



DOMINION OF CANADA

922



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30

1899

PRINTED BY ORDER OF PARLIAMENT



OTTAWA

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*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, 1899.

Respectfully submitted,

CLIFFORD SIFTON,
Superintendent General of Indian Affairs.

OTTAWA, February 6, 1900.

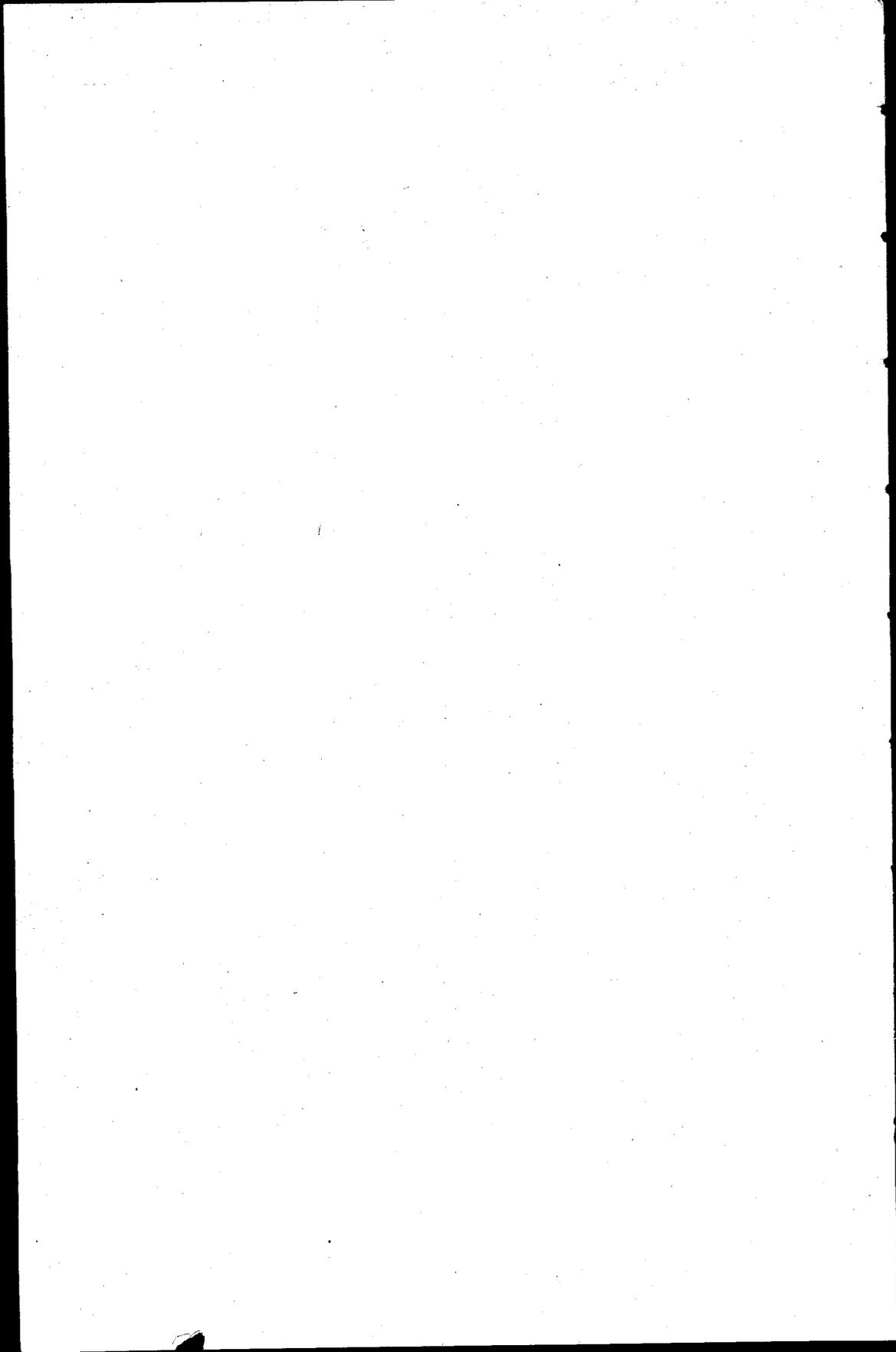


TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
General Index.....	VII
Report of Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs.....	XVII
Report of Commissioners for Treaty No. 8.....	XXXV
Text of Treaty No. 8.....	xlii
Special Report on Six Nation Reserve by Inspector Macrae.....	609
Reports of Indian Agents and other Outside Officers.....	1
Reports of Principals of Industrial and Boarding Schools.....	285
Tabular Statements:—	
Receipts and Expenditure of Boarding and Industrial Schools.....	409
School Statement.....	430
Indian Land Statement.....	452
Schedule of Indian Reserves.....	454
Census Return.....	476
Agricultural and Industrial Statistics.....	501
List of Indian Chiefs and Councillors.....	568
Commutations of Annuity.....	596
Officers and Employees.....	597
Appropriation Accounts.....	621
Indian Trust Fund Accounts.....	623

GENERAL INDEX.

	PAGE.	
Abbott, Wm. Van,	Ojibbewas of Lake Superior—Eastern Division	26
Abenakis of Becancour, Que.,	H. Desilets, M.D.	44
" St. Francis, Que.,	A. O. Comiré, M.D.	45
Adam, I. H.,	Water Hen River Boarding School, Man.	303
Agriculture,	See 'Agricultural Statistics,' page 501, also side head- ings in each report: 'Agriculture,' 'Buildings,' 'Crops,' 'Farming,' 'Farming Implements,' and 'Stock.'	
Ahtahkakoop's Band, N.W.T.,	W. B. Goodfellow.	136
Alberni Indian Girls' Home, B.C.,	B. J. Johnston.	386
Alert Bay Industrial School, B.C.,	A. W. Corker.	391
Alexander's Band, N.W.T.,	Jas. Gibbons.	150
All Hallow's Boarding School, Yale, B.C.,	Sister Superior Amy.	389
Algonquins of Golden Lake, Ont.,	E. Bennett.	10
" River Desert, Que.,	W. J. McCaffrey.	46
" Temiscamingue,	A. McBride.	47
Alnwick Band, Ont.,	J. Thackeray.	19
Amalecites of Viger, Que.,	Edouard Beaulieu.	48
Anderson, Geo.,	Mohawks of the Bay of Quinté.	23
Annapolis County, N.S., Micmacs,	Geo. Wells, sr.	63
Annuity Commutations,	See 'Commutations of Annuity.'	596
Antigonish County, N.S., Micmacs,	John R. McDonald.	64
Artus, Rev. G. A., S.J.,	Wikwemikong Industrial School, Ont.	298
Arsenault, J. O.,	Prince Edward Island Superintendency.	73
Ashton, Rev. R.,	Mohawk Institution, Brantford, Ont.	289
" "	Six Nation School Board.	292
Aspdin, Thos. W.,	Assiniboine Agency, N.W.T.	121
Assiniboine Agency, N.W.T.,	Thos. W. Aspdin.	121
B.		
Babine and Upper Skeena River Agency,	R. E. Loring.	209
Bangs, E. J.,	Stony Reserve, N.W.T.	176
Bastien, Antoine O.,	Hurons of Lorette, Que.	49
Batchewana Band, Ont.,	Wm. Van Abbott.	27
Battleford Agency, N.W.T.,	C. M. Daunais.	124
" Industrial School, N.W.T.,	Rev. E. Matheson.	346
" Inspectorate, N.W.T.,	W. J. Chisholm.	184
Bay of Quinté, Ont., Mohawks,	Geo. Anderson.	23
Beardy's Band, N.W.T.,	R. S. McKenzie.	145
Beaulieu, Edouard,	Amalecites of Viger, Que.	48
Beausoleil Chippewas, Ont.,	Chas. McGibbon.	1
Becancour, Que., Abenakis,	H. Desilets.	44
Beckwith, Chas. E.,	Micmacs of King's County, N.S.	69
Bedard, Rev. J. A., O.M.I.,	St. Mary's Mission Boarding School, B.C.	388
Begg, Magnus,	Coutcheeching Agency.	78
Bell, Even,	Williams Lake Agency, B.C.	269
Bennett, Edmund,	Algonquins of Golden Lake, Ont.	10
Berens River Agency, Man.,	J. W. Short.	74
Bersimis Band, Que.,	A. Gagnon.	56
Big Eddy Band, N.W.T.,	Jos. Courtney.	89
Birtle Agency,	J. A. Markle.	126
" Boarding School, Man.,	Wm. J. Small.	315
Blackfoot Agency, N.W.T.,	G. H. Wheatley.	128
" Boarding Schools, N.W.T.,	Rev. H. W. G. Stocken.	316
Blood Agency, N.W.T.,	James Wilson.	132
" C. E. Boarding School, Alta, N.W.T.,	Arthur De B. Owen.	318
" R. C. Boarding School,	Rev. J. Ricu, O.M.I.	319
Blue Quill's Boarding School, Alta.,	Rev. H. Grandin.	320
Brandon Industrial School, Man.,	T. Ferrier.	304
British Columbia,	Superintendent Vowell.	282
Brosseau, A.,	Iroquois of Caughnawaga, Que.	51
"	Lake of Two Mountains Band, Que.	53

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

E.—Concluded.

	PAGE.
Edmunston Band, Madawaska Co., N.B.	59
Education,	59
Elkhorn Industrial School, Man.,	306
Ermanuel College, Prince Albert,	325
Employees,	597
English, Adam,	6
Enoch's Band, N.W.T.,	149
Ermineskin's Boarding School, Alta.,	327
Escoumains Band, Que.,	56
Ethnology,	56
Jas. Farrell.....	59
See page 285, also side heading 'Education' in each Indian Agent's report.	
A. E. Wilson.....	306
Ven. J. A. Mackay.....	325
See 'Officers and Employees'.....	597
Chippewas of Sarnia.....	6
Jas. Gibbons.....	149
Rev. J. O. Perreault, O.M.I.....	327
A. Gagnon.....	56
See side heading 'Tribe or Nation' in each report.	

F

Falher, Rev. C., O.M.I.,	342
Fairford Band, Man.,	82
Farrell, James,	59-60
Ferrier, T.,	304
File Hills Agency, N.W.T.,	152
" Boarding School,	328
Fort William Band, Ont.,	30
" Orphanage, Ont.,	288
Fraser, Annie,	301
Fraser, Rev. John,	71
Fraser River Agency, B.C.,	223
Lesser Slave Lake R. C. Boarding School.....	342
H. Martineau.....	82
Northern and south-western divisions of New Brunswick.	59-60
Brandon Industrial School, Man.....	304
W. M. Graham.....	152
Alex. Skeene.....	328
J. F. Hodder.....	30
Sisters of St. Joseph.....	288
Portage la Prairie Boarding School, Man.....	301
Micmacs of Richmond County, N.S.....	71
Frank Devlin.....	223

G

Gagné, Rev. J.,	54
Gagnon, Adolphe,	56
Galbraith, R. L. T.,	253
Garden River Band, Ont.,	26
Georgina Island, Ont., Chippewas,	2
Gibbons, James,	149
Gibson or Watha Reserve, Ont.,	37
Gilmour, Neil,	321
Golden Lake Band, Ont.,	10
Goodfellow, W. B.,	134
Gordon's Boarding School, N.W.T.,	329
Gore Bay Agency, Ont.,	10
Grand Rapids Band, Sask. River,	87
Graham, W. M.,	152
Grant, W. S.,	154
Grandin, Rev. H.,	320
Guilod, Harry,	264
Guysborough County, N.S., Micmacs,	64
Micmacs of Maria, Que.....	54
Montagnais of Lower St. Lawrence.....	56
Kootenay Agency, B. C.....	253
Wm. Van Abbott.....	26
John Yates.....	2
Edmonton Agency, N.W.T.....	149
W. B. Maclean.....	37
Crowstand Boarding School, Assa.....	321
E. Bennett.....	10
Carlton Agency, N.W.T.....	134
M. Williams.....	329
Jas. H. Thorburn.....	10
Jos. Courtney.....	87
File Hills Agency, N.W.T.....	152
Hobbema Agency, N.W.T.....	154
Blue Quill's Boarding School, Alta.....	320
West Coast Agency, B.C.....	264
John R. McDonald.....	64

H

Hagan, Samuel,	39
Halifax County, N.S., Micmacs,	67
Hall, Rev. Jos.,	392
Halpin, H. R.,	155
Hanson, Thos., M.D.,	121
Hants County, N.S., Micmacs,	68
Harlow, Charles,	70
Haynes, W. R.,	337
Henvey Inlet Band, Ont.,	34
High River Industrial School, N.W.T.	360
Hobbema Agency, N.W.T.,	154
Hodder, J. F.,	30
Hogbin, Rev. Geo. H.,	347
Hugonnard, Rev. J.,	353
Hurons of Lorette, Que.,	49
Thessalon Agency.....	39
Rev. Chas. E. McManus.....	67
Coqualeetza Industrial Institute, B.C.....	392
Moose Mountain Agency, N.W.T.....	155
Medical Report.....	121
A. Wallace.....	68
Micmacs of Queen's and Lunenburg Counties, N.S.....	70
Peigan C. E. Boarding School.....	337
W. B. Maclean.....	34
Rev. A. Naessens.....	360
W. S. Grant.....	154
Ojibbewas of Lake Superior, Western Division.....	30
Calgary Industrial School, N.W.T.....	347
Qu'Appelle Industrial School, N.W.T.....	353
A. O. Bastien.....	49

I.

	PAGE.
Isle à la Crosse Boarding School, N.W.T.,	Rev. J. M. Pinard, O.M.I. 344
Indian Commissioner,	Manitoba and N.W.T. 205
Indian Gardens Band, Man.,	H. Martineau 85
Industries,	See side heading in each report : 'Occupation' and names of industries.
Inspection of Indian Agencies,	A. McGibbon 194
" " "	T. P. Wadsworth 188
" " Indian Schools,	W. J. Chisholm, Battleford Inspectorate 364
" " "	A. McGibbon, Qu'Appelle Inspectorate 369
" " "	T. P. Wadsworth, Calgary Inspectorate 376
Inverness County, N.S., Micmacs,	Rev. D. McIsaac 68
Iroquois of Caughnawaga, Que.,	A. Brosseau 51
" " St. Regis, Que.	Geo. Long 52
Irwin, A.,	Kamloops-Okanagan Agency 236

J.

James Roberts' Band, N.W.T.,	W. B. Goodfellow 137
James Smith's Band, N.W.T.,	R. S. McKenzie 147
John Smith's Band, N.W.T.,	R. S. McKenzie 146
Johnston, B. J.,	Alberni Girls' School, B.C. 386
Jones, W. E.,	Swan River Agency, N.W.T. 177
Joseph's Band, N.W.T.,	Jas. Gibbons 151

K.

Kahkewistahaw's Band, N.W.T.,	J. P. Wright 140
Kahpahawekenum's Band, N.W.T.,	W. B. Goodfellow 136
Kamloops Industrial School, B.C.,	Rev. A. M. Carion 395
Kamloops-Okanagan Agency, B.C.,	A. Irwin 236
Kenemotayoo's Band, N.W.T.,	W. B. Goodfellow 136
King, Geo. Ley,	Shingwauk Home, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. 296
King's County, N.S., Micmacs,	C. E. Beckwith 69
Kingsclear Band, Kent County, N.B.,	Jas. Farrell 61
Kootenay Agency, B.C.,	R. L. T. Galbraith 253
" " Industrial School, B.C.	Rev. N. Coccolla 398
Kuper Island Industrial School, B.C.,	Rev. G. Donckele 400
Kwawkewlth Agency, B.C.,	R. H. Pidcock 255

L.

Lac la Biche Band, N.W.T.,	W. Sibbald 173
Laird, Hon. David,	Indian Commissioner's Report 205
Lake Manitoba Band,	H. Martineau 81
" " Inspectorate,	S. R. Marlatt 91
" " Nepigou Band, Ont.,	J. F. Hodder 31
" " Nipissing Band, Ont.	W. B. Maclean 35
" " St. Francis, Que., Abenakis,	A. O. Comiré, M.D. 45
" " St. Martin Band, Man.,	H. Martineau 83
" " Superior, Ojibbewas,	Wm. Van Abbott and J. F. Hodder. 26-30
" " Temogamingue Band, Ont.,	W. B. Maclean 36
" " Temiscamingue Band, Que.,	A. McBride 47
" " Two Mountains Band,	A. Brosseau 53
" " Winnipeg Inspectorate,	E. McColl 99
Lands,	See 'Indian Land Statement' 452
Lévêque, L. J. Arthur,	Rat Portage Inspectorate 107
" " "	Inspection of Schools. 312
Lesser Slave Lake R.C., Boarding School,	Rev. C. Falher, O.M.I. 342
" " " C.E. "	C. D. White 345
Little Saskatchewan Band,	H. Martineau 83
Lomas, W. H.,	Cowichan Agency, B.C. 220
Long, George,	Iroquois of St. Regis, Que. 52
Long Lake Band, Ont.,	J. F. Hodder 32
Long Plain Band, Man.,	H. Martineau 85
Lorette, Que., Harons,	A. O. Bastien 49
Loring, Richard E.,	Babine and Upper Skeena River Agency, B.C. 209
Lunenburg County, N.S., Micmacs,	Charles Harlow 70

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Mac or Mc.

	PAGE.
McBride, A.,	47
McCaffrey, W. J.,	46
McColl, E.,	76
"	99
Macdonald, A. J.,	72
McDonald, A. R.,	22
" J. R.,	64
" Rev. Roderick,	70
McDougall Orphanage, Alta.,	332
McFarlane, Wm.,	21
McGibbon, Alex.,	194
" Chas.,	369
McIsaac, Rev. D.,	1
McIver, John,	68
McKay, H.,	3
Mackay, Ven. J. A.,	339
McKelvey, Alex.,	325
McKenzie, Robert S.,	42
Maclean, W. B.,	144
McLeod, Rev. A. J.,	32
McManus, Rev. Chas. E.,	358
McNeill, A. J.,	67
McPhee, D. J.,	174
	5
Algonquins of Temiscamingue, Que.,	47
" River Desert, Que.,	46
Clandeboye Agency, Man.,	76
Lake Winnipeg Inspectorate, Man.,	99
" Victoria County, N.S.,	72
Moravians of the Thames.,	22
Micmacs of Antigonish and Guysboro.,	64
" Pictou County, N.S.,	70
John W. Niddrie	332
Mississaguas of Rice and Mud Lakes, Ont.,	21
Qu'Appelle Inspectorate, N.W.T.,	194
Inspection of Indian Schools.,	369
Chippewas of Beausoleil, Ont.,	1
Micmacs of Inverness County, N.S.,	68
Chippewas of Nawash, Cape Croker.,	3
Round Lake Boarding School, N.W.T.,	339
Emmanuel College, Prince Albert, Sask.,	325
Walpole Island Agency, Ont.,	42
Duck Lake Agency, N.W.T.,	144
Parry Sound Superintendency, Ont.,	32
Regina Industrial School, N.W.T.,	358
Micmacs of Halifax County, N.S.,	67
Sarcee Agency, N.W.T.,	174
Chippewas of Rama.,	5
M.	
Maganettawan Band, Ont.,	15
Manitoulin Island, unceded,	18
Manitowaning Agency,	13
Manitowapah Agency, Man.,	80
Maniwaki Reserve, Que.,	46
Mann, George G.,	167
Maria, Que., Micmacs,	54
Markle, J. A.,	126
Marlatt, S. R.,	91
Martineau, H.,	80
Matheson, Rev. E.,	346
" J. R.,	335
Medical Report,	121
Metlakatla Industrial School, B.C.,	403
Michel's Band, N.W.T.,	150
Michipicoten Band, Ont.,	28
Micmacs of Annapolis County, N.S.,	63
" Antigonish "	64
" Cape Breton "	65
" Colchester "	66
" Cumberland "	66
" Guysborough "	64
" Halifax "	67
" Hants "	68
" Inverness "	68
" King's "	69
" Lunenburg "	70
" Maria, Que.,	54
" Pictou County, N.S.,	70
" Queen's "	70
" Restigouche, Que.,	55
" Richmond, N.S.,	71
" Shelburne "	72
" Victoria County, N.S.,	72
Mississagua River, Ont., Ojibewas,	40
Mississaguas of Alnwick, Ont.,	19
" Credit, Ont.,	20
" Mud Lake, Ont.,	21
" Rice Lake, Ont.,	21
" Scugog, Ont.,	22
Mistawasis Band, N.W.T.,	135
Mitchell, John A.,	160
Mohawk Institute, Brantford, Ont.,	289
Mohawks of Bay of Quinté, Ont.,	23
Montagnais, Lower St. Lawrence,	56
C. L. D. Sims.,	15
"	18
H. Martineau.,	13
W. J. McCaffrey.,	80
Onion Lake Agency, N.W.T.,	46
Rev. J. Gagné.,	167
Birtle Agency.,	54
Lake Manitoba Inspectorate.,	126
Manitowapah and Portage la Prairie Agencies.,	91
Battleford Industrial School, N.W.T.,	80
Onion Lake C. E. Boarding School, Sask.,	346
Thos. Hanson, M.D.,	335
John R. Scott.,	121
Jas. Gibbons.,	403
Wm. Van Abbott.,	150
Geo. Wells, sr.,	28
John R. McDonald.,	63
Rev. A. Cameron.,	64
Thomas B. Smith.,	65
F. A. Rand.,	66
John R. McDonald.,	66
Rev. Chas. E. McManus.,	64
A. Wallace.,	67
Rev. D. McIsaac.,	68
Chas. E. Beckwith.,	68
Charles Harlow.,	69
Rev. J. Gagné.,	70
Rev. R. McDonald.,	54
Charles Harlow.,	70
J. Pitre.,	70
Rev. John Fraser.,	55
J. J. E. de Molitor.,	71
A. J. Macdonald.,	72
S. Hagan.,	72
John Thackeray.,	40
Hugh Stewart.,	19
Wm. McFarlane.,	20
"	21
A. W. Williams.,	21
W. B. Goodfellow.,	22
Muskowpetung's Agency, N.W.T.,	135
Rev. R. Ashton.,	160
Geo. Anderson.,	289
A. Gagnon.,	23

M.—*Concluded.*

	PAGE.
Moose Lake Band, N.W.T.,	Jos. Courtney. 88
Moose Mountain Agency, N.W.T.,	H. R. Halpin 155
Moravian Mission School,	T. M. Rights 287
Moravians of the Thames, Ont.,	A. R. McDonald. 25
Mount Elgin Institute, Ont.,	Rev. W. W. Shepherd 294
Mud Lake, Ont., Mississaguas,	Wm. McFarlane. 21
Munsees of the Thames, Ont.,	A. Sinclair. 9
Muscowequan's Boarding School, Assa.,	S. Perrault. 330
Muskowpetung's Agency, N.W.T.,	John A. Mitchell. 160
" Band, N.W.T.,	" 162

N.

Naessens, Rev. A.,	High River Industrial School, Dunbow, Alta. 360
Nepigon Band, Ont.,	J. F. Hodder. 31
New Brunswick,	Wm. D. Carter and Jas. Farrell. 57-59-60
Niddrie, John W.,	McDougall Orphanage, Alta. 332
Nipissing Band, Ont.,	W. B. Maclean. 35
North-west Coast Agency, B.C.,	Chas. Todd. 257
Nova Scotia,	<i>See under names of provinces, also under 'Mimacs.'</i>

O.

Obidgewong Band, Ont.,	Jas. H. Thorburn. 12
Ochapowace's Band, N.W.T.,	J. P. Wright 139
Officers,	<i>See 'Officers and Employees.'</i>
Ojibbewas of Lake Superior, Eastern Division,	Wm. Van Abbott. 26
Ojibbewas of Lake Superior, Western Division,	J. F. Hodder. 30
Ojibbewas of Mississauga River, Ont.,	S. Hagan 40
Okanagan Agency, B.C.,	A. Irwin. 236
Okenasis Band, N.W.T.,	R. S. McKenzie. 145
One Arrow's Band, N.W.T.,	" 144
Oneidas of the Thames,	A. Sinclair 8
Onion Lake Agency, N.W.T.,	G. G. Mann. 167
" R. C. Boarding School,	Rev. W. Comiré. 333
" C. E. "	Rev. J. R. Matheson. 335
Oromocto Band, N.B.,	Jas. Farrell. 62
Owen, Arthur DeB.,	Blood, C. E., Boarding School, Alta. 318

P.

Paquette, Rev. M. J. P.,	Duck Lake Boarding School, Sask. 324
Parry Island Band, Ont.,	W. B. Maclean. 32
Parry Sound Superintendency,	" 32
Pas Agency,	Jos. Courtney. 87
Pas Band, N.W.T.,	" 89
Pasquah's Band, N.W.T.,	John A. Mitchell 163
Paul's Band, N.W.T.,	Jas. Gibbons. 151
Pays Plat Band, Ont.,	J. F. Hodder. 31
Peigan Agency, N.W.T.,	R. N. Wilson 169
" C. E. Boarding School,	W. R. Haynes. 337
" R. C. "	Rev. L. Doucet, O.M.I. 338
Perrault, Rev. J. O., O.M.I.,	Ermineskin's Boarding School, Alta. 327
Perrault, S.,	Muscowequan's Boarding School, Assa. 330
Petaquaquey's Band, N.W.T.,	W. B. Goodfellow 135
Peytavin, Edm.,	Williams Lake Industrial School, B.C. 405
Pheasant Rump's Band, M.W.T.,	H. R. Halpin 135
Piapot's Band, N.W.T.,	John A. Mitchell 160
Pic Band, Ont.	J. F. Hodder. 31
Pictou County, N.S., Mimacs,	Rev. R. McDonald. 70
Pidcock, Richard H.,	Kwawkewlth Agency, B.C. 255
Pinard, Rev. J. M., O.M.I.,	Isle-à-la-Croise Boarding School, N.W.T. 344
Pine Creek Band, Man.,	H. Martineau 85
" Boarding School, Man.,	Rev. A. Chaumont, O.M.I. 300

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

P.—Concluded.

	PAGE.
Pitre, Jeremie,	55
Point Grondin Band, Ont.,	14
Population,	
Port Simpson Girls' Home, B.C.,	387
Portage la Prairie Agency, Man.,	80
" Boarding School, Man.,	301
Prince Edward Island,	73
Micmacs of Restigouche, Que.	55
C. L. D. Sims	14
See 'Census Return,' page 476, also side heading 'Vital Statistics' in each report.	
Lavinia Clarke	387
H. Martineau	80
Annie Fraser	301
J. O. Arsenault	73

Q.

Qu'Appelle Inspectorate, N.W.T.,	194
" Industrial School, N.W.T.,	353
Queen's County, N.S., Micmacs,	70
Alex. McGibbon	194
Rev. J. H. Hugonnard	353
Charles Harlow	70

R.

Rama, Ont., Chippewas,	5
Rand, F. A., M. D.	66
Rat Portage Inspectorate,	107
" Boarding School,	302
Red Deer Industrial School, N.W.T.,	356
Red Rock Band, Ont.,	30
Red Earth Band, N.W.T.,	91
Regina Industrial School, N.W.T.,	358
Religion,	
Reserves,	
Restigouche Band, Que.,	454
Rice Lake, Ont, Mississaguas,	55
Richmond County, N.S., Micmacs,	21
Rights, T. M.,	71
Riou, Rev. J., O.M.I.,	287
River Desert Band, Que.,	319
Rosseau River Band,	46
" Rapids Band,	86
Round Lake Boarding School, Assa.,	86
Rupert's Land Industrial School, Man.,	339
D. J. McPhee	5
Micmacs of Cumberland County, N.S.	66
L. J. A. Leveque	107
Rev. C. Cahill, O.M.I.	302
Rev. C. E. Somerset	356
J. F. Hodder	30
Jos. Courtney	91
Rev. A. J. McLeod	358
See 'Census Return,' page 476, also side heading 'Religion' in each report.	
See Schedule of Indian Reserves	454
J. Pitre	55
Wm. McFarlane	21
Rev. John Fraser	71
Moravian Mission School	287
Blood R. C. Boarding School	319
W. J. McCaffrey	46
H. Martineau	86
"	86
H. McKay	339
Jas. G. Dagg	309

St.

St. Albert Boarding School, Alta.,	343
St. Boniface Industrial School, Man.,	310
St. Francis, Que., Abénakis,	45
St. Joseph's Indian Home, Fort William,	288
Ont.	
St. Mary's Mission Boarding School, B.C.,	388
" Band, York County, N.B.,	62
St. Regis, Que., Iroquois,	52
Sister L. A. Dandurand	343
Rev. J. B. Dorais	310
A. O. Comiré, M.D.	45
Sisters of St. Joseph	288
Rev. T. A. Bedard, O.M.I.	388
James Farrell	62
Geo. Long	52

S.

Saddle Lake Agency, N.W.T.,	171
" Band, " "	171
Sandy Bay Band, Lake Manitoba,	80
Sakimay's Band, N.W.T.,	142
Sanitation,	
Sarcee Agency, N.W.T.,	174
Sarcee C. E. Boarding School, Alta.,	340
Sarnia, Ont., Chippewas,	6
Savanne Agency, Ont.,	107
Saugeen, Ont., Chippewas,	7
W. Sibbald	171
W. Sibbald	171
H. Martineau	80
J. P. Wright	142
See 'Medical Report,' page 121, also side heading 'Health and Sanitary Condition' in each report.	
A. J. McNeill	174
Percy E. Stocken	340
A. English	6
L. J. A. Lévêque	107
John Scoffield	7

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

W.—*Concluded.*

	PAGE.
Walpole Island Agency, Ont.,	Alex. McKelvey..... 42
Wahspaton's Band, N.W.T.,	W. B. Goodfellow..... 137
Water Hen River Band, Man.,	H. Martineau..... 84
" " Boarding School, Man.,	I. H. Adam..... 303
Watha Band, Ont.,	W. B. Maclean..... 37
Wells, Geo., sr.,	Miamacs of Annapolis County, N.S..... 63
West Bay Band, Ont.,	Jas. H. Thorburn..... 11
West Coast Agency, B.C.,	Harry Guilloid... 264
Wheatley, G. H.,	Blackfoot Agency, N.W.T..... 128
White, C. D.,	Lesser Slave Lake, C.E., Boarding School..... 345
" Bear's Band, N.W.T.,	H. R. Halpin... 157
Whitefish Lake Band, Ont.,	C. L. D. Sims..... 14
" " N.W.T.,	W. Sibbald..... 172
" River Band, Ont.,	C. L. D. Sims..... 13
Wikwemikong Industrial School, Ont.,	Rev. G. A. Artus, S.J..... 298
Williams, M.,	Gordon's Boarding School, N.W.T..... 329
" A. W.,	Mississaguas of Scugog, Ont..... 22
William Charles' Band, N.W.T.,	W. B. Goodfellow..... 137
Williams Lake Agency, B.C.,	E. Bell..... 269
" " Industrial School,	Edm. Peytavin... 405
Wilson, A. E.,	Elkhorn Industrial School, Man..... 306
" James,	Blood Agency, N.W.T..... 132
" R. N.,	Peigan Agency, N.W.T..... 169
Wright, Jno. P.,	Crooked Lake Agency, N.W.T..... 139
Woodstock Band, Carleton Co., N.B.,	Jas. Farrell..... 60

Y.

Yale Boarding School, B.C.,	Sister Superior Amy..... 389
Yates, John,	Chippewas of Georgina and Snake Islands, Ont..... 2

REPORT
OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
FOR THE
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1899.

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

OTTAWA, December 31, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

While, as will become apparent in the course of this retrospect, the picture is not unmarred in places, still on the whole the prosperity enjoyed by the Indian population so decidedly preponderates as to make the dominant impression one of marked satisfaction.

Friendly relations between the Indians and the Government have been so long uninterrupted that mention of their existence has come to be regarded as somewhat superfluous, and probably the subject would have again been passed over without reference, but for one unfortunate episode, viz., the shooting of an Indian at St. Regis, when resisting arrest by the police. This occurrence naturally received a good deal of publicity and attention in a country where so jealous a watch is kept upon anything suggestive of a slumbering racial antagonism, and unless properly understood might have undue significance attached to it.

It may be remembered that when discussing the subject of self government last year mention was made of the obstinate determination evinced by the St. Regis Band to revert to the old system of hereditary chiefs instead of proceeding to take advantage of the progressive system of government for which the Indian Act makes provision.

To make the matter intelligible it has to be remembered that the St. Regis Reserve is only separated from that of another portion of the tribe belonging to the United States by the theoretical boundary line between the two countries, which, of course, forms no barrier to constant intercourse.

The majority of the Canadian Indians had little if any sympathy with the obstructive views of the minority, and certainly none with violent resistance of the law, but the latter with the assistance of the American Indians who fomented, if they did not

instigate the trouble, managed to over-awe the majority, and actually resorted to violence in order to prevent them from exercising their franchise in the election of chiefs.

In the interests of law and order it was of course impossible to tolerate such conduct, and, while the killing of an Indian was very deeply regretted, yet as all possible patience had been exercised and was beginning to be mistaken for weakness, the department was in no way responsible for the outcome of a position which was so determinedly forced upon it.

While such an incident has no actual significance as an index to the sentiments of the Indians as a people towards the Government, it is gratifying to be able to adduce proof that their loyalty to the Crown is by no means a mere passive acquiescence in the inevitable, but a deep-seated affection, ready to burst into very practical expression.

The sympathy recently expressed by the Six Nation Indians on account of the unhappy conditions prevailing in South Africa, and their offer to furnish 'a contingent of chiefs and warriors' is deserving of prominent mention, and it is interesting to notice the significant terms in which they couched their offer, which, as they expressed it, was made 'in accordance with the custom, usages and treaties of their forefathers, who have in the past always fought in the defence of the Crown and British flag.'

Like offers were made by other Indians, notably the Saugeens, and there is no doubt that the sentiment to which expression has thus been given by some bands is by no means confined to them.

NEW TREATY.

The only unusual event of extended interest, during the year, has been the successful negotiation of a treaty with the Indians inhabiting the provisional district of Athabaska and parts of the country thereto adjacent.

As the first in order of the various reports herewith submitted is that of the commissioners who negotiated the treaty, it is unnecessary to reproduce details which will be found therein.

With regard, however, to the considerations which prompted the measure, a few words of explanation may not be amiss.

Although there was no immediate prospect of any such invasion by settlement as threatened the fertile belt in Manitoba and the North-west Territories and dictated the formation of treaties with the original owners of the soil, none the less occasional squatters had found their way at any rate into the Peace River district.

While under ordinary circumstances the prospect of any considerable influx might have remained indefinitely remote, the discovery of gold in the Klondike region quickly changed the aspect of the situation. Parties of white men in quest of a road to the gold fields began to traverse the country, and there was not only the possibility ahead of such travel being greatly increased, but that the district itself would soon become the field of prospectors who might at any time make some discovery which would be followed by a rush of miners to the spot. In any case the knowledge of the country obtained and diffused, if only by people passing through it, could hardly fail to attract attention to it as a field for settlement.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

For the successful pursuance of that humane and generous policy which has always characterized the Dominion in its dealings with the aboriginal inhabitants, it is of vital importance to gain their confidence at the outset, for the Indian character is such that, if suspicion or distrust be once aroused, the task of eradication is extremely difficult.

For these reasons it was considered that the time was ripe for entering into treaty relations with the Indians of the district, and so setting at rest the feeling of uneasiness which was beginning to take hold of them, and laying the foundation for permanent friendly and profitable relations between the races.

Before proceeding to matters of a more general character, it may be well to say a word or two with a view to guarding against possible misunderstanding of this and accompanying reports of the officers and agents of the department.

As you are aware, on June 22 last, in the House of Commons, the honourable member for Toronto West drew your attention to certain statements made in the archæological report of the province of Ontario for 1898, which reflected seriously upon the condition of an important section of the Indian community, viz., the Six Nations Band.

From the honourable member's remarks it will be sufficient for the present purpose to quote the following as reported in Hansard: 'I would like to ask the hon. Minister of the Interior if his attention has been drawn to the interesting archæological report of the province of Ontario for 1898. That report contains, on page 90, a very interesting reference by Dr. Secord to the large Indian reserve near Brantford, and his report is continued by Mr. Boyle. The state of affairs revealed by Dr. Secord and Mr. Boyle is not creditable to this country. Dr. Secord writes, under date of December 1, 1898, a report to, I presume, the Ontario Government, in which he draws attention to the fact that on this large reserve of 4,000 Indians, situated within 12 miles of Brantford, the death-rate is 30 per 1,000, or three times that of the rest of the province of Ontario, where it is about 10 per 1,000. Notwithstanding that excessive death-rate, he says that this band of Indians has increased from 2,600 in 1868 to 4,000 to-day. On that reserve all the old heathen rites are still continued, and the state of disease and filth and the unsanitary condition of the reserve is something simply horrible to contemplate. It is not an uncommon thing, Dr. Secord says, for young adults to pick worms from their noses and throats, and disease permeates the whole tribe. Apparently no attempt whatever is made to improve this state of affairs. The Indians drink the water from the surface, and from small wells two or three feet deep; and typhoid fever is prevalent there all the time.'

You will readily see that if these allegations were to be unanswered, as furnishing a fair description of the general condition prevailing among the Six Nations Indians, the department and its officials might be open to the charge of a suppression of the facts in their reports.

The report made by the inspector who, by your direction, was sent to examine into the alleged condition of matters will be found among those submitted herewith and reference to it will exonerate the department from such possible charge, and as corroborative testimony from a reliable and independent source, the following extract may be quoted from a letter addressed to the department on November 10, by the President of an association or board composed of missionaries of the Anglican, Baptist, Presbyterian and Methodist churches, who live and work among the Six Nations Indians.

The extract reads: 'We would not close without expressing our opinion that the remarks of Mr. Osler, made in the House of Commons, as quoted in Hansard, form an exaggerated statement of facts, for though no doubt many instances may be brought forward to substantiate his statements, it is not fair by such sweeping assertions to characterize the whole population of the Six Nations Indians.'

It will be observed that the writer makes the very point to which as just stated it is desired to direct attention here, viz., that what may be accepted as truth subject to proper limitation, must not be so accepted for general application.

The desire and effort are to describe the average condition which most fairly represents the truth as to the whole, but in view of the wide difference in condition, progress and surroundings existing between various bands and individuals in each, it is by no means easy to generalize intelligently with regard to them.

HEALTH.

The way thus cleared, the following may be stated relative to the health of the Indians during the year:—

It has been noticed that where their health has been good it has been particularly so, and fortunately this has been the case with regard to the majority, but on the other hand there has been more than the usual prevalence of sickness of a severe and even fatal character among a by no means inconsiderable minority.

Speaking of such ailments as are always more or less present in Indian, as well as other communities, it was pointed out last year that pulmonary phthisis and scrofula might be regarded as the scourge of the Indian people, and it is hardly necessary to remark here that no appreciable difference in this respect has taken place in the course of a single year.

One of the conditions referred to as peculiarly favourable for the culture and propagation of the germs of consumption among people in the course of transition from their natural to a civilized environment, was the practice of crowding into over-heated and badly ventilated houses, aggravated by that of holding dances in them.

During the year a marked illustration of this was observed with regard to one of the largest bands of Indians among the last to come into treaty relations with the Government in the North-west Territories. A somewhat abnormal rate of mortality in the spring attracted attention, and upon searching inquiry into the cause, the department reached the conclusion that it was to be found in the fact that these Indians had suffered from one of the relapses into objectionable habits to which at their stage they are subject, and had been indulging in dancing during the preceding winter to an unusual extent and so contracted various pulmonary troubles.

There is nothing to which the health of Indians is so sensitive as to atmospheric conditions, which is evidenced by the striking improvement among those who leave their houses and go into tents during the summer season, although the benefit derived from that source is to an extent counter-balanced by the practice of making the change too soon, at the first approach of spring.

And yet there is no sanitary precaution the necessity for which it is more difficult to get the Indians to recognize than that of proper ventilation. Still, however, as the

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

conditions referred to are steadily, if slowly, being improved, the prospects are in favour of consumption becoming less prevalent, rather than increasing as it is said to be doing to an alarming extent among the inhabitants of European origin upon this continent.

In parts of Ontario, gripe, whooping cough, malarial and typhoid fevers were somewhat prevalent, and a good deal of mortality, especially among the young, resulted from measles in the Cape Croker district.

In the western part of the province along the North Shore of the Lakes the health of the Garden River, Batchewana Bay and Fort William Bands has been far from what could have been desired, and they have lost a good many of their members.

In the province of Quebec, the Indians at Sept Isles were reported to be suffering so severely from gripe, supervening upon measles and scarlet fever, that the department felt it to be its duty to send them professional assistance.

At Temiscamingue too, the standard of health was by no means up to the average.

In Nova Scotia various severe ailments, the worst of which was gripe, seriously increased the death-rate. The principal sufferers were among the residents at Cumberland, Shubenacadie, and Miltown.

Although the Indians of Prince Edward Island and the North Eastern Division of New Brunswick suffered more or less severely, fortunately the mortality was not excessive.

In Manitoba and the North-west Territories there was less tendency to extremes than in any of the other provinces, for while the average health enjoyed was not better than usual, on the other hand there was nothing in the way of epidemic of a serious character, although in Manitoba there were some outbreaks of measles and scarlet fever among the Indians in proximity to settlement, and in the North-west Territories of measles and gripe on the reserves, chiefly within the limits of Treaty 6.

In British Columbia the disaster of the year occurred among the Indians of Fraser River, Cowichan and West Coast Agencies. An epidemic of measles and typhoid broke out among those assembled at the Fraser River canneries, and despite the united efforts of the department, provincial authorities and missionaries, for the relief of the sufferers and prevention of the spread of the disease, infection was carried to the reserves in the agencies mentioned, with lamentably fatal consequences.

While the epidemic of measles in this malignant form was confined to the agencies enumerated, the disease prevailed in a comparatively mild type and to a less extent among some reserves in the Kamloops-Okanagan, Kootenay, Williams Lake and North-west Coast Agencies.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Reference to the appended table of vital statistics will show the respective increases and decreases of population in the various provinces to have been as follows:—

Province.	Increase.	Decrease.
Ontario.....	135	
Quebec.....	13	
New Brunswick.....	40	
Prince Edward Island.....	1	
Manitoba.....	99	
North-west Territories.....	2,393	
Nova Scotia.....		74
British Columbia.....		277
Outside Treaty Limits.....		3,442
	2,681	3,793

a net decrease of 1,112.

To make this statement intelligible some items require explanation.

The apparent decrease of 3,442 as compared with the preceding year in the population outside of treaty limits is accounted for as follows:—

Transferred to North-west Territories in consequence of change in classification necessitated by the formation of the new treaty.....	2,567
Dropped as a result of more accurate statistics secured in course of negotiating the treaty.....	875
	3,442

Since, however, notwithstanding this transfer of 2,567 to the North-west Territories, the population is only shown to have increased by 2,393,—it follows that there has been an actual decrease of 174.

This decrease results from desertions to Montana of refugee Indians who were brought back from there some few years ago, and who evidently cannot resign themselves to the comparatively monotonous life on the reserves, after years of a vagrant life.

There is moreover always a certain amount of fluctuation between the Dominion and the United States, where the Indians have mutual friends and relatives.

The number of births for the year, within treaty limits so far as it has been possible to obtain a record, was 2,437, and of deaths 2,513, a decrease of 76.

Remembering, however, that in British Columbia, in consequence of the fatal outbreak of measles at the canneries the death has exceeded the birth rate by 193, it will be seen that the contention of last year's report that the tendency of the race, under normal conditions, is not in the direction of becoming extinct, is fully sustained.

The department does all it can in the way of providing professional assistance and medicines to such Indians as cannot afford to obtain these for themselves. Its efforts in this direction are to some extent thwarted by the influence of the medicine men, who still work upon the superstitions of, at any rate, the older generation of Indians in the younger provinces. This, however, is dying out as fast as can be expected.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

There still remains much to be done among those who have learned to value professional advice in the way of getting them to take medicines prescribed with regularity and precautions, the neglect of which often makes diseases, otherwise not particularly dangerous, extremely so for them.

Mortality among infants continues to be excessive, and is doubtless attributable mainly to two causes, viz: the early age at which mere girls assume the responsibility of matrimony, and the utterly unsuitable food they give their infants.

While Indians are beginning to value cattle, they are very slow in learning to avail themselves of milk and butter as articles of diet, but when they do so, none will reap more benefit than the young children.

It is interesting to notice that the Haida nation, in British Columbia, which has been steadily decreasing in numbers for forty years back, has made a new departure and added 12 to its number.

In the same province a grave misfortune has overtaken the Koskimo Band, resident on the west coast of Vancouver Island, in the loss of eight of their number, who shipped more than a year ago on the sealing schooner *Pioneer*, and may be given up as lost, as nothing since then has been heard of them or the vessel.

This recalls the disaster in 1895, when twenty-six of the Indians of the same province perished through the capsizing of a sealing schooner near Cape St. Elias. The fact that although out of the eight missing men, six have left widows behind them, none of them had any children so far mitigates the consequences of the calamity.

Death during the year has been unusually busy among the most prominent and useful members of the Indian people.

In January last, at the ripe age of eighty-eight, the venerable Chief Nubene-gooching, of Garden River, otherwise known as Sayer, the grandson of Undajosi, was taken away.

Chief Nanigishkung, or Joseph Benson, of the Rama Band, has also gone to his rest at a ripe age.

From among the Hurons of Lorette, Grand Chief Philippe Vincent was cut off at the comparatively early age of fifty-nine.

In the Hobbema Agency in the North-west Territories Chief Samson died on Christmas Day.

Thus the links between the old and new generations are disappearing, and while progressive methods for the internal government of Indian communities must prevail it may be said that had more of the hereditary or life chiefs been of the character of the men whose deaths have been just recorded, the necessity for change would have been much less urgent.

AGRICULTURE.

In the older provinces the Indians evince a disposition to avail themselves of the many existing openings for employment which combine more sure and speedy returns with a less monotonous life than farming, in which respect they share the growing tendency in all agricultural communities to make for centres of activity.

Doubtless direction to agricultural operations undertaken in any given season is imparted by the nature of the demand in the market of the preceding year.

In Ontario a considerably extended acreage was put under wheat, but unfortunately without a proportionately increased return, for in many places the snow fall was so light or late in coming that the severe frosts affected the fall wheat more or less disastrously.

The aggregate area cultivated was a good deal less than during the preceding season, the principal shrinkage having been with regard to the cultivation of oats, pease and potatoes.

The Indians of Quebec, despite their preference for other occupations, are being driven by the force of circumstances to pay rather more attention to agriculture.

The causes which have operated to bring about this result are the disappearance of game in the outlying districts, the less profitable market for their wares in the United States, and the diminished demand for such articles as moccasins, mitts, snow-shoes, etc., upon the manufacture and sale of which many of them used to depend for their maintenance.

On the whole there has been an appreciable addition to the area cultivated, a good deal more having been done in the way of growing of oats and potatoes, the result being that produce of one sort and another exceeded that of the preceding year by some 48,000 bushels.

In Manitoba there is comparatively little farming done, as the bulk of the Indians are so situated that the most they can do in this direction is to grow potatoes and some garden stuffs to eke out the fish and game upon which they depend for their food supply.

As game becomes scarcer, these Indians in the lake districts gradually extend their little patches of roots and vegetables. Such Indians as reside in a farming district, appreciably curtailed their agricultural operations.

In the North-west Territories there has been a slight decrease in the area cultivated, but so small as to be without significance and the result of ordinary fluctuation.

On some of the reserves in the southern district the crops turned out excellently, both with respect to quality and quantity, but with these exceptions they suffered severely from the results of long continued drought in the spring, followed by summer frosts.

The methods of farming pursued by the Indians are not yet as a rule such as to offer the best resistance to such adverse conditions.

When settlers, coming from districts where arable lands had to be reclaimed from the forests, first entered the prairie country and found virgin sod in unrestricted quantities ready for the plough, the natural tendency was to keep on breaking up fresh lands and as a consequence the first methods of agriculture were of the rough and ready order.

By degrees the settlers began to find out that in order to secure sufficiently speedy growth to escape early frosts, and in seasons of drought to enable the land to retain its moisture, it was necessary to curtail the extent of their operations and revert to more careful methods of agriculture.

It was, however, a very different matter to get Indians to abandon their first acquired impressions as to what constituted agriculture and adopt what to them were

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

entirely new as well as harder methods. By degrees some progress has been made, and comparatively careful cultivation had so marked an effect in the direction of mitigating the effects of the drought referred to as to have furnished an object lesson from which the Indians can hardly fail to profit.

In British Columbia, as in Manitoba, and for much the same reason, viz.: that there is comparatively little suitable land on the reserves, the Indians do not depend to any great extent upon agriculture, and very few so far have attempted to do more than supply their own immediate requirements.

Where, however, the conditions are favourable or the natural drawbacks have been overcome by irrigation, the Indians are gradually extending their operations, and have as compared with the year before, increased the area under cultivation by some 900 acres, and gone more extensively into growing wheat and oats.

In the provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, little attention has been given to tillage of the soil by the Indians, although some of them have raised enough of produce to furnish their personal wants, but in the last mentioned province the interest in agriculture is decidedly increasing.

LIVE STOCK.

In Ontario the farming Indians may be said, as a rule, to be fairly well supplied with ordinary grade cattle, of which they take as much care as do farmers of any other class.

In Quebec the Indians are not so well supplied, but show an inclination to increase their stock.

The Indians along the coast of British Columbia possess few, if any, cattle, with the exception of those in the Cowichan Agency on the east coast of Vancouver Island, who have a fair number.

Inland, however, the Indians, or at any rate some of them, are beginning to give a good deal of attention to stock-raising, which they prefer to husbandry, and for which, as a rule, their reserves are better adapted.

In Manitoba the outlying bands so far have not paid much attention to live stock, but, where their surroundings are such as to permit of cattle being kept, they are awakening to greater interest in them, and not only endeavouring to procure more, but also to improve the breed.

It is in the North-west Territories that the cattle industry among the Indians has assumed important proportions.

Years ago what was called the 'loan system' was adopted. Animals were lent to Indians for the purpose of enabling them to raise stock, and when returned were in turn given out to others. The progeny of the animals lent belonged to the Indian, subject to the department's control as to the disposal thereof.

The great difficulty which had to be overcome was to get the Indians to see far enough ahead to realize that present care and labour expended on their animals would eventually bring their reward, but by occasionally allowing them to sell an animal for their encouragement they were led on from step to step, until now the value of cattle is getting to be so thoroughly appreciated that more applications for the loan of animals

wherewith to make a start are received than can be met, and there are few bands now which are not fairly well supplied.

As a consequence even should the harvest prove a failure, the Indians have the the sale of surplus stock to fall back upon, and indeed in some agencies this has become under any circumstances the main source of their maintenance.

So far the hay required for their animals has been made from the grass which grows wild on their reserves, but stock has increased to such an extent that already in some districts the limit which can be thus supported has been reached, and the necessity of cultivating grass has arisen.

Not only has the stock increased in quantity but the quality has been greatly improved by the importation of well bred bulls, and it is worthy of mention that in pursuance of the long established policy of not assisting Indians in any direction beyond the point of placing them in a position to help themselves, a fund has been formed at every agency by the retention of a percentage of the money derived from the sale of animals for the purpose of purchasing such bulls.

As an encouraging sign of increasing interest in agricultural pursuits, it was mentioned last year that successful fairs or exhibitions had been held by the Cape Croker, Walpole Island and Six Nation Indians in Ontario, and by the Blackfeet in the North-west Territories. During the year the Indians of the Five Hill Agency made their first attempt in a like direction, and from reports in the public papers as well as from the department's officials, it is evident that the effort was a most creditable one and attended with very gratifying and encouraging results.

The holding of an agricultural exhibition by the Indians of one agency may not in itself appear to be of much moment, but it is none the less an indication of the fact that an intelligent interest in their occupation is growing among them, although the evidences in the course of any single year may be so intangible as to make it difficult to lay one's hand upon them and state exactly wherein they consist.

It is very gratifying to be able to point out that the Indians of the various agencies throughout the North-west Territories now provide almost entirely their own wagons, harness, agricultural implements and machinery, which they purchase from the proceeds of their sales of cattle and other earnings, and it is almost superfluous to remark that articles so obtained are more highly prized and better cared for than when acquired without effort or self-denial.

NATURAL RESOURCES.

The Indians much more than any other section of the community depend for their subsistence upon natural resources, such as fish, game, and wild fruits, although of course in the older provinces the conditions are such that they can only do so to a comparatively limited extent.

In the North-west Territories since the disappearance of the buffalo there is no big game to be found in the open country, and there exist few such opportunities for getting fish as are afforded to the Indians of Manitoba and British Columbia by their lakes and rivers.

Fur-bearing animals have also been fast disappearing as settlement has advanced and the beaver, for example, is seldom to be met with excepting in far outlying districts.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

None the less, although not in quantities to be generally relied upon to any great extent, fish, wild fowl and other small game form a welcome addition to the Indians' larder.

In the lake districts of Manitoba and parts of British Columbia the fish and game form the main staple of the Indians' food supply, and they depend moreover upon the sale of fur and fish, or employment in connection with fishing industries to procure the other necessaries of life.

INDUSTRIES.

In both of these provinces the revenue obtained from these sources shows marked improvement as compared with the previous year, although in British Columbia the prosperity has not been so equally distributed.

The run of salmon at Naas and Skeena Rivers was the best for several years back, and the earnings of the Indians of the North-west Coast Agency, at the canneries, increased by some \$30,000.

At the Fraser River canneries the run was somewhat of a failure, which taken in conjunction with the serious epidemic of measles, made the attendance of the Indians rather a disastrous one. It is very questionable whether all considered these Indians do not rather lose than gain by going to these canneries, even under favourable conditions, for they incur so much debt while waiting for the arrival of the fish that when the season is over they have little if anything to take back to their homes, which have necessarily been neglected during their absence. However, as they are determined to go, they will have to learn wisdom in the some times hard school of experience.

The sealing industry also shows some improvement.

In all the provinces a fair proportion of the Indians avail themselves of such openings as are accessible to them, for making money by the pursuits of various industries, or by hiring out their services. The nature of such employment is of course governed by their surroundings. In the North-west Territories there are fewer openings for Indians in contact with settlement than in the other provinces, for there is little in the way of lumbering or mining or manufacturing to afford them employment.

As a consequence, farming is and so far as can be foreseen, is likely to continue to be their mainstay, and fortunately this resource is capable of indefinite development whether in the direction of increased agricultural operations, improvement of their method, or in that of the kindred industries of dairying and stock-raising.

The Indians, however, manage to earn a considerable amount of money by taking contracts to supply hay, whether to the North-west Mounted Police or ranchers or people in the neighbouring towns and villages, by selling fire-wood to the settlers, by hiring out as farm labourers, by freighting, by burning and selling lime, and in various other ways.

In other provinces their occupations are various and embrace work in lumber camps, on drives, the lading of vessels and railway cars, acting as guides for tourists and mineral prospectors, freighting, washing for gold, working as farm hands or as cowboys, fishing for cannery or other companies, piloting vessels, and in fact anything within their capacity.

Some industries although not necessarily confined to are in a sense peculiar to them, and their manufactures include boats, canoes, oars, paddles, mast hoops, snow-shoes, mitts, moccasins, snow-shovels, axe and pick handles, lacrosse-sticks, pails and tubs and various other articles.

The manufacture of baskets and fancy wares is an important branch of industry, and together with that of moccasins, mitts, snow-shoes and lacrosse-sticks is carried on most extensively by the Indians of Quebec.

A sufficiently remunerative market for baskets and fancy wares is found at various summer resorts in the White Mountains and on the Atlantic coast, although the trade is not so profitable since the withdrawal by the United States of the privilege of passing goods through the customs free of duty.

The impetus given the preceding year to the manufacture of moccasins and snow-shoes among the Indians at Jeune Lorette by the rush to the Klondike district, has been checked, and were it not that they have adopted a somewhat kindred industry, viz: the manufacture of canvas shoes, they would have found themselves in a somewhat hard position.

The total income derived from farm produce, land rentals, wages earned, fishing, hunting and other industries, exceeded that of the preceding year by something like \$280,000, from which it will be seen that the Indians have had their share of the general prosperity enjoyed by the country at large.

HOUSES.

There is perhaps no single feature from which more can be gathered relative to the progress made by Indians in their advance towards civilization than from the character of their dwellings.

In this as in almost all directions something has to be undone before anything can be accomplished, for so long as the superstition which keeps an Indian from inhabiting a house in which a death has occurred, prevails, he is not likely to go to much expense or trouble to erect what he feels he may have at any time to pull down or abandon.

The relation between the limits of his accommodation and the amount of fuel required to keep it warm, is a very serious consideration where severe winters prevail, and wood or other fuel is difficult to obtain. The practice moreover of living in tents during a considerable portion of the year tends to produce a certain amount of carelessness as to the kind of house he lives in.

This practice has its advantages as well as its drawbacks, for although the tendency to group their tents encourages idleness and gossiping, more especially among the women, as also the neglect of many things, such as the care of their gardens, milking of their cows, attention to calves, &c., &c., upon which the success of the farmer so much depends, the beneficial effect upon their health, which has already been referred to, is so great as to produce very strong hesitancy with regard to interfering with the custom.

Apart from such considerations, the character of the Indian dwellings depends largely upon the comparative accessibility to timber suitable for building purposes, and to saw-mills

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

In some parts of the North-west Territories, as for instance in the Regina district and in the grazing country to the west, much difficulty is experienced by the Indians in getting timber suitable for the construction of buildings, and in many parts of that as well as of other provinces, numbers of them are so far away from mills that their only possible way of getting lumber is by hand-sawing it.

Probably the most primitive type of abode is to be found in the Lake Districts of Manitoba, where roofs of thatch or even sod and earthen floors are rather the rule than the exception.

However, the inside of mean looking dwellings not infrequently forms an agreeable and surprising contrast to their outward appearance, being comfortably and even tastefully fitted up.

Want of proper ventilation is, as a rule, the greatest defect, although to an extent remedied by chimneys and open fireplaces.

In British Columbia the rancheries or big structures tenanted by groups of families, have been pretty generally displaced by private houses, excepting in the Kwakewith Agency, and while the change has many advantages, it certainly does not include better ventilation among the number.

Even where conditions are most adverse, the Indians are evincing an increasing readiness to deny themselves in other directions in order to purchase lumber and shingles, and there are few if any reserves where in the course of a year one or two new houses are not erected, and they are almost without exception, an improvement on those which they replace.

MORALITY.

The Indians as a class are law-abiding in a marked degree, and serious crime is rare among them.

In the course of the year some few of their number were charged with having taken human life.

One case was the deliberate and apparently unprovoked murder of an inoffensive settler at Kamloops, and was the culminating act in the criminal career of an Indian whose naturally ill-balanced mind and vicious tendencies had been further unsettled and aggravated by habitual indulgence in strong drink.

The other cases were of a widely different character, and occurred among Indians far removed from civilizing influences, and the taking of life was prompted by motives of self-preservation and sanctioned by established tribal usage.

The Indians put to death were what the Wood Crees call 'Wehndigos,' that is possessed of an insane desire to kill and eat the flesh of their victims; and such cases are by no means uncommon among them.

The lust to kill would not apparently differ materially from the homicidal mania which occasionally seizes upon members of any community, and the explanation of the peculiar and revolting cannibal accompaniment, will no doubt be found in the direction given by insanity to the impulses of people in whose lives the main occupation and all absorbing interest is killing in order to eat, and with whom the ideas of killing and eating are consequently inseparably connected.

It is not difficult to understand how people absolutely ignorant as to the nature and treatment of insanity, whose nomadic habits preclude making any provision for alienation or restraint, and who lack that regard for the sanctity of human life which Christianity has impressed on civilization, should believe this mania to be the direct result of possession by an evil spirit and resort to summary methods for disposing of its victims.

In such cases the law has properly recognized all the extenuating circumstances and regarded the crime as manslaughter rather than murder.

While endeavouring to enlighten the superstition and reform the practice it has confined punishment to the extent considered necessary to emphasize its teachings.

In the older provinces the majority of the Indians have reached that stage when they can resist such ordinary temptations to imbibe strong drink as are incidental to their position, surrounded by communities in which intoxicants are commonly used and sold.

The fact that there are some individuals to be found in most of the bands who will succumb to, and some who will go a long way out of their road to seek temptation, is not peculiar to them.

The drinking class, however, is largely in the minority, and it seems evident from the reports received from all directions that a marked improvement is taking place among them and the temperance sentiment steadily growing.

While on the whole the prohibitive provisions of the Act result in good, yet they serve in a measure to create temptation.

The price paid by Indians for liquor is in proportion to the risk incurred in supplying it, and this opens up a field for a lucrative, if dangerous traffic, which has created a class of procurers who trade upon their knowledge of the fact that not only will liquor, if indulged in at all, provoke a far stronger craving in an Indian than in an ordinary white man, but will so act upon the improvidence, which is so strong a characteristic of his constitution, as to render him reckless as to the cost at which he gratifies the passion when excited.

Thus while the high price may serve to deter an Indian, when free from the craving, from going in quest of liquor, it offers a strong inducement to the procurer to tempt him to indulge, and there is no doubt that this kind of temptation is the cause of much of such drinking as is done by Indians, more especially in Manitoba and the North-west Territories.

Every effort is made to discover and punish the miscreants who supply the Indians with intoxicants, but, as the Indians who receive the liquor are as a rule the only witnesses of such transactions, and to give information would cut them off from all hope of procuring further supplies, it is next to impossible to extract any from them. Under such circumstances the only other course left is to punish the Indian, but here another difficulty presents itself; because the chances are that his circumstances are such that whether he be fined or imprisoned the result is to render his family destitute; and the duty of affording relief falls upon the Bands, if possessed of funds to devote to such purpose, and, if not, upon the Government.

Since, however, virtue is better than innocence, and self-control cannot be acquired without resistance of temptation, it is to be hoped that matters as they stand may eventually work out for the Indians' highest good.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

While a considerable number of Indians, still refuse even nominal adherence to Christianity, their superstitions and cognate rites, such as the celebration of Potlaches or Sun Dances, have been denuded of their most objectionable features, and are fast falling into disuse, as are also the kindred practices of their medicine men.

EDUCATION.

The amount of interest taken by Indian parents in the education of their children, and the extent and regularity of the attendance of the latter are largely affected by the peculiarities of their condition. In the first stage, before instruction or education can be commenced, a great deal has to be done in the way of eradication of superstition and prejudice, and in overcoming fear not unnaturally entertained by the parents that education will not only destroy sympathy between them and their offspring in this life, but through the inculcation of religion separate them in a future state of existence. When these difficulties have been overcome, many others present themselves, such as the migratory habits of the parents, and their strong disinclination to apply or have teachers apply, especially to their boys, such discipline as is required to ensure attendance and progress. Supposing, however, attendance to have been secured, then various obstacles present themselves—the first and main one being that of difference in tongue. This difference is greatly enhanced when it becomes necessary to impart ideas which, being entirely outside of the experience and environment of the pupils and their parents, have no equivalent expression in their native language. When all this is remembered it will be seen that so far from an inferior class of teachers being, as is commonly supposed, quite good enough for Indian schools, a decidedly superior class is required, not only for the direct instruction of the pupils, but to exert an influence upon and arouse interest in the parents.

Many of the reserves in the newer provinces are still so far remote from centres of civilization that the conditions are not sufficiently inviting to allure a superior class of teacher from more congenial surroundings.

However, as civilization advances the disadvantages become less, and a corresponding improvement in the character of the service procurable takes place. When long contact with civilization has removed these difficulties, as in the older provinces, the fact still remains that so long as Indians continue to dwell in separate communities and do not amalgamate with the surrounding race, the prospects before their children and the positions which they are likely to occupy are not such as to magnify the value of education in their eyes.

Up to a certain point, in order to derive benefit for themselves from such contact as they must necessarily have with white men, and to save themselves from being overreached, they show an increasing appreciation of the value of education, but beyond that point few have any ambition for it on behalf of their offspring.

While but little remains to be removed of that prejudice and superstition which provoke actual resistance to instruction, the strong disinclination on the part of the parents to the separation involved in letting them go to industrial schools, at a distance from the reserves, and remain sufficiently long to derive any real benefit, remains more or less widespread.

Since comparatively little progress can be made at the day schools when the migratory habits of the parents interfere with regularity of the children's attendance and the home influences counteract those of the schools, the difficulty is met, so far as circumstances and means admit of, by the establishment of boarding schools on the reserves, where the parents can see the children from time to time, and thus greatly mitigate the sense of separation. This tends to enhance the difficulty of securing pupils for the industrial schools, and the natural tendency of the policy to substitute boarding for day schools, and of the preference of the parents for boarding rather than industrial schools, is to swell the enrolment for boarding at the expense of both day and industrial schools.

The following table will show at a glance the number of each class of school in operation in each province during the year:—

Province.	Day.	Boarding.	Industrial.
Ontario	75	1	5
Quebec	17		
Nova Scotia.	11		
New Brunswick	6		
Prince Edward Island.	1		
British Columbia.	27	4	7
Manitoba	46	4	4
North-west Territories	31	22	6
Outside treaty limits	11	3	

This as compared with the preceding year shows an addition of four day schools in Ontario, three in Nova Scotia, and two outside treaty limits, and of two boarding schools in the North-west Territories, as against three day schools closed in the North-west Territories. In addition to these there is a boarding school established at Norway House by the enterprise of the Methodist Church, but so far it has not been assisted by the department.

The enrolment during the year was as follows:—

At Day schools	6,491 pupils.
At Boarding schools	1,157 “
At Industrial schools	1,958 “

showing a decrease since the preceding year of 245 pupils at the day schools and 36 at the industrial.

The average attendance on the other hand shows a decided improvement, having increased from 5,533 to 6,167.

It will be seen from the foregoing that with regard to education as well as other matters progress is being gradually made.

LANDS.

In the course of the year 65,631.66 acres of surrendered surveyed lands were sold, and realized an aggregate amount of \$41,971.40, and so maintained the average price obtained for similar lands the year before.

These sales included some of the lands comprising two surrenders made during the preceding year, viz., that of the Sharphead's Reserve, situated on the trail from Calgary

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

to Edmonton, in the North-west Territories, and a portion of the Temiscamingue Reserve, which was subdivided and placed on the market at the upset price affixed by the surveyor.

None of the lands of the Checastapasin Reserve, near Prince Albert, also surrendered last year, have yet been sold, pending decision as to how they can be disposed of to the best advantage.

Of letters patent, 356 were issued and recorded under authority of, and in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Act, and the usual returns sent to the Provincial Secretary and Registrars of Counties and Districts in the Dominion.

Location tickets, granting title to Indians for lots on their reserves, were, under the provisions of the Act, issued during the year to the number of 75. Of these location tickets there are now 922 of record in the department.

Of leases of lots to white men the department has on behalf of Indian locatees negotiated 79 in the course of the year, and as some 93 have expired or been cancelled since last year, the number current is 887.

One new timber license, covering some 842 acres on the southerly side of Batchewana Island, was issued, making the number of such licenses now current 24.

The re-valuation of lands in the Saugeen Peninsula, with regard to which progress was reported last year, has been completed, and the value set upon a number of lots, reduced in accordance therewith.

Exclusive privileges to explore for petroleum oil and gas on the unceded portion of Manitoulin Island were granted, on what were considered advantageous terms, to two firms, but so far without results; and one or two permits were issued to prospect for minerals on Indian reserves, and one claim of two acres in extent in the Maniwaki Reserve was disposed of as a mica mine.

SURVEYS.

In describing survey work it is not easy to keep within the exact limits of the fiscal year, which do not correspond with those of the surveyor's 'season.'

Last year the results of the season's work in the North-west Territories and British Columbia were given, and, in so far as work which encroached upon the limits of the fiscal year now under review, need not be repeated.

The following additional work has been done in the course of the year:—

The survey into sections of the broken townships of Havilland and Ley, and into lots of the west halves of the townships of Tupper and Archibald, situated in the Batchewana Reserve, the commencement of which was noticed last year, has been completed. The Indian reserve at Christian Island, Georgian Bay, south of Moose Deer Point, the Sioux Reserve, at Round Plain, in the vicinity of Prince Albert, in the North-west Territories, a tract of the east half, and the north part of the west half of the Temiscamingue Reserve, also a portion of the surrendered part of the Ouatichouan Reserve at Lake St. John were subdivided into farm lots, the first two mentioned for the purpose of severally locating the Indians thereon, the others in order that they might be sold for the benefit of those interested therein.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

The boundaries of the Restigouche Reserve, in the township of Mann, and of Poorman's Reserve, in the Touchwood Hills, were retraced, and the re-survey of boundaries, lots, and section lines of the St. Peter's Reserve completed.

The Indians of Stony and Pelican Lakes, having at length been driven through failure of the hunt to settle down to agricultural pursuits, a reserve has been surveyed for them on Big River in the Carlton Agency.

The work of surveying the islands in the Georgian Bay south of Moose Deer Point has been continued,—a survey made of a road leading through the Saugeen Reserve, near its southern boundary, to a public bridge over the Saugeen River, in order that the same might be declared a public highway, also of a road allowance in the unsurrendered portion of the Temiscamingue Reserve, in exchange for the road allowance abandoned along the shore of the Quinze.

A special examination was made of the damage done by the overflow of a creek in the Quarante Arpents Reserve, with a view to ascertain the extent thereof and to prevent its recurrence; also examination and survey of Grass Creek Island, River St. Lawrence, in order to decide whether it constituted Indian land, and was subject to control of this department.

FINANCIAL.

On June 30 last, the capital of the Indian Trust Fund was \$3,785,616.35, as compared with \$3,725,746.75 at the close of the preceding fiscal year.

Collections reached the sum of \$127,459.08, and disbursements amounted in the aggregate to \$238,111.26. The amount expended from the consolidated fund was \$986,254.56.

The Indian Saving Account, which, as explained in last year's report, had been instituted for the funding of the annuity money and earnings of pupils at industrial schools, shows a satisfactory augmentation of the balance to its credit, which on June 30 last was \$14,856.48, the deposits during the year having amounted to \$4,554.56, as against withdrawals to the extent of \$2,267.24.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

JAS. A. SMART,

Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS FOR TREATY No. 8.

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, 22nd September, 1899.

The Honourable

CLIFFORD SIFTON,

Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—We have the honour to transmit herewith the treaty which, under the Commission issued to us on the 5th day of April last, we have made with the Indians of the provisional district of Athabasca and parts of the country adjacent thereto, as described in the treaty and shown on the map attached.

The date fixed for meeting the Indians at Lesser Slave Lake was the 8th of June 1899. Owing, however, to unfavourable weather and lack of boatmen, we did not reach the point until the 19th. But one of the Commissioners—Mr. Ross—who went overland from Edmonton to the Lake, was fortunately present when the Indians first gathered. He was thus able to counteract the consequences of the delay and to expedite the work of the Commission by preliminary explanations of its objects.

We met the Indians on the 20th, and on the 21st the treaty was signed.

As the discussions at the different points followed on much the same lines, we shall confine ourselves to a general statement of their import. There was a marked absence of the old Indian style of oratory. Only among the Wood Crees were any formal speeches made, and these were brief. The Beaver Indians are taciturn. The Chipewyans confined themselves to asking questions and making brief arguments. They appeared to be more adept at cross-examination than at speech-making, and the Chief at Fort Chipewyan displayed considerable keenness of intellect and much practical sense in pressing the claims of his band. They all wanted as liberal, if not more liberal terms, than were granted to the Indians of the plains. Some expected to be fed by the Government after the making of treaty, and all asked for assistance in seasons of distress and urged that the old and indigent who were no longer able to hunt and trap and were consequently often in distress should be cared for by the Government. They requested that medicines be furnished. At Vermillion, Chipewyan and Smith's Landing, an earnest appeal was made for the services of a medical man. There was expressed at every point the fear that the making of the treaty would be followed by the curtailment of the hunting and fishing privileges, and many were impressed with the notion that the treaty would lead to taxation and enforced military service. They seemed desirous of securing educational advantages for their children, but stipulated that in the matter of schools there should be no interference with their religious beliefs.

We pointed out that the Government could not undertake to maintain Indians in idleness; that the same means of earning a livelihood would continue after the treaty as existed before it, and that the Indians would be expected to make use of them. We told them that the Government was always ready to give relief in cases of actual destitution, and that in seasons of distress they would without any special stipulation in the treaty receive such assistance as it was usual to give in order to prevent starvation among Indians in any part of Canada; and we stated that the attention of the Government would be called to the need of some special provision being made for assisting the old and indigent who were unable to work and dependent on charity for the means of

sustaining life. We promised that supplies of medicines would be put in the charge of persons selected by the Government at different points, and would be distributed free to those of the Indians who might require them. We explained that it would be practically impossible for the Government to arrange for regular medical attendance upon Indians so widely scattered over such an extensive territory. We assured them, however, that the Government would always be ready to avail itself of any opportunity of affording medical service just as it provided that the physician attached to the Commission should give free attendance to all Indians whom he might find in need of treatment as he passed through the country.

Our chief difficulty was the apprehension that the hunting and fishing privileges were to be curtailed. The provision in the treaty under which ammunition and twine is to be furnished went far in the direction of quieting the fears of the Indians, for they admitted that it would be unreasonable to furnish the means of hunting and fishing if laws were to be enacted which would make hunting and fishing so restricted as to render it impossible to make a livelihood by such pursuits. But over and above the provision we had to solemnly assure them that only such laws as to hunting and fishing as were in the interest of the Indians and were found necessary in order to protect the fish and fur-bearing animals would be made, and that they would be as free to hunt and fish after the treaty as they would be if they never entered into it.

We assured them that the treaty would not lead to any forced interference with their mode of life, that it did not open the way to the imposition of any tax, and that there was no fear of enforced military service. We showed them that, whether treaty was made or not, they were subject to the law, bound to obey it, and liable to punishment for any infringements of it. We pointed out that the law was designed for the protection of all, and must be respected by all the inhabitants of the country, irrespective of colour or origin; and that, in requiring them to live at peace with white men who came into the country, and not to molest them in person or in property, it only required them to do what white men were required to do as to the Indians.

As to education, the Indians were assured that there was no need of any special stipulation, as it was the policy of the Government to provide in every part of the country, as far as circumstances would permit, for the education of Indian children, and that the law, which was as strong as a treaty, provided for non-interference with the religion of the Indians in schools maintained or assisted by the Government.

We should add that the chief of the Chipewyans of Fort Chipewyan asked that the Government should undertake to have a railway built into the country, as the cost of goods which the Indians require would be thereby cheapened and the prosperity of the country enhanced. He was told that the Commissioners had no authority to make any statement in the matter further than to say that his desire would be made known to the Government.

When we conferred, after the first meeting with the Indians at Lesser Slave Lake, we came to the conclusion that it would be best to make one treaty covering the whole of the territory ceded, and to take adhesions thereto from the Indians to be met at the other points rather than to make several separate treaties. The treaty was therefore so drawn as to provide three ways in which assistance is to be given to the Indians, in order to accord with the conditions of the country and to meet the requirements of the Indians in the different parts of the territory.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

In addition to the annuity, which we found it necessary to fix at the figures of Treaty Six, which covers adjacent territory, the treaty stipulates that assistance in the form of seed and implements and cattle will be given to those of the Indians who may take to farming, in the way of cattle and mowers to those who may devote themselves to cattle-raising, and that ammunition and twine will be given to those who continue to fish and hunt. The assistance in farming and ranching is only to be given when the Indians actually take to these pursuits, and it is not likely that for many years there will be a call for any considerable expenditure under these heads. The only Indians of the territory ceded who are likely to take to cattle-raising are those about Lesser Slave Lake and along the Peace River, where there is quite an extent of ranching country; and although there are stretches of cultivable land in those parts of the country, it is not probable that the Indians will, while present conditions obtain, engage in farming further than the raising of roots in a small way, as is now done to some extent. In the main the demand will be for ammunition and twine, as the great majority of the Indians will continue to hunt and fish for a livelihood. It does not appear likely that the conditions of the country on either side of the Athabasca and Slave Rivers or about Athabasca Lake will be so changed as to affect hunting or trapping, and it is safe to say that so long as the fur-bearing animals remain, the great bulk of the Indians will continue to hunt and to trap.

The Indians are given the option of taking reserves or land in severalty. As the extent of the country treated for made it impossible to define reserves or holdings, and as the Indians were not prepared to make selections, we confined ourselves to an undertaking to have reserves and holdings set apart in the future, and the Indians were satisfied with the promise that this would be done when required. There is no immediate necessity for the general laying out of reserves or the allotting of land. It will be quite time enough to do this as advancing settlement makes necessary the surveying of the land. Indeed, the Indians were generally averse to being placed on reserves. It would have been impossible to have made a treaty if we had not assured them that there was no intention of confining them to reserves. We had to very clearly explain to them that the provision for reserves and allotments of land were made for their protection, and to secure to them in perpetuity a fair portion of the land ceded, in the event of settlement advancing.

After making the treaty at Lesser Slave Lake it was decided that, in order to offset the delay already referred to, it would be necessary for the Commission to divide. Mr. Ross and Mr. McKenna accordingly set out for Fort St. John on the 22nd of June. The date appointed for meeting the Indians there was the 21st. When the decision to divide was come to, a special messenger was despatched to the Fort with a message to the Indians explaining the delay, advising them that Commissioners were travelling to meet them, and requesting them to wait at the Fort. Unfortunately the Indians had dispersed and gone to their hunting grounds before the messenger arrived and weeks before the date originally fixed for the meeting, and when the Commissioners got within some miles of St. John the messenger met them with a letter from the Hudson's Bay Company's officer there advising them that the Indians, after consuming all their provisions, set off on the 1st June in four different bands and in as many different directions for the regular hunt; that there was not a man at St. John who knew the country and could carry word of the Commissioners' coming, and even if there were it would take three weeks or a month to get the Indians in. Of course there was nothing to do but

return. It may be stated, however, that what happened was not altogether unforeseen. We had grave doubts of being able to get to St. John in time to meet the Indians, but as they were reported to be rather disturbed and ill-disposed on account of the actions of miners passing through their country, it was thought that it would be well to show them that the Commissioners were prepared to go into their country, and that they had put forth every possible effort to keep the engagement made by the Government.

The Commissioners on their return from St. John met the Beaver Indians of Dunvegan on the 21st day of June and secured their adhesion to the treaty. They then proceeded to Fort Chipewyan and to Smith's Landing on the Slave River and secured the adhesion of the Cree and Chipewyan Indians at these points on the 13th and 17th days of July respectively.

In the meantime Mr. Laird met the Cree and Beaver Indians at Peace River Landing and Vermillion, and secured their adhesion on the 1st and 8th days of July respectively. He then proceeded to Fond du Lac on Lake Athabasca, and obtained the adhesion of the Chipewyan Indians there on the 25th and 27th days of July.

After treating with the Indians at Smith, Mr. Ross and Mr. McKenna found it necessary to separate in order to make sure of meeting the Indians at Wabiscow on the date fixed. Mr. McKenna accordingly went to Fort McMurray, where he secured the adhesion of the Chipewyan and Cree Indians on the 4th day of August, and Mr. Ross proceeded to Wabiscow, where he obtained the adhesion of the Cree Indians on the 14th day of August.

The Indians with whom we treated differ in many respects from the Indians of the organized territories. They indulge in neither paint nor feathers, and they never clothe themselves in blankets. Their dress is of the ordinary style and many of them were well clothed. In the summer they live in teepees, but many of them have log houses in which they live in the winter. The Cree language is the chief language of trade, and some of the Beavers and Chipewyans speak it in addition to their own tongues. All the Indians we met were with rare exceptions professing Christians, and showed evidences of the work which missionaries have carried on among them for many years. A few of them have had their children avail themselves of the advantages afforded by boarding schools established at different missions. None of the tribes appear to have any very definite organization. They are held together mainly by the language bond. The chiefs and headmen are simply the most efficient hunters and trappers. They are not law-makers and leaders in the sense that the chiefs and headmen of the plains and of old Canada were. The tribes have no very distinctive characteristics, and as far as we could learn traditions of any import. The Wood Crees are an off-shoot of the Crees of the South. The Beaver Indians bear some resemblance to the Indians west of the mountains. The Chipewyans are physically the superior tribe. The Beavers have apparently suffered most from scrofula and phthisis, and there are marks of these diseases more or less among all the tribes.

Although in manners and dress the Indians of the North are much further advanced in civilization than other Indians were when treaties were made with them, they stand as much in need of the protection afforded by the law to aborigines as do any other Indians of the country, and are as fit subjects for the paternal care of the Government.

It may be pointed out that hunting in the North differs from hunting as it was on the plains in that the Indians hunt in a wooded country and instead of moving in bands go individually or in family groups.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Our journey from point to point was so hurried that we are not in a position to give any description of the country ceded which would be of value. But we may say that about Lesser Slave Lake there are stretches of country which appear well suited for ranching and mixed farming; that on both sides of the Peace River there are extensive prairies and some well wooded country; that at Vermillion on the Peace two settlers have successfully carried on mixed farming on a pretty extensive scale for several years, and that the appearance of the cultivated fields of the Mission there in July showed that cereals and roots were as well advanced as in any portion of the organized territories. The country along the Athabasca River is well wooded and there are miles of tar-saturated banks. But as far as our restricted view of the Lake Athabasca and Slave River country enabled us to judge, its wealth, apart from possible mineral development, consists exclusively in its fisheries and furs.

In going from Peace River Crossing to St. John, the trail which is being constructed under the supervision of the Territorial Government from moneys provided by Parliament was passed over. It was found to be well located. The grading and bridge work is of a permanent character, and the road is sure to be an important factor in the development of the country.

We desire to express our high appreciation of the valuable and most willing service rendered by Inspector Snyder and the corps of police under him, and at the same time to testify to the efficient manner in which the members of our staff performed their several duties. The presence of a medical man was much appreciated by the Indians, and Dr. West, the physician to the Commission, was most assiduous in attending to the great number of Indians who sought his services. We would add that the Very Reverend Father Lacombe, who was attached to the Commission, zealously assisted us in treating with the Crees.

The actual number of Indians paid was :—

7 Chiefs at \$32.00	\$	224 00
23 Headmen at \$22.00		506 00
2,187 Indians at \$12.00		26,244 00
		<hr/>
		\$26,974 00

A detailed statement of the Indians treated with and of the money paid is appended.

We have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servants,

DAVID LAIRD,
J. H. ROSS,
J. A. J. McKENNA,

Indian Treaty Commissioners.

STATEMENT of Indians paid Annuity and Gratuity Moneys in Treaty No. 8, during 1899.

	Chiefs.	Headmen.	Other Indians.	Cash Paid each Band.	Total Cash Paid.
				\$ cts.	\$ cts.
LESSER SLAVE LAKE.					
<i>Keenoostayo's Band (Creces)—</i>					
Chief at \$32.....	1			32 00	
Headmen at \$22.....		4		88 00	
Other Indians at \$12.....			241	2,892 00	3,012 00
<i>Captain's Band (Creces)—</i>					
Headman.....		1		22 00	
Other Indians.....			22	264 00	286 00
PEACE RIVER LANDING.					
<i>Duncan Tastawit's Band (Creces and Beavers)—</i>					
Headman.....		1		22 00	
Other Indians.....			46	552 00	574 00
VERMILLION.					
<i>Ambroise Tete-Noire's Band (Beavers)—</i>					
Chief.....	1			32 00	
Headman.....		1		22 00	
Other Indians.....			148	1,776 00	1,830 00
<i>Tall Cree Band (Creces)—</i>					
Headman.....		1		22 00	
Other Indians.....			64	768 00	790 00
DUNVEGAN.					
<i>Beaver Band—</i>					
Headman.....		1		22 00	
Other Indians.....			33	396 00	418 00
RED RIVER POST, PEACE RIVER.					
<i>Creces paid as part of Band—Cree Band at Vermillion—</i>					
Indians.....			66	792 00	792 00
FORT CHIPEWYAN.					
<i>Chipewyan Band—</i>					
Chief.....	1			32 00	
Headmen.....		2		44 00	
Other Indians.....			407	4,884 00	4,960 00
<i>Cree Band—</i>					
Chief.....	1			32 00	
Headmen.....		2		44 00	
Other Indians.....			183	2,196 00	2,272 00
SMITH'S LANDING.					
<i>Chipewyan Band—</i>					
Chief.....	1			32 00	
Headmen.....		2		44 00	
Other Indians.....			280	3,360 00	3,436 00

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

STATEMENT of Indians paid Annuity and Gratuity, &c.—*Concluded.*

	Chiefs.	Headmen.	Other Indians.	Cash Paid each Band.	Total Cash Paid.
FOND DU LAC.					
				\$ cts.	\$ cts.
<i>Chipewyan Band—</i>					
Chief	1			32 00	
Headmen		2		44 00	
Other Indians			376	4,512 00	
					4,588 00
FORT McMURRAY.					
<i>Cree and Chipewyan Bands—</i>					
Headmen		2		44 00	
Other Indians			130	1,560 00	
					1,604 00
WABISCOW.					
<i>Cree Band—</i>					
Chief	1			32 00	
Headmen		4		88 00	
Other Indians			191	2,292 00	
					2,412 00
Total	7	23	2,187		26,974 00

SUMMARY.

7 Chiefs at \$32	\$ 224 00
23 Headmen at \$22	506 00
2,187 Other Indians at \$12	26,224 00
<u>2,217</u>	<u>Total</u>
	\$26,974 00

Certified correct,

DAVID LAIRD,
J. H. ROSS,
J. A. J. McKENNA,

Indian Treaty Commissioners.

WINNIPEG, Man., September 22, 1899.

TREATY No. 8.

ARTICLES OF A TREATY made and concluded at the several dates mentioned therein, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine, between Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, by her Commissioners the Honourable David Laird, of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Indian Commissioner for the said Province and the North-west Territories, James Andrew Joseph McKenna, of Ottawa, Ontario, Esquire, and the Honourable James Hamilton Ross, of Regina, in the North west Territories, of the one part; and the Cree, Beaver, Chipewyan, and other Indians, inhabitants of the territory within the limits hereinafter defined and described, by their Chiefs and Headmen, hereunto subscribed, of the other part:—

WHEREAS the Indians inhabiting the territory hereinafter defined have, pursuant to notice given by the Honourable Superintendent General of Indian Affairs in the year 1898, been convened to meet a Commission representing Her Majesty's Government of the Dominion of Canada at certain places in the said territory in this present year 1899, to deliberate upon certain matters of interest to Her Most Gracious Majesty, of the one part, and the said Indians of the other.

AND WHEREAS the said Indians have been notified and informed by Her Majesty's said Commission that it is her desire to open for settlement, immigration trade, travel, mining, lumbering, and such other purposes as to Her Majesty may seem meet, a tract of country bounded and described as hereinafter mentioned, and to obtain the consent thereto of her Indian subjects inhabiting the said tract, and to make a treaty, and arrange with them, so that there may be peace and good will between them and Her Majesty's other subjects, and that her Indian people may know and be assured of what allowances they are to count upon and receive from Her Majesty's bounty and benevolence.

AND WHEREAS the Indians of the said tract, duly convened in council at the respective points named hereunder, and being requested by Her Majesty's Commissioners to name certain Chiefs and Headmen who should be authorized on their behalf to conduct such negotiations and sign any treaty to be founded thereon, and to become responsible to Her Majesty for the faithful performance by their respective bands of such obligations as shall be assumed by them, the said Indians have therefore acknowledged for that purpose the several Chiefs and Headmen who have subscribed hereto.

AND WHEREAS the said Commissioners have proceeded to negotiate a treaty with the Cree, Beaver, Chipewyan, and other Indians, inhabiting the district hereinafter defined and described, and the same has been agreed upon and concluded by the respective bands at the dates mentioned hereunder, the said Indians DO HEREBY CEDE, RELEASE, SURRENDER AND YIELD UP to the Government of the Dominion of Canada, for Her Majesty the Queen and her successors for ever, all their rights, titles and privileges whatsoever, to the lands included within the following limits, that is to say:—

Commencing at the source of the main branch of the Red Deer River in Alberta, thence due west to the central range of the Rocky Mountains, thence north-westerly along said range to the point where it intersects the 60th parallel of north latitude, thence east along said parallel to the point where it intersects Hay River, thence north-easterly down said river to the south shore of Great Slave Lake, thence along the said shore north-easterly, (and including such rights to the islands in said lake as the Indians mentioned in the treaty may possess), and thence easterly and north-easterly along the south shores of Christie's Bay and McLeod's Bay to old Fort Reliance near the mouth of Lockhart's River, thence south-easterly in a straight line to and including Black Lake, thence south-westerly up the stream from Cree Lake, thence including said lake south-westerly along the height of land between the Athabasca and Churchill Rivers to where it intersects the northern boundary of Treaty Six, and along the said boundary easterly, northerly and south-westerly, to the place of commencement.

AND ALSO the said Indian rights, titles, and privileges whatsoever to all other lands wherever situated in the North-west Territories, British Columbia, or in any other portion of the Dominion of Canada.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the same to Her Majesty the Queen and her successors for ever

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

And Her Majesty the Queen HEREBY AGREES with the said Indians that they shall have right to pursue their usual vocations of hunting, trapping and fishing throughout the tract surrendered as heretofore described, subject to such regulations as may from time to time be made by the Government of the country, acting under the authority of Her Majesty, and saving and excepting such tracts as may be required or taken up from time to time for settlement, mining, lumbering, trading or other purposes.

And Her Majesty the Queen hereby agrees and undertakes to lay aside reserves for such bands as desire reserves, the same not to exceed in all one square mile for each family of five for such number of families as may elect to reside on reserves, or in that proportion for larger or smaller families; and for such families or individual Indians as may prefer to live apart from band reserves, Her Majesty undertakes to provide land in severalty to the extent of 160 acres to each Indian, the land to be conveyed with a proviso as to non-alienation without the consent of the Governor General in Council of Canada, the selection of such reserves, and lands in severalty, to be made in the manner following, namely, the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs shall depute and send a suitable person to determine and set apart such reserves and lands, after consulting with the Indians concerned as to the locality which may be found suitable and open for selection.

Provided, however, that Her Majesty reserves the right to deal with any settlers within the bounds of any lands reserved for any band as she may see fit; and also that the aforesaid reserves of land, or any interest therein, may be sold or otherwise disposed of by Her Majesty's Government for the use and benefit of the said Indians entitled thereto, with their consent first had and obtained.

It is further agreed between Her Majesty and her said Indian subjects that such portions of the reserves and lands above indicated as may at any time be required for public works, buildings, railways, or roads of whatsoever nature may be appropriated for that purpose by Her Majesty's Government of the Dominion of Canada, due compensation being made to the Indians for the value of any improvements thereon, and an equivalent in land, money or other consideration for the area of the reserve so appropriated.

And with a view to show the satisfaction of Her Majesty with the behaviour and good conduct of her Indians, and in extinguishment of all their past claims, she hereby, through her Commissioners, agrees to make each Chief a present of thirty-two dollars in cash, to each Headman twenty-two dollars, and to every other Indian of whatever age, of the families represented at the time and place of payment, twelve dollars.

Her Majesty also agrees that next year, and annually afterwards for ever, she will cause to be paid to the said Indians in cash, at suitable places and dates, of which the said Indians shall be duly notified, to each Chief twenty-five dollars, each Headman, not to exceed four to a large Band and two to a small Band, fifteen dollars, and to every other Indian, of whatever age, five dollars, the same, unless there be some exceptional reason, to be paid only to heads of families for those belonging thereto.

FURTHER, Her Majesty agrees that each Chief, after signing the treaty, shall receive a silver medal and a suitable flag, and next year, and every third year thereafter, each Chief and Headman shall receive a suitable suit of clothing.

FURTHER, Her Majesty agrees to pay the salaries of such teachers to instruct the children of said Indians as to Her Majesty's Government of Canada may seem advisable.

FURTHER, Her Majesty agrees to supply each Chief of a Band that selects a reserve, for the use of that Band, ten axes, five hand-saws, five augers, one grindstone, and the necessary files and whetstones.

FURTHER, Her Majesty agrees that each Band that elects to take a reserve and cultivate the soil, shall, as soon as convenient after such reserve is set aside and settled upon, and the Band has signified its choice and is prepared to break up the soil, receive two hoes, one spade, one scythe and two hay forks for every family so settled, and for every three families one plough and one harrow, and to the Chief, for the use of his Band, two horses or a yoke of oxen, and for each Band potatoes, barley, oats and wheat (if such seed be suited to the locality of the reserve), to plant the land actually broken up, and provisions for one month in the spring for several years while planting such seeds; and to every family one cow, and every Chief one bull, and one mowing-machine and one reaper for the use of his Band when it is ready for them; for such families as

prefer to raise stock instead of cultivating the soil, every family of five persons, two cows, and every Chief two bulls and two mowing-machines when ready for their use, and a like proportion for smaller or larger families. The aforesaid articles, machines and cattle to be given once for all for the encouragement of agriculture and stock raising; and for such Bands as prefer to continue hunting and fishing, as much ammunition and twine for making nets annually as will amount in value to one dollar per head of the families so engaged in hunting and fishing.

And the undersigned Cree, Beaver, Chipewyan and other Indian Chiefs and Headmen, on their own behalf and on behalf of all the Indians whom they represent, do HEREBY SOLEMNLY PROMISE and engage to strictly observe this Treaty, and also to conduct and behave themselves as good and loyal subjects of Her Majesty the Queen.

THEY PROMISE AND ENGAGE that they will, in all respects, obey and abide by the law; that they will maintain peace between each other, and between themselves and other tribes of Indians, and between themselves and others of Her Majesty's subjects, whether Indians, Half-breeds or whites, this year inhabiting and hereafter to inhabit any part of the said ceded territory; and that they will not molest the person or property of any inhabitant of such ceded tract, or of any other district or country, or interfere with or trouble any person passing or travelling through the said tract or any part thereof, and that they will assist the officers of Her Majesty in bringing to justice and punishment any Indian offending against the stipulations of this Treaty or infringing the law in force in the country so ceded.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF Her Majesty's said Commissioners and the Cree Chief and Headmen of Lesser Slave Lake and the adjacent territory, HAVE HEREUNTO SET THEIR HANDS at Lesser Slave Lake on the twenty-first day of June, in the year herein first above written.

Signed by the parties hereto, in the presence of the undersigned witnesses, the same having been first explained to the Indians by Albert Tate and Samuel Cunningham, Interpreters.

Father A. LACOMBE,
GEO. HOLMES,
† E. GROUARD, O.M.I.,
W. G. WHITE,
JAMES WALKER,
J. ARTHUR COTÉ,
A. E. SNYDER, Insp., N.W.M.P.,
H. B. ROUND,
HARRISON S. YOUNG,
J. F. PRUD'HOMME,
J. W. MARTIN,
C. MAIR,
H. A. CONROY,
PIERRE DESCHAMBEAULT,
J. H. PICARD,
RICHARD SECORD,
M. McCAULEY.

DAVID LAIRD, *Treaty Commissioner*,
J. A. J. MCKENNA, *Treaty Commissioner*,
J. H. ROSS, *Treaty Commissioner*,

his

KEE NOO SHAY OO X *Chief*,
mark

his

MOOSTOOS X *Headman*,
mark

his

FELIX GIROUX X *Headman*,
mark

his

WEE CHEE WAY SIS X *Headman*,
mark

his

CHARLES NEE SUE TA SIS X *Headman*,
mark

his

CAPTAIN X *Headman*, from Sturgeon Lake.
mark

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

In witness whereof the Chairman of Her Majesty's Commissioners and the Headman of the Indians of Peace River Landing and the adjacent territory, in behalf of himself and the Indians whom he represents, have hereunto set their hands at the said Peace River Landing on the first day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine.

