statements sent in at the time. Nothing was allowed to go to waste.

The pupils were happy and were making good progress, although the principal is strict, and insists on the rules being complied with, even to the smallest detail, he is at the same time kind to the children, and Mrs. Fairlie takes a motherly interest in them also. This is as it should be, when these poor little things are so far away from fathers and mothers, and we know how fond Indians are of their children—a good trait in their character. It is only to be expected they will be treated kindly, and with due consideration of the position of these pupils. I can only say if I ever find a single case of undue harshness, I give the guilty parties fair notice that the facts will be at once reported.

FILE HILLS BOARDING SCHOOL, FILE HILLS AGENCY.

This school is conducted in connection with the Presbyterian Church, and was inspected on 30th December, 1897. Number of pupils present, sixteen—boys, eleven; girls, five; number enrolled, sixteen. Classification of pupils:

Standard I.....	4
“ II.....	4
“ III.....	3
“ IV.....	3
“ V.....	2

 16

The school equipment was sufficient. Alex. Skene, principal and teacher. The school building had been enlarged by adding fourteen feet to its length. The room is now 34 x 16, and porch 8 x 10. Four windows, walls and ceiling finished with dressed lumber and painted. The ventilation was good.

Four boys had worked for farmers part of the summer, and earned \$150.00 of which \$64.00 was left in the hands of Mr. Skene, and the balance spent on clothing, &c. The main building was in its usual home-like order, and the requirements of the department were fully complied with. The pupils were making good progress. Letters from the employers of the boys were very complimentary as to their behaviour, and how they performed their duties.

OKANESE DAY SCHOOL, BIRTLE AGENCY.

This school is conducted in connection with the Presbyterian Church, and was inspected 16th February, 1898.

Number of pupils present, four—boys, one; girls, three; attendance on 14th was eight, and on 15th, ten; number on the roll, fourteen. The average attendance was nine. The day was very stormy and cold when I called, and children could scarcely travel any distance. School and equipment ample.

Classification of pupils :—

Standard I.....	7
“ II.....	2
“ III.....	5

 14

A number of the older pupils have gone to Birtle boarding school and some to Regina.

R. C. McPherson, missionary and teacher. Mrs. McPherson was teaching the girls sewing, knitting, &c., and some good specimens of their work was shown. A new school building had been erected since my last visit, size 30 x 18. Log, and sheeted outside and in with dressed lumber; shingled roof, four windows down stairs and one up stairs; porch, 6 x 6; platform at one end; brick chimney; good ventilation. The site is on the brow of the rising ground, and is a pretty one. A garden was to be begun in the spring. The new mission buildings put up at cost of \$1,000, and a short distance from the school, on the same slope.

BIRTLE BOARDING SCHOOL.

This school is conducted in connection with the Presbyterian Church. It was inspected on 21st February, 1898.

Number of pupils present, forty-four—boys, fifteen; girls, twenty-nine; number on the roll, forty-four, classified as follows :—

Standard I.....	26
“ II.....	2
“ III.....	9
“ IV.....	7

 44

Equipment sufficient and principally supplied by the mission.

W. J. Small, B.A., principal and teacher; Miss McLaren, matron; Miss McLeod, assistant matron; Hugh Mackay, teamster and farmer.

The buildings were the same as last reported, and were in the best of order; and the dormitories, dining-room and kitchen were all tidy and neat. The garden had produced potatoes, carrots, onions, turnips, cabbages, &c., enough for the use of the house. Five acres of land were ready for crop next year. Three boys had little gardens of their own. Four boys and six girls were out working part of the summer, and one girl was still in a situation.

The results of the year's work were very satisfactory, and the influence of the school on the surrounding reserve has had a beneficial effect in many ways on the Indians.

OAK RIVER SIOUX DAY SCHOOL, BIRTLE AGENCY, CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

This school was inspected on the 2nd March, 1898. Mr. Agent Markle and Rev. Mr. Stoddart being present, as well as a few of the parents of the pupils.

Number of pupils present, twenty-two—boys, fifteen; girls, seven; number on the roll, twenty-five, classified as under:—

Standard I.	16
“ II.	5
“ III.	4
	<hr/>
	25

School equipment sufficient.

J. F. Fox teacher, also missionary on the reserve.

Building same as before, roomy and comfortable except on windy days, when it is more difficult to keep it warm. The Indians supplied all the wood. Twelve extra seats had been supplied during the year. There was no garden. The progress was not so good as I expected. The missionary and school work on such a large reserve was more than one man could properly undertake.

The pupils were warmly dressed and were clean, and the parents seemed to be interested in the school.

KEY'S DAY SCHOOL, SWAN RIVER AGENCY, CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

This school was inspected on 30th March, 1898.

Number of pupils present, eleven—boys four, girls seven. Number enrolled, fifteen. average attendance, seven.

Classification of pupils:—

Standard I.	9
“ II.	1
“ III.	3
“ IV.	2
	<hr/>
	15

Four non-treaty pupils were also present.

A few articles in school material were asked for.

Rev. Mr. Owens, missionary and teacher.

Building old and dilapidated as reported last inspection (efforts were to be made to get a new building this year).

Some good specimens of sewing and knitting were noticed. Julia Brass had socks, aprons, cushions, petticoats, pinafores and comforters. Margaret Red Lake had the same assortment. Clara Red Lake had quilts, mitts, &c. All the girls do sewing and knitting more or less, and Mrs. Owens takes considerable pains in teaching them. The girls had all well made and neatly fitting gray dresses on, cut out by Mrs. Owens

and sewn by the girls themselves. No garden had been started. There was some life about this school which was encouraging.

KEE-SEE-KOUSE DAY SCHOOL, SWAN RIVER AGENCY, ROMAN CATHOLIC.

This school was inspected 30th March, 1898.

Number of pupils present, four—boys one, girls three. Number on the roll, fifteen; classified as under:

Standard I.....	8
“ II.....	4
“ III.....	3
	15

School material ample. E. Barton, teacher.

A new building has been put up since I was here last, 20 x 18 feet, 9 feet 6 in. high. Shingled roof, open chimney, log, plastered outside, wainscotted, ceiling sheeted with dressed lumber. Porch 8 x 4. A neat, comfortable building. The Indians were irregular in supplying wood, and one day I called and school was closed for want of it. I spoke to the chief and he said it was the fault of the teacher. A midday meal is supplied, beef and rice being given besides the biscuits, and there should be a better attendance. Long distances and sickness were the reasons given for poor attendance.

CROWSTAND BOARDING SCHOOL, SWAN RIVER AGENCY.