Signed by the parties hereto, in the presence of the undersigned witnesses, the same having been first explained to the Indians by Father A. Lacombe and John Boucher, interpreters.	}	DAVID LAIRD, <i>Chairman of Indian Treaty Commissioners,</i>
		his DUNCAN X TASTAOOSTS, <i>Headman of Crees.</i> mark

A. LACOMBE,
 † E. GROUARD, O.M.I., Ev. d'Ibora,
 GEO. HOLMES,
 HENRY MCCORRISTER,
 K. F. ANDERSON, Sgt., N.W.M.P.
 PIERRE DESCHAMBEAULT,
 H. A. CONROY,
 T. A. BRICK,
 HARRISON S. YOUNG,
 J. W. MARTIN,
 DAVID CURRY.

In witness whereof the Chairman of Her Majesty's Commissioners and the Chief and Headman of the Beaver and Headman of the Crees and other Indians of Vermillion and the adjacent territory, in behalf of themselves and the Indians whom they represent, have hereunto set their hands at Vermillion on the eighth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine.

Signed by the parties hereto in the presence of the undersigned witnesses, the same having been first explained to the Indians by Father A. Lacombe and John Bourassa, Interpreters.	}	DAVID LAIRD,	
		<i>Chairman of Indian Treaty Coms.,</i>	
		his	[<i>dians,</i>
		AMBROSE X TETE NOIRE, <i>Chief Beaver In-</i>	mark
	}	his	[<i>dians</i>
		PIERROT X FOURNIER, <i>Headman Beaver In-</i>	mark
		his	<i>Headman</i>
		KUIS KUIS KOW CA POOHOO X	<i>Cree</i>
		mark	<i>Indians.</i>

A. LACOMBE,
 † E. GROUARD, O.M.I., Ev. d'Ibora,
 MALCOLM SCOTT,
 F. D. WILSON, H. B. Co.,
 H. A. CONROY,
 PIERRE DESCHAMBEAULT,
 HARRISON S. YOUNG,
 J. W. MARTIN,
 A. P. CLARKE,
 CHAS. H. STUART WADE,
 K. F. ANDERSON, Sgt. N.W.M.P.

In witness whereof the Chairman of Her Majesty's Treaty Commissioners and the Chief and Headman of the Chipewyan Indians of Fond du Lac (Lake Athabasca) and the adjacent territory, in behalf of themselves and the Indians whom they represent, have hereunto set their hands at the said Fond du Lac on the twenty-fifth and twenty-seventh days of July, in the year of our Lc rd one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine.

Signed by the parties hereto in the presence of the undersigned witnesses, the same having been first explained to the Indians by Pierre Deschambeault, Reverend Father Douceur and Louis Robillard, Interpreters.	}	DAVID LAIRD,	}	Chairman of Indian Treaty Commissioners,
		his		
		LAURENT X DZIEDDIN, Headman,		
		mark		
		his		TOUSSAINT X Headman,
		mark		mark

(The number accepting treaty being larger than at first expected, a Chief was allowed, who signed the treaty on the 27th July before the same witnesses to signatures of the Commissioner and Headman on the 25th.)

his
 MAURICE X PICHE, Chief of Band.
 mark
 Witness, H. S. YOUNG,

G. BREYNAT, O.M.I.,
 HARRISON S. YOUNG,
 PIERRE DESCHAMBEAULT,
 WILLIAM HENRY BURKE,
 BATHURST F. COOPER,
 GERMAIN MERCREDI,
 his
 LOUIS X ROBILLARD.
 mark
 K. F. ANDERSON, Sgt. N.W.M.P.

The Beaver Indians of Dunvegan having met on this sixth day of July, in this present year 1899, Her Majesty's Commissioners, the Honourable James Hamilton Ross and James Andrew Joseph McKenna, Esquire, and having had explained to them the terms of the Treaty unto which the Chief and Headmen of the Indians of Lesser Slave Lake and adjacent country set their hands on the twenty-first day of June, in the year herein first above written, do join in the cession made by the said Treaty, and agree to adhere to the terms thereof in consideration of the undertakings made therein.

In witness whereof Her Majesty's said Commissioners and the Headman of the said Beaver Indians have hereunto set their hands at Dunvegan on this sixth day of July, in the year herein first above written.

Signed by the parties thereto in the presence of the undersigned witnesses, after the same had been read and explained to the Indians by the Reverend Joseph Le Treste and Peter Gunn, Interpreters.	}	J. H. ROSS,	}	Commissioners,
		J. A. J. MCKENNA,		
		his		
		NATOOSSES X Headman,		mark

A. E. SNYDER, Insp. N.W.M.P..
 J. LE TRESTE,
 PETER GUNN,
 F. J. FITZGERALD.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

The Chipewyan Indians of Athabasca River, Birch River, Peace River, Slave River and Gull River, and the Cree Indians of Gull River and Deep Lake, having met at Fort Chipewyan on this thirteenth day of July, in this present year 1899, Her Majesty's Commissioners, the Honourable James Hamilton Ross and James Andrew Joseph McKenna, Esquire, and having had explained to them the terms of the Treaty unto which the Chief and Headmen of the Indians of Lesser Slave Lake and adjacent country set their hands on the twenty-first day of June, in the year herein first above written, do join in the cession made by the said Treaty, and agree to adhere to the terms thereof in consideration of the undertakings made therein.

In witness whereof Her Majesty's said Commissioners and the Chiefs and Headmen of the said Chipewyan and Cree Indians have hereunto set their hands at Fort Chipewyan on this thirteenth day of July, in the year herein first above written.

Signed by the parties thereto in the presence of the undersigned witnesses after the same had been read and explained to the Indians by Peter Mercredi, Chipewyan Interpreter, and George Drever, Cree Interpreter.	A. E. SNYDER, <i>Insp. N.W.M.P.</i> , P. MERCREDI, GEO. DREVER, L. M. LE DOUSSAL, A. DE CHAMBOUR, O.M.I., H. B. ROUND, GABRIEL BREYNAT, O.M.I. COLIN FRASER, F. J. FITZGERALD, B. F. COOPER, H. W. McLAREN.	J. H. ROSS,	} <i>Treaty Commissioners,</i>
		J. A. J. MCKENNA,	
		his	ALEX. X LAVIOLETTE, <i>Chipewyan Chief,</i>
		mark	
		his	JULIEN X RATFAT,
		mark	
		his	SEPT. X HEEZELL,
		mark	
		his	JUSTIN X MARTIN, <i>Cree Chief,</i>
		mark	
	his	ANT. X TACCARROO,	
	mark		
	his	THOMAS X GIBBOT,	
	mark		

The Chipewyan Indians of Slave River and the country thereabouts having met at Smith's Landing on this seventeenth day of July, in this present year 1899, Her Majesty's Commissioners, the Honourable James Hamilton Ross and James Andrew Joseph McKenna, Esquire, and having had explained to them the terms of the Treaty unto which the Chief and Headmen of the Indians of Lesser Slave Lake and adjacent country, set their hands on the twenty-first day of June, in the year herein first above written, do join in the cession made by the said Treaty, and agree to adhere to the terms thereof in consideration of the undertakings made therein.

In witness whereof Her Majesty's said Commissioners and the Chief and Headmen of the said Chipewyan Indians have hereunto set their hands at Smith's Landing, on this seventeenth day of July, in the year herein first above written.

Signed by the parties thereto in the presence of the undersigned witnesses after the same had been read and explained to the Indians by John Trindle, Interpreter.	A. E. SNYDER, <i>Insp. N.W.M.P.</i> , H. B. ROUND, J. H. REID, JAS. HALY, JOHN TRINDLE, F. J. FITZGERALD, WM. McCLELLAND, JOHN SUTHERLAND.	J. H. ROSS,	} <i>Treaty Commissioners.</i>	
		J. A. J. MCKENNA,		
			his	PIERRE X SQUIRREL, <i>Chief.</i>
			mark	
			his	MICHAEL X MAMDRILLE, <i>Headman,</i>
			mark	
			his	WILLIAM X KISCORRAY, <i>Headman,</i>
			mark	

The Chipewyan and Cree Indians of Fort McMurray and the country thereabouts, having met at Fort McMurray, on this fourth day of August, in this present year 1899, Her Majesty's Commissioner, James Andrew Joseph McKenna, Esquire, and having had explained to them the terms of the Treaty unto which the Chief and Headmen of the Indians of Lesser Slave Lake and adjacent country set their hands on the twenty-first day of June, in the year herein first above written, do join in the cession made by the said Treaty and agree to adhere to the terms thereof in consideration of the undertakings made therein.

In witness whereof Her Majesty's said Commissioner and the Headmen of the said Chipewyan and Cree Indians have hereunto set their hands at Fort McMurray, on this fourth day of August, in the year herein first above written.

Signed by the parties thereto in the presence of the undersigned witnesses after the same had been read and explained to the Indians by the Rev. Father Lacombe and T. M. Clarke, Interpreters.	" {	J. A. J. MCKENNA, <i>Treaty Commissioner,</i>
		his
		ADAM X BOUCHER, <i>Chipewyan Headman,</i>
		mark
		his
		SEAPOTAKINUM X CREE, <i>Cree Headman.</i>
		mark

A. LACOMBE, *O.M.I.*,
 ARTHUR J. WARWICK,
 T. M. CLARKE,
 J. W. MARTIN,
 F. J. FITZGERALD,
 M. J. H. VERNON.

The Indians of Wapiscow and the country thereabouts having met at Wapiscow Lake on this fourteenth day of August, in this present year 1899, Her Majesty's Commissioner, the Honourable James Hamilton Ross, and having had explained to them the terms of the Treaty unto which the Chief and Headmen of the Indians of Lesser Slave Lake and adjacent country set their hands on the twenty-first day of June in the year herein first above written, do join in the cession made by the said Treaty and agree to adhere to the terms thereof in consideration of the undertakings made therein.

In witness whereof Her Majesty's said Commissioner and the Chief and Headmen of the Indians have hereunto set their hands at Wapiscow Lake, on this fourteenth day of August, in the year herein first above written.

Signed by the parties thereto in the presence of the undersigned witnesses after the same had been read and explained to the Indians by Alexander Kennedy.	" {	J. H. ROSS, <i>Treaty Commissioner,</i>
		his
		JOSEPH X KAPUSEKONEW, <i>Chief,</i>
		mark
		his
		JOSEPH X ANSEY, <i>Headman,</i>
		mark
		his
		WAPOOSE X <i>Headman,</i>
		mark
		his
		MICHAEL X ANSEY, <i>Headman,</i>
		mark
		his
		LOUISA X BEAVER, <i>Headman.</i>
		mark

A. E. SNYDER, *Insp. N.W.M.P.*,
 CHARLES RILEY WEAVER,
 J. B. HENRI GIROUX, *O.M.I., P.M.*,
 MURDOCH JOHNSTON,
 C. FALHER, *O.M.I.*,
 ALEX. KENNEDY, *Interpreter,*
 H. A. CONROY,
 (Signature in Cree character).
 JOHN MCLEOD,
 M. R. JOHNSTON.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

ORDER IN COUNCIL

RATIFYING TREATY No. 8.

EXTRACT from a Report of the Committee of the Honourable the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency on the 20th February, 1900.

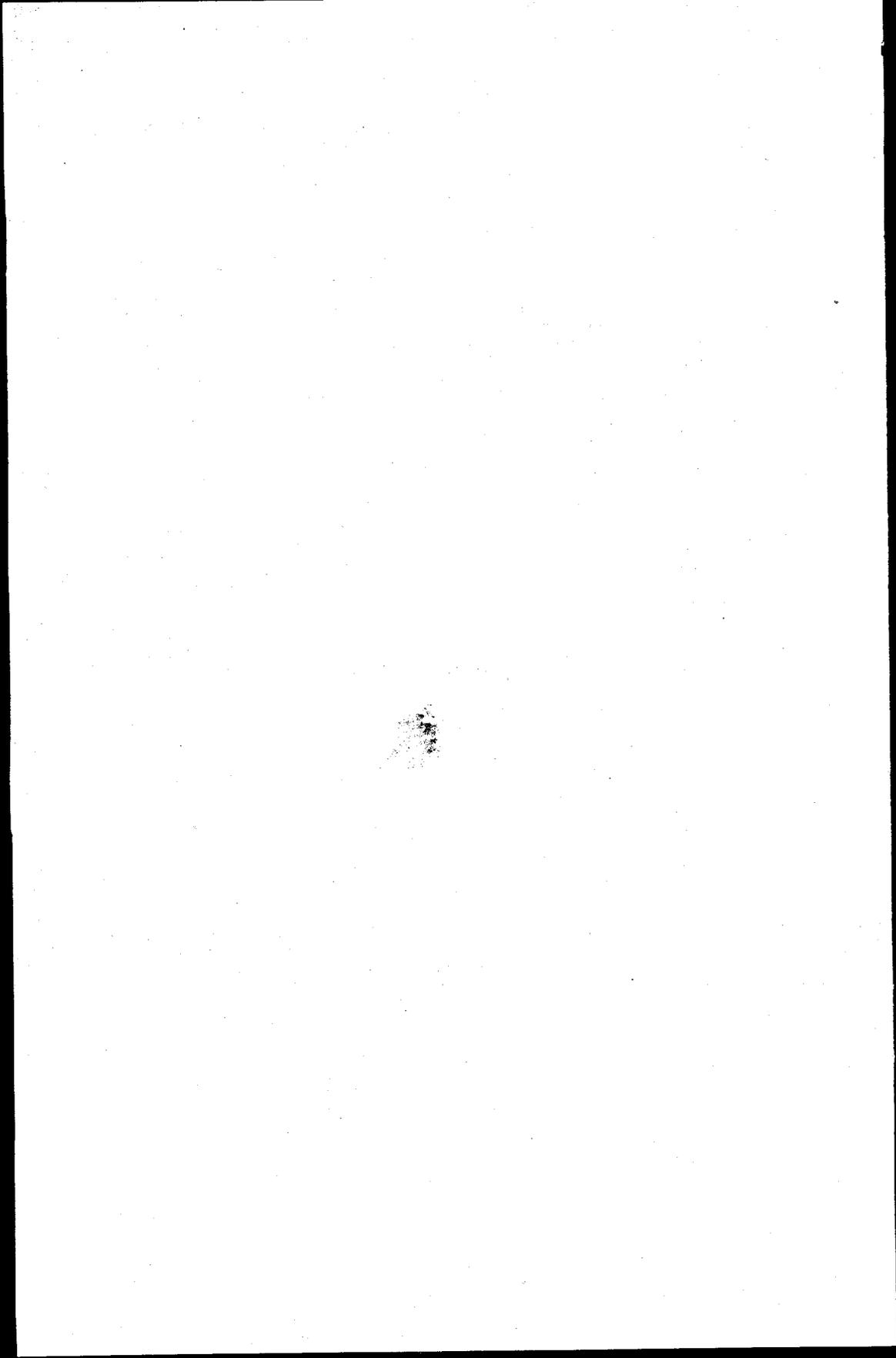
On a Memorandum dated 8th February, 1900, from the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs, submitting for Your Excellency's consideration the accompanying Treaty made by the Commissioners, the Honourable David Laird, James Andrew Joseph McKenna, Esquire, and the Honourable James Hamilton Ross, who were appointed to negotiate the same, with the Cree, Beaver, Chipewyan and other Indians inhabiting the territory,—as fully defined in the Treaty—lying within and adjacent to the Provisional District of Athabasca.

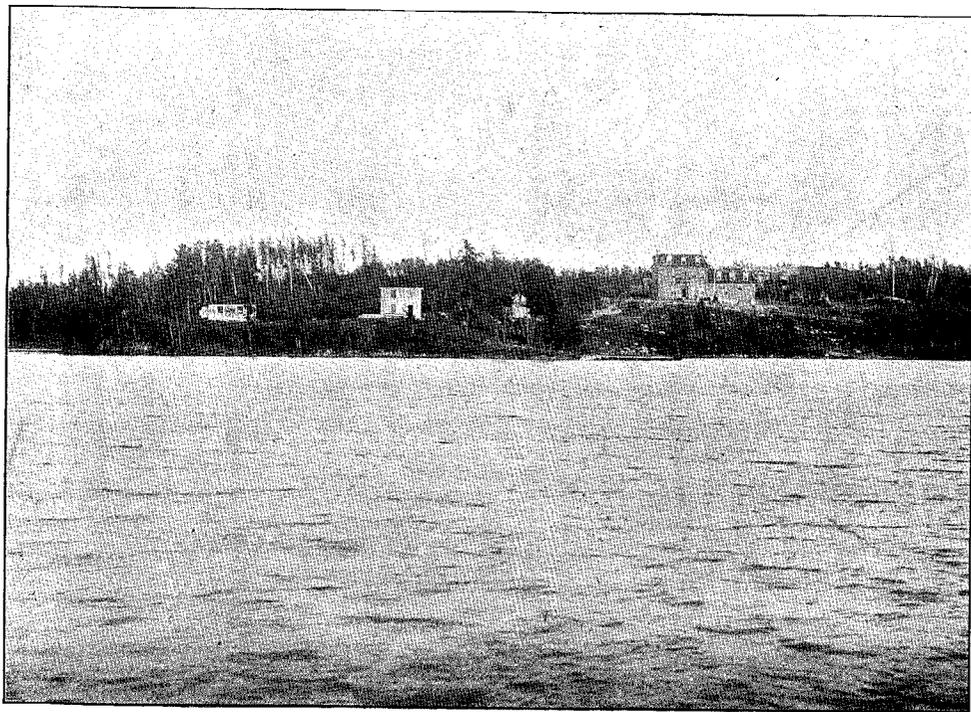
The Minister recommends that the Treaty referred to be approved, and that the duplicate thereof which is also submitted herewith, be kept of record in the Privy Council and the original returned to the Department of Indian Affairs.

The Committee submit the same for Your Excellency's approval.

JOHN J. MCGEE,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs.





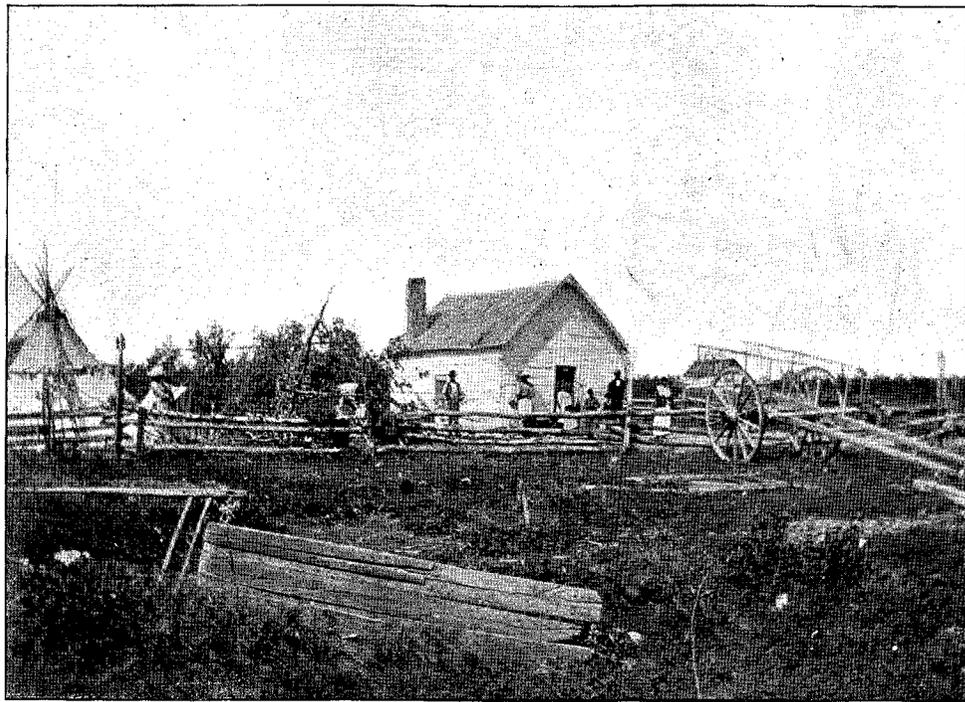
RAT PORTAGE INDIAN BOARDING SCHOOL, ALGOMA DISTRICT.



ARRIVALS AT FAIRFORD, MAN., FOR ANNUITY PAYMENTS.



CHIEF RICHARD WOODHOUSE AND COUNCILLOR THOMPSON, AND THEIR FAMILIES,
FAIRFORD RESERVE, MANITOBA. [112]



A TYPICAL INDIAN HOME, MANITOWAPAH AGENCY, MANITOBA.

[128]



ST. PAUL'S INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, MIDDLECHURCH, MANITOBA.



GROUP OF INDIANS, WATER HEN RIVER RESERVE, MANITOBA.

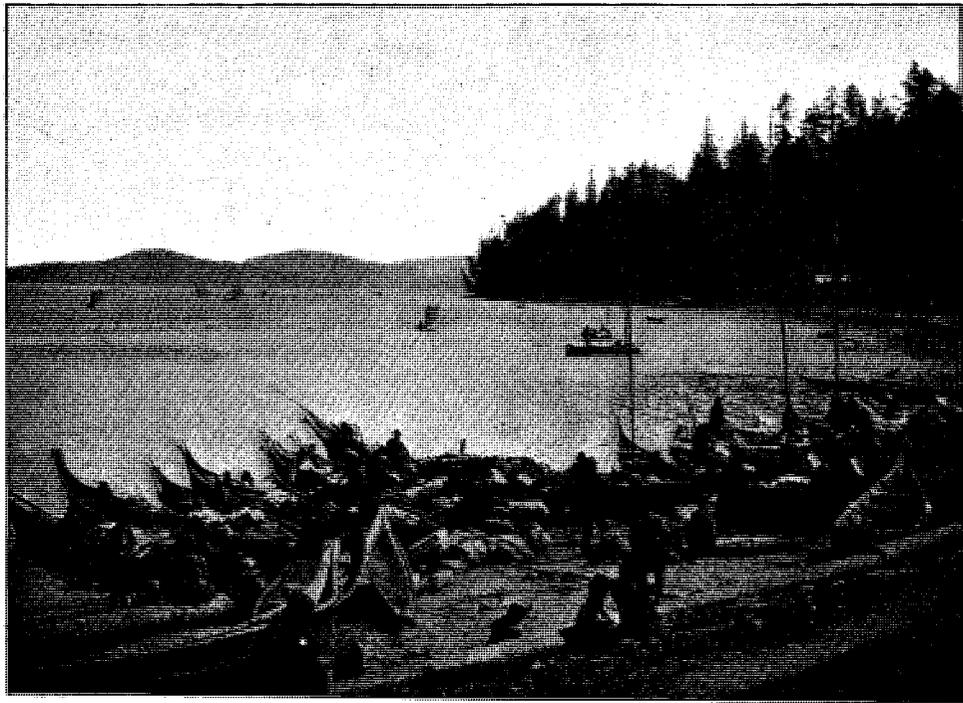


AFTER ANNUITY PAYMENTS, TRADER'S TENT, LAKE MANITOBA RESERVE. [176]

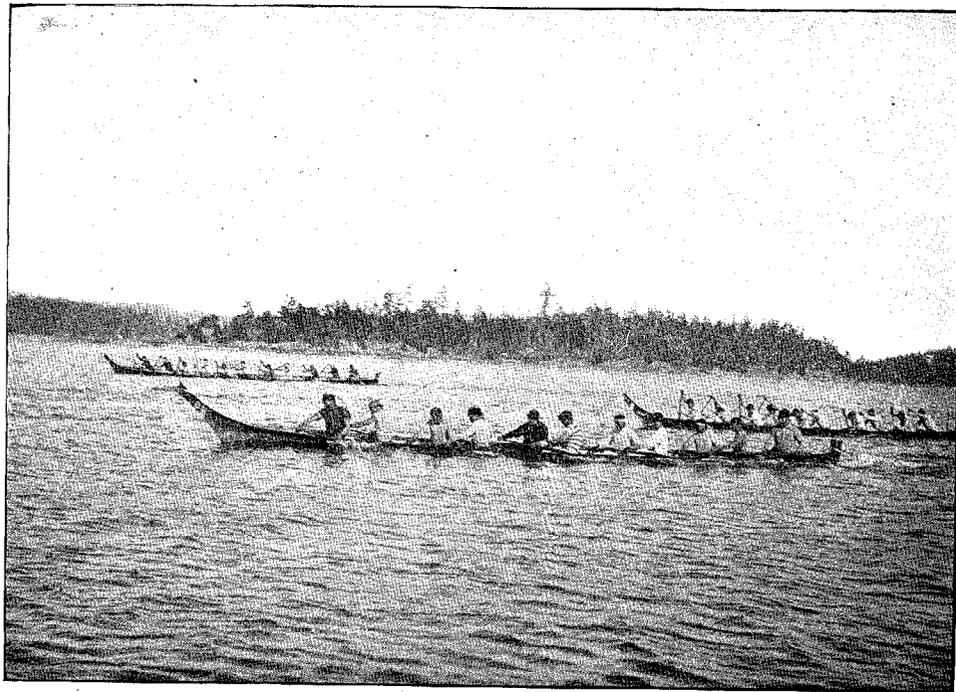


HAY CORRAL, SARCEE RESERVE, N.W.T., SARCEE COWBOY.

[192]



FINISH OF BOAT SAILING RACES, PENELAKUT, KUPER ISLAND, B.C. [208]



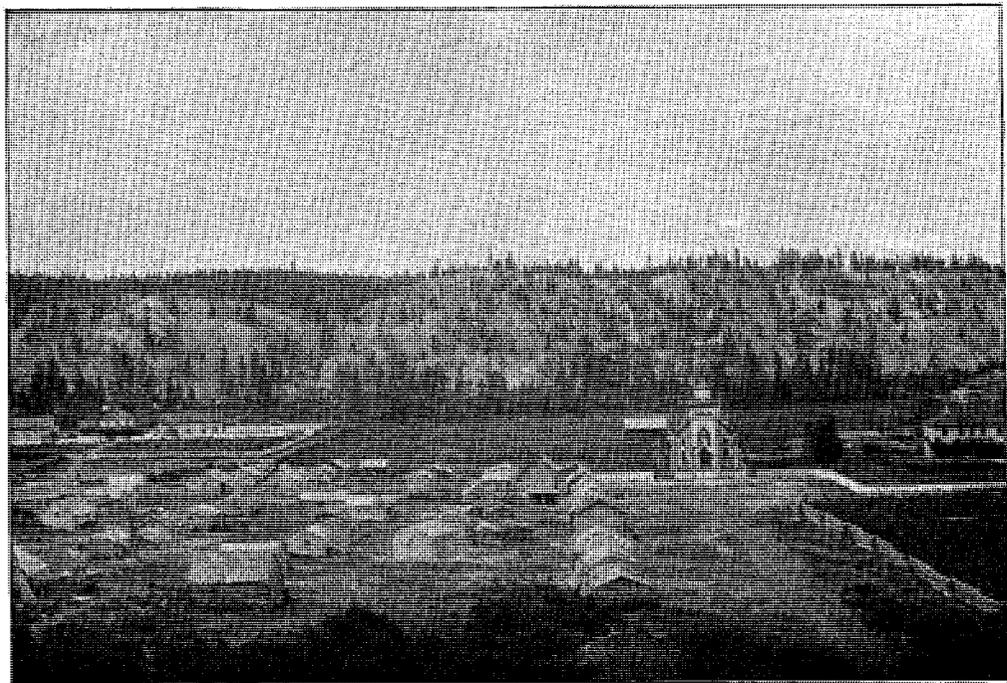
FINISH OF A CANOE RACE, PENELAKUT, KUPER ISLAND, B.C.

[224]



KOOTENAY INDIANS, ST. EUGENE VILLAGE, NEAR FORT STEELE, B.C.

[240]



ST. EUGENE VILLAGE, NEAR FORT STEELE.

[256]



INDIAN PLACER MINERS ON THEIR WAY TO THE MINES NEAR GLADWIN B.C

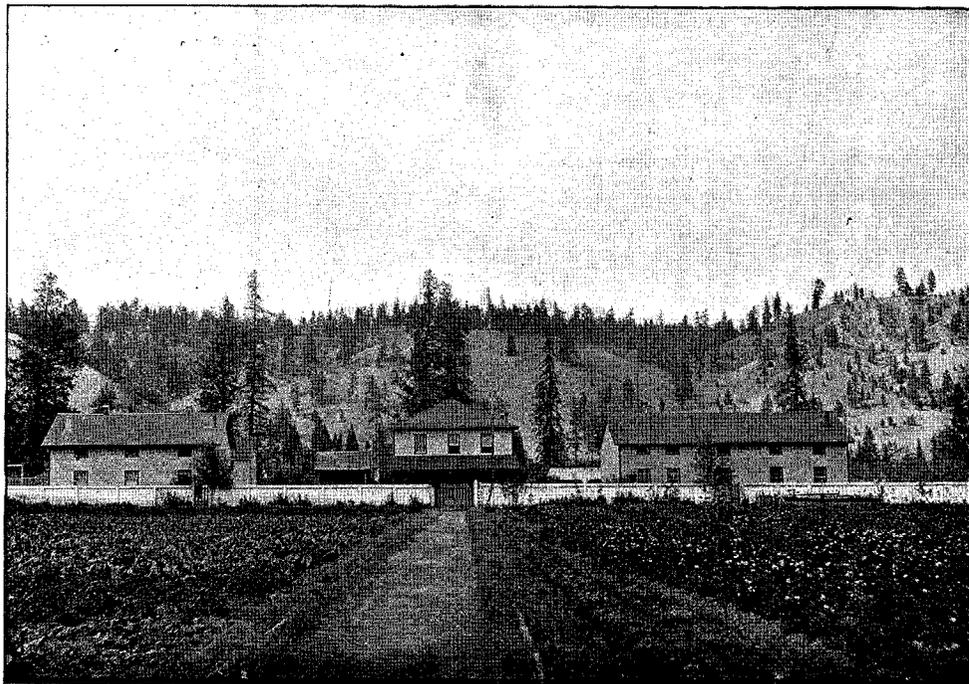


INDIAN CAMP AND THOMPSON RIVER, C.P.R.

[288]



EAST SAANICH DAY SCHOOL, B.C.



KOOTENAY INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, B.C.































REPORTS
OF
SUPERINTENDENTS AND AGENTS

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
CHIPPEWAS OF BEAUSOLEIL,
PENETANGUISHENE, September 30, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on Christian Island in the Georgian Bay, midway between Collingwood and Penetanguishene.

Tribe.—The band is called the 'Chippewas of Beausoleil,' these Indians having formerly lived on an island of that name.

Population.—There is an increase of four in the population over last year, the number now being two hundred and seventy.

Health.—The health of the band has been excellent, no contagious diseases of any kind being prevalent.

Resources and Occupation.—The general occupation of these Indians is farming, in which they are making good progress; the crops have been good, the Indians having had abundance for their wants. A number of the young men are engaged during the tourist season as guides. Basket-making and fancy work engage the attention of the female portion of the band.

Religion and Education.—There are two churches on the reserve. Both are well attended.

The school is under the auspices of the Methodist Missionary Society, and the children make good progress under the able guidance of the Rev. Mr. Hunt.

Morality and Temperance.—The Indians are law-abiding and are becoming very temperate; no case of intemperance has come under my notice during the past year.

I have, &c.,

CHAS. MCGIBBON,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

CHIPPEWAS OF GEORGINA AND SNAKE ISLANDS,

VACHELL, July 19, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated in the southern waters of Lake Simcoe, Georgina Island being about five miles from Jackson's Point (the popular summer resort), and Snake Island, twelve miles west, near 'Morton Park,' another summer resort.

The reserve contains three thousand four hundred and ninety-seven acres, and is a rich clay soil.

Tribe.—These Indians are nearly all Chippewas.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers one hundred and twenty-two—forty-five men, forty-one women and thirty-six children, two less than last report, there having been one death and one migration. The death was that of an old man, ninety-seven years of age.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been very good during the year; there has been no contagious disease. A number of children were vaccinated this spring; houses and yards are kept remarkably clean, all garbage being removed and burnt, and all sanitary regulations fairly well observed.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming is the chief occupation on Georgina Island, the soil being well adapted for raising grain or roots of any kind. Some of the band rely on farming altogether for a living, and are doing well. The crops look fairly well at present, though injured somewhat by the heavy rains in May and June. A few of the Indians work out at odd times, and others earn a good deal by basket-making and fancy work; also peeling slippery elm bark, which is sold to druggists; making axe-handles, oars and paddles. They find ready sale for all they make.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The stock is very good, especially the milch cows. There are also a number of driving horses on the island. The implements are fairly good; there is a good horse-power threshing-machine, nearly new; one binder, one reaper, one mower and twenty-two ploughs, and harrows enough for all requirements; also three horse-rakes. Several members of the band are very good farmers. The buildings are all of wood. There are twelve frame houses and eight frame barns, the rest being built of logs. The dwelling-houses, whether frame or log, are well kept and comfortable.

Education.—There is a good school on Georgina Island, taught by H. J. Hoidge, who is an efficient teacher, and a man of excellent moral character. Pupils under his tuition are doing well, both morally and intellectually. All the younger members of the band have a fair public school education, as there has been a good school on the reserve for many years.

Religion.—There is one Methodist church, and services are held every Sabbath by a Methodist minister stationed at Sutton West. Rev. Mr. Brace takes charge of their spiritual welfare for the next three years, assisted by the teacher and James

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Ashquabe, an Indian. The services are well attended, and a number of the band are members of the church and in good standing. They always keep the church in good repair.

Characteristics and Progress.—The members of this band are making fair progress. Most of them are quite industrious and law-abiding. The chief and a number of others are doing remarkably well. Albert Bigcanoe is sailing as second mate on a large steamer at a salary of \$40 per month. Alfred McCue is also doing well, farming, and is a good farmer and very industrious. Thomas Port is doing well. In addition to farming, his wife makes a good deal at fancy work. In fact, the most of the band are quite comfortable.

Temperance and Morality.—Many of the Indians are total abstainers; a few will drink if they get a chance; but of late I have not heard of any getting strong drink. Most of them are moral in every way, and what immorality there is is more chargeable to white men than to the Indians.

General Remarks.—The members of this band are very intelligent, and all speak the English language; most of them read and write. The chief is a shrewd business man and a good speaker. His daughter is quite proficient in music. The councillors, George McCue and James Ashquabe, are also clever.

I have, &c.,

JOHN YATES,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
CHIPPEWAS OF NAWASH,
CAPE CROKER, August 16, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit herewith my report and statistical statement on local Indian affairs for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—There is only one reserve in the agency. It is situated in the extreme north-east portion of the township of Albemarle, in the county of Bruce.

This reserve contains nearly sixteen thousand acres, about 65 per cent of which is good for cultivation.

Natural Features.—There is an abundance of good farming land for all the inhabitants here, including splendid natural pasturage, with the advantage of good water; containing picturesque high bluffs, with fertile valleys, and extending out into the Georgian Bay to the east of the mainland a distance of seven or eight miles. To the north-west is Barrier Island, and Hay and Griffith Islands to the south. Visitors here in the summer season admire the beauty and healthfulness of the place, the wonderful vegetation and abundance of wild fruit and flowers.

Tribe.—The members of this band are Chippewas. They formerly resided at Brooke, near Owen Sound, but have been on this reserve about forty years. There appears to have been a considerable mixture of different tribes or nations in the original making up of the band.

Population.—The band contained at this spring's census four hundred and three men, women and children, made up as follows: one hundred and sixteen men, one hundred and twenty-seven women, ninety-three boys and sixty-seven girls, an increase of three since last year, besides twenty-seven non-treaty Indians residing on the reserve.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians has been good during the year until the spring months, when an epidemic of measles broke out, causing a good deal of mortality amongst the children and younger members of the band, especially those having weak lungs. Consumption being the prevailing disease of the Indians, every possible sanitary precaution has been taken with regard to keeping all the premises clean; and the Indians on this reserve are generally cleanly in their habits.

Resources and Occupation.—Their resources for making a living have been farming and stock-raising in a limited way, and fishing and taking out timber, when permits were issued. Some find employment with the adjoining white farmers and timbermen.

Farming.—In general farming the Indians in the past have been somewhat indifferent, but recently they have been expressing a desire to go more into agricultural pursuits, and some of them have already made considerable headway.

Buildings.—Their houses, as a general rule, are fairly good and cleanly. Some of the older houses are small; those built lately are commodious and have a good deal of the modern improvements.

The old barns were very small and of little use in storing grain or hay; recently some half-dozen nice commodious frame barns have been built. More are wanted, but the Indians have a good deal of difficulty in getting lumber to erect buildings.

Farming Implements.—The Indians have an abundance of farming implements, and most of them now in use are of modern construction. They purchased them from the agricultural implement manufacturers on the instalment plan, and I am informed by the agents that they pay for them as well as the general run of white men.

Stock.—They have plenty of horses, some of them being on the light side for agricultural purposes, and a superabundance of light driving rigs, and they are altogether too fond of putting on a white collar and fine clothes and driving to town in style, when perhaps there is not very much flour or provision in the house. This applies to the younger people.

They have plenty of pigs, and these appear to thrive wonderfully, roaming at large during the summer season on the natural clover pasturage, strawberries and roots. Cattle and sheep are not as plentiful as they should be, considering the natural advantages there are for grazing.

Education.—There are three schools on the reserve, which are well equipped with everything necessary, and fair progress is being made.

Religion.—There are two churches, and the Indians maintain a considerable interest in religion. The Methodist church is a handsome stone structure. There are about two hundred and seventy Protestants, in charge of the Rev. A. Glazeir, resident missionary, and one hundred and thirty-two Roman Catholics, who are looked after by a catechist each Sabbath, and at intervals are visited by a priest from a considerable distance. They have a nice, snug frame chapel. Both churches on the reserve have been paid for in full by the Indians.

Characteristics and Progress.—Quite a number of the Indians are industrious and law-abiding, and are gradually becoming richer and more comfortable in their surroundings, and their premises compare favourably with those of white men who are endeavouring to till the soil. On the other hand, there are a number who are indolent and only work when poverty pinches them hard; the contrast in their surroundings is very apparent.

Temperance and Morality.—In the matter of temperance, a marked improvement has been observed during the last winter and this summer, and from all appearance

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

there is also an improvement in morality, the Indians themselves commencing to point with disdain at any parties who are suspected of living immorally, and in their councils they are trying in every possible way to stamp out immorality.

General Remarks.—Taking the past year as a whole, steady progress has been made in almost every branch, all the public buildings having received a complete overhauling in the way of general repairs, new roofs and repainting, including the council hall, agent's house and fences, the three school-houses, four wood-sheds, and considerable improvement to the new Nawash Park and Agricultural Grounds.

The agricultural fair last fall was an improvement over the first show in 1897. The Indians express a determination to make it even better this coming fall and to devote their energies more steadily to tilling the soil and to agriculture and stock-raising generally in the future. They are also steadily improving the roads, and the department has given them valuable assistance.

I have, &c.,

JOHN McIVER,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

CHIPPEWAS OF RAMA,

ATHERLEY, July 27, 1899.

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 Indians of this agency for the year ended June 30 last.

Reserve.—This reserve is in the township of Rama, in the county of North Ontario, and contains about two thousand acres of fairly good land.

Vital Statistics.—The present population is two hundred and thirty-two, composed of one hundred and five males and one hundred and twenty-seven females. There have been eight births and twelve deaths, making a decrease of four as compared with the census of last year. The cause of death in almost every case was pulmonary trouble, following grippe.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—I regret to say this band suffered greatly from an epidemic of grippe during the months of February and March. There were seven fatal cases, among them the old and respected life chief, Joseph Benson Nanigishking. All sanitary measures are carefully attended to. The dwellings in most cases are neat and clean, and the premises in good order, being kept free from rubbish and other refuse matter. In their personal appearance the Indians are generally neat. The doctor attended to those requiring vaccination.

Resources and Occupation.—In agricultural pursuits they are making steady improvement. A number of them are working all their holdings and are doing fairly well by way of purchasing farming implements, horses, wagons, buggies; and I am pleased to report that Thomas Sandy, an energetic young man, purchased a self-binder this year.

I regret to say that in general the Indians cannot be induced to save their seed grain; they sell it in the fall and winter; then have to purchase it in the spring at a much advanced price, to say nothing of the trouble and loss of time in replacing

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

it. A number of the men act as canoemen and guides to American tourists, and work in the mills during summer, and in lumber camps in the winter, for which they receive good wages.

Education.—There is one school on the reserve. It is commodious and well equipped with everything necessary for the efficient instruction of the pupils; but owing to their irregular attendance, their advancement in learning is materially retarded. The teacher, the Rev. J. Lawrence, is painstaking and earnest, and discharges his duties with zeal and fidelity.

Religion.—The Indians on this reserve are principally Methodists. They have a very neat church, built of stone and furnished in modern style. The church lot is inclosed by a neat, substantial fence. The premises generally are a credit to the Indians. The mission is in charge of the Rev. J. Lawrence, who conducts service every Sabbath morning and evening. The services are well and regularly attended. The Sunday school is in splendid condition. In this service Mrs. Lawrence and family are doing excellent work. Last Christmas a Christmas tree was held and there was a large attendance of Indians, and both young and old got several useful gifts of some kind. It was certainly a gala day at Rama.

Temperance and Morality.—I am pleased to report that a large majority of this band are strictly temperate, and shun all alcoholic beverages, and thus retain their manhood; but some of them indulge in intoxicants whenever they have an opportunity, which is too often given them by unscrupulous vagabonds. This curse of intemperance undermines and retards the work of the church, and, as it leads to other vices, of which immorality is one, there is room for improvement in the morals of some of the members of this band.

I have, &c.,

D. J. McPHEE,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

CHIPPEWAS OF SARNIA,

SARNIA, October 4, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Reserves.—The Chippewas of Sarnia are situated on the Sarnia Reserve on the banks of the St. Clair River, and on the Kettle Point and Aux Sables Reserves, on Lake Huron.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is now four hundred and fifty-two, an increase of six since my last report. Nine deaths and fifteen births occurred.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians has been good, no contagious disease has broken out amongst them, and, as a rule, they keep their houses and premises clean. A good many of the Indian women are excellent housekeepers, and keep things in order generally.

Education.—We have a school on each of the three reserves. Miss Frances Welsh is still teaching on Sarnia Reserve, and Miss Rogers, who was teaching on Aux Sables Reserve, has been promoted to Kettle Point school, on the resignation of Miss Annie Vance. Miss Maude Erb is teaching in the Aux Sables Reserve school.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Religion.—We have four churches on the three reserves, one Anglican church on the Sarnia Reserve, and one Methodist church, in which service is held regularly, twice on Sunday in the Methodist and just once in the Anglican; and there is also a Methodist church on each of the other two reserves, where service is held on each alternate Sunday. These services are all very well attended.

Characteristics and Progress.—The industrious Indians are getting along very well; their progress, on the whole, has been fair. I am sorry to have to report that the fall wheat has been a failure this year, as there was a much larger acreage sown last fall than any season before. It looked well in the fall, but the severe winter, without much snow, killed it.

I have, &c.,

A. ENGLISH,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
CHIPPEWAS OF SAUGEEN,
CHIPPEWA HILL, August 10, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

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

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

Vital Statistics.—There are three hundred and fifty-nine Indians on this reserve, made up as follows: one hundred and sixty-six males and one hundred and ninety-three females. There have been sixteen births, and five joined the band; and there were twenty deaths.

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

Resources and Occupation.—Farming is the chief occupation. A limited quantity of timber is cut and disposed of during the season. Fishing, berry-picking and gathering ginseng root are engaged in.

There is a good deal of timber on the reserve, some fish are taken each season, but farming and the sale of timber are principally what the Indians have to depend on. The land is well adapted for the cultivation of roots. Other resources are basket-making and rustic work.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The Indian dwelling-houses are being gradually improved. Stock also is improving. The quality and quantity are improving.

Education.—There are three brick school-houses, fairly well equipped. The children are making fair progress.

Religion.—The Indians are chiefly Methodists. There are four churches—three Protestant and one controlled by the Roman Catholics. The interest manifested in religion is fair.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians are fairly industrious and law-abiding, and the progress for the past year was fair.

Temperance and Morality.—Intemperance and immorality are on the decline on this reserve.

General Remarks.—The prospect for the coming harvest is fairly good. The hay, which has already been harvested, is good in quality and quantity; the fall wheat is not so good as it was last year. The oats will be a better yield than last year.

There is certainly no doubt that the Indians are giving more attention to farming than they did in the past.

I have, &c.,

JOHN SCOFFIELD,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
CHIPPEWAS, MUNSEES AND ONEIDAS OF THE THAMES,
POPLAR HILL, October 1, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report concerning the three bands included in this agency for the year ended June 30, 1899.

ONEIDAS OF THE THAMES.

Reserve.—The Oneida Reserve is situated in the township of Delaware, Middlesex County, Ontario. It contains four thousand six hundred and twenty acres of choice farming land.

Tribe.—These Indians are a branch of the Oneida tribe, one of the confederacy known as the Six Nations.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is eight hundred and three, consisting of four hundred and fifty-one males and three hundred and fifty-two females.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good. No epidemic broke out during the year, and sanitary precautions have been well observed. Thirty-two persons were vaccinated.

Resources and Occupation.—The principal resources are farming and stock-raising; a good deal of money is also realized from basket-making and pulling flax among the whites.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Most of the families live in frame or log houses, there being only a few shanties. The barns and horse stables are fairly good. The stock is of average breeding. These Indians are well supplied with farming implements.

Education.—They had three day schools on this reserve; but at the end of the year it was thought advisable to close one of these and divide the attendance between the other two. The attendance and progress of the children has been good.

Religion.—There are three churches upon this reserve—two Methodist and one Church of England. The church services are well attended and the Indians take a lively interest in religious affairs. The missionaries are doing excellent work.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Characteristics and Progress.—Generally speaking, the Oneida Indians are industrious and law-abiding. They are making progress.

Temperance and Morality.—It is to be regretted that some of the Indians occasionally use intoxicating liquors; and in several instances the marriage law is not observed as strictly as it should be: sometimes men and women live unlawfully together.

CHIPPEWAS OF THE THAMES.

Reserve.—This band occupies a part of the Caradoc Reserve, comprising about eight thousand seven hundred and two acres, which for the most part is a beautiful, undulating, fertile tract of country.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Chippewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is four hundred and fifty-five, consisting of two hundred and thirty-one males and two hundred and twenty-four females.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians has been good. Sanitary precautions have been well observed. Thirty-two persons were vaccinated.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of this band are farming and stock-raising.

Buildings and Stock.—On the whole the barns and stables are not very good, but in several instances buildings have been repaired during the year.

Cattle and horses are fair.

Education.—There are three day schools on this reserve, with a fair attendance. Parents are manifesting increased interest in the education of their children. The schools have the usual public school equipment. Discipline and order have been good.

Religion.—These Indians take a lively interest in religious affairs, and the church services are well attended. A little more than half the population adhere to the English Church, the remainder adhere to the Methodist Church.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are law-abiding and fairly industrious.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are usually temperate. The marriage law is not observed as well as it might be.

MUNSEES OF THE THAMES.

Reserve.—This band occupies two thousand and ninety-eight acres, a portion of the Caradoc Reserve. The soil is very fertile and well adapted for agriculture.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Munsee tribe, the only band of this tribe residing in Canada.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is one hundred and nineteen, consisting of sixty-seven males and fifty-two females.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good. Sanitary precautions have been well observed. Ten persons were vaccinated.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources are farming and stock-raising.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The buildings are not as good as could be desired.

The stock is fair. The supply of farming implements is also fair.

Education.—There is one day school on this reserve. The attendance has been good, and the children have made progress in their studies.

Religion.—There are two churches on this reserve—one Methodist and one Anglican. Services are held in these regularly and are well attended.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians may be considered as fairly industrious. Their progress is slow.

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

I have, &c.,

A. SINCLAIR,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
GOLDEN LAKE AGENCY,

SOUTH ALGONA, September 4, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ended June 30, 1899.

I have no change to report among the Indians of this agency.

Population.—One family left the reserve last winter, which reduces the number to eighty-three.

Health.—The general health of the band is good.

Education.—I am happy to say that the school on the reserve is progressing favourably, under the able management of Miss Sophia M. Dunne.

Occupation.—Most of the young men work in the shanties in winter and in the 'drive' in the spring, as they are the best of rivermen, and earn a good deal of money.

Characteristics.—I have also to say that these Indians are a sober and industrious class of people.

I have, &c.,

E. BENNETT,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
GORE BAY AGENCY,

GORE BAY, July 20, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report concerning the Indians of my superintendency for the year ended June 30, 1899.

COCKBURN ISLAND BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the north side of Cockburn Island, which lies immediately west of the Manitoulin Island.

Its area is about one thousand two hundred and fifty acres.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

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

Population.—Sixty is the total population of this band.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians is generally good, no epidemic having made any depredation in the band. Sanitary regulations are observed and appreciated.

Resources and Occupation.—Forest, farm and stream are the resources of these Indians. They farm on a small scale. Their principal occupation is working in the lumber camps and making ties in winter, and loading vessels in summer.

Buildings.—Their buildings are neat, clean, and comfortable, and fairly well furnished. They have very few cattle and very little stock of any kind or farm implements.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve.

Religion.—These Indians belong to the Roman Catholic faith, and they have a nice church, in which they worship under the guidance of the visiting missionary. They appear to take much interest in religious matters, and seem to be altogether a very intelligent band.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are both steady and industrious, and are making a comfortable living.

Temperance and Morality.—The absence of liquor on the island accounts in some measure, and being isolated from any village, these Indians are exceptionally temperate, and in morality are above the average.

General Remarks.—These Indians are industrious, sober and moral, and intend paying more attention to farming in the future.

WEST BAY BAND.

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

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

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

Sanitary Condition.—The sanitary measures recommended by the department have been for the most part carried out, and the dwellings of the Indians are clean and comfortable.

Resources and Occupation.—Their chief occupation is farming, and they are making satisfactory progress. They also work in the lumber camps in winter, and load vessels in summer. Making sugar and picking berries also afford them considerable revenue.

Buildings.—Their buildings are mostly constructed of logs. Their dwellings and outbuildings are well kept, neat and comfortable, and their houses are fairly well furnished. The Indians of this band are making more rapid progress in farming than any other band under the supervision of this agency, and are getting into the way of using the machinery necessary for that purpose, and their farms are fairly well stocked with cattle and horses.

Education.—The school is well attended, and fair progress is being made.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. They have a fine church on the reserve under the auspices of the Wikwemikong priests, and are faithful adherents to their faith.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding. Their chief is a broad-minded, honest, energetic man, and treats all subjects fairly and with good, sound judgment, and looks carefully after the best interests of his band.

Temperance and Morality.—Along the lines of temperance and morality, this band will compare favourably : very few complaints are made, and its standing is satisfactory.

General Remarks.—These Indians are progressive and industrious, and take a great deal of interest in agriculture and education, and the chief appears anxious to have his band advance along both these lines, and his advice and opinion are much respected.

OBIDGEWONG BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the west shore of Lake Wolesey, Manitoulin Island. The area is four hundred acres.

Tribe.—These Indians are Ojibbewas and Ottawas.

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

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, and sanitary measures conformed to.

Resources and Occupation.—The members of this band depend to a great extent on the soil for their maintenance. They load vessels in summer, and work in the camps in winter, and are making a comfortable living.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Their buildings are neat and comfortable and fairly well furnished. They have very little live stock or farm implements.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve.

Religion.—These Indians are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are law-abiding, and manage to make a good, comfortable living.

Temperance and Morality.—They are, on the whole, moral and temperate in their habits.

General Remarks.—These Indians, although few in number, are thrifty and live comfortably, and will compare favourably with any of the larger bands in making a comfortable living.

SHESEGWANING BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is located in the north-east part of the township of Robinson, on the Manitoulin Island. It contains an area of about five thousand acres.

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 sixty-two.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been fair during the past year, there having been no epidemic amongst them. They keep themselves and premises clean, and observe the sanitary precautions prescribed by the department.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming is the chief resource of these Indians. They farm quite extensively, cultivating the land and raising stock, and they make a creditable showing. They work in the lumber camps, cutting logs and making ties in the winter, and load vessels and cultivate the land in summer.

Buildings, Stock, &c.—Their log buildings are neat and clean, and some of them well furnished. There are two organs in the village. There is a frame house nearly finished on the farm of David Sampson. He has twenty acres under crop. The Indians have a considerable number of stock—cattle, horses and pigs—which are in a thrifty condition and well cared for.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Education.—They have a neat and comfortable school-house, and they take a lively interest in education, and appear very anxious to have their children get a good schooling. The children were not making the progress in education they expected, and the school was closed for the last two months of the year ended June 30.

Religion.—These Indians are, for the most part, Roman Catholics. They have a nice, neat church, and it is conducted by the Wikwemikong missionaries, and the services are well attended.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are law-abiding and industrious, and are making good progress, and their condition is in every way satisfactory.

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

General Remarks.—This band is making rapid progress in agriculture, and shows great enterprise in educational matters, and will compare favourably with any band in the agency.

I have, &c.,

JAMES H. THORBURN,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
MANITOWANING AGENCY,
MANITOWANING, September 1, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report concerning the Indians of this agency for the year ended June 30, 1899.

WHITEFISH RIVER BAND.

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

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of eighty-two, consisting of twenty men, nineteen women and forty-three children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of this band for the past year has been good. The most of the members were vaccinated last spring. Their houses are kept clean and comfortable. Lime was furnished them last spring for sanitary purposes, and they made good use of it.

Resources and Occupation.—A large portion of the land on this reserve is suitable for agriculture; the remainder is woodland. The occupations engaged in by these Indians are: farming, lumbering, hunting, berry-picking and sugar-making.

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

Education.—The Indians have a good school, and the progress of the pupils is satisfactory.

Religion.—These Indians are of the Church of England and Roman Catholic persuasions. The church held in the school-house on the reserve is in charge of the visiting Church of England missionary.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are becoming more industrious every year. They are a most law-abiding people, and are steadily progressing.

Temperance and Morality.—Their character in these respects is altogether satisfactory.

POINT GRONDIN BAND.

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

Tribe.—These Indians are Ojibbewas.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band numbers sixty-one, consisting of eleven men, twenty-four women and twenty-six children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of this band has been exceptionally good this year. Lime was furnished them last spring for sanitary purposes.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of this reserve are timber, agriculture and fishing. The Indians do gardening, fish, and pick berries during the summer, and work in the lumber camps in the winter.

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

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

Religion.—The majority of these Indians are Roman Catholics, and are spiritually ministered to by the priests from Wikwemikong.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are steady and industrious, and are getting along as well as can be expected.

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

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. This reserve has an area of over sixty-eight and one-half square miles.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of one hundred and forty-seven, consisting of thirty-two men, forty-six women and sixty-nine children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good. There have been no epidemics. Sanitary precautions are satisfactorily observed. The majority of the band were vaccinated last spring. Lime was also supplied for cleansing purposes.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of these Indians are gardening and hunting. They garden a little, fish, hunt, act as guides and work in the lumber camps.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Nearly all the buildings are of log, and are kept clean.

Their stock is numerically small.

They have very few farming implements.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Education.—They have two schools on the reserve, one near Naughton station, which is conducted by the Rev. R. Black, Methodist missionary, and the other at the village, a distance of about four miles from the station. Both schools are fairly well attended and the progress of the children is satisfactory.

Religion.—The religious proclivities of these Indians are divided between Roman Catholicism and Methodism. The Indians seem to take a lively interest in religious matters.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are steady, industrious, law-abiding and fairly well-to-do ; but as yet they appear to be indifferent to the advantages they might gain should they give their attention to agriculture.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians generally are moral and temperate in their habits.

TAHGAIWININI BAND.

Reserve.—These Indians have a reserve at Wahnapitae, on the north shore of Georgian Bay, but nearly all of the band reside on the unceded portion of Manitoulin Island, at and near Wikwemikong.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of one hundred and seventy-four, consisting of thirty-five men, forty-five women and ninety-four children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—These Indians have enjoyed good health during the past year. A goodly number have been vaccinated, and the sanitary condition of their dwellings is quite satisfactory.

Resources and Occupation.—The greater part of the reserve is woodland. The timber on it has been sold under license and a good return secured to the Indians by the department. Their chief avocation is farming; they also take out timber in the winter season.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The buildings of this band are composed mostly of logs. Their dwelling-houses are whitewashed and kept clean and comfortable. They have a nice number of mixed stock, which is of a very fair quality and very well attended to. They have an ample supply of farming implements.

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

Religion.—Roman Catholicism is the religion of this band.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious, law-abiding, and are making good progress.

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

MAGANETTAWAN BAND.

The members of this band who reside within this agency number eighty-one, consisting of twenty men, twenty-four women and thirty-seven children. They live mostly at West Bay, on the Manitoulin Island, where they successfully farm and garden. In winter they find employment in the lumber and railway-tie camps. This reserve, together with the affairs of its Indians, is under the control of the Parry Sound Superintendentency.

SPANISH RIVER BAND, DIVISION No. 3.

The members of this band number three hundred and forty-eight, composed of seventy-one men, ninety-five women and one hundred and eighty-two children. They all reside on the unceded portion of the Manitoulin Island, where they successfully

farm and garden. Their general measure of advancement is identical with that of the unceded portion of the Manitoulin Island, with whom they are included in the agricultural and industrial statistics.

SUCKER LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of these Indians is principally situated on the fourth concession of the township of Assiginack, Manitoulin Island. The area of the reserve is five hundred and ninety-nine acres.

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

Vital Statistics.—The population on this reserve is fourteen, consisting of four men, five women and five children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians for the past year has been good, and sanitary precautions are encouraged in every respect.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming is the principal resource and the only occupation engaged in by these Indians.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Their 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, the children attending school at Wikwemikong.

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

Characteristics and Progress.—They are both steady and industrious, and are getting along well.

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

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 thriving town of Little Current. It has an area of two thousand two hundred acres.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band belong to the Ojibbewa and Ottawa tribes.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of ninety-three, consisting of twenty-four men, thirty women and thirty-nine children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians for the past year has been good. All of their dwellings have been thoroughly cleaned and whitewashed, and nearly all the Indians have been vaccinated.

Resources and Occupation.—Good farming land that is unsurpassed, is the main resource of this reserve. Their principal occupation is farming; some of them engage in getting out timber and loading vessels.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The Indians are taking more interest in their homes by building larger and better-ventilated houses, and setting out fruit trees. The farming implements used by the Indians, and their mode of farming is every year becoming more like that of their white neighbours.

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

Religion.—The Indians of this band are adherents of the Church of England. The Indians attend well the church on the reserve, which is in charge of the Church of England missionary at Little Current.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are of a superior character, and may be considered as among the most industrious and progressive in this agency, which is largely due to the interest taken in farming.

Temperance and Morality.—The majority of the band are strictly temperate, and morally their conduct is of a very fair degree.

SHEGUIANDAH BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve lies in the north-western part of the township of Sheguiandah. It contains an area of five thousand one hundred and six acres.

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

Vital Statistics.—The population on this reserve is ninety-seven, consisting of twenty-six men, twenty-one women and fifty children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health has been very good during the year. Lime was supplied them for domestic cleansing purposes, and they made good use of it by whitewashing their dwellings and outhouses.

Resources and Occupation.—The principal resource of this reserve is farming. Sugar-making, basket-making and berry-picking are also engaged in at different seasons; and last winter the Indians made and sold two thousand cedar railway ties at a good price.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The buildings of the Indians are generally very comfortable. Their stock is numerically small, but well looked after. They are poorly equipped with farming implements.

Education.—The school on the reserve is under the supervision of the Church of England. It is competently conducted, and the children are making fair progress.

Religion.—These Indians are nearly all adherents of the Church of England. They have a fine church on their reserve, which they attend well.

Characteristics and Progress.—On the whole, these Indians may be said to be progressing. They are of average intelligence, and are a well-behaved and law-abiding people.

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

SOUTH BAY BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated about twelve miles south of Manitowaning, on Manitoulin Island. One and one-half square miles is about the area of this reserve.

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

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of sixty-four, consisting of eleven men, nineteen women and thirty-four children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of this band has been exceptionally good during the past year. Sanitary precautions have been observed, and lime was distributed to this band last spring for domestic cleansing purposes.

Resources and Occupation.—The chief resource of this reserve is agriculture. The Indians farm, fish in the summer, and take out timber and work in the lumber camps in winter.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—They mostly occupy log houses, which are very neatly built and are kept clean and comfortable. Their live stock is not so plentiful as desirable, but what they have is well cared for. Their supply of farming implements is limited.

Education.—These Indians have a school on the reserve under Roman Catholic supervision. It is fairly well attended.

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

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are of the average intelligence. They do not make as much progress in farming as they should, but are none the less encouraged to give more practical attention to this occupation.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians, on the whole, are moral and temperate.

INDIANS OF MANITOULIN ISLAND, UNCEDED.

Reserve.—This reserve comprises the eastern end of the Manitoulin Island, east of the township of Assiginack.

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

Vital Statistics.—They number about seven hundred and thirty-seven.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—On the whole, the health of these Indians for the past year has been good. Sanitary precautions have been well observed, and lime was distributed to them last spring for cleansing purposes.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources are large tracts of good land, well adapted for agriculture, timber land and fishing. These Indians are learning to follow agricultural pursuits on an intelligent scale. Last winter they took out thirty-five thousand six hundred and sixty-three cedar railway ties, four thousand one hundred and ninety-five cedar posts, two hundred and four cords of pulp-wood and fifty-eight thousand five hundred and ninety-nine feet, board measure, of cedar saw-logs, all of which the department sold for them at good prices.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Their log and frame dwellings are generally very comfortable and neatly constructed. Stables and outbuildings are kept in a good state of repair, and their stock is of a fair quality. A goodly number of farming implements are used to good advantage.

Education.—Facilities for education are within reach of all the children on the reserve; the boys' and girls' industrial institutions and boys' and girls' day schools at Wikwemikong are conducted by a well-qualified staff of teachers. Further particulars will appear in the reverend principal's report.

Religion.—These Indians are all of the Roman Catholic persuasion. The priests resident at Wikwemikong are unremitting in their religious labours among the Indians.

Characteristics and Progress.—Most of these Indians are hard-working and industrious, and are quite up to the standard of advancement. Their chief is another good man, who takes a great interest in the local government of the Indians under his charge.

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

I have, &c.,

C. L. D. SIMS,
Indian Agent.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

MISSISSAGUAS OF ALNWICK,

ROSENEATH, July 10, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I inclose herewith statistical statement and report in connection with the Mississaguas of the Alnwick Reserve for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—This reserve is in the township of Alnwick, in the county of Northumberland, and contains three thousand three hundred and seventy-three and one-fifth acres, of which about two thousand four hundred and sixty-eight are cleared, and about one thousand are rented to white men.

Population.—This band numbers two hundred and twenty-seven, being one less than last year. There were ten births and two Indians joined the band, seven deaths, and six Indians left the band, during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There is not a case of sickness in the band at the present time. There was an epidemic of grippe last winter amongst the Indians.

Resources and Occupation.—This reserve is very favourable for agricultural pursuits, and several of the Indians are farming their own lands with fair success. Others gain a livelihood by fishing, hunting, basket-making and wage-earning.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The houses on this reserve are mostly frame and in good condition, while the barns are all frame and kept in a good state of repair. The stock is very good, as are also the implements: quite an advancement has been made in raising stock and purchasing agricultural implements.

Education.—The school building is brick and very well equipped and ventilated. The school is taught by Mr. Frank Allan, a fair teacher, holding a third-class certificate. But little progress seems to be made, owing to irregularity of attendance.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians, in the majority, are industrious, and are improving their lands and holdings in a creditable manner.

Religion.—There are two hundred and fifteen Methodists, ten Anglicans and two Roman Catholics in this band, all of whom attend church services quite regularly. The missionary, Rev. William Tomblin, is well liked and is doing a good work.

Temperance and Morality.—There are a few Indians in the band who use intoxicating liquors; but, on the whole, the band is temperate, while there seems to be a considerable advance in the moral standing of the members.

I have, &c.,

JOHN THACKERAY.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

MISSISSAGUAS OF THE NEW CREDIT,

HAGERSVILLE, July 15, 1899.

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 Reserve for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—This reserve is located partly in the township of Tuscarora, county of Brant, and partly in the township of Oneida, county of Haldimand, and comprises six thousand acres, four thousand eight hundred in the township of Tuscarora, and one thousand two hundred acres in the township of Oneida.

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

Population.—There are seventy-five men, seventy-three women, fifty-nine boys and thirty-seven girls, making a total of two hundred and forty-four, a decrease of two from the previous year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the band has been exceptionally good during the past year, no infectious diseases having made their appearance; sanitary requirements have been carefully attended to, and the buildings and premises are in a clean and healthy state.

Temperance and Morality.—Notwithstanding the exceptional temptations to which this band is exposed, it is gratifying to know that sobriety is the rule, with a few exceptions. The conduct of the individual members is such as to secure for them the respect of their white neighbours.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The Indians are taking more interest in their homes by building better-ventilated houses and planting fruit trees. Their mode of farming is every year becoming more like that of their white neighbours. Their stock, such as cows, hogs, &c., are of a good grade, and I can notice a marked improvement in the care of their stock and farming implements, by way of keeping them properly housed during inclement weather.

Education.—On this reserve there is one school, at which the attendance has been fair. The progress made by those who attended regularly has been good. I have advised the members of the band as to the decision of the department in regard to compulsory education after the 1st September next. I do not anticipate any trouble in that respect, as the heads of families are becoming more interested in the education of their children.

Religion.—There are two Methodist churches on this reserve, under the charge of the Rev. E. H. Taylor. The large majority of the members of this band are Methodists. There are also a few who profess to be Seventh Day Adventists.

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.

General Remarks.—Although the progress of these Indians 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, which, with more inclination shown for agriculture, may be productive of much good.

I have, &c.,

HUGH STEWART,

Indian Agent.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

MISSISSAGUAS OF RICE AND MUD LAKES,

KEENE, June 30, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

RICE LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The Rice Lake Reserve 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 land, of which about seven hundred and sixty acres are cleared; about two hundred and forty acres of this is under lease to white tenants, while the locatees cultivate the remainder of said cleared land.

Vital Statistics.—The total number shown by the present census is eighty-two, composed of twenty-two men, twenty-one women, twenty-three boys and sixteen girls. During the past year there were two deaths and four births, making an increase of two since last report.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health, generally speaking, of these Indians has been fairly good. Upon the whole, they are clean and tidy, and have their homes comfortably furnished.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of this reserve are fishing, trapping, gathering wild rice, and agriculture. The majority of the Indians on this reserve work their land. Some, however, make a living by fishing, trapping, gathering rice, working on the 'drives' in spring, and in lumber woods in winter; also working with farmers.

Buildings.—There have been built on this reserve, during the past year, two new frame houses, one log house, two barns. Altogether there are on the reserve ten frame houses, fourteen log houses and ten barns.

Stock and Farming Implements.—Of stock, this band has sixteen horses and twelve very good cows. These Indians have also a fair supply of farming implements.

Education.—Some of the children here attend school very regularly, and appear to be learning fairly well.

Religion.—On the reserve there is a very neat little church. Mr. Windsor, a missionary, preaches every Sabbath. The members of this band are all Methodists. They have also a Christian Endeavour Society.

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.

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.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Vital Statistics.—The total number shown by the present census of the band is one hundred and sixty-nine, composed of forty-five men, thirty-eight women, fifty-five boys and thirty-one girls. During the past year there were five deaths and nine births, making an increase of four since last report.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There has been very little sickness here during the past year. The children have been vaccinated very successfully. These Indians, as a rule, are neat and tidy about their homes.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of this reserve are trapping, hunting and fishing; some of the Indians hire with farmers, others work in the lumber woods in the winter, and on 'drives' in the spring, while others remain at home and cultivate their land.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There are twenty frame and twelve log houses on this reserve. These Indians have also eleven barns and several very comfortable stables for their horses and cattle. They have thirteen horses, four colts, fourteen remarkably good milch cows, besides quite a number of young stock. They have also a very good supply of farming implements.

Education.—The children on this reserve attend school very regularly and are being well educated by their teacher, Miss Lily Middleton.

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 the children and young people on the reserve.

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 appear very honest and well-behaved.

I have, &c.,

WM. McFARLANE,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

MISSISSAGUAS OF SCUGOG,

PORT PERRY, October 7, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated in the township of Scugog, in the county of Ontario, and contains eight hundred acres, seven hundred and forty of which are arable land. Of the latter area about five hundred acres are under tenancy to whites.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of nine men, twelve women and seventeen children, seven of the latter class being males, making a total of thirty-eight. During the year there has been one birth and one death, leaving the population the same as set forth in my last report.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the members of this band has been quite good during the year, only one death from consumption having occurred during that period. About their homes the women are quite tidy, and every precaution to prevent contagion is observed.

Resources and Occupation.—The majority of the Indians in this band hunt and fish for a livelihood, while a smaller number are engaged in agricultural pursuits. All the women are expert basket-makers.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—No new buildings have been erected during the year. There are four frame dwellings on stone foundations, while the other domiciles are of rustic design.

Education.—There is no building set apart in which to instruct the children. This want is supplied by an adjacent school of the whites.

Religion.—The Methodist religion prevails throughout this band. The Indians have a church of their own at which the Rev. Mr. Lewis officiates each Sabbath.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are for the most part industrious and comparatively moral. They have made marked progress during the past year.

Temperance.—Among the members of the band there is a noticeable improvement in their ability to abstain from strong drink. Only one or two are addicted to the habit.

General Remarks.—From the degree of progression in the various particulars above enumerated, it is a fair criterion for the conclusion that the Mississaguas of Scugog are not degenerating.

I have, &c.,

A. W. WILLIAMS,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

MOHAWKS OF THE BAY OF QUINTE,

MARYSVILLE, July 27, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I beg to submit my annual report for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—The Tyendinaga Reserve is situated in the county of Hastings, and is said to contain an area of seventeen thousand acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is twelve hundred and twenty-seven, consisting of two hundred and fifty-one men, two hundred and seventy-seven women and six hundred and ninety-nine children, including all under twenty years. There were thirty-five births and thirty-nine deaths, and two Indians joined the band. The causes of death were old age, consumption, heart failure, drowning, and children's diseases.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health, generally speaking, of the Indians of this band has been fairly good. No epidemic nor disease of a contagious nature visited them during the year, and the sanitary condition of their dwellings is quite satisfactory. During the month of June their two physicians, as a preventive of small-pox, used two hundred vaccination points, with no fatal results.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources are farming and stock-raising, as the land is fertile and well adapted for mixed farming.

The occupation of these Indians is general farming. Some find employment working in saw-mills, and some are carpenters and masons. The grain is looking very well at present, and it is anticipated that a heavy crop will be reaped. Many of the women take an interest in gardening and butter-making.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Their buildings compare favourably with those of the white people. Their stock is of fair quality and well kept. Most of the Indians have all they require in modern implements.

Education.—Facilities for education are within the reach of all the children on the reserve. There are two hundred and forty-four children attending school. There are four schools, taught by female teachers, holding third-class certificates; and the authorized course of studies is followed. 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 one hundred and forty, who are Presbyterians, and have built themselves a fine frame edifice and a drive-shed, costing in all \$1,100. Those belonging to the Church of England have two stone churches and two mission school-houses 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 four 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, except one service held at the mission school erected by Chief Anonsoktha in 1880, which is conducted by Cornelius Maracle, sr.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians are becoming more industrious year by year, are making good progress and becoming better off. The harvest of 1899 promises to be better than those of 1897 and 1898. There will be an abundance of hay and straw for the coming winter. There are five wagons engaged on the reserve hauling milk to the cheese factories, and a number of Indians send their milk, competing fairly well with their white neighbours. Their chiefs are intelligent and energetic men, who seem honestly and satisfactorily to discharge the duties devolving upon them.

Temperance and Morality.—The great majority of the band are 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.

General Remarks.—Dr. Oronhyatekha continues to improve Captain John's Island, now called 'Foresters' Island Park,' which is now largely patronized as a summer resort. The Independent Order of Foresters holds an annual retreat at the 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.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
MORAVIANS OF THE THAMES,
DUART, September 11, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report of the Moravians of the Thames for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated in the township of Orford, county of Kent, bordering on the River Thames, and contains three thousand and ten acres.

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

Population.—There are eighty-one men, seventy-seven women, seventy-three boys and seventy-three girls, making a total of three hundred and four, being an increase of five over the previous year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the Indians has been unusually good during the year. The sanitary laws are carefully observed, and nearly all children have been vaccinated.

Resources and Occupation.—General farming is the chief means of making a living. A few make baskets, and some fish for a short time in the spring.

Buildings and Stock.—The Indians are constantly improving their buildings. Mr. Nelson Stonefish erected a fine barn during the year, which is a great credit to him, as it will compare favourably with any in the community.

There is a marked improvement in stock generally.

Education.—The two schools on the reserve are regularly kept open, and fair progress is made.

Religion.—Three religious denominations are represented in this band, viz., the Anglican, Methodist and Moravian Church. The services of these three churches are well attended.

Temperance and Morality.—Temperance and morality are fairly well observed, as very few cases of misbehaviour have been reported during the year.

I have, &c.,

A. R. McDONALD,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
OJIBBEWAS OF LAKE SUPERIOR, EASTERN DIVISION,
SAULT STE. MARIE, September 24, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my annual report of the three Indian bands under my charge, viz.:—the Garden River Band, the Batchewana Band and the Michipicoten Band.

GARDEN RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the St. Mary's River, about eight miles from Sault Ste. Marie, and is occupied by the Indians of the band and part of those of the Batchewana Band. It contains about twenty-five thousand acres. The area of land cultivated is very small in proportion to the size of the reserve. Hay and potatoes are about all that are raised in any quantity. The soil in many places is very sandy, and therefore requires a good deal of rain in the hot season to bring the crop forward.

Tribe.—The Indians are descended from the Chippewas and Ojibbewas, mixed with French half-breeds, who by far exceed the Indians in number.

Vital Statistics.—The total population, as shown by the present census so far as taken, consists of one hundred and eleven male adults, one hundred and twenty-three female adults, ninety-two male children and one hundred and three female children, making a total of four hundred and twenty-nine. There have been seven births and fourteen deaths during the past year.

Health.—The houses and approaches, as a general rule, are kept in good order. Sickness has been very general, and many deaths have taken place this past year. The doctor has been called upon to make many extra visits. Consumption and scrofula have been the prevailing causes. I am glad to say that nothing of a dangerous epidemic has appeared among the Indians.

Occupation.—Farming in a moderate way, picking berries in the summer season, going out with fishing parties, exploring for mineral, and working in the camps in the winter time, constitute the chief occupations of these Indians.

Buildings.—The buildings are nearly all log, being much warmer in the winter and built at less expense; some few have frame houses. The stables and outhouses are also of log. There is a council-hall and a lock-up.

Stock.—The stock consists for the most part of cows of an ordinary breed, oxen, horses, pigs and poultry.

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

Education.—There are two schools on this reserve, one Protestant, the other Roman Catholic. The former has been fairly attended; the latter has kept up a good attendance, and the children appear to be getting on.

Religion.—There are three churches, an Anglican, a Methodist and a Roman Catholic. Both the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches are well attended. The Methodist church has no congregation.

Characteristics and Progress.—Little progress has been made over former years. Proper attention has not been paid to the crops at the time needed. The potato bug

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

has been doing great damage, and the severe storms destroyed the crops of many who had oats and pease, &c., still on the ground in the months of September and October last. The band would have fared ill, had it not been for the amount of work obtained in the lumber camps during the winter.

Temperance and Morality.—There have been several convictions for being under the influence of liquor during the past year, and fines and imprisonment have followed. This does not appear to have much effect. Liquor, in most cases, is purchased on the American side.

Immorality prevails to a great extent among the young people, and, as I have before stated, it is very hard to check. Both minister and priest have done all they could to check it.

Chiefs.—The chief at the commencement of last year was Jarvis Augustin, who died, and another chief was elected, named Michel Cadotte, to fill his place till June 30, 1900. The sub-chiefs are John Augustin, Moses Larose, George Shingwauk and Joseph Boisenault, whose time expires June 30, 1900, when another election will have to take place. Very few councils have taken place during the past year, owing to the difficulty of getting the members to attend, most of them being absent in camp or otherwise employed.

BATCHEWANA BAND.

Reserve.—The Batchewana Band has a small reserve, midway at the Rapids, Sault Ste. Marie River, which in the past was used as a fishing station, and many fish were caught there. This was the principal support of the Indians living there, but since the building of the canals and the bridge, and the lumber coming over the rapids, few, if any, fish are now taken where hundreds were formerly caught. The Indian is well off if he gets a dozen. The island, as before stated, is well situated for a water-power, and, as such, would be very valuable. There are still a few families who make it their home during the season.

These Indians have also another reserve, bought by the Ontario Government out of the municipal loan fund, and further added to by the department, at Goulais Bay, where some have also homes of their own, bought by themselves. These earn a living by hunting, exploring and fishing, and grow a few potatoes and other vegetables, and hay sufficient to keep the few cattle they have.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the same tribe as the Garden River Band, and are largely mixed with French half-breeds.

Vital Statistics.—The last census shows a total of three hundred and fifty-nine persons, composed of ninety-seven male adults, one hundred and thirteen female adults, seventy-seven male children and seventy-two female children. There were eighteen deaths and nine births during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The houses, as a rule, are kept clean and neat, and the approaches free from rubbish. A good deal of sickness prevailed during the year, although there was no sickness of a serious contagious kind: it was mostly consumption, resulting from scrofula. The members of this band engage their own doctor and pay for their medicine themselves.

Occupation.—Many of this band reside at Garden River, where they have plots of land which they cultivate. These live by exploring, going out with fishing parties in the summer, and working in the camps in the winter time. Most of them are comfortably off.

The remainder of the band reside, a few at the island, at Goulais Bay, Batchewana Bay and other parts of Lake Superior. These hunt in the winter, do work for the fishing company in the summer, pick berries, and do a little farming. Some of the women make very nice rag mats and rush mats. They appear all very contented. As before stated, several have property of their own.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Most of the buildings belonging to this band are on the west side of the Garden River. On the Garden River Reserve some are at Goulais Bay and Batchewana, at both of which places the Indians have land of their own, bought from the department. Many others are squatters on private property and along the shores of Lake Superior.

They possess ploughs, harrows, fanning-mills, hoes, rakes, scythes and cradles. These Indians cultivate the same as the Garden River Band.

They have horses, cows, a bull, pigs and poultry.

They grow more potatoes than anything else; oats, pease, corn and hay and small vegetables. The root crops were poor owing to the stormy weather and early frosts. The potato bug also did a great deal of damage in spite of the use of Paris green.

Education.—There is no school belonging to this band. The children attend the Roman Catholic school of the Garden River Band, and are doing very fairly.

Religion.—Most of these Indians are Roman Catholics; there are a few Methodists. The former have two churches, one at Goulais Bay and one at Batchewana, but no regular priest; service is conducted on Sundays and holy days by a layman and by a missionary who pays visits several times during the year, and is very attentive in the time of sickness and death. I am not aware that the Methodists have any missionary.

Morals.—The same remarks apply to this band as I have made regarding the Garden River Band. Those of the Indians living up the lake have not the same temptation as the others, and I have not known of any cases of drunkenness among them.

Chiefs.—The late chief, Nubenaigooching, died in the early part of the present year, at a ripe old age. He was a man of good character, and made a very good chief. He was also much respected. He was one with whom I never had any trouble; he would always listen to reason, and was a loyal man to his Queen and country, and took a great interest in everything that was going on. He had been a chief for over seventy years, and I believe was the last of the life chiefs in this district. No new chief has yet been appointed.

MICHIPICOTEN BAND.

Reserve.—These Indians have a small reserve at Little Gros Cap, about three miles from Michipicoten River, Lake Superior. It has not been occupied by them for some years. At one time there was a mission and several houses; now it is entirely abandoned; the members are squatted in various places—Michipicoten River, Missinabie, Chapleau, White Fish, New Brunswick House, Batchewana, and other points. They support themselves principally by hunting, exploring and acting as guides. A few of them fish during the season.

Tribe.—They are Chippewas mixed with English, French and Scotch half-breeds. The language spoken is mostly Indian; some few are able to speak a little English.

Vital Statistics.—The number of this year's census is three hundred and thirty-two, namely, eighty-three male adults, eighty-eight female adults, seventy-two male children and eighty-nine female children. There were seven births and eight deaths in the band during the past year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—I visit this band only once in the year, and this season I visited only Michipicoten River, where there were about seventeen heads of families. These lived in wigwams and houses built on the Crown land at one time supposed to be their reserve. The houses are clean, and at the time of my visit there was not any sickness, and the Indians appeared to be doing well.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Education.—There is a school up the river belonging to the Indians, which is to be opened by a Miss Clark from Petite Platte. There are a few children who reside here the year round, most of the parents leaving for other places during the winter. But the fact of the school being opened may induce the parents to remain for the sake of their children.

Religion.—There is a Roman Catholic church alongside of the school-house. There is no regular priest; he only pays occasional visits. The service is conducted by an Indian layman in his absence. The members for the most part are Roman Catholics. A portion of the band, those living at Chapleau and Missinabic, belong to the Church of England.

Chief.—The chief of the band is Sanson Legard, now getting an old man. He resides at the river, visiting the Hudson Bay Company's post almost daily. At one time he was in the service of the company. Gros Jambette is the second chief and lives at Chapleau or Lake Windermere.

SHINGWAWK HOUSE.

Before closing my report, I must add a few words for this institution.

It still keeps its complement of pupils, namely, sixty-five boys and two girls.

The building is kept in good order, well ventilated and very clean. The dormitories are supplied with new iron bedsteads, and the beds have a very neat appearance.

Since the appointment of Mr. George Ley King as principal, improvements have been constantly going on. A new building is at present being erected, at the west end of the home, for Indian girls, and when complete the home will have a frontage of one hundred and sixty feet, with accommodation for one hundred children, boys and girls. It is hoped that the building will be complete by the end of the present year. A larger number of applications for the admission of Indian children has been made this year, far greater than has been made for many years past. The idea of having the homes of the boys and girls together is with a view to economy, as the present staff, with the addition of one more, will be able to carry on the work in a satisfactory manner. The present staff consists of nine members, including trade instructors.

The following works have been in operation during the past year: carpentering, tailoring, shoemaking and farming; and the apprentices have been kept fully at work by the needs and requirements of the institution. The carpentering work of the new building is being carried on principally by the Indian boys, under the supervision of the foreman. Apart from this work, the boys attend school regularly, and are making very fair progress, and in their new uniforms look uncommonly well as they march through the town on their way to church of a Sunday.

I have, &c.,

WM. VAN ABBOTT,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
OJIBBEWAS OF LAKE SUPERIOR, WESTERN DIVISION,
PORT ARTHUR, September 22, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

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.—The members of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population is three hundred and nine; it consists of sixty-five men, eighty-four women, eighty-three boys and seventy-seven girls. A small portion live at Dog Lake and Lac des Mille Lacs.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There has been a great deal of sickness during the year. The sanitary regulations insisted on by the department are observed.

Resources and Occupation.—The chief occupations of these Indians are farming, acting as guides, exploring for minerals and picking berries. A number of the women are engaged as domestic servants.

Education.—There are two schools on the reserve, the Indian boys' and girls' day school and the St. Joseph's Orphanage. The teachers are Sisters of St. Joseph, and are well qualified and painstaking.

Religion.—Of this band, two hundred and eighty-five are Roman Catholics, and twenty-four are pagans. There is a resident priest and a travelling missionary. There is a church and St. Joseph's Convent. The latter is in charge of the Rev. Mother Superior and four sisters. The church 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 consists of six hundred and forty acres.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population is two hundred and eighteen, consisting of fifty-one men, fifty-six women, fifty-nine boys and fifty-two girls.

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 on the reserve, but it has not been open for some time. There is another school on Lake Helen Roman Catholic Mission, under the charge of Jessie H. MacKay, a very competent teacher. The school is well attended.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Religion.—Of this band, one hundred and ninety-eight are Roman Catholics, and twenty are Anglicans.

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

CHURCH OF ENGLAND MISSION.

This mission, situated on McIntyre's Bay, Lake Nepigon, is a great credit to the Indian residents; their houses are clean, and their land is well cultivated.

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 Jack Fish Island, near the Hudson's Bay Company's post.

Natural Features.—The Gull Bay Reserve is well wooded along the banks of the Gull River, which runs through it. The soil is light.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—There are five hundred and twenty-four in this band, consisting of eighty-three men, one hundred and seven women, one hundred and seventy-eight boys and one hundred and fifty-six girls.

Occupation.—Hunting is their principal occupation, though a number act as guides to the Nepigon tourists. There are some small clearings on the reserve where potatoes are planted.

Religion.—The majority of this band are pagans, the rest being Roman Catholics. There is a church on Jack Fish Island, which the latter attend.

Education.—The school is situated on Jack Fish Island also, and is presided over by Mr. J. A. Blais, a very competent teacher.

PAYS PLAT BAND.

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

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

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

Education.—The school is under the charge of Miss Alice Barker, and the progress of the pupils is quite satisfactory.

Religion.—The members of this band are all 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 belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population is two hundred and eighteen, consisting of forty-five men, fifty-eight women, sixty-one boys and fifty-four girls.

Religion.—All these Indians are of the Roman Catholic faith.

Education.—The school has been reopened, and is under the charge of Moses Madwayosh. It is well attended.

PARRY ISLAND BAND.

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

Tribe.—These 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.

Characteristics.—These Indians are apparently industrious and quite comfortable.

Population.—The population is three hundred and eighteen, consisting of sixty-one men, seventy-nine women, seventy-five boys and one hundred and three girls.

Religion.—The great majority are Roman Catholics. They have a church on the reserve, and are visited by the priest once a year. The rest are Anglicans and pagans.

I have, &c.,

J. F. HODDER,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

PARRY SOUND SUPERINTENDENCY,

PARRY SOUND, September 11, 1899.

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 various bands in this superintendency for the year ended June 30, 1899.

PARRY ISLAND BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the eastern shore of the Georgian Bay, near the town of Parry Sound. It contains an area of twenty-seven square miles.

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

Vital Statistics.—The population on this reserve (exclusive of those Indians residing on the reserve who do not belong to the band) is one hundred and five, consisting of twenty-six men, thirty-three women and forty-six children. During the year there have been two births and one death, making a total increase in the number of persons in the band of one for the year.

Health.—The health of the Indians of this band for the year has been very good, only two cases of serious illness having been reported to me, and these have now quite recovered.

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

The members of this band have exceptional means of earning a living. Besides their agricultural pursuits, which are gradually being improved, they secure consider-

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

able 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.—The improvement in these is not as noticeable as I would wish for. One very creditable house has been erected on the reserve during the past year by Charles Salt, a former member of the Alnwick Band, who was admitted to membership in the Parry Island Band two years ago.

Education.—The educational affairs of this band have certainly improved during the past year. There are two schools on the reserve, each taught by a female teacher, holding a third-class certificate. There are twenty-eight children of school age on the reserve, besides the children of those Indians resident on the reserve who do not belong to the band, some of whom attend school, so that the attendance has been fairly good during the past year. The attendance and progress has been as good as could be expected.

Religion.—The various religious denominations have the following adherents in this band: forty-eight Methodists, thirty-four Roman Catholics, and twenty-three pagans. The Methodists have a very good church on the reserve, and the services, which are conducted by the Rev. Allan Salt, the resident missionary on the reserve, are usually well attended. 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.—There has not been one case of intemperance reported to me among the members of this band during the past year, so in this respect their conduct leaves nothing to be desired.

SHAWANAGA BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve 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.

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

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of one hundred and three, consisting of twenty-five men, twenty-nine women, and forty-nine children. During the year there has been one birth and eight deaths, making a total decrease for the year of seven.

Health.—The health of these Indians for the past year has not been good. Consumption appears to have been the cause of most of the deaths.

Resources and Occupation.—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.

Fishing and hunting are, however, the means adopted by most of them for earning a living. The Buffalo Fish Company, which has a depot at Point aux Barils, employs a few of these Indians in the capacity of fishermen, at which they make good wages.

Buildings.—The buildings of this band are small and of an inferior type. Most of them are composed of logs and of such dimensions that they do not allow the proper housing of the occupants.

Education.—The number of children of school age on this reserve is twenty-one. They are taught in a school-house on the reserve, where the exercises are 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 to which the Indians of this band belong are represented in the following proportions: seventy-two Methodists and thirty-one Roman Catholics. There are two churches on the reserve. The one belonging to the Methodists will, when finished, be a very creditable structure; the other, belonging to the Roman Catholics, is not near completion yet.

Characteristics.—The Indians of this band, while not as industrious, collectively, as they might be, appear to be a bright and intelligent body of people. A few of them do exceptionally well in their employment of fishing for the Buffalo Fish Company at Point aux Barils; and if more of the band would apply themselves to work, they would all be able to gain a fair living.

Temperance and Morality.—I am pleased to be able to state that no case of intemperance among the band has been reported to me during the past year. The moral conduct of the Indians has also been of a high order.

HENVEY INLET BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on one of the arms or inlets of the Georgian Bay, almost midway between Byng Inlet and French River. It contains an area of thirty square miles.

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

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of one hundred and eighty-three, consisting of forty-eight men, fifty-eight women, and seventy-seven children. During the year there have been two births and six deaths, and eight joined the band and twenty left it, making a total decrease in the number of persons comprising the band, of sixteen for the year.

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

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of this reserve are agriculture, fishing and hunting. The members of this band 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 adopted by most of them in earning a living.

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

Buildings.—The buildings belonging to the members of this band are of a very fair order, their dwelling-houses being whitewashed and kept in a very neat condition. Their village is located on a high and picturesque bluff, and I think, taking their houses collectively, they form the most creditable group of Indian houses in this superintendency.

Farming Implements.—Their agricultural implements are few in number, comprising three ploughs and a harrow.

Religion.—Nearly three-fourths of the members of this band are Roman Catholics, the remainder being Methodists. A very good Roman Catholic church is practically completed, and services will shortly be conducted in it by the missionary priest who resides at Byng Inlet.

Characteristics.—The members of this band are of a superior character. They are a stalwart body of men, and their appearance indicates constant industry. They are quite intelligent, and some of the young men of the band have made considerable progress in their musical studies, as was evidenced by the performance of a quartette of the young men on last annuity pay-day.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Temperance and Morality.—Their conduct in both these respects has been, during the past year, all that could be desired.

NIPISSING BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve belonging to this band is situated on the north shore of Lake Nipissing, ten miles west of the town of North Bay. It contains an area of sixty-four thousand acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of one hundred and ninety-seven, consisting of fifty men, fifty-five women and ninety-two children. During the year there were five births, one immigration, two deaths and seven emigrations, making a total decrease in the number of persons comprising this band, of three for the year.

Health.—The health of the members of this band during the past year has been very good.

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

The members of this band have exceptional means of earning a living. The reserve being located near a divisional point of the Canadian Pacific Railway, together with the lumbering operations which are being constantly carried on by Mr. J. R. Booth on the reserve, enables them to secure employment at almost any time they may desire it.

Education.—There are forty-two children of school age on the reserve. They have an excellent school, situated at their village at Beaucage Bay, presided over by a female teacher, holding a third-class certificate. The attendance is very good, and the progress of the pupils quite 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 visiting missionaries.

Characteristics.—The Indians belonging to this band are a bright and intelligent body of people, and in numerous respects compare favourably with many of the white settlers in this district. Their farming operations are carried on only to a limited extent, as they depend largely on securing employment in the lumbering camps and hunting as a means of earning a living.

Temperance and Morality.—As no cases of intemperance have been reported to me during the past year among the members of this band, I conclude that their conduct in this respect has been very good; while morally they stand high.

DOKIS BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve belonging to 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.

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-eight, consisting of eighteen men, twenty-six women and thirty-four children. During the year there was one birth and two deaths, four joined the band and the same number left it, making a decrease of one in the number of persons comprising this band for the year.

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

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of this reserve at present appear to be very limited. Agriculture is carried on in a very limited manner. This band has located on its reserve a very valuable tract of pine timber, which, if disposed of, as it

could easily be to great advantage, would place the members of the band in a very prosperous condition. At present, most of them are in very indigent circumstances, and are likely to remain so as long as they pursue their present policy regarding their timber. The occupations of these Indians are confined to farming to a limited extent and working in the lumbering camps.

Buildings and Stock.—The building on this reserve are few in number and composed of logs.

The stock and farming implements are owned almost entirely by Chief Dokis and his sons.

Education.—There are no educational facilities whatever on this reserve, consequently the children are growing up without the advantages that education gives, which is to be deplored.

Religion.—The Indians belonging to this band are all 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 is all that could be desired.

TEMOGAMINGUE BAND.

Reserve.—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.

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

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is eighty-three, consisting of nineteen men, thirty women and thirty-four children. During the year there have been three births and one immigration, making a total increase of four in the number of persons comprising this band.

Health.—The health of these Indians for the past year has been very good.

Resources and Occupation.—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. The Indians make no attempt at farming, giving as a reason, that, as no reserve has been assigned to them, they do not care to clear up land that might afterwards be placed outside the bounds of their reserve.

Buildings.—Around the Hudson's Bay Company's post on Bear Island, a few houses have been erected by the members of this band; but the majority of them live in tents all the year round.

Education.—There are no facilities for education for these Indians; consequently, their children are growing up without any of the advantages that education gives.

Religion.—This band is composed entirely of Roman Catholics. A church is in course of erection near the Hudson's Bay Company's 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.—These Indians 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.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

WATHA BAND (FORMERLY GIBSON).

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

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 nineteen, consisting of twenty-eight men, twenty-five women and sixty-six children. During the year there were two births and five deaths, two joined the band and five left it, making a total decrease in the number of persons comprising this band, of six for the year.

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

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of this reserve are agriculture and lumbering. The members of this band depend chiefly on farming for a living. During the winter months some of the younger men find occasional employment in the lumber camps in the vicinity of the reserve, and in summer act as guides to tourists who frequent the Muskoka Lakes in large numbers.

Buildings.—The buildings belonging to these Indians are superior to those found on any of the other 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 twenty-seven. 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.—There are three religious denominations represented in this band, as follows: eighty-four Methodists, nine Roman Catholics and twenty-six Plymouth Brethren. A Methodist missionary, in the person of the school teacher, 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.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I have, &c.,

W. B. MACLEAN,
Indian Superintendent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
SIX NATION INDIANS,

BRANTFORD, August 24, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—The reserve is located in the township of Tuscarora and part in 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.

Tribe.—The tribes consist of the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Tuscaroras, Cayugas, Senecas, and Delawares, comprising the Six Nations of the Grand River. The number of tribes composing the Six Nations' confederation was not always the same: prior to 1714 it was the Five Nations, when the Tuscaroras were admitted, since which time it has been called the Six Nations. A few Delawares were adopted later.

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

Health and Sanitary Condition.—During the first half of the year there were many cases of malarial and typhoid fevers, in some instances complicated with pneumonia; while, during the latter half of the year, whooping cough and grippe, which in many cases was complicated with pneumonia, were the chief maladies. A number of Indians were vaccinated.

There were twelve thousand five hundred and fifty-nine patients treated at the medical office on the reserve, three thousand and eleven visits made, making six thousand eight hundred and eighteen miles travelled by the physicians during the year.

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 disease may be engendered; frequent use of lime whitewash on the buildings, the boiling of water, sinking of wells to avoid use of surface ditch water. Carbolic acid diluted is freely used during large gatherings, particularly in the council-house, and after every meeting of the council the building is thoroughly cleaned.

The chiefs are encouraging the draining of swamps and stagnant waters by having large ditches on public roadways constructed, and supplying tiles, on the recommendation of the inspector of works, to private individuals free of cost, the Indian to do the labour required in placing the tiles.

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 hundred leave the reserve during berry-picking and return after flax-pulling.

Buildings and Stock.—The Indians are constantly improving their houses by better ventilation, and also their barns for the better protection of their stock during the winter and stormy weather. During the past year eight large barns have been built.

The crops for the past year were not generally good: wheat, oats, corn and potatoes were a light crop, while pease and roots were fair; but hay far exceeded previous years.

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

Religion.—Great interest is manifested by the Indians in church and Sunday school work. Picnics, garden parties, tea-meetings and entertainments are frequently held in various parts of the reserve in order to raise money for church purposes, and large amounts are realized.

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 Day Adventist in one; all services are well attended.

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 compete. These annual matches are largely attended, and great interest is taken in them. The Indians are generally good ploughmen and frequently compete most successfully with their white neighbours.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

The Farmers' 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 the management of the Indians, held its annual fair in October last. This was very largely attended, and a great success.

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

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,
THESSALON AGENCY,
THESSALON, August 18, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report concerning the Indians of the Thessalon Agency for the year ended June 30, 1899.

THESSALON RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the north shore of Lake Huron, about six miles east of the town of Thessalon, and contains an area of about four square miles.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population is about one hundred and forty-eight.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians seems to be fair. Their sanitary condition is good.

Resources and Occupation.—Their resources are agriculture and fishing. They are fishermen, farmers, labourers and hunters. They work in lumber camps in winter and in saw-mills and loading vessels in summer, and are getting along very well.

Buildings.—The buildings on this reserve are principally of log, but they are clean and comfortable. There are no stables or barns of any account and no farming implements.

Education.—The school on the reserve is in charge of a competent male teacher, and under the new regulations for compulsory attendance we hope to make a good showing.

Religion.—These Indians are Roman Catholics. Their spiritual welfare is well looked after by the visiting missionary.

Characteristics.—This band seems to be progressing favourably in all that goes to make a people happy and prosperous.

Morality.—They are a moral, law-abiding people, and will compare favourably with the white population of the country.

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 progressing favourably.

MISSISSAGUA RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the east side of the Mississagua River, on the north shore of Lake Huron, and comprises an area of three and a half square miles.

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

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

Health.—The health of this band is not very good. Scrofula and other diseases have taken hold upon these people, but under the kind ministrations of Dr. Baxter, their physician, they seem to be improving.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of this band are hunting, fishing and farming. Some of the members of this band are what is called 'inlanders'; they, I suppose, live by hunting and fishing. Those who live on the reserve are labourers; they cultivate small gardens, and fish enough for themselves, and find employment in the lumber camps in winter, and in saw-mills and loading vessels in the summer.

Buildings.—Their buildings are mostly of log, but they are in a fair state of repair. They do not pay much attention to agriculture, and have not many cattle or farming implements.

Education.—They have a good school, which is fairly well attended.

Religion.—These Indians are Roman Catholics. They have no church on the reserve; they hold service in the school-house.

Characteristics.—The younger portion of the band are fairly industrious, and are becoming more progressive, so that we may look for improvement.

Morality.—Morally they are on a par with others, and would be better if the white people would keep away from them.

General Remarks.—I beg leave, therefore, to say that there is a marked improvement in the younger portion of this band. The old people like hunting, and are averse to farming; the young people are fond of dress, and like to have money; consequently, they are going to improve the band.

SERPENT RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve extends from the village of Cutler to Spragge station, on the Canadian Pacific Railway, on the north shore of Lake Huron, and has an area of thirty-eight square miles.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Population.—The population of this band is one hundred and eighteen.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good during the past year; no cases of sickness have been reported. The sanitary condition of their dwellings and yards is quite satisfactory.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources are agriculture, timber and fish. These Indians work at farming, in the lumber woods, at saw-mills; they pick a great many berries and make some maple sugar.

Buildings.—The houses are principally of log, but are kept neat and clean.

The Indians have not much stock, as they do not follow farming.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Education.—They have an excellent school at Cutler, which is well attended. The parents seem to take more interest in education than any other band in the agency.

Religion.—The members of this band are Roman Catholics, and seem to take a great interest in religious teaching.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are good, law-abiding people, and are quite intelligent and industrious.

Temperance and Morality.—They seem to be both moral and temperate in their habits.

General Remarks.—The members of this band are industrious, temperate, intelligent, religious and progressive, and are doing as well as we can expect.

SPANISH RIVER BAND.

Reserves.—The Spanish River Band is divided into three communities. The first division reside at Sahgamook, a beautiful point which runs out into the north channel on the south side of the Spanish River Reserve. The second reside on the reserve on the left bank of the Spanish River, and at Pogumasing and Biscotasing. The third live on the Manitoulin Island, and are under the charge of Indian Agent Sims of Manitowaning. The reserve contains an area of over thirty-seven square miles.

Tribe.—These Indians are Ojibbewas.

Population.—This band has a population (two divisions) of about three hundred and nineteen.

Health.—The health of this band of Indians has been generally very good, no disease or epidemic having appeared among them.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of this band are agriculture and fishing. These Indians follow farming, fishing, labouring, berry-picking and basket-making for a living, and appear to be prosperous and happy.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—They have good buildings, the best in the agency. Their stock is not very good. They have a few farming implements, but the department ordered two ploughs for them last spring, which have been a great assistance to them in their farming operations.

Education.—The Indians are taking a more active interest in educational matters. They have a school at Sahgamook, which is very well conducted by Mr. Swezey, who is, I believe, doing his best to prepare the rising generation to take a more advanced position in the country than their fathers could ever hope to attain. They have also a school at Spanish River, built on the site of one that was destroyed by fire last spring, which is a credit to them. They have also an excellent teacher at this school in the person of Miss Morley, whose school is, I think, second to none in the agency.

Religion.—Those of the first division are mostly Roman Catholics. Those of the second division are nearly all adherents of the Church of England.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are mostly quiet, industrious and law-abiding people.

Temperance.—As a rule, these people are temperate, and appear to take an interest in religious matters.

General Remarks.—These Indians are apparently happy and contented, and appear to be moving in the right direction.

I have, &c.,

SAMUEL HAGAN,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
WALPOLE ISLAND AGENCY,
WALLACEBURG, November 1, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit herewith my annual report on the Chippewas and Pottawattamies of Walpole Island for the year ended June 30, 1899.

A statistical statement for the same period will be forwarded in a separate letter, with census returns of both bands, showing the increase and decrease, the progress made in agriculture, &c., giving bushels raised, acres sown, stock improvements and increase.

Agriculture.—The crops raised this year were, as to quality, equal to any ever raised, but the quantity of wheat was short, not on account of the acreage sown, but on account of the very severe winter, the wheat having been killed sufficiently to lessen the bushels harvested at least one-quarter; but what there was, was equal to any wheat raised in Canada.

The corn was a very fine crop; oats, extra good; potatoes, in quality unexcelled, in quantity, owing to dry weather, rather short; all other roots and vegetables of such quantity and quality as to encourage all to become farmers, the exhibits at the fall fair, held in September, being equal in all respects to farm products shown at any of the fall fairs, township or county.

The weather this fall has been very favourable for sowing wheat, and that, together with the yield of the last harvest, has induced the people of the reserve to sow all the wheat they could, the result being a much larger acreage than usual.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—These people, as a whole, are not healthy, and they never will be healthy till more attention is given to the quality of the water they use; and, while they are surrounded by as good water as can be had in any country, yet those living inland, away from the river—and the majority are so situated—have no advantage from the river water, and they have no wells and are in the habit of using, as long as it lasts, the water in creeks, ditches and swamps—any water they can find—while, as the summer advances, the water in such places keeps getting scarcer and more foul, till it is finally—as was the case this year—all dried up; and the suffering for the want of water after it is all gone, together with the effects of using it while it remained, leaves them all, people and animals, in anything but a healthy state. And I submit that the disease among the pigs last year, which was called 'hog cholera,' was from the effects of the water they were obliged to use, and from no other cause.

Sanitary precautions, in the way of cleaning yards and outbuildings and using disinfectants, lime and other, and whitewashing outbuildings and houses last year and this, have had evident effect; but it is hard to make the Indians understand that free lime in quantities, sent out to the ferry and kept there for distribution, is of very much value, though there has been more inquiry for lime this year than last, as if they had noticed the effect to some extent of using lime.

The death-rate among the people was greater this year than last, but was perhaps more from the extreme cold of the winter than from any other cause, as it was to a great extent confined to the old people and the young children. Sickness and death among these two classes might be to a great extent obviated: if they could only be induced to bank up their houses in the fall and chink up and plaster over the cracks in the walls, between the logs, and keep the old and young warm, the death-rate would

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

be much less. All of this, and much more, has been repeatedly pointed out to them, but the habit of living as they have always lived is very hard to overcome.

Education.—So far as the school buildings, the school furniture, school-books and all other material are concerned, there is nothing to ask for. All school requirements, including wood for heating and good heaters, are furnished by the department promptly and liberally; but there is not interest enough taken by the parents in sending their children to school, and much of the labour of the teachers is lost in this way, as, if a pupil only goes to school when he chooses, the teaching of such a pupil must be very discouraging to the teacher, and there are too many such pupils.

Roads and Bridges.—The roads on the Walpole Island Reserve are, during the summer and during the cold weather in winter, very fine roads, kept moderately well by statute labour, and lead in all directions, so that almost every man on the reserve is the owner of a covered buggy or a democrat wagon, and can go on all the roads in these conveyances with perfect safety.

A new road has been laid out during the summer and will be completed soon, leading to the High Banks, where many people go for pleasure during the fine weather, that being a favourite resort for pleasure-seekers by land and water, the said new road being a cut-off of over a mile from the old road to the High Banks, and the location very much better. The making of this road involved the construction of a pile bridge over Big Creek, which has been completed and is a very substantial structure. The road itself is, for a good part of the way, located on a ridge of about one hundred feet in width, forming a natural road, with trees enough to make a shade in summer and a shelter in winter. It will be a beautiful drive, and will add materially to the attractions of the High Banks.

Agricultural Fair.—During the summer of 1898 an effort was made to get up an agricultural fair on the island, which was opposed by a portion of the Indians, but was insisted on by those who first inaugurated it, and carried out to a very successful conclusion, the management having succeeded in making money enough out of the attendance to pay all prizes and all expenses of every kind, and having a surplus of \$66.21 left. This encouraged them to try again, and another fair was held this fall, in September, which was a little more extensive and expensive than the first one, but which was not by any means a failure; and I have great hopes that the Indians will continue to have a fair every year and that before long they will have a building and grounds, so that they can exhibit to greater advantage than at present.

Ferries.—The ferries are all in good order and running, the one at the main ferry being self-sustaining, viz.: earning enough from outsiders to pay the cost of running itself, and ferrying the Indians free of cost.

I have, &c.,

ALEX. McKELVEY,
Indian Agent.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
ABENAKIS OF BECANCOUR,
BECANCOUR, July 24, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit herewith my annual report and tabular statement for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—The reserve of the Abenakis of Becancour is situated on the western bank of the Becancour River, in the parish of Becancour. It contains an area of one hundred and seventy-six acres.

Tribe.—The Indians of this reserve are Abenakis.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is forty-nine, consisting of twenty males and twenty-nine females. Of this number, sixteen are children.

During the year there were two deaths and one birth.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The sanitary condition of this band is good. Nevertheless, the population is steadily decreasing.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of this band consist of farming, making baskets and other fancy wares, hunting, work in the shanties, stream-driving, and acting as guides to American tourists.

Buildings, Furniture and Stock.—The houses and the furniture leave much to be desired.

This band, although very poorly provided with stock and agricultural implements, is adding to the number.

Education.—The school on the reserve has not been open this year, on account of the small attendance. However, the children have the privilege of attending a white school in the neighbourhood of the reserve, not more than five or six acres distant. Unfortunately, only one child made any real use of this opportunity.

Religion.—All the Indians of this band are Roman Catholics, and are under the spiritual care of the curé of the parish of Becancour, who acts as their missionary.

Characteristics.—Generally, these Indians are poor, and in a great measure this is owing to their improvidence. Nevertheless, they are fairly industrious.

Temperance and Morality.—Their morality is good; but, unfortunately, their thirst for spirituous liquor continues.

I have, &c.,

H. DESILETS,
Indian Agent.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,

ABENAKIS OF ST. FRANCIS,

St. FRANCOIS DU LAC, July 15, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Vital Statistics.—The Abenakis Band under my charge is composed of three hundred and seventy-four members, of whom three hundred and sixty-one are Abenakis, one a Montagnais, one an Abenakis from Becancour, three Amalecites from Viger, four half-breeds not members of the band, and four white men married to Indian women, residing on the reserve and following the Indian mode of life.

During the year there were two births and nine deaths.

The increase over last year in the number of the band is due to the return of some families who were residing in other portions of the province or out of the country.

Health.—There has been no contagious disease nor epidemic during the year, and most of the Indians enjoy good health.

Religion.—The Indians belong to various religious denominations, as follows:—two hundred and seventy-six Roman Catholics, sixty-seven Anglicans and thirty-one Adventists.

There is a Roman Catholic church on the reserve, under the charge of the Rev. Joseph de Gonzague, who is himself an Abenakis; also a Protestant church, under the charge of the Rev. Henri Loiselle.

Education.—Education is provided for the children of the band with the greatest care. Most of the Indians can read and write, and many members of the band have taken a course at college or in other superior educational establishments. There are two schools on the reserve: one, Roman Catholic, under the charge of the Rev. Sister St. Lawrence, and the other, Protestant, under the charge of the Rev. Henri Loiselle. These two schools are well conducted and afford an excellent education to a great number of children.

Occupation.—The principal occupation of the Abenakis is basket-making and fancy work, an industry in which they are very skilful. They make baskets all winter, and about the month of June most of the families disperse to various watering-places in the United States, especially to the Atlantic coast and the White Mountains, also in the province of Ontario, in order to sell their wares. They return in the fall. This is their chief source of revenue.

There are only from five to six families who hunt as well as make baskets; but what they make in this manner decreases more and more every year, as game is becoming more rare, and the Indians have now to go so far to get it.

Agriculture.—Agriculture is only a secondary occupation amongst the Abenakis of St. Francis, and there are only a few agricultural implements amongst the tribe. Some of the Indians do not even cultivate at all; others sow some vegetables, such as potatoes, Indian corn, beans, &c. Some families cultivate a little more, but the sale of their baskets, which obliges them to be away during most of the summer, prevents them giving to farming the necessary attention required for success. Moreover, the Indians do not like farming, and do not apply themselves to it.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Material Progress.—This year a nice wooden house was built on the reserve, and there is at present under construction a presbytery in brick which will cost from \$1,500 to \$2,000. There are also on the reserve a good many fine houses; many of them are very comfortable, and the Abenakis village, situated on the picturesque banks of the River St. Francis, presents a very pretty aspect, even rivalling in this respect many of the French-Canadian villages.

Temperance and Morality.—Troubles caused by the use of intoxicating liquor have been few during the year, and, as a general rule, the morality of the Indians is good.

They are well civilized, and live in harmony and on good terms with the surrounding white population.

I have, &c.,

A. O. COMIRE,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
ALGONQUINS OF RIVER DESERT,
MANIWAKI, July 28, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—This 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.

Vital Statistics.—The present population is three hundred and ninety-six, consisting of ninety-four men, one hundred and ten women, and one hundred and ninety-two children, being an increase of seven, the result of twelve births and five deaths during the year. The causes of death were as follows: one of old age, one killed by the fall of a tree in the woods, and three of infantile diseases.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians of this band has been fairly good; no epidemic or disease of a contagious nature visited them during the year. The sanitary regulations have been strictly observed.

Resources and Occupation.—The land is fertile and well adapted for agriculture, but the best portion of the reserve is still unoccupied, as the Indians are settled along the Desert front and Gatineau front, and Bitobee Stream, the flats of which are flooded every spring, which prevents the early sowing of crops.

The chief occupations of these Indians are shantying, stream-driving and hunting. The older members of this band still adhere to their ancient custom of hunting; but the younger men have given up hunting, and have turned their attention to other industries for a livelihood.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There have been one new house and three new barns erected since my last report. And there have been purchased three ploughs, one wagon, two democrat wagons, two horse-rakes and other implements, and three buggies, one of them a covered double buggy, purchased by Peter Tenesco, which is valued at \$95.

Education.—There is one school on the reserve, taught by Miss Annie O'Connor. The children who attend school are doing very well, but the attendance is small. Along

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

with the carelessness of the Indians in attending school, the school is not properly situated to serve any section; but as the department is proposing to build a new school-house in a more suitable place, I expect better results in the future.

Religion.—The Indians on this reserve are Roman Catholics, and attend the Oblate mission church at Maniwaki. They are attentive to their religious duties, and are very enthusiastic in all matters appertaining to religion.

Characteristics and Progress.—There has been considerable progress made in farming during the year. Thirteen acres of new land has been cleared up, and over thirty acres of old meadow land was broken last fall, which is a new departure in Indian farming, as the Indian, when he gets the land in meadow, is content to leave it so, and in some cases it reverts back into groves. Of the thirty acres broken last fall, nearly one-half was broken by John White Duck's boys, which speaks well for them, as their father has always been a hunter and was never included among the farming Indians of Maniwaki.

One head chief and two councillors were elected on June 24 for the ensuing three years, and I consider they have been well chosen. Their names are: John Tenesco, head chief; Benjamin Chellifoux and Simon Otjik, councillors.

Temperance and Morality.—I regret to say that intemperance is the greatest hindrance to the progress of the Indians of Maniwaki, and it is almost impossible to check the evil, as they will contrive by some means to obtain liquor.

The morals of the Indians for the past year have not been of a high standard; but the guilty parties in each case have been old offenders. The morals of the young people are good, and no case of immorality has come to my notice amongst them.

I have, &c.,

W. J. McCAFFREY,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,

ALGONQUINS OF TEMISCAMINGUE,

NORTH TEMISCAMINGUE, June 30, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my annual report and statistical statement for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—The Temiscamingue Reserve is situated on the north bank of the River Quinzai, 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 were surrendered for the benefit of the band in May, 1898, leaving an area of fifteen thousand three hundred and ninety acres for the use of the band.

Vital Statistics.—During the past year there have been seven births and four deaths. The population is one hundred and ninety.

Health.—During last winter there was a great deal of sickness among the Indians—grippe, colds and other diseases—but no deaths resulted therefrom. At present the condition of health is fair.

Occupation.—The chief occupations of these Indians are farming, fishing and fur-hunting. The fur-bearing animals are on the decrease, owing a great deal to the presence of settlers all through the country now. Farming has not been pushed to any extent, but the prospects of the future are bright. The Indians during the summer

engage in building canoes, and occasionally act as guides for tourists and sportsmen. Otherwise there is not much chance to earn anything.

Education.—There is one school on the reserve. The teacher, Mrs. M. Malone (formerly Miss M. Legge), is efficient and attentive to her duties.

The school is well equipped with all requisites. The attendance is not as good as formerly; the result is, that the progress of the pupils is not so good.

The number of children attending school is forty-nine, twenty-six boys and twenty-three girls. The average attendance is thirty.

Religion.—The Indians on this reserve are all Roman Catholics. They have a neat church, furnished in modern style. The church property is neatly inclosed by a substantial fence.

Temperance.—There has been a great deal of liquor used of late. The Indians seem to be able to obtain it too easily.

General Remarks.—There is at present in construction a saw-mill, by Dr. Bourbonnais, on the surrendered portion of the reserve. The work is being rapidly pushed ahead, and before long will be completed and in running order, which will be of great benefit to the Indians on the reserve: it will enable them to build, also to get some employment.

I have, &c.,

A. McBRIDE,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,

AMALECITES OF VIGER,

CACOUNA, July 8, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit my annual report, accompanied by tabular statement, in regard to the Amalecites of Viger, for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Vital Statistics.—There are one hundred and eleven Indians on this reserve. There were two deaths and one birth.

Health.—There has not been any contagious disease on the reserve except some cases of grippe; and sanitary regulations have been well observed.

Occupation.—The chief occupation of these Indians is making baskets of different kinds, and other fancy articles (the latter are made by the women), which they sell to white people in the summer. The men engage a little in fishing and hunting, and make snowshoes in winter; and they disperse into different parts of the country, sometimes a long way from here. They live a short time in many places. They are always very poor. The Government is good enough to supply provisions from time to time to the sick and to the most destitute among them, so that they may not starve, and they are very content.

Education.—The children attend school regularly and also the convent; but there are only a few children on the reserve.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians of the Amalecite Band are very temperate, except in a few cases, and they are pure-minded, especially the women.

I have, &c.,

EDOUARD BEAULIEU,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
HURONS OF LORETTE,

JEUNE LORETTE, July 15, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit my annual report and tabular statement respecting the Huron tribe and other Indians of my agency for the year ended June 30, last.

Reserves.—Nothing has changed in these reserves since my last report. The Huron tribe still owns three reserves : (1) that of the village of Lorette, thirty acres ; (2) the one called ' Quarante Arpents,' containing thirteen hundred and fifty-two acres; and (3) the Rocmont Reserve, in the county of Portneuf, containing an area of fifteen square miles, equal to nine thousand six hundred acres. These three reserves embrace a total area of ten thousand nine hundred and ninety acres.

The privilege of cutting pine and spruce timber on this reserve is at present leased to Mr. H. Atkinson, lumber dealer, who intends letting it remain as at present for several years, until the damage done on the River Ste. Anne, some years ago, shall have been repaired. The right to cut timber is renewable annually.

The question of the surrender of the reserve called ' Quarante Arpents' is at present being considered.

The village of Lorette, where the greater part of the Hurons reside, retains its air of antiquity, which is admired by visitors.

Population.—There were eleven births in the Huron tribe this year and four deaths, bringing the total population up to four hundred and forty-eight, which is an increase of seven. The population is composed of one hundred and thirty-two men, one hundred and thirty-two women, and one hundred and eighty-four children.

My agency also takes in the counties of Quebec, Montmorency and Charlevoix, through which the Indians are scattered as follows :—

1. Thirty-four Amalecites residing in the parish of St. Pierre de Charlesbourg, county of Quebec, live a wandering life, without apparent progress. These Indians work by the day, and do a little hunting and fishing. Some of them work in ash-wood, make baskets, and live in some way from day to day. Nine men, eleven women, and fourteen children make up this little community, scattered here and there in the county of Quebec.

2. Nineteen Abenakis also reside in Quebec County, and work for the whites on their farms. They also make Indian fancy work and canoes. They live fairly comfortably. Five men, five women and nine children form this group.

3. Another lot of Abenakis reside at St. Urbain, in the county of Charlevoix. These Indians own several acres of land which they bought, but which do not bring them in enough for their support. Each year the department is obliged to come to their aid. According to the last report, this little community is composed of eight men, eight women, and seven children, in all, twenty-three.

The total number of the Indian population in my agency is, therefore, five hundred and twenty-four.

Occupation.—As I have mentioned in my previous reports, in a general manner, the Huron Indians do little, if any, farming. The fact is, that for long years, when the local industry—the making of snowshoes, moccasins and Indian fancy work—was

very prosperous and remunerative, the thought of farming was entirely out of the minds of the Hurons, which were altogether given to the art in which they had almost an absolute monopoly. Afterwards in hunting and fishing, accompanying numbers of tourists who frequent the region of Lake St. John, its forests and its lakes, the Indians found sufficient pecuniary returns to enable them to live comfortably. They naturally turn from farming, which requires hard work and is less remunerative, not to speak of the reverses in the industry, in which to-day there is a competition that would be ruinous to the Indians. The enthusiasm of last year, which made these Indians imagine that their success would continue, particularly blinded their foresight, and this year, compared with last year, the making of snowshoes and moccasins was nearly nil. Had it not been for the introduction into the village of a new work, the making of canvas canoes, many families would have found themselves in discouraging want. It is probable that it was this that brought some of the Indians to favour the surrender of the reserve called 'Quarante Arpents,' in order that, being the better able by the surrender of this reserve in lots to become individual owners of the lots so surrendered, to improve them and to draw from them the means of support, they should find as an offset to the difficulty of making a living the assistance that they had formerly, many years ago, found in the cultivation of the soil.

The making of fancy wares, necessarily neglected last year owing to the rage for making snowshoes and moccasins, has been more profitable this year, and the revenue from that source will be triple that of last year. A stock was prepared during the winter, and the families started off, encouraged, to the watering-places, where they generally go to sell their wares.

Some of our Hurons, as usual, did a little hunting last winter. The results, under the circumstances, have been fairly satisfactory. However, hunting is always more and more difficult, owing to the restrictions placed by the Provincial Government on the hunting and fishing districts. Several Hurons have also acted as guides to tourists during the course of the year, although not so many as usual.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The population of the Huron village is always in exceptionally good condition, from a hygienic point of view, thanks to preventive measures taken several years ago, through the adoption of regulations approved by the Governor General in Council in 1895. There has not been any contagious disease, a fact certainly due to the manner in which the village is kept.

Education.—The girls' class, under the charge of Miss Elizabeth St. Amand, has given most satisfactory results, and the progress made by the pupils in the various branches of study (grammar, geography, arithmetic, English and history) has been really surprising. I regret to add that the boys' class is altogether defective, owing to the advanced age of the teacher, and the defects of her method, resulting in a regrettable lack of discipline. Everything otherwise is in perfect order in both classes, the furniture, comfort, equipment of books, &c.

Religion.—Abbé Guillaume Giroux still conducts all the services in the chapel of the Huron village, which, with the exception of four of its members, professes the Roman Catholic religion. The other small Indian communities in my agency also profess the Roman Catholic religion.

Morality and Temperance.—The Huron population has certainly been exemplary in the observance of the laws of temperance and morality. There is not at present any disorder whatsoever, and there is no need to interfere with liquor-sellers in order to prevent the sale of strong drink, which used to cause trouble in past years.

Condition of the Huron Tribe.—The local industry, as I have stated above, being almost completely lacking last year, there naturally followed a deprivation in the comfort that the Hurons were able to procure in a year of abundance, such as in the previous year. Nevertheless, owing to economy practised on a large scale, they generally avoided running too much into debt, and I believe that the results of this bad year will not be too unfortunate. Work has seemed to improve during the last months of the present term, and the demand for snowshoes and moccasins has been greater.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

I observe also, with pleasure, that the emulation among our young men is becoming more and more marked in a good sense, and that each one is doing all in his power to be prepared to meet whatever may happen in life.

Death of Grand Chief Philippe Vincent 'Teonoatasta'.—The Huron tribe, which, in the month of December, 1897, had the misfortune to lose its grand chief, Maurice Sebastien 'Ahgnionlen,' whose name will ever remain fresh in the memory of the members of the tribe, lost, in the end of December, 1898, its other grand chief, Philippe Vincent 'Teonoatasta,' who had occupied this position for only eighteen months. The late Mr. Vincent, imitating the qualities of his distinguished predecessor, showed himself at all times devoted to his fellow-countrymen. A large manufacturer, he knew how to distribute work and to pay well for it. An honest man, skilful and experienced, he occupied in the Indian industry a remarkable position, and his death happening so suddenly (Mr. Vincent was only fifty-nine years of age), has created in the tribe a void that it will be difficult to fill. He was one of the most perfect of Huron types.

I have, &c.,

ANTOINE O. BASTIEN,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,

IROQUOIS OF CAUGHNAWAGA,

CAUGHNAWAGA, August 31, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith my report for the year ended June 30 last, on the Iroquois of Caughnawaga, also statistical statement for the same period.

Reserve.—The reserve contains an area of twelve thousand three hundred and twenty-seven acres, of which about four hundred is in timber, and the remainder under cultivation or in pasturage. In general, the soil is of good quality.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of four hundred and ninety-two men, four hundred and seventy-two women and one thousand and thirty-one children under twenty-one years of age. There were ninety-seven births and sixty-six deaths during the year, making an increase of thirty-one by birth and five by the return of absent Indians.

Health.—The health of the Indians has been good. There was no epidemic on the reserve during the year.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of the reserve consist of agriculture, making bead-work, lacrosses and snowshoes. Many of the Indians engage in farming; others take rafts down the Lachine Rapids, where several are employed as pilots. Some work for the Iron Bridge Company at Lachine, and others for the Hydraulic Company of Lachine. The general industry of the Indians is the making of bead-work, lacrosses and snowshoes.

Buildings and Agricultural Implements.—Most of the buildings of the Indians are very comfortable; and the farmers provide themselves with agricultural implements.

Education.—There are on the reserve four hundred and fifty-one children of school age. Of this number, about two hundred attend school very irregularly, and their

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

progress leaves much to be desired. There are two Roman Catholic schools: one for the boys, under a master, and one for the girls, under a mistress and an assistant; and one Methodist school for boys and girls, under a mistress.

Religion.—There is a Roman Catholic church on the reserve, and there are two missionaries to conduct the services. The Methodists worship in the school-house, and they have no resident clergyman on the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians are industrious and skilful; but there has been very little visible improvement in their habits.

Temperance.—Temperance has certainly not made progress during the year.

General Remarks.—The affairs of the band generally are satisfactory, and the Indians are quiet.

I have, &c.,

A. BROSSÉAU,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,

IROQUOIS OF ST. REGIS,

St. REGIS, August 8, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the banks of the St. Lawrence River, opposite the town of Cornwall, Ontario, including 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.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of three hundred and eighteen men, three hundred and seven women, three hundred and seventy-seven boys and three hundred and thirty-five girls, or a total of thirteen hundred and thirty-seven. There were forty-nine births and thirty-four deaths, making an increase of fifteen.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There has not been any contagious disease, except some cases of consumption. Sanitary regulations are well observed. The Indians are quite tidy in keeping their houses and premises in good order.

Occupation.—These Indians engage in farming, hunting, fishing, trapping, acting as guides for tourists, running rafts of timber, day labour with farmers and on railways; also manufacturing lacrosse sticks, and basket-making, to a large extent.

Buildings.—In addition to their dwelling-houses, these Indians have horse and cattle stables, barns and storehouses.

Stock.—They have a good number of stock, both horses and cattle. They have also pigs and poultry.

Farming Implements.—These Indians are well equipped with farming implements and tools, including ploughs, harrows, seed-drills, cultivators, land-rollers, mowers, reapers, horse-rakes, fanning-mills, threshing-machines, tool chests, wagons, carts, buggies and sleighs.

Education.—There are two schools in operation on the reserve, one on Cornwall Island, and the other in St. Regis village.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Religion.—There are two churches on the reserve, one Roman Catholic, and one Methodist. There are twelve hundred and nine Roman Catholics and one hundred and twenty-eight Methodists. The Indians take much interest in their church matters, and their missionaries are very attentive to their wants.

Characteristics and Progress.—Some of the Indians on the reserve are taking quite an interest in farming. The progressing ones are Mitchel Benedict, Louis Benedict, Thomas White, Mitchel Bova, Peter Colwell, Mitchell Jacob, Mitchel Leaf and others, on Cornwall Island; on St. Regis Island: John Skettis, John David, Louis Thompson, John Thompson, John Sawatis, Angus Papineau and others.

At St. Regis village, Peter Day has built an oven, and is running a bakery; makes good bread, which will be very convenient and a benefit for the Indians. It is hoped that he may be successful.

Temperance.—There are Indians who make use of strong drink. They and their friends across the border, when they meet, make the night hideous.

Morality.—The morality of the members of this band is very good.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE LONG,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,

LAKE OF TWO MOUNTAINS BAND,

CAUGHNAWAGA, August 31, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith my report on the Lake of Two Mountains Band for the year ended June 30, last; also statistical statement for the same period.

Reserve.—The land occupied by the Indians of Oka is very scattered: it is impossible to give the exact area; however, most of it is under cultivation.

Population.—The population of this band is about four hundred and thirty, consisting of one hundred and six men, ninety-six women and two hundred and twenty-eight children; out of this number, eighty are of an age to attend school. There has not been any great increase in the band.

Health.—There has not been any epidemic on the reserve during the year.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of the Indians consist of agriculture, making bead-work, and employment in the shanties; and the Indians engage in all these occupations. There is no industry carried on in any remarkable degree.

Buildings and Agricultural Implements.—Most of their buildings are very mediocre, and they have very few agricultural implements.

Education.—The children attend school very regularly.

Religion.—Most of the Indians are Methodists; the rest are Roman Catholics. They are all much attached to their religion.

General Remarks.—The affairs of the band in general appeared to me to be fairly satisfactory.

I have, &c.,

A. BROSSEAU,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,

MICMACS OF MARIA,

MARIA, June 30, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and statement of statistics for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—The reserve of the Micmacs of Maria is situated on the west side of the Great Cascapedia, and is washed on the south by the waters of the Baie des Chaleurs. It contains an area of four hundred and sixteen acres.

Population.—The number of the Indians this year is only eighty-six. This is a decrease of six from last year.

Sanitary Condition.—There has been much ill health among the Indians this year, consisting of grippe, consumption, &c.; and several deaths. More than half the children die at a very early age, and consumption carries off most of the old people.

Education.—The old Indians have little, if any, education. The younger generation of to-day can read, write and count a little. They owe their education to the good school that they attend. Decided progress is observed every year.

Religion.—The Indians are all Roman Catholics. They were converted to the true faith by the first missionaries to the country, and they have remained firmly attached to their religion. Apostasy among the Micmacs is a thing unheard of.

They have a nice little church, where they meet every Sunday to pray, and to sing hymns in their mother tongue, when they cannot attend the holy sacrifice of the mass at Maria.

Temperance.—The habits of the Indians are good, as a rule, and there is little vice among them. Nevertheless, they all have a decided taste for strong drink: they would be drunkards, if they were not so poor, and if they could obtain liquor easily.

Occupation.—The Indians do a little farming, hunting and fishing. They also work in the shanties, in the 'drive' of the logs, as guides to sportsmen on the rivers, and they work for the farmers. In winter they make moccasins, snowshoes, baskets, snow-shovels and a lot of small articles, which they sell to white people.

If they were not so often ill, and if they were more provident, they might live without trouble.

I have, &c.,

J. GAGNE, Priest,
Indian Agent.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,

MICMACS OF RESTIGOUCHE,

ST. ALEXIS DE METAPEDIA, August 26, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the northern bank of the Restigouche River, in the county of Bonaventure, province of Quebec. It contains an area of about eight thousand eight hundred and fifty acres, of which six hundred and ninety-four is under cultivation.

Vital Statistics.—The population is five hundred and forty-one. During the year there were thirty-two births and twelve deaths.

Health.—The health of the Indians is good. There is no infectious disease amongst them at present. Last winter there were some cases of grippe.

Religion.—All the Indians on this reserve are Roman Catholics. They have a church. The Reverend Capuchin Fathers reside amongst them, and give them a great deal of care.

Education.—The school is under the charge of Miss Mary Isaac, an Indian of this reserve, who holds a first-class certificate. She teaches English, French and Micmac. The progress is satisfactory. Unfortunately there is a lack of assiduity.

Resources and Occupation.—The Indians do a little farming, work in the shanties, at rafting, and in loading vessels, in all of which work they are very skilful. As a rule, they earn good wages. It is unfortunate that they are so improvident.

Agriculture.—Some of them are beginning to pay more attention to farming. The reverend fathers and I never fail to encourage them to cultivate their lands, which are very fertile, and thus to save their money.

Temperance.—Many of the Indians are addicted to strong drink, notwithstanding the fact that we do not fail to punish them whenever we find them in a state of intoxication.

Morality.—An improvement in morality would be desirable. The proximity of the little town of Campbellton has much to answer for in this matter, as well as in respect to intemperance.

Characteristics.—The Indians are usually of good character; at least, when they are sober, they are very industrious.

I have, &c.,

JEREMIE PITRE,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,

MONTAGNAIS OF LOWER ST. LAWRENCE,

ESCOUMAINS, July 10, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

ESCOUMAINS BAND.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and statistical statement for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the south-west side of Escoumains River, on the north shore of the St. Lawrence, and comprises an area of ninety-seven acres, of which fifty are cleared, including natural pasturage.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are all of the Montagnais nation.

Vital Statistics.—The population is thirty-five, consisting of eight men, eight women and nineteen children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good all this year; there was no disease or epidemic of any kind in the band. Houses and premises are kept clean.

Occupation.—The chief occupation of these Indians is fur-hunting. The farming consists in planting some potatoes and sowing a little oats. The Indians also kill a few seals.

Buildings and Stock.—The band possesses four houses, built of wood. Of stock, these Indians have two horses and two cows.

Education.—There is no school on the reserve. None of the Indians can read or write, except their own language. Nearly all of them can speak French.

Religion.—All these Indians are Roman Catholics. They have no church on the reserve; they attend divine service in the parish of Escoumains.

Progress.—They are all law-abiding, but though seemingly industrious, their condition remains the same.

Temperance and Morality.—All these Indians are very temperate; none are addicted to the use of intoxicants; and all are very moral in other ways.

BERSIMIS BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the Bersimis River, on the north shore of the St. Lawrence, county of Saguenay. The area is sixty-three thousand one hundred acres.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are of the Montagnais nation.

Vital Statistics.—The population is four hundred and fifty-one, comprising one hundred and twenty-five men, one hundred and thirty-four women, one hundred and ninety-two children. There were twenty-five births and thirteen deaths in the band during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians, in general, for the year has been fairly good. There was no epidemic in the band. The houses and premises are kept clean.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Occupation.—The chief occupation of the Indians of this band is fur-hunting. They do not farm; only two or three plant a few bushels of potatoes.

Buildings and Stock.—The band possesses thirty-four houses, built of wood, some of them fairly comfortable. Of stock, these Indians have two horses, five milch cows, and three heifers.

Education.—There is no school on the reserve. None of the Indians can read or write, except their own language. Many of them can speak French, but none English.

Religion.—All the Indians of this band are Roman Catholics. They have a very good and pretty little church on the reserve. Three Catholic missionaries live permanently on the reserve.

Progress.—I do not think the Indians of this band made any progress during the past year. Some are indolent.

Temperance and Morality.—Many are addicted to strong drink, and will, when they get the chance, imbibe freely. The morality, so far as I can discern, compares favourably with that of other bands.

I have, &c.,

ADOLPHE GAGNON,
Indian Agent.

NEW BRUNSWICK,
NORTH-EASTERN DIVISION,
RICHIBUCTO, July 6, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I beg to submit my annual report for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Location of Agency.—This agency is in north-eastern New Brunswick, and embraces the reserves in the counties of Restigouche, Gloucester, Kent, Northumberland and Westmoreland.

Reserves.—The reserves are: Eel River Reserve, in Restigouche County; Bathurst, St. Peter's Island and Pockmouche Reserves in Gloucester County; Burnt Church Tabusintac, Eel Ground, Red Bank, Indian Point, Big Hole and Renous Reserves, in Northumberland County; Big Cove, Indian Island and Buctouche Reserves, in Kent County, and Shediac and Fort Folly Reserves, in Westmoreland County. These reserves contain about thirty-four thousand acres. Big Hole, Red Bank, Tabusintac and Bathurst are well wooded. The soil of Big Cove, Eel Ground, Tabusintac, Buctouche, and portions of the other reserves, are very fertile. There are valuable fishing privileges in connection with Bathurst and Big Hole Reserves.

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 population of this agency is nine hundred and fifty-six, an increase of nineteen since my last report. Of these, two hundred and seventy-seven are adult males, and two hundred and sixty-five are adult females. There are two hundred and eight males and two hundred and six females under the age of twenty-one years. The greater number of the Indians live on the reserves. A number, engaged chiefly in the manufacture and sale of Indian wares, have settled at various points along the

Intercolonial Railway, where they have better opportunities of shipping and disposing of their wares. The Indians of Pockmouche and Tabusintac have deserted these reserves and joined the Burnt Church Band. There are but two families left on the Bathurst Reserve, the others having settled on St. Peter's Island, nearer the town. Most of the Eel River Band have left their reserve and settled at New Mills and other stations on the Intercolonial Railway, where they can more easily obtain employment. The Indians of Indian Point, Big Hole and Renous Reserves several years ago left these places and settled on the Red Bank and Eel Ground Reserves. Only four Indian families remain at Fort Folly. Shediac Reserve is also unoccupied.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—During the winter and spring there was much sickness, and many deaths occurred. The death-rate was unusually heavy among the Burnt Church Indians, due principally to pneumonia and consumption. There have been no epidemics during the year. Precautions were taken in the early spring to remove or destroy all filth and garbage that had accumulated near the Indian dwellings during the winter. Many of the Indians lime-washed their dwellings thoroughly, inside and outside.

Occupation.—The principal pursuits are agriculture, fishing, lumbering, and the manufacture of Indian wares. All the Indians engage in the manufacture of baskets, tubs and other articles. Many of the Eel River, Eel Ground and Red Bank Indians work in the lumber woods in the winter, and in rafting and stream-driving in the spring. The Indians of Burnt Church, Big Cove and Indian Island engage extensively in fishing. All do more or less farming.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The majority of the Indians occupy small frame houses. Those settled off the reserves live in shanties. They keep very little stock and very few farming implements.

Education.—The Indians are beginning to take more interest in the education of their children. There are three schools, attended by about one hundred pupils. These schools are located at Big Cove, Eel Ground and Burnt Church. A number of the Indian children of the other reserves attend neighbouring white schools.

Religion.—The Indians of this agency are all Roman Catholics. They are very regular in their attendance at divine service, and otherwise exhibit a strong interest in their religion. They have churches at Eel Ground, Burnt Church, Red Bank, Big Cove, Indian Island and Fort Folly.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians, as a rule, are peaceable and law-abiding, careless, indolent and improvident. It is useless to urge them to try to improve their condition. In winter and spring there is often much destitution among them, owing to their improvident manner of living.

Temperance and Morality.—There is a marked improvement of late years in the matter of temperance. Considering the condition and manner of living of these Indians, they are remarkably free from immorality.

I have, &c.,

WM. D. CARTER,
Indian Superintendent.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

NEW BRUNSWICK,

NORTHERN DIVISION,

FREDERICTON, July 20, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

EDMUNDSTON BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated in Madawaska County, half a mile below the mouth of the Madawaska River. It contains between four and five hundred acres of land, two-thirds of which are under wood; the remainder, being high and intervalle lands, is cleared and of excellent quality.

Vital Statistics.—The population comprises only seven families, consisting of eighteen males and seventeen females, a decrease of five for the year.

Occupation.—The pursuits engaged in by the members of this band are hunting, milling, the sale of Indian wares, acting as guides, and farming. With the exception of two families, these Indians are paying more attention to farming than in former years. The hay and other crops, consisting chiefly of oats, buckwheat and potatoes, were a fair average.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians has been remarkably good, there being but one death during the year, and that a very aged person. As directed by the department, all winter refuse was removed from their premises in May last.

Temperance and Morals.—The conduct of the Indians in respect to temperance and morality gives entire satisfaction.

Religion.—All the members of this band are Roman Catholics. Their spiritual affairs are attended to by the Rev. L. C. Damour, of Edmundston village.

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 has an area of about sixteen thousand acres. It runs for a distance of eight miles parallel with the River St. John, and from four to five miles in depth. With the exception of about two hundred acres of farming lands, the reserve consists of wilderness lands. This reserve is noted for the quantity of fine lumber that has been removed therefrom for many years past.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is two hundred and four, and consists of ninety-six males and one hundred and eight females, an increase of two compared with last year's report.

Occupation.—This is a large lumbering district, and the Tobique River is one of the finest localities in New Brunswick for salmon fishing. The employment of Indians as guides is, at all seasons of the year, in good demand. Those not engaged in this business devote their labours to lumbering in the woods, running rafts to Fredericton, stream-driving, selling Indian wares, and doing a certain amount of farming, from which good wages are derived.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Farming.—Agriculture, practically speaking, is not agreeable to their character. The land for farming is of excellent quality. Their operations in this line were the planting of potatoes and the sowing of oats and buckwheat, all of which, when harvested, were an average crop.

Temperance and Morals.—Most of the members of this band are free from the use of intoxicants. A few of them will at times indulge in their use. Owing to the cunning and reserved nature of Indians, it is impossible to ascertain from whom they procure liquor. The persons engaged in this business seldom sell direct to them; as a rule, it is procured in an indirect way from persons not engaged in this traffic. The great majority of the Indians are strictly moral and of good habits.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The dwellings of the Indians, for the most part, are of modern style, neatly painted and finished both inside and outside. The two aqueducts recently erected by authority of the department, furnish the whole band with a plentiful supply of pure spring water for all purposes. This improvement must in future prove beneficial to the health of the Indians. During the year no epidemic affected the band. Quite a number of deaths, however, occurred, which, in most cases, must be attributed to the disease that is very prevalent amongst the Indians, namely, consumption.

Education.—The school, during the year, was under the supervision of Miss Edith O'Brien, a competent teacher. During the term there were enrolled on the register from eighteen to twenty pupils. The studies taught embraced primer, spelling, reading, writing, drawing, arithmetic, geography, &c. The attendance, in most cases, was very regular; in others, the same cannot be said. This neglect is largely due to the parents, who fail to manifest that lively interest in educational affairs they should.

Religion.—The Indians of this band are all Roman Catholics. The church where they worship is situated on the reserve. It is their own property. It has a seating capacity for the whole band. It is neatly finished throughout, and is frequently visited by strangers, who admire its finish and general appearance. The spiritual affairs of the Indians are attended to by the Rev. M. A. O'Keefe, who manifests a warm interest in their spiritual and temporal affairs.

General Remarks.—In concluding my remarks, I am pleased to report that the members of this band are a peaceful and law-abiding people, and in their associations command the respect of their white neighbours.

I have, &c.,

JAMES FARRELL,
Indian Agent.

NEW BRUNSWICK,
SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION,
FREDERICTON, July 21, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

WOODSTOCK BAND.

Reserve.—The Indians of this band reside on their reserve, three miles below the town of Woodstock, and at Upper Woodstock.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Population.—The population is sixty-nine, a decrease of eight; that number having removed from the locality. The band consists of twenty-nine males and forty females.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Their dwellings are of an inferior kind. The surroundings are clean. The health of the Indians has been remarkably good, there having been but one death, that of a child, during the past year.

Occupation.—Their occupation is chiefly confined to the manufacture of Indian wares, only a few engaging in manual labour. Their wares are disposed of in Woodstock and vicinity at fair prices.

Farming.—Although they have sufficient farming lands, they give but little attention to this industry; they raise only a few potatoes and vegetables to supply their immediate wants.

Education.—There is a school within a half mile of the reserve, that is conducted under the regulations of this province. Frequently I have advised the Indians to take advantage of this opportunity and send their children to school; but they refuse to do so.

Religion.—All are Roman Catholics. Their spiritual affairs are attended to by the Rev. William Chapman, parish priest of Woodstock. The members of this band are peaceable, law-abiding and of good habits.

KINGSCLEAR BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve fronts on the River St. John, eleven miles distant from Fredericton. It contains an area of four hundred and sixty acres, including wood and farming lands.

Population.—The total number in the band is ninety-eight, consisting of fifty males and forty-eight females.

Occupation.—The industries engaged in by these Indians are: farming, selling Indian wares, rafting lumber, stream-driving, &c. For their services as labourers they usually earn from \$1 to \$1.25 per day. Their wares are sold amongst farmers in the vicinity of the reserve; the remainder are disposed of to the merchants of Fredericton, only, however, at fair prices, owing to the market being at most times overstocked.

Hunting and Fishing.—This business is not engaged in to any extent by members of this band.

Farming.—The farming land of this reserve is upland, and well adapted for the raising of all kinds of crops. For years it has been farmed without sufficient manure; consequently, in places the soil is run out. In other parts of the reserve, owing to the quality of the soil, the land is more productive. On these spots the Indians do their farming. A few of the band, who keep more or less stock, raise very fair crops of all kinds. The seeds supplied, and which were considered most useful to them, were potatoes, oats and buckwheat; and, considering the time devoted to the care and harvesting of them, the crops, especially the potatoes, were a good yield, and proved useful for their families' support.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the band for most of the year was very good. Last winter, however, the majority of the Indians were visited by a severe epidemic of grippe, which caused, for the time being, much suffering and destitution. Happily, all survived their sickness without fatal results. Sanitary measures, as directed by the department, were attended to in the month of May last. The locality is favourably situated in the interest of health, having in connection therewith good drainage and a good supply of pure water for domestic purposes. During the year the Indians have made many improvements to their dwellings by rebuilding, shingling and replastering.

Temperance and Morals.—The members of this band, with very rare exceptions, are strictly temperate and of good morals.

Education.—The school on this reserve is taught by Miss Francis McGinn. The school is well equipped with the necessary material for the instruction and comfort of the pupils. All children of a suitable age attend school. No children attending are permitted to absent themselves without extra good cause. The number of pupils enrolled on the register for the year was twenty-three. These showed an average of over twenty-one for the three first quarters of the term, and a total average of nineteen for the year. The falling-off in the last quarter of the term is due to the migratory removal of the Indians from the reserve in June last. All the children, I am pleased to report, are making rapid progress in their respective studies.

Religion.—All the members of this band are Roman Catholics. The church where they worship is on the reserve. The priest's house is also close to the church. To his untiring zeal must be largely attributed the well-being of the band.

ST. MARY'S BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band contains but two and a quarter acres of land, and is situated in the parish of St. Mary's, directly opposite to the city of Fredericton.

Population.—The population is one hundred and five, consisting of sixty males and forty-five females, a decrease of two for the year.

Occupation.—The members of this band derive their living from the manufacture of Indian wares, acting as guides, manual labour about the city, in saw-mills, loading deals, and other river work, for which they receive fair wages. A few follow the hunt and fishing at regular seasons of the year.

Farming.—This industry, owing to the limited area of the reserve, is confined to a few of the band who have garden patches in connection with their dwellings. The produce raised is principally vegetables; also a few oats, the latter being raised on lands of white neighbours.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The reserve is neat and clean, all winter refuse having been removed therefrom last spring. The health of the Indians is good, and no disease of an infectious or contagious nature made its appearance among the Indians during the year.

Temperance and Morals.—Owing to the situation of this reserve, its close proximity to the terminus of the Fredericton and St. Mary's passenger bridge, the liquor traffic in the vicinity of the reserve and the element that daily congregates in this locality, a number of the band at times are tempted to indulge in the use of intoxicants that often lead to irregularities on the reserve; and while every means to remedy this evil is resorted to in order to abate this habit, for the reasons stated it is difficult to induce the Indians to mend their ways. To the credit of another section of the band, I am pleased to report that they avoid intemperance and are of good moral habits.

Education.—The school is under the supervision of Miss M. I. Rush, and has been regularly taught during the year. The members of this band are more or less indifferent to educational affairs; therefore, the attendance at certain times is not as regular as it should be. Those children, however, that give more attention to their schooling are making fair progress.

Religion.—All the Indians of this band profess the Roman Catholic faith.

OROMOCTO BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated eleven miles below the city of Fredericton, and fronts on the River St. John. It contains one hundred and twenty-five acres of land, thirty of which are used as farming lands, the remainder being mostly woodland.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Population.—The total number in this band is ninety : or fifty males and forty females, an increase of fourteen during the year.

Occupation.—The principal occupation of these Indians is the manufacture of all kinds of Indian wares, which are disposed of to traders at Oromocto and well-to-do farmers in the vicinity of the reserve, at fair prices.

Farming.—The land of this reserve is well adapted for raising crops, especially potatoes and grain. The principal seeds supplied were potatoes, all of which were neatly planted, and properly looked after during the hoeing season; and I am pleased to report that each family raised from three-quarters of an acre from sixty to seventy-five bushels of potatoes. A part of these were sold last fall, and the money raised therefrom was devoted to the purchase of provisions, each Indian keeping sufficient to supply the wants of his family.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The reserve is pleasantly and healthfully situated. The dwellings are quite a distance apart. Winter accumulations are removed in season. The health of the Indians has been fairly good. A good deal of sickness was prevalent among the children, and proved fatal in several cases. The rest of the band were free from infectious diseases.

Temperance.—The use of intoxicants in this band is unknown. The Indians avoid all sorts of bickerings or quarrels, and live on good terms with their white neighbours. With but one or two exceptions, the rest are of good moral habits.

Religion.—All the members of this band are Roman Catholics. They worship in a church convenient to the reserve. They are regular attendants, and, as a rule, practice what they profess.

General Remarks.—As stated in my report of last year, the rest of the Indians of my agency are settled in small groups or bands, along the River St. John, &c., at such places as Upper and Lower Gagetown, Hampstead, Queen's County, Norton, Apohaqui, King's County; also a few in St. John and Charlotte counties. The object of the Indians in living in such scattered directions is to command the trade of the locality to sell their wares.

In concluding my remarks, I have to report that many improvements for the better are noticeable amongst the Indians of this supervision.

I have, &c.,

JAMES FARRELL,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,

MICMACS OF ANNAPOLIS COUNTY,

ANNAPOLIS, September 4, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Reserves.—These Indians reside at Lequille, Paradise and Middleton. The reserves at Milford and Maitland are not occupied.

Vital Statistics.—The number of Indians in this agency is sixty-nine men, twenty-seven boys, and forty-two women and girls. There were two deaths and one birth during the year. Consumption was the cause of death.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There was some sickness during the winter at Lequille and Paradise. These Indians are enjoying very good health at present. There are no diseases or epidemics. Precautions have been taken.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians are industrious and can do all kinds of work. In winter they work in the lumber woods, and when spring opens some of them go stream-driving, while others work at Buckar brick-yard. They do not care to work the soil.

Education.—There are ten or twelve children at the Lequille school. They attend fairly well and make fair progress.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. Those residing at Lequille attend church at Annapolis town whenever there is service; those at Paradise attend service at Bridgetown; while the Indians at Middleton attend service at Wilmot.

Characteristics and Progress.—Most of them are industrious and make a good living, and are a law-abiding people. They take pride in keeping their places clean and tidy.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians of my agency are very temperate, and are not immoral in other ways.

I have, &c.,

GEO. WELLS, Sr.,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,

MICMACS OF ANTIGONISH AND GUYSBOROUGH COUNTIES,

HEATHERTON, October 23, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this agency is one hundred and seventy-eight, being an increase of twenty-four. The number of births was seven and deaths seven. The increase was owing to the return to the different reserves in the agency of some Indians who left during past years.

Health.—While there were no contagious diseases prevalent amongst them, the health of the Indians for the past year has been but fair. Of the deaths recorded above, two were from consumption, one from old age, and the remainder from natural causes.

Occupation.—While the Indians cannot wholly be induced to depend upon the cultivation of the soil for a means of livelihood, still there has been a marked improvement in this direction during the past year. Their crops, so far, look promising, and if a good yield is obtained, it will go far in encouraging them to pay attention to farming.

Their chief occupations are coopering and basket-making. A few do some fishing, while others hire out, and are occupied in various pursuits in this and the neighbouring counties.

Buildings.—There have been no new buildings erected by the Indians during the past year, but considerable repairs have been made upon existing ones, and this, to a

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

large extent, through their own efforts. They seem to be very thankful for the assistance rendered them by the department in this matter.

Education.—There is no Indian school in the agency. While the Indians appreciate the advantages of an education, they appear to have an aversion to attending the white school.

Religion.—The Indians of this agency are all Roman Catholics, and are very sincere in their profession. They are ministered to by Rev. R. McKenzie, parish priest of Heatherton. They have a nice church on the Summerside Reserve.

Characteristics.—The Indians are, on the whole, an industrious people. One peculiarity quite noticeable, is that they live in the present: the future does not seem to have any terrors for them.

They are moral and strictly law-abiding.

I have, &c.,

J. R. McDONALD,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,

MICMACS OF CAPE BRETON COUNTY,

CHRISTMAS ISLAND, September 18, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—These Indians chiefly reside on the reserve at Eskasoni; but, as this reserve is far from market, some have moved to the vicinity of the towns and coal mines of the county.

Vital Statistics.—The combined population of the Indians of this agency is two hundred and twenty-three. This is forty-two less than last year, and was wholly caused by migration, the number of births and deaths being equal, viz., twelve.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming, fishing, coopering and basket-making, and also supplying coal mines with pick-handles, &c., constitute the principal resources of these Indians.

Temperance and Morality.—There is not a more honest, moral, law-abiding class of people on this island than these Indians when they stay at home on their own reserves; but when they go away to the mines and towns quite a few yield to the temptation of insobriety and other vices.

I have, &c.,

A. CAMERON, P.P.,
Indian Agent.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

NOVA SCOTIA,
 MICMACS OF COLCHESTER COUNTY,
 TRURO, August 22, 1899.

The Honourable
 The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
 Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ended June 30, 1899.

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 forty-nine, on the reserve and throughout the county.

Health.—The health of the Indians was good, except in the spring months, when colds and la grippe were prevalent.

Occupation.—The principal occupations of the Indians are hunting, cooping, making rustic work, and basket-making. They also work at times as labourers with the farmers and in the lumber woods.

Education.—A new school-house has been erected during the past year. The school has been well attended. The parents appear to appreciate the advantages of education for their children.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians, as a rule, appear to be willing to try to better their condition by improving their houses and land.

I have, &c.,

THOS. B. SMITH,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
 MICMACS OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY,
 PARRSBORO', August 26, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—The reserve in this county is situated about fourteen miles from the town of Parrsboro', and contains about one thousand acres of good land, a great portion of which is covered by forest.

Vital Statistics.—On this reserve and scattered over the county, there were, on June 30, 1899, one hundred and eight Indians, an increase of five, as compared with last year. During the year there were twelve births and ten deaths.

Religion.—All the Indians in this county are Roman Catholics.

• SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Health and Sanitary Condition.—During the past winter there has been a great deal of sickness, but at the present time the health of the Indians is good. The sanitary measures recommended by the department have been carefully carried out, and most of the houses are clean and comfortable.

Occupation.—These Indians are taking more interest in agriculture than ever before, and, as a result, their crops are looking remarkably well. Many of them, however, still prefer making baskets, tubs and mast-hoops, to tilling the soil. Some work in the lumber woods in the winter and in the saw-mills in the summer. Some are hunters or guides for hunting parties. The women and children pick berries in the summer and autumn.

Education.—Most of the children of school age attend school somewhere, and as a result, nearly all of the young Indians can read and write.

I have, &c.,

F. A. RAND,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF HALIFAX COUNTY,
SHEET HARBOUR, October 13, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I beg leave to submit my annual report and tabular statement for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—The Indians of this agency reside principally at Sheet Harbour, Elmsdale, Cole Harbour, Wellington and Windsor Junction.

Education.—They move about considerably, and this year the school at Cole Harbour had to be closed because of the removal of one or two families from the reserve.

Occupation.—Most of the Indians make their own living. Hunting, lumbering, fishing and basket-making constitute their chief sources of income. Some of the poorer Indians stand in need of assistance, which is always granted by the department.

Morality.—The morals of the Indians of this agency are, on the whole, very good.

I have, &c.,

CHAS. E. McMANUS,
Indian Agent.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900.

NOVA SCOTIA,

MICHMAGS OF HANTS COUNTY,

SHUBENACADIE, July 20, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—The Indian Brook Reserve is situated about midway between Halifax, Truro and Windsor, three of the most important towns in Nova Scotia.

Population.—The population of this band now numbers seventy-four.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—These may be said to be fairly good at present, although last winter consumption and la grippe seemed to be constantly among them.

Occupation.—Among the occupations of these Indians are hunting, fishing in the streams, cooper-work, goods for the sporting market, &c.

Education.—Education is steadily, although slowly, making its effect felt and seen among the band.

Characteristics and Progress.—The majority of the Indians are industrious and law-abiding, quiet and gentlemanly, with few exceptions, and are steadily improving in civilization.

I have, &c.,

ALONZO WALACE,

Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,

MICHMAGS OF INVERNESS COUNTY,

GLENDALE, July 23, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I beg to submit, for your information, my annual report for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Reserves.—There are two reserved areas in this agency, one at Whycomagh, and the other at Malagawatch, both in the county of Inverness. The total quantity of land reserved is two thousand seven hundred and fifty-five acres. The soil at Whycomagh is of rather more than average fertility; that at Malagawatch is somewhat inferior, and marshy in places, but the latter site is well adapted for the prosecution of the fisheries, as might be inferred from the very name Malagawatch, which in the Micmac tongue means 'fish in abundance.'

Resources.—Farming is the principal occupation; but fishing, coopering and basket-making are also prosecuted with considerable success. Indian skill in woodwork is proverbial; and hence it is that merchants and traders receive almost all the woodenware they use from the Micmacs of the reserve, who are fairly well paid for their labour in this line. Though no one Indian can truthfully be called rich, yet many are somewhat comfortably settled in life, and very few indeed were, during the

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

year, reduced to extreme destitution ; and last year, be it noted, was unfavourable rather than otherwise.

Buildings.—Within the limits of the reserves, frame houses are almost exclusively in use ; but when the Micmac goes abroad for a short time, to make and sell his wares to better advantage, he builds a wigwam as a temporary shelter for himself and his family, which invariably accompanies him. A small barn, but sufficient for the purpose, is always erected at a convenient distance from the frame dwellings, and is sometimes owned in joint partnership by two or three Indians.

Stock.—A few horses, a fairly large number of cows, and a very limited supply of nets, are always on hand at the reserves.

Vital Statistics.—The number of souls is, at Whycocomagh, one hundred and seventeen, and at Malagawatch, twenty-one, the total being one hundred and thirty-eight. During the year there were four births, six deaths, and five immigrations, thus showing a slight increase of three.

Health.—As compared with the other inhabitants, the health of the Micmacs was normal during the year, and does not, therefore, furnish occasion for special remark. Sickness, more or less severe, was indeed to be found, but not in greater frequency than can always be noted even in the most healthy communities.

Religion and Morality.—The Indians are all devout Roman Catholics. Grave crime is unknown among them ; civil processes and lawsuits are never resorted to—there is no need whatever ; they are an honest, law-abiding and peaceful race.

Education.—The late Mr. John McEachen had continuously taught school at Whycocomagh Reserve for many years. The great bulk of the children attended, and were taught the common branches very efficiently ; but as the knowledge thus acquired was not supplemented in later years by any sort of educational exercise, many of the Indians are practically illiterate still, notwithstanding their youthful advantages and proficiency. On Mr. McEachen's lamented demise, his work was continued by others without interruption to the present day, when Mr. Patrick A. Murphy, who holds a provincial grade C license, is the teacher.

I have, &c.,

D. MACISAAC,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,

MICMACS OF KING'S COUNTY,

STEAM MILLS, September 8, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my annual report of the Indians of this agency for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Occupation.—These Indians remain in about the same condition as that occupied by them hitherto. They do not take kindly to tilling the soil, but subsist more by hunting, trapping, acting as guides, basket-making, coopering, &c.

Characteristics.—As a rule, they are a quiet, law-abiding race of people.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES E. BECKWITH,
Indian Agent.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

NOVA SCOTIA,
 MICMACS OF PICTOU COUNTY,
 EUREKA, October 5, 1899.

The Honourable
 The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
 Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report of Indian affairs in this county for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Reserves.—I may briefly state, in the beginning, that there are two reserves in Pictou County—one at Fisher's Grant, with an area of one hundred and sixty-four acres; the other consisting of two islands in Merigonish Harbour, Indian Island and Moolie's Island, or Island A and Island B, so-called, having a combined area of about sixty-five acres. No more than one-third of the land on these islands is under cultivation. The soil is very fertile. The Indians seem to regard Indian Island as a resort where they meet several times a year for various purposes. There they have their church and burial ground.

Occupation.—The Indians reside principally on the Fisher's Grant Reserve, and are awakening to the benefits of growing crops, especially a potato crop, for which the land there seems to be particularly adapted. On this reserve they are near public works, such as loading and unloading vessels, at which they earn good wages. They are still very conservative of their language and customs, notwithstanding their daily associations with their more civilized neighbours.

Education.—The old school-house on the Fisher's Grant Reserve had been thoroughly renovated last fall, and school opened on October 18, under the efficient management of Miss Nelly E. Connoly. Although the attendance was fairly good during the term, the teacher had to contend with several disadvantages. The children, at the commencement of the term, scarcely understood a word of English, and explanations from the teacher were, therefore, largely lost upon them. With perseverance she overcame these difficulties, and I am pleased to state that Mr. McLellan, the inspector of schools for the county, having examined the school, paid a high compliment to the efficiency of the teacher in the progress made by the children.

I have, &c.,

RODERICK McDONALD,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
 MICMACS OF QUEEN'S AND LUNENBURG COUNTIES,
 CALEDONIA CORNER, August 24, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Reserves.—This agency consists of three reserves—one at New Germany, another at Gold River, both in the county of Lunenburg, and the third at Wild Cat, Queen's

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

County. There are also small bands of Indians at Lunenburg, Bridgewater, Milton, Mill Village and Greenfield. Each of the above reserves comprises one thousand acres.

Vital Statistics.—During the past year there has been an increase in population of fourteen. Two births and two deaths have occurred since my last report. The present population is one hundred and sixty-nine.

Health.—The Indians have enjoyed general good health, except at Milton, where quite a number suffered severely on account of an epidemic of grippe. Sanitary regulations are carefully observed.

Occupation.—The Indians on the reserves live principally by farming; the others hunt, fish, and make baskets.

Education.—I am able to report a first-class school at New Germany. The children attend regularly, and are being carefully instructed by their teacher.

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

Characteristics.—The Indians of this agency are honest, law-abiding and temperate. With the exception of several old people, they are self-supporting.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES HARLOW,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MIMACS OF RICHMOND COUNTY,
St. PETER'S, September 11, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit this annual report of Chapel Island Indian Reserve.

Population.—The population has decreased since last year by eight. Twelve have left the reserve, having been discouraged by the failure of the crops and the fishing during the last few years. They sought the means of livelihood in the coal mines and in public works.

Health.—The general health has been fair. Only three have died during the year, and very few have been incapacitated for work through sickness for any length of time. It is, however, quite manifest that their constitutions are gradually deteriorating. They do not show that vitality, strength and endurance which they have been known to possess in by-gone years. No doubt, the different way of living has much to do with this change. In former years abundance of fresh fish and game was within their easy reach, and they lived on good nutritious food; but such is not the case at present, their food being generally bread, tea and molasses for breakfast; tea, bread and molasses for dinner, and molasses, tea and bread for supper. But what, in my opinion, tends most to debilitate their constitutions and evaporate their vitality, is their excessive use of tobacco. I was with them for over ten days this summer, and was fairly disgusted with their excesses in smoking and chewing tobacco. In my opinion, a prohibition in the way of giving tobacco to the Indians would be fully as much to their benefit as the prohibition of selling them intoxicants.

Education.—The children attending school are doing very well. Many of them read and write fairly well, but it seems almost impossible to get them to write correctly. The school for the last year has been under the efficient charge of Miss Boyd.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Characteristics.—The poor Indians are morally good and law-abiding.

Religion.—Through the kindness of the Honourable the Superintendent General, the Chapel Island church received the much-needed repairs this summer.

I have, &c.,

JOHN FRASER,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF SHELBURNE COUNTY,
SHELBURNE, July 15, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Vital Statistics.—During the past year there has been a net increase of three in the band under my care, making the Micmac population of Shelburne County sixty-nine.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians, except two families, has been fairly good. They are becoming alive to the necessity of cleanliness in and around their houses and outbuildings.

Occupation.—Their principal employments are lumbering, hunting, making mast hoops and baskets, and attending to their farms.

Education.—Very few children attend the public schools, they reside such a distance from the school-houses. I hope next year to be able to report a great improvement.

Temperance.—These Indians are temperate, with the exception of one or two.

Religion.—The Indians in this county are all Roman Catholics.

I have, &c.,

JOHN J. E. DE MOLITOR,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF VICTORIA COUNTY,
BADDECK, September 30, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the Indian reserve at Middle River, in this county, is ninety-six, a decrease of one during the past year.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

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

Occupation.—About thirty per cent of the Indians live almost exclusively by farming ; the remainder live chiefly by coopering, basket-making, hunting and fishing.

Education.—The school attendance during the last year shows a marked improvement over former years.

Religion.—The Indians are all Roman Catholics, and are very strict in the observance of their religious duties.

Temperance and Morality.—With the exception of some of the members of one family, these Indians are temperate.

I have, &c.,

A. J. MACDONALD.
Indian Agent.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND,
HIGGINS' ROAD, August 18, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Reserves.—There are two reserves in this superintendency, namely, Lennox Island Reserve and Morell Reserve. The former is an island in Richmond Bay. It contains one thousand three hundred and twenty acres.

The Morell Reserve is situated on Lot 39, in King's County. It contains two hundred and four acres of good land.

Tribe.—These Indians are Micmacs.

Population.—There are in this superintendency, comprising both reserves and other localities in Prince Edward Island, seventy-nine men, sixty-nine women and one hundred and sixty-seven children, making a total of three hundred and fifteen souls, an increase of one since last census.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There was a good deal of sickness among the Indians during the winter; no less than fifteen adults died during that period; but now I am able to report that their sanitary condition has greatly improved.

Occupation.—The principal pursuits are farming, the manufacture of Indian wares, and fishing.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The Indians who reside 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, pigs and poultry. They are well provided with farming implements, such as ploughs, spring-tooth harrows, &c.

Education.—There is but one school situated on Lennox Island and attended by twenty-four children.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. They have a church, built three years ago, which is a credit to them.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Temperance.—On this subject I am happy to be able to report that, with the exception of a few, the Indians residing on the reserves are sober. They organized a temperance society some years ago on Lennox Island ; and it has done a great deal of good on this reserve.

I have, &c.,

JEAN O. ARSENAULT,
Indian Superintendent.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
BERENS RIVER AGENCY,
BERENS RIVER, September 30, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit for your information my annual report for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Reserves.—This agency is situated on the shores of Lake Winnipeg, extending from Black River, at the south, to Cross Lake, about ninety miles from the source of the Nelson River, and is made up of twelve reserves, as follows: Black River, Hollow Water, Bloodvein, Loon Straits, Fisher River, Jack Head, Berens River, Poplar River, Norway House, Cross Lake, Grand Rapids, and Pekangikum.

Population.—The population of the entire agency is twenty-one hundred and ninety-eight, an increase of thirty-two over 1898. Of this number, there are at Black River Reserve fourteen men, sixteen women, sixteen boys and sixteen girls. At Hollow Water Reserve fourteen men, sixteen women, sixteen boys and sixteen girls. At Hollow twenty-nine girls. At Bloodvein and Loon Straits Reserves, which are included together, as there is no one living at Loon Straits, thirteen men, twenty-two women, twenty-three boys and fifteen girls. At Fisher River Reserve there are eighty-two men, ninety women, eighty-nine boys and seventy-eight girls. At Jack Head Reserve there are seventeen men, twenty-one women, twenty-four boys and seventeen girls. At Berens River there are fifty-four men, sixty-one women, one hundred and eleven boys and seventy-six girls. At Poplar River Reserve there are twenty-five men, thirty-six women, fifty-six boys and thirty-one girls. At Norway House there are one hundred and twenty-one men, one hundred and fifty-six women, one hundred and forty-one boys and one hundred and seventy-one girls. At Cross Lake Reserve there are sixty men, seventy-two women, sixty-three boys and seventy-three girls. At Little Grand Rapids Reserve there are twenty-three men, twenty-seven women, fifty-two boys and twenty-eight girls. At Pekangikum Reserve there are nineteen men, twenty-four women, thirty-six boys and thirty-three girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The mortality has been slightly lessened since last year, there being a decrease of two deaths. The causes of death are, generally speaking, tuberculosis (pulmonary), pneumonia, senility, and occasionally accidents. Dr. W. R. Jamieson, who accompanied me on my trip, paying annuities, treated cases of sickness and left medicines in the hands of competent persons with full instructions as to their administration.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of the Indians in this agency are chiefly fishing and hunting, no farming or stock-raising being done north of Fisher River. At Black River, Hollow Water River, Fisher River and Berens River, the fishing was highly successful. At the other reserves in this agency there was a scarcity of fish.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

The Berens River Indians in the last twelve months sold over \$12,000 worth of sturgeon. Through delay in issuing licenses to Norway House and Poplar River Indians at the opening of the fishing season, the sturgeon fishing has proved a failure with them this season.

Hunting, as a source of income, is becoming less every year, Fisher River being the only reserve where it has been up to the average.

Many of the Indians, where opportunity presents, earn considerable money by working in saw-mills and cutting wood; but those north of Berens River are limited to 'tripping' as a means of further increasing their income.

Farming.—Outside the Fisher River Reserve no farming is done with the exception of raising potatoes sufficient for their own needs.

Buildings.—The old buildings are being torn down and replaced by better ones on a great many of the reserves.

Stock.—I am unable to report much progress in this direction, with the exception of Fisher River Band. These Indians received four pedigreed bulls this summer; consequently, the value of their stock will be increased.

Education.—I visited all the schools in this agency that were open. The teachers are doing all in their power to carry out their instructions: to teach the children to read and write, and adopt as far as possible the manners and customs of the whites. The principal complaint is irregular attendance, the parents not seeming to care whether the children attend or not.

Religion.—At Black River Reserve there is a commodious Anglican church, which is well attended.

At Hollow Water Reserve religious services are held in the school-house, the Anglican ritual being observed. Mr. John Sinclair acts as minister and school teacher.

At Bloodvein Reserve there is no missionary.

At Fisher River Reserve there is a large and prosperous Methodist mission, in charge of Rev. E. R. Steinhauer. There is a fine church, which is well attended, and also a very fine parsonage.

At Jack Head River Reserve there is an Anglican church, but no missionary.

At Berens River there is a Methodist church and parsonage, in charge of Rev. James MacLachlan.

At Poplar River Methodist services are conducted by Mr. Joseph Dargue. The mission is under the jurisdiction of the Rev. James MacLachlan, of Berens River.

At Norway House there is a very large Methodist mission, in charge of Rev. Mr. Nelson, assisted by two local preachers. They have a commodious church and fine parsonage.

At Cross Lake there is a Methodist mission, in charge of Rev. Edward Paupanekis.

At Grand Rapids there is no regular mission. Rev. James MacLachlan occasionally visits this reserve.

Character of Indians.—The Indians of this agency are law-abiding, temperate and industrious. They go quietly about their various occupations of fishing and hunting. Quarrels and fighting are, I am glad to say, extremely rare.

I have, &c.,

J. W. SHORT,

Indian Agent.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
CLANDEBOYE AGENCY,

WINNIPEG, June 30, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my twenty-second annual report of the Clandeboye Agency for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Reserves.—The reserves in this agency are three in number, viz., St. Peter's, Brokenhead River and Fort Alexander Reserves. I have discussed them so often that it is not necessary to make more than a passing reference to them. The soil of these three reserves is unsurpassed in fertility, and would, if properly cultivated, yield enormous crops of cereals and roots; it is well timbered with poplar, and in low places with balm and tamarack. There is a wide expanse of prairie, especially in St. Peter's, so that the land can be broken with very little labour. There are immense quantities of hay on the first-mentioned two reserves; but at Fort Alexander they have only coarse hay growing in the swamps; it is scarce, and the Indians have much difficulty in securing a sufficient quantity to winter their stock, and they urgently ask that hay lands be set aside for them at Jack Fish Creek.

Tribe.—A tribe of Ojibbewa Indians, about the beginning of the century, under the leadership of Chief Peguis, came from the shores of Rainy Lake, and, finding the land much better for cultivation than where they left, settled at St. Peter's. Shortly afterwards, a tribe of Swampy Crees, or Muskegoes, emigrated from the shores of Hudson Bay, and was given a portion of land at St. Peter's. These two tribes mingled in marriage with each other; but such is their clannishness that any mountebank among them making a fiery appeal to their prejudices kindles the smouldering embers of ancient discord into a flame, so that elections are conducted frequently on tribal distinctions alone.

Population.—The number of Indians paid annuity on June 30 this year, was one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four, of which one thousand and ninety-five were paid at St. Peter's, one hundred and eighty at Brokenhead River, and five hundred and nine at Fort Alexander. This number, however, does not include absentees, of whom there are forty-eight, making one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two in all, showing an increase of eight since the time of payments last year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The Indians everywhere were notified regarding the sanitary regulations as to having all rubbish around their dwellings and outhouses burnt, and, from my observation, they were generally observed. Their drinking water is almost invariably obtained from the rivers, so that the Indians at St. Peter's unavoidably drink water that is somewhat contaminated by sewage from Winnipeg and Selkirk; but the other reserves have wholesome water to drink. Their houses are whitewashed with lime, both outside and inside, and look clean and tidy.

The health of these communities is as favourable as that of other settlements in the neighbourhood. A few cases of scarlet fever, and measles and other epidemics appeared on the reserves, but were not attended with much fatality. The mortality among the Indians is chiefly caused by consumption, scrofula and syphilis.

I notified Dr. Steep, as directed, to vaccinate the Indians; and, during the payments at Fort Alexander, he vaccinated about fifty children. The Indians are very averse to the operation being performed on them, and the doctor had much trouble in inducing them to submit to it.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Resources and Occupation.—The varied resources from which these Indians derive their subsistence are: cultivating the soil, which they do successfully to a limited extent, particularly in the growth of wheat, oats, barley and potatoes; stock-raising, they have large herds of horses and cattle; and employment in lumber camps, saw-mills and in loading and unloading barges at Selkirk, from which they derive a considerable income. Thousands of cords of wood are annually sold at Selkirk, and a large quantity of hay is also disposed of to dealers, which nets them a handsome amount. The fishing interest contributes very materially to their support, and thousands of dollars are derived from the industry. The game and fur caught, although diminishing in quantity, is still a resource of no little importance, as they kill numbers of moose, deer and fur-bearing animals. They gather tons of huckleberries, raspberries, Saskatoon berries, cranberries and strawberries, which are in constant demand in the market. They are employed on steamers, at boating and canoeing, so that from all these resources they succeed in making a comfortable living.

Buildings.—This agency has a large number of dwelling-houses, horse-stables, cattle-stables, pig-sties and storehouses, ample for sheltering man and beast.

Stock.—The Indians have a good number of horses, cattle, sheep, pigs and fowls. The horses and cattle are in excellent condition in consequence of the superior pasturage on the reserves.

Implements and Vehicles.—On the reserves there are eleven hundred and eighty-seven agricultural implements and three hundred and six vehicles, the former consisting of ploughs, harrows, mowers, reapers, horse-rakes, and tool-chests, and the latter of wagons, carts, draught sleighs, driving sleighs and buggies.

Education.—Of the eight schools in operation in this agency five are at St. Peter's, one at Brokenhead River and two at Fort Alexander. All of them are commodious and furnished with the necessary stationery and equipment for the efficient instruction of the children. The attendance, however, is most irregular, and consequently their advancement is materially retarded. The teachers cannot be expected to accomplish much under the circumstances, but a faithful teacher makes the school interesting to his pupils, and thus attracts them to the school, instead of conducting it in a listless manner with no aim in view, as is often the case.

Religion.—There are twelve hundred and sixty-nine Anglicans, four hundred and forty-two Roman Catholics, twenty-eight Baptists and forty-five pagans. The Indians are very devout in their beliefs, and attend regularly the various services of their churches.

Temperance.—There is a great change in the character of the Indians in respect of temperance: formerly, large numbers were constantly hovering round grog-shops, and drunkenness was prevalent then; but now it is the exception to find an Indian intoxicated. In Winnipeg the police look vigilantly after them, and it is seldom that a drunken Indian is seen there; but at Selkirk, although drunkenness is not so prevalent as formerly, yet occasionally young Indians obtain alcoholic stimulants from unscrupulous dealers and make night hideous by their drunken carousals.

Morality.—There is a great improvement in morality among the Indians since I first came among them. It was a frequent occurrence that many Indians had a plurality of wives; but now the chiefs and councillors discountenance it by taking action at treaty time, and no Indian who is guilty is tolerated on the reserve.

I have, &c.,

E. McCOLL,
Inspector of Indian Agencies.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
COUTCHEECHING AGENCY,

FORT FRANCES, ONT., August 14, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my annual report and list of Government property for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899.

Agency.—The Coutcheeching Agency is situated in the Rainy River District, Treaty No. 3.

Reserves.—The agency embraces the following reserves, viz. : Hungry Hall, No. 1 and No. 2; Long Sault, No. 1 and No. 2; Manitou, No. 1 and No. 2; Little Forks, Coutcheeching, Stangecoming, Niacatchewenin, Nickickonsemenecanning, Seine River, and Lac La Croix. The total area of the above reserves is sixty-six thousand one hundred and twenty-six acres. There is also the 'Wild Land Reserve,' adjoining Hungry Hall, which contains twenty-four thousand three hundred and fifty-eight acres.

Tribe.—The Indians of this agency belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population in this agency is eight hundred and seventy souls, made up as follows : one hundred and seventy-nine men, two hundred and thirty-eight women, two hundred and twenty-seven boys, and two hundred and twenty-six girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the Indians during the year has been fairly good. There were no epidemics. The diseases most prevalent are consumption and scrofula.

The medical attendant, Dr. Moore, has looked carefully after them, and had those vaccinated that required it. The villages, as a rule, are kept clean, and all refuse burnt up. The health of the Indians on the lakes is better than that of those on the river, the former leading a wandering life.

Resources and Occupation.—The reserves on Rainy River contain a good proportion of farming land. There is also some pine and large quantities of timber, suitable for fire-wood and cord-wood for steamers.

There is also good fishing and hunting during the proper season. The reserves on Rainy Lake are mostly rocky, but good mining locations may yet be found on them ; the chief at Seine River Reserve discovered a mining prospect off the reserve, for which he received \$500, and will receive \$500 in December, which will help the band during the coming winter. There is also good pine on Nickickonsemenecanning Reserve, and some on Seine River Reserve. The fishing and hunting is also good in the season.

These Indians have been occupied in attending to their gardens and fields, putting up hay where possible, hunting and fishing, working in lumber camps, river-driving, at which they are very good; acting as pilots to steamers, and canoemen to tourists and prospectors, making and selling bark canoes ; the women sell berries and bead-work ; from all of which they manage to do fairly well, with the exception of the old and sick.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Buildings.—The agency house has been repaired inside, and is very comfortable, and presents a nice appearance.

Houses at Long Sault and Manitou Rapids are well furnished, with money earned by the Indians in making dry timber ties. At Little Fork Reserve five new houses have been built.

At Coutcheeching Reserve, the Indians have made good improvements in finishing their houses and putting on shingle roofs, partitions and floors. At Seine River they have adopted shingle roofs and floors. At Lac La Croix Reserve, eight new houses have been built, two of hewn logs, and they will have shingle roofs; the others are well built, but have bark roofs for the present. The lumber used for flooring, doors and windows, was all whip-sawn. This is the first large improvement on this reserve for some years. The stables on the reserves are small, but comfortable.

Education.—There are in this agency four hundred and fifty-three boys and girls, about one-third of whom are of school age. There are three day schools in operation, one at Long Sault, which is taught by Miss Miller, and the attendance has improved since she has had charge; one at Manitou Rapids, and one at Little Forks. The attendance at the latter places has not been very good, although the teachers, Mr. Wood and Mr. Bagshaw, deserve a better reward for the efforts they have made. The principal difficulty appears to be the want of control of the children by the parents.

The school-houses are very comfortable and well furnished.

The school-house at Coutcheeching Reserve has been closed for some time. It has now been repaired, and a lady teacher is expected very soon to re-open the school, when she should have a good attendance.

Religion.—On two reserves, Long Sault, where Rev. Mr. Johnston is missionary for the English Church, and Coutcheeching Reserve, where Rev. Father St. Almat is missionary for the Roman Catholic Church, services are regularly held, and generally with good attendance.

The school teachers at Manitou and Little Fork Reserves also do their best to give religious instruction.

In this agency there are one hundred and ten Roman Catholics, sixty Anglicans, and eight Methodists, the rest being pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians in this agency have a good reputation for honesty, and will compare favourably with their white neighbours.

I am glad to say that their progress in their way of living and in the improvements they have made in the dwellings, such as shingle roofs, flooring and partitions, also a good class of furniture, is very marked on some of the reserves.

An-je-ke-jick, of Long Sault Reserve, had his hand amputated since last summer, but has recovered, and is acting as pilot on a steamer, at good wages. Namapok, of Manitou, has a good field of grain and corn.

Windegous, life councillor at Nickickonsemeneccanning Reserve, was elected in place of the late chief, on account of being the best worker on the reserve. Peter Jourdain was also re-elected at Lac La Croix Reserve, for the same reason.

There are many more that have made good progress on the different reserves.

Temperance and Morality.—In general, the Indians are temperate and not immoral. The most isolated reserves have the best record, but they have not the same temptation as those adjoining the white villages. There have been several arrests of Indians for being intoxicated, and they were punished. They said in court that they procured the liquor from the American side, but their evidence, in some cases, is not to be relied on, as there is no doubt that half-breeds act as middlemen, with Canadian dealers as well.

I am pleased to say that there has been a reduction in the sale of liquor; both Indians and dealers see that measures are being taken to put a stop to it.

I have also asked the American consul at Rat Portage to assist, which he promised to do. Help from the American authorities is very necessary, on account of the boundary line being so close.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

General Remarks.—During the year Inspector Levêque made his usual careful inspection of this agency and the different reserves, and also gave good advice to the Indians for their future welfare. In conclusion, I may say that the general progress has been as good as could be expected.

I have, &c.,

MAGNUS BEGG,
Indian Agent.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
MANITOWAPAH AND PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE AGENCIES,
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, September 23, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my twenty-third annual report and tabular statement for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899.

MANITOWAPAH AGENCY.

SANDY BAY BAND—TREATY No. 1.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the south-west shore of Lake Manitoba. It has an area of twelve thousand one hundred and two acres.

Tribe.—The pure-blood Indians of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe; the remainder are English, Scotch and French half-breeds.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of forty-four men, fifty-four women, and one hundred and sixty children; total, two hundred and fifty-eight. There have been sixteen births and ten deaths, one joined the band and five were absent, giving an increase of two since the previous year. The deaths were caused by consumption.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—During the past year a very severe outbreak of measles took place, attacking both adults and children. No deaths resulted from this epidemic. Otherwise, the health of the band has been good.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians have many occupations open to them, among the principal being hunting, fishing, cattle-raising, digging senega-root, working for the farmers during harvest time, and manufacturing flat sleighs, single and double sleighs, carts, &c. The dairying industry is still doing well, and the housewifery is satisfactory.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There have been a few more buildings erected this year, larger size, better ventilated and substantial. Of the one hundred and sixty-five head of cattle—an increase of thirty-six since last year—fifty-three belong to the Government, and one hundred and twelve are the personal property of the Indians. These Indians have also ninety-one horses, twenty-five pigs and forty head of poultry.

They have a very good equipment of all necessary tools, wagons, buckboards and implements.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Education.—There are, in all, about one hundred and fifteen children of school age, with a good average during the winter months, but not in the other seasons, owing to the Indians being compelled to leave this reserve, seeking employment elsewhere, and thus reducing the average attendance by taking their children away with them. There is a school under the management of a competent enough teacher, but, owing to so many absentees quarterly, the progress is poor. It is of the Roman Catholic denomination.

The school-house is properly lighted and heated, and the hygienic conditions are all that could be desired. It is provided with the requisite number of desks, tables, chairs, blackboard, cupboard, and a sufficient quantity of school material, books and biscuits.

Religion.—There are nineteen Anglicans, two hundred and thirty-five Roman Catholics and four pagans in this band.

LAKE MANITOBA BAND—TREATY NO. 2.

Reserve.—The reserve belonging to this band is situated on the east shore of Lake Manitoba. It has an area of eleven thousand eight hundred and eighty-one acres.

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

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of twenty men, twenty-two women and seventy children, making a total of one hundred and twelve. During the year there were four births and nine deaths; one joined the band, and one left it. The death was caused by old age.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The Indians are in good health, and sanitary measures have been put into effect, lime-washing and mud-washing the houses and burning refuse are the order of the day, the reserve being inspected every Saturday by the teacher in charge.

Resources and Occupation.—The principal resources are fishing, hunting, trapping, and cattle-raising. The Indians hunt, trap and fish; and manufacture a few sleighs.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The Indians have erected three more houses, five shanties and two stables. Of the cattle, one hundred and forty-six are Government property, and thirty-one are the personal property of the Indians. Four horses belong to the Government, and forty-seven to the Indians. They are well equipped with all the necessary tools, rigs and implements.

Education.—There are thirty-four children of school age. The average attendance is five, owing mostly to sickness of the pupils and parents taking their children away from the reserve with themselves for the purpose of fishing, trapping, hunting, and visiting friends. The school has been kept with a very poor attendance, so much so that the teacher has decided to resign, if the Indians do not send their children regularly to school in future; in consequence, the pupils are only advanced to Standard II, and a few in Standard III. The school is of the Roman Catholic denomination. The school-house, which is new, is comfortable for the pupils, and is well supplied with material, books and biscuit. The progress is very slow in many cases. The discipline and behaviour are good.

Religion.—There are four Anglicans, eighty-eight Roman Catholics and twenty pagans. Some of these Indians take great interest in religious matters.

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.

Tribe.—The pure Indians are of the Ojibbewa tribe, while the remainder are Scotch and French half-breeds.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of thirteen men, twenty-one women and thirty children, making a total of sixty-four. There were two births and one death during the year, and five absentees.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—These Indians are healthy. Sanitary precautions have been observed, and the houses are kept clean.

Resources and Occupation.—The principal resources of these Indians are hunting, trapping and cattle-raising. They also act as boatmen.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There are a few more buildings added from last year, of better material and larger size. Of the cattle, fifty-nine are Government property, and seven are personal property; of the horses, four belong to the Government, and twenty-four to the Indians.

Education.—There are eleven children of school age, with a good average. The school is under a competent teacher, and the pupils are attending regularly and progressing fairly, as far as Standard III.

FAIRFORD BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Fairford River. It has an area of eleven thousand and twenty-three acres.

Tribe.—This band is composed of Indians of the Ojibbewa tribe and Scotch half-breeds.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of thirty-five men, fifty-six women and eighty-seven children, making a total of one hundred and seventy-eight. There have been three births and six deaths; one joined and two left the band this year.

Stock.—Under Government control there are two horses, ninety-nine head of cattle and six sheep. The personal property of the Indians consists of one hundred and ninety head of cattle, fifty-nine horses, eight pigs and sixty-six poultry.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the majority of these Indians is good. Consumption is the prevalent disease. Owing to sanitary laws being in force, the whole reserve is in good order and condition.

Occupation.—These Indians are hunters, fishermen, boat and canoe builders, carpenters and blacksmiths. They work at harvesting, and as millmen, shantymen and as guides to tourists. They also raise cattle.

Buildings and Farming Implements.— There were some more comfortable houses put up this year. The Indians have now two villages, one at the Upper and the other at the Lower River Fairford.

They are well supplied with all tools and implements, wagons and harrows.

Education.—There are thirty-nine children of school age on this reserve, and there are two schools, one at Upper and the other at Lower Fairford. The average attendance is very good. The teachers are competent. The progress is satisfactory, but slow in arithmetic. The Upper school has gone as far as Standard V. and Lower up to Standard IV. The school is under the auspices of the Church of England. A new school-house was completed this year by the Indians, helped by the department in supplying lumber, shingles, windows and doors. This school-house would be a credit to any white settlement, and therefore it is very encouraging indeed to witness such marked progress.

Religion.—Of the inhabitants, one hundred and forty are Anglicans, thirty-three Baptists and one pagan.

The Anglicans have a large church and a cemetery attached; and a fine parsonage. The Baptists have also a fine church and a parsonage. Both churches are doing good work among the Indians.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

LITTLE SASKATCHEWAN BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is located on the west shore of Lake St. Martin. It has an area of three thousand two hundred acres.

Tribe.—The members of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of twenty-six men, twenty-nine women and fifty-four children, making a total of one hundred and nine. During the year there were six births and two deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians is good, and their houses and premises are kept clean and lime-washed twice a year.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There were some new buildings, erected this year. There are forty-one head of cattle Government property, and ten the personal property of the Indians; three Government horses, and nine of their own.

Education.—There are eighteen children of school age, all attending school regularly. The school is of the Church of England denomination, with a competent teacher. The progress, discipline and order are good.

The Indians are completing a new school-house, which, when finished, will compare favourably with the other new school-houses erected this year.

Religion.—Of this band, eighty are Anglicans, and thirty-three of the Baptist persuasion, and they are greatly interested in religious concerns.

LAKE ST. MARTIN BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the west shore of Lake St. Martin. It has an area of three thousand two hundred acres.

Tribe.—The members of this band belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—There are twenty-seven men, thirty women and sixty children, making a total of one hundred and seventeen. There were six births and five deaths, and twelve joined the band, making an increase of thirteen since last year. In four cases death was the result of consumption; in the other instance old age was the cause.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians is good. There is no disease among them. Their houses are kept clean, and lime-wash is freely used.

Resources and Occupation.—Hunting, fishing, cattle-raising, digging senega-root, building boats, canoes (birch-bark) and skiffs, and making snowshoes are the principal resources of these Indians.

Education.—There are twenty-one children of school age; but the attendance is not good: the average is low as a general rule, although they have a competent teacher and a good school-house, with all the books, material and biscuit required.

Religion.—There are sixty-seven Anglicans, thirty-four Baptists and sixteen pagans.

CRANE RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve 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 the only resources of these Indians.

Tribe.—This band also is composed of Indians belonging to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of twelve men, seventeen women and twenty-four children, making a total of fifty-three. There was one birth and one death, leaving the same population as last year.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health here is good, and sanitary precautions are taken by the use of lime-wash frequently.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Some new houses were erected during the year, and a new school-house, which is a great credit to the Indians; the old house will be used as a council-house. Of the cattle, nineteen belong to the Government, and thirty-eight cattle, three pigs and fifteen poultry are the personal property of the Indians.

Education.—There are eleven children of school age, and they all come regularly to school.

Religion.—Fifteen of these Indians are Anglicans, and the remainder are pagans.

WATER HEN RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve 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.

Tribe.—This band forms part of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of thirty-three men, twenty-seven women, and eighty-one children, making a total of one hundred and forty-one. Twelve births and two deaths took place during the year, and two having joined the band, there is an increase of twelve since last year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the band is good, and the sanitary regulations are observed.

Resources and Occupation.—Hunting, fishing, trapping and cattle-raising are the principal resources.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There were a few more buildings erected during the year. Of the cattle, twenty are under Government control, while the personal property of the Indians consists of twenty-eight cattle, thirty-one horses and sixteen poultry.