This school is in connection with the Presbyterian Church. Number of pupils present, twenty-two—boys fifteen, girls seven. Number enrolled, twenty-nine.

Thirteen non-treaty pupils also were present, seven treaty were absent on account of sickness, and it was thought better to allow them to go home for a while.

Classification of pupils:—

	Treaty present.	Non-treaty present.
Standard I.....	12	2
“ II.....	9	6
“ III.....	1	3
“ IV.....	..	2
	22	13

School material sufficient.

Miss Petch, teacher, holds an Ontario second-class certificate with normal training, and was doing splendid work. School-room same as before.

The main building was gone over carefully. The staff consisted of Rev. Neil Gilmour, principal; Miss Carson, matron; Miss Gilmour, assistant matron; Miss Petch, teacher; and a labourer. The various rooms and dormitories were clean and tidy, and the ventilation was good. The dining-room was bright and cheerful, and there was a home-like air about the whole place. The beds are wooden, and of course iron ones would be better. Each bed had a pillow, sheets, blankets and quilts, and a mattress filled with hay.

Flannel shirts were used in winter and cotton ones in summer.

The crop was a failure, except for a few potatoes. The live stock consisted of six cows and heifers, two horses and thirty-two sheep. The cows were not giving milk and this had to be purchased.

Twenty acres of land had been cultivated, and four of a garden.

Twenty acres of new land were to be broken and the old field summer-fallowed. The school building (stone) needed some repairs, which I reported.

Fire appliances, such as axes, pails, grenades and Babcocks, were on hand. The little church is about three miles from the mission. The school girls lead the singing and one plays the organ. The attendance of the Indians was fair, but might have been much

better. Crowstand school was complying with the requirements of the department in every particular and the fullest justice was being given to the pupils.

GORDON'S BOARDING SCHOOL, TOUCHWOOD AGENCY.

This school is in connection with the Church of England. It was inspected on 19th April, 1898.

Number of pupils present, twenty-two—boys ten, girls twelve. Number enrolled, twenty-three; classified as under:—

Standard I.....	3
“ II.....	10
“ III.....	5
“ IV.....	4
	22

School material sufficient. M. Williams, teacher; Mrs. Williams, matron; Miss Williams, assistant matron. Building as before. A new root-house and an ice-house had been added during the year. There was a large garden. All the rooms in the main building had been kalsomined and everything was in good order. All iron beds, supplied by the department.

Rev. Mr. Kettle had been principal and missionary, but left a week before inspection.

The beds had been supplied with ticks filled with hay, which was an improvement. Lockers for clothing had been made, and the floors were oiled. Ventilation was good. His Lordship the Bishop of Qu'Appelle visited the school and was much pleased with it.

This school is under deep obligations to A. F. Gault, Esq., of Montreal, for liberal gifts of clothing material, sent regularly since the year 1896, sent at my request to enable pupils to attend day school during winter, and Mr. Gault has continued his generosity ever since.

DAY STAR'S DAY SCHOOL, TOUCHWOOD AGENCY, CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

This school was inspected on 20th April, 1898. Number of pupils present, eleven—boys, five; girls, six. Number enrolled, eleven; classified as under:

Standard I.....	1
“ II.....	3
“ III.....	3
“ IV.....	4
	11

School material ample. Mrs. Smith, teacher. School-room same as before, and the sum of \$50 was authorized to make some needed repairs.

There was a nice garden, and each boy and girl had a small space staked off with each name on stake.

Knitting mitts, socks and stockings, sewing quilts, &c. This was an interesting little school, and one feature was that seldom is there a pupil absent. Cold or warm, stormy or fine, these little girls appear with a little red shawl over their heads. They were doing very well, and His Lordship the Bishop was much pleased with the school and the intelligence of these little boys and girls. I regretted not being able to give them a trifling present in the shape of a few candies as formerly, but this good practice had to be given up at all the schools.

MUSCOWEQUAN'S BOARDING SCHOOL, TOUCHWOOD AGENCY, ROMAN CATHOLIC.

This school was inspected on 21st April, 1898. Number of pupils present, thirty-one—boys, seventeen; girls, fourteen; number enrolled, thirty-one; non-treaty pupils present, three. Classification of pupils:

	Treaty.	Non-treaty.
Standard I	13	..
“ II	12	2
“ III	3	..
“ IV	3	1
	31	3

Some books and other material were asked for, and a list was forwarded to the Commissioner.

Sister Valade was the teacher. School-room and buildings same as reported last inspection. On a later visit, 12th May, the number of pupils had been increased to thirty-six. The regular staff consisted of Rev. Father Perrault, principal; Rev. Father Gasseault, assistant principal has also care of boys; Rev. Brother Pilion, general assistant; Sister-Superior Xavier, matron; Sister Valade, teacher; Sister Alexander, assistant matron. The dormitories, dining-room, kitchen, officers' rooms, were all in perfect order; meals nicely cooked and served, and the best of order at the tables. Pupils do all the baking. The bedsteads are single iron ones, and each had a mattress, two blankets, quilt and pillow.

Ventilation was very good. There are wash-basins and fixtures in each dormitory, portable baths. Pupils were clean and well dressed. Very good outbuildings, stables, sheds and corrals; and a large garden was being prepared.

The old school building had been removed and rebuilt as a recreation room, and was being used meantime for church services on Sundays, for pupils and settlers. I was much pleased with this admirably managed institution, and with the progress it was making in civilizing these Indian boys and girls.

The usual fire appliances were on hand: axes, fire-pails, Babcocks, grenades, &c.
A fair crop of oats was harvested.

WHITE WHALE LAKE DAY SCHOOL, EDMONTON AGENCY.

This school is in connection with the Methodist Church. It was inspected on the 14th July, 1898. Number of pupils present, four—boys two, girls two. Number on the roll, thirty-six.

All the more advanced pupils had recently been drafted to the Red Deer industrial school.

Owing to many of the families being camped at the Lake, some five miles from the school, and also the treaty payments going on, and wet weather, the attendance was poor.

The school had been closed from 16th May, to the end of June, owing to the sickness of the teacher, and the time taken with the pupils going to Red Deer.

Rev. Mr. Blewett, missionary and teacher.

School material sufficient. The building is a commodious one, and used also for church services.

There was a half acre garden attended to by the boys, and some good specimens of sewing and knitting done by the girls were seen.

I told the parents that unless the attendance was better kept up, the result might be the withdrawal of the grant.

JOSEPH'S DAY SCHOOL, EDMONTON AGENCY, ROMAN CATHOLIC.

This school was inspected on 16th July, 1898.