Education.—There are twenty-six children of school age, who, with the fifteen at the boarding school, give an average of thirty-one. Both schools are under the good management of Mr. and Mrs. Adam. They are of the Roman Catholic denomination. English is spoken by the pupils, and the girls receive instruction in the arts of housekeeping, sewing, knitting, cooking, and making dresses. The progress is good, and order and discipline very good. The parents manifest very 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.—This reserve is situated at the mouth of Pine Creek, on the west shore of Lake Winnipegosis. It has an area of nine thousand one hundred and forty-five acres.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—There are twenty-three children of school age on the reserve. The average of both day school and boarding school is fifteen. Both schools are now under the Reverend Franciscan Sisters, an order that came from France to educate the little ones, and already we see a fair degree of progress among these pupils.

Occupation.—Hunting, fishing, trapping and stock-raising are the principal occupations of these Indians.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Religion.—The Indians on this reserve are all Roman Catholics. There is a church, and the Roman Catholic missions have built a new, large house for the boarding school, 114 x 48 feet, three stories high, and a basement full size of the building, with all the modern improvements. It is a stone, granite building, shingled roof, at a cost of \$12,000.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE AGENCY.

This agency comprises five bands.

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.

Vital Statistics.—There are thirty-seven men, forty-seven women, and fifty-five children, making a total of one hundred and thirty-nine. There were eleven births and eight deaths, four joined the band and ten left it, making a decrease of three from last year. The deaths were caused by consumption.

Education.—They have twenty-eight children of school age, but no school yet.

SWAN LAKE AND INDIAN GARDENS BANDS.

Mostly all these Indians are settling down gradually at Swan Lake Reserve, leaving the Indian Gardens to the old people. The chief, Yellow Quill, is desirous of settling also at Swan Lake with his followers.

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. It is in the wheat country proper.

INDIAN GARDEN 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.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of twenty-nine men, forty women and forty-one children, making a total of one hundred and ten. This includes Swan Lake Band, better known as 'Yellow Quill's Band.' There were five births and ten deaths, three joined the band and eleven left it, making a decrease of thirteen from last year.

Health.—The health of these Indians was not good last winter, caused by living in too small houses and want of cleanliness; in consequence, quite a few deaths occurred.

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 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.

Vital Statistics.—On this reserve there is a population of two hundred and forty-four, consisting of sixty-six men, sixty-nine women, and one hundred and thirteen children. There were eight births and nine deaths. Four joined the band, and twenty-four left it, making a decrease of twenty-one 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 and working on farms.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Their stock look well, and are on the increase.

Only a few Indians on these reserves have good buildings.

As a general rule, 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.

Religion.—There are eighty-two at the Rosseau River 'Proper' who are members of the Roman Catholic Church, and two Anglicans, and two more Roman Catholics at Long Plain Reserve. All the others, namely, four hundred and seven Indians, are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—As a rule, the Indians are a very law-abiding people, and industrious in the pursuit of their occupation. The progress has been very good. Now, we notice, with pleasure, that the Indians rely more and more on their industry, and that the number of cattle, horses, implements and other personal property is on the increase. As a general rule, the Indians are energetic enough, and always put up large quantities of hay in the summer, when practicable, for winter use.

Temperance and Morality.—There is little intemperance, except when the Indians come into towns, and the morality is much improving.

GENERAL REMARKS.

It is pleasant to report that the Indians are becoming more civilized and self-sustaining. With a few exceptions, I found their houses clean and well kept.

English is taught in all the schools, and the children are 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, in some schools, indicates energy, patience and perseverance on their part, and I must admit

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

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 and farm instructors 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 and progress for all the reserves. This is owing to the fact that the same remarks apply to all the Indians in my district.

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. At the same time, the wants and comforts of the Indians have been attended to, and the effort to advance civilization has met with highly gratifying success.

I have, &c.,

H. MARTINEAU,
Indian Agent.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
PAS AGENCY,

THE PAS, SASK., September 30, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report of the Pas Agency for the year ended June 30, 1899.

This agency is made up of eight bands of Indians, located on seven different reserves, between Grand Rapids in the east and Pas Mountain in the west.

GRAND RAPIDS BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the east bank of the Great Saskatchewan, where it empties into Lake Winnipeg, and contains four thousand six hundred and fifty-one acres.

Population and Tribe.—There are twenty-three men, twenty-eight women, thirty-six boys and twenty-nine girls in this band, and, like all the others in the agency, these Indians belong to the Swampy Cree tribe.

Buildings and Stock.—The houses, which are fairly comfortable, are built along the river bank, where the bush has been cleared away, and small gardens have been cultivated. No progress has been made so far in stock-raising, but many of the Indians are now trying to get cattle and make a fresh start.

Occupation and Education.—Nearly all the Indians here find employment in summer at Selkirk Island, fifteen miles from the reserve, where the Dominion Fish Company carries on extensive fisheries. In winter they can get work putting up ice and chopping cord-wood. The only drawback to this is that they take their families with them and thus deprive their children of a school education.

We have had good teachers here, but the small, and often non-attendance of the children, has been very discouraging. The school has been held in the C. M. S. church,

which is at the extreme end of the reserve. This summer the Indians have commenced to build a new school in the centre, and probably this change may have a good effect.

Religion, Temperance and Morality.—The members of this band, like nearly all the others in the agency, belong to the English Church. As the fishing company strictly prohibits intoxicants on the island or being carried in its boats, there is little temptation in the way of intemperance.

I cannot say that the Indians are strictly moral, but they will compare favourably with most other communities similarly circumstanced.

CHEMAWAWIN BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the banks of the Great Saskatchewan, where it empties into Cedar Lake. It contains an area of two thousand nine hundred and eighty-one acres, very little of which can be cultivated.

The north side is limestone rock, and in the south the land is swamp and hay marsh, except one island on which grows fairly good timber; part of this has been cleared and cultivated with very good results.

Population and Occupation.—In this band there are thirty-two men, forty women, forty-seven boys and thirty-three girls. Some of the men found employment this summer at the Winnipegosis fisheries, and seem satisfied with their earnings. In winter they make a good living hunting, as this is the home of the muskrat.

Education.—The school at present is held in the C. M. S. church. It is very encouraging indeed to see the interest that both old and young are taking in educational work here, and much credit is due to Mr. Hooker, the present school teacher, for the marked progress made since last year. He has not only displayed an adaptability for training the young, but has also accomplished the hard task of persuading the parents to leave their children at home to attend school when they go off hunting or fishing.

Buildings.—Owing to their being so much away from home, the Indians have taken little interest in their buildings; but this year several new houses are being built, of a more substantial and comfortable style than the old ones.

Previously to this summer there was no building of any kind on the reserve where-in to store the department property. Now there is a commodious storehouse and workshop combined, built by the Indians without any outside assistance whatever. They have also laid the foundation of a new school-house, and agree to do all the work, if provided with the material.

MOOSE LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band lies about sixty miles north from Chemawawin, on the south shore of Moose Lake. It contains three thousand five hundred and thirty-nine acres.

Population.—The population is composed of twenty-eight men, thirty-seven women, twenty-eight boys and thirty-one girls.

Buildings.—With a few exceptions, the buildings here are very poor; a few of the more industrious Indians have settled on an island five miles out on the lake, and have comfortable houses and good gardens.

Occupation.—These Indians have no chance of getting any employment here, and have to subsist on whitefish and sturgeon, with which the lake abounds. Hunting in winter is good.

Education.—The school is held in the C. M. S. church, and, principally owing to their isolation, the Indians have not yet realized the benefits to be derived from education. It is hard work to get the children to attend school.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

THE PAS BAND.

Reserve.—The Pas, as the word implies, is a ridge, or narrow strip of land, and crosses the Great Saskatchewan about one hundred and forty miles from the mouth and about three hundred east from Prince Albert. The reserve has an area of eight thousand one hundred and eighty acres.

History and Natural Features.—This is the oldest permanent Indian settlement in the Territories. Fifty-eight years ago a missionary station was established here by Henry Budd, who was afterwards the first ordained Indian clergyman in all Rupert's Land.

This ridge, which is practically all the dry land in the vicinity, extends for hundreds of miles from south-west to north-east, covered with small timber growing on a few inches of rich black loam. Underneath are white clay, boulders and limestone gravel.

As early as 1842, small crops of grain and roots were grown here, and, during the lifetime of Mr. Budd, the community was prosperous; but after his demise a retrograde movement set in.

By fits and starts strong efforts have been made to reclaim them, but they have never regained their former thrift and energy. The missionary has a hard ordeal to convince and convert them from their pagan superstitions and hold them to the ways of Christianity; but the task of reforming their nomadic natures and getting them to become tillers of the soil requires a zeal and stick-at-it-iveness that is rarely attained.

Population.—The population consists of eighty-six men, one hundred and eleven women, one hundred and five boys and one hundred and ten girls.

Education.—Last year a two-roomed school-house was built here, and since it was opened, the average has been about fifty, and the parents are taking a much greater interest in educational affairs. Last New Year three of the band were elected to act in the capacity of trustees, their duties being to see that all the children attend school regularly and keep themselves clean; to have the rooms regularly swept, scrubbed and supplied with wood and water; to hear and report all complaints from teachers or pupils, and generally superintend the school affairs. This has had a good effect, and they have performed their duties creditably.

In past years a strong prejudice existed against sending any of their children to an industrial school. This year they gave way, and no less than nine went from here to St. Paul's, and more may be expected next year.

BIG EDDY BAND.

The Big Eddy is part of the Pas Reserve, situated along the ridge on the north side of the river. This band deserves special mention. Although having no advantages, natural or otherwise, they are the most go-ahead and taking with the ways of civilization better than any in the agency. Several of them have horses and cattle of their own, and are acquiring implements by paying for them out of their treaty money. Some of them took their winter's catch of fur to Prince Albert this summer, and brought down supplies for winter use. They are building several new houses, and have commenced to build a new school-house. With a little direction and encouragement, this little community is likely to improve steadily.

SHOAL LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—Opposite the Big Eddy the Carrot River enters the Great Saskatchewan. After pulling for eighty miles up this mountain stream, then crossing several miles through swamp covered with tall reeds and bulrushes, a heavy belt of timber is entered.

In the heart of this is a small clearing, and here the Shoal Lake contingent of the Pas Band is settled.

This reserve has an area of two thousand one hundred and ninety acres.

Population.—The population of this band is sixty-five.

Resources and Occupation.—The soil of the reserve, where cleared, is a deep sandy loam, and yields large crops of potatoes. There are several salt springs in the neighbourhood that produce a good, pure salt.

The only means of support here has been confined to the potato crop and hunting large game; but, owing to the encroachment of civilization from the south and west, game is getting scarce, and the Indians are beginning to realize the necessity of clearing off and breaking up more land and giving more attention to their cattle.

Buildings.—They have all well-built, comfortable houses, made white as snow with pipeclay, of which there is a bed at the foot of the mountain. They are building several new stables, and have completed a large storehouse in which to store Government property and their own supplies. The one end of this storehouse is used as a workshop for the use of the band.

Education.—The school is held in the C. M. S. church. It is well attended, and the children are progressing favourably.

Temperance and Morality.—No temptation ever reaches these Indians in the way of liquor, and their morality is of good report.

RED EARTH BAND.

Reserve.—Fifteen miles west from Shoal Lake is the Red Earth Reserve. The Indians occupying it are another branch of the Pas Band. This reserve is beautifully situated at the foot of the Pas Mountain, with the Carrot River winding through a landscape growing with shady maple, birch and elm trees, and is in reality an ideal deer park. The soil is all that could be desired, this being the north-eastern extremity of the fertile belt.

Four thousand seven hundred and fifty-one acres is the extent of this reserve.

Population.—The population is one hundred and twenty-three.

Resources and Occupation.—The Indians are not so well off as they were years ago. Their cattle have dwindled down to thirty head, and their large band of horses have all but disappeared.

Of late years they have been depending on their potato crop and hunting large game. Being in circumstances similar to those of their Shoal Lake brethren, they are also beginning to see the necessity of making a fresh start, and, with the natural advantages that surround them, and a little encouragement, there are good hopes for their improvement.

Religion and Education.—The majority of this band still hold in a modified way to the belief of their forefathers; but, as the younger generation grows up, they are becoming Christianized, and there are now fifty-two out of one hundred and twenty-three who belong to the English Church.

The school here is held in the C. M. S. church, and has not been a success in past years; but since Mr. Robert Bear has taken charge, a marked improvement is visible, and good progress may be expected from next year's report.

Temperance and Morality.—Intemperance is unknown on this reserve, and the morality of the Indians is exemplary to any community.

CUMBERLAND BAND.

Reserve.—Cumberland lies about fifty miles due north from Red Earth, and in seasons of high water—by making some portages—can be reached in a day and a half;

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

otherwise, it takes four days to make the journey. The reserve extends from the shores of Pine Island Lake to the banks of the Great Saskatchewan. It has an area of eighteen hundred and eighty-three acres.

Population.—The population is composed of thirty-three men, forty-three women, forty-two boys and thirty-one girls.

Resources and Occupation.—Most of the land on this reserve is poor, and very little is cultivated. Formerly these Indians found employment on the Hudson's Bay Company's steamers and York boats; but since the traffic has been diverted into other channels, they have found it hard to make a living, and consequently have broken up into small bands and are scattered all over the country. They are now getting anxious to be united and settled together again, and a strong effort is being made to re-organize the band, with the hope that good results will follow.

I have, &c.,

JOSEPH COURTNEY,
Indian Agent.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
LAKE MANITOBA INSPECTORATE,
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, September 15, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to present my second annual report upon Indian affairs in this inspectorate, during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899, and to the date above-mentioned in the current fiscal term.

This inspectorate includes three agencies, namely, Portage la Prairie, Manitowapah, and the Pas. The first two are situated within the province of Manitoba, and the latter in the district of Saskatchewan, North-west Territories.

There are eighteen reserves in the inspectorate, namely: 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 Winnipegosis, Manitoba and St. Martin; those of the Pas on the Lower Saskatchewan River and tributary streams.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE AGENCY.

ROSSEAU BAND.

Reserve.—The principal reserve of this band is situated at the confluence of the Red and Rosseau Rivers. There is also an auxiliary to this reserve, containing eight hundred acres, situated about eleven miles up the Rosseau River from the main reserve. The area of the principal reserve is thirteen thousand five hundred and fifty-four acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population at the last annuity payments was two hundred and forty-four. About two-thirds of these reside at the principal reserve, and the rest at the Rapids or smaller reserve. During the past year there have been nine deaths and eight births.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Resources.—The principal reserve is well adapted for mixed farming. On the banks of the rivers there is plenty of wood for fuel purposes. There is a large acreage of choice grain land. Splendid pasture and fine hay meadows on the lower lands. The Northern Pacific Railway is only two miles west of the reserve, and the Emerson branch of the C. P. Ry. three miles to the east. The lands of this reserve are becoming valuable, and at a conservative estimate are worth from \$4 to \$6 per acre. The smaller reserve at the Rapids of the Rosseau River is choice grain land, with a little wood on the bank of the river. The Indians residing here are good workers, but do not care to be under much restraint. This season they have about eighty acres of wheat, with prospects of a good yield. The surrounding country is well settled by thrifty Canadian farmers, and the Indians, when not engaged at home, earn a good deal of money, and learn valuable lessons in farming from them. At the principal reserve, John Hayden is employed as farming instructor, and under his management the band is making fair progress. The proximity of this reserve to small towns, where liquor is sold, and the Indians badly advised, makes it very difficult to make very much of them. Latterly, the Indians are taking more interest in the raising of cattle, and this spring they fenced in over five hundred acres for pasture. They have forty-five head of cattle and thirty-seven horses.

SWAN LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Morris and Brandon branch of the Northern Pacific Railway. The railway runs through the reserve, and there is a station on it. The reserve is located in township 5, range 11, west, with an auxiliary known as 'Indian Gardens,' containing six hundred and forty acres, being section 11, township 9, range 9, west. The principal reserve has an area of eleven thousand eight hundred acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and ten, the greater part of which reside at the reserve proper. There were five births and ten deaths during the past year.

Resources.—The principal reserve is beautifully situated on the north side of Swan Lake; the land is mostly high, rolling prairie, interspersed with poplar bluffs of timber, with a large hay meadow on the margin of the lake. The soil is good, and well adapted for mixed farming. Mr. Malcolm Campbell is farm instructor, and under his supervision the Indians are making progress. Last year their crops were badly damaged in the fall by continuous wet weather, which had a very discouraging effect. This year the crops are good, and the prospects much brighter for all concerned. On account of the scarcity of labour, many of the able-bodied Indians are making good wages this fall as farm labourers with the neighbouring farmers. The smaller reserve, situated on the banks of the Assiniboine River, is a very fine section of grain land, no better in the province; but the Indians get very little good from it. The old chief, Yellow Quill, and a few of his old-time followers, reside here, and they look with suspicion on all efforts made for their advancement.

LONG PLAINS BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the north side of the Assiniboine River, about fifteen miles south-west of Portage la Prairie. It contains ten thousand eight hundred and seventy acres, the greater part of which is wooded. It is not so well adapted for farming as the other reserves of the agency, but there is plenty of open farming land for all the cropping they can do. There are a number of good hay meadows, sufficient to supply all the hay necessary for a large stock. This season the Indians have about one hundred acres of wheat, which will yield a fair return.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and thirty-nine. During the past year there were eleven births and eight deaths.

Resources.—During the past year these Indians have made some progress ; they have done a large amount of work on the main road running through the reserve, built some new houses and given their crops good attention. In the winter they make some money from the sale of dry wood. This summer and fall there has been no scarcity of work, and all who are able and willing can earn good wages. They are well supplied with farming implements, wagons, &c.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Under this heading the same remarks will apply to all the reserves in this agency. The Indians are making some progress and appear to be contented with their lot, much more so than the writer of this report, when we consider the amount of work expended on these Indians and the great possibilities they have if they would only take advantage of what they have, and what is being done for them. When we see the meagre results, we are often very much discouraged.

Religion and Education.—Among these Indians there are two Anglicans, eighty-four Roman Catholics and four hundred and seven pagans. The Roman Catholics have a church at Rosseau, and the Presbyterians have lately placed a missionary at Swan Lake. As a whole, they are very much opposed to missionaries and schools. Some of the younger and more progressive would like to have their children taught, but they are overawed by the old pagans, who do not believe in any innovation of tribal customs.

Health.—The health of these bands has not been so good this year as last. There have been three more deaths than births. Consumption and scrofula are the principal diseases among adults, and neglect has caused the death of a number of infants. It is impossible, with the means at our disposal, to enforce proper sanitary arrangements. The greater part of the Indians live all winter confined in small, badly ventilated shanties, and move out early in the spring into tents, often before the snow is all gone. The consequence is that they take cold, and in a short time some of them die from consumption, and with others scrofula shows itself in its worst forms. We may talk, coax, threaten them as much as we like about matters of sanitation, but it has little effect ; they promise to carry out our instructions, and thank us for our advice, and that is the last of it. When we have farm instructors who are with them all the time, they do a little better, very little.

Temperance.—The greatest trouble and the greatest curse in this agency is the liquor question. They will get liquor in spite of all we can do ; they can always find white men and half-breeds to buy it for them, and it is almost impossible to get a conviction, as they will not tell who gets it for them. We may fine and imprison the Indians, but it is rarely they will tell who the more guilty person is who supplied the liquor. The very restrictions that are in the way of their getting liquor seem to be incentives to them to try to get it.

Resources.—Numerous occupations are open to the Indians of this agency outside of their farming operations, and all who are able and willing to work can make a good living.

In conclusion, I would say that the Indians of this agency have a great heritage in their lands. I estimate that the total value of real and personal property, per capita, for the Rosseau bands is \$270 of the Swan Lake bands \$605, and of Long Plains \$339, based on the present population, and a low value on the lands.

SIOUX INDIANS OF PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE.

These Indians number one hundred and thirty-two. They reside within the limits of the town of Portage la Prairie, on a tract of land purchased by themselves, con-

taining twenty-six acres. Most of them have good houses and gardens; the men can always find employment when they want it, and the women earn a good deal at washing and other heavy housework. In short, these people are doing well, but would do much better if they could not get liquor. Nominally, most of them are Christians. The Presbyterians have a nice mission church in the Sioux village, which is well attended. The Foreign Mission Society of the same church has a very comfortable boarding school in the town, with accommodation for forty pupils. The school is under the principalship of Miss Annie Fraser, with Miss Laidlaw as assistant. The school has been established for some years, and is doing excellent work.

MANITOWAPAH AGENCY.

Reserves.—The main features of the nine reserves of this agency are so much alike that I do not think it necessary to enter into a lengthy description of each. Four of the reserves, namely, Sandy Bay, Lake Manitoba, Ebb and Flow Lake, and Crane River, are situated on Lake Manitoba; Fairford on the Partridge Crop River, Little Saskatchewan, and Lake St. Martin on Lake St. Martin, Water Hen River on a lake of the same name, and Pine Creek on Lake Winnipegosis.

Population.—The population of the agency is eleven hundred and twenty-six, an increase of thirty-six over last year.

Religion.—In this agency there are three hundred and thirty-seven Anglicans, six hundred and four Roman Catholics, ninety-six Baptists and eighty-nine pagans. There are two Anglican churches, one at Upper Fairford and one at Little Saskatchewan; four Roman Catholic, namely, one each at Sandy Bay, Lake Manitoba, Water Hen River and Pine Creek; and one Baptist church at Lower Fairford.

Education.—There is a school at each reserve, except Fairford, where we have two. Eight of them are day schools, and two are day and boarding combined. These schools are attended by about two hundred and seventy-five pupils. This season two new school-houses have been built, one at Crane River and one at Little Saskatchewan. A new roof has also been put on the building at Lake St. Martin. The labour on these school-houses has been done by the Indians, the department finding the material.

The Roman Catholics have also erected a magnificent solid stone boarding school building at Pine Creek Reserve. This building is intended to accommodate one hundred pupils. It is three stories and a basement in height, and, when completed, will be one of the most perfect institutions of the kind in Canada. This building has been erected to take the place, on a very much enlarged scale, of the boarding school that has been in operation at Pine Creek for some years past. The Rev. Father Chamont is principal of the institution, and the teaching is done and the pupils supervised by Sisters of Charity. The new building will be ready for occupation this fall. The cost is placed at \$13,000, but I am satisfied that it could not be built here or in Winnipeg for less than \$25,000. It is the intention of the Roman Catholic authorities to fill this school from the Catholic reserves in proximity to the school.

The other boarding school is at Water Hen River Reserve, and is also under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church. It has a grant for fifteen pupils. Mr. I. H. Adam is principal and teacher, with Mrs. Adam as matron. The work done at both of the boarding schools is all that can be desired, and reflects credit on the management.

Each reserve in the agency has its day school. Five are Protestant, and five Roman Catholic. At Fairford Reserve, owing to the large number of pupils and the distance apart, it is necessary to have two schools. The one at Upper Fairford is taught by the Rev. Geo. Bruce, and is the oldest school in the agency. For sixty years this has been a mission of the Church Missionary Society (Anglican), and there has always been a school in connection with it. The result from this teaching is very apparent on visiting the reserve, as nearly all the Indians can read, write and speak the English

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

language, and the marked intelligence of the people is quite in contrast to those reserves where the people have not had the benefits of mission-school training.

In concluding my remarks on educational matters in this agency, I would say that the Indians, with few exceptions, appreciate the efforts that are being made in this direction, and although the results on some of the reserves are not very manifest, still it is having a civilizing effect on both parents and children, perhaps more than we by a casual visit can estimate.

Live Stock.—In this agency there are eleven hundred and thirty-two head of cattle and three hundred and six head of horses and ponies. The Indians on all the reserves are taking more and more interest in stock-raising; they are beginning to see the benefits. They are taking better care of them in the winter, and last year, for the first time, there was no scarcity of hay. Most of the cattle are scrubby, but with the infusion of new blood by the use of well-bred sires, the herds will soon improve.

Farm Implements and Garden Tools.—The reserves of this agency are all fairly well equipped with implements for agricultural purposes. Farming operations can only be carried on to a limited extent: the lands are low and the soil stony and difficult to work. Small patches here and there are cropped successfully when the season is favourable. About all that is grown are potatoes and a few other garden vegetables. The only exception to this is at Fairford, where a little grain is grown, principally oats and barley. Wild hay is to be had in abundance, but some seasons, owing to high water in the lakes, the meadows are overflowed. This unfavourable feature will apply to all the reserves.

GENERAL REMARKS.

In concluding my report on this agency, I am pleased to be able to state that owing to the isolated position of these reserves, their distance from white settlements, there is little, if any, intemperance. The morals of the Indians are very good. Their spiritual welfare is closely looked after by missionaries and teachers. They are not subject to the contaminating influence of our modern civilization, as are the bands of the Portage la Prairie Agency. We find the chiefs and councillors obedient to all reasonable advice given them, and in some cases it is remarkable the amount of work these men do to advance the welfare of their people.

The Indians of these reserves are self-supporting, with the exception of a few aged and sick. These, when their relatives cannot provide for them, are allowed rations during the winter months. The Indians depend mostly on fishing and hunting for subsistence. Agricultural pursuits cannot be successfully carried on, for the reasons before stated. In a few years, with careful supervision, they will obtain considerable revenue from stock-raising. Even now it is quite a boon to them. Last winter—although it was very severe—owing to the high price paid for fish, the Indians lived better than for several years. This was particularly noticeable at Water Hen River and Ebb and Flow Reserves: an inspection of their homes disclosed many of the comforts of life in the shape of stoves, clocks, tableware, clothing, harness, &c., all new, and made from last winter's fishing. The dwellings are in most cases comfortable, and kept fairly clean. Sanitary regulations are observed. On four of the reserves where it is possible to burn lime, the buildings are whitewashed twice a year. During the summer months most of the people live in tents. At Fairford there are several families with good, roomy houses, supplied with all the comforts of the average Canadian home. From my observations, a reserve situated, as these are, in isolated localities where there is little to attract settlers, is the ideal place for the Indians. They will stand any amount of hardship in fishing, hunting and kindred pursuits, but they cannot settle down for any length of time to hard, continuous manual labour, and it will take generations of training to alter this condition.

Mr. Herman Martineau, who has been the agent of this agency for many years, still continues to have the confidence of the Indians, and it is largely owing to his un-

tiring vigilance and indomitable perseverance that this agency has attained its present very favourable condition.

PAS AGENCY.

GRAND RAPIDS BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the south bank of the Saskatchewan, at its mouth, and has an area of four thousand six hundred and fifty-one acres. The land immediately on the bank of the river is high, but is not well adapted for agricultural purposes, as it is very rocky. Small gardens of potatoes and other vegetables are grown in a few favoured places.

Resources.—Fishing and hunting are the principal pursuits of the band. During the summer months most of the men work for the fish company on Selkirk Island, about twelve miles from the reserve. For two or three months they make good wages. Moose are plentiful in the winter season.

Population.—The population, at the annuity payments, 1898, was one hundred and fourteen. At this writing I have not yet received the statistical statement of 1899, but presume the population is about the same.

Religion.—These Indians belong to the Church of England. The Church Missionary Society has a church on the reserve, which is well attended. The morals of the people here are not so good as those of the bands further up the river. Their life on Selkirk Island at the fisheries has a demoralizing effect.

Education.—The school is not so good as last year. A change of teachers has recently taken place, which may improve it. A new school building is being erected about the centre of the reserve. Heretofore the teaching has been done in the church, and, as it is located at the extreme eastern limit of the reserve, it was too far for many of the pupils to attend regularly.

CHEMAWAWIN, OR CEDAR LAKE, BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Saskatchewan, at the west end of Cedar Lake. The land is low and rocky and subject to overflow, in places, from the river.

Resources and Occupation.—Some potatoes and other vegetables are grown on the high spots, and produce good returns. There is plenty of wild hay, and the Indians raise a few cattle, but hunting and fishing are their principal occupations. This is a great country for muskrats, and the annual catch by the Indians is very large. It is also one of the best fishing grounds in the country.

Education and Religion.—The school is held in a chapel of the Church Missionary Society, and is taught by Mr. J. C. Hooker. The average attendance is about twenty. The pupils of this school have made good progress the past year. It is expected that a school building will be erected next summer. A missionary is located on the reserve, who attends to the spiritual welfare of the Indians.

Population.—The population is one hundred and fifty.

MOOSE LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—This band is located on the south shore of Moose Lake; a few of the Indians live on an island about six miles distant from the main reserve. They are closely related to the Cedar Lake Band. The soil on the mainland is stony, but is better on the island, where most of the gardening is done. Part of the reserve is well wooded with spruce.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Population.—The population is about one hundred and twenty-five.

Resources and Occupation.—Here, as at the former reserve, the principal occupation is rat-hunting and fishing. The sturgeon fishing of Moose Lake is the best in the North-west. The Indians have a nice herd of cattle, and take quite an interest in them.

Religion and Education.—The Church Missionary Society has a chapel here, which is used for school purposes. The teacher is Mr. Louis Cochrane, and I am pleased to note a marked improvement in the school this year. The children do not understand much English, but this is not to be wondered at, when they hear nothing but Indian in their homes and out of the school.

PAS BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the Saskatchewan River, one hundred and fifty miles from its mouth, and about the centre of the agency. The agency office is located here.

Population.—The population is about four hundred.

Religion and Education.—These Indians are all Christianized, the greater part of them being Episcopalians; a few are Roman Catholics, and a few Plymouth Brethren. This is an old mission of the Church Missionary Society, and they have a fine large frame church, with the Rev. Rural Dean Hines in charge. The Rev. Father Charlebois, of Cumberland, ministers to the Roman Catholics, and Mr. Jos. Reader to the Plymouth Brethren. Mrs. Hines is dispenser of medicines, and is unceasing in her efforts in cases of sickness. There are two school-houses on the reserve and three teachers; the large frame school building is located on the south of the river, in the centre of what may be called the village, and is in charge of Mr. T. H. P. Lamb, with Miss Hines as assistant. The other school is located on the north side of the river, at the Big Eddy, and is about five miles west of the agency office. Mr. Settee is in charge of this school. At this place a new log school building has been erected this season to replace the old one, which was about tumbling down.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians depend largely on fishing and hunting for a livelihood. They have a nice herd of cattle, which is of considerable assistance, and they also have, usually, very good gardens. They also earn a little in the summer months as boatmen on the river. Mr. Courtney, the resident agent, is putting forth strong efforts to increase agricultural pursuits, and to show the interest that the Indians take in the matter, I would mention that they bought a good team of horses last spring, and paid for them by an assessment on their annuity money.

SHOAL LAKE AND RED EARTH BANDS.

Reserves.—The reserves of these bands are situated on the Carrot River, the former about one hundred and seventeen miles from its mouth, and Red Earth, fifteen miles further on. About one-third of the population reside at Shoal Lake, and the rest at Red Earth. These reserves are very isolated, but are well adapted for Indian life. The soil is better than on the other reserves, and there is an abundance of fine spruce timber. At both places there is plenty of wild hay and good grazing lands for the cattle. At Shoal Lake there are several salt springs, and the Indians make all their own salt. Fish are scarce, but water-fowl and large game are abundant.

Population.—The population of the two bands is about one hundred and ninety-five.

Education and Religion.—There is a school on each reserve. Both are well attended, and the pupils are making fair progress. The schools are held in the chapels.

About half of the Indians are pagans, but the Church Missionary Society is doing good work, and in a few years it is expected that nearly all the Indians will be Christianized.

Health.—These people are remarkably healthy, much more so than on the other reserves. I attribute this to the free use of vegetables and abundance of salt. The reserves are also better situated, from a sanitary point of view; the land is higher.

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. Cumberland House, the chief post of the Hudson's Bay Company, is located adjacent to the reserve. The soil is low and marshy, and not well adapted for gardening. Many of the members of this band reside off the reserve, and are only present to receive their annuity payments.

Population.—The population is about one hundred and fifty.

Occupation.—These Indians hunt and fish, and act as boatmen for the Hudson's Bay Company.

Religion and Education.—The Church Missionary Society has a chapel and a missionary on the reserve.

There is no school at present. A school was in operation here for a time, but, owing to the roving habits of the parents, it was closed for lack of attendance.

A number of half-breeds also reside here. They are ministered to by the Rev. Father Charlebois. The Government of the North-west Territories also maintains a school for the benefit of the half-breeds.

GENERAL REMARKS.

In concluding my report, I would say that the Indians of this inspectorate are making fair progress, not very marked, but still perceptible. A slight increase in population is shown. There have been no epidemics, except a light outbreak of measles at Sandy Bay Reserve in Manitowapah Agency. Intemperance causes considerable trouble in Portage La Prairie Agency, but the use of liquor is almost unknown in Manitowapah and the Pas.

I find the Indians reasonable in their demands, and in most cases willing to be governed by the rules laid down by the officers of the department. They are law-abiding, and during the past year we have not had a case of serious crime.

The chiefs and councillors of the various bands are always willing to carry out our instructions, and are of great assistance in administering the affairs of the reserves.

The spiritual welfare of the Indians is closely looked after by the missionaries of the different churches.

They appear to be contented and satisfied with their lot. A few of them are ambitious, and are making provision for the future, but the great mass think only of to-day, and, so long as they have plenty to eat, they think but little of the future, and were it not that they are obedient, and anxious to carry out our instructions, their progress would be slow indeed.

I have, &c.,

S. R. MARLATT,
Inspector of Indian Agencies.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

MANITOBA,

LAKE WINNIPEG INSPECTORATE,

WINNIPEG, September 25, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—In submitting to the department my twenty-third annual report of inspection of the different Indian reserves of the Lake Winnipeg Inspectorate, I have the honour to inform you that I started on my tour of inspection on August 15, and arrived on the 22nd of the month at Norway House Reserve.

NORWAY HOUSE BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is located on the east shore of Playgreen Lake, and has an area of ten thousand eight hundred and forty acres. It is mostly rocky and swampy, interspersed with limited fertile portions of clay on the banks of the rivers, and there are several acres of arable land at Rossville village. The timber on this reserve is principally jack-pine, poplar, spruce and white birch.

Tribe.—The Indians inhabiting this reserve are Swampy Crees, who emigrated from the shores of Hudson's Bay many years ago.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band consists of one hundred and three men, one hundred and seventy-four women and three hundred and twelve children, making a total of five hundred and eighty-nine, which is an increase of six over last year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There was no prevalent epidemic among the Indians; during the year some cases of consumption and scrofula occurred. About forty children were vaccinated by Dr. Jamieson.

The sanitary condition of the reserve is excellent, in consequence of the dwellings invariably being situated on the banks of rivers.

Resources and Occupation.—The Indians are chiefly engaged in fishing, hunting game and fur-bearing animals, and gardening, mostly in cultivating potatoes, of which they will raise, approximately, one thousand bushels. A large number of them have found employment with the Dominion Fishing Company, which has commenced operations on Playgreen Lake. Other members of the band are engaged in building the new school and the boarding house at Rossville, and also in working for the Hudson's Bay Company.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—They have ninety-three comfortable log houses, supplied with ordinary furniture, and seventeen stables for their thirty-four head of cattle, which were well attended to. I noticed that some of their implements, such as ploughs and harrows, were not housed, but these implements are not much used by the Indians on the rocky land of which the greater part of their reserve is composed. The grub-hoe is chiefly used in cultivating the soil.

Education.—Two schools are in operation, one at Rossville and the other at Jack Fish River. The former is an admirable and commodious building, erected this year. The latter is a flattened-log structure, shingled and mortared. It is a warm and comfortable house. At Rossville a boarding school is partially completed. It is 100 x 46

feet, including a lean-to 100 x 16 feet. The upper story, which is 100 x 30 feet, is devoted to dormitories, bed-rooms and living-rooms. Hence ample provision is made for the thorough instruction of the children of this band. It is due to Messrs. Lowes and Hardiman, the teachers of the children of this band, that favourable mention should be made of them for the able manner in which their schools are conducted.

These and other Indians owe a debt of gratitude to the Rev. Mr. Evans for his invention of syllabic characters, by which they were enabled in a short time to read in their own dialect the Bible and hymn-books. His first efforts were made in the old school-house at Rossville, where, assisted by Donald Ross, Esq., Hudson's Bay Company's officer, he shaped characters out of blocks of wood, and afterwards out of melted lead, which he procured from tea-boxes. This primitive type was subsequently cast by an Edinburgh firm and sent to Rossville, where the first syllabic printing was done.

Here formerly the emporium of the Hudson's Bay Company was established within the palisaded fort of Norway House, where merchandise of every description, from England via the Hudson's Bay route, was stored before being forwarded to the different 'posts,' scattered through the vast North-west, to the Pacific coast, down to the Missouri River and eastward to Lake Superior. Here also was the assembled council of the Hudson's Bay Company convened, when the officers of the company gathered from remote districts to deliberate upon what was most conducive to the fur-trading interest. Therefore, this band had the civilizing advantages of conversing with and being otherwise employed by these officers, and, necessarily, would learn from them many things to which less favourably situated bands were strangers.

Religion.—The Indians of this band are all Methodists, and are very devoted in their religious observances. They have had many distinguished pastors, among whom I might mention Rev. Messrs. Evans, Young, McDougall, Germain, Semmens, Eves and Nelson, who is the present incumbent.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious, when employment is available. They are always peaceable and law-abiding; for instance, several years ago a jail was erected, but no Indian has ever been committed to it.

No advancement in wealth is perceptible in any of this band, for the nature of their reserve makes the accumulation of property impossible. These Indians are intelligent, courteous and generally cleanly.

Temperance and Morality.—The remoteness of this reserve from the centres of civilization, where intoxicating beverages can be obtained, makes intemperance unknown among these Indians; many of them, in fact, have never tasted stimulants.

The persistent manner in which the church and council frown down the vice of immorality is having its effect in stamping out this atrocious evil.

POPLAR RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the eastern shore of Lake Winnipeg, about one hundred miles south of Norway House, and seventy-five miles north of Berens River. It has an area of three thousand eight hundred acres of exceedingly rocky and swampy land, not adapted for farming, though several acres of it may be utilized for raising potatoes. The timber is chiefly jack-pine, poplar, spruce, birch and tamarack.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa nation.

Vital Statistics.—This band is composed of one hundred and forty-eight Indians, made up as follows: twenty-five men, thirty women, and ninety-three children, making an increase of two.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Scrofula and tuberculosis are the prevailing diseases among these Indians, attributed to their impoverished and unsanitary condition. Their houses are small and ill-ventilated. The doctor treated twenty-five cases of various ailments, but only two were of a serious nature. This band is far removed from the sources of supplies, and is struggling for existence, which is very precarious at times.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Resources and Occupation.—The Indians of this reserve eke out an indifferent living by fishing, hunting and a little gardening. They will have only about one hundred and forty bushels of potatoes. There is no other employment available at this remote place.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The school-house was rebuilt by Mr. Dargue, the school teacher. It is 30 x 22 feet. A new foundation was put under it, the roof was shingled, and the building was mortared. A new stove was bought for it, and it is now warm and comfortable. An elegant manse was also erected by the teacher, and the grounds surrounding the school-house and manse are beautifully laid out with trees, through which walks are artistically cut. The dwelling-houses of the Indians are inferior, being made of logs mudded and thatched.

They have only one ox and two cows; but the teacher has purchased two sheep, and a small spinning-wheel, with which he intends to instruct the Indians in spinning and knitting. Their farming implements, which they prize highly, are well cared for.

Education.—The teacher, Mr. Dargue, is labouring under considerable difficulty in teaching, as the Indians have to go away from home to hunt and fish for their living; hence the attendance is most irregular. He, however, is very diligent in advancing them in their studies when they are present.

Religion.—The most of these Indians are Methodists; the rest are heathens. Their only place of worship is the school-house, where they regularly attend every Sunday.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are peaceable and most inoffensive, but their continuous struggle with poverty militates against their progress.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are not addicted to drinking ardent spirits, nor is there any immorality tolerated among them.

BERENS RIVER AGENCY.

I arrived here on August 30, but owing to the agent being up at Grand Rapids making payments to the Indians there, and no one at home but his little boy, I was unable to examine the books of the office, as they were locked up. I examined the 'files,' which were left out, and found them correctly kept. The buildings of the agency were nearly completed, and appeared to be suitable for the purposes of an office and storehouse.

BERENS RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the east shore of Lake Winnipeg, about one hundred and seventy-five miles south of Norway House, and contains an area of seven thousand four hundred acres. This, like the preceding reserves, is rocky and swampy. The soil is not sufficient for raising cereals, though there is enough for gardening purposes. The timber is mostly composed of spruce, jack-pine, birch and poplar.

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

Vital Statistics.—Of the three hundred and two Indians of this band, fifty-four are men, fifty-seven women, and one hundred and ninety-one are children, being an increase of twenty-eight over the population of last year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There was considerable sickness among these Indians during the year, principally consumption, scrofula and bronchial affections, but only seven cases proved fatal. The doctor prescribed treatment for all those who were afflicted. Their drinking water is pure, and is obtained from the river passing near their doors. They generally observe the sanitary regulations of the department.

Occupation and Resources.—Hunting, fishing and gardening are the principal occupations of these Indians. They catch a considerable number of fur-bearing animals, and kill a number of game. They fish extensively for the different companies, and realize \$1.25 for each sturgeon caught. They cultivate a quantity of potatoes, of which this season they will have about one thousand three hundred and sixty bushels. A number of these Indians are employed at saw-mills, on steamboats, and at the fisheries, from which they realize a large amount of money.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The Indian buildings are warm and comfortable, and equipped with all necessary articles for culinary purposes; many of them are kept scrupulously clean. All rubbish and offal are destroyed. The school-house is a log structure, 18 x 22 feet, ceiled and sided; the roof is shingled, and the building is furnished with everything requisite for the comfort of the teacher and children.

Their fifteen head of cattle are in excellent condition, and farming implements are given to the deserving, who look well after them.

Education.—Miss Lawford, an experienced teacher, has charge of the school. She is evidently a superior teacher, and under her tuition the school must prosper if the attendance is at all regular.

Religion.—An excellent chapel and manse are on this reserve, built by the Methodists, to which denomination nearly all the Indians belong. These Indians profited much by the labours among them of Rev. Messrs. Ross, Langford and McLachlin; the last named, their present pastor, having contended so valiantly against immorality that he has raised the standard of virtue on the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—Marked progress is noticeable among a majority of these Indians: a larger acreage has been put under potatoes; they are industrious, temperate and self-sustaining, and their condition is generally satisfactory.

JACK HEAD RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is located on the western shore of Lake Winnipeg, about thirty-five miles north of Fisher River; it has an area of two thousand six hundred and eighty acres, and is largely swampy, with a few elevated portions of fertile soil. The timber consists of spruce, jack-pine, birch, poplar and some tamarack.

Tribe.—The Indians occupying this reserve belong also to the Ojibbewa family.

Vital Statistics.—The eighty-one members of this band are made up of fifteen men, eighteen women and forty-eight children, which is a decrease of ten since last year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—No epidemic of any description visited these Indians, neither did any deaths occur among them during the year. Their houses and premises are kept in accordance with sanitary regulations.

Occupation and Resources.—The resources of their subsistence are hunting, fishing and gardening. They will realize about five hundred bushels of potatoes from the quantity planted. The councillor, James Sinclair, and a number of the band went to Grassy River, about ten miles south of the Little Saskatchewan River, where more suitable land was to be obtained for grazing and farming purposes.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Their buildings are warm log structures, covered with thatch. They have eight head of cattle, for which they had already procured fifteen tons of hay. They have not sufficient farming implements, as the Indians who went to Grassy River took so many articles with them.

Education.—There is no school in operation on the reserve, as the teacher, Mr. Disbrowe, has resigned. Very little progress had been made under his tuition, as the Indians were frequently away from home, and regular attendance under the circumstances was impossible. The school-house is a small log cabin, which was erected for a dwelling-house and purchased for school purposes by the department.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Religion.—The majority of the Indians occupying this reserve are Episcopalians, but those who left with Councillor Sinclair were mostly heathens. A chapel and manse combined is on this reserve, where their missionary, the Rev. Mr. Cochrane, died last year, and where the Ven. Archdeacon Settee now supplies his place.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding, make a comfortable living, but do not increase in wealth; indeed, it is impossible for them to do so, owing to the character of their reserve.

Temperance and Morality.—They do not indulge in alcoholic stimulants, and recently there is a decided improvement in their morals.

FISHER RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the western side of Lake Winnipeg, and is about thirty miles south-west from Dog Head. It has an area of nine thousand acres. There is excellent soil fronting the river, but, in going back from the river, it becomes low and swampy. When the wind is north, it drives the lake into the river until its banks overflow up to the mission, which is about four miles from its mouth. The timber is chiefly poplar, with a scattering of spruce and tamarack.

Tribe.—The members of this band are Swampy Crees. They emigrated from Norway House in 1875, and, like their kindred, they came from the shores of Hudson's Bay.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is three hundred and thirty-nine, composed of eighty-one men, ninety women and one hundred and sixty-eight children, being an increase of fourteen over the number last year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—This band was not afflicted with any contagious disease during the year, although there are a number of the Indians troubled with consumption, scrofula, bronchial and other affections. Nine of them died since last year's treaty payment.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming, gardening, stock-raising, fishing, hunting, working at saw-mills, cutting logs, and rafting are their occupations. They will have about one thousand seven hundred and ten bushels of potatoes, besides a small quantity of other roots. They complained that worms and insects destroyed their small garden seed, so that only a small quantity of them came to maturity.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Their buildings are mostly made of hewn logs, covered with boards or shingles and floored with lumber. They are provided with bed-rooms and furnished with cooking-stoves, cupboards and dishes, sewing-machines, looking-glasses, and other articles found in the houses of civilized communities.

They have large herds of cattle, five head of which they exchanged for sewing-machines, and thirteen head for horses.

Their implements, which they prize highly, are carefully housed.

Education.—These Indians are most intelligent, and they nearly all read their Bibles and hymn-books fluently in syllabic characters. The school was not in operation, as no teacher was employed; but I met the Rev. Mr. McDougall, Superintendent of Methodist Missions, in Winnipeg, and he informed me that a superior lady teacher was being sent out. They have an excellent school-house, equipped with all modern improvements for the comfort and convenience of the teacher and pupils.

Religion.—A chapel is on the reserve, and an elegant manse just finished by the Methodists, to which denomination all this band belong. Mr. Steinhauer, the missionary in charge, is a thoroughly educated, perfect gentleman, and does much in enlightening the band by precept and example. The Indians are devotedly attached to the tenets of their church, and apparently live up to their profession.

Characteristics and Progress.—This is the most progressive band in this agency, every able-bodied man and woman is a worker. They are peaceable, law-abiding and self-supporting.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are strictly abstemious and proverbially moral.

BLOOD VEIN RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated at Dog Head, on the eastern shore of Lake Winnipeg. It has an area of three thousand three hundred and sixty-nine acres. It is mostly unfit for cultivation, in consequence of its rocky and swampy nature.

Tribe.—These Indians are Ojibbewas.

Vital Statistics.—In this band are seventy-three Indians, of whom thirteen are men, nineteen are women, and forty-one are children. There is neither increase nor decrease in this band since last year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—A lack of sanitation is observable on this reserve, and the inevitable consequence is the presence of consumption, scrofula, bronchial affections and other diseases, arising from neglect and exposure. Four deaths occurred in the band during the year.

Resources and Occupation.—The only occupation these Indians have for subsistence is fishing and hunting. They are a nomadic band, without any settled homes.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements. They have five crude hovels on the reserve, but only one is occupied. They have no cattle, and the few farming implements they have are scattered about neglected and uncared for.

Education.—There is no school-house on this reserve, and the Indians do not want one. They are the most ignorant band in this agency, and there is no hope of any improvement while they follow their present mode of life.

Religion.—The members of this band are mostly heathens. They are intensely superstitious, and spend much of their time in drumming and incantations.

Temperance and Morality.—From the nature of their habits, these Indians cannot get any intoxicating liquors, and therefore are temperate from necessity. Most of them are virtuous.

HOLLOW WATER RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is about fifty miles south of Dog Head, on the east shore of Lake Winnipeg. It has an area of three thousand three hundred and sixteen acres. It is exceedingly rocky and swampy; still there is sufficient arable soil for cultivation.—The timber on this reserve consists of spruce, jack-pine, poplar and white birch.

Tribe.—The band occupying this reserve belongs to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—In this band are twenty-six men, twenty-four women and fifty-six children, making in all one hundred and six, which is a decrease of four since last year. Fifty-nine died during the last two years.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The consequence of the non-observance of the sanitary regulations of the department is notoriously noticeable among these Indians, where more than one-half of them are suffering from scrofula, consumption and other diseases arising from their slovenly habits. Nine died since last payments. Their graveyard is on a peninsula, where they invariably camp when then they come to the reserve. Here the dead are buried with little, if any, earth over them, so that the dogs devour the bodies.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians farm very little; they will have only about twenty bushels of potatoes. They are working on steamboats, at saw-mills, cut-

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

ting logs, rafting, fishing, hunting and picking berries, and from these resources they make a competence for themselves and families.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—A number of good, substantial buildings have been erected on this reserve; they are log cabins, shingled, floored and mortared.

These Indians have thirty-eight head of cattle, and their farming implements, especially ploughs and harrows, are left lying to rust and rot on the ground, as they are not used to till the soil.

Education.—A new school-house, 18 x 24 feet, clapboarded, papered and ceiled, shingled and double-floored, is on the reserve. The school is taught by Rev. Mr. Sinclair, a missionary of the Church of England. These Indians, being constantly employed by white people, have learned to speak English and acquired a knowledge of many of the industries of life from them.

Religion.—The majority of this band are heathens, but the Episcopalians have a good following, and the rest are Roman Catholics.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are quiet and inoffensive, and diligent when employment can be obtained.

Temperance and Morality.—They do not often come in contact with liquor-vendors, and therefore do not indulge in ardent drinks. Their morals are as good as those of the same number of white settlers.

BLACK RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is favourably situated on the eastern shore of Lake Winnipeg, fourteen miles north of Fort Alexander, and has an area of two thousand acres. The land in some places is rather low, but, where it is elevated, it is very fertile. The timber is chiefly poplar, spruce and jack-pine.

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

Vital Statistics.—This is but a small band, numbering sixty-two Indians, composed of thirteen men, seventeen women and thirty-two children. Since last payment there is an increase of one.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians is excellent. I only noticed a few cases of sickness among them. They are exemplary in their efforts to observe the rules of sanitation, and keep their premises particularly neat and clean. The water, as in nearly all the bands, is exceptionally pure and free from sewage or other filth. Only one death occurred since last payments.

Resources and Occupation.—Fishing, hunting, gardening and berry-picking are the principal resources from which these Indians derive their living. They will raise about five hundred bushels of potatoes this season.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Their log cabins are warmly built and neatly kept.

The thirty-seven head of cattle they possess are in good condition, and sufficient hay is prepared for wintering them.

On this reserve the farming implements are carefully attended to.

Education.—The walls of a new school-house are erected on this reserve; they are 18 x 20 x 10 feet, and are of flattened logs. The school teacher, Mr. Sandison, is teaching in the old school-house. He was educated at St. Paul's Industrial School, and appears to be faithfully instructing the children attending his school.

Religion.—All the Indians are Episcopalians. There is an excellent manse and a chapel on the reserve. The teacher conducts the services in the absence of the regular missionary. The Indians are very zealous in observing the ceremonies of the church.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are gradually improving; they are civil, courteous and industrious.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral in their habits.

THE ST. BONIFACE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

I visited and examined this school on October 9. I found about one hundred pupils in attendance. The teacher, Mr. Burnam, deserves great praise for the efficiency of the boys in military drill and dumb-bell exercises. The bandmaster, Mr. Sale, has accomplished a wonderful achievement in instrumental music, as his pupils manifest attainments of the highest order. The school is progressive in all its departments. The drawing and painting are excellent, and the proficiency in needlework cannot be excelled. Rev. Father Dorais lately made extensive improvements and additions in the building.

ST. PAUL'S INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

I visited and examined this school on October 10. It has had a varied career, and complaints were continually forthcoming from the parents of the children attending, and it was with great difficulty that there were sufficient pupils available to warrant its continuance. In April of this year, the services of Mr. J. G. Dagg, of Selkirk, were secured as principal. He was well and favourably known among the Indians, having been a successful business man who did a great deal of trading with the Indians, and in whom they had implicit confidence. When he assumed control, there were only forty-one children in the school, and before two months, the then capacity, viz., for eighty pupils, was taxed. He was given leave to take one hundred, and it was not long before this number was reached, and the principal asked leave to increase the capacity to one hundred and twenty, which was granted. It was found necessary to enlarge the building and make various improvements to accommodate this number.

Mr. Dagg has so popularized the school, that instead of going out to the reserve in search of children, he has upwards of forty applicants awaiting their turn. This state of affairs has had a wonderful effect upon the Indians. Although they visit the school frequently, they find no fault and make no complaints. The children are all happy and contented, and no worse punishment can be meted out to them than to threaten their dismissal from the school, which shows perfect satisfaction. The school work is under two of the best teachers of Indian children to be found anywhere: Miss Cree, who teaches the junior department, and Mr. McDougall, who has charge of the senior scholars. The regular curriculum of the public schools is rigidly adhered to and faithfully taught. At a recent exhibition, the school competed against all the public schools in the district, and took all the prizes in every competition. In addition to the school work, carpentering, blacksmithing, farming and printing are taught the boys, and all kinds of housework are taught to the girls.

Band instruments have recently been purchased, and under the instruction of a competent director, fifteen boys are being taught to play, and are making excellent progress. The recent improvements have added greatly to the exterior of the building, and have doubled the capacity of the interior.

Farming operations at the institution have more than doubled those of any previous year, and the prospects for the farm paying well are favourable.

GENERAL REMARKS.

It is estimated that Captain Robinson pays annually upwards of \$40,000 to the Indians in my inspectorate for lumbering, cutting cord-wood, making ties, working on steamboats, and at the fisheries.

In my inspection of Indian reserves, I visited the different freezers, and found them all thoroughly scrubbed and scrupulously clean. No offal nor decayed fish

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

was to be seen, for all refuse was carted away to a distance in the woods. I am glad to bear this testimony, inasmuch as I formerly had to report the slovenly and unsanitary manner in which I found this industry conducted. Messrs. Ewing and Fryer also employed a number of Indians at their fisheries, and gave them a large amount of money and substantial goods for their labours. It is evident that as long as these industries last, most of the Indians in my inspectorate will, along with their other pursuits, be enabled to obtain a comfortable livelihood.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I have, &c.,

E. McCOLL,
Inspector of Indian Agencies.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,

RAT PORTAGE INSPECTORATE,

RAT PORTAGE, ONT., July 10, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report, together with statistical statement and inventory of Government property under my charge for the year ended June 30, 1899.

SAVANNE AGENCY.

My jurisdiction in this agency extends over eight bands, as follows:—

LAC DES MILLE LACS BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band are 22 A1, on Lac des Mille Lacs, and 22 A2, on Seine River. These reserves have an area of twelve thousand two hundred and twenty-seven acres.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band belong to the Ojibbewa nation.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is eighty-eight, consisting of sixteen men, fourteen women, twenty-seven boys and thirty-one girls. During the year there were four births and two deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of these Indians has been fairly good, no infectious disease appeared among them during the year, and the houses and surroundings were kept clean.

Dr. Hanson visited them during the payment of annuity, and vaccinated those requiring to be operated upon.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources of the Indians of this band are pretty limited. Their principal occupation is fishing and hunting for home consumption and trade. One or two have small patches planted with potatoes and garden seeds.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—They have the usual log houses, and of altogether too small dimensions to allow of the proper accommodation of the occupants. Four of larger dimensions are nearly completed. The great majority of the Indians live in their wigwams during the whole summer along the shore of the lake. There are only two head of cattle on this reserve and few implements.

Education.—There are twenty-four children of school age in this band, and parents and guardians will not voluntarily place them in school, and in consequence of their roaming habits, it is practically impossible for the present to open a day school at this point.

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; however, some of them, although they have not made great strides towards advancement, show better disposition to do so.

Temperance and Morality.—The members of the band adhere to the principles of temperance and morality as well as can be expected; there are some, however, who will take liquor whenever it is procurable. I had a few liquor cases during the year, and the offenders were found guilty and punished.

KAWAWIAGAMOK BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Kawawiagamok Lake. It contains an area of five thousand nine hundred and forty-eight acres, the greater part of which is heavily wooded. It is not adapted for farming.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of twenty-eight, consisting of eight men, seven women, nine boys and four girls.

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

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 log building on the reserve, the property of the chief. The Indians have no stock whatever, and the few garden tools on hand are adequate for their wants.

Education.—There are only four children of school age in this band, and the parents will not voluntarily place them in school.

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.

Population.—The population is eighty-five, consisting of thirteen men, twenty-four women, twenty-five boys and twenty-three girls. During the year there has been one birth and one death.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians of this band during the past year has been fairly good. There was no serious case of sickness nor contagious disease. The medical officer visited the reserve during the annuity payment, and vaccinated all the children. They kept their premises fairly clean.

Resources and Occupation.—Fishing and hunting for home consumption and sale are their principal occupations, and a little gardening.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The majority of these Indians have fairly good dwelling-houses. They have no stock. They have a fair supply of farming implements, which they take good care of.

Education.—There is one suitable school building on this reserve. The number of children of school age is twenty. During the winter months the attendance was fairly good. The progress, in consequence, was very good, as all worked well and seemed to take an interest in their work. They are all improving in reading. The school is under the supervision of the Church of England.

Religion.—All the Indians of this band are pagans. The Church of England has a missionary stationed at Dinorwic, who visits them at different intervals.

Characteristics.—These Indians are fairly industrious and law-abiding, but make very slow progress.

Temperance and Morality.—The temptations to indulge in the use of intoxicants on this reserve are many, since the opening in its vicinity of several stopping-places for mining men, and while it is not difficult, I regret to say, for Indians given to intemperance to procure liquor from some of those parties engaged in the business, yet it is had through indirect means.

These habits are not confined to a few of the band, and the Indians are so reticent in their nature that it is impossible to induce them to admit who the offending parties are.

EAGLE LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the east side of Eagle Lake. It contains an area of eight thousand eight hundred and eighty-two acres.

Natural Features.—This reserve contains much good, merchantable timber.

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

Vital Statistics.—The population is sixty-one, consisting of seventeen men, thirteen women, sixteen boys and fifteen girls. During the year there were two deaths and two births.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the band is good. There was no serious sickness during the year, and sanitary precautions are well attended to.

Resources and Occupation.—The chief occupations of these Indians are trapping and fishing. Berry-picking is also one of their principal resources. Their gardens are well attended to, and more attention has again this year been paid to potato-growing.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—Councillor Keewaycabsmeting has completed his new house, which is a comfortable one; the other buildings, although not very large, are comfortable and kept very clean and tidy. Their little stock has been well provided for, and is in good condition. Their implements are well cared for.

Education.—There is a day school now on this reserve, which is under the auspices of the Church of England; teacher, Mr. Arthur Bruce. There are eleven children of school age, the school having been but a few months in operation. The attendance has been irregular, owing to the Indians being away at their hunting grounds.

Religion.—Nearly all the members of this band are pagans.

Characteristics.—The Indians are progressing, favourably in their domestic life. Perhaps the most marked feature in their advancement is the manner in which they cook and serve their meals; also in their dressing, which is clean and tidy.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians of this band, with few exceptions, are generally temperate, and respect the laws of morality fairly well.

LAC SEUL BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the south-east shore of Lac Seul or Lonely Lake. There is also an auxiliary to this band, known as 'Frenchman's Head,'

lying about fifteen miles south of the reserve, and also another fragment living at Sawbill Lake, north of Ignace Station. This reserve has an area of forty-nine thousand acres.

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

Population.—The combined population is five hundred and fifty-four, consisting of one hundred and twenty-nine men, one hundred and twenty women, one hundred and sixty boys and one hundred and forty-five girls. During the year there were eleven deaths and twenty-one births.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health, generally speaking, has been fairly good. Grippe and old age were the chief causes of death. The sanitary condition of these Indians is improving each year; their houses and surroundings are kept cleaner.

Resources and Occupation.—The resources are an abundance of fish, game indigenous to the district, and fur-bearing animals. The main occupations are hunting, fishing and trapping for home consumption and trade.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The houses on this reserve are all built of logs, and above the average; three new houses have been built during the year, and five are in course of erection. The stock is in good condition and well cared for. The agricultural implements are properly stored.

Education.—There are three school-houses on this reserve. The Canoe River and Frenchman's Head schools were open during the whole term, that at Treaty Point during June and September quarters, with very fair attendance. Several of the children are pupils of the Rupert's Land Industrial School. There are one hundred and twenty-seven children of school age, but a large percentage are most of the time absent with their parents from the reserve.

Religion.—The great majority of these Indians are Christians, of which four hundred and twenty-nine follow the Church of England and eighty-eight the Roman Catholic Church. The former has two mission stations on the reserve and services are well attended.

Characteristics.—These Indians are well-meaning and intelligent; although they have not made great strides towards advancement, they have gained their own living, and I have noticed that they show 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 among them who will take intoxicants when offered to them. From their own standpoint, they are fairly moral.

WABUSKANG BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on Wabuskang 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 seventy persons in this band: sixteen men, eighteen women, thirteen boys and twenty-three girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians has been fairly good, with the exception of a mild outbreak of measles, with some fatal results; no other contagious disease has appeared among them. Their houses are clean and tidy, and no garbage can be seen around them.

Resources and Occupation.—Their main resources are fishing and trapping, also gardening; and the produce from these sources supplies them, to a large extent, with food.

Buildings and Implements.—Their dwellings are in a fair condition, and have been improved, fences built and other little improvements have been added here and

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

there. They have a fair assortment of garden implements, which are handled with care, and are properly stored when not in use.

Education.—There are seventeen children of school age in this band. The school had been closed for want of a teacher.

Religion.—In this band there are twenty-seven members of the Church of England, five Roman Catholics, and thirty-eight pagans.

Characteristics.—The majority are industrious. They are a law-abiding people, and some of them have improved fairly well.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians, as a rule, are temperate, and their general behaviour has been good during the year.

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

Population.—The band numbers one hundred and one, consisting of twenty men, twenty-four women, thirty-two boys, and twenty-five girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians generally has been good, with the exception of a mild outbreak of measles, with some fatal results; no other contagious disease has appeared among them. An apparent change has taken place in the keeping of their houses and premises, which are neater and cleaner; in some instances, commendably so. During the warmer season, they adopt camp life, dwelling in neat wigwams.

Resources and Occupation.—Hunting, fishing and picking berries are the main occupations of the members of this band. Their trapping has been very profitable this year. They have enlarged their gardens, with a fair result.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—Their buildings are, with few exceptions, of a poor class, small and not too comfortable; two or three are fairly built, and, as stated above, clean and tidy.

The few animals in their possession are well attended to, and they also take good care of their implements.

Education.—There is no school at present in operation at this place. There are twenty-eight children of age to attend school.

Religion.—There are sixty members of the Roman Catholic Church, eight of the Church of England, and thirty-three pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians, although considered more indolent than the generality of those similarly situated, have shown some improvement since my first visit to their reserve.

Temperance and Morality.—The same remarks under this heading that apply to the Wabuskang Band are also applicable to this band.

RAT PORTAGE AGENCY.

RAT PORTAGE BAND.

Reserve.—This band has three reserves, No. 38 A, B and C. The first-named is situated in Clear Water Bay, 38 B, near the town of Rat Portage, and 38 C, at 'The Dalles,' on the Winnipeg River, about ten miles north of 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.—The population of this band is one hundred and thirty-five, consisting of thirty-two men, thirty-seven women, and thirty-seven boys and twenty-nine girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of this band is fairly good; scrofula and consumption are the most prevalent diseases among them, and it is impossible to get them to take proper means to lessen these diseases, and little can be done to help those affected outside of a hospital, as even those suffering from these diseases will roam about in all kinds of weather, and so long as cleanliness is a trouble, they will not practise it.

Resources and Occupation.—Their main resources are fishing, hunting and berry-picking; also working in the lumber camps. They have small gardens, which they cultivate in a perfunctory manner.

Good mining locations have been found on 38 A and 38 B.

Buildings.—There are only a few dwellings, which are built with logs, that might be considered fair. The general structure of their houses is poor and small.

Education.—There is a day school on Reserve 38 C, at 'The Dalles,' but the attendance is so irregular that their progress is practically nil. Several attend the Rat Portage Boarding School with better results.

Religion.—There are in this band forty-one members of the Church of England, fourteen Roman Catholics, and eighty pagans.

Temperance and Morality.—The close vicinity of the reserves to the town of Rat Portage, and the frequent visits of the Indians to it, give those addicted to the use of liquor great opportunity to try every means to obtain intoxicants; consequently, constant watch is required to prevent them from securing this favourite beverage. Their morality is far from being exemplary.

SHOAL LAKE BAND, No. 39.

Reserves.—The situation of the reserves of this band are on the west shore and north-west shore of Shoal Lake, partly in Manitoba. They contain an area of nine thousand four hundred and forty-six acres.

Natural Features.—These reserves are timbered with cedar and spruce. Good mining locations have been found on them.

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

Population.—The population is eighty-two, consisting of twenty-one men, twenty-four women, seventeen boys and twenty girls.

Resources.—Besides hunting, fishing, gardening and picking berries, a good deal of money is made by work in the lumber camps in winter.

Religion.—The members of this band are all pagans.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve. Thirteen children are of age to attend school.

Temperance.—Several Indians of this band are addicted to liquor. I had a few liquor cases during this year, and in every case the offenders were found guilty and punished.

SHOAL LAKE BAND, No. 40.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the north-west shore of Shoal Lake, and partly in Manitoba. The area is six thousand seven hundred and fifty-nine acres.

Natural Features.—This reserve is timbered with cedar, birch, poplar and spruce. Good mining locations have been found on it.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Population.—The population of this band is sixty-two, consisting of fourteen men, fifteen women, eighteen boys and fifteen girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Like their neighbours of Shoal Lake Band, No. 39, these Indians are slow to become clean and tidy. Their health is fairly good.

Resources.—Fishing and hunting are their principal resources. They attend to their gardens, gather berries and rice, and also work in wood camps.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve. There are eighteen children of school age. A few are pupils of the Rat Portage Boarding School

Religion.—All the members of this band are pagans.

Temperance.—The majority of this band is temperate, yet there is room for improvement in this respect.

NORTH-WEST ANGLE BAND, No. 37.

Reserves.—This band has the following reserves: 37 on Big Island, 37 on Rainy River, 37A on Shoal Lake, 37B at North-west Angle, Lake of the Woods, 37C, North-west Angle River in Manitoba. The area of these reserves is nine thousand three hundred and forty-five acres.

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

Population.—The population of this band is one hundred and sixteen, consisting of twenty-four men, twenty-seven women, twenty-six boys and thirty-nine girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians is fairly good. There are a few cases of scrofula, but no epidemic disease, and all sanitary measures possible were attended to.

Occupation.—With the exception of a few employed by the fish companies, these Indians have but little chance to earn anything outside of their reserves. They are too far away from settlement to earn wages at labour. They are hunters and trappers, and do little gardening.

Buildings and Stock.—Their dwellings are of the ordinary kind of log houses, poorly built and not too comfortable. They occupy them during the winter months only, on account of their indolence and roaming habits. Their stock suffer more or less every winter for want of food.

Education.—There are twenty-nine children of age to attend school in this band, but the great majority of the parents are opposed to having their children educated.

Religion.—The members of this band are all pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—Their time is too much taken up in wandering around the lake in indolence, and in consequence they are disinclined to manual labour.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians, living, as they do, far from the town, are not much thrown in the way of temptation, and I believe that they are, on the whole, temperate and moral.

NORTH-WEST ANGLE BAND, No. 33.

Reserves.—The Indians of this band reside at the North-west Angle. They have two reserves, viz: 33A, situated on Whitefish Bay, and 33B, North-west Angle. The area of the same is six thousand three hundred and ninety acres.

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

Population.—The population numbers fifty-seven, consisting of fourteen men, eighteen women, ten boys and fifteen girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians is fairly good. There is no epidemic among them, and their sanitary condition has materially improved.

Resources.—Their principal resource is hunting. Some are employed by the fishing companies and at wood camps.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve. There are only ten children of school age.

Religion.—All the members of this band are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are law-abiding. Little progress, if any, has been made. This is largely due to their roaming habits.

Temperance.—These Indians, living, as they do, far from the town, are not thrown in the way of temptation.

NORTH-WEST ANGLE BAND, No. 34.

Reserves.—These Indians have several reserves. They reside on the one situated on Gull Bay, Lake of the Woods, No. 34. The others are 34A, Whitefish Bay, 34B, first and second parts on Shoal Lake, and 34C, North-west Angle, in Manitoba, also 34C, Lake of the Woods. The total area of these reserves is five thousand two hundred and forty-eight acres.

Population.—The population is twenty-one, consisting of seven men, nine women, one boy and four girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians is good, and their sanitary condition is fairly good.

Resources and Occupation.—Hunting and fishing for a living and attending to their gardens are their principal occupations.

Buildings and Stock.—The few log houses inhabited by them are in fairly good repair. Their stock is always well cared for and in good condition.

Education.—There are no children of age to attend school on this reserve.

Religion.—All the members of this band are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—The few Indians forming this band are industrious and law-abiding; although they have not made great strides towards advancement, they have gained their own living.

Temperance and Morality.—One or two of them 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 Point, Lake of the Woods, and is in the province of Manitoba. Its area is five thousand seven hundred and sixty-three acres.

Natural Features.—The reserve is well timbered with different kinds of wood, and the land is good for farming, with an abundance of hay land.

Population.—The population of this band is forty-nine, consisting of nine men, twelve women, twelve boys and sixteen girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been fairly good during the year, and the sanitary conditions fairly good. During the winter measles attacked several members of the band, but the fatalities were few.

Resources and Occupation.—Their principal occupations are hunting and fishing for a living. Several of them are employed by American fishermen. Their gardens, planted with potatoes and corn, are well attended to.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve. Eleven children are of school age.

Religion.—All the members of this band are pagans.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Characteristics and Progress.—There are a few good workers in this band. The proximity of the reserve to the boundary line affords them the opportunity to wander across the line, and some of them remain on the war-path the year round.

Temperance and Morality.—I do not know of any drunkards in this band, although there are some amongst them who will take intoxicants when offered them. From their own standpoint, they are fairly moral.

BIG ISLAND BAND.

Reserves.—This band has ten reserves, principally situated on the Lake of the Woods, they reside on only two—Big Island and 31 A, on the south end of the large peninsula. The area of these reserves is eight thousand seven hundred and thirty-seven acres.

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

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

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of these Indians has been fairly good during the year and free from epidemic. They are paying more attention to the sanitary condition of their homes.

Resources and Occupation.—Hunting is the principal occupation of these Indians. Some are employed in cutting cord-wood for steamers. Increased attention is also paid to potato-growing.

Buildings and Stock.—The majority of their dwellings are in a fairly good state of repair; but some are small and not too comfortable. Their stock is well kept.

Education.—There are thirty-five children in this band of age to attend school. 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 their indolence and roaming habits.

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 three reserves, situated as follows: 32A, on Whitefish Bay, Lake of the Woods, 32B on Yellow Girl Bay, and 32C, on Sabaskang Bay. The combined area of these reserves is ten thousand five hundred and ninety-nine acres.

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

Population.—The population is forty-five, consisting of ten men, eleven women, nine boys and fifteen girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of these Indians has been fairly good during the year. Sanitary measures have of late years been adopted by collecting the accumulation of dirt and refuse about their dwellings and burning it.

Resources and Occupation.—The Indians of this band who reside on the reserve, obtain a living by hunting, and working in the lumber camps, and in the Regina mine. Nearly half of them reside away from their reserve, where they gain a livelihood by fishing and hunting.

Buildings.—Some improvement is noticed in the new dwellings erected, but the great majority of them are somewhat dilapidated.

Education.—There is no school in operation on the reserve. Twelve children are of age to attend school, and some of them attend the Indian boarding school at Rat Portage.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Religion.—There are six Roman Catholics belonging to this band. The others are pagans.

Temperance and Morality.—Several Indians of this band are addicted to strong drink, and will, when they get the chance, imbibe freely, which is often given them by unscrupulous vagabonds.

The marriage relation is not always sacredly observed by them. The habit of taking a wife and 'throwing her away' for the most trivial cause and taking another, is frequent, not only among this band, but also in several bands of the Lake of the Woods.

ASSABASKA BAND.

Reserves.—This band has nine reserves. The great majority of the Indians reside on Reserve 35C, near Turtle Portage, on Sabaskang Bay. The combined area of these reserves is twenty-one thousand two hundred and forty-one acres.

Natural Features.—These reserves are well timbered with merchantable wood.

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

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

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Excepting a mild attack of whooping cough, the general health of the members of this band has been fairly good during the year; there were no epidemic diseases among them. These Indians have been slow to become clean and tidy, but now there is a fair improvement in that direction.

Resources and Occupation.—Hunting and fishing are their principal occupations; some of them are employed by the lumber camps in cutting cord-wood; only a little gardening being done by them, which, I am glad to say, they have paid better attention to this year.

Buildings and Stock.—Their dwellings are in fairly good repair and kept fairly clean, also their stables. Their stock of horses and cattle are in good condition.

Education.—There is a day school in operation on this reserve. The attendance has been irregular for some time during the year, owing to a misunderstanding between the teacher and the band regarding religious instruction, which they were opposed to, but the matter has been satisfactorily settled, and there is promise of a better attendance in the future.

Religion.—All the members of this band are pagans, and they are bitterly opposed to the clergy of any denomination visiting their reserve for religious purposes.

Characteristics and Progress.—Speaking generally, these Indians are naturally indolent and indifferent. They are, however, law-abiding. A few are becoming better off, and seem to show a tendency to improve their conditions.

Temperance and Morality.—A number of these Indians are passionately fond of strong drink, and will, when an opportunity occurs, indulge freely. They are, however, looked after very closely.

ISLINGTON BAND.

Reserve.—This band has three reserves, namely, Islington, Swan Lake and One Man Reserves. The first-named is situated on the Winnipeg River, the second on Swan Lake, and the last-named on One Man Lake. The combined area of these reserves is twenty-four thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine acres.

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

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

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There are several cases of chronic disease among them. Grippe and pneumonia made several victims during last winter; otherwise the general health of these Indians has been fairly good. Their houses are kept fairly clean, and sanitary instructions are followed.

Resources and Occupation.—Apart from the cultivation of a few small gardens, their sole occupations are hunting and fishing. The hunt yields moose, bear, mink, rat and deer; while the lakes are well supplied with various kinds of fish, including whitefish and sturgeon, which constitute a large portion of their food.

Buildings and Stock.—Their log dwellings are well built, clean and tidy, especially those built lately. Their stock of cattle is in good condition, and received better attendance.

Education.—This band has a day school on the Islington Reserve, with a small and irregular attendance. Some of the children are pupils of the Indian industrial school in Manitoba.

Religion.—The Church of England has a church, together with a resident minister, in the vicinity of Islington Reserve. The great majority of the Indians are members of that church, with a few Roman Catholics and twenty-seven pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—With the exception of a few individual cases, the majority of them are not provident, and are more or less indolent. As a rule, they are very law-abiding.

Temperance and Morality.—There are many in this band lacking the virtue of temperance, and 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 from half-breeds; but, as a rule, the majority 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 August 24, and was present at the payment of annuities made by Mr. Indian Agent Begg to the several bands of his agency.

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 Rapids, No. 1 and No. 2; Little Forks, Coutcheeching, Stangecoming, Niacatchewenin, Niekickonsemencanning, Rvière la Seine, and Lac la Croix.

Tribe or Nation.—All the Indians of the Coutcheeching Agency belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

HUNGRY HALL BANDS, NOS. 1 AND 2.

Reserves.—These reserves, which are situated near the entrance of the Rainy River, on the north side of it, were visited on August 24, 1898. The area of these two reserves is six thousand two hundred and eighty-three acres. Reserve No. 15M, known as 'Wild Lands Reserve,' adjoins them on the east. Its area is twenty thousand six hundred and seventy-one acres.

Population.—The population of the two reserves is fifty-eight, consisting of fifteen men, twenty-two women, twelve boys and nine girls.

Resources.—Hunting and fishing are the chief occupations of these Indians. Some get work in the saw-mills and booms in the vicinity of the reserves. They attend to their gardens, which are planted with potatoes and corn. The soil is very good for cultivation, but, on account of their nomadic habits, little progress, if any, had been

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

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.

Religion and Education.—Forty-seven of these Indians are pagans, and eleven are members of the Church of England. There is no school in operation, and only nine children of age to attend school.

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. Their combined area is eleven thousand four hundred and thirteen acres.

Population.—The combined population of these bands is ninety-nine, consisting of twenty-two men, thirty-two women, eighteen boys and twenty-seven girls.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians are mostly engaged in hunting. They attend to their gardens and keep them properly hoed. Their houses are kept in good repair. Some of the Indians are employed by the lumbermen and steamboat company as guides in the rapids, and helping the white settlers on their farms.

Religion.—The Church Missionary Society has a chapel here, which is under the charge of the Rev. J. Johnstone. Only eleven members of these bands belong to the Church of England; the remainder, to the number of eighty-eight, are pagans.

Education.—The Indians move around a good deal to the different hunting-grounds; consequently, the attendance at the school is very irregular.

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, with an area of five thousand seven hundred and thirty-six acres.

Population.—The population is one hundred and twenty-four, consisting of twenty-five men, twenty-six women, forty-six boys and twenty-seven girls.

Resources and Occupation. These Indians depend largely on hunting and fishing for a living. The soil is very well adapted for cultivation. I found some very good gardens. Three or four Indians give some attention to mixed farming. The reserve is also well wooded with spruce, poplar and pine.

Buildings.—Much improvement has been made in their dwellings.

Religion.—There are only five members of this band belonging to the Church of England; the remainder, one hundred and eighteen, are pagans.

Education.—A day school has been in operation for years, with slow progress.

LITTLE FORKS BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the north bank of Rainy River, about twelve miles distant from Fort Frances, and it contains an area of one thousand nine hundred and twenty acres.

Population.—The population of this band is composed of ten men, fifteen women, twelve boys, and nine girls, in all, forty-six.

Resources.—The Indians make use of all the resources, viz., fishing, hunting, trapping, gardening and cattle-raising. Their stock of cattle is small and well cared for.

Buildings.—Their dwellings are not so good as on some other reserves, but are nicely kept.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Religion.—Only five of this band are Christians, being members of the Church of England. The remainder, forty-five, are pagans. The school-house is a substantial one, and, under the tuition of the new teacher, good progress has been made by those children who attend school regularly.

COUTCHEECHING BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on Rainy Lake, a few miles from Fort Frances. It has an area of eleven thousand three hundred and sixty acres.

Population.—The population at the last payment was one hundred and thirty-seven, namely, twenty-eight men, forty-two women, thirty-six boys and thirty-one girls.

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, potatoes and corn; but most of them depend on their hunting and fishing for a living. The young men get employment from the lumber camps and the Hudson's Bay Company.

Buildings and Stock.—There is a change for the better being made in the buildings on the reserve. The Indians are making them much larger than formerly; those principally noticed are the dwellings of Simon Jourdain, Alexander Brieyere, Alexis Maiville and Joseph Guimond. Their ponies and cattle are well sheltered, and provided with sufficient hay.

Religion.—The great majority of this band, numbering one hundred and three, are Roman Catholics. They attend the church at Fort Frances, which is about four or five miles from the reserve. Eight are members of the Church of England; the remaining twenty-six are pagans.

Education.—The school has been closed during the year for want of a teacher.

STANGECOMING BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on Rainy Lake, about eight miles from Fort Frances.

Population.—The population is forty-eight: eight men, nine women, eleven boys and twenty girls.

Resources and Occupation.—The Indians of this band live mainly by hunting and fishing, and a very small amount of gardening. Most of the land on the reserve is stony, and it is not nearly so well timbered as the other reserves. Fishing is also not so good as at the reserves on the other part of the lake. These Indians have but little chance to earn anything outside of the reserve.

Religion.—Only four Indians in this band are Christians, being Roman Catholics; the remainder are all pagans.

Education.—Their school has been closed for several years for want of attendance.

NIACATCHEWENIN BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve upon which these Indians reside is situated on North-west Bay. The area of their several reserves is fourteen thousand five hundred acres.

Population.—The population of this band is fifty-seven: ten men, sixteen women, thirteen boys and eighteen girls.

Resources and Occupation.—Their principal occupations are hunting, fishing and attending to their gardens. Several of their number are employed in the lumber camps in their vicinity.

Religion.—All the members of this band are pagans.

Education.—There is no school on the reserve.

NICKICKONSEMENECANNING BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve on which these Indians reside is situated on Porter Inlet, Red Gut Bay, Rainy River. The combined area of their reserves is ten thousand two hundred and twenty-seven acres.

Population.—The population of this band is fifty-seven: ten men, sixteen women, eighteen boys and seventeen girls.

Resources and Occupation.—Apart from the cultivation of a few small gardens, their sole occupations at present are hunting and fishing, in which pursuits they travel abroad from the reserve. A few work with prospectors and in lumber camps.

Religion.—With the exception of two Roman Catholics, all the Indians of this band are pagans.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve. Thirteen children are of school age.

RIVIERE LA SEINE BAND.

Reserves.—The Indians of this band reside on two reserves, one situated at the mouth of the Seine River, and the other on Wild Potato Lake. The area of these reserves is eleven thousand and sixty-three acres.

Population.—The population numbers one hundred and twenty-five: twenty-three men, twenty-eight women, thirty-four boys and forty girls.

Resources and Occupation.—Those Indians living on the reserve near the mouth of the river, cultivate a few small gardens. Apart from that, the only occupations at present of themselves and of their brethren of the other reserve are hunting and fishing for a living. Some also find work in the several mines in operation on this river, in chopping wood and other manual labour.

Religion.—All the Indians of this reserve are pagans.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve, although there are twenty-six children of age to attend school; but these Indians are indifferent in regard to education.

LAC LA CROIX BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of these Indians is situated on Namaka River, and on the lake of the same name. It contains an area of fifteen thousand three hundred and fifty-five acres.

Population.—The population numbers eighty-six: fifteen men, twenty-one women, nineteen boys and thirty-one girls.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians live mainly by hunting and fishing, the moose, bear and several kinds of fur-bearing animals being their principal game; and for this purpose, range over a considerable area, even across the international boundary.

Religion.—Ten of these Indians are Christianized; they belong to the Roman Catholic Church. The remainder are all pagans.

Education.—For the children of nomadic Indians, as described above, to attend a day school to any profit, is impossible; consequently, very little has been done to open a day school on this reserve.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

GENERAL REMARKS.

The Indians of this agency are, on the average, still backward as regards proper means of subsistence, clothing and domestic habits. There are, however, a few exceptions, among those living on reserves situated on Rainy River: I may mention Angekejick and Mache Kingung, of Long Sault; and of Manitou Rapids, Joseph Jourdain, jr., Esquibnesse, William Mainville, and Joseph Guimond, and a few others.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of these Indians during this year has been fairly good. They have been 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, and Angekejick, one of the most industrious among them, lost one of his hands from the effects of the latter disease.

Temperance and Morality.—In general, the Indians in the 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, and the proximity of some of the reserves to the American boundary gives opportunity for smuggling intoxicants to them.

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.

Agency Books.—The various records were examined throughout, and were found to be kept with the greatest neatness and accuracy.

The agent, Mr. Magnus Begg, continues to conduct the affairs of this large and important agency in such a manner as to conserve the interest of the department, and retain the confidence of its wards, and they look to him for guidance throughout all the details of their work.

I have, &c.,

L. J. ARTHUR LEVEQUE,
Inspector of Indian Agencies.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
MEDICAL REPORT,

RAT PORTAGE, ONT., June 30, 1899.

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.

At Assabaskashing I remained several days during the payment, and attended a large number of Indians suffering from rheumatism, grippe, scrofula and consumption; also several cases of venereal disease.

I visited the Savanne Agency with Inspector Lévêque, and attended all that required treatment.

At Ignace I treated several Indians for coughs and scrofula, and at Wabigoon I attended a large number for venereal disease and consumption, which is becoming more prevalent among them.

At Frenchman's Head I attended to all that required treatment, a number suffering from the effects of grippe, and during the winter a number died from its effects.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

At Lac Seul I attended a large number of them for coughs, sore throat and consumption. Several died from the effects of grippe last winter.

At Wabuskang I attended a number for coughs, rheumatism and grippe. During the winter there were a few mild cases of measles, and one death, caused by taking cold after having them.

At Grassy Narrows there has been a good deal of sickness among the Indians, grippe and measles being prevalent among them during the winter.

At One Man's Lake and Islington there has been a good deal of sickness, grippe and scrofula being prevalent among them, and two cases of paralysis.

On the Lake of the Woods there have been several cases of whooping cough, without any bad results.

During the year I have been kept busy in my office, attending to Indians from the different reserves.

I have supplied the schoolmasters on all the reserves with medicine to be used when required.

I have performed several operations, and pulled a number of teeth.

On the whole, the Indians are becoming more cleanly in their habits, and keep their houses in better condition than formerly, and are adopting the habits of the white people more than they used to do.

I have vaccinated all that required to have it done, on all the reserves.

I am not aware of any serious sickness among them at the present time.

I have, &c.,

THOS. HANSON, M.D.,
Medical Officer.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

ASSINIBOIA—ASSINIBOINE AGENCY,

WOLSELEY, September 5, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ended June 30, 1899, accompanied by a statistical statement and inventory of Government property under my charge.

ASSINIBOINE BAND, No. 76.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is a block of land, nine miles by eight, in townships 15 and 16, of ranges 11 and 12, of the 2nd principal meridian, and contains about seventy-two square miles.

Tribe.—The Indians belong to the Assiniboine tribe, and are without doubt an offshoot, at some remote period, from the great Sioux family.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of fifty-nine men, sixty-five women, forty-seven boys and forty-six girls, or two hundred and seventeen in all. There were nine births and twelve deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of these Indians during the past year has been fair. Scrofula and consumption are the chief diseases. Dr. Edwards visits the reserve at stated periods to prescribe for the Indians. He also attends promptly when summoned to any emergent cases.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Resources and Occupation.—The natural resources of the reserve are wood and hay. The Indians cut and sell a good deal of both to settlers. The Indians engage in farming, and had nearly three thousand bushels of wheat last season. They sold a quantity for cash, some they had gristed for flour, and the remainder they kept for seed this spring.

Besides selling hay and wood, which the Indians mostly take to the towns on the railroad, the women tan hides, make moccasins, and knit mitts and stockings.

Buildings.—I am glad to say that many of the old dilapidated buildings were pulled down during the year and good, substantial log houses built in their place. All the new houses were nicely floored, and several of the Indians put on good shingled roofs, buying the lumber out of the money they had made in raising cattle. A most marked advance has been made this year in the matter of buildings.

Most of the old rotten fencing around the agency offices has been replaced by new and a new flagstaff has been erected on a slight knoll near the offices.

Stock.—The cattle are doing well, and are carefully looked after. I am glad to be able to report a desire on the part of the younger Indians to go more extensively into cattle-raising. They are, no doubt, beginning to appreciate cattle more by seeing the money that the other Indians get for the beef they sell. This feeling is most gratifying from the fact that heretofore there has been a good deal of indifference about having cattle.

Farming Implements.—Several of the Indians have purchased new mowers, horse-rakes, bob-sleighs and cooking-stoves, paying for them out of the money they got for beef and wheat that they had raised.

Religion.—Some of the Indians profess Christianity. Both the Presbyterian and Roman Catholic Churches have adherents among the band. The Presbyterians have a fine stone mission on the reserve, under the efficient charge of the Rev. Ewen McKenzie, who is most ably assisted in the work by Mrs. McKenzie. Regular services are held on the Sabbath morning and evening, and also Sunday school in the afternoon. Both Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie are very kind in attending to the wants of the sick and infirm, and in the fall a large quantity of clothing and blankets is distributed from the mission to those most badly in need. These articles are forwarded for distribution by kind and thoughtful friends of the Indians in the east.

The Roman Catholic Church authorities have also a frame building, to be used as a church, in course of erection on the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are fairly industrious, and some of them are well on the road for independence. The greatest drawback is the desire to move around too much. It is encouraging to notice that many of the young men are not taking to the roving habit so much.

These Indians took a number of first prizes at the Wolseley agricultural show last fall for grain and roots. One of the graduates of the Regina Industrial School, named Clara Williams, took two first prizes, one for butter, and another for bread. This girl is employed as interpreter at the Presbyterian mission, and fills the situation with credit to herself and satisfaction to her employers.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians do not go out of their way to get liquor, but some of them will take it when offered. Last fall I had two men arrested who had supplied the Indians with liquor, and being unable to pay a fine, they were sent to the jail at Regina. I have to thank Staff-Sergt. Fyffe, of the N.-W. M. Police, for his usual perseverance in capturing these offenders.

General Remarks.—The past year has been one of contentment and progress among these Indians, and their conduct has been excellent.

A good crop was put in this spring, and the prospects are bright for another good yield.

The reserve was officially inspected by Inspector McGibbon last November. He appeared pleased at the state of affairs.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

The department's new well auger was on the reserve for two months last fall, and did efficient work in putting down some good wells, which have been a great benefit to the Indians, being convenient, and also from a sanitary point of view.

I beg to thank the department for the new implements and wagons furnished, which have been a great help to us.

Daniel Kennedy, an ex-pupil of the Fort Qu'Appelle Industrial School, assists me. I find he performs his various duties in a very satisfactory manner.

I have, &c.,

THOS. W. ASPDIN,
Farmer in Charge.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
SASKATCHEWAN—BATTLEFORD AGENCY,
BATTLEFORD, September 15, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith my annual report, together with statistical statement and inventory of Government property under my charge, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899.

Reserves.

No. 108—Red Pheasant, 24,320 acres.

No. 109—Stonies, 46,208 acres, situated in the Eagle Hills, south of Battleford.

No. 113—Sweet Grass, 42,528 acres.

No. 114—Poundmaker's, 19,200 acres.

No. 116—Little Pine, 16,000 acres, situated on the south side of Battle River and west of Battleford.

No. 112—Moosomin, 16,000 acres.

No. 115—Thunderchild, 20,820 acres, situated between the Battle River and the North Saskatchewan, and west of Battleford.

Natural Features.—The character of these reserves is rolling prairie, diversified with bluffs of poplar, rivers and lakes.

Tribe.—All the Indians of this agency are Crees, with the exception of the Stony Bands.

Vital Statistics.—Eight hundred and twenty-eight men, women and children compose the population of this agency.

Thirty-seven births, fifty-four deaths and twelve migrations occurred during the year, making a total decrease of twenty-nine souls since my last report.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—On the whole, the health of the Indians has been very satisfactory; of course, there are nearly always some cases of consumption and scrofula, also a few old standing cases of syphilis. Last winter there were quite a number who suffered from erysipelas and influenza; but, as the spring advanced and the Indians were able to get more fresh air and outdoor exercise, their sickness rapidly disappeared and a marked improvement took place, which, I am glad to say, has been steadily maintained.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Houses and premises are kept much cleaner than formerly, and during the spring all refuse and garbage that had collected around their dwellings during the winter, was gathered up and burned.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians are engaged in mixed farming and stock-raising. There are fifteen hundred and twenty-two head of cattle in the agency, exclusive of this year's crop of calves, which, as will readily be perceived, is enough to keep the Indians fully employed putting up a sufficient quantity of fodder to carry them through our long North-west winter.

Last winter they sold twenty-four steers, which realized \$882.50; the department also paid them \$3,922.15 for hay delivered to the agency.

Owing to drouth and summer frost last year, the crops were very meagre; but this season the outlook is much brighter.

Being so far from a railroad militates considerably against the Indians engaging in many other industries by which they could earn a livelihood. The hunting in this district is practically a thing of the past, and fishing is very scant; so they are confined to selling a little wood and hay, also some lime and charcoal; by such means they are enabled to procure some of the extra comforts of life, which otherwise they would have to forego.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The houses and stables are all built of logs and are, in consequence, frequently in need of repairs; they are well white-washed in the fall. A few old houses have been pulled down, and new ones, of a better class, erected in their stead.

As the Indians on Red Pheasant and Stony Reserves are individually looking after their cattle more every year, it has necessitated the building of additional stables.

The Sweet Grass stables and sheds at Ribstone Creek were burned by a prairie fire last fall, so new ones have been erected to replace them. It was also necessary to put up stables at Birch Lake, where a number of our cattle are wintered.

Implements are well cared for: they are all gathered up in the fall and put under cover, so as to protect them from the weather and keep them in working condition as long as possible.

The stock are all in splendid condition and thriving well. In addition to the number of cattle already mentioned, we have one hundred and eleven sheep and thirty-eight pigs.

Education.—There are five day schools in operation; three of these are under the auspices of the Church of England, and the other two of the Roman Catholic Church.

These schools are all well equipped; there is a good average attendance at all of them, and the progress shown is fair.

The industrial school at this point conducted by the Church of England authorities, is under the charge of Rev. E. Matheson. There are one hundred and two pupils, who all seem to be doing well.

There are also a number of children from this agency who are pupils at the Duck Lake (Roman Catholic) Boarding School.

Religion.—Religion, as we understand the term, is an unknown quantity when applied to the Indians of the agency. There are about an equal number of nominal adherents to both the Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches; the remainder of our Indians are pagans, pure and simple.

There are four missionaries stationed on the various reserves, and seven buildings which are used for divine worship.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are very careful in their due observance of the law, and fully appreciate its benefits and punishments.

I am pleased to say that, within the past year, there is an appreciable improvement shown in the progress of my Indians: they are apparently awakening to the fact that at some future day, not far distant, they must support themselves, and are becoming more self-reliant and practical in their mode of living. Of course, a great number of them still have very crude ideas of life, and will require constant supervision and

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

encouragement for a long time yet; but as the older generation—who are more prejudiced—die off, the younger ones will be more amenable to the ways and methods of their white brethren in making a livelihood.

The undermentioned Indians are well advanced and very industrious; they will, practically speaking, hereafter be self-supporting:—

Red Pheasant's Band: Pechawis, Baptiste, Jean Baptiste.

Moosomin's Band: Whitecap, Etowekeesik, Josie Moosomin.

Poundmaker's Band: Chatsis, Basil Favel, Pierre, Antoine.

Little Pine's Band: Joe Peme, Andrew.

Sweet Grass Band: Big Thunder, Edward.

One mower, three wagons, three sets of harness and fifteen pairs of bob-sleighs, as well as numerous smaller tools and implements, have been purchased by my Indians during the past year.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians here may be called fairly moral, and also temperate, though the latter virtue in some instances is only obtained by careful vigilance and precautions being taken to guard them against the evil.

General Remarks.—All the employees have performed their duties in a faithful and satisfactory manner.

Inspector Chisholm twice visited this agency during the year, and on the last occasion made a careful and detailed inspection.

The treaty payments took place in October, and passed off in a very quiet and orderly manner.

I have, &c.,

C. M. DAUNAIS,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST SUPERINTENDENCY,
BIRTLE AGENCY,

BIRTLE, MAN., August 15, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report, together with statistical statement for the fiscal year ended June 30 last.

Reserves and Tribes.—There are nine reserves within this agency, four of which are inhabited by Sioux, or Dakotas, as they prefer to be called, and five chiefly by *Saulteaux*.