Number of pupils present, three—boys, none; girls, three. Number on the roll, twenty-two. Average attendance, seven.

These being hunting Indians, the attendance is irregular.
 Classification of pupils :—

Standard I.....	18
“ II.....	3
“ III.....	1
	22

School material ample.

Mrs. Laderante, teacher, an ex-pupil of High River industrial school (Josephine Caliho), and daughter of the chief. This lady was doing good work, and was successful in teaching the girls knitting, sewing and spinning. A mid-day meal was supplied to the pupils.

The building was neat and clean, 22 x 20 ft. and porch.

There was a small garden for the boys. A neat little house had been put up for the teacher by the mission. It was pleasing to find one of the older pupils of an industrial school doing such good work.

ST. ALBERT BOARDING SCHOOL, EDMONTON AGENCY, ROMAN CATHOLIC.

This school was inspected on 26th July, 1898.

Number of pupils present, eighty-five—Boys, forty-one ; girls, forty-four.
 Classification of pupils :—

Standard I.....	43
“ II.....	12
“ III.....	3
“ IV.....	15
“ V.....	7
“ VI.....	5
	85

Some material was asked for, and the list was sent to the Commissioner, Winnipeg. Sister L. A. Dandurand, principal ; Sister Lavoie and Sister Magrand, teachers for the boys ; Sister St. Leon and Sister Albertine, teachers for the girls.

This was one of the best equipped and well managed institutions I had met with, and the cleanliness of the whole place and the arrangements for the comfort of the children could not be better

Dormitories for boys and girls were airy and ventilation was good. The beds were furnished with palliasses, blankets, pillows, &c. The bedsteads were iron and some wooden ones, and all were clean and neat.

Baths.—These were in each flat for boys and girls, and were supplied with hot and cold water.

Garden for boys.—The boys had a garden of their own, which they had fenced, and it was free of weeds, the boys were able to furnish vegetables for the house before the regular vegetable garden, and were proud of their success.

Baking.—The boys and girls make all the bread.

Laundry.—The girls attend to this work, but the boys have to wash their own clothes.

Loom.—There is a loom for making cloth.

Spinning-wheels.—These were going at the time of inspection.

Shoe-shop.—Three boys was working here mending boots and harness.

Stables.—There is stable room for sixty head of cattle, which was the number of the herd, beside horses, c.

Heating.—The buildings are heated with hot air and stoves.

Surgery.—The surgery-room is a model one. Drugs are carefully and neatly labelled and kept in cases with glass fronts.

Band.—There is a very good band composed entirely of the school boys.

Swings.—There are swings and nice play-grounds for both boys and girls.

Fire Appliances.—Every precaution is taken to guard against fire. I recommended more fire-buckets, axes and grenades.

Industries.—Six sewing-machines were at work. All dresses, &c., for girls and clothing for boys are made in the house, as well as numerous other articles. Some very fine specimens of rag and fancy carpets and mats, straw hats, &c., were noticed. The hum of the work going on gave one the impression that he was in a factory. Boys milk the cows. Butter is made for the use of the house, and for sale. The boys also work on the school farm, which is the very best training they can get.

I was delighted with my visit, and I can assure you that the pupils are getting the best of care, and are being well trained for making a livelihood for themselves after leaving the school. The pupils were neatly dressed, and were looking in the best of health. There was not one case of sickness at the time. They were polite, cheerful and happy. The whole building and surroundings had the appearance of comfort and good taste.

SAMSON'S DAY SCHOOL, HOBBEA AGENCY,

in connection with the Methodist Church, was inspected on 18th August, 1898. Number of pupils present, eight—boys three, girls five. These were non-treaty. Owing to the Indian families being camped at the hay meadows, there were no treaty pupils present, although a good many, I was told, attended shortly afterwards.

The number on the roll was twenty, and the average attendance was about six. The equipment was sufficient and the classification of the pupils was :—

Standard I	15
“ II	1
“ III	4

20

Miss Shaw, teacher.

The building was clean and walls tastily arranged, but it is cold in winter. I told Chief Samson that if he would get his men to cut willows and do the work of willowing and plastering the outside walls, the agent would supply the lime and nails. This would make the building warm and comfortable. A porch was also needed. 

I told the chief that unless more interest was taken in the school in seeing the children attend regularly, not to be surprised if it was closed altogether. This would be going backwards. There are thirty children of school age on the reserve, and the attendance should always be good, if only a little more interest were taken by the parents. The chief said he would do his best, as he would not like to see the school closed.

Miss Shaw is an accomplished and painstaking teacher, and was doing her best in visiting the families, and it was expected the attendance would be well kept during the fall and winter, when the Indians got back to their houses.

ERMINEKIN'S BOARDING SCHOOL, HOBBEA AGENCY, ROMAN CATHOLIC,

was inspected on 18th August, 1898.

Number of pupils present, thirty-three—boys twenty, girls thirteen. Number on the roll, thirty-three; classified as under :—

Standard I	22
“ II	4
“ III	4
“ IV	3

33

School material ample.

The class-room is on the ground floor, 40 x 21, and supplied with patent desks. Walls tinted, and room well suited for the purpose.

Extensive improvements have been made since my last visit in 1895. The new building for boarders is a handsome one—three-story—and is admirably fitted up and finished.

The basement is 35 x 25 feet.

The ground floor contains the class-room, 40 x 21 feet; dining-room, 40 x 21 feet; kitchen, 25 x 18 feet. Lockers and closets from floor to ceiling for clothing, &c. Ceilings 12 feet high. The second floor contains the boys' dormitory, 30 x 40 feet, sewing-room, large and airy. Third flat contains girls' dormitory, 50 x 40 feet. Each dormitory is supplied with wash-basins, chairs, &c. Beds are iron. There is a laundry outside, also an oven for baking bread.

Horse and cattle stables, sheds, water-closets for boys and girls.

The property consists of twenty-four acres of land, and there was a good vegetable garden, and all the vegetables for the use of the house were raised.

A nice play-ground in front of the building. There is a neat little church and house for the principal, the whole enclosed with a neat fence.

The staff consisted of Reverend F. Perreault, principal; Sister Ignace, superior; Sister St. Cœur de Marie, teacher; Sister St. Arsène, assistant teacher; Sister St. Sophie, Sister St. Valère and Sister St. Fébranie, housework, and sewing, tailoring, cooking, &c.

The whole place was in splendid order, and the Indians of this reserve were to be congratulated on having such a well equipped and admirably managed institution provided for the education of their children, and I urged them to send all of school age, so that the complement allowed would be up to its full limit. I understood that four or five were added to the roll a few days afterwards.

This completed my inspection of schools, and I can report progress all along the line, both in school and general agency work and thriftiness of the Indians.

I have, &c.,

ALEX. MCGIBBON,
Inspector Indian Agencies.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,

ALBERNI GIRLS' HOME,

ALBERNI, 15th July, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—In compliance with your request I am pleased to report steady progress in the Alberni school and home.

Progress.—Harry, an ex-pupil, has charge of the outdoor work since November, 1897, and his management as well as the amount of work accomplished is a matter of surprise to all who are interested in the home.

The garden is neat and clean, but we are much in need of water.

Wind-mill.—The Women's Foreign Missionary Society sent us a wind-mill last fall to force the water from the river, which is a great help to us.

Farming.—Nowayick (Tom) Sessaht, an Indian of the reserve, is still busy clearing land; others, I am pleased to say, are following his example. There were more in need last winter for want of food than there have been since I took charge in 1893.

Indian Doctors.—There has been a good deal of sickness on the reserve; whooping cough, under stress of the Indian doctoring, carried off four children. Steps are being taken by the Indians themselves to have the Indian doctors done away with. I trust they will receive all needed assistance, as their own efforts are praiseworthy. A mass meeting was held 27th June, 1898, when it was decided to expel them, but owing to the absence of the agent the matter was allowed to stand over for three months. Ned, Sesaht Bob, Charlie and Mrs. Folwell are the most objectionable ones.

Health.—The health of the children in the home has been good. One of the girls died in April of tuberculosis, aged sixteen years. She was a good, steady, capable girl.

I have, &c.,

B. J. JOHNSTON,
Indian Girls' Home.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
ALERT BAY GIRLS' HOME,
ALERT BAY, 17th November, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour now to present my report on the Indian Girls' Home at Alert Bay, British Columbia, for the year ended 30th June last.

Attendance.—The number of pupils in the home during the past year has been thirteen, the average nine. We still find it almost impossible to persuade heathen parents to leave their daughters in our home. Those we have are orphans or the children of Christian parents. There is no difficulty in getting the boys, but the heathen value their girls at a high figure and they are early given away in marriage.

Health.—This on the whole has been very good. There was an epidemic of measles in April and seven girls were attacked, but all soon recovered.

Progress.—The matron speaks very highly of three girls who have been in the home four years. They are able to, and often, cook the meals with little assistance and make excellent bread. Many visitors have, the past year, visited our day school where these home girls are taught, and have expressed surprise and pleasure at the proficiency both in speaking and reading English.

Recreation.—Besides daily walks with the matron, we have a boat belonging to the home in which the girls, in fine feather, take frequent exercise. They also have each a small flower garden, which is a constant pleasure to some of them. In the home we have a large play-room where is stored almost everything that can put gladness into the heart of a girl. If noise is a test of mirth, there are seasons when they must be supremely happy.

I have, &c.,

ALFRED J. HALL,
Acting Principal.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
ALERT BAY INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,
ALERT BAY, 1st July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

STR.—I have the honour to submit my annual report, together with an inventory of Government property under my charge for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location.—The school is situated, as stated in my last report, on rising ground at the extreme west end of Alert Bay, well sheltered from northerly winds and commanding a pleasant view to sea.

Land.—There are four hundred and ten acres of land belonging to the school, about five of which have been cleared by the pupils.

Buildings.—The buildings are the same as mentioned in my last report. The damage caused by the fire of last year has been repaired, and I have to thank the department for its kind assistance in supplying the materials.

Accommodation.—There is ample accommodation for twenty-five pupils, and when the number increases the loft in the top of the building could easily be converted into a dormitory.

Attendance.—The past year has been one of real progress. Owing to a poor fishing season the old pupils returned to the school at once, and before the end of the quarter, the school was full with twenty-six pupils in attendance. In spite of the repeated requests of the old people for their boys to attend the winter dances, they stuck to their studies very well. Four day scholars attended regularly during the year.

Health.—The health of the children has been on the whole good, with the exception of an outbreak of measles among the younger boys. In the winter one boy was laid up with congestion of the lungs. I am thankful to say that with good nursing and care he is quite well now.

Class-room Work.—In the school room marked progress was observable. All the pupils have made great strides in all the subjects taught. It has been a great pleasure to teach them this year past.

The pupils were graded as follows :—

Standard I.....	7
“ II.....	6
“ III.....	8
“ IV.....	1
“ V.....	4

Industrial Work.—All the boys work as usual from two to three hours daily. They have helped in the general housework and cooking, and done most of the washing. The elder lads have taken much more pride in doing their work nicely and more orderly than heretofore. The boys under their instructor, Mr. William Halliday have renovated the girls' home inside and put up a neat picket fence outside.

A cottage hospital has also been erected by them, the materials having been paid for by public subscriptions. A large wood-shed is now being erected for the use of the institution.

In the carpenter's-shop, marked progress has been made by those learning this trade.

Several good panel doors have been turned out by the pupils.

Farm and Garden.—The soil, as before stated, is very poor; such very poor crops are produced that little encouragement is given in return for the hard work of clearing. However about half an acre has been fenced and sown with potatoes and vegetables. Six acres have been "slashed" and will, I hope, be burned and sown down with grass this fall.

Religious Training.—All the pupils have been carefully instructed in moral and religious truth. The Lord's Prayer, Ten Commandments, and life of Christ have been taught in the class-room in accordance with the programme of studies for industrial schools.

Morning and evening prayers are said in the dining-hall. All the pupils attend divine service on Sundays.

Conduct.—The behaviour of the boys has been satisfactory.

Fire Protection.—This was fully stated in my last report.

Girls' Department.—Last June the Church Missionary Society placed the Girls' Home under the control of this institution. The girls have been under the care of Miss Beeching, the lady missionary in charge of the home; they have been instructed in every branch of housework, and admirably taught in the day school by Mrs. Hall.

Their sweet voices still continue to lead the singing at divine service in church.

General Remarks.—Numerous visitors have inspected the institution on their way to Dawson, and it has been gratifying to note their pleasure with the bearing and behaviour of the boys. On two occasions several came and sang with the boys and thanked us for the pleasure they had had here.

Twice some passengers enjoyed games of football with the boys.

Mr. Indian Agent Pidcock has made monthly visits to the school, and has always been ready with a kind and encouraging word to the staff and pupils.

The pupils were especially delighted with a visit from A. W. Vowell, Esq., Indian Superintendent, the beginning of last month, and his words of counsel to them will, I trust, not soon be forgotten.