The Sioux took refuge in this portion of the Dominion in the year 1862, immediately after the massacre of the white settlers in the state of Minnesota. They have no claim on the Government of Canada, and the assistance that they have received has been given as a matter of grace and expediency, and not of right.

The *Saulteaux* are one of the tribes who originally occupied a portion of this western domain, and whose claim to ownership was relinquished by treaty with the Government during the year 1874.

The Bird Tail Reserve is located at the junction of the Bird Tail and Assiniboine Rivers, and about ten miles southerly from the town of Birtle. The area is six thousand four hundred acres.

The Oak River Reserve is at the junction of the Oak and Assiniboine Rivers, and about four miles northerly from Griswold, a station on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The area is nine thousand seven hundred acres.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

The Oak Lake Reserve is situated on the Pipestone Creek, four miles northerly from Pipestone Station, and has an area of about twenty-five hundred acres.

The Turtle Mountain Reserve is in a gap of the mountain, from which it derives its name, and about eight miles southerly from White Water Lake. It comprises one square mile.

The Keeseekoowenin's Reserve is located on the Little Saskatchewan River and on the southern base of the Riding Mountain. The area of this reserve is eight and three-quarter square miles, besides which the Indians have a fishing station on the northern shore of Clear Water Lake, of about eight hundred acres, and a quarter-section about eight miles northerly from their reserve, set apart for hay purposes.

Waywayseecappo's Reserve comprises thirty-nine square miles, and is situated on the Bird Tail River, about eighteen miles northerly from the town of Birtle.

The Valley River Reserve lies between the Duck and Riding Mountains, and on a river of the same name, which flows in an easterly direction to the Dauphin Lake. The extent of this reserve is eighteen and one-quarter square miles.

The Gambler's is near the mouth of the Silver Creek, and about five miles from Binscarth Station. About ten hundred and fifty acres are included within its scope, besides which there are about eight thousand five hundred and fifty acres of surrendered land around and about the reserve proper.

The Rolling River Reserve, as the name indicates, is on the Rolling River, and about fifteen miles northerly from the town of Minnedosa. About twenty square miles are within the boundaries of this reserve.

Population.—The population of the nine bands within this agency is as follows: Bird Tail Sioux, No. 57, nineteen men, twenty-two women and twenty-four children; Oak River Sioux, No. 58, sixty-nine men, eighty-five women, and one hundred and fifty-eight children; Oak Lake Sioux, No. 59, eighteen men, eighteen women and thirty-four children; Turtle Mountain Sioux, No. 60, three men, three women and three children; Keeseekoowenin's, No. 61, twenty-six men, forty women and eighty children; Waywayseecappo's, No. 62, forty men, forty-four women and eighty-one children; Valley River, No. 62½, fourteen men, twenty-one women and sixty-nine children; Gambler's, No. 63, four men, six women and eight children; Rolling River, No. 67, thirty-four men, thirty-three women and forty-five children.

Resources and Occupation.—The reserves occupied by the Sioux are of much lighter soil than those in possession of the Saulteaux, or treaty Indians, but while the soil will not produce nearly such heavy crops of grain, cereals mature more quickly; the lands are also freer from scrub, and therefore more easily put under cultivation. Although small herds of cattle are kept by the Sioux, and some profit derived from the sale of surplus animals held by individual members of the bands, their chief resource is from the sale of grain. They are successful growers of corn, some of which is used when green, preserved by cooking and then drying, and by crushing the matured grain into meal and cooking it by various processes. Limited quantities of garden stuff are also grown by them, and usually more potatoes than they require for their own use. Rush mats and baskets are also made by some, and a few much-needed dollars in this way gained.

The Saulteaux do not farm as extensively as do the Sioux. The benefits that they derive each year under the treaty tend more to stagnate energy than to foster it. Their reserves are well adapted for the raising of cattle, there being luxurious pastures and numerous natural meadows. Ample timber is also available for building and sheltering purposes. Game, large and small, is yet plentiful in close proximity to the reserves, while fish abound in the lakes and rivers.

The Indians gain their livelihood from the sale of surplus cattle and hay, by tanning hides, gathering senega-root, raising potatoes and garden stuff, while a few grow small fields of oats and wheat. A few also work for white men during the harvest and threshing season.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Education.—The day schools on the Oak River and Keeseekoowenin's Reserves are yet in operation. The attendance at the former has not been as large nor as regular as it might have been. During the summer months, from the anniversary of Her Majesty's birthday until late on in the summer, there are attractions without the reserves, but within the reach of these mirth-loving people, that allure the Indians away from their homes and the children from the schools. During the winter months the plea for irregular attendance is the cold weather.

The attendance at the Keeseekoowenin's—known as Okanase—Reserve school has been fairly regular during the year, and very satisfactory progress has been made. Children from this agency are also in attendance at the Regina, Qu'Appelle, Elkhorn and Brandon Industrial and the Pine Creek and Birtle Boarding Schools. There is a section of the Rolling River Band who yet object to taking advantage of the schools that are open to their children, but the great majority of the Indians within this agency are now warm friends of the schools.

Religion.—A commodious new church, costing over \$800, was erected on the Bird Tail Sioux Reserve by the Presbyterian denomination. The Indians of the Oak River Sioux Reserve have gathered a large quantity of stone, and hope to have in the near future a stone church.

Characteristics and Progress.—The majority of the Indians of this agency are fairly industrious, some particularly so, while there are a few who are indolent. They may all be classed as law-abiding.

John Tanner, of the Gambler's Band, No. 63, is the wealthiest Indian within this agency. He has nearly fifty acres of as good wheat and oats as I have seen this season, a good farmhouse, stable, implement-shed and milk-house, besides a new binder, seed-drill, mower, wagon, and other necessary farm implements. He has over fifty head of good cattle, and about ten horses. His personal property, including buildings and land improvements, is worth at least \$3,000.

Temperance and Morality.—There were several convictions during the last year for supplying intoxicants to the Indians, which is evidence that the traffic is not dead, and that the Indians have not totally abandoned the use of liquor. The Indians, I believe, are fairly moral.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians has been tolerably good, no sickness of any contagious nature having occurred.

General Remarks.—Since my last report was written, evidences of progress may be seen in many of the Indian homes—true, not as numerous nor as important as I had wished for, yet they are, I believe, indicative of advancement on substantial lines.

I have, &c.,

J. A. MARKLE,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

ALBERTA—BLACKFOOT AGENCY,

GLEICHEN, August 10, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—The Blackfoot Reserve is situated on both sides of the Bow River, and includes townships 20, 21, 22 and part of 23. It is bounded on the north by the

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Canadian Pacific Railway, and on the south by a range of hills called the Buffalo Hills. Gleichen, on the C.P.R., 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 the Bow River, and a good deal of hay is cut in these hills and on other parts of the reserve. There is also a range of sand dunes, called the Peigan Sand Hills, on the southern side of the Bow River, near the western boundary of the reserve. There is no water to speak of, the sloughs generally drying up in the early part of the season. The Arrowwood Creeks, in the south-western parts, and the Crowfoot Creek, in the north-eastern part of the reserve, are the only creeks on the reserve that contain water all the year round. The Bow River runs through the reserve. With the exception of some groves of cottonwood and poplar on the river bottom, there is no wood to speak of.

Tribe.—These Indians are the Blackfeet proper. The Bloods, Peigans and South Peigans, on the American side, 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 at the end of the fiscal year was ten hundred and ninety-six, consisting of two hundred and seventy-six men, three hundred and fifty-eight women and four hundred and sixty-two minors. During the year there were twenty-six births, sixteen males and ten females. The deaths numbered forty-five, twenty-seven males and eighteen females.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the Indians has been good. The principal cause of death was consumption and scrofula. There have been no epidemics during the year.

The Indians live in tents during the summer months, and, after leaving their houses in the spring, care is taken that all houses are properly cleaned and white-washed, and the surroundings cleaned up and refuse burned.

Hospital.—The hospital at the North Reserve is under the control of the Church of England, and supported partly by the Government. The attendance during the year has been fair. The patients are well fed and looked after by the nurses. Dr. Lafferty makes his usual visits, and has successfully treated cases of scrofula, and vaccinated fourteen adults and fifty-one minors. A large number examined had already been vaccinated. The hospital has been painted.

Resources and Occupation.—The Indians engage in farming and raising cattle, and also work for ranchers in the vicinity at herding, haying and doing general farm work, giving good satisfaction to their employers. A number of the Indian women are employed by ranchers' wives, washing and doing other necessary work, and give fair satisfaction. Our Indians were also employed filling a hay contract, four hundred and thirty tons of hay being put up for the 'O' Ranch, Queenstown. This work was done satisfactorily, and the sum of \$1,397.50 was received by the Indians. The amount of hay cut and stacked by the Indians was thirteen hundred and fifty tons, as follows:—seven hundred and seventy tons for Indian cattle, one hundred and five for farmers and agency, forty-five tons for schools, and four hundred and thirty tons for 'O' Ranch, Queenstown. The Indians were also employed putting up five hundred tons of hay for Mr. I. Clarke, of Crowfoot Creek, and three hundred tons for Mr. Vic Anderson, Namaka, and gave the best of satisfaction. The sum of \$522 was realized by the Indians from the sale of seventeen hundred and forty-two bushels of oats raised on irrigated land. They have purchased a self-binder and seeder out of the proceeds. The amount of coal mined and sold during the year was three hundred and eighty-one tons, as follows: to settlers, one hundred and fourteen tons; Northwest Mounted Police, Gleichen, five tons; Crowfoot day school, thirteen tons; agency and farms, eighty-three tons, and to the White Eagle and Old Sun's

boarding schools and hospital, one hundred and sixty-six tons. There is a good coal seam, but, on account of its being on the south side of the Bow River, it cannot be worked to advantage until the river is frozen and safe for teams to cross. Two drifts are worked during the winter months, one by Calf Bull and the other by Bear Robe. These Indians employed others to mine the coal.

Buildings.—The houses on the reserve are nearly all built of logs. Quite a number have shingled roofs and good floors, and greater interest is now taken by the Indians in having good floors and proper windows in their houses. The Indians who own cattle take an interest in having good stables, sheds and corrals. The great drawback on this reserve is the difficulty in getting good timber suitable for building houses and stables. Fourteen log houses have been built during the year to replace old ones, and twelve cattle stables.

Stock.—The number of cattle now owned by the Indians totals three hundred and ninety-seven, an increase of ninety-two over last year. There are twenty to be taken over by the Indians in exchange for ponies, which will bring the total up to four hundred and seventeen. We have received four thoroughbred short-horn bulls, which now makes a total of twelve on the reserve for the improvement of the herd. There were twenty-three casualties during the year, and twenty-two head were butchered and turned into the ration-house and issued as rations. Our calf crop at the June round-up was ninety-three, and four hundred and forty-one head were branded. This includes the stock held by the farmers and the calf crop. Our Indians took quite an interest in the round-up, and I have no doubt that it will be an incentive to those who object to cattle to trade off their ponies for heifers, as this industry is the only one to make them self-supporting.

Farm Implements.—One self-binder, one seeder, four mowing-machines, two horse-rakes, five sets of harness and ten wagons have been purchased by the Indians during the year. Greater care is taken of these implements and wagons, as the Indians are beginning to realize that hard work has to be done to earn and save sufficient money to replace them. Implement-sheds are being put up by the more progressive Indians for the protection of their wagons, mowing-machines and other implements.

Education.—There are two boarding schools, one at the North Reserve, 'Old Sun's,' and one at the South Reserve, 'White Eagle's,' both under the auspices of the Church of England. The 'White Eagle' boarding school for boys has twenty-eight on the roll, and the other, 'Old Sun's,' for girls, has twelve pupils on the roll. The progress made by the girls is very encouraging. They speak English fairly well, and are quite clever at knitting, washing, cooking and baking bread. At the White Eagle's school the boys have been taught gardening, milking and the care of stock. One day school (Crowfoot), Roman Catholic, has on the register twenty-five—fifteen boys and ten girls—with an average attendance of ten. The studies, as nearly as practicable, are carried on according to the regulations required by the department. In this school very little progress is noted, as what is taught them in school is all forgotten on their return from the summer holidays. When the new Roman Catholic boarding school is completed, it is hoped that the pupils now attending the day school will enter the boarding school. The number of pupils attending industrial schools is fifteen—fourteen boys and one girl.

Old Sun's boarding school has been plastered and painted.

Religion.—These Indians are mostly pagans, but a number are claimed by the Rev. H. W. Gibbon Stocken, as members of the Church of England, having been baptized and confirmed by His Lordship Bishop Pinkham. A Blackfoot service is held every Sunday morning in the memorial building, and there is also a service in the afternoon in English, which a number of the Indians attend. These services are held at the North Blackfoot Reserve. The Rev. C. H. P. Owen (Church of England) holds an afternoon service in English at the White Eagle boarding school, South Reserve, for the pupils of the school; a few of the Indians attend this service. The Rev. Father Danis, O.M.I., who has charge of the Roman Catholic mission, holds divine service every Sunday in

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

the school-room. Quite a number of the Indians attend these services. It is his intention to build a church, as the present room used is too small to accommodate all the Indians attending. A number of the Indians of both denominations have been legally married.

Temperance and Morality.—There were three cases of drunkenness tried before me during the year. One was dismissed, and two sent up to Calgary—one for one month, and the other for fourteen days. These Indians received the liquor from some white man in Calgary, but would not say who he was. There were also two cases of gambling on the reserve, which were dismissed with a caution. It has had a good effect, as no more cases have come under my notice. With these exceptions, the behaviour of the Blackfeet has been good. A good many of the Indians are fond of liquor, and when they go to Calgary, are invariably supplied with it by half-breeds and unprincipled white men, who make a practice of carrying on this traffic for the extra profit in it. The North-west Mounted Police are very vigilant and keep a close supervision over the Indians when visiting Calgary, and of course this makes it a very difficult matter for the Indians to get liquor without being found out by the police.

The women, as a rule, are moral, and compare favourably with other tribes. Staff-Sergeant Brooke, in charge of the North-west Mounted Police detachment, Gleichen, keeps a close supervision over Indians when in Gleichen, and up to the present no case of immorality has been charged against them.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians are employed farming, haying, mining and hauling coal, and attending to their stock.

The quantity of grain raised last season was two thousand five hundred and nineteen bushels of oats and three thousand three hundred and ninety-five bushels of potatoes, besides a quantity of turnips, carrots and onions. We sold one thousand seven hundred and forty-two bushels of oats, and out of the proceeds received (\$522) a self-binder and seed-drill were purchased, and the sum of \$433 was divided amongst the Indians who raised the grain. Ten new wagons have been purchased by the following Indians: Yellow Horse, White Pup, Yellow Tail-feathers; Running Martin, Running Rabbit's Son, Big Road, Bear Chief, Many Good and The Cutter; four mowing-machines and rakes by Bad Old Man's Son, White Eagle, Little Axe, and Greasy Forehead; also four bob-sleighs by Wolf Collar, Big Old Man, Big Road and Crow Shoe.

The improvement in their houses during the year has been good, and the Indians have now in their houses good bedsteads, chairs, fairly good stoves, cooking utensils; and quite a number have clocks, cupboards and tables. Most of their houses are small; this is accounted for by the Indians having no timber on the reserve suitable for building purposes. The earnings of the Indians, as a rule, are well spent, and I might mention the following Indians as doing their best to improve their condition: Little Axe, who now owns seventy head of cattle, horses, two sets of double harness, two mowing-machines and rakes, two sets of bob-sleighs, a good shingled-roofed house, and stables and corrals which will compare favourably with the average white man's. He has also about one hundred and sixty acres of pasture fenced. Wolf Collar has eighteen head of cattle and a number of ponies, stable and corral, a good shingled-roofed house, mowing-machine, and rake, and bob-sleighs. Drunken Chief has twenty-two head of cattle, good stables and corral, mowing-machine and rake, wagon and one set of bob-sleighs. Old Woman-at-War has twenty-eight head of cattle, house, stables and corral, mowing-machine, and rake, and wagon. He has also a number of ponies. There are a number of other Indians owning cattle who are anxious to improve their condition, and who own wagons, harness, mowing-machines and bob-sleighs, and have fairly good houses, stables and corrals. There is quite a spirit amongst them to purchase their own wagons, mowing-machines and other necessary implements, which I encourage, as it tends to make them more independent. The Indians have earned during the year \$7,365 from the following sources: sales of ponies, beef cattle, coal-mining, sale of oats, hay contracts, and working for ranchers.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

We have contracts for cutting and stacking five hundred tons of hay for the 'O' Ranch, Queenstown, seventy tons for the beef contractor, and twenty-five tons for the North-west Mounted Police, Gleichen. Besides this, our Indians will be employed putting up hay for themselves and the ranchers in the vicinity.

Our Indians, at the invitation of the Calgary City Council, went to Calgary on July 16, 1898, to meet the Minnesota Press Association, and take part in the programme of sports for their amusement. I might say that our Indians were the principal attraction, and behaved themselves creditably.

The Indians held their sun dance in August, a later period than usual. The reason of the delay was, the chiefs were under the impression that I would relent and give them assistance to hold this dance, in the shape of beef tongues and paunches, which of course I refused to do. This dance will eventually die out, if too much importance is not attached to it.

Our first Blackfoot fair was held on September 28, 1898, and was successful. The Indian Commissioner, Mr. A. E. Forget, was present, and opened the fair, afterwards distributing the prizes to the fortunate ones. The Indian Commissioner congratulated the Indians, the agent and the employees on their efforts in making the fair a success. The Indians and visitors all went away pleased and glad they attended the fair.

The treaty payments took place on October 26 and 27 following, and passed off quietly, Staff-Sergeant Brooke and one constable being present. One change among the employees occurred during the year, Mr. Haynes resigning the position of clerk, and Mr. Race was appointed in his place.

Inspector Wadsworth inspected this agency once during the year.

Great assistance was given me by the department employees in the work of the reserve during the year.

I have, &c.,

G. H. WHEATLEY,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

ALBERTA—BLOOD AGENCY,

MACLEOD, August 31, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—The reserve is situated between the Belly and St. Mary's Rivers, near Macleod, in southern Alberta, the southern boundary being not more than fourteen miles from the international boundary. It contains an area of five hundred and forty-eight square miles of the best grazing lands in the district.

Tribe and Vital Statistics.—The Blood Indians are the most numerous branch of the Blackfoot nation. The population of the tribe at last payment was three hundred and twenty-seven men, four hundred and fifty-five women, two hundred and sixty-eight boys and two hundred and twenty-eight girls, showing a decrease of thirteen souls. The births during the year numbered twenty boys and thirty-five girls, while the deaths were nine men, fifteen women, sixteen boys and nineteen girls.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians has not been so good as could have been wished for, and the deaths have been more numerous than in former years, but no epidemic of any kind has taken place. An outbreak of diphtheria was reported among the Indians last fall, but upon inquiry no case was found, although the wife of Farmer Grant, at the upper reserve, was under quarantine for the disease.

The sanitary condition of the various farms and villages has been good, and all refuse carefully taken away.

The hospital has been better patronized, and the attendance has averaged about nine patients.

Occupation.—The principal work of these Indians, after seeing to their cattle and horses, is hay-making and freighting of coal, flour and other supplies.

During the season over two thousand and sixty tons of hay was put up. Of this amount, some eleven hundred and thirty-nine tons was sold, netting about \$5,695. The remainder being fed to cattle and horses.

The hauling of coal for the agency, reserve farms, boarding schools and ranchers in the district, and to the North-west Mounted Police detachments, afforded a considerable amount of occupation for these Indians during the fall and winter. The total tonnage freighted was four hundred and ninety-two.

The usual amount of freighting of supplies for the agency and storekeepers in the surrounding district was undertaken, while some \$1,400 was realized from the Mormon colony for freighting lumber, &c., to the irrigation canal.

Stock.—The cattle industry, which was only begun in 1894, is fast assuming a most important place, and our herd now numbers about fourteen hundred and fifty-four head. The winter of 1898-9 was a good one—taken all round—for cattle, and with a full supply of hay and lots of open water, the cattle came through in splendid condition.

At our 'round-up' on June 30; some three hundred and eighty-nine calves belonging to Indians were branded, and eleven belonging to department cows, giving a total of four hundred, and there are quite a few still to brand at the fall 'round-up.'

During the month of October we killed all our three-year-old steers, and the average of the lot (seventeen head) was eight hundred and ninety-eight pounds of dressed beef per animal, which shows what condition our cattle were in.

Only pure-bred pedigreed bulls are used in the herd. These are taken up in the fall and carefully fed all winter, and not placed with the cows till about July 5.

Mange was very prevalent in the district this spring, but we were fortunate in having only one steer and a few of the bulls affected. No case was noticed among the cows or young stock. As usual, a few deaths from blackleg took place among the young stock, but not to any extent.

Education.—The two Roman Catholic day schools are now closed, and the new boarding school has been open since October. Some twelve pupils are resident. The St. Paul's Episcopal boarding school contains forty-four pupils, and the day school at Bull Horn's belonging to this denomination has an average attendance of seven children.

No great interest, however, is taken by the Indians in the education of their children.

Religion.—There are two churches, one Episcopal and one Roman Catholic, upon the reserve; but the Indians care very little for the white man's religion, and few, comparatively, attend the services. Those older Indians, who are baptized, and the pupils from industrial schools, seem to care more for their own dancing religion than for any other form.

Progress.—Very fair progress has been made by the Indians during the past year, and they evince a strong desire to work and make money, but work of a suitable kind is hard to find in this sparsely-populated part of the country. The total

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

income of the Indians for the year amounted to \$25,061.75. Progress among the Indians is, of course, much more noticeable if one takes a retrospective view of a few years.

Temperance.—A considerable amount of drinking has taken place; but when it is taken into consideration that the Indians are seldom without money, matters might very easily have been worse. Half-breeds congregate round the towns, and for the sake of what money can be made, purchase liquor for the Indians, re-selling it to them at two or three times its original cost, and thus eke out a precarious living.

General Remarks.—A barb-wire fence of four strands has been run along our southern boundary from Belly River to Cardston, a distance of some sixteen miles. For years the settlers' cattle and horses have been trespassing upon the reserve, but this will now shut that part off, and also be the means of keeping the horses and cattle belonging to the Indians from straying off the reserve in that district.

The treaty payments, which took place during October, passed off in the usual quiet and orderly manner, and the Indians were careful to spend the money to good advantage.

During the year it was my sad duty to report the death by accident of Farmer Baker, which took place while he was at work in the cellar of his own house. Farmer McNeil left the service of the department in July, and the positions of these two men have been filled by the appointment of Mr. Jas. A. Grant, of Macleod, and Mr. H. G. Long, of Kipp.

I have, &c.,

JAS. WILSON,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
SASKATCHEWAN—CARLTON AGENCY,
MISTAWASIS, October 31, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report, together with agricultural and industrial statistics for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899.

Carlton Agency comprises that part of the provincial district of Saskatchewan lying north of the North Saskatchewan River, and between the 104th and 108th degrees of longitude. It includes the following reserves and bands of Indians :—

STURGEON LAKE BAND, No. 101.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated about twenty-five miles north of Prince Albert, and has an area of twenty-two thousand and sixteen acres. The soil is a sandy loam, a portion of which is sufficiently fertile for farming. The northern extremity is heavily timbered with spruce of superior quality, poplar bluffs being scattered over the remainder of the reserve. Pasturage is good and hay plentiful. Sturgeon Lake runs easterly across the reserve, and abounds in fish.

Population.—The population is composed of forty men, forty-one women and seventy-five children.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Occupation.—About one-half of this band are hunting Indians, and have to travel abroad from the reserve while engaged in this pursuit. The others follow farming and stock-raising. They also earn a good deal freighting and working and selling hay to the lumbermen.

Education.—A day school has again been opened adjacent to the reserve, with Mrs. T. Clarke as teacher; but, owing to the difficulty in getting the parents to send their children to school, progress has been slow.

Religion.—A large number of this band are still pagans, and cling to their old customs and beliefs. Those that do profess religion belong to the English Church, and are under the charge of Rev. J. Badger, resident missionary.

PETAQUAKEY'S BAND, No. 102.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on Muskeg Lake, twenty miles north-west of Carlton, and has an area of twenty-six thousand eight hundred and eighty acres. The west side is wooded with spruce and poplar, which will produce large quantities of building and fencing timber. The soil is a rich sandy loam of considerable depth, with sand subsoil, a considerable portion of which is suitable for cultivation. There are numerous large hay marshes, and water is plentiful.

Population.—The population consists of seventeen men, twenty-five women, and thirty-eight children.

Occupation.—The Indians of this band are chiefly engaged in farming and cattle-raising. They also earn some money by freighting, digging roots, and working for settlers adjacent to their reserve.

Education.—As the children are all attending boarding or industrial schools, there is no day school on this reserve.

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 is situated at Snake Plain, twenty-five miles north of Carlton, on the trail to Green Lake, and has an area of forty-nine thousand two hundred and eighty acres. The north-western part of this reserve is well wooded with poplar, spruce, jack-pine and tamarack. The south-eastern part is prairie, interspersed with bluffs of poplar and willow. The soil is a rich loam covered with a considerable thickness of vegetable mould, except on the high lands, which are generally sandy. The reserve is well watered, and the pasture magnificent.

Population.—The population consists of thirty-five men, forty-three women and fifty children.

Occupation.—These Indians are engaged in farming and cattle-raising, their reserve being well adapted for mixed farming. They also earn a good deal in freighting, and digging and selling roots.

Education.—There is a day school on this reserve. Good progress is being made, although the attendance is never large, as many of the children are attending industrial schools. The teacher, Miss K. Gillespie, is competent, and very energetic in her work.

Religion.—The Presbyterians have a church on this reserve, with Rev. W. S. Moore, B.A., as resident missionary. About two-thirds of the band attend service here; the remainder, being Roman Catholics, attend service at Muskeg Lake.

AHTAHKAKOOP'S BAND, No. 104.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated eighteen miles north of the agency buildings at Mistawasis, and has an area of forty-three thousand and eight acres. There is a considerable portion of wooded land on this reserve, consisting of poplar, spruce and tamarack. Along the valley of the Assissippi, or Shell River, which flows south-easterly across the reserve, every kind of soil may be found: light sandy soil on the ridges; rich loam on the flats, and extensive hay meadows.

Population.—The population is composed of forty-four men, fifty-three women, and one hundred and nine children.

Occupation.—The Indians of this band make their living chiefly by farming and stock-raising, and in these pursuits they have been fairly successful, as their crops have never been a total failure, and the large herd of cattle they now have indicates that their reserve is well adapted for raising stock. Occasionally they have an opportunity of earning a little by freighting when not engaged at farm work. A few are still engaged in hunting for a living.

Education.—There is a day school on this reserve, and steady progress is being made under the teaching of Mr. Louis Ahenakew, a graduate of Emmanuel College, Prince Albert.

Religion.—The English Church is the only one represented here, and the Indians attend service very regularly every Sunday. The Rev. James Taylor is the missionary in charge.

KAHPAHAWEKENUM'S BAND, No. 105.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the northern shore of Meadow Lake, about one hundred and thirty miles north of Battleford, and has an area of eight thousand nine hundred and sixty acres. This reserve, which is one of the most northern in Treaty Six, is a very exceptional one, there being an abundance of fish, good soil, and plenty of timber and water. The country around Meadow Lake is principally prairie, with poplar bluffs. Along the shores of the lake and river are extensive hay meadows, capable of feeding many thousand head of cattle.

Population.—The population is composed of fourteen men, fifteen women and thirty-seven children.

Occupation.—These Indians live entirely by hunting and fishing, large game being still numerous in that part of the country.

Education.—During the year there has been no day school, as it was found impossible to keep up the attendance, owing to the wandering habits of the Indians.

Religion.—A number are Christianized, and belong to the Roman Catholic Church, and are under the care of the Rev. Father Leston, Green Lake.

KENEMOTAYOO'S BAND, No. 106.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on Big River, twelve miles north of Sandy Lake. It includes several lakes, which abound in fish of excellent quality. Hay and timber are plentiful.

Population.—The population is composed of twenty-five men, twenty-seven women and fifty-three children.

Occupation.—These are a band of hunting Indians, and are just beginning to settle on their reserve. A few who located on the reserve last year have been engaged breaking land, and taking out saw-logs during the winter.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve, and only a few children have been sent to industrial schools.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Religion.—Those that profess religion belong to the Church of England, and are under the care of Rev. James Taylor, Sandy Lake.

INDIANS NOT LOCATED.

The Pelican Lake Band live on the shores of Pelican Lake, about sixty-five miles north-west from the agency headquarters. The treaty Indians of this band number eleven men, fifteen women and twenty-nine children. They are all pagans, and have no means of being educated. This band has the privilege of settling on the reserve at Big River, but as yet none have done so, and continue to make a precarious living by hunting and fishing.

WILLIAM CHARLES' BAND.

Location.—These Indians live on the shores of Montreal Lake.

Population.—The population is composed of thirty men, thirty-four women and eighty-nine children.

Education.—A number of the children have been sent to industrial schools, and a day school is located at Montreal Lake.

Religion.—The members of this band are all Christianized, and belong to the Church of England. Hunting and fishing is their only means of support.

JAMES ROBERTS' BAND.

This community of Indians consists of several bands living on the shores of Lac La Ronge, Churchill River and Pelican Lake.

Population.—The population is composed of one hundred and twenty-four men, one hundred and sixty women, and four hundred and four children.

Religion.—These Indians nearly all profess religion, and belong either to the Church of England or to the Roman Catholic Church.

Education.—To a large extent, education is neglected, owing to the wandering habits of the Indians, hunting and fishing being their only occupation. A reserve has been located for this and William Charles' Band, about twelve miles east of Sturgeon Lake. Only a few have yet settled on it, and are engaged in growing roots, and looking after a few head of cattle.

WAHSPATON'S BAND, No. 96A.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated nine miles north-west of Prince Albert, and contains an area of two thousand four hundred acres.

Population.—The population is composed of twenty-three men, twenty-seven women and fifty-three children, all Sioux.

Occupation.—At present only about forty live on the reserve, and are engaged in farming. In winter they cut and haul fire-wood to Prince Albert, for which there is always a ready market. This enables them to live very comfortably on their reserve. The remainder of the band live near Prince Albert, on the opposite side of the river. The women, who are good workers, do a lot of work for the town people, and a few of the men work for the farmers in the neighbourhood.

Education.—A good day school is on this reserve, which is doing excellent work, no difficulty being experienced in getting the children to attend, as the parents, along with the teacher, take a great interest in the school.

Religion.—Those who are Christianized belong to the Presbyterian Church, Miss L. M. Baker, with an assistant, being the teacher and missionary in charge.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Tribe.—With the exception of the last-mentioned band, all of the Indians of this agency belong to the Cree nation.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Erysipelas of an epidemic nature occurred at Sturgeon Lake and the Sioux Reserve, but by procuring prompt medical attendance, only two cases proved fatal. At Sandy Lake, mumps and measles were prevalent during the winter months, and several children died, owing chiefly to their going out and catching cold before they were fully recovered from the disease. This arises from the habits of the Indians moving around from place to place, taking their families with them; sickness does not prevent them, nor the most inclement weather, from this visiting. On the other reserves the health has been good. As hereditary diseases, of scrofula and consumption, are common, they claim a certain number of victims every year. Sanitary measures are enforced as much as possible, and the Indians, as a rule, keep their houses and premises clean.

Temperance and Morality.—Cases of drunkenness are rare, as the opportunity of procuring liquor is seldom within the reach of these people. Only two cases, to my knowledge, having occurred during the year. They were each given one month's imprisonment with hard labour. This had a good effect on the others.

Their morality, as far as I can discern, compares favourably with that of other bands of Indians.

Progress.—Some of the Indians are fairly industrious, and are doing well; others 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 is not so strong in the rising generation as in the older Indians. A keener desire can be noticed in their endeavours to better their circumstances, both in farming and looking after their stock, and improving their buildings, and they are beginning to realize that this can only be attained by continuous efforts on their own part. Cattle-raising is becoming a profitable employment, the Indians now purchasing all their own farming implements and machinery, as well as clothing and other necessaries, from the proceeds of their surplus stock.

Saw and Grist Mill.—A large number of logs were taken out during the winter to be made into lumber and shingles, the mill at present being busy at Mistawasis cutting shingles. This is a great advantage to the Indians, and enables them to have a better class of buildings than are generally seen on Indian reserves. The grist-mill turned out nearly eleven hundred sacks of flour during the season.

Improvements.—A blacksmith and repairing shop has been built at the agency headquarters, which has already been of great convenience in repairing implements and machinery. Miller McKenzie devotes his time to this work when not engaged at the saw or grist mill. A first-class stable, with loft and shingled roof, has been built by Farmer Anderson at Sturgeon Lake.

In conclusion, I would add that, as I have only been in charge of this agency since last November, my report is not as comprehensive as it might have been. But I am gratified at being able to say that fair progress has been made during the year, and the Indians are in a fairly prosperous condition.

I have, &c.,

W. B. GOODFELLOW,
Indian Agent.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
EASTERN ASSINIBOIA—CROOKED LAKE AGENCY,
Near BROADVIEW, July 25, 1899.

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 an inventory of the Government property under my charge, up to June 30, 1899.

Agency Offices.—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.

Reserves.—The reserves here are as follows: Ochapowace's, No. 71; Kahkewistahaw, No. 72; Cowesess, No. 73; and Sakimay's, No. 74; all lying north of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and extending from Whitewood on the east, passing Broadview and running west nearly as far as Grenfell, bounded on the north by the Qu'Appelle River from below Round Lake on the east to a short distance above Crooked Lake on the west. Little Bone's Reserve, No. 73A, situated at Leech Lake, lying about forty miles north, also belongs to this agency.

The total area of these reserves is one hundred and eighty-five thousand and sixteen acres.

OCHAPOWACE'S BAND, No. 71.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is on the eastern side of the agency, and lies north-west of Whitewood, running from 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 portion, sloping to the Qu'Appelle River, is thickly wooded with poplar and balm of Gilead, and is much broken by large ravines, which are all thickly wooded. The soil, being very gravelly, is unfit for cultivation. On the southern part of the reserve the soil is a sandy and clay loam, with gravelly spots here and there.

Tribe.—These Indians are Crees.

Population.—There are, belonging to this band, thirty-eight men, forty-three women and thirty-five children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the Indians has been fairly good, there having been no epidemics. The Indians are slowly improving in the matter of cleanliness, and they are well looked after to see that all rubbish round their dwelling-places is destroyed. There are a number of good springs on this reserve, from which they get their water.

Resources and Occupation.—Some of these Indians follow farming, and nearly all of them keep stock. They tan skins, and sell hay, fire-wood and senega-root. They are able to catch fish in Round Lake, which gives them part of their food supply.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Their houses are built of logs, and are only of a poor class. They only use them in winter, moving into tents in the summer.

Their cattle are of a good grade, and are slowly increasing.

They have a moderately good outfit of farming implements and tools.

Education.—Fifteen of the children attend the Round Lake Presbyterian boarding school, where they receive good food and attention, get a good training, the boys being taught farming and attending to stock, the girls general housework, and all receiving the ordinary school tuition. One child has been sent to the Roman Catholic boarding school which was recently commenced on Cowessess' Reserve, in the valley near to Crooked Lake.

Religion.—Most of these Indians are pagans, although some belong to the Presbyterian and Roman Catholic religions. The only resident clergy or missionaries are Rev. Hugh McKay, principal of the boarding school, and Jacob Bear, a member of the band, who is employed by the Presbyterians as a missionary.

Characteristics and Progress.—Some of these Indians are good workers, but require to be continually looked after to keep them at it. I regret, on the other hand, that some of them are too indolent to do anything, even to earn their own living. Last year their crop was, from various causes, a total failure, which somewhat discouraged the workers; nevertheless, they got ready their land, and this spring they have put under crop about one hundred and ten acres, of which one hundred is in wheat, all of which is looking well.

Temperance and Morality.—Some of these Indians use intoxicants when they can get them, but they are sharply looked after.

I sent one of these Indians and his wife to jail for a month, and fined two white men \$50 and costs each for supplying the liquor. I have had no complaints of immorality among the Indians.

KAHKEWISTAHAW'S BAND, No. 72.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band joins that of Ochapowace's Band on the west side, lying north of Broadview, on the C.P.R., the Qu'Appelle Valley being its northern boundary, together 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 with bluffs of poplar here and there. There are some very good hay lands in the southern part.

Tribe.—The members of this band are Crees.

Population.—The population consists of thirty-seven men, forty women and forty-two children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians has been moderately good; there have been no epidemics of any kind, only ordinary ailments common to all Indians. They are being continually impressed with the necessity of keeping their houses and surroundings clean, and I am having a kiln of lime burnt wherewith to whitewash all their houses, inside and out.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians follow farming and stock-raising, do a little tanning, sell hay and fire-wood, also gather and sell senega-root, which is generally in good demand.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—They have log houses and stables, which are kept clean when occupied during the winter months. In the summer they move into their tents. Their cattle, which are of good quality and are slowly increasing, are all in good condition.

The Indians have a good supply of wagons, mowers, rakes, binders, ploughs and harrows, together with smaller implements.

Education.—Eight of the children attend the Round Lake Presbyterian boarding school. Three are at the new Roman Catholic boarding school at Crooked Lake mis-

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

sion, seven at the Qu'Appelle and two at the Elkhorn industrial schools, where they receive instruction in farming, stock-raising and various trades and handicrafts. All healthy children of school age are attending school.

Religion.—Over half the members of this band are pagans, in which state I fear the older members will remain, as it is hard to convince them against the ways of their forefathers. The children generally follow the religion of the school in which they are educated.

Characteristics and Progress.—The majority of these Indians work fairly well at farming and stock-raising, although it has been hard to get them to persevere in their farming operations, the last two seasons having been so poor that they derived no benefit from their work and were thus naturally discouraged and disinclined to go on working, as they imagined, for nothing. However, this year they have about one hundred and fifteen acres in crop, which I hope will turn out well and give them encouragement to go on.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians may all be said to lead temperate and moral lives, with few exceptions. I have been unable to detect any drunkenness during the year.

COWESES' BAND, No. 73.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is also situated between the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway on the south and the Qu'Appelle Valley on the north, and is west of Kahkewistahaw's Reserve.

The area is forty-nine thousand nine hundred and twenty acres.

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 of this reserve is undulating prairie, with a few good hay marshes here and there.

Tribe.—The majority of these Indians are French half-breeds, the remainder being Saulteaux and Crees.

Population.—Thirty-nine men, sixty-three women and seventy-four children constitute the population of this band.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been moderately good: they have suffered from only minor ailments, consisting of colds, lung and scrofulous troubles. Strict attention is shown to matters of cleanliness, perhaps more on this reserve than any of the others, as these Indians nearly all reside in their houses the year round.

Resources and Occupation.—Nearly all the Indians on this reserve farm and keep stock. Some of them have from twenty to thirty head of stock each. They sell their surplus grain at Broadview and Grenfell; also fire-wood and hay, and sell beef cattle to the department. Some of them catch fish for their own consumption.

Buildings.—All of them have good log houses, some of which are shingled, some thatched. They have also log stables and other outbuildings.

Stock.—The stock on this reserve is of a good class, mostly the progeny of grade cows and thoroughbred shorthorn and Galloway bulls. The sale of their private animals is discouraged as much as possible, and with care they will have herds of a good size in a very short time.

Farming Implements.—These Indians are getting together a very good lot of improved implements, such as binders, seeders, disc-harrows; and they have a good stock of ploughs, harrows, sleighs, wagons and smaller implements.

Education.—All the children of school age who are healthy are attending one of the various schools. Four children are attending the Round Lake Boarding School, two at Regina Industrial School, and one at Elkhorn, and twenty-five at the Qu'

Appelle Industrial School. Last winter a boarding school was commenced at the Roman Catholic mission in the valley, at which six of the children are attending.

Religion.—These Indians mostly belong to the Roman Catholic and Presbyterian denominations, the remainder being pagans. There are two resident Roman Catholic priests at the mission, also four sisters, who attend to the boarding school. They have a neat church where services are regularly held, and are well attended. The Presbyterians also hold services at the house of Headman Gaddie.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are fairly industrious, some of them farming quite a large area, and attending to from five to thirty head of stock. This year they have two hundred and seventy-five acres in wheat, and one hundred in oats, together with a fair area in potatoes and other crops. Owing to the failure of the crops last season from frosts and drouth, only five hundred and eighty bushels of wheat and one hundred and fifty bushels of oats were harvested on this reserve. Alex. Gaddie had the best yield, and from seventy-five acres he only threshed three hundred bushels of wheat and sixty bushels of oats. This year he has fifty acres of wheat and twenty acres of oats in crop, and all looking well. He also has forty acres of summer-fallow this year.

All the crops on the reserve promise a heavy yield, if not injured by frost.

There is a decided improvement on this and the other reserves in the Indians' method of farming, and they are gradually adopting the improved methods, which they are not slow in observing is for their advantage, but with many of them it is very difficult to get them to summer-fallow their land properly, as they consider it a waste of labour to harrow and cultivate fallow land.

SAKIMAY'S BAND, No. 74.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the west side of the northern half of Cowessess' Reserve, being bounded on the south by that reserve, and on the north by Crooked Lake and Qu'Appelle Valley, a portion of the reserve being on the north side of the lake and river. This reserve contains twenty-eight thousand eight hundred acres. In addition to this, is the Leech Lake Reserve, forty miles north, containing six thousand nine hundred and seventy-six acres.

Natural Features.—The reserve is mostly undulating prairie, with bluffs of poplar and willow. In the northern part, it is much broken by ravines, which are heavily wooded with poplar and balm of Gilead. There were formerly large ponds on the reserve, now dried up. About one-half the land is good loam, and the other half is sandy and gravelly. There are splendid hay lands in the valley. The Leech Lake Reserve is a very valuable adjunct, being composed of magnificent hay lands, which yield large quantities of hay every season.

Tribe.—Nearly all these Indians are Saultaux, with a few Crees.

Population.—Fifty-three men, sixty-six women, and ninety-five children compose the population of this band.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians has been good, they having only suffered from minor ailments. These Indians, as well as the other Indians of this agency, have been vaccinated, with the exception of the members of She-Sheep's party, who object to having their children vaccinated. They are made to clean up their houses and premises, and no case of infectious disease has occurred.

Resources and Occupation.—There are two separate parties on this reserve, Yellow Calf's and She-Sheep's. Yellow Calf's party live on the southern portion of the reserve, follow farming and stock-raising, sell fire-wood, hay and senega-root. In a dry season, they have to depend on the hay at Leech Lake, where, last winter, they built stables and corrals, and took up all their stock for the winter. In addition to all the hay they put up for their own use, permits were sold to the white settlers

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

for about seven hundred tons at forty cents per ton, the proceeds of which were deposited to the credit of the band. The Indians of She-Sheep's party occupy the northern portion of the reserve, where all the good hay land is. They make their living by selling hay, hunting and working for the settlers. They do no farming, and refuse to accept any assistance from the Government in the way of cattle and implements.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The Indians have log houses and stables, but, as is usual, live in their tents in the summer. They have a nice lot of cattle, which are steadily increasing; and have a good supply of implements of the usual kind.

Education.—Seven of the children of Yellow Calf's party attend the school at Round Lake, and a like number are at Qu'Appelle Industrial School. She-Sheep's party will refuse to send their children to any school, and I fear will adhere to that resolve, unless the Compulsory Education Act is enforced. His Honour Lieut.-Governor Forget purposes shortly to visit these Indians and have a talk with them on this school question, which has been a long time under discussion.

Religion.—No clergy or missionaries reside on this reserve; little, if any, interest is manifested in religion; the Indians are nearly all pagan, with the exception of a few, who are Roman Catholics and Presbyterians.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians were among the last to settle down on a reserve, and are gradually, if slowly, getting into the line of farming, from which occupation, owing to the past two or three bad seasons, they have not derived much benefit. They have, however, under crop this year one hundred and twenty-five acres in wheat and about twenty in oats, besides garden stuff.

She-Sheep's party do no farming; refuse all assistance from the Government in the way of seed, cattle or implements; but still they are not idle, as they put up a large quantity of hay, which they sell, as well as fire-wood; and some of them do a good deal of work for the settlers in the district.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are, from all I can observe, temperate and moral in their habits, although some of them still adhere to their old practice of having more than one wife. One Indian, whom I had been observing closely for some time past as leading an immoral life, and who caused some mischief in one or two families, was arrested last spring, tried and found guilty of stealing meat and attempted burglary in Grenfell, and was sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment, with hard labour. I had two white men apprehended for supplying intoxicating liquor to this Indian, who were both found guilty, one of whom was fined \$200 and costs, and the other \$50 and costs. In default of paying the fine, the first-mentioned served three months in jail.

General Remarks.—As mentioned in my report of last year, these Indians were much discouraged owing to the failure of their crops, along with those of the white settlers of the district, and it was with some difficulty that they could be persuaded to go on and prepare their land for another crop, as, generally speaking, an Indian must have within view some repayment for his work. They never look to the future in either the way of economy or in the building up of their resources.

By the goodness of the department, I was enabled to purchase nine hundred bushels of seed wheat, three hundred bushels of seed oats, and one hundred and eighty-one bushels of seed potatoes, all of which were sown under favourable conditions. Thus we have about seven hundred and fifty acres under crop, from which, if anything like a good crop is harvested, the Indians will derive substantial benefit towards their next winter's sustenance, and their requirements for seed for next year's operations, apart from the fact that a bountiful harvest will lead them on to further efforts.

We had our grist-mill running during part of the winter, when we ground over one thousand bushels of wheat; a quantity of this wheat was supplied by the department in place of flour. We were thus enabled to get a supply of bran and shorts,

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

which was of much benefit to the stock on the reserves. Some of this flour was distributed to the very old, sick and destitute Indians. In order to overcome the somewhat lowering effect of issuing free rations to the able-bodied men of the reserves, such flour as was issued to them was on the condition of its being repaid out of the present year's crop, so that when received, which I have no doubt it will be if the harvest is good enough to permit of it, it will be on hand for the use of the old and sick during the forthcoming winter should it be required.

I am pleased to be able to state that every bushel of the one hundred and eighty-one bushels of seed potatoes advanced by the department in spring was paid for by the Indians at the recent annuity payments, and the money refunded to the department a few days ago.

There have been no sun dances held in this agency during the year. In this connection, I suggested to the Indians last year that, instead of paying their annuities on the four reserves, I should pay them all at the agency on one day, and on the following day we would get up a day's sport for them, and give prizes for horse-racing, foot-racing, and competitions of various kinds. This was agreed to, subscriptions were got in the neighbourhood in cash and goods, and on the second day of the payments a programme was gone through, consisting of twenty-five events, for which seventy-five prizes were awarded.

Nearly one thousand people were present, everything went off well, and all went home satisfied with their first annual sports.

In conclusion, I would respectfully state that I consider that the Indians' greatest help for the future will be stock-raising, if they can only be persuaded from disposing of their stock before their herds are of a respectable size.

Two years ago the cattle in this agency numbered five hundred and eighty-eight head. This year they number seven hundred head, an increase of one hundred and twelve head, in addition to supplying the department with over twenty-nine thousand pounds of beef, about five thousand pounds of beef killed for their own use, and selling a few private cattle to supply their necessities in clothing.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I have, &c.,

JOHN P. WRIGHT,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
SASKATCHEWAN—DUCK LAKE AGENCY,
DUCK LAKE, August 28, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith my twelfth annual report, together with statistical statement and inventory of Government property under my charge, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899.

ONE ARROW'S BAND, No. 95.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the east side of the South Saskatchewan River, about four miles east of Batoche, and contains an area of sixteen square miles.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Natural Features.—The soil is of a rich sandy loam, being rolling prairie with poplar bluffs, and is well adapted for mixed farming.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Cree tribe.

Population.—The population consists of sixteen men, twenty-seven women and forty-eight children, a total of ninety-one persons.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the band has been fairly good. Influenza, scrofula and consumption have been the chief cause of death. These Indians are very particular about keeping their premises clean: all rubbish is collected in the spring and destroyed by fire or carted away from the houses.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians follow the usual avocations of mixed farming, stock-raising, hunting, picking roots, and dressing hides for white settlers and half-breeds; and in this way they are able to supply themselves with a good deal of clothing, sugar, tea and tobacco.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The houses are small, but are kept in good repair, and are thoroughly overhauled every year. The stock on this reserve is of a good class, and came through the winter in good order, and the increase has been very satisfactory.

The Indians are taking more interest in their cattle than formerly, as they have found during the past years that they derive quite a benefit, not only from the sale of cattle, but also from private beef and milk; during the year the band sold twenty head, and killed for the department and private beef, fifteen head.

These Indians are fairly well supplied with implements, all of which are kept in good repair and under cover when not in use.

Education.—There is no day school on this reserve, as all healthy children of school age are either at the Qu'Appelle Industrial School or at the Duck Lake Boarding School.

Religion.—The Indians in this band who profess religion are two Anglicans and sixty-two Roman Catholics, with thirty-seven pagans. There is no church on the reserve, but the Indians frequently attend the Roman Catholic churches at Batoche and Duck Lake.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians, on the whole, are fairly industrious and law-abiding, and are making an effort to better their condition and earn a comfortable living.

Temperance and Morality.—Generally speaking, these Indians are moral, and the majority of them are temperate, yet there are a few of them that will make free use of intoxicants, if they can by any means procure them.

This reserve is under the supervision of Farmer Louis Marion, who takes a great interest in doing all in his power to improve and advance the welfare of the Indians.

OKEMASIS' AND BEARDY'S BANDS, NOS. 96 AND 97.

Reserve.—The reserves of these bands are situated on the Carlton Trail, at Duck Lake, in townships 43 and 44, west of the 3rd initial meridian, and the combined area is forty-four square miles.

Natural Features.—On these reserves are scattered bluffs of poplar, with rolling prairie and hay lands. The soil is of a rich sandy loam and is well adapted for mixed farming.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Cree tribe.

Population.—The population consists of forty-four men, forty-nine women and sixty-two children, in all one hundred and fifty-five souls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these bands is only fair. During the winter the Indians were troubled with erysipelas, bronchitis and la grippe. There

are also a number of the Indians suffering from scrofula and consumption, and, as the season has been wet, their health has not improved.

Sanitary precautions are strictly observed. All houses are kept in good order, being clean and well ventilated.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming, stock-raising, sale of hay, roots, dressing hides, and freighting are the chief occupations. A few do a little hunting. Their root crop last fall was a failure, but the grain crop was fair. The majority of these 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 clothing and other necessaries, such as tea, sugar and tobacco.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The dwelling-houses on these reserves are fairly good, and are being improved every year, are better furnished and kept clean and in good order, and the general surroundings present a more thrifty appearance than formerly. The stables are regularly mudded each fall and made comfortable for the winter.

The stock is well looked after. The increase in calves is satisfactory. During the year these bands have sold at good prices forty-two head of cattle, and killed for the department and private beef thirty-one head.

These Indians are adding to their stock of implements yearly from the proceeds of cattle sold or killed for beef. A new seed-drill was supplied this spring by the department, which has given good satisfaction, as there is a marked difference between the grain sown by hand, as well as a great saving in seed.

Education.—There is no day school on these reserves, as all healthy children of school age are either at the Regina or Qu'Appelle Industrial Schools or at the Duck Lake Boarding School.

Religion.—These bands consist of one Anglican, seventeen Presbyterians, ninety-three Roman Catholics and forty-four pagans. There is no resident clergyman on these reserves, but the Indians attend the Presbyterian and Roman Catholic churches at Duck Lake.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are fairly industrious, and are more provident, and are becoming better off every year. The majority of them have comfortable homes, their dress and personal appearance are much more like the white man's than formerly, and many of them appear ambitious of improving their condition. They are honest and law-abiding.

Temperance and Morality.—A number of the Indians of these bands will take liquor whenever an opportunity occurs for procuring it, and, as they are constantly coming in contact with half-breeds in the villages, a strict watch has to be kept over them, as the only medium they have of procuring liquor is through the half-breeds.

General Remarks.—During the first four months of the year there was no farm instructor with these bands, and consequently this work devolved on myself, and I am pleased to say the Indians worked well and were very obedient and industrious, having put up an abundance of hay and completed their harvest in a proper manner. In the end of October last Mr. J. H. Price, who was farm instructor on the James Smith and Cumberland Reserves at Fort à la Corne, was transferred to the charge of these bands, since which time he has been acting as farm instructor and assisting me with the office work satisfactorily.

JOHN SMITH'S BAND, No. 99.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated twelve miles south-east of Prince Albert, and is intersected by the South Saskatchewan River. The area is thirty-seven square miles. The land is rolling prairie, interspersed with poplar bluffs. The soil is a rich black loam and is well suited for mixed farming.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are half-breed Crees.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Population.—The population is composed of thirty-eight men, twenty-eight women and sixty-two children; total, one hundred and twenty-eight.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the band has been fairly good, except during the winter months: in November and December last an epidemic of grippe, erysipelas and typhoid fever broke out amongst the band. This continued all the winter, notwithstanding that the Indians were constantly attended by the doctor, and everything possible was done to stamp out the disease. I am pleased to say, however, that this disease disappeared on the approach of warm weather. There are also a few cases of scrofula and consumption amongst these Indians. Sanitary measures are enforced as strictly as possible, and the Indians are particular in keeping their premises and houses clean and in proper order.

Buildings and Stock.—The buildings on this reserve are constructed of logs and are a credit to the band, being neatly built and in the majority of cases having shingled roofs, some of which are painted, and are kept in good repair.

The stables are kept in good order and the stock well attended to. During the year this band sold twenty-three head of cattle, and twenty-six were killed for the department and private beef. The herd at present numbers three hundred and eight head of cattle, twenty-four sheep, thirteen hogs and fifty-five horses. All implements are in good repair, and are kept under cover when not in use.

Education.—There is a day school on this reserve under the auspices of the Church of England. The teacher, Miss M. Thompson, appears to take great interest in her work. The average attendance for the year has been eight, with good progress; besides this, there are a number of children at the Battleford Industrial School and at Emmanuel College, Prince Albert.

Religion.—This band consists of one hundred and twenty-five Anglicans, two Roman Catholics and one pagan. They have a very neat church on the reserve, but have had no resident clergyman during the past year, yet services are regularly held, and the Indians are very regular in their attendance.

Characteristics and Progress.—This reserve is under the supervision of Farmer J. S. Letellier. The majority of the Indians are fairly industrious, and are law-abiding, and are making a comfortable living with what assistance they receive from the department. This band may be considered fairly well civilized.

Temperance and Morality.—The majority of the band are temperate, but a few of them are addicted to the use of intoxicants, if they can in any way procure them. On the whole, they are moral.

JAMES SMITH'S AND CUMBERLAND BANDS, 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, undulating and broken by shallow lakes of brackish water, and is of little value for agricultural purposes. The herbage is luxuriant, hay of the finest quality being in abundance. The land is admirably adapted for stock-raising.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Cree tribe.

Population.—The population consists of seventy-one men, sixty-five women and one hundred children; total, two hundred and thirty-six.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these bands has been fairly good, except during the winter months, when they were visited by an epidemic of typhoid fever, erysipelas and grippe, which resulted fatally in five cases. Consumption and

scrofula have been prevalent amongst these Indians, resulting in a number of deaths, but on the approach of warm weather, I am pleased to say, these diseases in a great measure disappeared. Sanitary measures are strictly observed. The houses generally are kept clean and well ventilated, and in the spring all refuse matter that may have accumulated during the winter is collected and burnt.

There are a few of the older Indians that are not so clean in their habits, and in whom it is difficult to accomplish a change.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians are principally occupied in hunting and stock-raising, with a little farming, picking roots, dressing hides and freighting.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The buildings on this reserve are, in the majority of cases, not of the best. There are twelve fairly good houses, and, as the Indians got out a number of logs during the past winter, I hope to see an improvement in their houses during the next year. All stables are of logs, and are kept in good order and repair.

The stock is doing well, although we find it very difficult to induce a number of the Indians to take proper care of their cattle.

All farm implements, when not in use, are put under cover and are kept in good order and repair.

Education.—The day school on these reserves was reopened on January 24 last, under the auspices of the Church of England, Mr. Donald McDonald being teacher. The average attendance has been over six. Fair progress has been made. A number of children from these reserves are at the Battleford Industrial School and Emmanuel College, at Prince Albert.

Religion.—Of these Indians, one hundred and ninety-four are Anglicans and forty-two pagans. There is a very neat church on the reserve, with a resident clergyman, and the Indians attend church regularly. The cemetery connected with the church is neat and kept in good order.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians cannot be called industrious, but are rather of an indolent nature and require constant attention to keep them at work, as it takes but little at any time to upset their good resolutions. They are, on the whole, law-abiding, and, although not making rapid strides towards advancement, are not losing ground.

Temperance and Morality.—The general behaviour of these bands has been fairly good. They are, however, addicted to the use of intoxicants, if they can procure them in any possible way. They are, however, orderly and moral.

These reserves are under the supervision of Mr. Farmer A. J. McKay, who was appointed to that position in October last to replace Mr. J. H. Price, who was transferred to the Duck Lake Reserve.

EMMANUEL COLLEGE.

This institution, situated at Prince Albert, is under the auspices of the Church of England, the Ven. Archdeacon J. A. McKay being principal. The subjects taught are the English language, reading, general knowledge, geography, grammar, arithmetic, history, vocal and instrumental music, as well as religious instruction. Excellent progress has been made.

DUCK LAKE BOARDING SCHOOL.

This school, situated near the Roman Catholic mission at Duck Lake, is under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church, the Rev. Father Paquette being principal. There are one hundred pupils in this school, fifty boys and fifty girls. The subjects taught are the same as those at Emmanuel College, and the progress made by the pupils in all their studies is excellent. Several new buildings have been erected during the

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

year, and the whole place presents a neat and home-like appearance. In fact, this institution is second to none in the Territories, and reflects credit on the rev. principal and his staff.

GENERAL REMARKS.

This agency was inspected in November and December last by Inspector Chisholm, who visited all the reserves in the agency.

In conclusion, I am pleased to say that the work in connection with the general management of the affairs of the agency has been cheerfully performed by the different officers on their respective reserves, as well as at the headquarters of the agency.

I have, &c.,

R. S. MCKENZIE,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

ALBERTA—EDMONTON AGENCY,

EDMONTON, June 30, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report, inventory of Government property and statistical statement for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899.

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. It contains an area of forty-four square miles.

Natural Features.—The soil is a sandy loam, and there is an abundance of hay lands. It contains numerous lakes and woods, the latter consisting of spruce, poplar, willow, tamarack, birch and hazel.

Tribe.—These Indians are Crees.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and twenty-four, made up as follows: forty men, thirty-eight women, twenty-four boys and twenty-two girls. The death-rate during the year has slightly exceeded the birth-rate.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Considerable sickness occurred during the winter months, grippe and influenza being very prevalent, and extra rations had to be distributed in consequence.

Occupation.—Farming is the principal occupation on this reserve, none of these Indians being hunters. A lot of hay was stacked last fall, and about one hundred and fifty loads were sold in Edmonton during the winter.

Stock and Implements.—The stock are a very fine lot, and show the results of having good bulls. The implements are kept in fair repair by the Indians themselves. Three new mowers and horse-rakes, two wagons and one plough were bought out of their own earnings during the year.

Education.—There are no schools open on this reserve. A few of the children attend the St. Albert Boarding School.

Religion.—These Indians are nearly all Roman Catholics, and have a resident missionary on the reserve, the Rev. Father Lizée. There is a good church, the services of which are always well attended.

Temperance and Morality.—Although every effort is made to prevent them from doing so, many of these Indians buy intoxicants whenever they have any money; in fact, were it not for this vice, some of the families would have unusually comfortable homes.

MICHEL'S BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the southern side of the Sturgeon River, and is about sixteen miles from Edmonton. It contains an area of forty square miles.

Natural Features.—The soil is clay loam, and there is plenty of hay land. Poplar and fir are the principal kinds of timber.

Tribe.—This band is of the Iroquois tribe.

Vital Statistics.—At present there are eighty-five members in this band, and the birth-rate invariably exceeds the death-rate.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The houses and premises, without any exception, are always kept in the best of order, the result being that there is but little disease.

Occupation.—The farms on this reserve are quite equal to any of those of a white settlement. The grain fields are well fenced, and are of good shape and size.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The buildings generally are substantial and well built. The stock and implements are well cared for.

Education.—The children of school age attend either the St. Albert Boarding School or the industrial school at Dunbow.

Religion.—These people are all Roman Catholics, and are regular church-goers.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are very industrious and well-behaved. As a proof of their advancement, I may say that one of the men, Louis Callihoo, has started a private banking account in one of the local banks.

ALEXANDER'S BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Lac la Nonne trail, about twenty-five miles from Edmonton. It contains forty-one square miles.

Natural Features.—About sixteen square miles is rolling prairie of excellent soil; the remainder is wooded with spruce and poplar.

One of the lakes of this reserve, Sandy Lake, contains a lot of fish.

Tribe.—These Indians are Crees.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—During the cold weather there was a great deal of sickness, and extra food supplies were required. Since spring opened up, these people have been fairly healthy.

Education.—Most of the children attend the St. Albert Boarding School.

Vital Statistics.—The population numbers one hundred and eighty-five: forty-nine men, fifty-nine women, forty boys and thirty-seven girls.

Religion.—This is a Roman Catholic band. The resident missionary is the Rev. Father Dauphin. There is a nice church, and the services are well attended.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are fairly temperate and moral.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

JOSEPH'S BAND.

Reserve.—The locality of this reserve is the northern side of Lac Ste. Anne, about fifty miles from Edmonton, with an area of twenty-three square miles.

Natural Features.—Three-quarters of the reserve is covered with spruce and poplar, the remainder consisting of hay and bottom lands. Lac Ste. Anne is the principal fishing ground for this band.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Stony tribe.

Vital Statistics.—This band is composed of twenty-seven men, thirty-nine women, forty boys and thirty-one girls, making a total of one hundred and thirty-seven.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Many of these people were laid up in the winter with influenza, but with the advent of spring, the disease disappeared. These Indians are very cleanly in every respect.

Occupation.—Hunting and fishing are the principal means of livelihood on this reserve.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The houses on this reserve are roomy and well ventilated. All the Indians who own cattle have stables, although they do not as yet value stock as they should. As but very little farming is done on this reserve, but few implements have been issued to this band.

Education.—There is a Roman Catholic day school on this reserve, the teacher being a daughter of Chief Michel. On the whole, she is fairly successful, but, owing to the nomadic habits of these Indians, the attendance has been very small.

Religion.—The members of this band attend the Roman Catholic church at Lac Ste. Anne.

Characteristics.—These Indians are thrifty and intelligent, but are too fond of hunting to do any farming.

Temperance and Morality.—Whisky is traded to Indians at Lac Ste. Anne, and it seems an impossibility to stamp out this traffic.

PAUL'S BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve 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. The soil is good, and there is plenty of hay land.

Tribe.—These Indians are Stonies.

Vital Statistics.—The population is made up as follows: twenty-seven men, forty-two women, forty-three boys and thirty girls, making a total of one hundred and forty-two.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—As on the other reserves, influenza was very prevalent during the cold months. The houses on this reserve are not kept very clean, and the women are slovenly housekeepers, and thoroughly Indian in their ways. In the spring all the winter refuse was collected and burnt.

Occupation.—The farmer appointed last spring resigned in December last, and his place has been taken by Mr. W. G. Blewett. As the latter can speak the Stony language, it is to be hoped that more progress will be made in farming; so far it has been of a very crude nature. Up to date, fishing is the mainstay of this band.

Stock.—The cattle on this reserve thrive very well, and show a good natural increase.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Education.—The day school on this reserve is at present closed owing to poor attendance. Many of the children of school age are at the industrial school at Red Deer.

Religion.—These Indians are nearly all Methodists. Services are held every week in the school-house, and are well attended.

Temperance and Morality.—As far as I know, the Indians spend nothing on intoxicants, and are fairly moral.

ST. ALBERT BOARDING SCHOOL.

I have much pleasure in testifying to the good work being done at this institution. The whole establishment reflects great credit on all connected with its management.

Agency Headquarters.—At the agency headquarters a new ice-house has been erected adjoining the ration-house, and about twenty-five tons of ice were packed in it last March. This allows of meat being kept fresh in the hottest weather; and the upper part of the building makes an excellent place for storing bacon.

GENERAL REMARKS.

As my appointment to this agency is only of recent date, I am scarcely in a position to make special mention of Indians who are further advanced and better-behaved than others, as it takes some time to become thoroughly acquainted with each individual character and the surrounding circumstances; however, I may say that nearly all of these people are amenable to advice and authority, and seem anxious to better their condition.

I have, &c.,

JAS. GIBBONS,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

ASSINIBOIA—FILE HILLS AGENCY,

QU'APPELLE, August 22, 1899.

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 in my charge, for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Reserves.—The File Hills Agency is situated in the File Hills, about twenty miles north-east of Fort Qu'Appelle. The agency consists of four reserves: Pee-pee-kesis, No. 81; Okanees, No. 82; Star Blanket, No. 83, and Little Black Bear, No. 84. These reserves adjoin each other, and contain a total area of eighty-four thousand four hundred and fifty-four acres.

Resources.—The natural resources of the four reserves are hay and wood. There is a very large quantity of dead timber on these reserves, the result of a forest fire that passed over this district three years ago, and the Indians find a ready market in the surrounding district for this dry wood. Most of the hay land is situated in the timber, and in ordinary seasons it grows in great abundance, but in a wet season, such as we are having at present, it is a very difficult matter to cut hay on these lands.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Occupation.—Mixed farming, cattle-raising, selling wood, hay, roots, and tanning hides are the principal occupations of these Indians. The Indians of the four reserves put up over two thousand tons of hay last year. All this hay was hauled up to their stables in the fall, so that no hauling had to be done in the winter, and, as a result, I found that the cattle were much better cared for during the winter. The hauling of this hay was quite an undertaking, as most of it had to be hauled from five to seven miles. Many of the Indians, especially those on Okanees' and Little Black Bear Reserves, have good gardens. The work in connection with these gardens is usually done by the women.

Tribe.—All the Indians of this agency belong to the Cree tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the four bands at the present time is two hundred and forty-six souls. There were five births and thirteen deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the Indians for the past year has been fairly good, consumption being the principal cause of what illness we had. The sanitary regulations of the department have been carried out. The Indians, as a rule, keep clean houses, especially those on Okanees' Reserve; the improvement on this reserve in this direction is marked.

Buildings, Fences, Implements and Stock.—The agency buildings are in good repair. A new blacksmith's-shop, 20 x 24, with shingle roof, was built during the year. The work was done by Indians with the assistance of the interpreter. A number of Indians built new houses and stables during the year. The houses built have shingle roofs, and are a decided improvement on the old flat, mud-roofed houses.

The cattle are in excellent condition, and the number of calves this spring was very large. Two thoroughbred short-horn bulls were added to the herd this spring.

About four miles of fencing was built during the year, and the old fences were all overhauled and put in good repair.

The implements are all housed in the winter.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians on the reserves here have a good name for morality. I have only had two liquor cases during the year, and in both cases the offenders were found guilty and punished.

Education.—The File Hills Boarding School, situated at the agency headquarters, gives the usual satisfaction. Mr. Skene, the principal, understands his work thoroughly. A large number of children from these reserves are attending the Qu'Appelle Industrial School, and are making good progress. We have residing on the reserves here a number of married couples, ex-pupils of industrial schools, and, with two exceptions, they are all doing well. The young women keep neat and tidy houses, in fact quite as neat as the average white person's home. They devote much of their time to sewing, and they all keep hens and make butter. It is a pleasure to see homes of this kind on the reserves.

General Remarks.—On June 22 last, our first annual fair was held at the agency headquarters, and I am pleased to say that it was a great success. My idea in getting up this fair was to encourage those Indian women who are industrious, and especially the ex-pupils. We had, in all, over two hundred entries, and the competition in bread-making and butter-making, sewing, knitting, &c., was very keen. About \$175 in cash and kind was collected, and given out as prizes. A large number of people from the surrounding country were present on the occasion. Through the kindness of the Rev. J. Hugonnard, the brass band of the Qu'Appelle Industrial School was present and helped to make the fair a success.

I have, &c.,

W. M. GRAHAM,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

ALBERTA—HOBBEWA AGENCY,

HOLLBROKE, July 8, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Agency.—The agency headquarters is situated on Samson's Reserve, near the Battle River.

Reserves.—The following reserves are comprised within the agency:—

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 by marriage.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of one hundred and forty-four men, one hundred and seventy-nine women and two hundred and ninety-four children, or a total of six hundred and seventeen souls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the various bands has not been good. In addition to the many old cases of consumption and scrofula, grippe was prevalent during the spring, owing, no doubt, to the very changeable weather in this locality. The medical officer vaccinated quite a number this spring, and more will be attended to at treaty payments. Premises were all cleaned, and refuse removed and burnt. Houses were whitewashed in the fall. During the summer all the Indians live in tents and teepees, which are much more healthy and can be removed from place to place, when required for cleanliness.

Resources and Occupation.—The principal occupation of these Indians is general farming, cattle-raising, hunting, fishing, and a little freighting.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Several houses and stables have been built during the year to replace old ones pulled down. Large stables and cattle sheds were built and completed last fall at the Battle Lake hay camp to replace those burnt in the spring of 1898, separate stables and yards for the bulls, cows, calves and young stock. The loss during the winter was very slight. At the round-up in June the stock numbered eight hundred and thirty-six head, viz., six hundred and eighty-five mature animals and one hundred and fifty-one calves. I expect there are a few head which will still turn up and a number of cows still to calve, which shows an increase from last year. The cattle are all in splendid condition.

Implements and machinery are kept in a fair state of repair.

Education.—There are one hundred and thirty-eight children of school age. The Roman Catholic school on Ermineskin's Reserve has forty-four pupils, who are making excellent progress under the guidance of the sisters. The buildings are kept in splendid order, and are very much appreciated by parents who have already children there.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

The day school on Samson's Reserve, under the auspices of the Methodist Church, is better attended than last year, but still is not encouraging, owing to the distance many of the children have to travel, and that during haying the parents take their children away with them, and also in winter to fish at Pigeon Lake. The average is therefore kept down owing to these circumstances.

Religion.—The Indians on Samson's and Louis Bull's Reserves are principally Methodists. Those on Ermineskin's are Roman Catholics. Those of the Montana Band are pagans. Three buildings are used for divine services, which are regularly held and fairly well attended.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians, with a few exceptions, are law-abiding and fairly industrious. Some are doing much better than they were.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians are temperate, and few cases of immorality come to my notice. One or two cases of giving liquor have been brought to my notice, but, unfortunately, I was not able to get at the proper persons to secure a conviction. The liquor is obtained through half-breeds, who are pretty hard to catch.

General Remarks.—The mill has been kept going all the spring, gristing, cutting lumber, shingles and scantlings, which are being used for buildings and general repairs.

The grain crops last season were almost an entire failure on account of the dry weather and frost. This spring there has been altogether a change—any quantity of rain—and the crops are looking splendid at present, and, should there be no frost, the yield will be heavy. We have about four hundred acres of wheat, besides other grain and roots.

Chief Samson, I am sorry to say, died on Christmas Day, and we lost a good, faithful adherent of the department. His son has been chosen as his successor, and I sincerely trust he will follow in the footsteps of his father.

In conclusion, I have to say I have received great assistance from the members of my staff, who have performed their duties very satisfactorily.

I have, &c.,

W. S. GRANT,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
EAST ASSINIBOIA—MOOSE MOUNTAIN AGENCY,

CANNINGTON MANOR, July 3, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ended June 30, 1899, together with a statistical statement and inventory of Government property under my charge.

PHEASANT RUMP'S BAND, No. 68.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the western part of Moose Mountain, and has an area of twenty-three thousand and forty-six acres, and is well suited for mixed farming, as there is plenty of good arable land, and enough timber for fuel and fencing. Hay of the best quality is plentiful.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are Assiniboines.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this reserve is the same as last year, consisting of thirteen men, thirteen women, five boys and eight girls. There were neither births nor deaths to record during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians of this band has been very good, and everything possible has been done in the way of sanitation. All the Indians of this band have been properly vaccinated.

Occupation.—Mixed farming is the chief industry of these Indians. Their grain and root crops were fairly good last fall, and many of them, after providing a good quantity of flour for their own consumption, had some wheat to sell, though it was not of so good a quality as the previous year, and they did not therefore get so good a price for it at Whitewood, where they sold it. A few of the Indians still do a little hunting, but I think they do not depend much on it, and look upon it more as a pastime than as a way of making a living. Some of the men do a good deal of work for the white people in the settlement during the harvest. They also get some employment hunting for stray cattle and horses. The women of the band find plenty of work, and make good wages tanning the various hides and skins brought to the reserve by white people of the neighbourhood. They also derive a little benefit from the sale of fruit and senega-root during the summer months. A little fishing is done from time to time, but fish are getting scarce, and the Indians do not make much out of it. The earnings of the band during the year were over \$700.

Buildings.—Some new buildings have been put up during the year, and are of a much better class than those previously occupied by their owners; a house without a good lumber floor and windows is an exception now on this reserve, and I trust that as the Indians become better off the houses will be of a much better class. Many of them are going to buy shingles for roofing their houses this fall, and in another year or so I hope to be able to report houses on this reserve as good as in the neighbouring white settlement.

Stock.—The stock consists of one hundred and three head, and there are no better cattle in the district; in fact, many of the Indians look after their cattle much better than many of the settlers; their stables are kept clean and comfortable, and there is always plenty of hay on hand; the stables have been much improved lately, and are larger and higher in the roof, and all are well plastered, both inside and out, and there is plenty of good water not far from all the stables, and water holes were properly cut, and kept open during the winter. The Indians killed, for their own consumption, and sold during the year, fifteen head. The casualties during the year were few.

Farming Implements.—The band is fairly well off in the way of necessary farming implements, and they are kept in good repair by the farmer, Mr. Murison. The principal implements are stored at the farm implement-shed during the winter.

Education.—There are six children of school age in the band, three of whom attend school—two at Qu'Appelle and one at Regina.

Religion.—With few exceptions, the Indians of this band are pagans. The Rev. F. T. Dodds, the Presbyterian missionary, who resides on White Bear's Reserve, makes frequent visits to them, and is always well received; but it takes a long time before any change is noticeable in an Indian in the matter of religion, and at times I think the missionaries' faith and patience must be pretty well tried.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are under the supervision of Farmer W. Murison, and I think they are making good progress towards self-support and civilization.

Temperance and Morality.—There has not been a case of intemperance on the reserve during the year; neither has any complaint been made against any Indian of the band. They are as moral as the general run of Indians.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

STRIPED BLANKET'S BAND, No. 69.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated south of Pheasant Rump's Reserve, and has an area of twenty-three thousand six hundred and eighty acres, and the general features are the same as those of the reserve which it adjoins.

Tribe.—The Indians on this reserve are a mixture of Cree and Assiniboine.

Vital Statistics.—This band now numbers thirty-six souls, made up of twelve men, twelve women and twelve children; there were two deaths and three births on the reserve during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the band has been good, and sanitary measures were well attended to.

Occupation.—Mixed farming and stock-raising, sale of hay and dry fire-wood are the chief occupations of these Indians. Nearly every man in the band has a crop of some kind, and nearly all have cattle, which they look after very well. The women of the band do a good deal of work tanning hides, and in making mitts and skin coats for white people in the neighbourhood of the reserve.

Buildings.—There is a change for the better in the buildings on this reserve, both in the Indian dwelling-houses and in cattle stables. Nearly every house has a good lumber floor, and doors and windows are properly put in; there are open fire-places in every house.

Stock.—The cattle on this reserve number eighty-one head, and all are in fine condition. They were well looked after during the winter, and the increase in calves is satisfactory.

Education.—There is no school on the reserve, and the number of children of school age is only three, two of whom are attending the industrial school at Qu'Appelle.

Religion.—All the Indians living on the reserve are pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—I think these Indians are making decided progress towards civilization and self-support, and Inspector McGibbon, on his last visit seemed much pleased with the general state of the reserve. He says: 'It was pleasant to find this band so comfortably situated, and taking such an interest in their cattle, and having their houses and stables in good order. These two bands may be classed independent of the ration-house, or nearly so.'

Temperance and Morality.—There has been no charge of any kind brought against any Indian of this band during the year, and I believe them to be temperate and moral.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Mr. W. Murison, farmer, has the two foregoing bands under his charge, and is working hard to bring them along. He is under all circumstances patient and painstaking with them, and all the Indians have respect and good-will for him, and do their best to carry out his instructions, and there have been no complaints of any kind from these Indians during the year. I am sure at all times of having Mr. Murison's hearty support in carrying out the instructions of the department.

WHITE BEAR'S BAND, No. 70.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated in the south-east part of Moose Mountain and has an area of thirty thousand seven hundred and twenty acres. It is well suited for the principal occupation of the Indians, namely, mixed farming.

Vital Statistics.—The band at present numbers one hundred and twenty-three, a decrease of three since this time last year; there are twenty-nine men, thirty-seven women, and fifty-seven children. There were seven births and ten deaths during the year. Grippe was the cause of most of the deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the band for most of the year was good, but an epidemic of grippe gave a lot of trouble this spring, and at one time there were over seventy cases, more or less severe, on the reserve. All the usual sanitary measures, such as cleaning up all filth and rubbish in and around the Indian houses were well looked after, and everything that would burn was burned. The majority of houses were whitewashed, both inside and out.

Resources.—There is an abundance of hay, and a large area of timber land on the reserve. There is also a large lake, White Bear's, where the Indians catch a good quantity of fish in season. In favourable seasons wild fruit of all kinds is to be had in large quantities, for which the Indians receive good payment in the village of Cannington and from the white people in the neighbourhood. In the winter a large quantity of dry fire-wood and building logs is cut for sale. The women tan hides and other skins for settlers and get well paid for their work.

Occupation.—Mixed farming and the raising of cattle are the principal occupations of this band, and I am glad to say that the Indians have begun to show a great interest in their work.

The men have their time fully taken up during the spring and summer with the usual farm work at that time of the year, and in the winter they have their cattle to look after; they have most of them to haul their hay a long way to their stables, and it takes the best part of a day in winter to get home a load of hay from the hay lands seven miles away from their stables. They also cut a lot of fire-wood and building logs, which they sell to the settlers in the district. This spring they have a good acreage in wheat and other grain, about one hundred and forty acres altogether, and they also built about eight miles of new fence around the cultivated lands. They have broken eighty-four acres of new land since this time last year, and I expect to have a good deal more land broken up before fall. The acreage under crop this year is over eighty acres more than last year, and an increase of over one hundred acres since the year before. The women of the band attend to the usual housework, tan hides, pick berries and dig senega-root for sale; they also do a good deal of fishing, weed gardens and do other such work.

Crops.—The grain crop last fall was the best they ever had, over seventeen hundred bushels of grain was threshed, and though the crop of roots was small, all was of good quality. The crop at present looks first-rate and there is every prospect of a bountiful harvest. The gardens and root crops are a little backward, but with a few warm dry days I think they will be all right. It is going to be harder work this year than formerly to get our hay, owing to the high water in all the hay sloughs. I have never seen such a quantity of water in the sloughs on the prairie as there is this year since away back in the early seventies when I first came to the North-west, but the upland hay will be a good crop this year, and as we shall have a large quantity of straw, our stock will not suffer.

Stock.—The herd now numbers one hundred and fifty-eight head, and all are in good condition. The increase in calves this spring is satisfactory. All the Indians looked after their stock very well during the winter. Eight young heifers were purchased by the Indians to replace some of those killed or sold last fall.

Buildings.—The buildings on the reserve are much the same as last year. A few new houses and stables have been built.

Education.—There are twenty-four children of school age on the reserve, and of this number eight are attending the industrial schools at Qu'Appelle and Elkhorn. Since White Bear was reinstated as chief, the Indians of this band have been asking for a school on the reserve, and when the Deputy Superintendent General visited the reserve last fall the Indians asked him for a school, and he promised to do what he could for them. I am sure that were a school opened, there would be no trouble in getting children to attend. There are a number of children on the reserve who would

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

not be received at an industrial school, owing to their suffering from scrofula, and other diseases of a like nature, but were a day school started on the reserve, I think it would help the industrial schools in the future, for the teacher in the day school could see that the children in attendance were washed every day and kept clean, which is more than half the battle where scrofula is the trouble. In this way, after a year or so, there would, I think, be some children fit to be sent off the reserve to school.

Religion.—The Indians of this band are for the most part pagans. During the past year, however, some few have shown some interest in the teachings of the Rev. Mr. Dodds, our missionary. Both Mr. and Mrs. Dodds have been indefatigable in their work on the reserve, and I can see that the Indians have respect for them, and look upon them as friends. On two or three occasions when there were deaths on the reserve the Indians sent for Mr. Dodds and asked him to perform a Christian burial service at the grave; this, I think, shows that there is a better feeling working in some of them in the matter of religion, for I know it is only a very short time ago when such a thing would have been impossible even were the Indians paid for it.

Characteristics and Progress.—This band has made good progress during the year. I may mention the following names as examples of what is being done:—

Red Star last year had three acres in wheat; this season, thirty-three acres. John, last year, wheat, five acres; this year, sixteen. Lone Child, last year, wheat, four acres; this year, sixteen. F. Waywinche Kappo, last year, no crop; this year, sixteen acres of wheat alone. I could mention many others who have done well, and all show more taste for work than formerly, and I think they are beginning to see and feel that it is the man who works that is best off. Several new wagons were purchased during the year, as was also horse harness of good quality.

There has been a good deal of help in the way of food given this band during the year, but if our harvest this fall comes anywhere near what it should, the issue of food for the coming year will be small.

It is now only on very rare occasions I see an Indian with a painted face, and most of the people dress in white people's clothes, and have put aside the blanket.

The earnings of the band during the year were in the neighbourhood of \$3,000, which was properly spent.

Temperance and Morality.—The general behaviour of the band has been good.

General Remarks.—Only one attempt was made to hold a 'sun dance' during the year, and I am glad to say I had very little trouble in putting a stop to it. I do not think the Indians will ever try to hold one here again. Mr. Murison continues in charge of Pheasant Rump and Striped Blanket Bands, and works hard to bring them on.

Being quite alone here, I find my time fully occupied from day to day, and have no spare moments; but the great advance towards civilization and self-support made by these Indians during the past two years encourages me to still further exertions to bring them on.

I thank the department very much, on behalf of the Indians under my care, for the great help given them in the way of farming implements.

I have, &c.,

HENRY ROSS HALPIN,
Farmer in charge.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

ASSINIBOLA—MUSKOWPETUNG'S AGENCY,

September 12, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report on the affairs of the reserves in this agency during that portion of the fiscal year 1898-9 that they were under my charge.

Ill health having rendered my retirement from the position of secretary to the Indian Commissioner imperative, I succeeded Mr. J. B. Lash in the charge of this agency in November last, and as my work has since been principally that of familiarizing myself with the condition of the Indians and observing their requirements, I am not in a position on this occasion to present as comprehensive a report as I trust to be able to do at the close of another year.

PIAPOT'S BAND, No. 75.

Reserve.—The reserve belonging to this band comprises township 20 and a portion of township 21, in range 18, west of 2nd initial meridian, and is partially in the valley of the Qu'Appelle River, and partly on the uplands adjacent thereto, and possesses an area of fifty-eight square miles.

Natural Features.—The reserve contains little really good farming land, but is noted for the fine hay produced in the valley portion, which renders it an excellent locality for stock-raising.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are Crees belonging to the 'plain' or 'prairie' branch of that tribe.

Population.—The population numbers one hundred and eighty-four persons, consisting of fifty-nine men, seventy-five women, twenty-seven boys and twenty-three girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been remarkably good. The percentage of pulmonary and scrofulous diseases among them will, I believe, compare favourably with any band of Indians in the North-west.

The sanitary condition of the houses, which are only occupied during the winter, is as good as can be expected. The department's sanitary regulations regarding the cleaning up of houses and premises and the burning of the refuse are always carefully complied with, with good results.

Resources and Occupation.—This band secures large quantities of native hay, which is sold in Regina and elsewhere at remunerative prices. They also supply each year either a part or the whole of the hay required by the North-west Mounted Police headquarters at Regina. Grain and roots are grown to a moderate extent, and wheat is either sold or gristed in Regina. Up to the present time, the sale of dry fire-wood in Regina has been one of the principal industries, and has brought in a great deal of money to these Indians. This source of earnings is, however, rapidly nearing an end, as the dry wood is about exhausted.

These Indians, owing to their being able to earn their living by the above-mentioned industries, have not taken up cattle-raising on the scale that the hay supply of the reserve would warrant, but now that wood is almost gone, I am hoping to be

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

able to bring about a change in this respect, whereby the Indians may in the future be able to dispose of their hay in the more profitable form of export beef steers, instead of having to haul it long distances, to the detriment of their teams and equipment, to sell it.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The buildings on this reserve are of a rather inferior class, and as there is no good building timber on the reserve or even in the district, it is difficult to secure any marked improvement until such time as the Indians are sufficiently well off to afford frame dwellings. The interiors of their present dwellings are an agreeable surprise to one visiting them for the first time, and forming his conclusions from the rough appearance of the exterior. They are generally comfortable, and are always clean and neat. Pictures adorn the walls of many of them, and they have a much more pleasing aspect than one would expect from outside indications. Stables are built of small poplar poles, but are warm, as the Indians keep them well plastered and the hay roof ensures warmth in that quarter.

Stock on this reserve have as fine a range as can be found anywhere in the district, and in the course of a few years it is hoped that this will be more readily taken advantage of by the Indians, and that their herds will be largely increased. This reserve is also admirably suited for the raising of a good class of draught horses, and I am pleased to be able to report that, as the result of persistent effort, these Indians are now endeavouring to make a beginning in this direction, and are securing the services of first-class stallions owned by settlers in the neighbourhood.

Education.—There are a few children from this reserve in the Regina and Qu'Appelle Industrial Schools, but as these Indians are chiefly pagan, their opposition to sending their children to the schools is very pronounced, and difficult to overcome. Every favourable opportunity is, however, taken advantage of to break down the existing prejudice, and in time the results will be seen.

Religion.—As before stated, the majority of these Indians are pagans. The reserve is visited periodically by the missionaries of the Presbyterian and Roman Catholic bodies, and from recent indications, I am inclined to believe that some headway is being made among them. They certainly evince a greater interest in the services than, I am informed, they did in the past. There is no church on or in the neighbourhood of the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are energetic and inclined to be progressive whenever it is possible to induce them to strike out for themselves. They are not a little hampered, however, by that fear, which is so common among Indians, of doing something to offend their neighbour, and also by being unwilling to assist each other unless well paid for the service rendered. They are, I think, gradually shaking off these incumbrances, and, as fast as they do so, rapid will be their advancement, for they are naturally shrewd, and are possessed of good business ability.

There can be no question that steady progress is being made, and it will not be long before the very limited aid that they receive from the department at certain seasons of the year, will be entirely withdrawn. As it is at present, they return value in the form of hay for the agency cattle herd, and wood and hay for the use of the farmer, for the greater part of what they receive to help them when putting in crops or in hay-making and harvesting.

They are well-behaved and live on excellent terms with their white neighbours in the vicinity of the reserve, by whom they are invariably well spoken of.

Temperance and Morality.—As a whole, these people have not given any cause for complaint on this score. There have been occasional grounds for suspicion that intoxicants were being obtained by some of the looser characters in the band, when visiting Regina with wood or hay; but strict watch has been kept on all, and since this resulted in the breaking up of a place of ill-repute in Regina, I do not think that intoxicants have reached these Indians.

As to morality, there has been little, if any, ground for complaint.

MUSKOWPETUNG'S BAND, No. 80.

Reserve.—The lands owned by this band lie along the south bank of the Qu'Appelle River, between Piapot's and Pasquah's Reserves, and occupy some fifty-eight square miles immediately west of range 17, west of the 2nd initial meridian.

As with Piapot's Reserve, part of the lands in this reserve lie in the valley of the Qu'Appelle River, and the remainder on what is locally termed the 'bench' or uplands.

The valley section is a valuable hay meadow, while the uplands are very well adapted for farming. There is now very little timber worthy of the name left on the reserve, and in a few years the fuel problem will have to be faced.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Saulteaux tribe, with a slight admixture of Cree blood.

Population.—Ninety-five persons compose the population, consisting of twenty-eight men, thirty-nine women, thirteen boys and fifteen girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of this band has been good. There have been periodical outbreaks of colds and kindred illnesses, and there appears to be a stronger tendency towards scrofulous and pulmonary affections than among the Crees of Piapot's Band; but on the whole the condition of the Indians has been equally as good as would obtain in an average white settlement under the same conditions. A complete stock of drugs is kept at the agency headquarters, and all cases not absolutely requiring the attention of the agency physician are treated by myself.

The houses are kept clean, when occupied, but they are very much overheated during the winter, and this I find to be the cause of much of the illness that is observed during the winter and early spring. When the Indians move into their lodges, as they do every summer, their health improves immediately. Little attention is given to whitewashing the dwellings, but I hope to be able to bring about an improvement in this respect ere another winter sets in.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians derive a fair revenue from the sale of hay and fire-wood and in working for settlers, though not nearly to the same extent as their neighbours on the west—the Indians of Piapot's Band—as nearly the whole of their time is taken up during the winter months in hauling hay for the maintenance of the agency beef herd, which is kept on this reserve in connection with the agency. For this work they receive remuneration in provisions and clothing only, and, as this means that they are practically working for their board, they have not the same opportunity of purchasing such working equipment as wagons, mowers, &c., as in the case of Piapot's Indians, who receive money in return for what they sell, from the settlers; consequently their advancement is slower. They, however, have largely increased their acreage under crop this season, and have a growing crop of wheat, oats and barley which promises well.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The houses here are open to the same criticism as those on Piapot's Reserve, the same difficulty in obtaining building timber existing. Considering this, they are, however, fairly good and are warm and comfortable.

These Indians have a good herd of cattle, which they look well after. Hay is plentiful and close to the stables, and a steady supply of good water is at hand in the Qu'Appelle River, so that there is no reason why the herd of this band should not increase largely in the near future.

These Indians are fairly well equipped with farming implements and machinery for haying, but I regret to find that they do not give them the care they should receive. Every effort is being made to overcome this, but as long as their white neighbours err in the same manner, it is difficult to make much progress. Something is, however, being done.

Education.—There are very few children on this reserve, and many of these would not pass the medical examination requisite for entrance to the industrial schools.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Those who are in the Qu'Appelle and Regina industrial institutions are doing fairly well.

Religion.—As in the case of Piapot's Band, these Indians are almost entirely pagan. The few who are classed as Christian are practically only nominally so. Therefore, while services are held periodically on the reserve by the Presbyterian missionary, there is not much interest taken in religious matters. The reserve is also visited at times by missionaries of the Roman Catholic Church. There is no church on or near the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—I have had no fault to find with the behaviour of these Indians since I came among them.

Though they work somewhat erratically and are apt to allow their good resolutions to be overthrown by the most trivial events, still, on the whole, they have shown themselves willing and energetic during the past season, and, as they see some practical results accruing therefrom in the shape of a prospective large harvest, I think they will continue to exert themselves and take an intelligent interest in their work. They certainly require constant supervision, however, and were this withdrawn, they would immediately retrograde, as they have but little independence of character.

Temperance and Morality.—I have had no fault to find with these Indians on either score, and they stand well with the neighbouring white settlers, all of whom speak well of them.

PASQUAH'S BAND, No. 79.

Reserve.—This reserve lies almost immediately west of the village of Fort Qu'Appelle, and has its northern frontage on the Upper Qu'Appelle or Fishing Lake. It extends back from the lake eight miles, and covers an area of sixty square miles. As in the case of the other reserves mentioned, a part of the land of this band lies in the Qu'Appelle Valley, and the rest on the uplands to the south.

Natural Features.—This reserve is more heavily wooded than either Muskowpetung's or Piapot's, and some of the timber is of fairly good size and suitable for building purposes. The eastern portion of the reserve is largely open prairie, and the soil is of excellent quality and well suited for wheat-growing on a large scale.

Tribe.—These Indians are Saulteaux, with a slight admixture of Cree.

Population.—The population is one hundred and forty-eight, consisting of thirty-eight men, sixty-five women, twenty-one boys and twenty-four girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The same remarks as in the case of the reserves already reported on, apply here. While there has been from time to time more or less ill health and some deaths have occurred among the children, there has been no epidemic of any kind. The deaths, however, exceeded the births, due to infants dying from colds towards the close of the winter.

On this reserve there are two classes of Indians. One class consists of those who have been sufficiently progressive to remove from the original settlement in the valley and take up separate holdings in the farming lands of the reserve on the uplands. These have better houses than the second class, who are those who have not energy enough to make the change, and whose houses are of an inferior class. Among the former the sanitary conditions are better than among the latter. All, however, give some measure of attention to keeping their dwellings and premises clean and in proper condition, and each spring sees each place thoroughly cleaned and the refuse that has accumulated during the winter, is burned.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming is the principal occupation of the majority of this band, especially those just referred to as having settled on the uplands. The reserve is admirably adapted for grain-growing, and good crops are almost invariably secured. Hay is not nearly so plentiful on this as on the other reserves, and conse-

quently stock-raising has to be restricted to a small herd. It is the intention to introduce the cultivation of brome grass on this reserve next year, and if this proves a success, as there is no reason to doubt it should, these Indians will be able to increase their herds and not to be entirely dependent on wheat.

The sale of dry wood in the neighbouring railway towns is a steady source of income for these Indians, and with this and their crops a good, comfortable living is made.

The Qu'Appelle Lakes also afford a good supply of fish and fowl in the proper seasons.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The houses and stables on this reserve are of a fairly good class, and those belonging to Indians located on the 'bench' are really good—as good as those found among white settlers in the primary stage of settlement. I have observed that these are simply but nicely furnished, and are always kept neat and bright.

The cattle are well cared for, and the owners take a lively interest in them, and keep their stables warm and clean.

The Indians of this band are fairly well supplied with wagons and general farming equipment, but they are not as well provided yet with mowers as I should like to see them. This is, however, being remedied as rapidly as means at the disposal of the Indians will permit of, and with the very fine crop which I expect will be harvested this fall, these Indians will be in a position to equip themselves thoroughly. They receive no aid from the department in this respect, except in the matter of guaranteeing payment where they are obliged to make purchases of machinery on short credit, thus securing them a lower price than they would be obliged to pay otherwise.

Education.—Nearly all the children on this reserve are or have been in the Regina and Qu'Appelle Industrial Schools, and some of those who have returned from these institutions are now making good progress on the reserve.

One member of this band sends his son to a public school adjacent to the reserve, where he is said to be making good progress.

Religion.—The number of pagans is less on this reserve than on any other in the agency. The majority of the Indians are adherents of the Roman Catholic Church, which has a church established on the reserve. The Presbyterian body also has a church here and a resident missionary. The services are, I believe, well attended.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians of this band as a whole are more progressive and work more systematically than those of the reserves already reported on. They have reached that stage where they perceive that, if they wish to live well and be comfortable in their homes and surroundings, they must work steadily and methodically. This applies, of course, to the better class before referred to; there are, unfortunately, some who have not yet reached this stage and some again who, I fear, never will; but it is gratifying to observe that the influence of the results achieved by the 'progressive' party is having a more marked effect on the others this year than ever before, and there is good reason to believe that next season will witness a considerable migration from the valley settlement to separate holdings on the uplands. No effort is being spared to bring this about, as it is a matter of vital importance to these Indians as they are now beginning to perceive themselves.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians of this band come more frequently into contact with intoxicants during their frequent business visits to the railroad towns in the neighbourhood of the reserve and to Fort Qu'Appelle, where they meet half-breeds through whom they can procure liquor. Several convictions were secured last summer at Fort Qu'Appelle in cases where intoxicants had been given members of this and bands in other agencies centering on the Fort, and this has had an excellent effect. I am in constant communication with the Mounted Police at both Fort Qu'Appelle and Qu'Appelle station, and a close watch is kept to prevent our Indians getting whisky, with thus far good results.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

The morality of these Indians, that is mainly those who belong to the lower class in the reserve, is not of as high a standard as could be desired, and there has during the past winter been a good deal of strife and bickering between families, arising out of this cause.

STANDING BUFFALO BAND, No. 78 (SIOUX.)

Reserve.—This reserve lies in townships 21 and 22, in range 14, west of 2nd initial meridian, and has its southern front on the Qu'Appelle or Fishing Lakes, about eight miles north-west of the village of Fort Qu'Appelle. It comprises an area of seven square miles, part of which lies in the valley of Jumping Creek and the remainder on the uplands of the north side of the Qu'Appelle Valley. The soil is rather light to ensure certain crops of grain, but in the bottom lands of the Jumping Creek good root crops are grown.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band belong to one of the eastern or Minnesota branches of the Sioux nation.

Population.—The population is composed of one hundred and fifty-five persons, consisting of forty-six men, fifty-eight women, twenty-five boys and twenty-six girls.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—This band is remarkably healthy. The men are of fine physique, and being kept constantly employed working on their farms and among the settlers, their health is maintained at a high standard.

The houses are of a good class and are kept clean and tidy. I have had no special work for the agency medical officer on this reserve since I assumed charge of the agency.

Resources and Occupation.—A considerable area of land is under crop on this reserve and the Indians are kept busy with this and their cattle and the selling of wood in Fort Qu'Appelle, but their principal source of income is in the employment they find among the farmers of the district, by whom they are well liked as agricultural labourers.

Roots are a successful crop on this reserve and large quantities of potatoes are sold by these Indians each year at remunerative prices. The adjacent lakes also furnish a fair supply of fish, so that the Indians make a very comfortable living and are adding to their wealth every year. Owing to there being little hay on or in the vicinity of this reserve, but little can be done in the cattle-raising industry, and it is doubtful whether cultivated grasses can be grown successfully in the light soil.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The buildings on this reserve are as a rule of a good class, considering the scarcity of suitable building timber. They are all warm and comfortable and are kept in good repair.

The cattle are well attended to and the Sioux take a great deal of interest in them; but, owing to the proximity of settlements, they have not the same 'range' to pasture over as on the other reserves and the Indians through fear of having their bull impounded, keep it up too close, with the result that there is not the same return of calves that there should be. The Sioux are now arranging to inclose a large area for pasture, and when this is done, better results will, it is believed, be achieved.

These Indians are well equipped with farming implements and haying machinery and are constantly adding to their stock as they have the means of purchasing. I observe that they take better care of their machinery than the Crees or Saulteaux.

Education.—These Indians are Roman Catholics and have quite a number of their children in the Qu'Appelle Industrial School and these are being added to steadily, as these Indians are fully alive to the advantages of education for the rising generation.

Religion.—I would class this band as almost entirely belonging to the Roman Catholic faith. The few who may perhaps be not so classed, are pagans. The Roman

Catholic body maintains a very handsome and substantial stone church immediately adjoining this reserve, where a missionary resides during the greater part of the year.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Sioux Indians are, from what I can judge of them, decidedly the most progressive in this agency. They are entirely self-supporting, but are kept under supervision by the visits of the farmer on Pasquah's Reserve and myself. The better class among them are highly intelligent and provident. They appear to be steadily improving their condition, under conditions not the most favourable.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The Village System.—On all the reserves in this agency the Indians have in the beginning been allowed to settle in villages in the Qu'Appelle Valley. This militates very seriously against the advancement of the Indians, as they are too far from their farms, which are on the uplands, and the close proximity of the houses affords too much opportunity for visiting and gossiping and the promotion of gambling among the men during the winter nights. It also tends to strengthen the clannish feeling which renders it so difficult to deal with individual members of the bands instead of with the band as a whole. Efforts have been made for years past to break up the villages, but except in the case of Pasquah's Reserve not much success has been attained thus far. One of the chief difficulties in the way is the absence of suitable material for the erection of the class of houses that will be required to stand the colder weather of the uplands as compared with the sheltered valley. If the Indians had the means to purchase lumber, this difficulty would be removed.

I am pleased to notice an increasing tendency on the part of the better Indians on both Piapot's and Muskowpetung's Reserves to abandon the village system and build on their farm holdings on the uplands, and I trust that ere long I may be in a position to offer them the means of making this desirable move, which is one that will materially increase their prosperity.

Vital Statistics.—In view of the prevailing impression that the Indian race is disappearing, it is pleasing to note that the birth-rate has during the past year nearly equaled the death-rate on the reserves in this agency. Were it not for the mortality among infants due to lack of proper care on the part of parents, the births would exceed the deaths, as the returns up to the time of the annuity payments in July last showed only nine adult deaths out of the then population of five hundred and eighty-eight souls, while the number of infant deaths reached a total of twenty.

Health.—The agency medical officer, Dr. Edwards, speaks very highly of the remarkable freedom from serious illness or general ill-health noticeable on these reserves, and I am inclined to attribute much of this desirable condition of affairs to the absence of pork or bacon as an article of food among these Indians. Formerly, when bacon was regularly issued, and the Indians were on the regular 'ration list,' there was much more sickness among them than now.

Dr. Edwards attends to the medical needs of the bands in visits made every alternate month, but also holds himself in readiness to come when any special cases require his attention.

Vaccination.—This work has not been done for some years, and the Indians are very averse to having it done, but arrangements have been made to go on with it this fall, as soon as the hot weather is past. The majority of the children are in the industrial schools, where they have doubtless been vaccinated, and there are only a comparatively small number to be dealt with on the reserves. The recent small-pox 'scare' in Montana and Dakota has, I think, rendered the adults somewhat more amenable to reason in this matter.

Trespass on the Reserves.—The presence of settlers close to the southern boundaries of these reserves, and the proximity of good saleable dry fire-wood along the

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

south of the reserves has led to more or less timber-stealing in the past, and as wood grows scarcer and more valuable, there is a tendency to do more stealing. Last winter I resolved to make an example in this matter, and succeeded in securing the arrest of an old offender. He was brought to trial in Regina and found guilty, and sentenced to one month's imprisonment or a money penalty. This action has had a beneficial effect, and the Indians have since reaped the benefit of the price of a good many loads of wood that would otherwise have been taken from the reserve without consideration.

It has also been found necessary to take similar action with regard to trespasses by settlers on the hay grounds of Muskowpetung's Reserve, but I trust that after this there will be no need for such measures.

It affords me much pleasure to be able to testify to the excellence of the work performed by the members of the staff under my charge. They have responded to every call of duty cheerfully and willingly, and have not spared themselves in the work of advancing the Indians under their direct charge.

I have, &c.,

JOHN A. MITCHELL,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
SASKATCHEWAN—ONION LAKE AGENCY,
ONION LAKE, July 1, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report, together with statistical statement and inventory of Government property under my charge, for the year ended June 30, 1899.

SEEKASKOOTCH BAND, No. 119.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the north side of the Saskatchewan River, and about twelve miles from Fort Pitt. It contains an area of one hundred and seventeen thousand one hundred and twenty acres.

Tribe.—The members of this band belong to the Cree tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population is six hundred and fifteen persons, consisting of one hundred and seventy-two men, two hundred and six women, and two hundred and thirty-seven children. There has been an increase of eighty over last year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—No cases of contagious diseases have occurred during the year, and the health of these Indians has been good, with the exception of influenza, which was very prevalent last winter. The vaccination of those requiring the same has also been attended to.

The sanitary measures were, as usual, carried out, the Indians being caused to gather up and burn all refuse matters accumulating in the vicinity of their dwellings and premises. The houses were all re-mudded, whitewashed, and put in good repair last autumn. In their personal appearance the Indians are neat, clean and well-dressed.

Resources and Occupation.—Mixed farming and stock-raising are the resources of this reserve. In the cattle industry the Indians have been very successful. The

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

grain crops and gardens here were a failure, owing to the extreme drought during the spring.

The women engage in bead-work, sewing, making moccasins, tanning hides; and make butter for their own consumption.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The buildings, with the exception of one, are all of log, and during the fall eleven new houses and stables were erected for the purpose of winter ranches.

The stock on this reserve is in good condition, and numbers five hundred and thirty-three head, after ninety-six head had been sold for beef.

A fair supply of machinery is owned by these Indians, being private purchases with the proceeds derived from the sale of their surplus cattle.

Government Herd.—The herd numbers eight hundred and forty-seven head. The animals are in good order, and the natural increase has been satisfactory. The entire beef requirements for this agency for the year have, as usual, been supplied from the increase in stock, while sixty-one head of surplus heifers were sold. The eighteen hundred and twenty tons of hay put up last season for this herd proved to be a sufficient supply.

Education.—The two schools on this reserve continue the same. The Roman Catholic boarding school is under the management of the Rev. Sisters of the Assumption, the Rev. Father Comiré, principal. Over fifty pupils attend this school, and during the year the progress made by the pupils in their studies has been very satisfactory.

The Church of England boarding school is under the Rev. J. R. Matheson's charge. There are sixteen pupils in attendance, and the progress made is fair.

Religion.—The Indians show a great deal of interest in religion, and are very attentive to their religious duties. There are two churches on the reserve, one Roman Catholic and the other Church of England, the former in charge of the Rev. Father Comiré, who resides near the church, and the latter under the direction of the Rev. J. R. Matheson, missionary.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are law-abiding, industrious and at all times anxious to improve their manner of living.

The earnings for the season amounted to \$3,440.49, from the sale of beef produce and freighting. This money was judiciously expended by them in procuring one mowing-machine, one horse-rake, five sets of double work harness, clothing, groceries and other necessaries.

Temperance and Morality.—I am pleased to say that there has not been a case of intemperance come to my notice during the year, and the general morality of the band has improved.

General Remarks.—The fiscal year was commenced, as usual, by the 1st July being celebrated by the Indians with races, sports and other amusements, which were enjoyed by all.

The annuity payments took place in July, and everything passed off quietly.

CHIPPEWAYAN BAND, No. 124.

Reserve.—The Chippewayan settlement is situated on the Beaver River, and the reserve for these Indians is not yet surveyed.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band belong to the Chippewayan tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population at the last payments numbered two hundred and twenty-four, composed of fifty-nine men, sixty-seven women and ninety-eight children. There has been an increase of twenty-three over the previous year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of this band throughout the year has been good. A light form of influenza during the winter was the only epidemic.

Sanitary precautions are observed.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Resources and Occupation.—The Indians engage in hunting, fishing, trapping and stock-raising, and make a very good living. During the winter there were a few cases of destitution, and the department was called upon to render them a little assistance in the way of food.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The buildings on this reserve are of log, and are kept in good repair.

The cattle belonging to this band number four hundred and fourteen head and are chiefly private animals. The increase in calves this season is very satisfactory.

These Indians have also a few private mowing-machines and horse-rakes, which prove sufficient for their use during the haying season.

Education.—The day school on this reserve has been closed on account of irregular attendance, and the children sent as boarders to the Onion Lake school.

Religion.—The people all belong to the Roman Catholic faith, and attend service regularly.

I have, &c.,

GEO. G. MANN,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

ALBERTA—PEIGAN AGENCY,

MACLEOD, October 15, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899, together with the usual statement of agricultural and industrial statistics covering the same period.

Reserve.—The Peigan 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 Peigans 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 un-timbered 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 Peigans are a portion of one of the three tribes—Blackfeet, Bloods and Peigans—which form the Blackfoot nation or family in the great Algonkian linguistic stock. These Peigans are commonly, and more accurately, designated the 'North Peigans' in order to distinguish them from the larger branch of the tribe—the 'South Peigans'—who are United States Indians located in Montana.

Population.—The population of the reserve is five hundred and thirty-six, of which total number one hundred and thirty-seven are men, one hundred and sixty-four are women, and two hundred and thirty-five are children under sixteen years of age. Further details in connection with this subject are shown in the tabular statement.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the Indians has not been unsatisfactory, and improvement is noticeable in the cleanliness of dwellings.

Resources and Occupation.—Many years of fruitless experience having demonstrated the fact that this reserve is unsuitable for farming, no further efforts in that direction are being made beyond the growing of root crops.

Particular attention is being given to cattle-raising, as it is thought that the Indians and surrounding conditions are more congenial to that industry than to any other.

Cattle.—The year was a prosperous one for the Peigan cattle, which now number seven hundred and seventy-five head. One hundred and seventeen head of Indian cattle were butchered for beef last fall, for which the owners received over \$4,500, most of the money being expended upon new wagons, harness, and in the improvement of homes. Two hundred and three calves were branded at the spring 'round-up,' many of them showing good breeding, as a result of the purchase by the department of the shorthorn bulls for this reserve early in the fiscal year.

Buildings and Implements.—New log houses are continually being erected by these Indians, the old ones generally being torn down for fuel or used in the construction of stables and outbuildings. The result is that the number of houses does not increase, the population being nearly stationary, but each individual's new dwelling is an improvement upon the old one, the tendency being to build larger houses with higher roofs. In a few cases shingled houses have been built during the year and efforts will be made to increase the number until shingled roofs become general.

The working equipment of the tribe was augmented during the year by the purchase of some fourteen sets of harness, twenty-one good wagons, and two mowers, with rakes and numerous small implements of labour, all paid for by the Indians from their individual earnings.

Education.—The two boarding schools conducted by the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church contain some fifty pupils, who are doing very well. The children look to be well fed, and their clean appearance, together with the neatness of their clothing, is evidence of great care being exercised by those in charge of the institutions.

Religion.—This tribe may still be classed as pagan.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Peigan Indians are as a tribe an intelligent people and many of the young men are industrious, observant, and anxious to improve their condition. There is every reason to believe that under careful supervision some of the Indian herds of cattle will increase sufficiently within a few years to support their owners entirely. Last year nearly every Peigan who had cattle, put up an abundant supply of hay, which was judiciously fed during the winter, and the losses were consequently very small. There is nothing in connection with the cattle business that one of these Indians is incapable of accomplishing, under control of the department, provided he gets the necessary start, and it is probably along these lines that we must look for the greatest success in their behalf.

Temperance and Morality.—Although a few cases of intoxication were dealt with during the year, intemperance is not increasing. These Indians would find it difficult to procure liquor at all were it not for the vagabond half-breeds who infest the neighbourhood of the town of Macleod and who supply whisky to the Indians, sometimes at a profit, and in other cases merely for a share of the liquor purchased with the Indian's money. As considerable ingenuity is exercised by the half-breeds, convictions are difficult to secure; but several of the offenders were sentenced during the year for supplying intoxicants to Indians of this reserve.

I have, &c.,

R. N. WILSON,

Indian Agent.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
ALBERTA—SADDLE LAKE AGENCY,
SADDLE LAKE, July 1, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ended June 30 last, together with statistical statement and inventory of Government property under my charge.

SADDLE LAKE BAND, No. 125.

Reserve.—This reserve 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.

Natural Features.—To the north and west the surface is rolling, while to the south it is more level. Poplar groves are general, with here and there a few clumps of spruce. The pasture is good, but the soil is not well adapted for the raising of grain; root crops, however, have been raised successfully. Small swamps are scattered over the reserve, some of which produce a good supply of hay. The lake from which the reserve derives its name is situated close to the northern boundary, about half way 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 thirty-six, made up as follows: sixty-four men, seventy-one women, and one hundred and one children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the Indians throughout the year has been good, and with the exception of an epidemic resembling quinsy, which visited all the reserves in the spring, and the standing cases of consumption and scrofula, there has been very little sickness. The children attending the Blue Quill's boarding school are vaccinated, but there is always a great objection on the part of the grown-up people to allow either themselves or their children to be operated upon. An improvement is noticeable in the sanitary condition and appearance of the houses.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians devote a good deal of time and energy, at the proper seasons, to the raising of grain crops, but never with any great success. The last crop was a very poor one; still they were not too much disheartened to make another attempt this spring, and, so far, the result promises to be good. The principal industry from which these Indians can derive a living is stock-raising, and to this attention is chiefly directed. In winter they are kept busy hauling hay, and otherwise attending to their cattle. Last winter they hauled about fourteen hundred logs to the saw-mill, all of which were sawn during the month of June, producing altogether about eighty-nine thousand feet of lumber and house logs.

Buildings.—The houses are all built of logs and roofed with poles, thatched and mudded. They are made comfortable for winter; but in summer few are occupied, as the Indians are healthier living under canvas than in houses during the hot weather.

Stock.—The cattle on the reserve are always in good condition, and are steadily increasing. The number of head at present is about four hundred and eighty.

Implements.—These Indians are well supplied with wagons, mowers and horse-rakes, most of which have been purchased from the proceeds of beef supplied to the department; and all are in good repair.

Education.—The day school, situated on the Saddle Lake portion of the reserve, is under the auspices of the Methodist Church, and has been conducted with moderate success until the beginning of May; then, however, on account of the removal of the teacher, who also performed the duties of missionary, the school was closed, but it will soon be reopened on the appointment of a new teacher.

On the portion of the reserve occupied by Blue Quill's Band is situated a Roman Catholic mission, in connection with which a boarding school is successfully conducted. The pupils there quickly learn to speak English, and are otherwise making satisfactory progress. Twenty-five children of the Saddle Lake and Blue Quill's Bands attend this school, besides which four are pupils of the Red Deer Industrial School.

Religion.—The members of Saddle Lake Band are Methodists and Roman Catholics, the former denomination holding a large majority. The members of Blue Quill's Band are nearly all Roman Catholics, and attend service at the mission, where a new church is being erected.

Characteristics and Progress.—A few of these Indians may be called industrious, but the majority are not so inclined; still, the bands may be said to be progressing. Mistah John and Moses, of Saddle Lake Band, each bought a wagon during the year, and in Blue Quill's Band, Joseph Doghead bought a wagon, and Wahpeeinew and Red Crow each a horse-rake.

WHITEFISH LAKE BAND, NO. 128.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated north of Saddle Lake, in townships 61 and 62, ranges 12 and 13, west of the 4th meridian. The area is eleven thousand two hundred acres.

Natural Features.—The greater part is undulating and wooded with poplar and a little spruce. In parts, the ground is stony, but, with favourable seasons, grain can be successfully grown. There are several large hay swamps, which, however, do not yield so well as formerly.

Tribe.—The Indians occupying this reserve 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 inhabiting this reserve number three hundred and twenty-two, made up as follows: seventy-six men, one hundred and five women and one hundred and forty-one children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—With the exception of a slight epidemic, resembling quinsy, that attacked all the reserves, and the sufferers from consumption and scrofula, there has been very little sickness this year, and the health of the band generally is improving. Most of the houses are clean and well kept.

Resources and Occupation.—Time and energy are devoted to the raising of grain, and with more success than at Saddle Lake and Blue Quill's Reserves. About one hundred and seventy sacks of flour were produced from last season's wheat crop, ground at the grist-mill on this reserve. Stock-raising must, however, be looked to as the principal source of livelihood for these Indians; the country is well adapted for it, and so far, their efforts have met with success. A good supply of fish is generally drawn from Goodfish Lake and Whitefish Lake for the winter, but last winter the supply was small on account of the lakes freezing up earlier than usual, forcing the Indians to abandon the work.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Buildings.—The houses are built of logs, and most of them are roofed with poles, thatched and mudded. As on other reserves, they are only inhabited during the winter, and every fall they are re-mudded and cleaned out. Four new houses have been built, one of which is a particularly good one, and has a good shingle roof.

Stock.—The cattle are doing well and increasing, the number of head on hand at present being about four hundred and sixty.

Implements.—These Indians are also well supplied with mowers, horse-rakes and wagons, which they purchased chiefly from the proceeds of beef supplied the department. One Indian purchased a reaper, with which most of the crop on the reserve is cut. All these implements are kept in good repair.

Education.—Two day schools are supported on this reserve, one at Goodfish Lake, towards the south end, and one close to the Methodist Church mission, at the north end of the reserve. Good work is being done at both schools, and especially at the Goodfish Lake school. Very satisfactory progress is being made. Both schools are under the auspices of the Methodist Church. Fifteen children from this reserve are pupils at the Red Deer Industrial School, and eleven are pupils at the boarding school on Blue Quill's Reserve.

Religion.—Most of these Indians belong to the Methodist denomination. The Rev. A. B. Glass is the resident missionary. He holds services regularly. Mr. Vincent Smith, the school teacher at Goodfish Lake, assists in the work. Two local preachers, John Hunter and Nathaniel Leg, both members of the band, are zealous workers for the church.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians have the character of being very independent; they are difficult to lead, but there is no doubt they are progressing. Their cattle are increasing, and many of them possess implements of their own, such as wagons, mowers and rakes. During the past year, Peter Shirt purchased a reaper, Joseph Makookis and Peter Blood a wagon each, and Arthur Steinhauer a mower.

Grist-Mill.—In addition to the hundred and seventy sacks of flour already referred to as having been produced at the mill, about the same quantity was ground for settlers, for which a toll of about one hundred bushels of wheat was received, and issued to the Indians for new seed this spring. The quality of the flour produced was excellent, and those from outside the reserve who brought their wheat to the mill expressed themselves well satisfied with their return.

Saw-Mill.—During the month of April about fourteen hundred logs were sawn at Whitefish Lake Reserve, rendering about seventy-one thousand feet of lumber and house logs. After seeding was completed, the mill was moved to Saddle Lake Reserve, and during the month of June fourteen hundred logs, hauled by the Saddle Lake and Blue Quill Indians, were sawn, producing about eighty-nine thousand feet of lumber and house logs. The toll received at both places amounts to about thirty-nine thousand five hundred feet.

The lumber received for toll will be utilized in department buildings. A new stable is being put up at the farm on Whitefish Lake Reserve; also an office for the use of the farmer.

The dam across the creek, not far from the farm at Whitefish Lake, has been completed, and answers the purpose of flooding an extent of hay land that had been suffering for want of moisture. It also serves as a bridge for crossing the creek.

LAC LA BICHE BAND, No. 129.

This band consists of eighteen persons: four men, eight women and six children. They are all half-breeds, and live by freighting, hunting and trapping, and do not receive any assistance from the department beyond their treaty money.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

CHIPPEWAYAN BAND, No. 130.

This band is made up of fifteen men, seventeen women and thirty-four children, altogether sixty-six souls. In addition to their treaty money, they receive no assistance from the department beyond the little food, ammunition and twine issued them when treaty payments are made. They live altogether by hunting, trapping and fishing, and occupy the district surrounding Heart Lake, about thirty miles north-east of Lac la Biche.

BEAVER LAKE BAND, No. 131.

This band numbers one hundred and nine, made up as follows: twenty-three men, thirty-seven women and forty-nine children. They receive very little assistance from the department, beyond what is given them at treaty payments. They live in the neighbourhood of Beaver Lake, hunting, trapping and fishing. The lakes in the neighbourhood abound with fish, but last winter, owing to the cold weather setting in so soon, their catch was not so large as usual. Three children belonging to this band are pupils at the boarding school on Blue Quill's Reserve.

Temperance and Morality.—Situated so far from any town, the Indians coming under my supervision are not largely exposed to temptation to drink, and I do not know of any of them having been the worse of liquor throughout the year. They are, however, not free from immorality.

Generally speaking, the condition of the Indians is improving, and, though slowly, they are approaching a stage when a number of them will be self-supporting.

I have, &c.,

W. SIBBALD,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

ALBERTA—SARCEE AGENCY,

CALGARY, September 26, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to make the following report for the year ended June 30, 1899, together with a statistical statement and inventory of all Government property under my charge.

Reserve.—The Sarcee Reserve comprises townships 23, ranges 2, 3 and 4, west of the 5th initial meridian, and contains an area of one hundred and eight square miles, or sixty-nine thousand one hundred and twenty acres. The agency headquarters are situated on the Fish Creek, about nine miles south-west of Calgary.

Natural Features.—The soil, generally speaking, is a dark loam with clay subsoil; the land rolling and well wooded at the western end of the reserve with spruce, poplar and jack-pine.

The country here is particularly well adapted for stock-raising, and some of the Indians are doing fairly well in this industry, and are becoming better off; while others cling to their old habits and are more inclined to lead a wandering life than to settle down on their reserve. The Elbow River and Fish Creek, besides some other small streams, touch the reserve at different points. There are numerous good hay

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

meadows on the reserve, and the Indians each year put up large quantities for sale and for their own use. The hay lands that are not required are let to ranchers each season at the rate of fifty cents per ton, measured in the stack. This money is then placed to the credit of the band at Ottawa.

Tribe.—These Indians are Sarcees or Beaver Indians.

Population.—Seventy-five men, ninety-four women and forty-four children constitute the population.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The death-rate this year was larger than last, principally owing to grippe, which was very prevalent last winter.

The usual sanitary precautions were observed, such as keeping houses and premises clean, and isolating those—when it could be done—suffering from infectious diseases. A great many of the Indians are suffering from sore eyes, and some of the strongest and best workers are now unable to do anything on account of this affliction. Medicines are supplied them for this complaint, but it only alleviates their sufferings for the time being.

Resources and Occupation.—Mixed farming is carried on by the majority of those who are able to work. Stock-raising is taking up their attention more each year. Crops turned out well last year, and the Indians, after paying expenses on the same for binder-twine, threshing, &c., and putting aside seed for the next year, had quite a little money to spend on such articles as tea, tobacco and clothing. Besides this, Jim Big Plume, One Spot and Big Crow were able to purchase a mower each from proceeds of beef and grain raised on the reserve.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Under this heading, an improvement is noticed all round, and the Indians are getting better off. Some have now very comfortable dwellings and are better furnished with cook-stoves, cupboards, tables, chairs, bedsteads, &c., &c.

Education.—There is a boarding school on this reserve under the auspices of the Church of England; nearly all children of school age are in attendance. The church receives from the department \$72 per capita for each pupil for maintenance, education, &c.

The girls are taught sewing, knitting, cooking, washing, laundrying and general housework, in addition to class-work.

Religion.—Services are held regularly in the Anglican church for the benefit of the pupils and Indians. This church is close to the boarding school.

Twenty-three Indians are said to be members of this church. Seven are claimed by the Roman Catholics, and the rest, one hundred and eighty-three, are pagans.

I cannot say that there is more than the usual interest manifested outwardly by these Indians in religion.

Characteristics and Progress.—With some exceptions, these Indians are naturally indolent and indifferent. The industrious ones require constant supervision or else they will lapse back to their original condition. Several have made good progress during the past year, and, if they only keep on, should in a short time be independent.

Temperance and Morality.—There were eight convictions for drunkenness during the year, one for insanity, and two for threatening the life of a white settler in the neighbourhood of the reserve.

A white settler residing near the reserve was fined \$50 for supplying liquor to an Indian, and a half-breed living in Calgary got six months at hard labour for the same offence.

These Indians have a particular weakness for strong drink, and their dread of jail and the North-west Mounted Police is a great factor in keeping them sober. I would here thank the Calgary police detachment for their valuable assistance at different times.

General Remarks.—I might mention that a number of visitors, both American and European, visited the reserve during the year, some out of curiosity to see the

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Indians and learn how they were progressing as farmers, and others to obtain relics and curiosities. The Indians, as usual, were glad to see them, more especially when any material benefit was in sight.

In concluding this report, it gives me pleasure to testify to the hearty co-operation rendered me by my assistants.

I have, &c.,

A. J. MCNEILL,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

STONY RESERVE,

MORLEY, August 25, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report, together with statistical statement and inventory of Government property under my charge for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the Bow River some forty miles west of Calgary.

The C. P. R. runs through the reserve and Morley station is within half a mile of the agency buildings.

The total area is sixty-nine thousand seven hundred and twenty acres, nearly one-third of which is covered with valuable timber.

Natural Features.—The whole reserve is a rolling country, watered by the Bow and Kannawaskis Rivers. The soil is a light loam, in some places very stony. The timber is principally spruce, fir and poplar. No minerals of any value have so far been discovered on the reserve.

Tribe.—The Indians on this reserve belong to the Stony tribe, a branch of the 'Sioux nation.

Resources.—Stock-raising, fishing and wood-cutting are the principal resources of this tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population is five hundred and ninety-four, an increase of thirteen as compared with last year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of this band is good, the birth-rate being in considerable excess of the death-rate.

Stock.—The Indians are beginning to take more interest in their cattle in the way of providing feed and shelter. The calves were separated from the cows last winter, and fed hay, and came through the winter in much better condition. Nine new thoroughbred shorthorn bulls have been added to the herd, the old ones having been transferred.

Buildings.—A few houses have been built, and a good many generally improved. The housekeeping has advanced in every respect.

Education.—Most of the children attend the McDougall Orphanage boarding school which is now full, and with Mr. J. W. Niddrie as principal, is giving general satisfaction.

The day schools are closed owing to poor attendance.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Religion and Morality.—The Indians are all Methodists and their spiritual wants are attended to by the Rev. R. B. Steinhauer, B.A., who conducts the services, which are well attended.

Not a single case of drunkenness having come under my notice during the year, it may be safely said that these Indians are better than the average.

General Remarks.—The fences in the vicinity of the agency headquarters have all been rebuilt, besides about a mile and a half of new fence having been completed. This has been done by the Indians as well as the other work mentioned. The slaughter-house and ration-house have been repaired and new corrals and chute erected in place of the old ones, which have been torn down. A large cattle-shed and yard with corrals, &c., for the wintering of cattle, is in course of erection, close to the agency offices, the site being most favourable for the object in view, there being abundant shelter and an unlimited supply of running water the year round.

In conclusion, I might say that my greatest difficulties do not arise from the Indians, but from the officious interference of outsiders, who appear to be unusually numerous in this district.

I have, &c.,

E. J. BANGS,
Farmer in Charge.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

ASSINIBOIA—SWAN RIVER AGENCY,

COTE, August 30, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Reserves.—There are three reserves in this agency: Côté, No. 64; Key, No. 65; Keeseekouse, No. 66; and, in addition, a fishing reserve at the mouth of Shoal River, Lake Winnipegosis, where a portion of Key's Band reside.

Natural Features.—Côté Reserve is situated on the east side of the Assiniboine River, close to the Duck Mountains, and has an area of thirty-six thousand one hundred and sixteen acres. Key's Reserve is on the Assiniboine River, sixteen miles from the agency headquarters, in a north-westerly direction, and has an area of nineteen thousand five hundred and sixty acres. Keeseekouse's Reserve is adjoining Côté's Reserve on the Assiniboine River, and has an area of eighteen thousand three hundred and two acres.

The soil on Côté's Reserve is very rich, heavy clay that is slow to ripen crops, and owing to the proximity of the Duck Mountains, is subject to summer frosts. On the Key and Keeseekouse Reserves, the soil is in places very light, the country is broken with sloughs, creeks and a good deal of scrub land. The hay lands on these reserves will not be sufficient, if a much larger number of cattle are kept.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the different reserves is as follows:—Côté Band, sixty-five men, sixty-seven women, sixty-four boys and sixty-two girls; Key's Band, forty-eight men, sixty women, fifty-six boys, sixty-eight girls; Keeseekouse Band, thirty-eight men, fifty-three women, thirty-seven boys, thirty-two girls; making a grand total of six hundred and forty-seven. Of this number, one hundred and sixty-four

members of Key's Band live at Shoal River Reserve. During the year there were thirty-two births and thirty deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the Indians has been comparatively good during the year; there have been no epidemics. A good many chronic cases of scrofula, however, exist, and it is only possible to palliate the evil, not to cure it. A large quantity of medicines is kept at the office. Dr. Cash, the medical attendant, leaves prescriptions for these chronic patients, which are filled as required. Every sanitary precaution is taken, such as vaccinating, cleaning up all refuse around the houses and burning the same, also whitewashing the houses, inside and out.

Resources and Occupation.—The general location of reserves here being unsuitable for grain-farming, the Indians are principally engaged in raising live stock, cattle, sheep and horses. They have on Côté's Reserve four hundred and fifty-six head of cattle, one hundred and twenty-two sheep and ninety-seven horses; Key's Band has two hundred and twenty-six head of cattle, six sheep and for y-three horses; Keeseekouse's Band has two hundred and twenty-seven head of cattle and twenty-one sheep, also fifty-one horses; total, nine hundred and nine head of cattle, one hundred and forty-nine sheep and one hundred and ninety-one horses, making a grand total of twelve hundred and forty-nine head of live stock, representing a money value of \$29,795, the securing of fodder for which is a considerable anxiety in unfavourable seasons. The Indians have sold during the year ninety head of cattle, for which they received \$3,770.45. They also killed and consumed fifty-seven head, representing a money value of \$1,425, making a total of \$5,195.45 received on account of cattle. Of this amount they have paid on account of mowers, rakes and wagons the sum of \$872.10. The Indians have, in addition to this sum, earned by hunting and fishing and other industries, as well as the estimated value of meat and fish used for food, the sum of \$12,311.45, making a grand total of \$18,106.90.

Education.—There is on Côté's Reserve a boarding school, under the management of the Presbyterian mission, with an average attendance of thirty children; on Key's Reserve there is a day school, with an attendance of eight; at Shoal River a day school, with eighteen pupils; on Keeseekouse's Reserve there is a day school, with an attendance of six. There are also thirteen pupils at the Regina Industrial School from Côté's Reserve. Some of the former pupils graduated from that institution, have returned and are living with their parents, whom they are elevating in their mode of living. These pupils have received some assistance in the way of live stock on loan, but, of course, it will take some time before they can provide themselves with the necessary implements for farming.

Religion.—A good many Indians of Côté's Band are Presbyterians. They have a church in the centre of the reserve, which is well attended. Key's Band has a church here, also one at Shoal River; both are under the direction of the Church of England mission. Keeseekouse's Band also has a church under the auspices of the Roman Catholic mission.

Those Indians who are still pagans, are very likely to remain so, as the problem of a choice must appear to them difficult of solution, owing to the variety offered. This leaves three strings to their bow, and they are not slow to profit by the charity of the different denominations.

Characteristics and Progress.—We have all sorts and conditions of Indians here, and it is hard to strike an average. Some are doing very well and are gradually getting about them a good herd of cattle, sheep and a few useful horses, mowers, rakes, wagons and other indispensable implements. These articles are purchased with their cattle money, and they still have to be assisted at times with food. When they will have everything within themselves, they will be able to do without help in this line.

On the other hand, we still have the Indian who sometimes lives on the reserve and sometimes hunts. This type has usually three or four head of cattle, and never seems to want nor be able to have more. He puts in a few potatoes in the spring, and

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

leaves them to do the best they can until he returns about haying time. Then again, we have a few specimens of the old-fashioned Indians, who are always bringing up for discussion the fulfilment of the terms of the treaty on the Government's side, and quietly ignore the obligations on theirs. But time is gradually, if slowly, changing all this, and there is no doubt that in the course of a few years the Indians—excepting the really destitute—will be able to do without assistance in the way of food, and this only by close personal supervision. It must be borne in mind that these people have been brought under the influence of civilization but a short time, compared with the Indians of the older provinces, and the comparison, after making allowances, is, I fancy, in favour of our Indians.

The Indians here are at a great disadvantage, not being near a settlement nor town, where they could sell hay or wood. As it is, the nearest town is Yorkton, sixty miles distant. I may state, as an instance, that an Indian living near a town on the railway, can take in a load of hay and return with six sacks of flour.

Temperance and Morality.—There has been but one case of Indians getting liquor that has come under my notice, that of Wm. Fiddler, who was fined in Yorkton for being under the influence of liquor and disorderly; but through want of evidence the party who furnished the intoxicant was not convicted. I may say that, generally speaking, the principles of temperance and morality are fairly observed.

I have, &c.,

W. E. JONES,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
ASSINIBOIA—TOUCHWOOD HILLS AGENCY.

KUTAWA, July 20, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Reserves.—There are now seven 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. There is also a small portion of the last named band called the Kinistino family that have been given a small reserve where they have lived for fifty years.

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 headquarters, have three reserves, known as the Nut and Fishing Lake Reserves, which are situated in townships 33, 38 and 39, ranges 12 and 13, and a small reserve, for the Kinistino family, of fifteen square miles in townships 41 and 42, range 15, all west of the 2nd initial meridian. The agency headquarters are situated on section 16, range 16, township 28, alongside the old main trail leading to Prince Albert, that was once a busy thoroughfare, but since the advent of the Long Lake Railway, has become grass-grown and abandoned. Gordon's and Muscowequan's Reserves are located in the Little Touchwood Hills; Day Star's and Poor

Man's Reserves in the Big Touchwood Hills. The agency headquarters are 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 seven reserves is one hundred and twenty-two thousand, nine hundred and eighty-six acres. About thirty-two thousand acres of this is covered with willow scrub, and small bluffs. Our nearest stream is the Qu'Appelle River, fifty miles away at the nearest point. On the reserves are numerous ponds and small lakes. The Nut and Fishing Lakes are the only ones that contain fish.

Population.—The population of the different reserves at the time of the annuity payments of 1898, was as follows: Muscowequan's, thirty-four men, forty-five women, seventy-one children; Gordon's, forty-nine men, forty-two women, sixty-seven children; Day Star's, twenty-two men, twenty-two women, thirty-seven children; Poor Man's, thirty-two men, thirty-four women, forty-eight children; Yellow Quill, one hundred and one men, one hundred and twenty-two women, one hundred and thirty-seven children; a total of two hundred and thirty-eight men, two hundred and sixty-five women, and three hundred and sixty children; making a grand total of eight hundred and sixty-three souls all told.

Health and sanitary condition.—The health of the Indians this year has been as good as ever it was, but nothing particularly robust can be expected from their manner of living, feast and waste one day, compulsory fast the next; wearing the same clothing wet or dry. Utter want of forethought to provide for the proverbial rainy day makes it almost impossible for them to take even ordinary precautions to retain their health. Scrofula and consumption are slowly but surely doing their work towards solving the problematic future of the native race. One cannot live many years among them without having brought painfully to one's notice the small families of sickly children, many of whom die from these horrible diseases before they are fifteen, and with our present appliances it is but little that we can do to stop it. One peculiarity that I have noticed in scrofula is that in the female adult it disappears as soon as child-bearing commences and re-appears in the children. There is a lake about forty miles from the agency headquarters that has a wonderfully beneficial effect on those suffering from scrofula and although the Indians are well aware of this, they ascribe the virtue of the water to the spirit which they say inhabits the water as it bubbles forth from the spring, consequently it is seldom we can prevail upon them to stay a sufficient time there to derive any permanent benefit. I intend getting the water of this lake, and the crystals that form on the bottom analyzed, as I believe there are properties in it well worth knowing. All ordinary sanitary precautions are taken, such as cleaning up in the spring and burning the rubbish, whitewashing, &c.; but with the whole family living in their little one-room log huts it is difficult to keep them properly ventilated, although their fireplaces assist in this materially. Sanitary ventilation is to an Indian but a white man's foolish whim, and consequently very hard to enforce. At present all the Indians are living in tents, and, as they move camp frequently, their surroundings are perfectly fresh and clean. They certainly appear to have better health when living in tents, and after a long winter in their huts, the quick change in their health after moving into their tents in the spring is quite noticeable. The old time medicine man still gets an occasional patient, but his medicine now consists of herbs, roots, &c., the old sleight of hand, enchanting, spiritual aid and other humbugs of early days are about played out and gone after the buffalo.

Resources and Occupation.—Cattle-raising is in all probability the most reliable occupation to be carried on in the future in this district. It is at present the greatest source of profit on all the reserves in the agency, with the exception of Nut Lake. A great change has come over the Indians here in the last two years; they now look to their cattle as the only means of providing implements, wagons, work horses, &c., and the greater part of their food and clothing for the winter. No trouble is experienced

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

in getting them to replace heifers when steers are disposed of, as it used to be a few years ago. In many ways they show a greater aptitude for looking after stock, although a great deal has to be learned yet in the care of young cattle and cows in regard to leaving them exposed to severe weather; a calf does not represent much to them, or a cow either, as they cannot be realized on for years. I have often wondered why it was that it was next to impossible to get an Indian to take any care of a sick animal, but last winter when rebuked by me for bad care of a sick animal, an Indian defended himself by saying that he did not like interfering with the work of the spirits, and explained that the animal was possessed by an evil spirit which, if allowed to work its will, would be appeased, but if he interfered with it, and its work of disease stopped, the spirit would pass to him. I write this merely to show one of the items an agent has to contend with.

Last season we had a very good crop of calves on Gordon's, Poor Man's and Day Star's Reserves; but on Muscowequan's it was very poor on account of impotent bulls. The bulls supplied are from Ontario, and not being acclimatized cannot stand the sudden change and remain serviceable. For three years we have been pestered with a plague of sand flies, black flies, gray flies, and mosquitoes, which has resulted most fatally to our bulls, as out of eight Ontario bulls supplied during the last three years, three died within a few days after being received, from the effect of flies, and the others have not yet recovered their former vigour. Bulls appear to be affected very much more than the other cattle by the flies, and it may be that the eastern bull having been brought up in a stable, is naturally soft, and some of them I know cannot be induced to go near a smudge.

Quite a number of cattle belonging to the traders and buyers were wintered by the Indians at the rate of \$4 per head, and it is said they were better wintered than similar cattle cared for by the ranchers. We had an extremely long winter, snow being on the ground for seven months, and we were most fortunate in having sufficient hay to carry us through. However, our cattle all came through the winter in splendid condition, but between the time the snow left and the green grass was fit for feed, many of the cattle lost a lot of flesh.

On Gordon's and Poor Man's Reserves we had very good crops of wheat and oats, but being so far from a market the Indians do not derive the benefit they otherwise would if they had a market at hand or even a mill of their own. As soon as our last season's crop was ready to thresh, we discovered that it was impossible to obtain a machine to thresh our grain in time to save it from the weather, so I proposed to the Indians that we should buy a second-hand one in the neighbourhood. This they agreed to do at once; the machine was bought and paid for by themselves, and they ran it and did all their threshing very successfully.

On Day Star's and Muscowequan's Reserves very little is done in the way of gardens and grain-growing on account of frost. It has been tried for many years without success and it has now been decided to abandon grain-growing there altogether.

The Indians have very few chances of earning money here. About the only cash they can earn is for freighting the department's supplies, as all work done for the traders, freighting, supplying them wood and hay, must always be taken out in trade, and the little hay and wood required at the agency headquarters is all paid for in rations from the department's supplies. Small amounts of money are no doubt obtained from the ranchers for tanning hides, wild fruit, bead-work, cutting logs and rails, putting up log buildings, herding, &c. Indians at Nut Lake are yet able to make a living at hunting and trapping and during last winter obtained in the neighbourhood of \$10,000 worth of fur, and that I consider a low estimate.

Buildings.—All buildings on the reserves are of logs, a few have shingle roofs, and nearly all have board floors. There are a few very good houses on the Gordon Reserve, also on Day Star's, but on the rest of the reserves the old log hut still predominates and as the Indians do not live in these huts until driven there by the

intense cold, there is no inducement to make them very comfortable. All the half-breeds live in their houses the year round and some of them are as comfortable as can be. The log stables in the summer time look dilapidated on account of the mud plastering falling off, but in the fall after they are freshly mudded, corrals rebuilt and everything put in order for the winter, with stacks of hay on hand, they look all that is desired, and answer every purpose for which they are intended.

Stock.—The cattle, as previously stated, have all wintered well and are now in fine condition although not as fat as last year at this time; the spring being late, the grass was backward in its growth, then the subsequent pest of flies worried the stock so much it was impossible for them to feed properly, and I am afraid it will be late this season before the steers will be in condition fit to ship. This fly pest has caused us much worry and annoyance this season; the Indians will not keep up proper smudges and then the cattle go fairly wild and run in any direction they can smell smoke, sometimes wandering miles away and are not recovered for months. At present I do not think there is a herd of cattle within fifty miles of here that has not stray animals in it, driven there by flies. They have to be experienced before anyone can realize how thick and savage mosquitoes, black and sand flies, can be in a bad season. This summer they are the most villainous, fierce, and merciless torment that I have experienced in nineteen years.

The cattle on the Fishing Lake Reserve were this spring, in even better condition than those on the reserves nearer to the agency headquarters, and there is every prospect of a good increase in the future.

The Indian ponies on the reserves do not amount to much and are only fit to ride, or draw a cart or jumper.

However, I have managed to get hold of a very fair stallion as one of my driving team, and as I can give his service to the Indians free, many of them have taken advantage of it for their pony mares and I hope in this way to improve their horses. A number of them are buying with their beef-money a better class of work horse, quite large enough to work their mowers, haul hay, and do ordinary freighting, and they are learning by degrees that such a horse requires better care and feed than the cayuse they have been in the habit of handling. No doubt, when their herds of cattle get large enough to afford it, they will invest in a still better class of horses, but I always advise them to make such improvements by degrees.

Implements.—There is no trouble now in getting the Indians to buy implements and machinery out of their beef-money: a spirit of rivalry exists amongst them as to who can acquire the best outfit of working machinery, and many of them would, if allowed, spend every dollar of their money in the above articles. Much better care is given to property thus acquired than to that previously supplied by the department, and it is rather amusing to see the air of importance an Indian assumes after buying an outfit of wagon, mower and rake; his appearance clearly conveys the impression that he will never see another day of poverty.

During the year they have purchased for themselves nine wagons, four mowers and rakes, one seeder, one threshing-machine, horse-power, and grain-crusher, and a number of sets of harness.

Education.—The day school on Day Star's Reserve still continues in charge of Mrs. S. E. Smythe, the teacher, and no trouble has been experienced in keeping up a regular attendance and a good average. On Gordon's Reserve a large stone boarding school is conducted by the Church of England, Mr. Mark Williams and Mrs. Williams being respectively principal and matron. A very fair average attendance is obtained, the children are happy and contented, and this is not to be wondered at, as they are much better looked after and fed and clothed than they would be at home. The progress made in studies is satisfactory. I would like to say, however, that this school is handicapped, in that Mr. Williams has to carry out the duties of both principal and teacher, and it is not possible for him to do justice to both positions. The interior of the building and surroundings are kept scrupulously clean and neat at all times, and are a worthy example for the children to imitate when they leave

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

the institution and return home. Fire-appliances, such as force-pumps, tank, piping, hose, &c., have been purchased, and will be placed in position this summer. There is a large vegetable garden in connection with the school, that is kept in splendid order, and the stock of vegetables taken from it last summer was well worth exhibiting.

Near Muscowequan's Reserve is a large stone boarding school, conducted under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church. Its average attendance is always the full complement of children allowed by the department, and more could be obtained by the principal if allowed to do so. The excellent teaching by a professional lady teacher belonging to the sisterhood, easily accounts for the advanced state and proficiency of studies in all branches, including singing. The matron and other lady assistants are all members of the sisterhood, which fact is sufficient to render comment unnecessary regarding the scrupulous cleanliness, neatness and order of the interior of the building. The principal, Rev. Father Perrault, is indefatigable in his efforts to keep the school in its high state of efficiency.

Religion.—In my experience, I have found very few Indians whose minds were sufficiently developed to grasp the beliefs of Christianity, and in the Indians of this agency I have found no exception to the rule. The half-breeds are quite different; those on Gordon's Reserve mostly attend the services of the Church of England, while those on Muscowequan's attend the Roman Catholic. A few of them, no doubt, thoroughly understand what they profess, but to many of them the meaning is vague, simply on account of dormant brains. This defect, education and competition with white men, will, no doubt, soon rectify. The old religious festival of a sun dance is never spoken of here now, neither do we see nearly so many pieces of print and cloth hung up in the trees as offerings to the spirits. I do not think for one moment that the adult Indians here will ever accept the Christian religion, but I do believe that many of them are losing faith in their own old beliefs, and fifty years hence the few that are left will, no doubt, have adopted the religion of their missionary teachers, and will have but a slight knowledge of their ancestors' religious ceremonies.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indian, if he is anything, is full of character. Speaking from my own experience, I can say that after fourteen years' close observation, I have come to the conclusion that the more I learn about Indians, the more apparent it is to me how little their character is understood; yet I have seen white men, in this very district, who have only seen Indians at a distance, that know a great deal more about Indians than I do, in their own estimation. Family character differs amongst Indians just the same as it does with us. One family of several married brothers will go steadily ahead at stock-raising, and never lose an animal, will seldom come near the agency office or require any assistance, and be always well clothed, while their neighbour, living but a short distance away, will be continually begging food and clothing; his cows and calves will die, no matter how closely you watch him, and his only idea in keeping cattle at all is because he was told by an agent fifteen years ago that if he kept cattle, the Government would ration him if he looked after them properly, and it is the rations he is after, and that only. One man will always have plenty of hay, while another will always be short every year. One man can come to the office and ask for anything in as few words as a white man, while another must make a set speech, commencing from the date the treaty was made. Some of them can understand our jokes, while others only look stupid. But one characteristic they all have fully developed, and that is, to beat the Government out of anything is fair game for everybody.

Indian children, when at home, do as they like; consequently, they grow up self-willed, stubborn, and easily provoked. The greatest difficulty I have experienced in contact with Indians has been to keep my temper. If one can do that, and talk quietly and firmly, he can generally get the best of the Indian in any argument he may enter into. Almost every Indian has a different method of talking to the agent. One man will dash in with bluster and noise, and blow off a stream of

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

words in a one great effort to bulldoze you out of something. Another will come with a very foxy story, and endeavour to get you to make an admission, with the intention of then making a demand altogether different from what he was talking about; while another will come and talk very sensibly for two hours about his farm-work, and what he is going to do next, and will end by saying that he would go at this work at once if he only had a little 'grub,' and should he succeed in getting, say, a dollar's worth of food, he goes home well satisfied with his two hours' talk, wondering what he can find to talk about the next time that will interest the agent.

On Gordon's and Day Star's Reserves progress is very good, and it is only a matter of a few years when nearly the whole of the Indians and half-breeds on these two reserves will be pretty well independent of the Government—in fact, there are several of the half-breeds on Gordon's Reserve that do not receive any assistance from the department. On Muscowequan's and Poor Man's Reserves, there are a poorer class of Indians, and although progress has been made there, it has required a great deal more supervision to obtain it.

Temperance and Morality.—Situating as we are here, sixty miles from our nearest town (Fort Qu'Appelle) there are few opportunities for indulgence in liquor, and I do not know of a single instance in which Indians have had liquor either on or off the reserve during the past year. Regarding their morals, I can say, with satisfaction, that I do not know of a single case of immorality off the reserves. But on the reserves our sacred appreciation of virtue, and their Indian code regarding the same are utterly at variance, and have been so for generations. And so long as they continue to live in villages, gather into big camps, and daughters are married to men other than those they prefer, so long will secret immorality exist among them. It has been my earnest endeavour to break up these villages and get each Indian to take up his own homestead well away from others, and remain there to take care of his garden and stock.

General Remarks.—Last winter was very long and severe, and it was a great relief when the snow passed away; this spring and summer we have had plenty of rain, but the growth of grain and roots has been poor. Potatoes and oats have rotted in the ground, which I account for by the cold, backward spring, not having had any hot weather until about July 10.

I consider the affairs of the agency to be in a progressive and satisfactory state, and in a condition to continue so.

I must express my entire satisfaction with the assistance rendered me by my staff, and my only regret is that I cannot offer them a bonus or increase of salary at the end of the year the same as in commercial institutions.

I have, &c.,

S. SWINFORD,
Indian Agent.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

BATTLEFORD INSPECTORATE,

PRINCE ALBERT, October 28, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report of my work of inspection for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Jurisdiction.—This inspectorate includes the Battleford, Duck Lake, Carlton, Onion Lake and Saddle Lake Agencies, and the Moose Woods Reserve, and comprises

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

thirty-nine reserves, with an aggregate area of one thousand two hundred square miles, and a population of four thousand seven hundred treaty Indians. In addition to these, there are a considerable number of Indians—Crees, Saulteaux and Chipewyans—who have not as yet accepted treaty, and for whom, consequently, reserves have not been set apart. They occupy the favourable hunting grounds in the northern portions of Saskatchewan, their chief centres being Pelican Lake, Water Hen Lake, Ile à la Crosse, Turtle Lake and Island Lake.

Occupation.—Of the treaty Indians, by far the greater number are permanently located on reserves and engage in mixed farming, with a preference for cattle-raising. Their herds total upwards of six thousands head, and the cattle are for the most part of a good grade and command the highest price in the market. Yet this branch of agricultural industry cannot profitably be extended much beyond its present limits, on account of the occasional scarcity of native hay. To overcome this difficulty the use of cultivated hay is being introduced with a fair prospect of success.

Further, because of this necessary limit to profitable cattle-raising, increased attention is now being given to grain-growing and gardening. The area under cultivation is as yet, however, extremely small in proportion to the labour available. The use of manure is insisted upon with a slight measure of success, but as yet it is limited to gardens and potato ground, and that mainly on Beardy's and Okemasis' reserves, in the Duck Lake Agency, and Red Pheasant's and Sweet Grass' Reserves, in the Battleford Agency.

Dairying throughout this inspectorate can scarcely be termed an industry, since only about six per cent of the Indians engage in butter-making, and only for domestic purposes. The reserves most advanced in this respect are John Smith's, Red Pheasant's, Saddle Lake and Whitefish Lake, while there has been a general improvement during the past year in the making of butter and the use of milk, and notably on Sweet Grass', Poundmaker's and Little Pine's.

The hog-raising industry, which is an almost indispensable adjunct to dairying and grain-growing in successful mixed farming, has recently been introduced on some of the reserves of the Battleford, Carlton and Duck Lake Agencies. The objection that the Indians will not properly care for hogs is now seldom heard, since it is recognized that it is one of those things which, if they do not know, they have to learn, and that they are instructed for that purpose.

In the case of the agencies farther from mills and markets, namely, the Carlton, Saddle Lake and Onion Lake Agencies, grist-mills, erected and equipped by the Government, are in operation, turning out from good wheat a quality of flour about equal to Second Baker's.

A matter of vital importance to the civilizing of the Indians is that of finding useful employment for the intervals between what are commonly regarded as the working seasons. For instance, on many reserves the period of nearly two months between seeding and haying is treated as an off-season, and is spent in visiting and idleness. To replace such habits of indolence by those of industry and thrift is one of the main aims in Indian work, and one to which still closer attention must be given.

CARLTON AGENCY.

Staff.—During the summer of 1898 I had charge of this agency. In October Mr. W. B. Goodfellow was installed as agent. An interpreter, a miller and two farming instructors complete the staff.

Agriculture.—The farming Indians here are making some progress. They had a moderately good crop of wheat, oats, barley, roots and vegetables. The yield of grain, however, was much smaller than it might otherwise have been, owing to careless cultivation and the consequent dirtiness of the fields. An attempt was made to remedy this, and one hundred and sixty acres of new breaking was done, while forty-five acres was summer-fallowed in preparation for the crop of 1899. The result was

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

that at the end of June there was promise of as fine a crop in proportion to the acreage as has ever been grown in these parts. Unfortunately, the continued rains after this date did serious damage.

Stock.—The net increase of cattle during the year was eight per cent. The ration-houses were supplied from the Indians' herds, and they had a considerable number of animals for beef for their private use. Only eight head were sold for shipping.

New Reserve.—A reserve has recently been surveyed at Big River, fifteen miles north of Sandy Lake, for the Indians of Stony Lake and Pelican Lake. These Indians are anxious to abandon hunting and to settle on the reserve and live by agriculture. The same disposition is shown by Kahpahawekenum's Band at Meadow Lake; and in both cases it is the result of the very rapid decline of the fur-hunt in those regions.

Treaty Payments.—Five merchants attended the treaty payments to trade with the Indians. Their goods were of a satisfactory class and the prices were moderate. The conduct of the Indians and the spirit displayed by them throughout the payments were the subject of much favourable comment by visitors.

DUCK LAKE AGENCY.

Staff.—This agency is in charge of Mr. R. S. McKenzie, who has the assistance of an interpreter and four farming instructors. The inspection was made in December and January.

Agriculture.—Agriculture and gardening have progressed favourably on Beardy's and Okemasis' Reserves, but very indifferently throughout the rest of the agency.

Stock.—During the past two years, the increase in the herds has been only one and a half per cent, owing to a heavy draw upon them for beef and sales. The natural advantages of these reserves for stock-raising are, however, not particularly good, except on the James Smith and Cumberland Reserves, where the hay supply available is far beyond present requirements.

Occupation.—The Indians of John Smith's Band continue to earn a good deal by freighting; and those of La Corne and One Arrow's by hunting. These temporary employments are, however, in some instances a serious detriment to farming.

Agency Buildings.—The agency buildings have been greatly improved during the year, the money devoted to the purpose having been spent to the best advantage.

MOOSE WOODS RESERVE.

This reserve is under the charge of Mr. W. R. Tucker, as overseer, and was inspected in February. The Indians are of the Sioux tribe, and number about fifty. They live by cattle-raising and gardening solely. They grow no grain, as the soil has been found ill-suited for the purpose, and they earn but little by any other employment. At the date of inspection their herd numbered two hundred and thirteen head, showing a net increase of twenty-four per cent in two years. The beef supply of the band was derived from its own herds, while from the sale of beef cattle during the past season \$1,140 was realized. These Indians continue to improve their houses under the serious disadvantage of being obliged to buy lumber as well as hardware out of their slender means. On the whole, they are comfortable, contented, industrious and independent-spirited, making a rather good and certain livelihood, with but little assistance.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

SADDLE LAKE AGENCY.

This agency was inspected in March. Mr. Wm. Sibbald is agent, and is assisted by an interpreter, a miller and two farming instructors.

Crops and gardens were, last season, almost an entire failure, owing to drought and the ravages of gophers, and the Indians, discouraged by this, made little preparation for the present season.

The Indians' cattle number nine hundred and thirty-seven head, and show an increase of a little over one per cent in a year. The department's beef supply for the agency was furnished by the Indians, and they killed in addition a large number for private use. The hay put up for the winter was sufficient in quantity and of good quality, and the cattle wintered well.

The grist-mill has been removed and rebuilt on a more suitable and convenient site.

These Indians were well employed during the winter. In addition to the ordinary work of hauling hay and wood, they are occupied in freighting and in taking out saw-logs in preparing for the spring cut.

ONION LAKE AGENCY.

This agency was inspected in March and April.

Staff.—Mr. G. G. Mann is agent; Miss Blanche Mann, clerk; Mr. Wm. Slater, stockman.

Crops.—For some years past grain crops have been a partial failure here, and for the season of 1898 the acreage was small and the crop poor. The Indians, as a rule, secured but a scanty supply of roots and vegetables, while gardens that were well cultivated yielded a fair crop.

Cattle.—The Indian Department cattle number six hundred and ninety-two head, a decrease of eighty-eight since last inspection, owing partly to losses in the spring of 1898, but also in part to sales, as it was found advisable to reduce the strength of this herd. The Indians' cattle number four hundred and fifty-three, a decrease of forty-five head. All these cattle are of a good grade, and have this year come through the winter in excellent condition.

The Chippewayans, a band of treaty Indians, settled on the Beaver River, near Cold Lake, have three hundred head of cattle, an increase of thirty. They have no direct supervision, and get but little assistance. Their cattle are of a poor class, and badly in-bred, as their bulls have all been reared in the settlement. These Indians are of an industrious class, and are anxious to have a reserve surveyed and to have an instructor, in order that they may live wholly by stock-raising and farming.

Several families of Crees, who inhabit the Frog Lake reserves, and receive no supervision in their work, but live by hunting and fishing, are now leading a rather miserable existence.

BATTLEFORD AGENCY.

This agency was inspected in May and June, 1899. Mr. C. M. Daunais is agent, and has the assistance of a clerk, an interpreter, and four farming instructors.

Agriculture.—A marked improvement has been made in the cultivation of the land for grain and gardens. Much still remains to be done, especially on Moosomin's and Thunderchild's. The use of a disc harrow, purchased by the Indians of Pound-maker's, and Little Pine's with their beef money, has been attended with good results. The crops for 1898 were moderately good, and the interest in farming is reviving.

Cattle.—The net increase in the herds for the past year is two hundred and forty-three head, or twenty per cent. The cattle wintered well, except a herd of two hun-

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

dred head, which was kept at the Round Hill Hay Reserve, and which came through very thin, and with some loss, owing chiefly to an inferior quality of hay.

Buildings.—A great improvement is being made in the Indians' houses in Pound-maker's and Little Pine's in respect to size, lighting and general construction, the main drawback being the want of lumber, which the Indians are as yet unable to purchase, except in very small quantities.

General Remarks.—The condition of the Indians throughout this agency is much improved since last inspection. They have had a largely increased benefit from their herds, while they continue to earn a little by the sale of hay, wood, charcoal and lime.

The improved condition of the Indians here, and wherever it is observed, is due largely to the faithful discharge of their duties by the farmers, for on this the well-being and steady progress of the Indians largely depends.

I have, &c.,

W. J. CHISHOLM,
Inspector of Indian Agencies.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

CALGARY INSPECTORATE,

September 1, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to present my twenty-first annual report of my work of inspecting Indian agencies, reserves and farms.

During the past year I have visited and inspected the following agencies: Morley, three times; Blood; Peigan, twice; Blackfoot, twice; Sarcee; Hobbema; and Edmonton.

MORLEY AGENCY.

Staff.—E. J. Bangs, farmer in charge; J. F. McCarkell, stockman. My first visit was made from September 22 to 30, and was for the special purpose of rounding up and inspecting the Indian herd of cattle, also making a numeration of the herd. This was performed, and a report of the same sent to the Indian Commissioner immediately afterwards.

From December 12 to 30 I was again at this agency and inspected it.

I audited the books and accounts, the most important being the beef-book, beef vouchers, cash-book, provision and implement returns, store ledger, and I reported on the same 'in extenso' under date of January 7, 1899.

I visited the Indians in their houses and saw much improvement and increased comfort in their way of living, several of them having apartment houses, most of them cooking stoves, and many useful articles of modern housekeeping of a plain kind.

It was reported to me by the farmer that twenty-three new houses have been built on these reserves during the past two years.

Farming.—Farming operations are confined to growing potatoes ninety bushes having been planted; but with the exception of those planted by Jacob Twoyoungmen the yield was nil, on account of early frost.

About this time a stockman was added to the staff, and it is expected, with this addition, that the cattle industry will receive better attention.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

On July 31 to August 1 of the present year, I again visited this agency for the purpose of attending the annuity payments, which commenced on 1st ultimo.

After the payments were finished, I had a round-up of the Indians' herd of cattle. On completion of the round-up, most of the Indians (excepting a few who were induced to remain to put up hay) left the reserves for their fall hunt.

During the past winter the stockman—with Indians—had repaired and renewed the fences and built new ones; he had also completed large, strong cattle corrals with gates, branding chute, &c., and placed under way large sheds in connection with the same for wintering calves, bulls and weak cows; he had also nearly completed a new house for himself.

BLOOD AGENCY.

Staff.—James Wilson, agent; William Black, clerk; F. Dean-Freeman, issuer; David Mills, interpreter. I inspected this agency from October 6 to 21.

I was present at the two ration-houses on ration days, observing the quality of the beeves butchered and the manner of handling the same. I was present at the issues of beef and flour to the Indians. I can report that the quality of the beef was excellent, and all the work connected with butchering, and issuing, was performed in an expeditious and cleanly manner.

The issuer, F. Dean-Freeman, having had charge of this important department for over a dozen years, has increased his own efficiency by faithful attention to the duties of his position, and has added useful reforms as the progress of the work suggested them.

I inspected the Indians' cattle on the range, the season of the year not being favourable for a round-up; they numbered one thousand and three head, namely, males (without bulls), 221 head; females, 782 head. They are a fine lot of cattle, particularly those bred on the range, and they are well looked after.

Agency Office.—I audited and inspected all the books, accounts, returns, &c. Among the most important is the cash-book. For each item of receipt and expenditure of cash, I found proper vouchers on file supporting the same, the whole checking out correctly with the bank account, kept at the Union Bank, Macleod.

This cash represented the earnings of the Indians for the twelve months prior to my inspection, and amounted (without including annuity money which was entered in the cash-book as a special account) to \$16,670. This large sum was earned by this band of Indians, under direction and the management of their agent, by cutting, stacking and selling hay to ranching companies, police, railroad contractors and settlers; teaming lumber and coal, coal contracts, &c., and the fact that they did earn it is substantiated by the agent having had all this money pass through his hands to his Indians.

I checked the beef-book, in which are the original entries of the receipt of beef from the contractors, with the beef ledger, and vouchers issued; I found all check out correctly. Nine hundred beeves had been killed during the year to supply the ration-house.

I took stock of the goods in the warehouse, and 'in use,' and found the whole correct and well looked after.

The buildings are in a good state of repair, and the whole reservation was in a prosperous condition.

PEIGAN AGENCY.

Staff.—R. N. Wilson, agent; J. Hollies, clerk; Tom Scott, interpreter.

I inspected this agency from October 22 to November 6.

Indian Office.—I commenced my inspection by taking stock of the goods in the warehouse and in use, checking the same with the ledger and inventories.

I checked the receipts of beef as entered in the beef-book with the returns and vouchers. They proved to be correct.

I audited the cash-book and found all the entries supported by vouchers, the whole checked out correctly with the account kept at the Union Bank, Macleod. Every payment made here is by cheque, payable to the Indian or 'order.' This makes the auditing easier.

I checked the cattle registers of the Indians' herd and found that it had been entered up to individual Indians according to the June round-up.

Sufficient hay had been cut and stacked, which left no doubt as to the proper wintering of these cattle.

Rationing Indians.—A good change had been accomplished by the agent by having induced the Indians to come for their rations only twice a week instead of three times, which has been going on for years. This seems a small affair, but there is more in it than appears on the surface. The Indians resisted the change for years, but at last gave way.

The new slaughter pens and house and the new ration-house are a pattern of convenience; they have done much to systematize the work.

Indians' Work.—The Indians have built new houses and improved their old ones; they have advanced in every direction since Mr. Wilson took charge of the agency, being anxious to earn money for themselves, which they invest in harness, saddles, wagons, mowers, rakes, and improve and shingle their houses.

New fencing has been done, and the whole agency is now in a good state of repair.

Outside of raising cattle, the farming of these Indians consists of gardens, many of them had very good ones, potatoes being the principal product.

Just about all the children of school age are at either the boarding or industrial schools. The attendance at them from here is as follows:—

St. Joseph's Industrial	12
Calgary Industrial	18
Blood, Church of England Boarding.....	2
Peigan, Roman Catholic Boarding.....	22
Peigan, Church of England Boarding.....	25
	—
Total ..	79

I visited this agency again from May 24 to 30 this year. I found the Indians contented and with progressive ideas, and that their herd of cattle had wintered without much loss, there being visible stacks of hay left over.

The special object of my visit was to report upon the advisability of the Indians investing their railway land money in a saw-mill. After looking into the matter thoroughly, and visiting their proposed timber limits, my opinion was given that their wish should be complied with by the department.

BLACKFOOT AGENCY.

Staff.—G. H. Wheatley, agent; G. H. Race, clerk; Thos. Lawder, farmer; W. S. Cosgrave, farmer; A. E. Jones, farmer.

My inspection was made here from November 11 to December 10.

Indian Office.—I took stock of the goods in store and in use at the agency and farms, and made out correct inventories of the same.

I checked the beef-book with the ledger, returns and vouchers, in my usual manner, and found them correct. Eight hundred and ninety-three beeves were furnished to the ration-houses during the year prior to my inspection, all of which has been satisfactorily accounted for.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

I made a careful audit of the cash-book and found all money of the Indians that passed through the agent's hands satisfactorily accounted for.

Cattle Industry.—Cattle-raising continues weak, and lacks enthusiasm among these Indians: if they could be induced to look after their cattle one-half as well as they do their poor miserable horses, it would mean great success.

It has been a difficult task to induce them to take any, for if the late Chief Crow-foot left them nothing else, he left with them his prejudice against taking cattle.

Farming.—These Indians do very little individual farming, a few plots of potatoes were grown at the South Reserve in this way; some oats were also sown there, but there was no yield.

At the North Reserve, where the irrigation ditch traverses, it was reported by the agent that they harvested two thousand five hundred and nineteen bushels of oats, also that forty acres of potatoes were planted on this portion of the reserve in 1898. He also reported that one thousand three hundred and fifty tons of hay were cut and stacked, a considerable portion of which was disposed of to the neighbouring ranchers.

It continues to be uphill work bringing this band of Indians into ways of industry and thrift, and proper domestic habits: they appear to think: 'What is the Government's is mine, and what is mine is my own,' and they are less grateful for what is done for them than any other Indians that I have dealings with.

The non-removal of the agency buildings to a site nearer to the heart of the work on the reservation still continues to militate against the agent's introducing much-needed reforms in working the agency.

SARCEE AGENCY.

Staff.—A. J. McNeill, agent; George Hudson, interpreter.

I visited this agency from May 1 to 3, inclusive, for the special object of inspecting an irrigation ditch which traverses the reserve its entire length—some eighteen miles—and making a report thereon for the information of the Indian Commissioner.

The fine situation of this reserve, between the Elbow River and Fish Creek, marks it as a very valuable inheritance, which will, with proper management, conserving its resources for the benefit of the Indians, make them in the near future quite independent of Government support.

The Indians appeared to be mildly progressive in their work; they have many comfortable houses, which contain the common articles of furniture, and some of them earn money outside the reserve.

HOBBEMA AGENCY.

Staff.—W. S. Grant, agent; E. J. Fleetham, clerk; Donald Whitford, interpreter; Ewan Moore, farmer; Gilbert Whitford, farmer.

Agency Office and Warehouse.—I made a thorough inspection of this office and warehouse, auditing the accounts and books, and inspecting and taking inventories of stores. Everything was straight and checked out correctly.

Indians' Cattle.—I had a series of round-ups of the cattle belonging to the different bands; the total number of cattle on the register and owned by individual Indians is eight hundred and forty-five head.

A finer lot of cattle and better handled there is not in the Territories; and for this, and the equipment of corrals, and legible branding—both 'I D' and individual brands—the agent deserves the greatest commendation.

Some Indians have broken away from that obsolete communistic system of wintering cattle; these formed thirteen groups—generally relatives—while the ranches were continued for those who have, as yet, no stables or means to put up hay.

Immense quantities of hay were cut and stacked, so that the cattle were well wintered.

Farming.—The combined acreage in crop of these bands for 1899 is five hundred and twenty-four acres, consisting of wheat, oats, potatoes, turnips, carrots, and gardens. These crops all promised well at the time of my inspection.

Several new houses and many new stables have been built during the past year.

Taking the agency as a whole, the men are excellent workers, and improvements are continually going on, on their side of the house: but there is still much to be desired in their domestic life: they continue to live in villages of tents in summer; this leads to gossip and idleness among the women.

Grist, Saw and Shingle-Mills.—Agent Grant has made many improvements in connection with these mills, which has entailed hard labour for the Indians, as well as for himself.

The dam and head-gates have been renewed; the head-race straightened and strengthened, and the mill-pond embankments renewed with heavy gravel, and strong new waste-gates built therein; the flumes have been raised, the bulkhead strengthened, and two new additions built on to the mill building.

A large quantity of shingles has been sawn this year, and there are logs on hand to make many thousand feet of lumber.

Pig-pens, yards and houses have been built near the mills.

All the above-named work in connection with these mills was performed by the Indians, under supervision.

Agency Buildings.—The agent's and clerk's houses, office, blacksmith's and carpenter-shop, and all the other buildings have been placed in thorough repair.

Two large implement-sheds have been built; both have shingled roofs; also a carriage-house; the ration-house has been flored and a counter put in; platforms built at the doors of storehouse and ration-house. The whole premises have been fenced in neat and modern style. In short, the whole premises have been placed in thorough repair as regards buildings, fences, bridges and roads. I mention these improvements particularly, as they have all been done by Indians, under supervision.

At Farm 18A great improvements were carried out in the way of new wells, corrals, sheds, fences and an addition to the farmer's dwelling.

The 'Montana' Band is doing very well. These Indians have built houses, broken land, fenced fields, and have thirty-four acres in crop.

The farmhouse was removed from its first location to another site, nearer to the agency office, which appears to be more convenient for the work of both the farmer and the Indians.

EDMONTON AGENCY.

Staff.—James Gibbons, agent; A. E. Lake, clerk; Henry Blanc, interpreter; Arthur Guilbault, farmer; W. G. Blewett, farmer; S. Larue, miller.

My inspection took place from July 8 to 27.

Annuities.—I went to this agency, at this particular time, for the purpose of being present at the annuity payments. These came off without event: six hundred and seventy-five rank and file Indians were paid.

I visited every reserve, inspected the Indians' farm work, and had a round-up of their cattle.

MICHEL'S BAND.

This small band occupies a reserve that is not surpassed in this country for mixed farming, but these Indians have in a great degree the habits of the half-breeds, and were it not for constant supervision, they would be among the poorest of the poor: their cattle do not increase, and it is with difficulty they can be made to hold their own; they own now eighty-six head of cattle, against eighty-eight in 1897.

There are, however, three exceptions to the general indifference to work, namely, Chief Michel, Louis Callihoo and Timothy Callihoo. Two of these are prosperous.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

and the other, Louis Callihoo, very much so. He has a fine large house, with apartments, comfortably furnished throughout, large stables, corrals, stock-yards, binder, mower, rake, wagons, harness, &c., three teams of heavy horses, twenty-nine head of cattle, also sheep, pigs, cocks and hens, turkeys. He has a good wife and nine children; all the children that are old enough are at industrial schools.

ALEXANDER'S BAND.

This band is doing better than when I visited it last year. The chief then was sulking and had put in but little crop; this year he has in a fair acreage, which was growing well.

Beaverfoot, a rival of Louis Callihoo in farming and in stock-raising, continues to do well, but I thought his crops backward.

Their herd of cattle has increased: in 1897 they had ninety-two head; this year they have one hundred and twenty-two head.

JOSEPH'S BAND.

The Indians of this band have almost entirely neglected farming, and it is just as well, as it profited them nothing. They are hunters, and when they are not hunting they fish. Lac Ste. Anne, at their doors, has—so far—an inexhaustible supply of the best whitefish.

In consequence of this ready food supply, they seldom require, or ask for, assistance from the department.

They have cattle and succeed in eating their increase. Excepting two yearlings, all their stock are cows and calves; the progeny that should be one and two years old, and steers three years old, are gone.

Their cattle rounded up thirty head, against thirty-three in 1897.

WHITE WHALE LAKE BAND.

The members of this band do not do much in the way of farming, and it is better so, with the lake, which is teeming with the finest whitefish, at their doors. If they were instructed to raise potatoes and other vegetables, they would do very well; and with their cattle well looked after, they would soon be in easy circumstances.

Stony Indians can never be made farmers, as we understand the term; to make them earn a subsistence is as much as can be accomplished.

They have eighty-six head of cattle now; in 1897 they had eighty-one head.

ENOCH'S BAND.

These Indians are more directly under the eye of the agent than any of the other bands.

Their condition is stationary: men who were doing fairly well when I was here two years ago, have had a relapse—one Lazarus Lapotac has gone to the bad altogether, he got transferred to Saddle Lake Agency; would not settle to farming there, and he is now a wanderer without any home anywhere.

Daniel Cardinal, Alexander and Wm. Ward, are prospering, as well as several others.

Chief Mistah Jim has taken up a new place. He had a nice crop of wheat, and a good garden.

Crops.—The crops sown on the different reserves total three hundred and sixty-six acres, and consist of: wheat, one hundred and seventy-seven acres; oats, one hundred and twenty-nine acres; barley, seventeen acres; potatoes, eighteen acres; gardens, twenty-five acres; total, three hundred and sixty-six acres.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

At White Whale Lake, the crop consists principally of gardens of potatoes.

It is needless to say, in a year like this, when it has hardly ceased to rain since seeding, the crops all promised well at the time of my inspection; generally they were free from weeds, and for the most part well fenced.

Flour-Mill.—This mill is like some of the Indians, *in statu quo*; being a wind-mill, it only goes when the wind blows, and this has been a year of calms. The harvest of 1898 was almost a total failure of the Indians' crops, on account of the drought; so that there was but little grain to grind.

Indian Office.—I checked the book-keeping since the last inspection, and found it performed correctly; the balances of goods shown to be on hand by the books were found in the storehouse.

I audited the cash account since the last inspection, and found it correct, the expenditure being supported by vouchers, properly witnessed; the cash on hand agreeing with the balance in the cash-book.

I had a round-up of the live stock on each of the different reserves. I found the total number of cattle on hand and the classification to agree with the number shown as on hand in the last half-yearly return sent to the department.

Agency Buildings.—I found the agency buildings and premises to be kept in good order, and they are in a good state of preservation.

Health.—The Indians are reasonably free from sickness, and they are very well-behaved.

Morality.—I am able to report that no case of crime among the Indians in this portion of the Territories has reached my ears during the past year, and no misdemeanour. Sobriety has been the rule, and Indians are not thieves; they 'covet and desire another man's goods' less than any other people on the face of the earth.

I have, &c.,

T. P. WADSWORTH,
Inspector of Indian Agencies.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

QU'APPELLE INSPECTORATE,
FORT QU'APPELLE, ASSA., August 18, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my fourteenth annual report of inspecting agencies and reserves in the North-west Territories, from October, 1898, to August, 1899.

FILE HILLS AGENCY.

This agency was inspected on October 11 and December 20. Mr. W. M. Graham is agent in charge, and I have to report a general progress on all the reserves, of which there are four, viz.: Star Blanket, population sixty; Little Black Bear, population eighty-four; Peepeekesis, population eighty-one; and Okanase, population eighty-two.

A new root-house had been built at the agency headquarters, and all the buildings were in capital order. The improvements on the reserves consisted of a num-

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

ber of new houses, one and a half story, with shingled roofs, iron chimneys, good floors and windows, and stone foundations, and these, as well as the older houses, were cleanly kept, and it was noticed where school girls had returned to the reserves, the houses were the neatest and best kept. A number of new stables had been put up, roomy and high in the ceilings, and older stables had been enlarged and roofs raised. The winter's supply of hay was stacked at each stable, inclosed in strong corrals. There were also corrals at each stable for the cattle. One man, The Flag, had a fine stable, 60 x 20. The crop of oats was a good one, and roots also were good, and over two thousand bushels of potatoes were harvested; new breaking and summer-fallowing had been done, and land prepared for wheat in 1899. Six new wells had been dug, to a depth of seventy feet, in two of which water was obtained, and it was proposed to go deeper with the other four in the spring. Care had also been taken in having fire-guards well distributed over the reserves.

The agent had shown much ability, and given a lot of hard and constant work in the management of these four reserves, and has been rewarded with success, as the Indians are now comfortably well off, and may be said to be almost independent of the department in the way of food. They had no complaints, and were cheerful and contented. Chief Star Blanket, who was always opposed to schools, had finally given in, and every child on his reserve of school age was, at the time, either at the Qu'Appelle Industrial School or at Mr. Skene's boarding school, close to the reserve. Over two thousand tons of hay had been stacked for feed, besides some for sale. The principal source of revenue of these Indians are sales of hay, wood and cattle. The cattle were in fine condition, and the crop of calves was a satisfactory one. One good feature of these bands is that they are out of debt. Detailed report was sent to the Commissioner. The health of the Indians at the time was good.

ASSINIBOINE AGENCY.

This agency was reached on October 26.

Staff.—Thos. W. Aspdin, farmer in charge; David Kennedy, interpreter and general assistant; he also does carpentry work. He is a graduate of the Qu'Appelle Industrial School.

The population is two hundred and sixteen including pupils at the schools.

The agency buildings had been newly painted and plastered, and a neat fence placed around the buildings and garden, and all were in excellent order. A good deal of work had been done during the year, and marked progress was noticed.

The grain was in stack, and it was estimated there would be four thousand bushels of wheat and oats; a good deal of new breaking and summer-fallowing had been done.

Eight thousand rails, seventeen hundred posts, besides a number of house logs, had been got out the previous winter for fences, houses and stables. Five hundred and fifty tons of hay were put up for feed and for sale, chiefly stacked at the stables. Eighteen new houses and as many stables had been built during the year, well scattered over the reserve and in pretty locations. The new houses are of a superior class, roomy and well finished; some have shingled roofs. The following are samples:—

Eah-Siehan has a new double house, 24 x 15; new stable, 24 x 18; roof of house, rails and sod, good floors and doors; he has a nice field of new breaking, large corral and lots of hay; milks his cows. This is a new location and a pretty place, and the man is industrious and getting along well.

Chas. Rider: new house, 34 x 18; new stable, 30 x 18; new corral, 33 x 18; iron-top chimney on house, shingled roof, panel door, and painted; tables, bedsteads, chairs, cook-stoves and clean crockery dishes; new well and plenty of water, and a neatly ploughed new field. The man is enterprising and industrious, and consequently is doing well.

Twelve new wells had been dug, and eight were a success; the rest would be dug deeper in the spring. The cattle were in good condition.

Some of the Indians work for settlers, and get good wages. Mr. McLean, manager of Lord Brassey's farm, told a friend of mine that he would have had difficulty in saving his crop but for the help he got from these Indians.

Eight young men made a beginning for themselves this year in farm work on the reserve. They think this will be better than working for others. The band purchased a new binder, half paid this year and half next, cash price and no interest. These Indians are practically out of debt.

There is a Presbyterian mission on the reserve, Rev. Mr. McKenzie, missionary.

Services are held every Sunday morning and evening, and Sunday school in the afternoon; attendance, from eighteen to thirty-five. Mrs. McKenzie holds a week-day class for sewing, and the Indian women take quite an interest in this class. A quantity of clothing is sent by the W.F.M.S. of the Presbyterian Church. It is of much use for the old and feeble, as well as for the younger children. A number of the young men visit the mission during the week to read, write and do figuring, and are making progress. There was not so much dancing reported as formerly; a few of the older people still paint their faces, but on the whole are well behaved. Fifteen pupils were at Regina Industrial School and eight at Qu'Appelle. Five or six graduates are in situations. Clara Williams, Regina graduate, is interpreter at the mission, and Daniel Kennedy, Qu'Appelle graduate, is interpreter at the agency office. Both are clever at their work.

The whole reserve was in a prosperous condition, and Mr. Aspdin was sparing no pains in helping his Indians in their work.

CROOKED LAKE AGENCY.

I commenced my inspection here on November 3, 1898.

Staff.—J. P. Wright, agent; J. M. Jowett, clerk; M. Cameron, interpreter and teamster; J. Sutherland, miller and blacksmith; J. Pollock, farmer for reserves No. 71 and 72; Peter Hourie, farmer for No. 73. The agent takes charge of No. 73 himself.

I spent ten days, in company with the agent, in visiting every house and stable on the agency and counting the cattle.

Five new houses and five stables had been built on No. 71, and seven houses and four stables on No. 72. The new and old houses were kept fairly clean.

P. Belanger, on No. 71, had a new house, 18 x 16, shingled roof, upstairs rooms; house well furnished with stoves, beds, tables, pictures, and all were clean and tidy. The stables were also good.

Crops.—The crops were a failure. Hay enough was secured for feed, but none to sell. The Indians were in no way discouraged, and were breaking up new land and doing a lot of summer-fallowing for next year.

Education.—All children of school age on these two reserves, Nos. 71 and 72, were either at Qu'Appelle, Elkhorn or Round Lake schools.

SAKIMAY'S BAND, No. 74.

This band is composed of She-Sheep's Band and Little Bone's, but all are paid treaty under the name of Sakimay's.

The cattle were wintered last season at She-Sheep's, in the valley, and were to be sent to Little Bone's old reserve, Leech Lake, near Yorkton, the coming winter, where stables were built and hay put up by Mr. Hourie and the Indians during the summer; and on my way to Swan River Agency, I drove out to inspect the cattle and stables, and found all in good order: stables commodious, with compartments and abundance of the best of hay, and cattle were in fine condition. I also drove out on my return,

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

and found that a good deal of hay would be over, and I understand it was all sold at a high price to parties from Yorkton, and cattle were driven back to Sakimay's in fine condition. One hundred and thirty head of cattle were wintered. Six Indian families, under Headman Aco-ose were in charge, and they did their work faithfully.

The crop on Sakimay's was a failure, but one hundred and fifteen acres were summer-fallowed, and thirty-one acres of new land broken.

The members of She-Sheep's Band live in the valley. The Indians do no farming, and have no cattle, and are independent of the department, and get little, if any, help. They earn a good living by selling hay and wood, and working for settlers, and wintering cattle for others.

These Indians are opposed to the white man's ways, and persistently refuse to allow their children to be sent to school, and there are about thirty children of school age on the reserve. Every effort has been made to induce them to send their children, but without effect.

COWESES' BAND, No. 73.

This is the banner band of the agency. Houses are all good ones, well furnished and clean, not an untidy house on the reserve. Five new houses and six stables were built during the year. Two hundred and twelve acres of land had been summer-fallowed, and sixty acres broken. The crops were nearly a total failure, only five hundred bushels of wheat and three hundred of oats having been harvested.

Boys and girls returned from school were doing well. Father Hugonnard was helping them by giving them cattle on the loan system.

Eight hundred and forty-five acres would be ready for crop, spring, 1899. The Indians are well supplied with implements, and since July, 1897, the following have been purchased and paid for by themselves: seven double wagons, nine mowers, two horse-rakes, four seed-drills, three disc-harrows, one fanning-mill, and six bob-sleighs, and a number of smaller implements, such as axes, forks, &c.

These Indians are pretty well free of debt. The lowest prices were obtained in all their purchases, the agent taking particular care in this respect that no one imposed on them.

The books were audited and inventory taken. Mr. Jowett takes charge of the office and warehouse, and it is needless to say that all were in good order. The agent is indefatigable in the discharge of his duties in this extensive agency, and his diary showed that he was constant and regular in his visits to the various reserves. The Indians were polite and courteous. The usual detailed report and statements were forwarded to the Commissioner.

MUSKOWPETUNG'S AGENCY.

I commenced my inspection here on December 1.

Staff.—J. A. Mitchell, agent; Jerome Larocque, interpreter and teamster; J. H. Gooderham, farmer at Piapot's Reserve; Hugh Richardson, farmer at Muskowpetung's Reserve and assistant in agency office; J. Hockley, farmer in charge of Pasquah's and Standing Buffalo's Reserves; J. D. Finlayson, in charge of department herd.

The agency buildings were in good repair, except the agent's house, which needed some plastering and kalsomining. The whole premises were inclosed by a neatly made fence.

PIAPOT'S BAND.

Much improvement was noticed here in houses and stables. Eleven new houses and twenty-six stables had been built since my last visit in March, 1897; also six sheds for implements and cattle. Ten porches had been added to doors of houses. The

Indians live in the valley, and the fields are on the 'bench.' One boy, a Regina graduate, was building a house on the bench. Chief Piapot no longer objected to moving from the valley to the high land, but water was the difficulty. It was thought this could be overcome by establishing dams, the same as at Pasquah's, and a good deal of work had already been done in this direction. The houses, although of an inferior class, owing to scarcity of building timber, were clean and tidy, and were comfortably furnished with house effects, bedding, &c.

Nine hundred tons of hay were stacked in the valley to fill police contract, and for the department herd, and for the Indians' own herd.

Fifteen acres of new land broken, and forty acres summer-fallowed. The crop harvested was eight hundred and eighty bushels of wheat and oats and six hundred and forty-five bushels of oats. The cattle were looking well and numbered one hundred head. The reserve was in good condition, and Indians comfortably well-to-do.

The department ranche is also in the valley, and the stables situated in a well-sheltered spot bordering on the river. They are commodious, and were in the best of condition; separate ones for the calves. The total number of the herd was two hundred and three head, and, from a statement furnished the Commissioner, the experiment proved a profitable one.

PASQUAH'S BAND, No. 79.

Progress was noticed here. These Indians chiefly resided in the valley, but during the year half a dozen or more of the most enterprising moved up to the bench and built houses and stables on their farms. A superior class of houses were built, one and a half story, shingled roofs, and they have a fine appearance on approaching the place. The homesteads compare favourably with those of white settlers.

The dams made by Mr. Hockley removed the water difficulty. The cattle were in good condition; the herd numbered one hundred and thirty-four head. Mr. Hockley, besides looking after this reserve and Standing Buffalo's, does all carpentry and blacksmithing repairs, which are numerous, and a saving to the Indians as well as to the department. Thirty-eight acres were summer-fallowed, and seventy acres of new land broken. This reserve was in a prosperous condition, and the Indians seemed happy and contented.

STANDING BUFFALO SIOUX, No. 78.

This reserve is on the north side of the Qu'Appelle River and is also under the charge of Mr. Hockley. It has always been a pleasure to visit this reserve, as the people are so pleasant and cheerful, and this visit was no exception. The band is self-supporting and makes a good living working for the settlers, selling hay and wood, tanning hides and fishing. These Indians usually have potatoes to sell also.

They own sixty-one head of cattle.

The houses are clean and most of them comfortably furnished.

These Indians are industrious and thrifty and make the best use of everything. I noticed in several houses brackets on the walls made from small boxes, with reflectors for lamps made from the tin of tobacco boxes which they had picked up at some of the stores.

MUSKOWPETUNG'S BAND, No. 80.

This reserve, although nearest the agency headquarters, is the most backward of the four. The houses are huddled together in the valley, only one of the band having built on the bench, but signs of progress were not wanting. Some new houses and stables had been built, and I did not find a dirty or an untidy house on the whole reserve, excepting the one on the bench, and the women were tanning hides in the house, and of course it was untidy. The stables were all well prepared for the winter.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

The herd numbered one hundred and forty-four, and the cattle were looking well. One man said he was sorry I had called so soon, as he had not time to put his stable in as good order as he would like. I told him I would come back again, which I did, and he had everything in good order.

The women were busy making mitts and stockings, and some were tanning hides. They were all in the best of humour and seemed quite happy.

The crop harvested was seven hundred and fifty-five bushels of wheat and oats and a few potatoes, the early storms in October having played havoc with them. Three hundred and eight tons of hay were stacked, and forty acres of new land broken; no summer fallowing, as all the fields were under crop. Mr. Richardson was taking a lively interest in these Indians and was early and late out amongst them and was much liked by them. The new agent, Mr. Mitchell, accompanied me in my inspection and he was cordially received at each house. The Indians were particularly pleased to hear him speak to them in their own language.

Mr. Richardson made plans of each field on his reserve, giving areas, and I sent a sample one to the Commissioner.

The graduates returned from schools were doing well, and I could give many interesting proofs of this, but space will not permit.

Health.—The health of the bands at the time was good. Dr. Edwards makes regular visits.

The agency and farm books were audited and inventories taken, and detailed report sent to the Commissioner at Winnipeg.

The bands are well supplied with seeders, binders, mowers, rakes, wagons, &c., all paid for themselves. Messrs. Gooderham and Hockley are old and experienced men in Indian work and are valuable officials.

BIRTLE AGENCY.

On December 30 I proceeded to Regina to inspect the Industrial School, but owing to sickness of some of the staff I deferred the inspection until later on, and proceeded to Birtle Agency, arriving there on January 7, 1899.

Staff.—J. A. Markle, agent; S. M. Dickenson, clerk; A. P. Escanegot, interpreter.

On the 8th (Sunday) I attended the opening of the new church on Bird Tail Reserve by Professor Hart, of Winnipeg. The church cost about \$900, paid by the Presbyterian committee. It is a neat little frame building, stone foundation and has a small tower and bell, and is capable of seating eighty or ninety persons. The Indians did all the hauling of stone and timber and the women supplied the pews from proceeds of the Ladies' Aid Society, also a new organ partly paid for from a penny collection and the old organ in exchange. The Indians were proud of this new church.

BIRD TAIL BAND, NO. 58.

I inspected the reserve of this band on January 12 and following days. The population is seventy-three. The reserve was in its usual good condition. Five new houses had been built and some stables enlarged. Four miles of wire fencing had been made. Three thousand eight hundred and seventy bushels of grain had been harvested and six hundred and eighty-two bushels of potatoes. One hundred and forty-seven tons of hay put up. This band has seventy-four head of cattle, eleven sheep, four pigs, and a number of poultry, a few being at nearly every farmyard. This band is self-supporting.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

VALLEY RIVER BAND, No. 42½.

The reserve of this band was reached on January 17. It is eighty-five miles from Birtle. This was the first time I had been able to visit this reserve, as roads were impassible on previous inspections, and I may here say that, outside of the agent, I was the first Indian official who had ever visited these Indians. The drive was a long and cold one, but we were well rewarded by finding such a nice reserve and the Indians so comfortably located. The reserve lies in the valley, Riding Mountain on one side and Duck Mountain on the other, and is well adapted for ranching, there being abundance of hay, capital pasture and clear running water.

The chief has a fine house 22 x 22 with a lean-to wing 12 x 24, shingled roof, up-stair rooms, where we camped. The house was well furnished and the premises were inclosed by a neat fence with fancy gates. Other houses, although not so large, were equally well furnished and as clean and comfortable. Sewing-machines could be seen in some of them.

These Indians do little farming and had only ninety bushels of potatoes and turnips. They have thirty-three head of cattle, and put up two hundred and fourteen tons of hay for cattle and horses. They have very good stables. I noticed one with eight double stalls.

This band is self-supporting and makes its living entirely by the hunt.

The Church of England had a mission here, but had transferred it to the Presbyterian Church, which was to send a missionary at once, and a visit was made before I left the agency. When the chief heard of a missionary coming, he said, 'How glad I am to hear the good news.' I never met a nicer lot of Indians. They number sixty-eight.

GAMBLER'S BAND, No. 63.

This band was reached on our return on January 20, only one family living here, that of John Tanner, who had built a new house and stable since my last visit. The house is log, 20 x 20, plastered outside and in, shingled roof. The stable was one of the best I had seen, 40 x 21. Tanner owns fifty-three head of cattle, all private, and some first-class horses. He had eighty tons of hay put up, and would get straw from settlers. He purchased during the year a mower and rake, wagon and cutter, and paid for them himself entirely independently of the department. He had some wheat and oats and had forty acres of land ready for crop, 1899.

WAY-WAY-SEE-CAPPO'S BAND, No. 62.

This band was reached on January 24. Improvements were noticed on this reserve, probably more than any I had yet seen. The chief was getting out logs for a new house and an implement-shed. Manitou Wigwam had his house divided into a sitting-room, and two bed-rooms down stairs and a lean-to kitchen. Up-stair room also, where we camped during our stay. The house had storm windows, the first I had seen on an Indian house.

The band harvested seven hundred and twenty-one bushels of potatoes, and had stacked nine hundred and six tons of hay for feed and for sale. The herd numbered one hundred and seventy-one head and the cattle were in good condition. The Indians had also sheep and poultry. They were preparing to put in some grain crops this year.

There are a good many widows and old people on this reserve, who have to be assisted a little, otherwise the band is self-supporting.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

ROLLING RIVER BAND, No. 67.

This band was reached on February 6, and from the time we left Birtle until we returned it was from 48 to 53 below zero, but it was pleasing to find that the Indians were so comfortably situated and that they took such good care of their cattle. The herd numbered sixty-four head.