I have, &c.,

A. W. CORKER,
Principal.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,

ALL HALLOWS BOARDING SCHOOL,

YALE, 30th June, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Land.—This school stands in about four acres of cultivated land, on the banks of the Fraser River, about a quarter of a mile west of Yale railway station. This land belongs to the school.

Buildings.—A group of three buildings gives accommodation to pupils and teachers. These buildings are in good repair.

Accommodation.—The Indian school-house itself was originally built to accommodate twenty-five children and matron. A second building has since been utilized to take in five more children, but many applications have been refused for lack of room.

Class-room.—The class-room work is now directed by two teachers, assisted by a young Indian pupil teacher. The latter has considerable musical ability, which, having been carefully cultivated, enables her to undertake musical drill and school songs in a very effective manner. The time for study averages five to six hours a day, except in the case of the elder girls, who are more especially trained in cooking, laundry and needlework.

Garden.—The garden, in which a full supply of potatoes, other vegetables and fruit is grown for the consumption of the school, affords healthy outdoor occupation for the children.

Industries Taught.—The pupils are all carefully trained for domestic service, so that they are able to earn their own living respectably, or in the event of marriage, to keep their husbands' homes comfortable. One pupil has married well, and two have gone out to service in the course of the year.

Moral and Religious Trainings.—The pupils of the school are baptized members of the English Church. They are, as a rule, very docile and affectionate, and respond readily to the religious and moral training which is carefully given them.

Health.—There have only been four cases of severe illness in the school since last June, one each of ophthalmia, pneumonia and tonsillitis, all happily recovered. The fourth case, occurring this spring, pointed to lung trouble, and leave of absence for six months was obtained from the department by medical advice. Six months' leave was also obtained last summer for a child suffering from ophthalmia, resulting in a good recovery. A pupil to whom sick leave was granted in the spring of 1897, died before the expiration of her term of absence.

Sanitary Condition.—The sanitary arrangements are quite satisfactory.

Water.—Water, supplied by a mountain stream, is laid on in all the buildings, and in the garden.

Fire Protection.—Four Star fire-extinguishers, charged, are placed within easy reach in case of fire in any of the buildings; ladders and about 150 feet of hose are also always within reach.

Heating.—Coal and wood stoves are used.

Recreation.—Walks are taken daily by all the pupils in suitable weather. Musical drill and kindergarten games are encouraged in the winter. A skating rink has been built and presented to the school by the Rev. C. Croucher. Swings and running games form the chief amusements in summer.

The annual examination takes place in July, when a prize for general proficiency is awarded in each standard, besides special prizes which are offered for good conduct, laundry, needlework and housework.

I have, &c.,

AMY, SISTER SUPERIOR C. A. H.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,

COQUALEETZÁ INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE,

CHILLIWACK, 19th August, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

Sir,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location.—The institute is situated convenient to the Sardis post office, and about three miles from the town of Chilliwack. The surrounding district is well settled, and the people are thrifty, orderly and well-to-do. The scenery is charming, the climate healthy, the soil well cultivated and remarkably productive.

Land.—The land connected with the institute (twenty acres) belongs to the Missionary Society of the Methodist Church, and is held for the purposes of the school. It lies along the Luc-uc-uck River, a stream which affords a bountiful supply of good water at all seasons of the year.

Buildings.—The main structure is of brick, with a three story elevation and a basement under its entire extent. It has a frontage of one hundred and six and a half feet and a depth of sixty-eight feet. There are three dormitories in the second and third stories of each end of the building for the boys and girls respectively. The ground floor is divided into principal's apartments and office, teachers' and children's dining-rooms, kindergarten school-room, kitchen, sewing-room and matron's apartments. The basement contains furnace-rooms, laundry, boys' and girls' play-rooms, lavatories, Smead-Dowd dry air closets, scullery and dairy. The main school-room is on the second flat, occupying the entire central portion and separated at each end by the halls from the dormitories on this flat. The shoe-shop, wood-shed, carpenter-shop and root-cellar are sections of a wooden building 75 x 25 feet, situated directly in the rear of the main building and separated from it by a distance of about thirty feet. The barn, containing (besides drive floor, mows and granary) horse and cow stables, and a stone root-cellar, with a capacity of about fifteen tons, is 45 x 52. Adjoining the barn is a pig-pen, and near by a chicken-house, the latter 12 x 16 feet. An important building is the tank-house, containing a water tank with a capacity of three thousand gallons, supported near the top of the building, into which water is forced from a filtered reservoir in the gravelly bed of the Luc-uc-uck and from whence it is conveyed by pipes to the kitchen, lavatories and laundry of the institute. A bake-house, 12 x 16, containing a brick oven with a capacity of ninety loaves, is situated across the yard from the kitchen, where the bread is kneaded and made ready for baking. A recent improvement is a cistern immediately adjacent to the main building and receiving its supply of rain water from the roof, from which the water is conveyed by pipes to the laundry, where it is used for washing, being so much preferable to the hard water of the river for this purpose. Situated at the front of the institute property, scarcely more than a stone's throw from the institute, is the residence of the farm instructor, a modest but neat and comfortable structure, erected at a cost of \$500.

Accommodation.—The institute was planned to accommodate one hundred pupils. Without being at all overcrowded it now accommodates one hundred and eight.

Attendance.—The attendance is three more than at the time of our last annual report, but the average attendance for the year is about seven and one-third more than for the previous year, viz., over ninety-nine. The aggregate attendance is one hundred and thirty-three, seventy boys and sixty-three girls. Twenty-eight were admitted during the year. Twenty-one were discharged and four died.

Class-room Work.—The progress of the children in their studies has been very satisfactory. Their diligence has been rewarded by promotion. They are graded as follows:—

Standard I.....	47
“ II.....	26
“ III.....	23
“ IV.....	15
“ V.....	20
“ VI.....	2

Too much cannot be said in praise of the kindergarten system of instruction for the small boys and girls. Its effect in creating and sustaining an interest in school work is of the happiest kind. It is a training for hand and eye and heart and makes duty a delight.

Farm and Garden.—When we take away four acres from the twenty which comprises the whole extent of our land, as the area occupied by buildings, lawn, yards and play-grounds, we have only sixteen acres available for cultivation and pasture land. The latter consumes considerable portion of the whole for our four horses and

five cows. This makes it necessary that we buy some food for stock each winter. If we raise hay we must buy oats and *vice versa*. We raise abundance of summer vegetables, and of roots for use of the institute and of the stock. For instance, during the past season we produced about forty tons of mangolds and carrots, eighteen to twenty tons of potatoes, three and three-fourths tons of oats, five tons of hay, eight hundred heads of cabbage and twenty sacks of onions. The cows supply the children with an abundance of fresh milk and in the best of the season enable us to make some butter, enough to afford training to the pupils in the art of butter-making. This season we have raised an abundance of small fruits. The orchard is not yet old enough to produce a supply of apples.