The population is one hundred and thirteen. They had a small crop of two hundred bushels of grain and three hundred and fifty bushels of roots. They were anxious to go more into farming, and Mr. Wright, Presbyterian missionary, was assisting them all he could and had them interested in getting up an exhibition during the summer of 1899, and some of the settlers promised to assist.

I heard little of drinking going on.

The mission gets clothing from the W. F. M. S., which is appreciated, and saved many an old man and woman and young children from the shivering cold when it was 50 below zero.

OKANASE BAND, No. 61.

On February 8 we drove over the mountain to Okanase Reserve, No. 61. This is the banner reserve of the agency and it was found in its usual good condition.

The population is one hundred and forty-four.

Houses all of a superior class and cleanly kept. The herd numbered one hundred and forty-four head, fifty-six of which were private stock, forty-eight horses, two pigs and eighty poultry. Eleven hundred bushels of grain were harvested and four hundred and thirty-one bushels of potatoes; three hundred and sixty tons of hay stacked and eighty tons of straw.

Joe Boyer, a headman of the band, purchased a half section of land adjoining the reserve for \$320, and paid cash for it. He owns twenty-four head of cattle and some heavy work horses and earns a good deal taking contracts from the lumbermen in the mountains.

Five of the band, including the chief and Joe Boyer, supplied milk to the cheese factory, and the proceeds in 1898 amounted to \$192.48.

There is a Presbyterian church on the reserve, but it is old and dilapidated and the school-house is used for services, and Mr. McPherson, the missionary, informed me the Indians were regular in their attendance.

OAK LAKE SIOUX BAND, No. 57.

This band was inspected on February 17 and 18. Four new houses had been built by families removed from Turtle Mountain Reserve during the year. The houses were, without an exception, clean and comfortable, a contrast to former inspections. Those without modern floors had them supplied. The two old widows who had thirteen dogs two years ago, but reduced the number last year to seven, had now further reduced the number to three.

A new storehouse or granary had been built during the year; it is frame, 18 x 14, stone foundation and shingled roof. Six new wells had been dug and were giving good supplies of water.

The population is sixty-one and they own twenty-one head of cattle. They had one thousand and eighteen bushels of grain and two hundred and twenty-two bushels of roots. Hay and straw stacked, one hundred and twenty tons.

Some wire fencing had been made.

OAK RIVER SIOUX BAND, No. 59.

I reached this band on February 21. John Taylor is the farmer. Forty-eight houses and premises were visited and all found in excellent order. Six new houses, ten

stables and three implement-sheds had been added during the year. Some of the houses were frame and were commodious and divided into separate rooms.

The population is three hundred and two.

These Indians own ninety-four head of cattle. They harvested two thousand four hundred and eighty-nine bushels wheat, five hundred and sixty-one oats, five hundred and thirty-three corn, five hundred and seventy-one carrots and stacked four hundred and twenty-seven tons of hay and two hundred and ninety-eight of straw. The quality of the hay was poor, containing a lot of fox tail and wild sage, but the straw gave excellent feed. Three hundred and fifty acres of land had been summer-fallowed and fifty acres of new land broken, one hundred and fifty acres of fall ploughing done, so that more land was prepared than ever before, and if a good crop was got in 1899 the Indians would be well off. The farmhouse had been improved and enlarged by an addition 16 x 16. A new frame stable 14 x 16, a new well and the warehouse or granary had been painted.

Mr. Markle has a scheme for irrigating the hay flats, which if carried out, would be a boon in providing a hay supply.

The total quantity of provisions issued in the entire agency during the year for a population of nearly one thousand was eighty-four sacks of flour, five hundred and forty-four pounds of tobacco, thirty-eight and a half pounds of tea.

Mr. Markle conducts this extensive and important agency with rare ability, the results being a prosperous and contented people, and what is better, they are not depending on the department for 'spoon-feeding,' unless in the exceptional cases that I have mentioned. The office work is efficiently done by Mr. Dickenson. The books were audited and inventories taken and detailed report forwarded to the Commissioners.

I left Birtle on March 4 for Swan River Agency, and reached Yorkton that evening, Saturday. On Monday, 6, I drove out to Leech Lake to see the cattle sent there from Crooked Lake Agency.

I found two stables, each 100 x 15 feet, with compartments for cows and calves and work oxen. The stables were dry and warm; a corral between the two stables, sixty feet wide, and the poles of the roofs of the stables projected over the sides of the corral about eight or ten feet, affording shelter for the cattle when not in the stables. The stables are in a bluff and well sheltered from the wind storms.

Hay was plentiful and of good quality. The cattle watered at the lake about three-quarters of a mile distant. The exercise was good for them. Five cabins had been put up for the Indians in charge.

SWAN RIVER AGENCY.

On March 8 I left Yorkton for Swan River Agency, arriving there and commencing my inspection on the 9th.

Staff.—W. E. Jones, agent; Peter Bras, interpreter and teamster; David Porter, servant; F. Fisher, occasionally employed to write up the books, and was also employed to attend at haying and seeing that the proper quantities were secured, also branding of cattle.

An extra implement-shed had been put up at the agency, also a harness and feed room. All the buildings were in good order.

COTE'S BAND, No. 64.

Thirty-five homesteads were inspected on this reserve, and cattle counted from stable to stable.

The cattle were in good condition and hay was plentiful, and stables comfortable. A few of the band had built, as winter quarters, stables and houses, where hay was easily procured, and saved hauling. The houses on this reserve were clean, as they

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

always have been found. No crop worth speaking of had been harvested, and a few acres of new land had been broken and summer-fallowed, about fifteen in all. The herd numbered four hundred and forty-one head and one hundred and twenty-two sheep. One thousand four hundred and sixty tons of hay were put up and measured at the time by Mr. Fisher, consequently there was enough for the large herd: there was no guess-work about the quantity.

KEESEKOUSE BAND, No. 66.

Twenty-five homesteads were inspected here. A few of his band had also selected winter quarters for their cattle, and had built stables and houses. The herd was two hundred and twenty-nine head. There were also twenty-one sheep. Eight hundred and twenty-nine tons of hay had been put up and there would be plenty. The crop reported was fifty-one bushels of grain and one hundred and fifty of potatoes.

The houses were in good order, with one or two exceptions.

KEY'S BAND, No. 65.

Ten homesteads were examined here, and probably more improvement was noticed than at either of the other two. The chief had removed to the valley, about six miles from his old place, and built a large log house and good stables. Others did the same, so that the nest of old shacks that formerly surrounded the chief's house have become broken up.

Houses were all in first-class order, also the stables. The herd numbered two hundred and twenty-one head, and six sheep, and a few poultry. A few bushels of barley and oats were reported, and three hundred and seven bushels of potatoes. Seven hundred and eleven tons of hay had been stacked and there was no scarcity. It will be noticed that the cattle industry is the only one followed to any extent in this agency.

There is a church and mission and day school on Key's Reserve, Church of England, same on Keeseekouse, Roman Catholic Church; and mission and boarding school on Côté's Reserve, Presbyterian.

TOUCHWOOD HILLS AGENCY.

After inspecting Crowstand school, I returned to Yorkton, and left on March 31, for Fishing Lake, arriving there on April 1, on my way to Touchwood, which I reached on April 5.

Staff.—S. Swinford, agent; H. A. Carruthers, clerk and in charge of Gordon's Reserve; Edward Stanley, farmer, Poor Man's and Day Star's Reserves; P. J. Hamilton, farmer, Muscowequan's Reserve; Chas. Favel, farmer at Fishing Lake; J. Brass, interpreter and teamster, at the agency headquarters.

A temporary covering had been made for the threshing-machine, and the interpreters have had a new roof put on the kitchen, and otherwise improved. The fences around the agency buildings were in a dilapidated condition and posts and rails were on hand to renew them as soon as the frost was out of the ground.

FISHING LAKE BAND.

I inspected the reserve of this band on my way in from Yorkton. The dirty little shacks I found last year had been pulled down, only one was kept, and after being improved it made a neat little house. Four new houses and four stables had been added during the year and a lean-to kitchen to the farmhouse. The Indian houses were clean and the stables were comfortable.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

The crop consisted of a few potatoes, principally raised by the farmers. There was enough for seed.

The cattle were looking well, and the herd numbered fifty head. Hay was short, Mr. Milligan was supplying the Indians at a reasonable price to be paid out of next treaty money. The Nut Lake portion of the band have thirty-six head of private cattle off the reserve. These I did not see. Although these Indians were careless about their hay and potatoes, still there was progress, compared with the previous year, and if properly handled, they can be made industrious and thrifty.

GORDON'S BAND, No. 86.

I made an inspection here on April 6 and 7, Mr. Carruthers having charge of the reserve as well as being book-keeper at the agency office. Twenty-five homesteads were examined, and all but two were found in capital order. The herd numbered two hundred and ninety-five head, and the cattle were looking well, there being lots of hay. Two thousand nine hundred and seventy bushels of grain were harvested, and six hundred and thirty-four bushels of potatoes. Nine hundred and thirty-two tons of hay were stacked, and one hundred and eighty tons of straw. The reserve was in good condition, the Indians being above the average in intelligence and industrious habits.

DAY STAR'S BAND, No. 87.

I made an inspection of this band on April 10.

Thirteen homesteads were examined. Houses, stables and cattle, and all were found satisfactory.

Seven of the band made each a pair of bob-sleighs from birch-wood, and had them ironed at the agency blacksmith-shop, one of the Andersons, an Elkhorn graduate, I believe, doing the work.

The herd numbered two hundred and one head. The crop harvested was two hundred and fifty bushels of oats, and six hundred and seventeen bushels of roots; six hundred and forty tons of hay were stacked and there was enough.

POOR MAN'S BAND.

I inspected these Indians on April 11; Mr. Stanley being in charge of this and Day Star's Band.

Fourteen homesteads were examined and all were in good order but two, and these were untidy, in fact, dirty, and the occupants were visitors. They were told to clean up or get out. The chief had a nice clean house, and good stables and sheep pen. He was sending to Eaton's of Toronto for blankets. His boy, returned from Gordon's school, could read the catalogues and prices.

The herd here numbered one hundred and fifty-two head. Three thousand and seventy-seven bushels of wheat and oats were harvested and six hundred and seventy-five bushels of roots. Five hundred and eighty tons of hay were stacked, and one hundred and five tons of straw.

Farm-books were examined. Mr. Stanley is a faithful official and is painstaking in all his work.

MUSCOWEQUAN'S BAND.

This band was inspected on April 12. Fifteen homesteads were visited. Improvements made last year were noticed, in the stables especially. Houses were cleanly kept. I only found one that could be called dirty.

Windigo and Tom. Greene had taken up new locations on the west corner of the reserve, where hay and water were plentiful. Each had put up large stables and

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

temporary houses; others had taken locations in another direction, and the chief himself was soon to follow; in fact was getting out logs.

Mr. Hamilton had done well in getting these Indians to spread out more and away from the group of little houses, where time was often idled away, smoking and talking gossip.

The herd numbered one hundred and fifty-eight head—all beef fat. The hay was particularly good, Mr. Hamilton seeing that it was cut in proper time. The new farmhouse is about three quarters of a mile from the old one. It is log, 24 x 18, ceiling down stairs, 8 feet, up stairs, 7 feet. Lean-to kitchen 18 x 16, stone foundation, roof on hut not yet shingled; flooring still to be put in, good cellar. Twenty-five acres of land were summer-fallowed for crop this year.

Cattle sold brought from \$35 to \$44 each, on foot, equal to 3½ cents for live weight.

The health of the Indians at the time was good. I only met with a few who complained. The births during the year were forty-five, and the deaths thirty-two. The population is eight hundred and forty-one.

The agent, Mr. Swinford, was attentive to the Indians and was regular in his visits to the various reserves, and had no trouble in getting the Indians to carry out his wishes; and the work was going on smoothly.

The usual inventory was taken and books checked.

I returned to Fort Qu'Appelle on April 22, and on May 6 left for Regina Industrial School, and on May 27 left for Assiniboine Agency, and on May 29 for Winnipeg, where I was engaged in inspecting supplies for the Manitoba agencies, before being shipped, also inspecting and distributing the supplies for agencies in the Territories, and auditing the warehouse books for the past year. On July 8 I left Winnipeg for Brandon Industrial School, report of which will appear in another place. On August 2, I returned to Winnipeg and completed some more distribution of fresh animals, and returned again to Brandon, Elkhorn, Regina and Qu'Appelle.

I have, &c.,

ALEX. MCGIBBON,
Inspector of Indian Agencies.

MANITOBA AND NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
WINNIPEG, December 30, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my first annual report, dealing with the fiscal year ended June 30 last, and a few other matters that have since transpired.

My report will not be so comprehensive as I could desire, as owing to my absence in the north engaged in making a new Indian treaty, I was unable during the summer to visit any of the reserves and to judge for myself, by personal observation, of the progress made by the wards of the Government in agriculture, stock-raising and education.

Treaty No. 8.—This treaty with the Cree, Beaver and Chipewyan Indians of the country drained by the Athabasca, Peace and Slave Rivers, having been dealt with in the joint report of the three special commissioners who negotiated the same, I need not enlarge upon it here. The number who came into the treaty was 2,217, of whom about

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

840 were Crees, 205 Beavers, and 1,172 Chipewyans. With very few exceptions all the Indians whom the commissioners met accepted the terms offered; but a considerable number who hunt in outlying regions did not receive notice or were not in circumstances to make it convenient to attend at any of the places of meeting named.

Agriculture.—Owing to the exceptionally wet summer and early frost, the returns from the wheat crop in some of the northern reserves have proved disappointing, both in regard to quality and quantity. In the Qu'Appelle district and Manitoba, however, the yield has been most satisfactory and of good sample. Individual Indians in some cases have a full carload for sale. Root crops varied in the different districts, and on the whole the yield has been below the average. But it is gratifying to note that as the result of the season's operations the department will be relieved from supplying as much provisions and clothing as have been necessary in late years.

Stock.—This industry is being carried on very successfully. The increase in the herds is going on steadily, and the growing interest taken therein by the Indians is noticeable. Beef steers commanded a good figure this autumn, and the average price realized per head for those sold was very encouraging. The demand for heifers by Indians who are desirous of taking up stock-raising is extending. In the southern Alberta district, where ranching is carried on extensively on the reserves, the applications exceed the available supply, and it will take some time before the reserves are fully stocked. When this desideratum is accomplished, the turning point in the expenditure for food supplies will be reached and the Indians will be in a position to furnish their own beef.

The cattle came through last winter with very little loss. Anthrax, which appeared among the cattle at Duck Lake and the Qu'Appelle district, carried off a few; but I am glad to say did not spread among the herds.

The prospect in the summer of this year for a supply of hay was very discouraging on account of the continuous rains and the sloughs being full of water; but the open fall and fine weather were favourable for haying and a sufficient quantity was secured on all the reserves, with the exception of the Pas Agency, where, should the winter prove long and severe, I fear they will be short.

Agricultural Fair.—At the File Hill Agency a very successful fair was held. Prizes were offered by the merchants and settlers in the vicinity, and many people from the neighbourhood were present, who were very much pleased with the display of articles, all of Indian manufacture or produce.

Health.—On the whole the general health of the Indians has been fair. Influenza was prevalent last winter, and on account of the unusual length and severity of the weather it was difficult to stamp the disease out. At La Corne and John Smith's Reserves, in the Prince Albert district, a few cases of typhoid fever appeared; and on some of the other reserves this year measles of a light type made its appearance among the children. At this date the sanitary condition of the Indian dwellings is reported good, and the general health on the reserves satisfactory.

Conduct.—There have been few complaints during the year against the Indians for misconduct when off their reserves; but I regret that I cannot report so favourably in regard to the use of intoxicants. Precaution has been taken to prevent them from getting liquor; but with the large population of half-breeds in the country, through whom the liquor is procured, it is impossible to stop the traffic entirely. Where the members of a band are of mixed blood, the most difficulty is experienced.

General.—The progress made during the year is, in most cases, satisfactory. The money received from the sale of grain, cattle, hay, &c., has been judiciously expended, and the number of agricultural implements, wagons, harness, &c., the private property of Indians, increased on the reserves.

I beg to refer you to the reports from the agents for detailed accounts of the work and advancement made on the different reserves during the year.

Education.—The education of our Indians is a question so closely allied to the ultimate problem of their civilization and self-support, that I have bestowed upon it a

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

great deal of my attention. On the whole, there is an improvement in the tone of our Indian schools of all grades. An important consideration is the attendance. In so far as relates to the day schools, it is of a fluctuating character, and will remain so until less roving habits obtain among the parents, not mentioning minor hindrances, such as bad weather, poor clothing, &c. These interfere greatly with the work of the schools, and apply more particularly to the lake regions. I may, however, say that there are schools doing excellent work in the vicinity of Fairford, Norway House, and Rainy River, as well as in agencies situated on the banks of the Saskatchewan.

Day Schools.—The teachers of the day schools are not uniformly efficient. Up to recent years the means of communication was so generally indifferent, that the salary allowed was no inducement, and precluded in many parts the appointment of capable instructors. The same salary to-day is much better remuneration, and makes it possible for better appointments to be made. There is, therefore, an improvement in this respect, and considering that the houses are kept in repair, and the material up to the standard, the outlook is by no means disheartening. A few of the day schools, which had been closed for various reasons, have been reopened.

Boarding Schools.—The attendance at the boarding schools is, of course, pretty regular; the pupils remain on the reserve, and whether the older members of the band absent themselves or not, the children continue in school, where the parents can frequently see them. This reconciles the latter to the schools. Nearly all these schools, with the exception of those which have been opened recently, have their full complement of pupils. The members of the staffs have been selected carefully, and the reports from the inspectors are almost invariably gratifying. The buildings are generally good, and in some cases are equipped, heated, ventilated, &c., according to the most modern principles. The Government provides only a part of the expenditure on boarding schools, the various churches, under whose patronage they are, liberally contributing the remainder. Minor industrial training is imparted, and at the age of twelve or so, the pupils can be graded to industrial schools, with fair prospects of becoming, at eighteen, with oversight and a little aid at starting, quite able to support themselves.

Since the last annual report, four boarding schools have been established, namely, the Cowesses (Roman Catholic), Crooked Lake Agency, now in full operation; the Norway House (Methodist) in the Berens River Agency; the Blood (Roman Catholic) and the Blackfoot (Roman Catholic), which last, however, is not yet opened. The schools (Presbyterian) at Crowstand and Birtle have been enlarged and improved at an expense (met wholly by the church) of \$9,600, which will give accommodation for an increased number of pupils.

The number of pupils in the older schools has increased, decreased or remained the same, according to circumstances.

The policy of using boarding schools as feeders to the industrial schools has been kept in view as much as could be done, with varying success. The location itself of the boarding schools has been an obstacle to the full success of this policy. As an instance, in Manitoba and Keewatin there are two industrial schools under the auspices of the Church of England without any single boarding school to draw from, so that, perforce, they have to fall back on raw material. This may be said of almost all the industrial schools, although not to the same extent as in the cases mentioned.

The principals of boarding schools and teachers of day schools are also somewhat inclined to retard the grading system. They do not look favourably upon losing pupils who are a credit to their schools or are old enough to be so useful as to help to reduce the cost of maintenance by enabling them partially to dispense with outside labour.

Before coming to the industrial schools, I may mention three schools of a mixed character, which, although known technically as 'boarding schools,' take their place above that class. These are Emmanuel College, Prince Albert; St. Albert Orphanage and the Duck Lake school.

In Emmanuel College there is no industrial training, but it receives \$100 per head for pupils trained as teachers. I should like to point out that we have in our service several graduates of this school, who are giving more satisfaction than the average teachers in our schools. This may be deemed satisfactory.

In the St. Albert Orphanage, where the grant is the ordinary boarding school grant, the farming operations, to which the boy pupils contribute largely, do not form the main part of the training. Here, the girls are taught the use of wool from the shearing to the making of all kinds of articles of clothing. At the same time the more homely work of ordinary housekeeping in all its branches is not overlooked. This probably is the only school in the country where the female inmates receive such a comprehensive training.

The Duck Lake school, although called a boarding school, receives a uniform grant of \$100 a head. The industrial training therein is in most respects equal to that of industrial schools.

Industrial Schools.—In regard to industrial schools, I have been unable, except in two or three cases, to ascertain *de visu* the quality of the work done. As far as I can judge by the reports, every person connected with the management of such schools is generally well qualified. There have been only two important changes, namely, in the appointment of new principals for the Brandon and Rupert's Land schools. These changes apparently have contributed to the better management of the two institutions. Rev. Mr. Hodbin, of the Calgary Industrial School, is now on sick leave, and has found a suitable substitute.

The financial management is not equally successful in all the institutions, and shortcomings, as a rule, may be accounted for by depletion in the number of pupils.

Enforcing the regulation that the age of eighteen years brings the school stage to an end, together with restricting, as a rule, the admission of pupils to industrial schools to only such as are of the age of twelve or above, and the general difficulty of finding recruits, owing to the indifference or opposition of the parents, has somewhat interfered with the attendance in a few schools, and therefore tended to affect the balance sheet unfavourably.

This is a matter of regret. Yet, acting on the opinion of agents, I have felt that it would be unwise to use compulsion, except in a few cases, and have preferred to allow time to break down the prejudices of the parents. It is satisfactory to find several of the Sioux Indians of Moosejaw, a band hitherto intractable, consenting to send their children to the Regina school, and I have also reason to believe that the She-Sheep's Indians of Crooked Lake will send some pupils to Elkhorn at no remote date.

In many cases the reason of the opposition of the parents is that on account of their reserves being distant from the schools, they find it difficult either to visit or be visited by their children.

Another objection has been the mortality rate at the schools. In this latter respect, I may say that the improvement is very noticeable, and owing to improved sanitary arrangements and to the fact that the medical examination, which every recruit has to undergo, has been made more stringent; no alarm need now be felt in regard to the health of pupils attending industrial and boarding schools, and all who come in contact with Indians should strive to disabuse their minds as to the danger.

The total enrolment in industrial and boarding schools on June 30, 1899, was:—

Industrial schools.....	983
Boarding ".....	847

As compared with the enrolment on June 30, 1896:

Industrial schools.....	979
Boarding ".....	712

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Staff.—The department's inspectors under my supervision, and the Indian agents, clerks and farm instructors, with few exceptions, have faithfully discharged their duties throughout the year. The secretary, clerks and other employees in this office have likewise performed their work in a painstaking, cheerful and efficient manner.

I have, &c.,

DAVID LAIRD,
Indian Commissioner.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
BABINE AND UPPER SKEENA RIVER AGENCY,
HAZLETON, July 25, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit herewith my annual report and statistical statement, also list of Government property in my keeping, to June 30, 1899.

This agency, besides many special reserves, contains twenty-seven villages, reserves and bands, and for geographical reasons, distinctions of nations and general characteristics, eight are designated as belonging to the Kit-Ksun division, and nineteen, inclusive of four outlying bands, to the Hoquel-get division, respectively.

THE KIT-KSUN DIVISION.

This division comprises seven villages on the Upper Skeena River, and another, Kit-wan-cool, situated on the Naas trail to Ayensk, Naas River. They, without a single exception, belong to the Kit-Ksun nation, the parent stock of the Tsimpsons.

The jurisdiction over this part of the district begins from Kitselas Cañon, the point of difficulty for steamboat and canoe navigation on the Skeena River, and about ninety miles below this place, to beyond its head waters, covering a distance of about one hundred and sixty miles.

In furnishing reports on reserves and villages, I deem it advisable to begin with the Kit-wan-gagh Band, the furthest down the Skeena, and to conclude with the Kul-doe village, towards its source.

KIT-WAN-GAGH BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the right bank of the Skeena, near the mouth of one of its western affluents, the Kit-wan-gagh River. Its area comprises three thousand five hundred and twenty-nine acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and fifty-two, consisting of fifty-three men, fifty-nine women, and forty children. During the year there were five deaths and six births; increase, one. There were no cases of immigration or emigration to record.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The Indians enjoyed excellent health. The premises and their surroundings are kept clean, and a good many of the Indians have been vaccinated.

Resources and Occupation.—The principal resources are catching salmon, keeping a few cattle, hunting, trapping, and gathering wild berries. The occupations of this band are varied, amongst the principal being that of working during the salmon season about the canneries of the east, getting out cord-wood along the river, hunting and trapping. Amongst the women, the occupations are : keeping house, and getting and drying berries for winter's use.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There are twenty-three frame and fifty-seven log houses and four stables on this reserve; of stock, two bulls and three cows and no horses. The implements are of the most needful, such as axes, mattocks, hoes and other tools.

Education.—There are twenty-eight children of an age to attend school. The school is supported by the Anglican Church Missionary Society, and is centrally located in the village. The attendance is irregular, as school is open only part of the year, which applies also to those on other reserves on account of the varied occupations of the Indians necessitating their absence from home, and their habit of taking their children with them.

Religion.—Of late years the Indians have shown a great desire to become Christianized. A splendid little church has been erected, finished and fully equipped, and an organ added. The building formerly used for divine service became the present school-house. The buildings were constructed by the Anglican Church Missionary Society.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians of this reserve are intelligent, courteous to strangers, and in favour of any move tending to better their condition. Many of them are now quite proficient in the use of tools, especially those of carpentry, and a wood-turning lathe is in operation for ornamental accessories to furniture and other articles. Their garden patches are also receiving more attention of late, and consequently are yielding better.

KIT-WAN-COOL VILLAGE.

Location.—This village, its reserve not yet apportioned, is the only one of the Kit-Ksun settlements removed from the river, and is situated on the right bank of Kit-wan-gagh River, twenty-five miles from Kit-wan-gagh, and four miles below Lake Kit-wan-cool, and on the trail to Ayensk, Naas River.

Vital Statistics.—The population is sixty-six, consisting of twenty-two men, nineteen women and twenty-five children. There was, during the year, one death from old age; no births to record, making a decrease of one.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There was no illness in this band during this year. Sanitary measures are observed; also, vaccinating the people is attended to.

Resources.—The lake furnishes an abundant supply of salmon; hunting and trapping bring fair returns, and the gathering of wild berries by the women and children.

Occupation.—The main occupation during the salmon season is to work about the canneries of the coast. For the remainder of the year the Indians hunt, trap, and till some potato patches. The women pick and dry wild berries.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—There are three frame and twenty-eight log houses belonging to the village and eight shacks at the discharge of the lake (Kit-wan-gagh River). Only some axes, hoes, spades and other tools of modern kind are used.

Education.—There are fifteen children of an age to attend school. There is no school at this village; some of the children periodically attend school at Kit-wan-gagh, also at Kin-colith and Ayensk, on the Naas River.

Religion.—There is no church here and no missionary stationed at the village, but the people are receiving the divided attentions of those of the Naas, and especially of the one at Kit-wan-gagh.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Characteristics and Progress.—Though industrious, not much can be said of this band under this heading. Its time is too much taken up away from home, and the isolated condition of the village is, no doubt, in part accountable for lack of better results.

KITSE-GUKLA BAND.

Reserves.—Both the old and the new villages of this band are situated on the left bank of the Skeena, and the latter about nine miles above the former. Their entire area consists of three thousand one hundred and three acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of these two villages is eighty-eight, composed of thirty-three men, thirty women and twenty-five children. During the year there were seven births and five deaths, making an increase of two over last year's count.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The Indians enjoyed splendid health. Sanitary measures were observed in both villages, and some of the people were vaccinated, especially children.

Resources.—Some of the people fish, hunt and trap. The women, with their children, gather and dry the wild berry crop.

Occupation.—The occupations of this band consist of working, during the salmon season, in the canneries of the coast, getting out cord-wood along the river, hunting and trapping. The women, at the proper seasons, gather berries and dry them.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The band owns thirty-four log houses and nine of frame; the latter make up the habitations of the new village. Of stock, this band possesses one cow. The implements owned are carpenter's tools, and a few implements required for tilling the soil.

Education.—The children of an age to attend school number fifteen. There is a small school-house, formerly used at New Kitse-gukla, but the teaching of late, under a worthy native Methodist teacher, has been transferred to the old village. The attendance is yet very irregular on account of children following their parents to their varied avocations.

Religion.—There is a nice little church situated at the new village. It has been temporarily abandoned, and in the house used now for a school at the old village divine services are also held, it being easier to reach the pagan Indians from the latter point.

Characteristics and Progress.—As in all the bands of this district, so here a steady improvement is apparent. The people are well-behaved, orderly and law-abiding, and their habitations, with surroundings and mode of living, have greatly changed for the better.

GET-AN-MAX BAND, HAZELTON.

This village is situated on the left bank of the Skeena, and is only separated from the Hazelton town site by a space of thirty-eight feet. The latter is practically environed by the Get-an-max Reserve, the water-front excepted. The area of its reserve is three thousand seven hundred and fifteen acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is two hundred and forty-four, consisting of ninety-four men, ninety-one women and fifty-nine children. During the year there were three deaths, and four births, making an increase of one over last year's count. There are no cases of immigration or emigration to report.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The Indians' health has been very good. Sanitary precautions are strictly observed by having the premises and their surroundings kept clean. A good number of people were vaccinated.

Resources.—Fishing, hunting and trapping are the resources; also gathering the wild berry crop, and growing potatoes and hay.

Occupation.—On account of Hazelton being the terminus of all communication with the coast and the consequent demand for labour, the Indians easily find employment at good wages, in packing into the interior, boating, mining, sawing lumber, getting out cord-wood, and not a few are working about the canneries of the coast, and hunt and trap in the winter. The women, assisted by their children, pick and dry wild berries.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—There are seventy-one log houses and forty-two frame houses, also, of the latter, thirty are on the locations of the new Indian village site, and more being constructed, among others a meeting-house for religious worship; there are also twelve stables. Of stock, the band owns eighty-one horses. Of cattle, there are none. Money is being saved up for the purchase of the latter.

It should be mentioned that the dogs on all the reserves about here often yet form in bands to commit depredations on young stock. Means have been devised to put an end to this very soon.

The implements used by those who can afford to purchase them are axes, carpenter's tools, gardening implements, such as hoes, spades, rakes and others. Those of the latter description, and Government property, two ploughs included, are lent to the people not able to procure such for themselves.

Education.—There are forty-four children of an age to attend school. The same is carried on by the Anglican Church Missionary Society, assisted by the usual grant allowed by the Government to day schools. For reasons previously stated in respect to other reserves, the attendance is still too irregular to meet with desirable results. In teaching, the course prescribed by the department is followed.

Only some of the parents really take an interest in having their children attend school, and not all of them, as should be the case.

Religion.—Great progress is being made here, of late years, in religious matters. Divine services, according to the form of the Church of England, are held in the church building erected by that denomination.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians of this band have become very intelligent, and in many respects equal the whites in handiwork and accomplishments. Their services are much sought after in the mines and kindred pursuits. The wages for men working on the trails are \$3.50, per diem, with board, and the pay in the mines exceeds that rate for good workmen.

As an instance of an individual Indian's progress, I may cite that of one Moat. As a carpenter, he does good work, and is able to put up a house to order, of any ordinary description, faultlessly. Another, Nass, furnishes excellently made articles, done with a wood-turning lathe; and instances of like nature, too many here to enumerate, could be named.

As of the men, so of the women can it be said that they have greatly progressed in their sphere. Every woman, not beyond middle age, has become an adept in sewing, mending, knitting, washing, cooking, baking good yeast bread, and in the way of ordinary housekeeping and cleanliness.

KIS-PIOX BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated about nine miles above Hazelton, on the opposite or right bank of the Skeena, and on the left bank, at the mouth of the Kis-piox River, one of the former's tributaries. The area of this reserve is two thousand two hundred and fifty-two acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is two hundred and twenty-seven, consisting of eighty-nine men, eighty-nine women and forty-nine children. During the year there were five deaths and eight births, making an increase of three over last year. There were no other changes in the population.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Health and Sanitary Condition.—Of the state of the Indians' health, nothing better could have been expected. The usual sanitary precautions are observed; premises and surroundings are kept clean, children were vaccinated, and adults re-operated upon in any case where it was deemed necessary.

Resources.—Among the resources of this reserve are fishing for salmon on both rivers; hunting and trapping. There is also an abundant supply of berries.

Occupation.—The young people of this band, during the salmon season, go to work at the canneries of the coast, in the mines, and follow various other occupations; during the winter, hunting and trapping. The women, with their children, gather the wild berry crop, and by drying, prepare it for winter's use.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—This band owns forty-five log houses and forty of frame, nine of which are on the new village site; and no other stock but forty-two head of horses; but cows will be purchased soon, the necessary means for the purpose are on hand; and of implements such as are used for carpentering and gardening.

Education.—On this reserve there are thirty-five children of an age to attend school. The school is under the auspices of the Methodist Church, and is doing much good. Were it not for the children accompanying their parents during the summer, still better results in this respect would be obtained.

Religion.—All the Indians of this band converted to Christianity belong to the Methodist Church, and some are of the Salvationist mode of worshipping. A surprising amount of good work is being done here. The Christians more than double the number of heathens. Divine service soon will be held in a church nearing completion, under the auspices of the Methodist Missionary Society.

Characteristics and Progress.—Here, as in all the bands, the Indians have advanced very much. The people of this band were formerly very obdurate and of a refractory disposition, but have become most amenable to law and order, and continue to make progress; many of the people, old and young, have moved on to separate holdings. A saw-mill has been erected on Sic-e-dach, one of the Kis-piox Reserves. It was built and equipped by means and through the exertions of the Indians, at a cost of \$3,700, and is doing good work in turning out lumber.

KIS-GE-GAS BAND.

Reserve.—The place occupied by this village, is about sixty-eight miles to the north of here, on the right bank of the Babine River, and three miles above the confluence of the Babine and Skeena Rivers. The remains of the old village are still standing at the forks of these rivers. The reserve area of this band comprises two thousand three hundred and eighty-two acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers two hundred and sixty-four, consisting of one hundred and five men, one hundred and one women, and fifty-eight children. There were during the year nine deaths from old age and natural causes, and seven births, making a decrease of two since last year's count. There have been no cases of immigration or emigration.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians has been very good. Precautionary and sanitary measures are observed, and a number of Indians, especially children, were vaccinated.

Resources.—The resources of this band are catching salmon, especially in the cañon, below the village, hunting and trapping; this band's hunting and trapping grounds extend far beyond the head-waters of the Skeena.

Occupation.—Very few of these people go to the coast to work; they depend almost entirely on hunting and trapping, and till their potato-patches. The women, accompanied by their children, gather wild berries and dry them for winter's use.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—This band has forty-four log houses and nine of frame; the last mentioned are on the location of the new village site. Of stock

there is none, a great desire is expressed to possess cattle, and means for this purpose are being saved up. Of implements, there are some necessary gardening tools and others.

Education.—There are forty-seven children of an age to attend school. The school is conducted under the Anglican Church Missionary Society's direction. Considering the short time of the teacher's presence there, and the circumstances causing an interruption in the attendance, for reasons previously stated, the children have made surprising progress.

Religion.—In a large and commodious building, owned by the aforementioned society, and under its auspices, school and divine services are held.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are well-meaning and very intelligent. Though living in a remote district, they have made great progress in the way of applying their spare time to useful account. They have greatly improved their habitations, surroundings and mode of living. Only a few years ago the first potato-patch was planted here, and to-day garden patches to the extent of about sixteen acres are cultivated.

KUL-DOE VILLAGE.

Location and Area.—This village is connected with Kis-ge-gas by an almost impassable trail and fifteen miles distant, and is situated on the right bank of the Skeena. The area of this reserve is four hundred and forty-seven acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is forty-seven, consisting of fifteen men, thirteen women, and nineteen children. Three deaths and two births occurred, making a decrease of one since last year. There have been no instances of immigration or emigration.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of this people has been exceptionally good during the year. Sanitary measures are observed, and the people have been vaccinated.

Resources.—The river furnishes an abundant supply of salmon. The large hunting and trapping grounds are giving large returns to the few Indians here in pursuit of game and fur; also the berry grounds give especially large yields.

Occupation.—This band depends on fishing, hunting and trapping. The women gather the wild berry crop, and by drying, preserve it for winter's use.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The Indians have eight log and three frame houses. They own no stock. A few gardening tools of their own are in use, and one mattock, one shovel, one hoe, one rake, one spade, Government property, respectively, are lent them, for the care of which the chief is responsible.

Education.—There are eleven children of an age to attend school; but there is no school here. Some of the children periodically attend school when with their neighbours at Kis-ge-gas.

Religion.—Through intercourse with the people of the last-named village, the majority of these Indians have learned Christian doctrines, and attend divine service.

Characteristics and Progress.—The people are of good disposition, cheerful and obliging and have greatly improved their condition. They plant patches of potatoes, aggregating about nine acres, while not long ago they had none.

Temperance and Morality.—As my report under these heads applies alike to all the bands herewith enumerated, I may remark here that no cases of intemperance have come under my observation of late years, though vigilant in regard thereto. The Indians' conduct in regard to morality is good, and few were the instances complained of.

General Remarks.—It is safe to assert here that the general conduct of the Indians belonging to the aforementioned bands, during the past twelve months, more than favourably compares with that of an average well regulated white community. Their

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

promises and agreements can strictly be relied upon, and honesty in dealing with those coming into contact with them, is their maxim.

They have also, as a collective body, steadily improved spiritually and socially, and in the way of more comfortable existence; also by industry and practising economy they have gained in material substance considerably. A good fur and salmon catch was had; potatoes and wild berries yielded well. The opportunities for the Indians to earn money, as packers and guides, at high wages, were many more during last season than at any time heretofore known.

The general health of the Indians has been exceptionally good during the past twelve months. A contagion of measles, in a very mild form, was brought to one of the lower villages last autumn. After asserting itself in a few instances with scarcely any perceptible results, it soon after became entirely extinct.

A. W. Vowell, Esq., Superintendent of Indian Affairs and Indian Reserve Commissioner for British Columbia, visited this agency and apportioned reserves in the northernmost parts of this district, as well as in intermediate localities thereof.

THE HOQUEL-GET DIVISION.

This division begins within three miles north-east of Hazelton, ending with Fort George on the Fraser River. The distance is estimated to be about three hundred and twenty-five miles. In its radius it contains nineteen villages, inclusive of four outlying bands. The former are classed in the Babine and Carrier groups, the latter in two bands of Sikanees and two bands of Na-anees, respectively. They are all of the Roman Catholic faith, and without a single exception belong to the Dini nation.

The Babine Group.

HOQUEL-GET VILLAGE.

Location and Area.—The village of Hoquel-get, called Tsitsks in Kit-Ksun, is situated about three miles to the north-east of Hazelton. Its reserve comprises an area of four hundred and fifty-five acres, on both sides of the Hoquel-get River, at its big cañon, and belongs to the Get-an-max or Hazelton Band. The following may serve as an explanation of the existence of this village.

About twenty-nine years ago the Hoquel-get River became obstructed by an immense rock becoming detached, and blocking the cañon, hence no salmon could go beyond it. This circumstance brought the Hoquel-gets down to Get-an-max ground to hook salmon, for which privilege they to this day pay tribute, in a 'lay' of fish, to the Get-an-max chief. The latter and his people permitted the Hoquel-gets to build a village—Hoquel-get—on said ground at the left bank of the cañon at about the aforementioned time.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and fifty-six: fifty-nine men, fifty-four women and forty-three children. There were five deaths and four births, making a decrease of one since last year's count.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—This band owns six frame and thirty-four log houses and six stables; of stock, thirty-two head of horses, four cows, seven bulls and eight of young stock.

MORICETOWN BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve, at the village, includes both banks of the Hoquel-get River. Its area comprises one thousand six hundred and ninety acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and fifty-five, consisting of fifty-six men, fifty-nine women and forty children. During last year there were five deaths and seven births, making an increase of two since previous count.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—This band owns twenty-eight log and six frame houses, and nine stables; of stock, fifty-three head of horses, four cows, three oxen and two bulls; and a few implements and gardening tools.

FORT BABINE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve and village are situated on the right bank, and with a timber reserve on the left bank of the Babine Lake, near the mouth of the lake's discharge, the Babine River. The area of this reserve is two thousand five hundred and ten acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and sixty-eight, consisting of sixty-one men, sixty-two women and forty-five children. Of deaths during the year there were six; births, four, making a decrease of two.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—This band owns nine frame and twenty-nine log houses, and five stables; of stock, twenty-eight head of horses, five cows, two oxen, two bulls and five of young stock; also a few gardening and other tools.

OLD FORT BABINE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve and village are situated on the right bank of the Babine Lake. Its area is one thousand four hundred and ninety acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers one hundred and forty-seven, consisting of fifty-six men, fifty-one women and forty children. During the year there were four deaths and two births; decrease, two.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—This band owns forty-six houses of various patterns, and eight stables; of stock, ten cows, five oxen, one bull and five of young stock; of implements, some gardening and other tools.

Resources.—Fishing, hunting and trapping, and stock-raising are the resources of these Indians.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The Indians of the above-named reserves have been taught to observe sanitary precautions, and nearly all of them have been vaccinated.

Education.—No school is taught, but the people have learned to write in syllabic characters, and find thereby the means of communicating with each other throughout the district. This system is of general use in other respects.

Religion.—As before mentioned, the people, as a whole, belong to the Roman Catholic faith, and each of the four villages of this group is possessed of a church.

Characteristics and Progress.—The people are good hunters and trappers, devout adherents of their faith, and, as a rule, tractable in disposition, law-abiding, and have greatly improved in a general way.

Carrier Group.

YU-CUTCE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve and village of this little band are situated on the intervening nine miles of land between Babine and Stuart's Lakes, or portage, and at the head-waters of the latter lake. The reserve amounts in area to eight hundred and sixty-five acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers nineteen—eight men, seven women and four children. There was one death and no birth during the year, and two Indians left the band, making a decrease of three.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Buildings and Stock.—These Indians own five log houses and one frame house, also three stables; of stock, eight horses and three young stock.

THATCE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve and village are situated on the left bank of Stuart's Lake, and at the mouth and left bank of Thatce River. The reserve area is one thousand five hundred and fifty acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers forty-seven, consisting of sixteen men, fourteen women and seventeen children. During the year there were three births, no deaths, and two left the band, making an increase of five.

Buildings and Stock.—There are thirteen log houses and one frame house, also three stables; of stock, fifteen horses, twenty-six cows, four oxen, one bull and four young stock.

GRAND RAPIDS BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on Thatce River, a left-bank affluent of Stuart's Lake, but at this point commonly called Trembleur River. The area of this reserve is six hundred acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is seventeen, consisting of three men, five women and nine children. There was one birth, no deaths, and one Indian joined the band, making an increase of two.

Buildings and Stock.—The band owns five log houses and one frame house, also one stable; of stock, twelve cows and four young stock.

TSIS-TLAIN-LI BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is at the head of Lake Trembleur, and left bank and mouth of Tatla River. Its area comprises five hundred and fifty acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is fifteen, composed of six men, four women and five children. There was one death, no birth, during the year, making a decrease of one.

Buildings and Stock.—There are seven log houses on the reserve and one stable; of stock, nine cows, four oxen and four young stock.

PINTCE BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is on the left bank of Stuart's Lake, and at the mouth and left bank of Pintce River. It contains an area of eight hundred and thirty acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is forty-three: sixteen men, fifteen women and twelve children. Two deaths and four births occurred during the year, making an increase of two.

Buildings and Stock.—The people possess three frame and twenty log houses, and five stables; of stock, twenty-five horses, seventeen cows, eleven oxen and six young stock.

STUART'S LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve and village are situated on the left bank of Stuart's Lake, and near its discharge, Stuart's River. The reserve area is two thousand eight hundred and thirty acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population numbers one hundred and seventy, and consists of sixty-two men, sixty-two women and forty-six children. During the year

there were three deaths and eight births, and two Indians joined the band, making an increase of seven.

Buildings and Stock.—This band owns sixteen frame and thirty-three log houses, and nine stables; of stock, sixty-two horses, forty-two cows, four oxen, two bulls and thirteen young stock.

FRASER'S LAKE BAND (INCLUDING STELLA).

Reserve.—The reserve is principally situated on the left bank of Fraser's Lake, and at its discharge, the Natleh River. The reserve comprises four thousand and twenty-six acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is seventy-seven, consisting of nineteen men, seventeen women and forty-one children. During the year there were nine births and one death, also nine Indians joined the band, making an increase of seventeen.

STONY CREEK BAND.

Reserve.—The village is situated on the right bank, and the reserve on both sides of Stony Creek, down at its discharge into Noolk Lake. The reserve comprises The reserve amounts in area to three thousand and ninety-five acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population numbers ninety-five: thirty-two men, thirty-seven women, and twenty-six children. There were six deaths and two births during the year, making a decrease of four.

Buildings and Stock.—This band has sixteen log houses, and one frame house, also three stables; of stock, thirty-three horses, thirty-two cows, two bulls and five young stock.

FORT GEORGE BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is mainly situated on the right bank of the Fraser River. The reserve amounts in area to three thousand and ninety-five acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of one hundred and twenty-five, consisting of forty-eight men, thirty-nine women and thirty-eight children. There were three deaths and four births during the year, making an increase of one.

Buildings and Stock.—The people own three frame and twenty-seven log houses, also five stables; of stock, forty-six horses, thirty-two cows, three oxen and ten young stock.

TSIS-ILATHO BAND.

Reserve.—Reserve No. 1 is situated on the right bank of the Fraser River; No. 2 on the left bank of Blackwater River, and No. 3 on the eastern bank of Nattesley or Bobtail Lake. This reserve contains altogether five hundred and thirty-seven acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is seventy-seven: twenty-seven men, twenty-four women and twenty-six children. During the year two deaths and five births occurred, making an increase of three.

Buildings and Stock.—This band owns twelve log and two frame houses. It does not own any stock.

McLEOD'S LAKE BAND.

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 an area of two hundred and eighty-six acres.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Vital Statistics.—The population is ninety-three, composed of thirty-two men, twenty-eight women and thirty-three children. One death occurred during the year.

OUTLYING BAND, SIKANEES.

Location.—A nomadic band of Sikanees generally meets and camps during the winter about Fort Grahame on the Findlay River.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers ninety-seven, composed of thirty-one men, thirty women and thirty-six children. During the year five deaths and three births occurred, making a decrease of two.

OUTLYING BAND, SIKANEES.

Location.—A nomadic band of Sikanees usually camps during the winter on the western bank of Lake Connelly.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers one hundred and nineteen: forty-two men, forty-five women and thirty-two children. One death was reported during the year, making a decrease of one.

OUTLYING BANDS, NA-ANEES.

Location.—Two bands of semi-nomadic Na-anees, roving to the north of Lake Connelly, winter on that lake.

Vital Statistics.—The two bands aggregate in number one hundred and fifty-three, consisting of fifty-four men, forty-seven women and fifty-two children. One birth occurred during the year, making an increase of one over the previous count.

Carrier Group.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Resources.—The resources are fish, especially salmon, game indigenous to the district, and fur-bearing animals.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The Indians are taught to observe sanitary measures, and those coming within reach have been vaccinated.

Occupation.—The occupations in the main are hunting, fishing and trapping. At Stuart's Lake, boating, and at Fort George, at times, freight-canoeing. There are potato patches cultivated by all the forementioned bands, except by those designated as outlying.

Education.—There are no schools on the reserves reported on above, but the people are taught to use syllabic writing as a means of communication, and for other purposes.

Religion.—The Indians of the forementioned bands belong, as a whole, to the Roman Catholic faith, and churches of that denomination are at Thatce and Pintce. At Stuart's Lake is a large church and mission. There are, also, churches at Fraser's Lake village, Stony Creek and at McLeod's Lake, also at Blackwater.

Temperance and Morality.—Under the first item of this heading, nothing is to be complained of, also throughout this division of my agency, with the exception of Stuart's Lake village. Thither, intoxicating liquor, procured at Quesnelle, is brought now and then by Indians returning thence; its evil effects frequently become a source of annoyance.

GENERAL REMARKS.

In retrospect of the period under consideration, it is pleasant to reflect that a general progress, in every respect, has made itself apparent; and it may here fairly be presumed that, as time goes on, the Indians in these parts will advance, step by step correspondingly, toward the ultimate results the department has at heart.

I have, &c.,

R. E. LORING,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
COWICHAN AGENCY,
QUAMICHAN, July 19, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward herewith my annual report with a list of Government property in my charge for the year ended June 30, 1899.

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.

Natural Features.—The natural features are various; on some reserves the land is exceedingly rich, on others poor and rocky.

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 that increase in population. Others that 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, as instanced in the past year when most of the Indians came back in the canner's debt, the run as anticipated being very poor and a great deal of sickness being prevalent.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—From the nature of the reserves, a good sanitary condition is easily maintained throughout the year. The health of the different bands has been good with the exception of an epidemic of measles and typhoid affecting the

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

children whose parents had taken them to the salmon canneries, when in most cases the children affected were brought back dead or dying; the number of children whose death is attributed to this cause was in this valley alone at least twenty-four.

The chief difficulty is to make the Indians understand the necessity of having plenty of fresh air in their houses; when they lived in the big rancheries, though smoky, there was plenty of ventilation. Now so many of them have erected small cottages which from the outside look nice and clean, but the ventilation of which is very imperfect.

As in former reports, I have again to refer to the evil effects of the early marriage. Parents hurry their children into these unions. I have had and still have many cases which can be attributed to no other cause.

Buildings.—In some of the villages the large rancheries are being rebuilt, but the majority of the Indians still live in their cottages most of the year. On all the reserves where land is cultivated barns and driving-sheds have also been built during the year. In others the large rancheries are often being used as boat-building houses; and again some bands have houses supplied with carpenter's benches, steam-boxes and other tools necessary for this work, in which they wonderfully excel, which is very fortunate, as the cedar supply for canoe-building near the coast is getting scarce through former waste.

Stock.—The Indians of the Chemainus, Cowichan Valley and Saanich Reserves own a number of horses, cattle and sheep. While many are very careful with their stock, others do not feed carefully nor supply sufficient shelter in the winter.

Farming Implements.—The number of reaping and mowing machines, ploughs, &c., are increasing each year, though during the past year the increase was limited owing to the scarcity of money. Three new threshing outfits were purchased and in Cowichan proper nearly all the threshing is done by the Indians.

Education.—Throughout this agency there are partially supported by the Government the Kuper Island Industrial School and day schools at Victoria, Quamichan, Saanich and Nanaimo. Much good is being done at the Kuper Island school where several trades are taught; great credit is due to the Rev. Father Donckele, the principal, and his assistants, the Sisters of St. Ann, who although exceeding the number of pupils for which he obtains per capita grant, still has a great number of applications for admission which can not be entertained owing to want of accommodation. Regarding the schools at Victoria, Quamichan and Saanich, great advancement is shown in the progress and attendance; but at Nanaimo the average attendance is small owing to several causes, one and the chief being that for a great part of the year many children are not within reach of the school.

Religion.—Throughout the agency the Indians are mostly Roman Catholic, and attend the services of their church, with the exception of the Nanaimo Band, the majority of whom belong to the Methodist mission, and a few Indians at Comox, who have received religious instruction from the Presbyterian volunteers at that point.

Characteristics and Progress.—Throughout the year much progress has been made in agriculture. This spring a larger area has been put under crop than in any previous year, and promises very favourable results. This is, in a great measure, owing to the high prices offered for grain and roots during the past winter, of which the Indians had only a limited supply to dispose of. The boats built by the Penelakut and other villages are in great demand by the Fraser River fishermen. The boats turned out are first-class in all respects, and the Indians receive a good figure for their labour. This, in some places, has the unfortunate result of keeping some of the men from cultivating their land.

Temperance and Morality.—During the past year fewer Indians have been convicted for drunkenness than previously. In addition to Victoria and Nanaimo, eight

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

persons have been convicted and heavily punished for supplying liquor to Indians, thereby making it more difficult for the Indians to obtain intoxicants.

The morality of the Indians, taking them as a whole, is fairly good.

General Remarks.—Under this head, I would refer to the following facts regarding some of the bands :—

The Comox bands have made wonderful progress in agriculture during this season. I am sorry to say, Miss Barnes and Mr. Wm. Duncan, who did so much in the way of instructing these Indians last year, have left the district.

The Nanaimo Indians, having a good market for what hay and oats they can spare, have an increased acreage under crop this spring. This band takes good care of its horses and cattle. The Indians at the River Reserve are at the present time trying to get their children admitted to the public school, the reason being that the greater part of the time they live five miles from the Indian school.

The Chemainus Bands.—Quite a little town is building up at Oyster Harbour, where the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company is building large coal bunkers. This gives the Chemainus bands a market for fish, fruits, &c., close to their home. Some few Indians have worked steadily during the year at the Chemainus mill wharf.

The Penelakut Indians make little progress in agricultural pursuits; in fact, the acreage under crop decreases. The Indians of this band seem to devote most of their time to boat-building, from which they make good returns. From the healthy life they lead, less mortality occurs than in any other villages.

The Valdez Island Indians, like the former band, devote most of their time to boat-building and fishing. A good market is also obtained in selling cod and herring to the steamers at Plumper's Pass, for shipment to Vancouver. This island is not fit for agriculture, the formation being very rocky; but a number of sheep and cattle are run on it.

The Indians of the Cowichan Valley are and always have been more of an agricultural tribe from the fact that they own some of the most fertile land in the country. Much more could be done, but every year shows more attention given to farming. During the past year a great deal more money was made on the farm than at the canneries. One Indian, having two sons, has about forty acres under cultivation. He has good barns and sheds, and an orchard. They sell a quantity of small fruit, have horses, cows, sheep and pigs on the farm. The members of this family never go away, but stay at home to look after their crops. Although they may never have any considerable amount of money on hand at any time, they are never in want. The chief, Secheeltun, his son and brother, and some few other families, never leave the reserve, but devote their time solely to farming. The Indians on the Saanich reserves, through the winter, are mostly employed cutting cord-wood for and on the land of white settlers, and during the greater part of the year they find work at home. These bands are making progress, and the children attend school regularly.

The Songhees Band, at Victoria, has had a little more work this year than formerly owing to the scarcity of white labour in the city. The water supply that has been laid on during the year has been a great advantage to these Indians, their gardens are looking much better than in former years, and they, no doubt, will do much more in this respect than they have done in the past.

The Discovery Island, Beecher Bay and Sooke bands have some stock, but cultivate very little land, depending chiefly on fishing for their living.

Throughout the agency the Indians have been collecting the remains of long deceased members of their bands, and have given them decent burial in their fenced-in cemeteries.

I have, &c.,

W. H. LOMAS,
Indian Agent.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
FRASER RIVER AGENCY,
NEW WESTMINSTER, August 30, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899. A statistical statement for the same period will be forwarded as soon as completed.

Tribe or Nation.—All the Indians in this agency belong to branches of the Salish Nation.

BANDS IN CHILLIWACK DISTRICT.

Reserves.—The following bands occupy reserves in close proximity to each other in the Chilliwack District, forming a total area of three thousand eight hundred and forty-one acres. Aitchelitz, Kwaw-kwaw-a-pilt, Skwahla, Skwah, Skulkayu, Skway, Tsoo-wah-lie, Tzeachteu and Yuk-kwe-kwi-oose.

Vital Statistics.—The eight bands named have a combined population of two hundred and ninety-seven, a decrease of one since last census. During the year there were seven births and eight deaths; no other changes in the population.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of those Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature having occurred. Their 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.—The Indians on these reserves engage chiefly in agricultural and fishing pursuits. A little is also earned by them, working for their white neighbours and at hop-picking.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Nearly all their dwellings are of a fairly good class, and are kept clean and in good repair.

Their stock is of the variety usually seen on the farms of their white neighbours, Indian ponies in most places being replaced by heavy-draught horses.

Most families have their own farming implements.

Education.—A lively interest is 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 an excellent work for the Indians.

Religion.—These Indians follow respectively the Roman Catholic, the Church of England and the Methodist persuasions, and are attentive to religious matters.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are, on the whole, fairly industrious and law-abiding; but it is difficult to get them to persevere.

Temperance and Morality.—They are on the whole, moral, but unfortunately many of them are fond of liquor.

BANDS ON BURREARD INLET, HOWE SOUND AND SQUAMISH RIVER.

Reserves.—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, Skaw-amish, Howe Sound, Seymour Creek, and Hastings Saw-mill.

Vital Statistics.—The combined population of these seven bands is four hundred and sixty. During the year there were nine births and seventeen deaths, no other changes in the population, a decrease of eight during the year, caused by death through measles and pneumonia.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians, except for an epidemic of measles, which prevailed at the canneries during the fishing season, and which was followed in some instances by pneumonia, has been good. Their villages are kept clean and in a sanitary condition, the Indians realizing that cleanliness keeps them to a great extent free from sickness. All of these Indians have been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupation.—The chief occupations of these Indians are fishing, hunting, logging, and loading lumber in vessels at the saw-mills. A little gardening and farming is also done by them.

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. Their implements are in good condition.

Education.—Only a few of these Indians have ever received any education, no school accommodation having been provided for them. This want is now being partly supplied, the Roman Catholic bishop having built a school adjoining the Mission Reserve on Burrard Inlet during the past spring, which is now open with four sisters in charge as teachers, having quite a number of pupils, but for want of funds they are unable to provide for one-fourth of the children who are anxious to attend.

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 industrious and law-abiding, the younger members being obedient to the advice given by the older Indians, and more especially the older chiefs, who are men of good sense, and who 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 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 ten. During the year there were three births and seven deaths. Two women left the band, having been married to Indians of other reserves and gone to live with their husbands.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been fairly good, and, excepting measles, no sickness of a contagious nature has appeared among them. Their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition. They have all been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupation.—The Indians of this band engage chiefly in agricultural and fishing pursuits. A little money is also earned by them at hop-picking and working for their white neighbours.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians have all fairly good dwellings, with good barns and stables. Their stock are well taken care of, as also are their farming implements.

Education.—A lively interest is manifested in education, and most of the children of school age attend the Indian school at St. Mary's Mission.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics, with the exception of one, who became a Methodist while a pupil at the Coqualeetza Institute. They have a nice church at their village, which they attend regularly.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are an industrious, law-abiding, good people.

Temperance and Morality.—They are, on the whole, moral and temperate, a few only being fond of liquor.

CHEHALIS AND SCOWLITZ BANDS.

Reserves.—The Chehalis and Scowlitz Indians occupy reserves on Harrison River, Scowlitz Reserve being at its mouth and Chehalis about four miles up stream, forming a combined area of three thousand one hundred and forty acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of these two bands is one hundred and sixty-one. During the year there were five births and fifteen deaths. Most of the deaths were caused by measles or pneumonia. There was no other change in the population.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians, on the whole, has been fairly good, and, excepting measles, no sickness of a contagious nature has made its appearance among them. Their villages are kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and all of them have been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupation.—Farming, dairying, fishing and hunting are the chief occupations of these Indians. James, of Scowlitz Reserve, is milking eleven cows during the season, and Johnny Leon, chief of Chehalis, is milking five cows.

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 good farming implements, and take good care of them.

Education.—Most of the children of school age of these bands attend the Indian school at St. Mary's Mission.

Religion.—These Indians attend strictly to the religious instruction given by their pastor, a small church being built on each reserve, which they attend regularly.

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, only a few of them being fond of liquor.

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 twenty-five. There was one birth and one death during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness being amongst them during the year. Their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition. All of them have been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupation.—These Indians engage chiefly in fishing and hunting. Being 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 dwellings. They do not keep much stock, preferring to make a living by fishing and hunting.

Religion.—These Indians are attentive to the religious instruction given them by their pastor.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding.

Temperance and Morality.—They are on the whole temperate and moral, only a few of them being fond of liquor.

DOUGLAS, SKOOKUM CHUCK, SAM-AH-QUAM AND PEMBERTON MEADOWS.

Reserves.—These bands occupy reserves situated between 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-one. During the year there were fourteen births and thirteen 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 year. The villages occupied by them are kept clean and in a sanitary condition.

Occupation.—Fishing, hunting, packing, acting as guides to prospectors, and agricultural pursuits are the chief occupations of these Indians. A small amount of mixed farming only is 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 barns and stables are mostly log buildings. Their horses are mostly small Indian ponies. Their cattle, on the other hand, are excellent animals of good breed, and are fairly well taken care of, a plentiful supply of hay being cut to carry them through the winter.

Their farming implements are well taken care of.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics and very much attached to their priests. They have three churches, one situated at Douglas, one at Skookum Chuck, and one at Pemberton. They attend divine service regularly at their village church.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding.

Education.—Of all these Indians only two of them are able to read and write, no school accommodation ever having been provided for them. They are most anxious to have a school so that their children may receive an education.

Temperance and Morality.—They are on the whole temperate and moral and are strictly honest, few of them only being addicted to the use of liquor.

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. They contain a combined area of eight hundred and ninety-three acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of these two bands is fifty-nine. There were two births and three deaths during the year. There was no other change in the population.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature making its appearance. Their villages have been kept clean and in a sanitary condition. All of these Indians have been vaccinated 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.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Their stock is of the same variety and breed as may be seen with their white neighbours.

Each family has its own farm implements, which, although not numerous, are suitable for their requirements.

Education.—A lively interest in education is taken by the Indians of these two bands. 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 people and give very little trouble, which fact is due to a great extent to the influence that their respective pastors have over them. There is a church at each village and service held frequently, which is well attended.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are an industrious and law-abiding people and obliging and kind to their white neighbours.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate, moral, good people.

HOPE BAND.

Reserve.—These Indians occupy a reserve about one hundred miles from the mouth of the Fraser River on the north and south banks, containing an area of fourteen hundred acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of eighty-seven. During the year there were two births and three deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature making its appearance.

Occupation.—These Indians engage in agriculture and fishing, each family doing more or less mixed farming and fruit-culture, quite a few families going into poultry-raising.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians have all comfortable dwellings and fairly good barns and stables. They take good care of their horses and cattle, putting up a good supply of fodder for them during the winter. They have a good supply of farm implements, including a threshing-machine, of which they take good care.

Education.—The greater number of these Indians have been educated at the Indian boarding school at St. Mary's Mission, and all of them are anxious to have their children educated.

Religion.—These Indians have a nice church on their reserve, where they attend divine service regularly, they being very much attached to their religion.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding and live better and more like their white neighbours than any other band in the district. The chief of the band, Pierre Ayessik, is a man of good sense and above the average in intelligence. To him in a great measure is due the credit for the advanced state of the Hope Indians.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate and moral people and show a good example to other bands.

HOMULKO 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.—These bands have a population of one hundred and sixty-six. There were seven births and fifteen deaths. The deaths were caused by measles. There were no other changes in the population.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians, excepting for an epidemic of measles, has been good. Their villages are kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and all the Indians have been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupation.—Fishing, hunting, logging and farming constitute the occupations of these Indians. Only a small amount of farming is carried on by them.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The buildings occupied by most of these Indians are fairly good, although many have only poor dwellings.

Their stock are allowed to run wild.

They never milk any of their cows and keep no horses.

Education.—These Indians have no school, and none of their children have ever attended any school, there being no accommodation provided for them in the Indian schools already established. The parents are anxious to have their children educated.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics and are 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 requirements, very seldom looking for or asking 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 seventy-eight. There were two births and eight deaths. Three of the deaths were from drowning. There were no other changes in the population.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians, on the whole, has been good. Their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition. Nearly all of them have been vaccinated by me from time to time.

Occupation.—The chief occupations of these Indians are fishing and farming. Being near New Westminster, they find a ready market for all the fish they can catch during the whole year. Each family does a little mixed farming.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians have fairly good dwellings, barns and stables. Their stock are of a similar grade to those of their white neighbours. They take good care of their stock and also of their farming implements.

Education.—A number of these Indians are attending the Indian school at St. Mary's Mission. All the parents are anxious to have their children educated.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. They have a small church on their reserve where divine service is held, and they are very attentive to the instruction given them by their pastor.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are a moral people; but owing to their close proximity to New Westminster and the ease with which they can procure liquor, quite a few of them are in the habit of getting intoxicated.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

LANGLEY AND WHARNOCK INDIANS.

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. There were no births and nine deaths during the year. The deaths were caused by measles, pneumonia and consumption.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There has been a good deal of sickness among these Indians during the year, chiefly measles, pneumonia and consumption. They have kept their villages clean and in a sanitary condition.

Occupation.—All these Indians do more or less mixed farming and during the canning season fish for the canneries.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians all have comfortable dwelling-houses, which are kept clean and in a good state of repair. They have fairly good barns and stables. Their cattle and horses are also of good breed and are well taken care of, as are also their farm 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.—They are all Roman Catholics. They practise their religion faithfully and are very good people.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are a temperate, moral people, and are not given to liquor.

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 four 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 all the Indians have been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupation.—These Indians all do more or less mixed farming, and during the canning season fish for the canneries.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—These Indians have all comfortable dwellings, with good barns and stables.

Their cattle and horses are of the same breed as are usually found among their white neighbours. They all have their own farming implements and take good care of them.

Education.—These Indians are all anxious to have their children educated; but, owing to the fact that the school at *St. Mary's Mission* is 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 and it is difficult to break them from their old customs.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and on the whole are improving, although quite a few of them prefer to live as they did 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. During the year there were six births and four deaths. There were no other changes in the population.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been fairly good, no sickness of a serious nature appearing among them during the year, with the exception of measles. Their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition.

Occupation.—They 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 houses, with fairly good barns and stables, which are kept in good repair.

Their stock are of the same breed as are usually found with their white neighbours.

Their farm implements are well taken 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, and are very attentive to their religious duties.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are an industrious, simple-minded, good-natured people.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral, only a few of them being fond of liquor.

INDIANS AT NEW WESTMINSTER.

Reserves.—These Indians have reserves in New Westminster 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-eight, there having been one birth and two deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature having occurred among them. Their dwellings are kept clean and in a sanitary condition.

Occupation.—They make a living chiefly by fishing, supplying the New Westminster market with most of the fresh fish required for local use.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Most of these Indians have comfortable dwellings. A few of them own houses in 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 garden patches—and they do not go much into stock.

Education.—These Indians take a good deal of interest in 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 and settled from several parts of the province.

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; these, I am sorry to say, are immoral as well as intemperate.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

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 has been one birth and one death during the year; no other change in the population.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians during the year has been good. Their villages are kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and all the Indians have been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupation.—Farming and fishing are the chief occupations of these Indians. Nearly all of them do more or less mixed farming, and during the fishing season fish for the canneries.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians have fairly good dwellings and outhouses.

Their stock are of the same breed as are usually found with their white neighbours.

They take good care of their farming implements.

Education.—These Indians do not trouble themselves very much about education, and only a few of them can read or write.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics, but pay little attention to religion. They have a small church at Skweahm, but it is seldom used.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are a simple-minded people. They prefer to follow their old customs, but are improving a little.

Temperance and Morality.—Many of these Indians are addicted to the use of liquor, and unfortunately can always find unscrupulous white men or Chinamen to procure it for them.

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 fifty-eight. During the year there was one birth and three deaths; no other change in the population.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has, on the whole, been good. Their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition. All of them have been vaccinated 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 found among 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 much attached to their religion. They have two small churches on their reserve, one belonging to the Indians who are members of the Anglican Church, and the other belonging to those of the Roman Catholic Church.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are an industrious and law-abiding people.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate, moral people.

POPCUM AND SQUATTI'S BANDS.

Reserves.—The reserves of these two bands are situated on the south bank of the Fraser River, about sixty-five miles east of New Westminster, and contain a combined area of five thousand three hundred and twenty-six acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of these two bands is sixty-two. During the year there were no births and four deaths. There was no other change in the population.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good. 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.—Fishing and farming are the chief occupations of these Indians, each family doing more or less mixed farming, and during the fishing season they fish for the canneries.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Most of these Indians have fairly good dwellings and outhouses, which they keep clean and in fairly good repair.

Their horses are all small Indian ponies. Their cattle are of good breed, the same as are found among their white neighbours.

Their implements are well taken 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 take no interest in education.

Religion.—Twenty-eight of these Indians are Episcopalians, eleven are Methodists and twenty-three are Roman Catholics. The members of each denomination have their own church, and are very attentive to their religious duties.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are an easy-going, simple people, and easy to get along with.

Temperance and Morality.—They are, on the whole, temperate and moral, a few only being given to the use of liquor.

SEMI-AH-MOO BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band borders on the international boundary line, and fronts on Semi-ah-moo Bay. It contains an area of three hundred and ninety-two acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is thirty-five. During the year there was one birth and eight deaths. The deaths were attributable to measles and pneumonia.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—With the exception of an epidemic of measles, no sickness of a serious nature appeared among these Indians during the year. Their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and all of them have been vaccinated.

Occupation.—Their chief occupation is fishing, a small amount of mixed farming or gardening being done by each family.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Most of these Indians have comfortable dwellings and outhouses, which are kept in good repair. Their cattle and horses are similar to those of their white neighbours.

Education.—Only a few of these Indians have ever gone to school, and, owing to the school at St. Mary's Mission being full, there is no room for any of the children of the band at the school.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are an easy-going, simple people, and, having sufficient for to-day, scarcely ever trouble about to-morrow.

Temperance and Morality.—They are, on the whole, temperate and moral; but, owing to their close proximity to the American boundary, they can easily procure liquor. On the whole, there is little room to find fault.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

SECHELT BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the Sechelt Peninsula, Malaspina Straits, and contains an area of eighteen hundred acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is two hundred and twenty-eight. There were twelve births and six deaths, an increase of six during the year; no other change in the population.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature appearing among them. Their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition. All of them have been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupation.—Fishing, hunting, logging and a little gardening are the chief occupations of these Indians.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians have nearly all comfortable dwellings, which they keep in good repair. Their stock are allowed to run at large through the bush during summer and winter, and on the whole do fairly well.

Education.—Only a few of these Indians have ever been to school, no school accommodation having been provided for them. The parents are all anxious to have a school for their children.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics. They have a beautiful church at their village where divine service is held frequently and much attention is given by them to their pastors.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are a simple, kind people, and are easy to get along with. They are 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.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band are situated at Miller's Landing on the south bank of Fraser River, at Sumass Bar on the north bank of the Fraser River and at Upper Sumass on Sumass Lake, and contain an area of thirteen hundred and seventy acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of fifty-eight. During the year there was one birth and one death; no 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 year. Their villages are kept clean and in a sanitary condition and most of the Indians have been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupation.—Mixed farming and fishing are the chief occupations of these Indians.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians have all good dwellings and fairly good barns and stables.

Their stock are of good quality and are well taken care of.

Their implements are well taken care of.

Education.—Only a few of these Indians have ever gone to school. Those who have show a marked improvement over those who have not.

Religion.—Of this band twenty-three are Methodists and thirty-five Roman Catholics. They are all very enthusiastic in religious matters, each denomination having its own church.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are a simple, easy-going people, rather indolent, but are not troublesome.

Temperance and Morality.—They are on the whole a temperate, moral people, a few only of them being fond of liquor.

SLIAMMON BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the bank of the 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 twenty-two. During the year there were six births and forty-four deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—While at the canneries during July and August an epidemic of measles made its appearance among these Indians, young and old taking the disease. On leaving the canneries many were still unwell, and when they returned to their village communicated the disease to the other members of the band, bronchitis and pneumonia following after the measles causing a large number of deaths.

Occupation.—The chief occupations of these Indians are fishing, hunting and logging, only a small amount of farming being done by them.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians are improving their dwellings a good deal; their stock all run wild through the brush.

Education.—None of these Indians can either read or write, no school accommodation having ever been provided for them.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics and are much attached to their religion. They have a small church on their reserve, where divine service is held regularly.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are an easy-going, simple-minded people; are rather indolent and are obedient to authority. They are scrupulously honest.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate, moral people, a few only of them being given to the use of liquor.

SKAW-AH-LOOK'S 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 no births and no deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no contagious disease making its appearance among them. Their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition.

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.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics and are 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; are obedient to authority and are on very good terms with their white neighbours.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate, moral people.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

TCHÉ-WASSAU 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-one. During the year there was one birth and two deaths; no other change in the population.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good. Their village has been kept clean and in a sanitary condition.

Occupation.—Farming and fishing are the chief occupations of these Indians. They fish for the canneries during the fishing season; the rest of the year they work on their farms.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians have fairly good buildings, barns and stables. They have a good breed of horses and cattle. They have good wagons and other farm implements, which they take reasonably good care of.

Education.—Only a few of these Indians have ever received any education, owing to the fact that the school at St. Mary's Mission is constantly full. A few of them have sent their children to Kuper Island school.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. They are not very religious in comparison with other bands. They have no church and when they attend divine service they come to Kie-Kiel (Brownsville) which they usually do several times each year, and always at Christmas and Easter.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are on the whole a good-natured, simple-minded people; having enough for the present, it is difficult to get them to provide for to-morrow. They live at peace among themselves and also with their white neighbours.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are moral, but I am sorry to say they are not temperate people. Owing to their location being in close proximity to the centre of the fishing industry, a great many worthless white men who congregate in the locality will procure them liquor any time they have money to pay for it.

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 eighty-nine. During the year there was one birth and three deaths. Two of the deaths were caused by consumption.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—A good deal of consumption exists among the Indians of this band; otherwise no serious illness has appeared among them. Their villages are kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and all of this band have been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupation.—Fishing and farming are the chief occupations of these Indians. A few of them work as sectionmen for the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians all have fairly good dwellings and outhouses.

They do not keep much stock, their reserve not being suitable for cattle. Their horses are the usual Indian cayuse ponies.

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,

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

and those who are Roman Catholics send their children to the school at St. Mary's Mission.

Religion.—Thirty-two of these Indians belong to the Anglican Church and fifty-seven are Roman Catholics. They are very much attached to their religion and are good Indians. 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; are easy to get along with and live at peace with each other and with their white neighbours.

Temperance and Morality.—They are on the whole a temperate and moral people.

General Remarks.—The Indians throughout this agency are on the whole making steady progress, more especially in their house life; their dwellings are kept cleaner and better furnished than formerly, good stoves, cooking utensils and furniture of various kinds being found in nearly every house. Those of them who have been educated and who have taken up housekeeping show a marked improvement in their homes compared with their less fortunate relatives who have not received any education.

A serious epidemic of measles broke out among the Indians engaged at the canneries during the months of July and August. As the measles were in many cases followed by pneumonia, numerous deaths resulted therefrom. They got the best medical treatment possible during their illness, but notwithstanding the deaths were numerous.

The three schools in this agency, viz., All Hallows at Yale, St. Mary's Mission School at Mission City, and the Coqualeestza Institute at Chilliwack, have been very well attended and the pupils attending them are making good progress. To the principals and teachers in charge of these schools too much praise cannot be given for the care and attention bestowed on the pupils under their charge.

I have, &c.,

FRANK DEVLIN,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
KAMLOOPS-OKANAGAN AGENCY,
KAMLOOPS, July 16, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my second annual report on the affairs of this agency for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—The Kamloops-Okanagan Agency is located in and scattered over the greater portion of Yale District, immediately north of the international boundary line, and contains, approximately, twenty-four thousand square miles. The agency contains an aggregate acreage, according to plans, of three hundred and thirty-three thousand nine hundred and fifty-four acres. Some of the plans of additions made to reserves in the Upper Similkameen have not yet been completed. This would enlarge the area somewhat.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

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, on the Fraser River, to Penticton, at the foot of Okanagan Lake, 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 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 ones speak fairly good English.

Natural Subdivisions.—The agency is divided naturally by the rivers which drain it, into the Fraser, Thompson, Nicola, Similkameen and Okanagan districts.

FRASER DISTRICT.

Reserves.—This district, extending from Spuzzum to Nesikeep, the western boundary of the agency, contains the following reserves, viz.: Spuzzum, Boston Bar, Kanaka Bar, Boothroyd's and Lytton. These reserves are again divided among various bands of Indians.

Natural Features.—The same natural features characterize all of the Fraser reserves: 'bench' lands along the river's banks at various elevations from high-water level to several hundreds of feet in height; in places a succession of benches extending to a background of rugged, timbered mountains. These terraces, with their houses, gardens, small orchards and small cultivated fields, form generally a very picturesque landscape. Below Lytton, outside of the small area cultivated, little open ground or natural pasturage exists. From Lytton to Nesikup, up the Fraser, the natural character of the country becomes more open, with fairly good grazing lands. More irrigation, too, is required to raise crops; the facilities for irrigation are good, but the amount of tillable land is limited.

Resources and Occupation.—The bands below Lytton grow principally small patches of timothy and clover hay and vegetables, as well as small quantities of fruit—apples, plums and small fruits. They depend more on mining, when the stage of water is suitable, fishing in season, and hunting to some extent. Also, many of them get employment on the railroad, and give good satisfaction as section hands. Above Lytton, they farm more extensively, and have more horses and larger herds of cattle. They also follow mining and fishing extensively.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good. No epidemic has appeared among them. The villages during winter are kept in fairly good sanitary condition. On the opening of spring the great majority of them abandon their houses and villages and live in tents, either on their little plots of ground or scattered along the river, as their mining operations require. This has a sanitary effect on the older ones, but the children are sometimes exposed to the inclemency of the weather in early spring. Most of them have been vaccinated from time to time.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The majority of their buildings are of hewn logs, very substantially built, and roofed with cedar shingles principally; some of the older ones have dirt roofs. At Klickumcheen and Kapatsitsan a good proportion of the houses are frame.

Of stock, the Indians have a number of horses, mostly for riding and packing, and some cattle. They have sufficient farm implements for their limited requirements.

Education.—A few children from some of the bands have attended the industrial schools at Kamloops, and All Hallows, Yale. Some of the Spuzzum Band have attended the provincial day school recently opened near the latter place.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Religion.—All the Indians profess Christianity, and belong either to the Roman Catholic or Anglican denominations. They have good churches, and attend service regularly.

SPUZZUM BAND.

Reserve.—The area of this reserve is four hundred and fifty-seven acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and fifty-seven. During the year there were six deaths and seven births, making an increase of one.

Progress.—One frame house has been built during the year.

BOSTON BAR RESERVES.

Reserves.—These reserves include Tquayum, Kapatsitsan and Skuzzy, embracing a combined area of six hundred and twenty-eight acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of Tquayum is seventy-four. There have been five deaths and two births on this reserve during the year, a decrease in population of three.

The population of the Kapatsitsan Reserve is fifty-five. There have been twelve deaths and three births during the year, a decrease in population of nine.

The Skuzzy Reserve has become almost deserted, and the population merged in that of Tquayum and Kapatsitsan.

Characteristics and Progress.—These bands are industrious and remarkably well-behaved. As they work largely for wages, they spend what they earn as they go along. During the year four small houses have been built, and two acres of land cleared.

BOOTHROYD RESERVES.

These reserves contain five hundred and sixty and one-half acres, and are occupied by Nkatsam, Sook and Kamus Bands.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the Sook-Kamus Bands is seventy-three. There have been two deaths and two births during the year.

The population of the Nkatsam Band is eighty-seven. There have been two deaths and one birth during the year, a decrease in population of one.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are good workers and law-abiding, causing little, if any, trouble. They make a comfortable living, but do not lay up much for a rainy day. Some progress has been made during the year in house-building.

KANAKA BAR RESERVES.

These reserves contain an area of one thousand and sixty-three and one-half acres. They are occupied by the Hluk-hlu-katan and Siska Bands.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the Hluk-hlu-katan Band is fifty-eight. There have been three deaths and three births during the year, the population thus remaining the same.

The population of the Siska Band is thirty-two. There has been one death and no birth during the year, a decrease in population of one.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are hard-working and steady, and are very well-behaved. Their condition remains much the same from year to year. Three houses—two log and one frame—have been added during the year, and some inside improvements on other buildings.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

LYTTON RESERVES AND SKAPPA.

These reserves, thirty-one in number, contain ten thousand five hundred and sixty and a fraction acres. They are occupied by the Klickumcheen, Nkya, Spapium, Nhumeen, Stryne, Snahaim, Skapp, Yent, Nesikeep and Skuppa Bands.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the Klic-kum-cheen Band is one hundred and thirty-five. There have been seventeen deaths and five births during the year, a decrease in population of twelve.

The population of the Nkya Band is seventy-one. There have been four deaths and four births during the year, the population remaining the same.

The population of the Spapium Band is thirty-six. There has been one death and two births during the year, the population remaining the same.

The population of the Nhumeen Band is thirty-four. There has been one birth and no deaths during the year, an increase in population of one.

The population of the Stryne Band is fifty-seven. There has been one death and one birth during the year. No increase or decrease in the population.

The population of the Snahaim Band is forty-one. There has been one death and two births during the year, an increase in population of one.

The population of the Skapp Band is twenty-one. There have been no deaths and no births during the year and no change in population.

The population of the Yent Band is forty-one. There has been one birth and no deaths during the year, an increase in population of one.

The population of the Nesikeep Band is thirteen. There have been no deaths and no births during the year and no change in population.

The population of the Skuppa Band is eighteen. There have been no deaths and no births during the year and no change in population.

Characteristics and Progress.—All of these bands are industrious and law-abiding and succeed for the most part in making a good living. The opportunities of increasing their tillable land are limited, but some progress is being made in the direction of planting fruit trees and improving their buildings. During the year two frame houses, four log houses, three stables, one barn and one church have been built, besides some fencing and a number of fruit trees planted.

Temperance and Morality.—Few cases of drunkenness occur among the Fraser Indians and they are generally good-living people.

THOMPSON DISTRICT.

This district extends along the Thompson River from Lytton to Kamloops, and includes, with its tributaries, the Bonaparte River and Deadman's Creek, the following reserves: Nicaomin, Cook's Ferry, Oregon Jack's Creek, Ashcroft, Bonaparte and Deadman's Creek. At Kamloops the Thompson is divided into the north and south branches, Kamloops Reserve being situated at the confluence and being bounded on the west and south by these branches respectively. North Thompson Reserve is fifty miles up the north branch, and Neskainlith, Adams' Lake and Kaut on the south branch and Shuswap Lake, the source of this branch.

NICAOMIN RESERVES.

Location.—These reserves, eighteen in number, are situated along the banks of the Thompson, between Lytton and Cook's Ferry, on Nicaomin Creek and on the Lower Nicola River.

Area.—They contain twelve thousand six hundred and twenty-six and one-half acres.

Natural Features.—They consist of small, irregular and detached bench lands lying along the rivers, at different elevations, and mountain grazing lands.

The Indians occupying these reserves are the Nicaomin and Sh-ha-ha-nih Bands.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the Nicaomin Band is forty-eight. There were two deaths during the year and ten births, making an increase in population of eight.

The population of the Sh-ha-ha-nih Band is eighty-one. The deaths during the year were nine and the births six, making a decrease in the population of three.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these bands generally has been good. No epidemic has appeared among them.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming and stock-raising on a small scale, mining, fishing and hunting and working as labourers on the railroad or for farmers and stock-raisers in the Nicola country. Those settled on the Nicola do some freighting and packing.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—Their buildings are mostly of logs, well put together and comfortable.

Their stock consists of horses and cattle, chiefly the former. The summer ranges are favourable for stock-raising, but the difficulty lies in providing fodder for winter.

Of farm implements they have ploughs, harrows, wagons and harness sufficient.

Religion.—All but two of these Indians belong to the Anglican Church. They have no building. Two belong to the Roman Catholic faith.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians are industrious and law-abiding. During the year they have removed some of their houses to a higher level, cleared and fenced some land.

COOK'S FERRY RESERVES.

Location.—These reserves, fifteen in number, are located along both banks of the Thompson River and on the higher plateaus and in the valleys adjacent thereto, from Cook's Ferry to Ashcroft. The reserves in the Oregon Jack's group are also included, making an area of eleven thousand eight hundred and seventy-six acres.

Natural Features.—Bench lands, with open or sparsely timbered bunch grass hills and mountain meadows. Around Cook's Ferry the benches are dry and unproductive. Further up the river in the vicinity of Spatsim they are better adapted for cultivation. The bands occupying these reserves are Nhumshen and Spatsim, the latter including the small bands known as Paska and Nepa.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the Nhumshen Band is eighty-three. The deaths during the year were ten and the births nine, making a decrease in population of one.

The population of the Spatsim Band is one hundred and forty-three. There were five deaths during the year and seven births, making an increase in population of two.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming, stock-raising, mining, fishing and hunting and various occupations as cowboys and labourers.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—Their buildings are mostly of logs and covered with earth. They are inferior to those on many reserves, but building material is hard to procure.

These Indians raise horses of average quality and other domestic animals.

They are well supplied with ploughs, harness and other farm machinery.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and well-conducted. One log house has been built and some fencing done.

Religion.—All of these Indians belong to the Anglican Church. They have two church buildings.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

ASHCROFT RESERVES.

Location.—These reserves, four in number, are situated on the right bank of the Thompson, mostly on an elevated plateau several hundred feet above the river.

Area.—They contain five hundred and seventy-seven acres.

Natural Features.—Open benches and rolling bunch grass hills. The benches are suitable for cultivation, and with water for irrigation would produce well. The hills formerly were good grazing, but the bunch grass has been mostly eaten off. The band occupying these reserves is the Stlahl Band.

Vital Statistics.—The population is sixty. There was one birth during the year, and no deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of these Indians has been good. No epidemic has been among them. Houses are kept fairly clean during the winter, and during the summer they are for the most part abandoned.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming on a small scale, as nearly all their land requires irrigation, and they have but little water; fishing and hunting; as farm hands and cowboys; freighting on the Cariboo road, and cutting and hauling wood to Ashcroft town.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—Their buildings are mostly of logs, and, with one or two exceptions, of inferior grade. They possess a number of horses and a few cattle. The ranges are becoming bare of grass, and the Indians are unable to provide for much stock in winter. Few farm implements are required.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and well-behaved. They are unable to make much progress on their reserve for lack of water for irrigation purposes. During the year one very neat church has been built of hewn logs, and finished inside with dressed lumber. All the work has been done by the Indians. One stable and one root-cellar have also been added.

Religion.—These Indians all belong to the Anglican Church. They have one building and are good attendants.

BONAPARTE RESERVES.

Location.—These reserves, five in number, are located on the Bonaparte River, a tributary of the Thompson, and on Hat Creek, a stream flowing into the Bonaparte. They are occupied by the Tluthans Band.

Area.—Sixteen thousand one hundred and thirteen and a fraction acres.

Natural Features.—Some brush lands along the creeks, benches, where irrigation is required, natural meadows and bunch grass hills.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and fifty-three. There were two deaths during the year and nine births, making an increase in population of seven.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The buildings are mostly old, small and poorly furnished inside and out. These Indians have a fair proportion of horses and a few cattle. They are fairly supplied with farm implements according to their requirements.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming and stock-raising, fishing and hunting, freighting and packing, and working for stockmen in the vicinity as cowboys and farm hands.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are only fairly industrious, and are not increasing in wealth. During the year one log house has been built, and quite a pretentious frame church is in course of building.

Religion.—These Indians all belong to the Roman Catholic Church.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, only two deaths within the year, and sanitary measures are fairly carried out.

DEADMAN'S CREEK RESERVE.

Location.—This reserve is situated on Deadman's Creek, an affluent of the Thompson, and extends from its mouth up some twelve miles. It is occupied by the Skichistin Band.

Area.—The area of this reserve is twenty thousand one hundred and thirty-four acres.

Natural Features.—Rolling bunch grass benches and hills, the benches suitable for cultivation if watered, some brush and meadow lands higher up the creek—a magnificent grazing reserve, but unprotected by fencing.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and thirteen. During the year there were eight deaths and seven births, making a decrease in population of one.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—An epidemic of measles visited this band in May, and three of the deaths accounted for are attributable to this cause; otherwise, the health of these Indians has been good. Sanitary regulations are fairly observed.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The buildings of these Indians are of a poor order of log cabins, roofed with earth for the most part. They have fair-sized bands of good saddle horses, and some cattle.

Religion.—They all belong to the Roman Catholic Church, and have a good church edifice.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are fairly industrious and law-abiding. They have become too much attached to the pursuit and life of cowboys, to the neglect of the cultivation and improvement of their own lands. While they make good wages at this occupation, they do not make any provision for the future.

One log house has been built during the year, and five acres of land cleared and fenced.

KAMLOOPS RESERVE.

Location.—This reserve is principally situated at the junction of the north and south Thompson Rivers, immediately opposite to the city of Kamloops.

Area.—It contains thirty-three thousand three hundred and seventy-nine acres.

Natural Features.—This reserve consists of extensive river flats and benches, containing fine meadow and grain lands, with a sufficient and convenient quantity of water for irrigation purposes; the slopes facing the rivers are open bunch grass hills, furnishing excellent pasturage, and the mountains higher up are timbered.

Vital Statistics.—The population is two hundred and forty-six. There were seventeen deaths during the year and sixteen births.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—An epidemic of measles prevailed among this band for a time during the spring, but without any serious consequences. Otherwise, the health of the Indians has been good. Sanitary regulations are fairly observed about their houses and villages. The garbage accumulating during winter is collected and burnt in spring, and as soon as the warm weather sets in a good many of them remove to the fields and mountains and live in tents.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians raise grain, hay and vegetables, horses and cattle; they hunt and fish, and are extensively employed by neighbouring ranchers as farmers and cowboys, in which latter occupation they employ their horses largely.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—These Indians' houses and buildings are comparatively of a poor class. Many of the mud-roofed cabins of two decades ago still exist in a somewhat decayed and dilapidated condition. The buildings that have been erected in recent years are of a better order, but compare unfavourably with many other less-favoured localities. In stock, the Indians have a number of fairly good horses, suitable for farm and saddle, and a few cattle. They are well supplied with farm implements, ploughs, harrows, rollers, mowing-machines, horse-rakes, wagons, sleighs, harness and saddles.

Religion.—They all belong to the Roman Catholic Church, have one very respectable edifice, and observe strictly the rites and ceremonies of their church. They have the presence of the priest much among them.

Characteristics and Progress.—The majority of these Indians are industrious—none of them may be said to be indolent—but many of them do too much running about, and consequently spend most of what they make instead of acquiring property. There are few infractions of the law among them, outside of cases of procuring liquor.

CHUK-CHU-QUALK RESERVES.

Location.—These reserves, four in number, are situated on the North Thompson River.

Area.—Three thousand two hundred and thirty-nine acres constitute the area of these reserves.

Natural Features.—These reserves consist of large flats and low benches along the river banks, and of timbered slopes and mountains. The flats afford good tillable land, and the slopes furnish good summer grazing.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and twenty-five. The deaths during the year were fourteen, and births sixteen, making an increase in population of two.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—No epidemic has visited these Indians, the deaths occurring being from ordinary causes, and mostly among children.

Resources and Occupation.—Mixed farming, hunting and fishing, stock-raising, packing, and working as labourers at various occupations.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—They have rather a poor class of log buildings, the older ones covered with earth. Those built in recent years are a great improvement, and are roofed with shingles. They have a few horses and cattle, and are fairly well supplied with farm implements.

Religion.—All of these Indians belong to the Roman Catholic Church. They have one church building, and manifest great interest in church matters.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious, law-abiding and good people.

They hunt more extensively than other bands, but this pursuit is to some extent dying out, and they are making progress in improving their houses, cultivating and clearing land.

NISKAINLITH RESERVES.

Location.—These reserves, three in number, are situated on the South Thompson River, three miles from the foot of Little Shuswap Lake, and on Salmon Arm. They are occupied by the Halaut Band.

Area.—Six thousand nine hundred and one acres constitute the area of these reserves.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Natural Features.—On the Thompson, open bench lands, requiring irrigation, and good grazing lands on the mountain slopes. On Salmon Arm, natural meadows, and bottom brush and timbered lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and forty-four. There have been three deaths and four births during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, and sanitary regulations are well observed.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians farm extensively, though crops hitherto have been uncertain, on account of scarcity of water; they raise good horses for work and saddle, and some cattle and hogs, hunt and fish, cut and raft some wood to Kamloops, and work as labourers and cowboys for farmers, woodmen and stock-raisers.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—They have good log and frame houses, good horses and some cattle and hogs, and are well supplied with ploughs, harrows, land-rollers, mowers, reapers, horse-rakes, wagons, sleighs, harness and saddles, and one threshing-machine.

Religion.—These Indians all belong to the Roman Catholic Church. They have one large church, are well looked after by the priest, and evince considerable interest in religious matters.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are fairly industrious and very well-behaved. For the past two years most of their spare time from their crops in summer has been occupied in building dams and irrigation ditches to store and carry water to their reserve on Thompson River. These are pretty well completed and will be a great improvement.

ADAM'S LAKE RESERVES.

Location.—These reserves, six in number, are situated on the Thompson River, at the foot of Little Shuswap Lake, on Adam's Lake and on Salmon Arm. They are occupied by the Halkam Band.

Area.—The combined area is seven thousand two hundred and eighty-three acres.

Natural Features.—On Thompson River, they consist of extensive bench land, requiring irrigation, and good grazing lands on the slopes of the mountains, with timber higher up. At Adam's Lake and Salmon Arm, natural meadows, brush and timber lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and seventy-six. There have been five deaths and eight births during the year, an increase of three in population.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good. No infectious disease has appeared among them, and sanitary regulations are well observed.

Resources and Occupation.—Mixed farming, stock-raising, hunting and fishing, the cutting and rafting of wood, and working as labourers for ranchers and woodmen.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—These Indians have very good buildings, mostly of cedar logs and roofed with shingles. They have good work and saddle-horses and a number of cattle, and are well supplied with nearly every kind of farm implements and machinery, including a threshing-machine.

Religion.—These Indians all belong to the Roman Catholic Church. They have one church building, are well looked after by the priest, and are good Indians.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and good workers, and they cause little trouble to the authorities. They, like the Halaut Indians, whom they adjoin, have been engaged in building irrigation works to carry water into their reserve at the foot of Shuswap Lake, and they have made good progress.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

KUAUT RESERVES.

Location.—These reserves, five in number, are situated at the head of Little Shuswap Lake, on Little River and on Salmon Arm.

Area.—The area of these reserves is seven thousand eight hundred and forty acres.

Natural Features.—The natural features of these reserves are: at the head of the lake, a small area of bench and open grazing land; along the river flats and at Salmon Arm, heavily timbered lands, requiring much labour to clear.

Vital Statistics.—The population is seventy-three. There have been three deaths and six births during the year, an increase in population of three.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good. No contagious disease has appeared among them. Sanitary conditions about their houses and villages are good.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians carry on mixed farming and stock-raising; they hunt and fish, derive some revenue from the sale of wood cut in the process of clearing land, and as labourers in various capacities.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—These Indians have a superior class of buildings, mostly of logs, while several of them are boarded outside with rustic, and lined inside with dressed lumber. They are all substantial buildings, well finished and roofed with shingles. The Indians possess a fair proportion of horses and cattle, and have a number of ploughs, harrows, rollers, harness and saddles.

Religion.—They all belong to the Roman Catholic Church, have one of the finest church edifices in the agency and are good people.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are very industrious and hard-working Indians. They are not so favourably located as many bands, having to clear most of their land; but they are making commendable progress. During the year ten acres of land have been cleared, two houses and one stable built.

Education.—Children from most of the Thompson Bands are attending the industrial school at Kamloops, and a system of shorthand Chinook has been introduced among them by the priest in which many of them are able to carry on correspondence.