Industries Taught.—*Shoemaking.*—Four boys have worked at this trade during the year. Specimens of their work will, we expect, form a part of our exhibit at the agricultural shows this autumn. A few more boys will begin the trade when the harvest season is over.

Carpenter Work.—Our farm instructor is also a carpenter, and in the building and repairing which is done several of the larger boys assist. Some of them are very handy in the use of the more common tools. They also assist in whitewashing and kalsomining painting as these are required to be done from time to time.

Farm Work.—In this work all the boys who are large enough are engaged whenever there is farm work to do, which, in one form or another, lasts all the year.

Housework.—Both boys and girls are instructed in all kinds of housework, such as laundry, kitchen, dormitory, scrubbing, sweeping and baking.

Needlework.—In this work many of the girls excel. No better proof of this need be adduced than the fact that at the Chilliwack Agricultural Show last autumn, out of seventeen exhibits in this department we secured fifteen prizes—ten first and five second. Also at the Royal Agricultural Society's show at New Westminster, out of thirteen exhibits our children obtained eleven prizes—nine first and two second. They were also awarded a special prize of \$5 offered to the exhibitor who should secure the largest number of prizes in a certain class. I am sorry to have to say that the offerer of this prize withheld the money when he learned that it was Indian children who had won it. The loss of the prize cannot deprive the girls of the honour of having deserved it. We are proud of the success of our pupils in these contests with white people—children and adults.

Dressmaking.—This is a new department which is being specially prosecuted in addition to the department of general sewing. We do custom work and some of our best sewers and larger girls are thus instructed in the art of dressmaking.

Baking.—The larger boys and girls are taught this important industry. We bake ordinarily five times a week. We use three fifty-pound sacks of flour, Graham and white, at each baking. It is not much wonder that our flour and meal bill for the past year amounted to about \$900.

Moral and Religious Training.—Recognizing that moral and religious considerations must be supreme in character-building, and that the success and permanency of our work must depend upon the extent to which the conscience and the life are brought into harmony with these considerations, it is our unceasing solicitude to inculcate those principles which give dignity to life and nobility to character, by investing the soul with the solemn attribute of an ever present responsibility. To this end the Scriptures are taught, in daily lessons, in the Sabbath school, in the public services on the Lord's day, and its great lessons are enforced in all the training and discipline of everyday life.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the children has been on the whole good. During the past winter the children continued during the whole season remarkably free from colds. Favourable health conditions are maintained by strict regard to cleanliness of premises and of the person, by perfect ventilation without drafts, which is secured by the admirable Smead-Dowd system, by seasonable clothing, plentiful recreation of a suitable kind and by abundance of wholesome and well prepared food.

Water Supply.—This is indicated under the head of "land" and in connection with a reference to the building which contains the water tank.

Fire Protection.—This is secured first by the material (brick) of which the institute is built, by fire-escapes from the windows, by numerous easy means of egress, by four Carr chemical engines supplied by the department and by barrels of water conveniently situated. Firemen's axes are kept where they can be had at any time in a moment.

Heating.—The Smead-Dowd system of heating is used.

Recreation.—This is provided for in outdoor games of various kinds during the summer months, and by indoor games, such as checkers, crokinole, &c., during the inclement season. The members of the band turn to the practice of their music as an unending source of enjoyment, in which they display much proficiency, under the able leadership of Mr. Robert Marshall. They are increasingly in demand for social occasions, such as lawn parties, &c.

I have, &c.,

JOSEPH HALL,
Principal.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,

KAMLOOPS INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,

KAMLOOPS, 10th August, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my annual report for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location.—The Kamloops Industrial School is situated on the northern bank of the South Thompson River, about two miles east of Kamloops City, a station of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The school reserve contains three hundred and twenty acres, surrendered by the Kamloops Indians. It is a narrow strip of land, extending for about two miles along the river. The greater part of it is unfit for cultivation, owing to the sandy or gravelly nature of the soil or to the want of water for irrigation, and it affords but scanty pasture to the few animals owned by the institution. There is no timber available for fuel; all the firewood has to be purchased.

Buildings.—The buildings are not compact and joined together. The main building has a frontage of 36 feet and a depth of 28 feet, with an extension of 52 by 18. The ground floor contains a reception-room, office, dining-room, kitchen, pantry, and a laundry with four bath-rooms and bake-oven. The second story is taken up by a dormitory for fifteen girls, two school-rooms and the chapel. Another building, 24 x 22, contains on the first floor a sewing-room and two rooms for the teachers. On the second floor is a dormitory, giving the necessary accommodation for ten girls and the teacher, and a small spare room.

The boys' building, 40 x 33 feet, is about one hundred feet distant from the main building. It contains on the ground floor a room for the foreman, a lavatory, two store-rooms, one for provisions and the other for the boys' clothing, and a recreation-room. The upper floor is used for boys' dormitory, for principal's bed-room and for sick-room. A three-roomed cottage, 24 x 20 feet, is occupied by the carpenter and family. The outbuildings consist of the carpenter-shop, 30 x 20 feet, the shoe-shop, 30 x 20 feet, the cow stable, 40 x 24 feet, with a root-cellar adjoining; the barn and horse stable, 40 x 20 feet, with two additions 20 x 10 feet for tool-shed and hen-house; the cellar, 24 x 16 feet; the shed for the pump and horse-power; the dairy and ice-

house, 22 x 16 feet, and the summer-house in the girls' yard. All the buildings are in good condition, except the boys' building which needs repainting.

Grounds.—The girls' play-grounds are inclosed by a neat picket fence and a summer-house was built last spring. In front of the main building there is a small shrub and flower garden, inclosed by a lattice fence. The grounds are kept as neatly as possible; but it is very difficult to beautify them owing to the gravelly nature of the soil, the lack of water and the high winds which break the young shrubs and trees.

Accommodation.—There is sufficient accommodation for fifty-four pupils and the employees. The dormitories are supplied with iron bedsteads and each bed has a tick filled with hay, two white sheets, two pairs of blankets, a quilt, a woollen pillow with white cotton slip. The girls' dormitories are fitted up with washstands, pitchers and basins. Each boy has his own hair-brush, comb, towel and basin in the lavatory.

Attendance.—During the year fifty-three pupils (twenty-eight boys and twenty-five girls) attended school. Three pupils were discharged and six new pupils were admitted.

Class-room Work.—Regular teaching, attended with satisfactory results, was carried on in two departments. The boys attended school every week-day, except Saturday, from a quarter to nine until twelve; and in the evening from eight to nine. The school hours for the girls were from two to five in the afternoon, besides half an hour of study in the evening. At the end of the year the pupils were graded as follows:—

Standard I	1
“ II	5
“ III	20
“ IV	13
“ V	14

English is the only language used at all times by all the pupils.

Farm and Garden.—Farming here cannot be conducted on a large scale, owing to the very small area of land fit for that purpose. There are only three acres which can be irrigated and which are protected by a dyke against the periodical overflows of the Thompson River. The rest of the good land either is subject to such overflows or cannot be irrigated. Eight acres and a half of this land, sown in the spring with wheat, oats and alfalfa, produced about sixteen tons of hay.

Fruit Trees.—Some trees were planted this spring to replace those killed in the winter of 1897, but they failed to grow. The other trees are growing well; the crab-apple trees are loaded with fruit. The vines fruited for the first time this season, but it is impossible as yet to tell whether the grapes will come to maturity. We have had a good supply of raspberries, but very few strawberries.

Garden Produce.—The yield of our three-acre garden in 1897 was as follows:—Potatoes, forty-three thousand and three hundred pounds; carrots, eleven thousand five hundred and forty-seven pounds; beets (table), nine hundred and seventy-seven pounds; turnips, six thousand and two hundred pounds; mangolds and sugar beets, seven thousand two hundred and seventeen pounds; onions, six hundred and twenty-eight pounds; beans, four hundred and eighteen pounds; tomatoes, five hundred pounds, giving a total of seventy thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven pounds, independent of some corn and cabbages which were consumed during the summer. Besides, we raised in the orchard two tons of turnips and one ton and a half of squash and pumpkins.

Live Stock.—The live stock consists of three horses, one mare, one bull, four milch cows, one dry cow, three heifers, two yearling steers and three calves.

Industries Taught.—*Carpentering.*—With the exception of the small boys, all take lessons in that trade, though six of them are more often employed. During the year, they built the addition 20 x 20 feet to the shoe-shop, the cow stable 40 x 24 feet with shed over the root-cellar, and the summer-house sixteen feet through. They made twenty-four seats eight feet long for the Indian church, a flume one hundred and thirty

feet long for the Provincial Government, and a veranda with balcony fifty-six feet long in the city of Kamloops. They made also all the sashes and doors of the stable, a wagon-box with seats, two presses, three long ladders and a picket fence around the ice-house.

Shoemaking.—Seven boys are taught shoemaking; two of them deserve special praise for their proficiency. They made fifty-nine pairs of lace shoes and twenty-six pairs of button boots for the girls, besides all the repairing, which is considerable. They did also some repairing for the Indians.

Girls' Work.—Under the able direction of the reverend sisters, the girls learn all kinds of housework, hand and machine sewing, plain and fancy needlework, knitting, crochet work, and the making of lace and artificial flowers. They make all their own clothes, and some of those worn by the boys.

Moral and Religious Training.—Religious instruction is given daily for half an hour. All the pupils attend service every morning and prayers are said in common every evening. The pupils are constantly reminded of their duties toward God, their neighbour and themselves, and of the necessity and advantages of cleanliness, purity of body and mind, honesty, industry and self-control. To make our teaching effective, a continuous supervision is exercised over them and no infraction of the rules of morality is left without due correction. We endeavour to keep before their mind the object which the Government has in view in carrying on the industrial schools, which is to civilize the Indians, to make them good, useful and law-abiding members of society.

Conduct.—The conduct of the pupils in general may be described as good up to the month of June. At that time a great many Indians gathered on the Kamloops Reserve; the children became restless and it was very difficult to maintain discipline.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—During the autumn of 1897 scarlet fever was epidemic in the city of Kamloops, but none of our children caught the infection. During the year a few of the pupils suffered from minor complaints, but upon the whole the health of the children was very good. A little girl, however, had to be discharged owing to scrofulous abscess in the hip.

The sanitary condition is good. The underground drain which carries off water from the kitchen and laundry to the river, having been blocked up, no time was lost in putting it again in good order. Lye and phenyle are used as disinfectants, and great attention is paid to proper ventilation of dormitories and school-rooms.

Water Supply.—Water is obtained from a well 6 x 6 and 30 feet deep dug near the river, and is pumped by horse-power into a tank of a capacity of eighteen hundred gallons. To prevent leakage, we have found it necessary to line the tank with galvanized iron.

Fire Protection.—All necessary precautions are taken against danger of fire. A strong ladder is permanently attached to each separate building; buckets are kept on hand; chimneys are cleaned regularly; the four chemical extinguishers are always ready for use.

Heating.—The heating is all done by stoves. Owing to the fact that the buildings are not compact, no other system is possible. In the winter time there are thirteen stoves in use.

Recreation.—Swimming in summer, skating and sliding in winter continue to be much enjoyed by the pupils. Two large row-boats have been purchased and the children use them very often on the pond adjacent to the school reserve. A double swing for the girls and another for the boys have been erected, and they are always occupied during the recreation time. Football and other games are also indulged in.

In December last, band instruments were procured and a band composed of eighteen boys was organized, under the efficient leadership of Professor W. Scollen. Many of the boys show a remarkable aptitude for music. On Easter Monday they were able to play several selections in the city of Kamloops. The band supplied the music for the celebration of the Queen's Birthday and was also requested to play in town on the 1st July. The general verdict, condensed in the local paper, was that the boys looked well, behaved well and played well.

The band played also on several occasions on the Kamloops Reserve, to the immense delight of the Indians, who are proud of the musical performances of their children. An organ has been procured for the benefit of the girls who practise whenever they have time.

General Remarks.—During the three weeks' holidays granted by the department in the summer of 1897, some of the children were allowed to visit their parents for a few days. Those who remained at the school spent their time in picnics and excursions.

I have, &c.,

A. M. CARION,
Principal.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
KOOTENAY INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,
ST. EUGÈNE MISSION P.O., 22nd July, 1898.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report for the year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location.—The Kootenay Industrial School is located between two ranges of the Rockies which here come close together, leaving a narrow and fertile valley. The range facing the school rises in three distinct plateaus over which a rippling rill flows, its waters are thence brought through our lands by means of trenches and carry along with them beauty and fertility. The St. Mary's River, which bounds our property on the north, is a favourite rendezvous for the children, its proximity making it most convenient for bathing. The institution is about five miles from Cranbrook which will be our nearest railway depot, and is seven miles from Fort Steele the head of navigation. There are about twenty acres of land in connection with the school belonging to the department.

Buildings.—The dwellings, three in number, are about twenty yards apart. The central one is reserved for office, staff, dining-room, school-room and kitchen; the others for the boys and girls respectively. In the rear are house for employees, laundry, bakery, ice-house (which is partitioned off for milk and meat), shoe-shop, barn, stable, wood-shed and cattle-shed. All are in good repair. A short time ago the houses were painted and their appearance so much improved that they would hardly be taken for the same buildings.

Accommodation.—The school can accommodate fifty pupils. It is well supplied with furniture.

Attendance.—The average attendance for the year was fifty-four.

Class-room Work.—The school hours for the boys are, in the morning from half-past eight to half-past eleven; and for the girls from one to four in the afternoon. The pupils are graded as follows:—

Standard I	.....	5
“ II	.....	10
“ III	.....	12
“ IV	.....	16
“ V	.....	9
“ VI	.....	1

The work done in the class-room was very encouraging. The pupils showed anxiety to profit by the lessons given them and as a result progressed well in the branches taught them which were those prescribed by the Department of Indian Affairs. They acquired a much greater fluency in speaking the English language and several of them express their ideas remarkably well on paper; a number of them made marked advancement in mathematics.

The boys and girls received lessons regularly in vocal and instrumental music, the latter at different times accompanied on the harmonium, hymns sung during service. The boys gave a number of entertainments to the public, a leading feature of which was their brass band music. Several distinguished persons visited this school during the year and all remarked the intelligent appearance and good manners of the pupils. Mr. Galbraith, Indian Agent, at his monthly official visits seemed highly pleased with the children.

Farm and Garden.—Of the one hundred and sixty acres used for the benefit of the institution, about five are in garden, twenty in grain and fifteen in hay, the remainder being used as pasture for the stock.

The garden is planted in potatoes, corn, tomatoes, turnips, carrots, beets, radishes, pease, beans, &c., and is in a thriving condition. It is considered as a model garden for the Indian tribes.

The apple trees old enough to bear are heavily laden with fruit. There is also a prolific yield of currants and strawberries.

Shoemaking.—Work in the shoemaking department was mostly confined to mending. A good deal of outside work in that line was well done by the boys, as well as the mending for the school.

Carpentry.—An excellent opportunity for the boys to learn carpentry offered itself during the erection of the mission church. Two of them then acquired a good knowledge of that trade. They did odd jobs about the buildings according to requirements. One of them possesses a particular talent for cabinet-making. He cut out several fancy articles with a jack-knife quite skilfully.

Farming—Farming here is the principal employment of the boys, as there are not enough large ones to permit of their devoting much time to trades. They rendered valuable service to the institution by the amount of labour done and went to work with willing hands. Under the foreman, they did the greater part of the ploughing, harrowing and seeding, and also helped at haying, harvesting, bringing out wood, milking and other chores, besides putting up several thousand feet of neat log fencing.

Girls' Industries.—The girls did the cooking, baking, laundrying, dairying, sewing, and other domestic duties, under the sisters' directions. They were employed by turns at these occupations, and in general gave satisfaction. They made and tended a garden in their yard, which is kept for the purpose of teaching them horticulture. They did some very nice fancy work, for which they possess quite an aptitude.

Moral and Religious Training.—The children, with slow but steady steps, are acquiring habits of civilization which daily take deeper root, and are becoming more and more familiar with the ways of politeness and delicacy, which practices, though still feeble, lead to hopes of culminating at a point not much inferior to that attained in ordinary white schools. They received lessons regularly in Christian doctrine, which were solidly inculcated. The discipline was at the same time mild and firm, and pointed out with one hand the reward bestowed upon the faithful observer; with the other, the result of negligence and disobedience and the unhappiness which ever follow in their train; and thus the teachers endeavoured to impress indelibly upon the minds of the children a love of duty and a desire to become useful citizens and benefactors of their fellow men. It was admirable to see with what promptness and submission the largest girls and boys obeyed the call of the teachers.

After pupils left the institution, their attachment to it was shown by their wish to return occasionally for a few days, to be again strengthened in the habits there acquired.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The children enjoyed exceptionally good health, and it is remarked with great satisfaction that their constitutions each year become stronger and more able to contend with scrofula, which sooner or later appears.

The sanitary conditions of the buildings are good. Sewage pipes convey water from kitchen and laundry to a brook which connects with the river. Ventilation is carefully attended to.

Water Supply.—An abundance of excellent cold water is supplied by two wells, one in the kitchen yard, the other in the boys' yard.

Fire Protection.—Each of the dwellings is furnished with a Carr glass-lined fire-extinguisher, constantly kept in readiness for use, but it is principally in the precautions taken to prevent the catching of that element that safety is looked for. Every night before retiring each officer visits the rooms under his charge for assurance.

Heating.—The houses are heated by wood stoves, and fires are kept up when necessary.

Recreation.—The children's recreations consist of baseball, football, rope jumping, swinging and other like amusements. During vacation, they while away many happy hours in the tepid waters of the St. Mary's, bathing, boating or fishing, but the greatest holiday sport for them is hunting or horseback riding. In the winter they coast, slide, skate and occasionally take long rides. They have a library of choice books, and delight in reading or listening to interesting stories.

I have, &c.,

N. COCCOLA,
Principal.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,

KUPER ISLAND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,

KUPER ISLAND P. O., 1st July, 1898.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my annual report for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1898.

Location and Area of Land.—The Kuper Island Industrial School is located in Telegraph Bay, on the south-west side of Kuper Island in Stuart Channel, about five miles from Chemainus Station, Vancouver Island. The surroundings of the school are beautiful, the sea and evergreen forest adding to the pleasantness of the locality.

About forty acres of land are in connection with the school; the soil is fairly good, but the cutting down of timber and the digging up of stumps have, up to the present time, entailed a great deal of hard labour and rendered farming rather expensive.

Grounds.—Since my last report the grounds have been greatly improved; about one hundred shade trees, such as maples, linden, elm, wild chestnuts and mountain ash, have been planted and are thriving. In the course of time these trees will not only provide shade in the summer, but still further enhance the natural beauty of the place.

Buildings.—The buildings, which stand in two rows and command a magnificent view from the sea, are kept in very good condition. Their dimensions and divisions are as follows:—

Lower row:—(1) Bakery 25 x 16 feet, with brick oven 8 x 6 feet.

(2) Wood-shed for bakery and laundry, 10 x 19 feet.