Temperance and Morality.—The Thompson Indians are on the whole comparatively moral, but the tendency among several of the bands is towards intemperance. The Skichistin, Tluhtans and Kamloops Bands have probably a tendency in this direction more than others, the opportunities for disreputable whites and half-breeds to traffic in liquor to Indians being greater, which traffic, with the utmost diligence, it appears impossible to eradicate entirely.

NICOLA DISTRICT.

This district extends along the Nicola river and lake from Lower Nicola to Douglas Lake and includes the Hamilton Creek and Coldwater Reserves. It is occupied by the Quinskanaht, Quinshaatan, Naaik, Zoht, Myiskat, Spahamin and Hamilton Creek Bands.

QUINSKANAHT BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is located along the Lower Nicola River. It contains four thousand five hundred and fifty acres.

Natural Features.—Bottom and bench lands along the river and grazing lands along the mountains.

Vital Statistics.—The population is fifty-two. There have been no deaths and no births during the year.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—These Indians have good substantial log houses, a number of horses and cattle, and ploughs, wagons, sleighs and harness sufficient for present requirements.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians farm and raise stock on a small scale, freight and pack, fish and hunt, mine a little and work as labourers for white settlers.

Religion.—These Indians are either Roman Catholics or Anglicans, mostly the former. They have no church.

QUINSHAATAN BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Cold Water River ten miles from its junction with the Nicola. It contains an area of six thousand two hundred and seventy-six and one-half acres.

Natural Features.—Bottom and bench lands along the river and mountain grazing lands lightly timbered.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and fifteen. There have been three deaths and four births during the year.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians farm a good deal and raise some horses and cattle. They also fish and hunt extensively and are employed by adjacent farmers as labourers and stock hands.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have good log and frame houses, some horses and cattle and are well supplied with farm implements.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and remarkably law-abiding. They are clearing and improving their farms, but are not increasing in wealth. During the year they have built one log house and cleared ten acres of land.

Religion.—All but seven of these Indians belong to the Roman Catholic faith; seven are Anglicans. They have a good church and are strict in the observance of religious duties.

NAAIK BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve, Mammet, is situated along the valleys and slopes of the Nicola and Mammet Rivers. It contains eleven thousand five hundred and seventy-six acres.

Natural Features.—It contains a happy combination of extensive brush and natural meadow lands along the rivers, extensive bench lands, with abundance of water easily obtained for irrigation, and sloping bunch grass foot-hills, with sufficient timber for all requirements.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and thirty-five. There have been five deaths and eight births during the year, making an increase in population of three.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians raise considerable quantities of grain, hay and other farm products. They have good horses, harness, wagons, sleighs and packing outfits, with which they freight and pack extensively from points on the C. P. R. to Nicola, Similkameen and other places. They also procure ready employment, when not engaged in their own farming, among the numerous white settlers and stockmen of the district. They do not hunt or fish as extensively as many other bands.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have numerous houses and out-buildings of logs and frame and of superior quality. They have many good horses, which they are constantly improving, and considerable cattle and other domestic stock, for all of which they make good provision. With farm implements, such as ploughs, harrows, wagons, sleighs, harness, saddles, mowers, horse-rakes and fanning-mills, they are well supplied.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Religion.—A considerable majority of these Indians belong to the Anglican Church, the rest to the Roman Catholic. The Anglicans have one fine church and they are regular attendants.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are exceptionally industrious, and some of them are consequently increasing in wealth, others remain in much the same condition from year to year. Their reserve is better protected by fencing than any other in the agency. One log house and kitchen and two stables have been built during the year, and twelve and one-half acres of land cleared.

ZOHT BAND.

Reserve.—This small reserve is situated on Clapperton Creek, near the foot of Nicola Lake. It contains an area of six hundred and sixty acres.

Natural Features.—Some bench lands, inferior for cultivation, and fair grazing mountain slopes.

Vital Statistics.—The population is thirty. There was one birth and no deaths during the year.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians do a little farming and have a few horses and cattle. They do some fishing and hunting, but subsist more on the proceeds of the labour that they do for white ranchers in the vicinity.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Their buildings are mostly of logs and fairly comfortable. They do not possess much stock, chiefly horses, and they have farm implements sufficient for the amount of farming they do.

Religion.—They belong to the Anglican denomination and have a small church.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are fairly industrious and law-abiding. Several of them are old and little progress is noticeable.

NZISKAT BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated near the mouth of the Coldwater River. It contains an area of three hundred and sixty acres.

Natural Features.—It contains some wild meadow, a small proportion of light bench land, and the rest is inferior grazing and timber lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is twenty. There were no deaths during the year and two births.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians have few natural resources. They farm little and have little stock. The majority of the men are old and two of them blind. One of these does a considerable freighting business with a boy or girl as guide. In other ways by fishing and hunting and by the assistance of their women and children they manage to subsist, but are unable to make any progress.

Religion.—They belong equally to the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches. They have no church building.

SPAHAMIN BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band, eight in number, are situated chiefly on the Nicola and Douglas Lakes and Spahamin Creek.

They contain a combined area of thirty thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight acres.

Natural Features.—Along the river bottoms and by the margin of the lakes, brush land and low, open flats and natural meadow lands; on the lower foot-hills, some bench

lands suitable for cultivation, and magnificent stretches of undulating bunch-grass grazing lands, with sufficient timber along the river and towards the base of the mountains.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and seventy-eight. There have been five deaths and eleven births during the year, making an increase in population of six.

Resources and Occupation.—Mixed farming, stock-raising, cattle and horses—the latter extensively—fishing and hunting, freighting and packing, and working as labourers and cowboys for the neighbouring stock-raisers.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Their buildings, houses and stables are of a superior order, being of logs and frame, larger and better furnished throughout than the majority of Indian houses, those built in recent years showing a marked improvement.

These Indians are the most extensive stock-raisers in the agency, and have the best quality. Some of the best stallions and brood mares to be found in the province are owned by these Indians. Their cattle are also of a high grade.

They are well supplied with farm implements—ploughs, harrows, wagons, sleighs, harness and saddles, mowers, horse-rakes and reaping-machines.

Religion.—These Indians all belong to the Roman Catholic denomination. They have two fine churches, and are devout and earnest worshippers.

Characteristics and Progress.—Taken as a whole, they are an exemplary band of Indians. They are probably the wealthiest and most independent in the agency. A good proportion of their range land is fenced, and preparations are being made, in the way of cutting and hauling rails, to fence another large tract. During the year a fine house has been completed, and thirteen acres of land cleared.

HAMILTON CREEK BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is located on Hamilton (or Quiechena) Creek, about ten miles from its mouth. It was originally intended for a grass reserve for the Lytton Bands, and is occupied mostly by these bands.

It contains an area of four thousand four hundred and forty acres.

Natural Features.—It largely consists of open, rolling bunch-grass lands, with small benches and flats along the creek suitable for cultivation.

Vital Statistics.—The population is thirty-eight. There have been two deaths and three births during the year.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The buildings on this reserve are few, and consist of small log houses.

The Indians have a number of cattle and horses, for which, owing to the favourable character of the locality, they require little provision or attention during winter.

They have sufficient farm implements for the small area they cultivate.

Religion.—They mostly belong to the Anglican denomination—a few to the Roman Catholic Church. They have no church building, but are occasionally visited by a clergyman from Lytton.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians of Nicola district are comparatively moral and temperate. Some of them are addicted to drink, when they have an opportunity, but I am pleased to say that there has of late been a marked improvement in this respect.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of these Indians has been excellent. No epidemic has appeared among them, and there has been an increase of births over deaths in every band, with one exception—there the population remains the same. The sanitary conditions are good. The Indians keep their houses fairly clean and orderly—in many instances commendably so—and in spring collect and burn

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

the garbage that has accumulated during the winter months. To some extent they live in tents during the summer. A great majority of them have been vaccinated from time to time.

Education.—A very limited number of the children of this district are receiving the benefits of instruction afforded by attendance at the industrial school, Kamloops. They have also a system of shorthand Chinook, which has been introduced among them by the priest, in which many of them are able to carry on correspondence.

SIMILKAMEEN DISTRICT.

This district extends along the Similkameen River, from Princeton to the international boundary line, and it is occupied by the Chu-chu-way-ha, Ashnola and Shenosquaukin Bands.

CHU-CHU-NAY-KA BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated along both banks of the Similkameen, principally in the neighbourhood of Twenty-mile Creek.

It contains, according to plans completed, five thousand seven hundred and ninety-two acres. (Some of the plans are not completed.)

Natural Features.—At the juncture of Twenty-mile Creek with the Similkameen, the cañon of the latter opens out into some nice river benches, chiefly on the left bank, which are well watered and well adapted for cultivation. Back of the benches on the steep mountain sides there is considerable open or sparsely timbered land, which affords good summer pasturage.

Vital Statistics.—The population is fifty-two. There have been two births and no deaths during the year.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming and stock-raising, hunting and fishing, mining and packing. The last mentioned trade has greatly increased within the year, as mining properties are being developed in different sections of the Similkameen.

Religion.—These Indians all belong to the Roman Catholic denomination. They have a church, and, although rarely visited by a priest, they conduct their own services regularly.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—These Indians' buildings are mostly of logs, and they are fairly comfortable.

They have small bands of horses and some cattle, also ploughs, harrows, rollers, mowing-machines and horse-rakes, to conduct their farming.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding. Little progress has been made for some years.

ASHNOLA BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the Similkameen, chiefly on the right bank, at the mouth of Ashnola Creek. It adjoins Chu-chu-nay-ha, and extends to near Keremeos.

It contains ten thousand two hundred and five acres.

Natural Features.—Brush, natural meadows and bench lands, the latter requiring irrigation, along the river bottoms and banks, and steep mountain slopes, open or thinly timbered, affording good summer pasturage.

Vital Statistics.—The population is fifty-three. There has been one birth and no death during the year.

Resources and Occupation.—Mixed farming, hunting and fishing, stock-raising and working for stockmen as cowboys, in which occupation they employ their horses.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—These Indians have a fair class of log houses, quite a number of good horses and some cattle, and sufficient farm implements, ploughs, harrows, rollers, mowers and horse-rakes, also one wagon and some sleighs. They provide well for their stock, as shown by several good stacks of hay remaining on June 30 from last year's crop.

Religion.—These Indians all belong to the Roman Catholic Church. They have no building, and are seldom visited by a priest, yet they conduct service among themselves.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and well-behaved, and are generally well-to-do.

SHENNOSQUAUKIN BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve extends along the Similkameen Valley, from Keremeos to the boundary line.

It contains an area of nine thousand six hundred and sixty-seven acres.

Natural Features.—Extensive brush and meadow lands along the river bottoms, some higher bench lands, requiring irrigation, and mountain pasture lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is seventy-three. During the year there have been three deaths and six births, making an increase in population of three.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming, principally the raising of hay, stock-raising, hunting and fishing, some packing, and employment as labourers and stock-hands with neighbouring ranchers.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—These Indians' houses are built of logs, and many of them are roofed with earth. They are not pretentious, but are warm in winter. They have good bands of horses and cattle, and provide well for them in winter. They are also well provided with farm implements.

Religion.—They profess the Roman Catholic faith, have one church, and are good people.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are very industrious and law-abiding, and several of them are increasing in wealth, particularly William, Paul, Francis and Johnny Nhumsheen. Twenty-two acres of land have been cleared during the year.

Temperance and Morality.—All these bands are above the average in temperance and morals. Some among them are inclined to intemperance when an opportunity offers. The opportunities for these Indians to procure liquor have of recent years not been many, as licensed houses were remote; but recently the country has been developing, and more licenses are being granted, so that the Indians will require careful attention.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of these bands has been excellent, as shown by the fact that only three deaths have occurred among them, and there has been a consequent increase in number.

Education.—They are without any means of education.

OKANAGAN DISTRICT.

This district extends from the head of Osoyoos Lake along the Okanagan River and Okanagan Lake to the head of the latter, and includes the Spallumcheen Band. It is occupied by the Nkamip, Penticton, N-kam-ap-lix (including the Mission Band at Duck Lake and Kelowna), and the Spallumcheen bands.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated around the head of Osoyoos Lake, and extends up the east side of the Okanagan River.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

It comprises an area of thirty-two thousand one hundred and sixty-eight acres.

Natural Features.—It consists largely of bunch grass, prairie and hills. There is some natural meadow bordering on the lake, and higher bench land along Gregoire Creek, and some distance back from the Okanagan River. These bench lands, when watered, are well adapted for growing grain and fruit.

Vital Statistics.—The population is sixty-four. There have been seven deaths and five births during the year, a decrease in population of two.

Resources and Occupation.—Mixed farming and dairying, hunting and fishing, freighting and packing, and employment as farm hands and stockmen.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—These Indians have a fair class of log and frame houses, good bands of horses, a fair proportion of cattle, and are well provided with ploughs, harrows, land-rollers, mowers, horse-rakes, wagons, sleighs, harness and saddles for carrying on their farming, freighting and packing operations.

Religion.—These Indians all profess the Roman Catholic faith. They have one church; no regular priest officiates, but they are strict in the observance of religious duties.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are fairly industrious and law-abiding. Numerous small orchards of mixed fruits have been planted, and are coming into bearing.

One wagon, three mowers and three horse-rakes have been acquired during the year.

PENTICTON BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated at the south-west end of Okanagan Lake, and stretches south on the west bank of the Okanagan River, and also at Dog Lake. It lies between Trout Creek, on the north, and Marro Creek, on the south, with No. 2 and 3 Reserves adjoining.

It contains forty-eight thousand six hundred and ninety-four acres.

Natural Features.—It consists of extensive natural meadow and bottom lands, at the foot of Okanagan Lake and along the Okanagan River to Dog Lake; higher bench lands, admirably adapted for growing grain and fruit, with good water facilities and magnificent grazing lands on the foot-hills.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and thirty. There have been nine deaths and ten births during the year.

Resources and Occupation.—In the growing of grain, hay and fruit of all kinds and stock-raising, the resources of these Indians are practically unlimited. Besides, they have good hunting and fishing, freighting and packing, and ample opportunities of making a living by working for neighbouring ranchers.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—They have a fair class of log and frame houses, good bands of horses, and small herds of cattle. They have a fair number of farm implements in proportion to the land they cultivate, but not in proportion to the area they might cultivate.

Religion.—These Indians all belong to the Roman Catholic denomination. They have one church; they are occasionally visited by the priest, and show an interest in spiritual matters.

Characteristics and Progress.—Some few are industrious, while many others are either indolent, or their nomadic instincts predominate, and they lose the benefits they might secure by proper attention to and use of the opportunities within their easy grasp. They have had the reputation of being good and law-abiding people, but recently the means of administering the law has been curtailed, and with the increased amount of freighting and shipping carried on in their immediate vicinity, the temptation and facilities for doing evil have been correspondingly increased, and

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

altogether the tendency of the Indians has been backwards. During the year one log house has been built, twelve acres of land cleared and two second-hand wagons acquired.

N-KAM-AP-PLIX BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band, ten in number, are situated principally around the head of Okanagan Lake, and along or adjacent to its shores. They contain a combined area of twenty-nine thousand seven hundred and ninety acres.

Natural Features.—Some natural meadow lands along the lake shores, extensive, receding benches, admirably adapted for grain-growing and requiring little, if any, irrigation, with extensive and excellent grazing lands on the surrounding slopes and hills.

Vital Statistics.—The population (including Duck Lake and Kelowna) is two hundred and thirty-seven. There have been seventeen deaths and eleven births during the year, a decrease in population of six.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians farm more extensively than any others in the agency. They raise horses, cattle and hogs. They are exceptionally well supplied with ploughs, harrows, seed-drills, cultivators, rollers, mowers, reapers, horse-rakes, wagons, sleighs, harness and saddles.

Religion.—All but one, who is classed as a pagan, belong to the Roman Catholic denomination. While some are very zealous, others show little concern about religious matters. They have three churches.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and are becoming good farmers. A marked improvement is becoming apparent in their behaviour, and their condition financially is improving.

SPALLUMCHEEN BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band, three in number, are situated in the Spallumcheen Valley, and on the Spallumcheen and Salmon Rivers. They have a combined area of nine thousand six hundred and eighty-one acres.

Natural Features.—On the Spallumcheen, open prairie and densely timbered flats. On the Salmon River, mostly bunch grass prairie. No irrigation is required on these reserves.

Vital Statistics.—The population is ninety-six. There have been four deaths and six births during the year, making an increase in the population of two.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians depend largely on farming; they raise some horses, cattle and pigs, hunt and fish, and work as labourers for adjacent farmers. They also derive some revenue from the sale of wood cut off the land they are clearing.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—They have good houses and stables of logs and frame, a number of good farm-horses, some cattle and hogs; and are well supplied with ploughs, harrows, rollers, mowers, wagons, sleighs, harness and saddles.

Religion.—They all belong to the Roman Catholic Church, have an excellent church edifice, and are mostly good-living people.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are very industrious and law-abiding. Most of the land has been cultivated for so long a time without due regard to summer-fallowing and rotation of crops that it has become overgrown with wild oats, thus depreciating their wheat crop very much, and they have consequently sometimes great difficulty in making ends meet.

Temperance and Morality.—All these bands of Indians are comparatively moral and fairly temperate. Among all of them there are unfortunately a few who are

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

addicted to drink when they can get it, and these require close watching. In this respect, the Penticton Indians are at the present time the worst.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—No epidemic has appeared among these bands, the deaths that have occurred among them being from ordinary causes. Sanitary conditions about their houses and villages are well maintained.

Education.—There is no system of education among these Indians.

General Remarks.—In addition to the 'Resources and Occupation' of Indians in this agency, the women of the various bands assist very materially, apart from their domestic duties, in the manufacture of deer-skins into buck-skin, which they sell or make into articles of clothing, moccasins, mitts and gloves, for wear or for sale; by making baskets of cedar roots, mats of rushes, of which they make summer tents and carpets, gathering wild berries, which grow in abundance, for food or sale, and by working for white people as domestic servants.

I have, &c.,

A. IRWIN,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
KOOTENAY AGENCY,
FORT STEELE, August 28, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ended June 30, 1899, 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, and in addition a reserve of thirty-three acres and a half as a site for the Kootenay Industrial School.

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-one, including men, women and children, showing a decrease of two during the past year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the Indians has been satisfactory; with the exception of an outbreak of measles amongst the Lower Kootenays, there appeared no contagious disease. Vaccination was attended to and a number of the old Indians were re-vaccinated as a precautionary measure. During their residence at St. Eugene's Indian village, they were instructed to keep their houses clean, to have the streets and lanes swept and the refuse removed and burned; all of which was carefully attended to.

More attention is now paid to their dwellings on the different reserves; they are neat and are kept fairly clean and tidy.

St. Mary's Band.—Resources and Occupation.—Since the completion of the St. Mary's irrigation ditch last year, the Indians of this band take a greater interest in farming and have put a larger area under cultivation and they now find that they can raise crops without fear of failure; they also see the necessity of depending more on agriculture as a means of living, as packing, hunting and trapping will in a few years be a thing of the past. The 'North Star' and Sullivan group of mines and the mining town of Kimberly near the reserve give them a good market for all the crops they can raise. During the spring a number of them were busily employed (before putting in their own crops) ploughing and teaming for white men and Chinese at Fort Steele and they made fairly good wages.

Tobacco Plains Band.—The completion of the Crow's Nest Railway has helped these Indians greatly, as it gives them a good market at Elko and Fernie, where the population is steadily increasing. They are devoting more attention to the raising of vegetables, which are in demand, and also to cattle-raising, as their reserve is admirably adapted for the latter industry.

Columbia Lake Kootenays.—The Indians of this band continue to improve their condition and the recent discoveries of rich mineral deposits in their neighbourhood give them a cash market for all they can raise. As heretofore they devote most of their time to farming and cattle-raising and they are almost self-supporting. They are well supplied with ploughs, harrows and wagons, and their farms are well cultivated and their fencing carefully renewed from time to time.

Lower Kootenays.—A decided improvement is noticed in this band for the past year, as these Indians found a ready sale for their hay and potatoes during the construction of the Bodlington and Nelson Railway, which passes through their reserve. The money realized gave them enough to buy food and clothing for themselves and their families.

A few found work with the contractors during construction, who were well satisfied with them and gave them an excellent character for industry.

The Shusway Band.—The history of these Indians is one of steady improvement. Their farms and houses are neat and well kept and they understand routine cropping, the value of manure and summer-fallowing. Their fencing is well kept up and renewed from time to time when it decays.

These Indians, with the exception of one or two, depend wholly on farming and cattle-raising as a means of support. They have a good market for their produce, which is likely to continue, owing to the important mineral discoveries on the west side of the Columbia Lake, about twenty-two miles from their reserve.

Buildings and Stock.—At the Indian village of St. Eugene a model cottage was built by the Rev. N. Coccola, O.M.I., for an Indian named Pierre, who was the discoverer of the celebrated St. Eugene mineral claim near Moyie Lake. The cottage was part of the remuneration given the Indian for showing the lead. It has two bed-rooms, kitchen, with large room above and a wood-shed and is furnished with chairs, tables and cooking stove, and it is to be hoped that others in the village will build houses of a similar class when their means will permit.

The Shusways and Columbia Lake Kootenays during the spring purchased four very good stallions, so as to improve their stock. The Tobacco Plains Indians are giving more attention to cattle and are making an effort to rid themselves of their ponies by trading them off to the Indians from the North-west Territories and to prospectors and others for packing. On all the reserves the buildings and sheds have been kept in fairly good repair and the latter are used for storing their wagons and farming implements.

Education.—The Kootenay Industrial School continues to be ably conducted by the Rev. Principal Coccola and his very efficient staff of assistants, the Sisters of Charity, the good effect of school life upon the children being very perceptible. The

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

class work is conducted most successfully and the pupils are fairly well advanced. The boys are taught carpentry, shoemaking, farming, gardening and assist with the care of horses, cattle and poultry. The girls are instructed in dressmaking, mending, knitting, and they show much proficiency in all the different departments of housekeeping, and are excellent cooks.

Religion.—The Indians of the several bands are Roman Catholics. They are most attentive to their religious duties.

The missionary work is under the direction of the Rev. N. Coccola, O.M.I., a faithful and zealous priest, assisted by the Rev. Messrs. Ouelette and Meleux, who visit the reserves from time to time, hold service and impart religious instruction.

The Indians usually gather at St. Eugene village three times a year, at Easter, Christmas and Corpus Christi, to take part in these festivals. During their stay their time is wholly given to religious instruction and devotion.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians of the different bands continue to improve and are adapting themselves to the change that is taking place through the district, brought about by the advent of the railway. This is readily observed in their change of dress and also in their mode of living, which approaches more nearly to that of their white neighbours.

The Kootenays as a race are law-abiding and industrious, and I am pleased to report that no serious crime has been committed by any of them during the past year.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians continue to maintain their reputation for being temperate and moral. This is in a great measure owing to the admirable teaching of their spiritual advisers, who labour hard to make them useful members of society.

I have, &c.,

R. L. T. GALBRAITH,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
KWAWEWLTH AGENCY,
QUATHIASKI COVE, October 12, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my annual report, together with agricultural and industrial statistics, and list of Government property under my charge, for the year ended June 30, 1899.

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 Scound, on the west coast of Vancouver Island.

Tribe or Nation.—These Indians belong to the Kwawkewlth nation, excepting three bands which are known as Lieukwiltah Indians, but all speak the same language.

Population.—There are one thousand five hundred and fifty-four Indians in this agency, including men, women and children.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the Indians generally has been good. There has been no epidemic among them this year; most of the deaths have

been from pulmonary disease. There is some improvement in the sanitary condition of these Indians, though there is room for much improvement in this respect.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians gain their livelihood principally by fishing and hunting. Of late years their earnings have been individually small, though some few among them made very good wages at the salmon canneries. Only two of the bands in this agency engage in fur-sealing, and these go as hunters on the sealing schooners down the coast and to Behring Sea. Some members of nearly all the bands engage in the oulachon fishing at Knight Inlet, so as to obtain a supply of this oil for their own use. The Tanakteeck Indians of Knight Inlet and the Tsawawticneuk Indians of Kingcome Inlet make large quantities of this oil, which finds a ready sale among Indians of other bands. They also cut cord-wood and engage in hand-logging to a limited extent. They earn a good deal of money as canoemen and packers for tourists and prospectors. A limited number of canoes are made for sale every year, and also a few boats. The women make baskets and mats from the inner bark of the cedar and from the cedar boughs and from roots of the spruce-tree. They also put up large quantities of dried berries and seaweed. For winter use they dry large quantities of salmon and halibut, which they eat with the oulachon oil. They also buy large quantities of the food used by the whites, but they always supplement this with their dried salmon and oulachon oil.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—The Indians in this agency, as a whole, still live in their primitive houses, large buildings made from rough cedar boards, which they split out, and the roofs are of the same material. Still, in almost every village there are some small frame houses, often very comfortable and cleanly kept, but it is doubtful if they are as healthy in some respects as the old houses, as the Indians huddle in them for warmth in the cold weather, and they become unbearably hot.

Only one band in this agency has at present any stock, this being the Wi-wai-ai-kum Band, which is located on the Campbell River Reserve, Cape Mudge. What stock these Indians have, about fourteen in number, do remarkably well; little, if any, attention is paid them, and only a ton or two of hay is cut for them, yet so far they have managed to get through the winter without loss. There are only three reserves in this agency on which cattle could be kept, the two reserves at Cape Mudge, and to a very limited extent on that at Salmon River.

These Indians have at present only one plough among them, and no other farming implements, except spades, mattocks, hoes and rakes.

Education.—These people are still very indifferent to the education of their children, who would, with very little encouragement from their parents, attend school much better than they do at present. The industrial school at Alert Bay has a fair number of pupils in it, but several of these do not belong to this agency. The Girls' Home at Alert Bay is not so well attended, it being a very difficult matter to get the mothers' consent for the children to enter the school. Those who do attend the industrial and boarding schools make excellent progress.

Religion.—Those of the Indians in this agency who profess Christianity, mostly belong to the Anglican Church, some few are Methodists and some are Roman Catholics; but many are still pagans. After having missionaries among them for more than twenty years, they are still very indifferent to all things connected with religion; still there are a few among them who have given up their old heathen ways and set a good example by their mode of life to the others.

Characteristics and Progress.—Though these Indians, as a whole, cannot be classed as industrious, there are many among them who are constantly engaged in work of some kind, and no doubt, if work could be obtained at remunerative rates, there would not be that indolence among them that prevails now, though I am still of opinion that until they are able to break away from the commonwealth to which all seem bound, there will be no real improvement among these people. Considering their isolation and mode of life, they are a very law-abiding people. Signs of improvement

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

among them are not wanting. They live more comfortably than formerly, and it is not uncommon to find a woman working at a sewing-machine, and there is a greater abundance of household utensils to be seen in their houses, generally of the best quality. Unfortunately, three of the largest bands have their summer and winter residences at different places, which is a great drawback to any improvement in their dwellings or mode of life generally. Many of them are good carpenters, and there are a few workers in gold and silver. They have been very quiet and well-behaved during the past year.

Temperance and Morality.—There has been little, if any, intemperance among these Indians during the past year, and certainly not so much open immorality as there used to be.

General Remarks.—At the Salmon River Reserve the Indians, who were kindly assisted by the department, have been busy repairing the dyke, which gave way in several places last winter. They were somewhat discouraged by having some of their fences carried away, and have not done so much in their allotments as they did last year, but as soon as the dyke is perfectly secure, they will be encouraged to do better the next spring.

The Koskino Band met with a severe loss. Eight of their number shipped on the sealing schooner 'Pioneer' a year ago, and since then no news has been received of her, and her owners have given her up for lost. Six of them were married, but none had any children, and only one of the widows is in need of any assistance, which was given her. Altogether, the year has not been a bad one for the Indians generally, and there is no doubt that there is some improvement among them.

I have, &c.,

R. H. PIDCOCK,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
NORTH-WEST COAST AGENCY,
METLAKATLA, July 28, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report of the Indians of this agency and their affairs for the year ended June 30, 1899. I also send in connection herewith the annual tabular statement.

Vital Statistics.—During the year just past the Indians of this agency have increased in number by thirty-four, thirty-two being a natural increase of births over deaths, and two were immigrants from other agencies; the births being one hundred and three and deaths sixty-nine.

Beyond the mortality caused by old age and consumption, the principal cause of death was whooping cough combined with measles. A mild form of measles became epidemic last fall and winter, but the close attention to the sick by the doctors, missionaries and hospital nurses, together with the efforts of the Indian chiefs and councillors in quarantining the villages and guarding infected houses, greatly mitigated the effects of the epidemic. About mid-winter it ceased altogether. But few deaths resulted from measles alone, those few being cases of young children neglected through carelessness or ignorance of parents.

The general health of the Indian tribes is good and sanitary rules and principles are being taught to them by precept and example.

Nation.—The five nationalities of the twenty-three bands in this agency have increased or decreased during the year as follows: the Haida nation, which has been decreasing steadily for forty years, has this year, and for the first time, increased, and has added twelve to its number through natural increase.

The Tsimpsean nation has always been increasing, and has this year added twenty-two to its number.

The Oweekayno nation has also increased, to the number of eleven.

The Nishgar nation, hitherto increasing slightly every year, has this year decreased three in number, some of the villages of this nation being the latest attacked by measles and whooping cough of a seemingly more malignant type than that of other places.

The Tallion nation has decreased ten in number. These people are like the Haida nation heretofore, steadily decreasing through the effects of scrofulous diseases contracted by them many years ago.

Occupation.—Agricultural pursuits are languishing, especially during this last year, caused by the fact that nearly all the Indians went to the salmon canning business, and hence gardening was neglected, so that their crops of potatoes and other roots were small.

The earnings of the Indians at the fishing and canning industries, however, have greatly increased, and during the year 1898-99 have been in excess of any former year, because of a better run of salmon at the Skeena and Naas Rivers than for several years before, and more Indians attended to salmon canning work than formerly, hence there appears an increase in the total earnings of the Indians of this agency upwards of \$30,000. The earnings of the Indians by hunting have slightly fallen off this year, owing to the depreciation in the price of furs.

Other industries have also slightly fallen off in the amount earned by the Indians, as the value of saw-logs, lumber, freighting and fire-wood, boat-building, &c., have decreased somewhat from former years.

Education.—The Indian day schools, fourteen in number, three of which are not yet recognized by the department, are all doing fairly good work in educating the youths of the Indian villages, and the two boarding schools at Port Simpson, together with the industrial institutions at Metlakatla, seem to be a great boon to the Indian children that can gain an entrance to them.

Religion.—The religious disputes and bickerings that have existed for some time at places in this coast have fortunately subsided, which result has been brought about seemingly through the policy of being let alone by outsiders. Those claiming to be Salvation Army people have been placed this year as belonging to the established churches at their respective villages. This result has been brought about mainly through the good sense and moderation of new missionaries sent amongst the Indians.

MASSET BAND.

Masset is a Haida Indian village, situated at the entrance of Masset Inlet, at the northern end of the Queen Charlotte group of islands. It stands in a healthful and beautiful place, a point of land lying between the islet and the open water of Masset Sound. The village consists of seventy-three dwelling-houses, containing a population of three hundred and seventy-eight Indians, a resident Episcopal clergyman, the head teacher of the school, with a native assistant teacher, an Indian council of chiefs, a fire company, and a brass band.

There is a white trader at the old Hudson's Bay Company's store, closely connected with the village, and near-by a white farmer and stock-raiser.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

This village is isolated from any other settlement and has no mail facilities, except by canoe over open water for eighty miles.

SKIDEGATE BAND.

The second Haida village, named Skidegate, is situated on the north shore of Skidegate Inlet, near the middle of the the Queen Charlotte group of islands, on a gentle slope of the mountain, overlooking a beautiful bay with an extensive sand beach in front. The village consists of fifty-nine dwelling-houses (accommodating an Indian population of two hundred and fifty-nine), a church, school-house, and a society hall. A Methodist clergyman and his family reside there on a part of the reserve set apart for the church and mission buildings. A white woman is the teacher of the Indian day school. Near the village is a fish oil manufactory, conducted by a white man, giving almost constant employment to numbers of Indian fishermen and others, where there is also a well-equipped trading store and post office, with a monthly mail.

This village has a fire company and a brass band, and two small Indian trading stores.

KINCOLITH BAND.

Kincolith is the first village of the Nishgar Indians, situated on the north side of the estuary of the Naas River, on a low flat plot of land thrown up at the mouth of a small river, and at low tide there is an extensive sand beach in every direction in front of the vilage. The village consists of thirty-six commodious dwelling-houses, containing a population of two hundred and fifty-two Indians. There are also extensive mission buildings, a church, school-house, two public society halls, a music hall and brass band, a fire company and a fire company hall. There are several Indian trade stores in the village. A white woman teaches the day school, and the Venerable Archdeacon Collison is their clergyman and physician.

The village municipal business is managed by an elective council.

KITTEX BAND.

Kittex is the next village, situated about fifteen miles further up the Naas River Valley, on the left bank on a narrow bench at the foot of a lofty hill, and consists of six large old style frame dwelling-houses, accommodating an Indian population of thirty-six, all pagans. There is no public building of any kind, no church nor school-house, and the population is yearly dwindling through removals to other vilages. It is part of the large Lach-al-sap Reserve.

LACH-AL-SAP BAND.

Lach-al-sap is the third village up the Naas River Valley, situated about sixteen miles up the river on the right bank, sheltered from the cold Naas winds by surrounding dense forests, although on the western side there is considerable open land of good quality and easily cleared. The village consists of twenty-five good modern-style dwelling-houses, a church, school-house, music hall, public hall and Indian trading store. This village has a council of chiefs, a Methodist clergyman, who is also a medical man, and a white woman as school teacher. The population is yearly increasing through accessions from near-by pagan settlements, and numbers at present one hundred and sixty-four souls. It is also a part of the Lach-al-sap Reserve.

KITANGATAA BAND.

Kitangataa is a small village, situated two miles further up the valley on both banks of the river, and consists of six old-style Indian houses accommodating thirty-two Indians, all pagans. They have neither church nor school-house nor any kind of public building. This is also a part of Lach-al-sap Reserve.

KITWINTSHILTH BAND.

Kitwintshilth is situated on a knoll near the lower end of the Naas River Cañon, on the right bank and just opposite an extensive lava bed. It consists of ten dwelling-houses, accommodating sixty-nine Indians, who are all pagans; no church, no school-house, nor any public building. Old Indian Chief Wee-shakes keeps the village in order.

AIYANSH BAND.

Aiyansh is an Indian village of a comparatively new growth, built recently on the site of an ancient village, situated on the right bank of Naas River, about fifty miles above its mouth, on a part of the extensive Kitlach-damaz Reserve No. 1. The village is well laid out in streets and squares, and consists of thirty-four dwelling-houses, mostly two-story buildings, large and some of them quite artistic, accommodating an Indian population of one hundred and thirty-five souls. There is a church, school-house and village hall used as a music-hall, there being a brass band in the village. The school is taught by Rev. J. B. McCullagh, who is also a medical man. This band owns and operates successfully a steam saw-mill, built by their missionary teacher. Surrounding the village is an extensive level plain of good agricultural land. The village has a council of chiefs, of which good old Chief Abraham is head. The Indians all profess to belong to the Anglican Church.

KITLACH-DAMAX BAND.

This is the upper Indian village of Naas River and the last of the seven Nishgar villages, standing on the right bank, about three miles above Aiyansh and opposite the well-known Grease trail, leading from Naas River to the forks of the Skeena River, about a hundred miles across the country. The village consists of sixteen dwelling-houses, some old style, accommodating a population of one hundred and fifty-nine Indians, all pagans. The population is decreasing yearly through removals to villages nearer the coast. These Indians have neither church, school-house, nor any public building.

The well-known old Chief Scotain has lately left this village and moved to Kincolith, leaving Kitlach-damax without a head chief.

There is an abundance of good agricultural land on this part of the reserve on both sides of the river.

PORT SIMPSON BAND.

This is the largest and the principal Tsimpsean Indian settlement, situated on the Tsimpsean Peninsula, on the south shore of Port Simpson harbour, about midway between the mouths of the Skeena and Naas Rivers and adjoining the Hudson's Bay Company's headquarters on the north-west coast. The Indian part of the village consists of one hundred and sixty dwelling-houses, sheltering an Indian population of six hundred and ninety-one souls. Many houses are large, well-built residences, and there are numbers of artistic cottages. There is a large, commodious church, a Salvation hall, three society halls, a school-house, a boys' boarding school, a girls' boarding school and a fire company's hall. On the Hudson's Bay town site is an Indian hospital under the management of Dr. A. E. Bolton and several trained nurses. The Indians

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

have the gratuitous assistance of Rev. S. S. Osterhout, who is also a medical man, two school teachers (white) and an assistant native teacher. The village is surveyed and well laid out, easily drained and approachable by sea all along the front. The Indians own and operate a furniture factory and shingle-mill, and have four Indian trading stores, two public restaurants, a paint shop and a glazing and blacksmithing shop, all belonging to and managed by Indians. There is also a music-hall and two brass bands. Their municipal affairs are controlled by an elective council.

Although the area of land reserved for this band is large, there is but little arable land, and it is all used for gardening purposes.

METLAKATLA BAND.

This village is situated also on the Tsimpsean Peninsula, about midway between Port Simpson and Skeena River, on the north shore of a narrow channel named Venn Creek, running inland from Chatham Sound.

This was the noted Indian village on the coast until 1887, when some six hundred and fifty Tsimpsean Indians emigrated to Alaska, leaving a small number (one hundred and thirty) behind, who have increased since then to one hundred and eighty-five.

The village consists of forty-three dwelling-houses, mostly new, a large and picturesque church, three school-houses, comprising the Indian day school, boys' school (industrial), girls' school (industrial), and the white home school on mission property. All these schools are supplied gratuitously to the Indians by the Government of Canada and the Church Missionary Society, of London.

There is also a society hall, a village hall and public guest-houses for the accommodation of travelling Indians. The village hall is also used as a music-hall and fire company's hall, there being an excellent fire company and a brass band at this village. The Indian agent's residence and office is also on this reserve.

There is considerable good arable land in the near neighbourhood, but only a small quantity is used for garden purposes. The municipal affairs of these Indians are controlled by an elective council.

KITKATLA BAND.

Kitkatla is the third Tsimpsean Indian settlement, and is situated on Dolphin Island, lying off the mouth of Skeena River and bounding Hecate Strait on the east. The village contains thirty-three dwelling-houses, all recently erected, modern and artistic, housing a population of two hundred and twenty-nine Indians. They have a large, newly-erected church and a school-house. The Rev. R. W. Gurd is their teacher and physician, assisted by a native teacher. They all claim to belong to the Episcopal Church. The village has a council of chiefs, a fire company, a brass band and three trade stores. There is no agricultural land on this reserve.

KITKAATA BAND.

This is a small Tsimpsean settlement at Hartley Bay, at the entrance to Douglas Channel. The village is known to the public as Hartley Bay Village, and consists of seventeen frame houses, accommodating an Indian population of eighty-four souls. There is a church and a Methodist missionary, who teach the Indian children at the mission house.

There is a saw-mill close to the reserve, which sometimes furnishes employment to the Indians. One of their reserves contains some good agricultural land, which is used for garden.

These Indians have a council of chiefs and an effective fire company.

KITSUM-KALUM BAND.

This is a Tsimpsean Indian village situated about forty miles up Skeena River, on the right bank, at the mouth of Kitsum-kalum River. Most of the Kitsum-kalum Indians reside at Port Essington, on the estuary of the Skeena River, and have erected houses there on land that is not an Indian reserve. They have been living at Port Essington for years, still retaining and occasionally occupying their houses and gardens at the old Indian village of Kitsum-kalum.

In conjunction with some of the Indians of Kitsalas, also settled at Port Essington, they enjoy the use of a church and school-house, with the Rev. D. Jennings as their clergyman and doctor, and a white woman school teacher. There is a settlement of white people close to the Indian village, a salmon cannery, saw-mill and other industries, which give them employment. They have a fire company and a brass band.

KITSALAS BAND.

Kitsalas is the last of the six Tsimpsean villages, and is situated about sixty miles up Skeena River, at and below the Kitsalas Cañon.

The Indians of this village have seventeen good houses, besides a few of less value at Port Essington.

The population numbers one hundred and forty-three, and most of them reside part of the year at Port Essington, on the sea coast. There is considerable good agricultural land on their reserves.

KITAMAT BAND.

This is the most northern village of the five bands of the Oweekayno nation, speaking the same language and occupying two hundred miles of the coast line. The village consists of forty-two frame houses, with a population of two hundred and sixty-six, situated at the head of a long and wide inlet named Douglas Channel.

They have a commodious church and school-house, a public hall, which is used as a music-hall by the brass band and by the fire company. They have also a newly-finished temperance society hall.

The Rev. George Ralley is the clergyman, doctor and school teacher, assisted by two white women teachers. There is also a boarding school for Indian boys and girls to the number of twenty-eight, supported by the clergyman and his friends, where the children are maintained at school and taught industries. There is a council of chiefs and an effective police force. They have two trade stores.

On their village reserve there is no garden land, but they have a reserve above the mouth of the Kitamat River containing four hundred and sixty-seven acres, all good agricultural land and not far removed from their village. Here they cultivate numerous small potato patches.

KITLOPE BAND.

This is a small band of Oweekaynos, numbering eighty-five, who formerly lived at the head of Gardner's Channel. They recently moved their village twenty-five miles down the channel to a small reserve named Kem-ano, where they have twelve dwelling-houses. They have never had a white teacher stationed with them for long, and only occasionally a native teacher. This village has a council of chiefs.

CHINA HAT BAND.

The China Hat Indians are mostly Oweekayno-speaking Indians mixed with a few Tsimpsean, formerly living at the long deserted village of Kit-a-soo. The village is

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

situated on Swindle Island and takes its name from Corn Island, which is locally known as China Hat Island. There are fifteen houses of no great value, sheltering a population of one hundred and twelve Indians. They are healthy Indians, however, and are steadily increasing. They have a small church and occasionally a school teacher sent from Port Simpson. There are no public buildings. There are two trade stores kept by Indians. They have a council of chiefs.

BELLA BELLA BAND.

This is a band of thrifty and progressive Indians numbering at present three hundred and fifteen. They have seventy-four dwelling-houses, several of which have recently been built on the new site selected for the rebuilding of their town.

The change of town-site was finally decided upon owing to the small area of the old site and the impossibility of saving their property should a fire take place, owing to the crowded condition of their houses, as well as to the lack of good water for any purposes. The new site is large enough for all future requirements and can be supplied with abundance of good water. The Indian Department has already supplied them with a large quantity of nails for their use—which they acknowledge—a much needed assistance. I have great hopes of the future of these Indians. They have a fine church, an old building used as a school-house, and two good wharves and two trade stores. There is also a white trader who owns land adjoining the old village site. Their municipal affairs are managed by a council of chiefs.

OWEEKAYNO BAND.

This village is situated at the head of Rivers Inlet and stands on a peninsula, being a part of land owned by a salmon packing company, the Indian reserve being further up the river and containing some very good agricultural land. The present village site was acquired by the canning company before Indian reserves were laid out for these Indians and most of the Indians moved there after the cannery was built. The old village site is higher up the river upon the Indian reserve. The canning company is quite willing that the Indians should remain upon its property so as to be near the cannery, where they work each fishing season. The members of this band, from which the whole nation takes its name, are nearly all pagans, and, although missionaries have been amongst them for many years, very few of them have become Christians and their children are exceedingly dull at school.

These Indians are steadily decreasing in number. They have no council of any kind and no public buildings. They improve but little in any way.

KEMSQUIT BAND.

This is the oldest and most northern of the Tallion-speaking villages, situated at the mouth of the Kemsquit or Salmon River, near the head of the North Bentinck Arm or Dean's Channel. The Indians here are still pagans, professing no kind of religion whatever, and, although kindly disposed, they steadily refuse to accept any kind of religious teaching; hence they have no school for their children.

The two old chiefs, King George and Captain John, manage their people's affairs in a quiet way and sometimes express a desire for a schoolmaster to teach their few children, but always with the proviso that he be not a priest. These old chiefs claim that these people of the Tallion nation originally belonged to tribes of the interior of the mainland.

Their houses are old and primitive and the people seem to have little desire to improve. They are slowly and steadily decreasing in number, being now seventy-eight in all.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

BELLA COOLA BAND.

Bella Coola is the largest and best Tallion village and is situated on both banks of the Bella Coola River, about two miles above its mouth.

The dwelling-houses of this village number thirty-two, many of them of modern style and comfortable. The Bella Coolas are a friendly band of Indians and get along very well with the Norwegian settlers further up the Bella Coola Valley. Like the Kemsquit Indians, they care but little for religious matters and are still mostly pagans. They have a large reserve of good agricultural land, which they cultivate in many small potato gardens.

They have been gradually decreasing up to the present year, but show signs of recuperating and are likely ere long to increase.

It is still a large band, numbering two hundred and five. They have not done much yet by way of public improvements, but a spirit of enterprise is growing amongst them and there are good hopes for them in the future.

TALLION BAND.

This is the last and smallest band of the Tallion nation. From it the name of the nation is derived. It is a village of old style frame houses standing on low land that is sometimes flooded, hence the village houses are built on posts. This is done in order to be near the river, which is approached over a grass-covered flat half a mile wide. The village is at the mouth of Talcomey River, at the head of South Bentinck Arm. There is a reserve of five hundred acres, taking in both sides of the river, with plenty of good garden lands for the use of the Indians.

Within the whole agency there are four thousand one hundred and sixteen Indians owning property valued at three-quarters of a million of dollars, with a yearly income of \$203,000.

The departmental steamer 'Vigilant' is still in good running order and doing her usual amount of work.

I have, &c.,

C. TODD,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,

WEST COAST AGENCY,

ALBERNI, October 7, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my annual report to June 30, 1899.

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, five acres per capita of population. 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, Sarita Valley, belonging to the Oiahts,

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

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.

PRINCIPAL RESERVES.

Tsashaht, No. 1 Reserve.—Tsahaheh, west bank of the Somass River, Alberni, one thousand thirty acres; population, one hundred and twenty-seven: thirty-seven men, forty-two women, forty-eight children and young people.

Opitches-aht, No. 1 Reserve.—Ahahswinis, east bank of Somas River, Alberni, ninety-six acres; population, sixty-four: thirteen men, twenty-seven women and twenty-four children.

Howchuk-lis-aht, No. 2 Reserve.—Elh-ta-teese, at the head of Howchucklesit Harbour, Alberni Canal, four hundred acres; population, forty-eight—fourteen men, sixteen women and eighteen children.

Oiaht, Nos. 7 and 8 Reserves.—Ah-adz-ooas, part of Diana Island, one hundred and fifteen acres, and Haines Island, thirty acres, eastern entrance of Barclay Sound; population, one hundred and seventy-three—sixty-two men, sixty-one women and fifty children.

To-quaht, No. 1 Reserve.—Mahcoah, Village Passage, Barclay Sound, one hundred and twenty-four acres; population, eighteen—nine men, five women and four children.

Ewlh-u-ilh-laht, No. 1 Reserve.—It-tat-so, Ucluelet Arm, Barclay Sound, one hundred and sixty-two acres; population, one hundred and sixty—fifty-three men, fifty-three women and fifty-four children.

Cla-o-quaht, No. 1 Reserve.—Opitstat, Clayoquot Sound, one hundred and eighty acres; population, two hundred and forty-six—eighty-two men, one hundred and five women and fifty-nine children.

Kelsémaht, No. 11 Reserve.—Yahksis, Flores Island, Clayoquot Sound, one hundred and eighty acres; population, sixty-nine—twenty-nine men, twenty-four women and sixteen children.

Ahousaht, No. 15 Reserve.—Mahktosis, Matilda Creek, Clayoquot Sound, two hundred and fifty acres; population, two hundred and sixty-six—ninety-one men, ninety-three women and eighty-two children.

Heshquiaht, No. 1 Reserve.—Heshque, Heshquiatic Harbour, two hundred and twenty-two acres; population, one hundred and forty-five—forty-six men, fifty-two women and forty-seven children.

Moo-a-chaht, No. 1 Reserve.—Yuquot, Friendly Cove, Nootka Sound, two hundred and ten acres; population, one hundred and eighty-nine—sixty-nine men, eighty women and forty children.

Matchitlaht, No. 15 Reserve.—Cheshish, back of Bligh Island, Nootka Sound, twenty-nine acres; population, fifty-six—twenty-two men, twenty-one women and thirteen children.

Noochahtlaht, No. 1 Reserve.—Nuchatl, Esperanza Inlet, sixteen acres; population, sixty-four—thirty-two men, twenty-six women and six children.

Ehattisaht, No 10 Reserve.—Oke, Esperanza Inlet, thirty-two acres; population, one hundred and two—forty men, thirty-eight women and twenty-four 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 forty-nine—one hundred and fifty-one men, one hundred and thirty-six women and sixty-two children.

Chaicclesaht, No. 1 Reserve.—A-co-us, Battle Bay, Ou-ou-kiush Inlet, one hundred acres; population, one hundred and twenty-five—forty-five men, forty-one 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: nine men, ten women and eleven children.

Wyah, No. 3 Reserve.—One hundred and thirty-two acres; population, twenty-six men, thirty-one women and seventeen children.

Cloo-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-seven—fourteen men, twenty women and thirteen children.

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.

Pacheenaht, No. 1 Reserve.—Pacheena, Port Renfrew, one hundred and fifty-three acres; population, seventy—eighteen men, thirty women and twenty-two children. The Pacheenahts are 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.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Population.—The population of the whole agency is two thousand four hundred and eighty-one: eight hundred and seventy-nine men, nine hundred and thirty-two women and six hundred and seventy children and young people under sixteen years of age; decrease of population for the year, one hundred and fifty-four; birth-rate per thousand, twenty-seven; death-rate, seventy-five.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The death-rate for the past year has been exceptionally heavy; as usual, tuberculous diseases prove the most fatal. An epidemic of measles appeared among the Indians congregated on the Fraser River for work at the salmon canneries, and in spite of medical attendance and precautions taken by the Provincial Government to prevent the spread of the disease, it was brought by returning canoes to the west coast. Dr. Rolston, resident medical officer at Clayoquot, attended to the cases there, and visited the sick at the Ahousaht and Ucluelet villages; disinfectants were supplied by the department; Mr. Spain, constable at Clayoquot, and Mr. Koarno, at Ucluelet, helped Dr. Rolston to isolate cases and disinfect houses, and Mr. Russell, Presbyterian missionary at Ahousaht, used his best endeavours to mitigate and prevent the spread of the disease in that place. I myself paid a visit to the Pacheena-Nitinaht village. Owing to these measures being taken, the epidemic did not spread to all the villages, but some cases proved fatal in the infected houses, some patients being taken sick while journeying home by canoe from the Fraser. There is a slow but gradual improvement in the cleanliness of the Indian houses and way of living, especially in those tribes where missionaries are at work.

Resources and Occupation.—There was an increase this year in income derived by the west coast tribes from the sealing industry of \$7,000, although the Indian catch by canoe from shore was only some five hundred skins, the weather being bad and the seals scarce. Sixteen sea otters were taken, nine by the Nootkas, two by the

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Noochatlahts, three by the Ehattisahts; one by the Heshquiahts and one by the Kyukahts. The bow and arrow are preferred by the Indians for hunting these furs, several canoes hunting in company, with marked arrows, the skin belonging to the owner of the first arrow striking the otter; if it is pierced with several arrows, each has a share, according to priority. Shot-guns are used, but Indians generally are opposed to the use of fire arms for sea otter hunting, as they contend that it drives them away. Most of these skins were procured off Bajo Point, on the coast of Nootka Island. Those Indians who went to Fraser River earned very little money, owing to the partial failure of the run of salmon, some of them not earning enough to pay expenses of the journey, and had to ask aid from the department to reach their homes. The small cannery at Clayoquot gives employment for the season to a few men and those women who stay at home. The men who do not seal make a living by fishing, preparing dry halibut for sale and making dog-fish oil. The Nitinahts take halibut and other fresh fish to the Victoria market. The women raise potatoes, in small garden patches particularly at Kyuquot and Nuchatlitz Sounds, where they grow enough for their consumption, spending their spare time in making mats of cedar bark, baskets for dry fish and other purposes, and ornamental mats and baskets of various shapes of coloured glass, which find a ready sale.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Four new frame houses have been built at Ucluelet and another is in course of construction. Others have been painted and finished. Four new cottages have been built at Alberni and five at Kyuquot, seventeen new houses erected altogether, and others lined and finished. At the Opitchesaht village, Alberni, Clutusse, who has built a neat cottage for himself and wife, has put up a picket fence, and the line is laid out to extend this fence along the front of the houses parallel with the road, which will add much to the neatness of the village.

There are fifty-five head of cattle in the agency, and sixteen horses, ten of which belong to the Alberni Indians, who alone have good roads; they also have six buggies and road-carts. These Indians have no work oxen or plough horses, and the only farming implements in use are a few scythes and gardening tools.

Education.—There are five schools in this agency receiving the authorized Government grant to day schools: St. Mark's Roman Catholic, Kyoquot, teacher the Rev. E. Sobry; Clayoquot Roman Catholic school at Opitsat village, the Rev. J. A. Van Nevel teacher; Ucluelet Presbyterian school, Miss Armstrong teacher; the Alberni Girls' Home day school, Mrs. Cameron teacher; and the Nitinaht school at Clo-oose village, Methodist, the Rev. W. Stone teacher; the Presbyterian mission also has schools at Ahousaht and Oiaht, taught by Mr. J. Russell and Mr. McKee, which are both well attended. The progress made by children attending these schools at all regularly is very satisfactory. The principal difficulty to contend with is the necessarily moveable habits of these tribes, who move to the various fishing stations and journey from home in search of work, and generally take their children with them. The Rev. E. Sobry, at Kyuquot, has moved from Mission Island and built a new residence and school-house at Acteese, the main village, where he hopes to get a better school attendance. In Clayoquot Sound a handsome building, forty feet square, with two upper floors, is being built by the Roman Catholic mission for a boarding and industrial school to accommodate forty pupils from the three Catholic missions on the west coast; the site is at Cahkowiss, situated between the Claoquaht Opitsat village and Cloolhpich Kelsemaht village; the building is erected on high ground, with long sandy beach at foot, with stream of good water close by, and is about one mile and a quarter by trail from Opitsat, the principal village of the Clayoquot tribe. At the Alberni Girls' Home, six of the elder boys boarding at the home were allowed to go sealing, and six of the older girl pupils were also provisionally discharged at the holidays. This occurred after I left headquarters to visit the coast tribes. Harry Thomas, a former pupil, who had charge of the outside work at the mission, also left and accompanied his father to the Fraser River fisheries. Miss Johnston, the matron, who acted as principal, has also resigned her position, and Mr. Motion, who has had some years' experience at the Regina Sschool, is installed as principal, his wife taking the post of

matron; and I trust that the change in management will add much to the efficiency of the institution, the present aim being to make it more of an industrial school and have the boys thoroughly instructed in carpentry or other trades. Mr. Russell's school at Ahousaht is the best attended day school in the agency. He is now taking the younger children in the morning, and the elder pupils in the afternoon, and reports the boys as learning rapidly. At Ucluelet the children attend regularly, when not away from the reserve. Some of the pupils read very nicely. Miss Armstrong is doing good work, and has introduced 'kindergarten' methods for the younger children, who accompany their elder brothers and sisters to school.

Religion.—At St. Mark's Roman Catholic mission, Kyuquot, a new and commodious church has been built, 25 x 40 feet, lined throughout. It is situated on rising ground at the back of Actese village, which it overlooks. The Kyukahts are virtually Roman Catholics, having had a resident priest for the last twenty years; but the majority of them seem to take little interest in religion. The Heshquiahts are regular attendants at church, under the ministrations of the Rev. Father Brabant, and are all Roman Catholics, and seem to be sincere in their religious belief. Father Brabant has also a church at Nootka, and spends a few months in each year with this tribe. At Clayoquot, regular services are held at the Roman Catholic church at Opitsat village, which are well attended by the Indians. The Roman Catholic church and residence built for the Oiaht tribe at Dodger's Cove is abandoned, there having been no resident priest in Barclay Sound for several years. The Methodist Church is building a residence at Clayoquot on Messrs. Stockham and Dawley's land, on an island close to the Opitsat village, and has an Indian house rented on the reserve for holding services. That denomination proposes to station a medical missionary at that place. The Rev. W. Stone is still at work at Nitinat, and holds regular services in the Government school-house at Clo-oose, and has paid several visits to Clayoquot during the past year. The Presbyterian mission carries on work at Ahousaht, Ucluelet and Oiaht, under the superintendence of the Rev. Mr. Swartout, weekly services and Sunday school for the Indians being held in the school-houses in each place. Mr. Swartout visits the various villages in Barclay Sound, and is becoming proficient in the native language. The statistics as to the religious belief of these tribes can only be approximate, as it is a very difficult matter to arrive at correctly. The Roman Catholic clergy have worked among the west coast Indians for the last twenty-five years. In the earlier times their missionaries suffered many hardships, the only means of transport being by canoe or an occasional trading schooner. The Indians were rough and uncivilized and not such travellers from home; the outcome of this work is that, at the present time, all the adults up to twenty-five years of age and most of the children have been baptized by the priests, and, if they profess no other religious belief, are claimed as Roman Catholics, on the ground that all the Indians on this coast have received more or less instruction in the tenets of the Roman Catholic faith. Of late years, with increased facilities for reaching the west coast, and Indians by travelling becoming better known, other denominations have taken up the work, in some cases partially abandoned by the Roman Catholic missionaries, and those who attend their services and schools are counted as adherents of the church represented.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are, as a rule, industrious and law-abiding; no serious crime has been committed on this coast during the past year. A good deal of their time is spent in their canoes, hunting and fishing, and they are generally a happy and contented people. Some trouble is still caused among them by the belief, fostered by the Indian doctors, that some among them have the power, by witchcraft or conveying poison in food, of causing sickness and subsequent death, but this belief is not quite so general as when I first came to the agency; but the Heshquiaht village is the only place where Indian doctoring is a thing of the past. I do not consider that the tribes are becoming either richer or poorer: very few accumulate money, and the practice of showing their grief by destroying the goods and clothes of deceased relatives, and on the death of a near relation or child of destroying or putting on the grave everything belonging to the dead or that would remind them of their loss, tends

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

to prevent the accumulation of property; at the same time there is a gradual improvement among the young men in their way of living and comfort of their houses.

Temperance and Morality.—There has been little drunkenness on the coast or traffic in intoxicants. I may report a marked improvement at Alberni and Ahousaht, and I have met with few cases of immorality.

I have, &c.,

HARRY GUILLOD,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
WILLIAMS LAKE AGENCY,
CLINTON, August 2, 1899.

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, 1899.

Location of Agency.—This agency is situated north and partly west of the Kamloops-Okanagon Agency, south of the Babine Agency, having the Rocky Mountains as a portion of its eastern boundary and the Fraser Agency for its western boundary.

Area.—This agency contains an aggregate of seventy-seven thousand two hundred and thirteen acres.

Tribe.—These Indians belong chiefly to the Salish and Tinneh peoples. A majority of the young men and women speak the English language fairly well.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one thousand nine hundred and twenty-eight, composed of six hundred and ninety-five men, seven hundred and one women and five hundred and thirty-two children.

ALEXANDRIA BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on a plateau a short distance above the level of the Fraser River and about four hundred miles from its mouth, and contains an area of eighteen hundred and forty-eight acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of fifty-five. During the year there were three deaths and four births.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature appearing amongst them during the year. The village and dwellings are kept clean.

Resources and Occupation.—The chief occupation of these Indians is farming. They are also good fur-hunters and quite a number find employment as farm hands with white settlers. The women dress deer skins and convert them into moccasins, gloves and other articles, which are sold or used on the reserve.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have a number of dwellings and stables comfortably made of hewn timber and mostly shingled. They have good horses and a few head of cattle and a fair supply of farming implements.

Education.—Only a few children from this reserve have received the benefits of education; these have attended the Williams Lake Industrial School.

Religion.—These Indians are Roman Catholics. They have a very nice church on the reserve and take a great interest in religious matters. A missionary of the Roman Catholic Church makes regular visits amongst them.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding. They make a comfortable living, pay more attention to home comforts than formerly, but live fully up to their means.

Temperance and Morality.—These people are moral, but I am sorry to say a few occasionally get drunk.

ALKALI LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on a level bench a few miles east of the Fraser River and about three hundred and twenty miles from its mouth, and contains six thousand five hundred and sixty-seven acres. A large portion of this reserve is fit for farming, but unfortunately water for irrigation is impossible to get and the land is now used for pasturage only.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of one hundred and sixty-one. During the year there were three births and five deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—These Indians were visited by a mild epidemic of measles. Only one death resulted from this cause. The patients were attended to by Dr. Herald, who did not think it necessary to have them isolated. Premises and dwellings are kept clean and vaccination attended to yearly.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians are good farmers, raise fair crops for the amount of land they cultivate, have extensive hay meadows from which they cut quite a quantity of hay for feeding their cattle during winter months. Quite a number of men are employed as farm hands with white settlers and the women are expert at making gloves, moccasins and other articles from the tanned deer skins.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have thirty-seven dwellings, twelve stables and mostly of a very substantial nature of hewn timber and shingled; have good horses, quite a number of cattle, and are well supplied with farming implements, wagons and sleighs.

Education.—A few of the children from this reserve attend the Williams Lake Industrial School.

Religion.—These Indians are devout Roman Catholics, have a fine church on the reserve finished in modern style. A Roman Catholic missionary occasionally holds service there.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are good workers, law-abiding, and are becoming much better off and trying to follow the white settlers' example.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are a moral and temperate people. The chief and assistants are always on the alert to check any intemperance or immorality.

AULHAM BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated in a beautiful valley in close proximity to the Chilcoten River and about sixty miles from its mouth. It has an area of nine thousand five hundred and seventy acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of two hundred and seven. During the year there were eight deaths and eleven births.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the Indians was good, no epidemic diseases visited them, and the deaths that occurred were from old age and

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

lung troubles. Their premises have been kept clean. Vaccination has been attended to and refuse matter destroyed.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians do considerable farming and stock-raising. They have the best reserve in the agency, with splendid hay meadows. Quite a number of the young men find employment as farm hands or as drovers for stock-raisers; while some are freighters, using their own teams and wagons.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have fairly good dwellings and horse-stables built of logs.

They have plenty of good horses and quite a number of cattle.

They are well supplied with farming implements and wagons and sleighs.

Education.—None of the children from this reserve have received any education, as there are no schools in the neighbourhood.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. They have a small church on the reserve where regular services are held.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are very industrious and law-abiding and are becoming much better off.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians as a rule are a moral and temperate people. On rare occasions there are cases of drunkenness.

ANDERSON LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated at the upper end of Anderson Lake, being the most southern portion of this agency. It has an area of four hundred and eighty-four acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of sixty-six. During the year there was one death and no birth.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians was good, no disease of a serious nature visited them. The only death was from old age. Premises are kept clean and in a sanitary condition. Most of the Indians have been vaccinated by me from time to time.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians do a little farming, have very good gardens and quite a number of fruit trees. Some of the men are employed as farm labourers, while quite a number, during the fishing season, go to the coast and act as fishermen; others engage in gold mining.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have good dwellings, good horse stables, are well supplied with horses, have a few head of cattle, and farming implements for all their needs.

Education.—None of the children from this reserve have received any education.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics, have a small church, where service is regular, and take much interest in religious matters.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are good workers and law-abiding, earn a comfortable living and seem contented and happy, although I cannot say they are getting much better off.

Temperance and Morality.—On the whole these Indians are a moral and temperate people; isolated as they are, there are few opportunities for them to obtain intoxicants even if they were inclined to intemperance.

BRIDGE RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve laid out for these Indians is along the left banks of the Fraser and Bridge Rivers. The lands fit for cultivation are in small patches, but the

Indians manage to raise a considerable quantity of grain and roots. There are six thousand five hundred and ninety acres reserved for this band.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of one hundred and two. During the year there were five births and three deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—There has been very little sickness of any kind amongst these Indians, no epidemic of any kind visited them. The reserve was kept clean, houses made comfortable, and vaccination attended to.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians are very industrious and cultivate and raise fairly good crops. Some work on farms for white settlers; others act as guides to tourists and hunters and some go as far as Cariboo teaming, using their own horses and wagons. During low water they take out quite a quantity of gold dust from the bars of the gold-bearing streams on and near the reserve. The women make gloves, moccasins and other articles from the tanned deer skins, and earn some money picking berries and selling them to the residents of the town of Lillooet.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians have good dwellings and horse-stables. They have good horses and a few head of cattle, and are well supplied with farming implements.

Education.—None of the children from this reserve have ever been to school. The Indians would like to have their children educated, but there are no schools where they can send them.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. They have a very comfortable place of worship, where religious services are occasionally held.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are good workers, honest and law-abiding, and are getting very comfortable with their surroundings.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate and moral people.

CANOE CREEK BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on a small stream called Canoe Creek, which empties into the Fraser River, about three hundred miles from its mouth. These Indians have good land, fit for cultivation, but unfortunately water for irrigation is scarce. They have ten thousand five hundred and eighty-nine acres reserved for them.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of one hundred and fifty-eight. During the year there were four deaths and four births.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of these Indians is good. No sickness of a serious nature visited them. The villages are kept clean and in a sanitary condition. The Indians are vaccinated from time to time.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming, trapping, working as farm hands for white settlers, and as cowboys for stock-raisers.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—These Indians have pretty fair dwellings, mostly of logs, good horse-stables, a great number of horses and a few head of cattle. They have all the farming implements they require, as well as wagons and sleighs.

Education.—A number of children from this reserve are being educated at the Williams Lake Industrial School.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. They are now building a church, and the carpenter employed to build it was sent one hundred miles to look at a church at another reserve, with instructions, when he returned, to make theirs much better. They take great interest in religion.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are good workers, law-abiding and honest, but not increasing in wealth.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

CAYOOSH CREEK, No. 1 BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated at the mouth of Cayoosh Creek, where it joins the Fraser River about two hundred and twenty miles from its mouth. It contains three hundred and ninety acres.

Natural Features.—Bench lands following the rivers and grazing lands along the mountain sides.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is thirty-three. There were no deaths and one birth during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no infectious diseases appeared amongst them, and sanitary precautions are taken.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming, gold-mining, working as labourers, hunting and fishing.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—Their buildings are comfortable, mostly of hewn logs and roofed with shingles. The Indians have a few horses; wagons and sleighs and farming implements sufficient for their wants.

Education.—None of the children from this reserve have received any education.

Religion.—These Indians have a small church on the reserve. They are all Roman Catholics.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are good workers, industrious and law-abiding. They are making progress in improving their houses.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate and moral people.

CAYOOSH CREEK, No. 2 BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated about four miles from the other, down the Fraser River, and contains six hundred acres.

Natural Features.—Open bench lands requiring irrigation; on the mountain slopes, good grazing lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is eighteen. There were no deaths nor births during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, and sanitary regulations have been well observed.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming, fishing, hunting and gold-mining are the principal occupations of these few Indians. The women make gloves and moccasins, and earn some money gathering berries.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—These Indians have fairly comfortable buildings made of logs. They have a few horses; wagons, sleighs and a fair supply of farming implements.

Education.—No children from this reserve have ever attended school.

Religion.—All these Indians belong to the Anglican Church. They have no church on the reserve, but attend worship at Lillooet, a distance of six miles.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious, well-behaved, and make a comfortable living.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate and moral people.

CLINTON BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated in the Clinton Valley, and contains ten hundred and seventy-three acres.

Natural Features.—This reserve consists of a few small flats and meadow lands along the banks of the stream, and timbered mountain sides afford good grazing in summer.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Vital Statistics.—The population is forty-two. During the year there have been five births and two deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—No epidemic disease visited this reserve, the deaths occurring from ordinary causes.

Resources and Occupation.—These Indians raise a good deal of grain, hay and roots; work as labourers at various occupations, are good hunters, and during the winter months sell large quantities of wood in Clinton. The women earn a good deal of money gathering berries and working as domestics in white families.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have very fair buildings, good houses, wagons, sleighs, and a good supply of farm implements.

Education.—A few years ago the children of this reserve attended the public school, but they do not do so any more, as the reserve Indians have removed to a portion of the reserve ten miles from the school.

Religion.—These Indians have a neat little church, and are all Roman Catholics.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are good workers, honest and industrious, and earn a good living.

Temperance and Morality.—They are, on the whole, a temperate and moral people.

DOG CREEK BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on a stream of that name, and contains thirteen hundred and seventy-one acres.

Natural Features.—Open bench lands requiring irrigation; good grazing lands on the hills.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of thirteen. During the year there was one birth and no deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no infectious disease has appeared among them, and sanitary regulations were well observed.

Resources and Occupation.—They farm a good deal, work as labourers on farms, act as cowboys for stock-raisers. They are good hunters.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have fair dwellings and stables, a few good horses and cattle and sufficient farming implements for all their wants.

Education.—A few children from this band attend the Williams Lake Industrial School.

Religion.—These people are all Roman Catholics. They have no church on the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are good workers, law-abiding and honest. They make fair progress in cultivating their lands and in keeping their dwellings in order.

Temperance and Morality.—These people are temperate and moral.

FOUNTAIN BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on terraces on the east bank of the Fraser River and about two hundred and fifty miles from its mouth. It contains an area of one thousand seven hundred acres.

Natural Features.—Open bench lands requiring irrigation; good grazing lands on the hills and mountain sides.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of one hundred and ninety-six. During the year there were ten births and seven deaths.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no infectious disease appeared among them, and sanitary regulations are well observed. Vaccination was attended to.

Resources and Occupation.—The chief occupation is farming, while some are engaged as labourers at various industries, also in gold-mining and teaming.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—These Indians have very good dwellings of hewn timber and in most cases covered with shingles, good horse-stables, good horses and a few cattle, wagons, sleighs, and are well supplied with farming implements.

Education.—None of the children belonging to this reserve have received the benefits of education.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. They have a very nice church on the reserve, and a well trained brass band.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are very intelligent, good workers, law-abiding and industrious, making good progress in cultivating their lands and making their dwellings comfortable. During the year they erected two dwellings and one stable.

Temperance and Morality.—As a whole they are temperate and moral, but are occasionally led astray by unscrupulous white men and half-breeds.

HIGH BAR BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the east bank of the Fraser River, about three hundred miles from its mouth, and contains two thousand nine hundred and twenty-four acres.

Natural Features.—Open bench lands requiring irrigation; the supply of water for this purpose is very limited. Good grazing lands and fairly good timber on side hills.

Vital Statistics.—The population is fifty-one. During the year there were four births and three deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good; no contagious disease has appeared among them. Sanitary conditions about their houses are good.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming on a small scale; they hunt and fish, derive some revenue from gold-mining and as labourers, such as farm hands and cowboys.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—These Indians have fairly good buildings, good horses, a few head of cattle and have sufficient farming implements for their needs.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics and have occasional visits from priests of that faith.

Education.—None of the children from this reserve have ever been to school.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding. Owing to the scarcity of water for irrigating their lands, they are unable to make much headway.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

KENIM LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated in the Bridge Creek Valley, twenty miles to the east of the Cariboo wagon road, and contains four thousand five hundred and six acres.

Natural Features.—A portion contains bench and grazing lands, some meadow lands along the creek bottom, the rest heavily timbered.

Vital Statistics.—The population is eighty-five. During the year there were two deaths and two births.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no infectious diseases appearing among them.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—These Indians have good buildings, good horses, quite a number of cattle and are well supplied with farming implements, machinery, &c.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics and have the finest church in the agency and take a great interest in religion.

Education.—Quite a number of children from this reserve have attended the Williams Lake Industrial School.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are very industrious, hard workers and law-abiding, and have made good progress on their reserve and buildings.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate and moral people.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming, stock-raising, trapping, fishing, hunting, while quite a number are engaged as labourers in various occupations.

LILLOOET, No. 1 BAND.

Reserve.—A portion of this reserve is situated on the west side of the Fraser River, near the town of Lillooet, and the remainder about six miles below on the east side of the Fraser River. The reserve contains nine hundred and forty acres.

Natural Features.—This reserve is situated on bench lands, but unfortunately there is no water for irrigation, except a very small quantity. There is sufficient timber for all requirements.

Vital Statistics.—The population is eighty-one. There were four deaths and four births during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good; no epidemic disease has appeared amongst them. Sanitary conditions are looked after around the village and house, all refuse matter is burnt and vaccination is attended to.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming, gold-mining, hunting, fishing, working as labourers at various occupations, while some are freighters, owning their own teams and wagons, and quite a number make money by supplying the town of Lillooet with fire-wood.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—These Indians have some very good buildings. In stock they have very good horses and a few head of cattle. They are well supplied with farm implements, wagons, sleighs, harness and saddles.

Education.—A few of the children belonging to this reserve attend the public school at Lillooet.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics, have a neat little church on the reserve, and are very strict in observing the rites of their church. Their priest visits them frequently.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious, law-abiding, and the majority of them make a good living.

Temperance and Morality.—They are, on the whole, a temperate and moral people, but, owing to their reserve being situated near the town of Lillooet, worthless white men and half-breeds supply them with intoxicants occasionally.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

LILLOOET, No. 2 BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the west bank of the Fraser River and about twelve miles from the town of Lillooet, and contains six hundred and forty acres.

Natural Features.—Open benches, suitable for cultivation.

Vital Statistics.—The population is four. During the year there was one death and no birth.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good. Houses are kept clean.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming, gold-mining, fishing and hunting.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The houses are fairly good. There are a few good horses and cattle and a fair supply of farm implements—sufficient for the wants of the Indians.

Education.—The children of this reserve have never attended any school.

Religion.—These Indians belong to the Anglican Church.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious, temperate and law-abiding.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are temperate and moral.

PAVILION BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band are situated both on the east and west sides of the Fraser River, about twenty miles above the town of Lillooet, and contain a combined area of four thousand four hundred and fifty acres.

Natural Features.—These reserves are mostly on bench lands, requiring irrigation.

Vital Statistics.—The population is sixty-eight. During the year there were four births and no death.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good. Sanitary conditions are well regarded, and vaccination is attended to by me.

Resources and Occupation.—Mixed farming, working as farm hands for white settlers, hunting, fishing, gold-mining, and occasionally some of the young men act as cowboys.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have a poor class of buildings, as a rule. They have some good horses, a few head of cattle, wagons, sleighs and a fair supply of farming implements.

Education.—None of the children from this reserve have ever received any education.

Religion.—They all belong to the Roman Catholic Church. They have a small church on the reserve, and are occasionally visited by the priest, and evince much interest in religious matters.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are very industrious and law-abiding, making efforts to improve their dwellings and reserves.

Temperance and Morality.—These people are, as a rule, temperate and moral.

QUESNELLE BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the east bank of the Fraser River and about four hundred miles from its mouth. It contains sixteen hundred and sixty-eight acres.

Natural Features.—This reserve consists of flats along the Fraser River, covered with brush, and on higher benches covered with heavy timber.

Vital Statistics.—The population is seventy. During the year there were seven births and five deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good. No epidemic disease has visited them, the deaths occurring having been from ordinary causes.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming on a very small scale, working as boatmen, working on gold-dredges, hunting, trapping, fishing, and some are employed as farm hands for white settlers.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The buildings are mostly of a poor class. The Indians have quite a number of horses, sleighs, and a fair supply of farming implements.

Education.—None of the children from this reserve have ever attended school.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics, and manifest much interest in religion. A priest pays them regular visits.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding, but care very little about cultivating their lands. They depend mostly on hunting and fishing, and are not making much progress.

Temperance and Morality.—As a rule, they are temperate and moral.

SETON LAKE OR MISSION, No. 1 BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the west side of Seton Lake, and contains ten hundred and eighty-five acres.

Natural Features.—Open bench lands, requiring irrigation; timbered mountain slopes, and very poor grazing lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is sixty-seven. During the year there was one death and one birth.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good; no infectious diseases visited them. Sanitary precautions have been fairly observed; village and houses kept clean, and vaccination attended to.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming and gardening on a small scale, freighting in boats and canoes, packing to the Bridge River mines, gold-mining, hunting, fishing, and some are employed as labourers at various occupations.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The buildings are fairly good, mostly of hewn timber and covered with shingles. The Indians have quite a number of horses, a few cattle, and farming implements sufficient for their requirements.

Education.—The children from this reserve have never attended school.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics, and have a small church on the reserve. A priest makes regular visits among them.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding. They cannot cultivate much land, on account of the scarcity of water for irrigation.

Temperance and Morality.—On the whole, they are a temperate and moral people.

SETON LAKE OR ENIAS, No. 2 BAND.

This reserve is situated on the west side of Seton Lake, about six miles from its outlet.

It is composed of bench lands, requiring irrigation, timbered mountain slopes, and no grazing lands.

Only two Indians reside on this reserve.

SETON LAKE OR SLOSH BAND, No. 5.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated at the head of Seton Lake, and contains ten hundred and eighty acres.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Natural Features.—Bench and bottom lands, all requiring irrigation, and surrounded by high mountains heavily timbered.

Vital Statistics.—The population is thirty-four. During the year there were two births and one death.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good. No contagious disease has appeared among them. The sanitary conditions around their houses are good.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming on a small scale, hunting, fishing, trapping, freighting on boats and canoes, and packing with horses to the Bridge River mines.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—These Indians have a fair class of buildings, good horses, and a few head of cattle ; wagons, sleighs, harness, saddles and a good supply of farming implements.

Education.—No children from this reserve have had any education.

Religion.—All of these Indians are Roman Catholics. They have a small church on the reserve where services are regularly held.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and hard-working Indians. Most of their land has to be cleared. They have made good progress in improving their dwellings.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate and moral people.

SETON LAKE OR NECAIT BAND, No. 6.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated at the foot of Anderson Lake, and contains eighty-four acres.

Natural Features.—Bench and bottom lands, surrounded by high mountains, heavily timbered.

Vital Statistics.—The population is forty-nine. During the year there was one birth and no deaths.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious nature appearing among them.

Resources and Occupation.—Gardening, freighting in boats and canoes across Seton and Anderson Lakes, hunting, fishing, trapping, and work as labourers with white settlers.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have very good buildings. A few good horses and sleighs, and a fair supply of farming implements.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are law-abiding, but make little improvement in the way of cultivating and clearing their lands ; they pay more attention to fishing, hunting and trapping.

Education.—None of the children from this reserve have ever attended school.

Religion.—They all belong to the Roman Catholic Church. A priest visits them frequently, when services are held at a small church on the reserve.

SODA CREEK BAND.

Reserve.—A portion of this reserve is situated on a bench on the east side of the Fraser River, and the remainder on the Cariboo wagon road, about fourteen miles south of the former. The reserve contains three thousand and five acres.

Natural Features.—The portion along the Fraser River is on bench lands, while that along the Cariboo wagon road is meadow land ; good grazing lands at both places.

Vital Statistics.—The population is seventy-six. During the year there were five deaths and four births.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of these Indians has been good. In the spring they were visited by an epidemic of measles of a slight form. They were attended by Dr. Herald, who did not think isolation necessary, as all white children in the vicinity had the disease. The sanitary conditions about their village and houses are good.

Resources and Occupation.—Principally farming and teaming, while quite a revenue is obtained from trapping, hunting, fishing and acting as cowboys for stock-raisers.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have very comfortable dwellings and horse-stables, good horses and cattle, wagons, sleighs, reapers, mowers, a threshing-machine, and a good supply of farming implements.

Education.—A few of the children from this reserve attend the Williams Lake Industrial School.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics, and have a neat church on the reserve. One of the priests visits them occasionally.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are very industrious and law-abiding, and are improving their reserve.

Temperance and Morality.—These people are a temperate and moral people.

STONE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated in the Chilcoten Valley, and on the west bank of the stream of that name, and contains four thousand eight hundred and ninety acres.

Natural Features.—The reserve consists of bench lands requiring irrigation, good grazing lands, and on the slopes of the mountains fair timber.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and one. During the year there were three deaths and two births.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good; no sickness of a serious nature appeared among them, and sanitary precautions are well observed.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming, hunting, fishing and trapping, while quite a number are engaged as cowboys.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—These Indians have fairly good houses, horses, sleighs, harness, saddles, and a good supply of farming implements.

Education.—None of the children from this reserve have ever received any education.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious, but much prefer hunting and trapping to cultivating their lands; consequently, they show little progress about the reserve.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

TOOSEY BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on Riskie Creek, a small stream that flows into the Chilcoten River. The reserve has an area of six thousand three hundred and thirty-four acres.

Natural Features.—Open prairie or bench lands, requiring irrigation, and surrounded by good grazing lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is fifty-one. During the year there were four deaths and two births.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of these Indians has been good. No sickness of a serious nature appeared among them. Sanitary precautions are well observed.

Resources and Occupation.—Farming, hunting, fishing, trapping; and quite a number are employed as cowboys, and are also engaged as farm hands with white settlers.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—These Indians have fairly good buildings. They have horses, cattle, wagons, sleighs, harness, saddles, and a good supply of farming implements.

Education.—No children from this reserve have ever attended school.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics, and are constantly being visited by the priests.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are very industrious and law-abiding. For the last year or more they have been constructing dams and making ditches to carry water to their reserve for irrigating purposes, and when these shall have been completed, they will be a great benefit.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are, on the whole, a temperate and moral people.

WILLIAMS LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated in the Williams Lake Valley, and along the Cariboo wagon road, about five miles from the village, and contains four thousand six hundred and five acres.

Natural Features.—Bottom lands and excellent hay meadows, and surrounded by good grazing lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is one hundred and thirty-eight. During the year there were seven deaths and no births.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—These Indians were visited by an epidemic of measles during the spring, and a couple of children died from its effects. Otherwise, their general health has been good. Sanitary precautions are well observed around their village and dwellings.

Resources and Occupation.—Principally farming, teaming their produce to the mines, working as farm hands with white settlers, hunting, fishing and trapping.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—These Indians have good buildings. They have horses, cattle, wagons, sleighs, harness, saddles, and a good supply of farming implements of all kinds.

Education.—Quite a number from this reserve attend the Williams Lake Industrial School.

Religion.—These Indians all belong to the Roman Catholic Church. They have a very fine building on the reserve where divine service is regularly held.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious, law-abiding, good people, and are improving their buildings and reserve.

Temperance and Morality.—As a rule, these Indians are temperate and moral, but occasionally there are cases of drunkenness.

General Remarks.—In addition to the other resources of the Indians of this agency, the women of the various bands contribute very much, by the manufacture of gloves, mitts, moccasins and other articles of wearing apparel from the tanned deer-skins which they sell or use, gathering wild berries, which grow in abundance, and are either sold or dried for winter use, and also by working as domestic servants.

I have, &c.,

E. BELL,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
INDIAN SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE,
VICTORIA, November 3, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour herein to submit my annual report upon Indian affairs in the province of British Columbia for the year ended June 30, 1899.

The respective reports of the Indian agents in my superintendency, together with their statistical statements, were forwarded to the department immediately upon their receipt at this office.

Population.—I regret having to report a decrease of over two hundred under this head, resulting from an epidemic of measles and typhoid and from the ravages of pulmonary and scrofulous disorders.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—In July and August, 1898, measles and typhoid appeared among the Indians engaged at the canneries on the Fraser River. When discovered, all that could be done to check the spread of these diseases, and for the care of the suffering, was accomplished by prompt medical attendance, assisted in the most energetic and kindly manner by the missionaries and the Indian agent. Through these efforts, aided much by the Indians, who each year gain a better knowledge of the efficacy of isolation and special treatment in such cases, the epidemic was stayed, and the mortality, which at one time threatened to be excessive, was kept in check. Pulmonary complaints and scrofulous disorders also carried away many of the old and delicate during the winter months. Great care is being bestowed upon the instruction of the natives regarding sanitary measures, and it is pleasing to know that they are sensibly realizing the importance of such advancement in the direction of continued health and increased comfort, &c.

The hospitals assisted by the department have done much good in relieving many who otherwise might have perished for want of the care and curative attention so humanely contributed by these establishments.

A limited supply of food, and in some urgent cases clothing, has been from time to time furnished to the indigent sick and aged who were in want and without friends amongst their own people to assist them.

Buildings, Stock and Farming Implements.—A steady advance is made each year in the style of houses built and occupied by the Indians. I know of no instance where at the present time underground habitations are occupied by the natives, and, as a general thing, the old-time rancherie buildings are now converted into lumber-sheds, where canoes and boats, &c., are sheltered. These structures were of immense proportions, erected with huge posts and beams, the sides, ends and roof being of equally large slabs of split cedar, roughly hewn; each of these primitive dwelling-houses was occupied by many families, who partitioned off their respective compartments with matting of native manufacture; they had separate fires for cooking and warmth, but were much exposed to cold and dampness. As might be expected, in the spring these place became most offensive from the decaying remnants of fish and flesh, &c., that had been thrown indiscriminately about during occupation, creating, as an inevitable result, a periodical menace to the health of the community so situated.

Substantial barns and stables may now be seen on many of the reserves for the housing of cattle and horses and for the protection of hay and grain, &c. Where pasture land and hay meadows are available, cattle and horses, and, to a limited extent, sheep

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

and hogs, are owned by the Indians, who, owing to the pressure brought to bear upon them by the Indian agents and others who have their prosperity at heart, are gradually increasing their cattle and striving to diminish the number of their horses, which have on some of the reserves increased in the course of years almost beyond their knowledge; there is also in some of the agencies a successful effort being made to improve the breed of horses, an undertaking which will, no doubt, be persevered in, as the Indians find that for the latter they can realize a good price, while the native pony is comparatively worthless.

Those bands whose reserves contain agricultural land make good use of it, as a general thing. They are fairly well provided with necessary tools and implements, which they purchase for themselves, it being only in isolated cases that the department is called upon to provide some slight assistance in that direction for the few who are too poor to do so of themselves and yet are willing to work in improving their land, &c.

Education.—The industrial and boarding schools, of which full particulars have been forwarded, as embodied in the different principals' reports, continue to be well looked after by those in charge. More pupils can now be obtained than there is accommodation for, which is satisfactory, when it is considered that at the commencement it was very difficult to persuade the Indian parents to allow their children to become inmates of these institutions.

Religion.—Under this head it may be said that an encouraging advance is observable. There is much zeal exhibited by the Christian Indians in their devotion to the religious services practised by the different denominations to which they have become converts. Many pagan Indians from time to time join one or other of the Christian churches; and, although some still firmly adhere to the superstitious belief and observances of their forefathers, yet it is hopefully considered as only a matter of time when all will be gathered into the Christian fold.

Several new churches and chapels have been built at considerable expense by the Indians, some of them being handsome and substantial buildings, very tastefully decorated and a credit to any community.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians of British Columbia, being self-supporting, are fortunately energetic and industrious as a people. In addition to the labour they bestow upon their reserves and home industries, they find remunerative employment amongst the white settlers as farm labourers and stockmen. They also work at saw-mills, on steamboats, on sealing schooners and at fishing canneries; they are good loggers and choppers; work at the mines as miners, packers and boatmen. Throughout the province, many natives engage in freighting, using pack-trains and freight-wagons—their own property—in which business they prove trustworthy and give every satisfaction, delivering the merchandise, &c., entrusted to their care in good order and with commendable punctuality, according to agreement. Numbers are from time to time engaged as sectionmen and labourers upon the Canadian Pacific Railway and upon Government wagon roads, besides following other avocations, useful and profitable, more fully enumerated in the Indian agents' reports.

Temperance and Morality.—To a great extent the Indians of British Columbia have sufficient self-control to enable them to sustain temperate habits even when exposed to temptation. Others, unfortunately, who have contracted a desire for the exhilarating effects produced by an indulgence in intoxicants give way all too readily when it is possible for them to satisfy their cravings.

This baneful habit, however, is not increasing amongst the natives, as in many places a change for the better is observable. In cities, towns and centres of civilization the evil referred to is more apparent, chiefly owing to the cupidity of the degraded white man, who for the paltry gain of twenty-five cents, will lose no opportunity of setting the law at defiance in this respect and doing a great injury to the ignorant Indian, who is incapable in many instances of distinguishing right from wrong when exposed to such temptation.

There is, I am happy to be able to report, a steady improvement in the morality prevailing amongst the aborigines.

This pleasing feature in the advance of the Indian is due mostly to the untiring efforts of the missionaries in that direction and to the effects of enlightenment, the result of education aided by a close observation of the manners and customs of respectable white people.

General Remarks.—The directions of the department regarding the surveillance of the Indians by the Indian agents is constantly kept in view, the latter being steadily urged to visit their charges as frequently as possible and to impart on such occasions that counsel and advice which their circumstances require. As is to be expected, the spread of the white settlements produces occasional friction between the settlers and the Indians. Where it is possible, these differences are promptly attended to by the agents in the interest of all concerned. The troubles arising from the excessive use of intoxicants are becoming less frequent throughout the superintendency, although owing to the increased demand for sensational reports such happenings come more prominently before the notice of the public than was the case in former years.

Medicines have as usual been supplied to missionaries and others for distribution as occasion called for amongst the indigent sick. The prevalence of measles and other serious complaints increased considerably the expenditure on account of medicine and medical attendance, &c.

Seed and Implements.—The Indians requiring relief under this head are, owing to improved conditions, &c., decreasing; there will, however, always be some deserving applicants for such assistance.

The aid afforded by the construction of dykes and irrigation ditches for some of the reserves by the department, has proved very satisfactory. To a considerable extent the bands thus aided are now in a position to obtain fair crops from land that hitherto was quite unfit for cultivation and consequently unproductive. Such consideration towards the natives creates a healthful stimulus in the direction of increased labour and attention to their farms, and is thus beneficial not only to the Indians directly profiting by the expenditure, but to others who from example are led to more active efforts on their own behalf.

I am happy to be able to add in conclusion that in my visitation amongst the Indians throughout the superintendency a steady advance was noticeable. The Indians are each year falling more and more into the ways of their white brothers, whom it is their desire for the most part to imitate; no cases of destitution were apparent. Many instances of advancement are to be seen: improved dwellings and more comfortable homes; often are to be seen men, women and children who are better clad and better fed than many whites of the struggling class; substantial fences are being erected for miles in extent; the Indians have productive kitchen gardens, and in some instances flowers are cultivated. Poultry, pigs, and sometimes sheep, give an air of comfort and prosperity to many native settlements. To a hopeful extent children seem clean, well cared for and happy, and the village church bells are ever to be heard at fitting intervals giving evidence of a peaceful, contented and devotional spirit amongst these simple and for the most part untutored people.

I have, &c.,

A. W. VOWELL,
Indian Superintendent, B. C.

REPORTS OF PRINCIPALS
OF
INDUSTRIAL AND BOARDING SCHOOLS

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

MORAVIAN MISSION SCHOOL,

MORAVIANTOWN, October 2, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report of the school under my charge:—

The school is carried on in connection with the work conducted by the church among the Moravians of the Thames on their reserve, in the township of Orford, county of Kent.

Land.—The mission farm has seventy acres of land. The produce raised helps to provide food for the children in the orphanage.

Buildings.—The school-house, a rectangular building of wood, 38 x 16 feet, is furnished with desks, blackboard, maps and charts.

The children of the orphanage reside in the building occupied by the superintendent of the farm, and have a dormitory, wash-room and sitting-room of their own.

Accommodation.—There is room for twenty children in the orphanage. The school-room has desks for seating twenty-four pupils.

Attendance.—During the past year there were fourteen girls in the orphanage, all of whom attended school for part of the time, the younger ones beginning on entering their seventh year. Two of the older girls were admitted into the Mohawk Institution at Brantford; another found a home in the United States, but was, after a trial of seven months, returned to her people on the Six Nations Reserve. At the end of the term, one of the smaller girls was removed by her mother. At present there are ten girls in the orphanage. In addition there were six girls who came as day pupils from the reserve. The average attendance, for the quarter ended June 30, was 15 31-100.

Class-room Work.—The pupils were classified as follows:—

Standard I.....	8 pupils.
do II.....	5 do
do III.....	4 do
do IV.....	3 do
Total.....	20

We were very much gratified with the advancement of the younger pupils, especially in their reading and writing.

Farm and Garden.—The pupils of the orphanage have helped in the work that was suited to their strength. They helped in the milking, attending to the calves, picking up potatoes, husking corn.

Industries Taught.—The matron has taught even the smaller girls to knit and sew, and thus they are taught to care for their own clothing. In addition, they have helped in the ordinary work of the household, and in this way have learned something of cooking, laundry and dairy-work.

Moral and Religious Training.—The school was opened each morning with religious exercises. During the year all but the younger pupils have learned Psalms 23,

103, 121, Isaiah 55 and John 15. The others learned many texts from wall charts. In addition, they have morning and evening prayers in their own rooms, and have thus learned many hymns and texts of Scripture.

Health.—During the year the health of all has been very good. Nothing more serious than slight colds has troubled any of the pupils.

Water Supply. A windmill belonging to the farm furnishes an abundance of excellent water all the year round.

Fire Protection.—As all the buildings are but one story in height, only the usual precautions are taken that would protect property from fire.

Heating.—The buildings are heated by stoves, burning wood and coal.

Recreation.—During recess the pupils play the usual games of which girls are fond. The pupils of the orphanage have a large family of dolls and some books, with which they amuse themselves when confined to the house. At other times they find the same recreation that other little children do who live on a farm, by playing at housekeeping and making pets of the younger animals.

General Remarks.—Pupils who have left the school to live with relatives seem to be overcome with the influences of the reserve life. We hoped, by finding them homes in private families, we could give them opportunities of further advancement in all those things that build up right character. Opposition compelled us to abandon the plan.

I have, &c.,

T. M. RIGHTS.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

ST. JOSEPH'S INDIAN HOME,

FORT WILLIAM MISSION, June 30, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—We have the honour to submit our annual report of the St. Joseph's Indian Home for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—The St. Joseph's Home, Fort William, is situated on the south bank of the Kaministiquia River, between East and West Fort William, about two miles from Thunder Bay.

Land.—There is one acre of land, belonging to the school.

Buildings.—The Home is a two-story frame building 70 x 45 feet, painted cream, with basement, and on a stone foundation. The basement comprises two play-rooms, one for the girls and the other for the boys; also two furnace-rooms and bake oven, laundry with stationary tubs, from which water is conveyed to main sewer, kitchen with hot water tank attached to stove, from which hot water is carried to different parts of the building, and refectories for sisters and pupils. On the first floor are boys' dormitory, infirmary, lavatory, music-room, with stage and piano, used for entertainments or concerts given by the children at different periods during the year, chapel where the pupils assemble for morning and evening prayers and a reception-room for visitors. On the second floor there are two dormitories, one for the large and one for the smaller girls, also a sewing-room, two bath-rooms, two clothes-rooms and sisters' apartments. A detached store-house 20 x 12 feet is used for provisions and clothing. The school, a frame building 44 x 20 feet, contains two class-rooms, heated by stoves.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Accommodation.—There is accommodation for only thirty-five pupils.

Attendance.—The total attendance during the year has been thirty, the average nineteen and seven-eighths. We sent one boy to the Rat Portage Industrial School, and two girls are out at service, giving satisfaction.

Class-room Work.—The class-room work covers the full course of the public schools of Ontario. The work during the past year has been satisfactory. Besides the regular school hours the pupils have study from 8.15 to 8.50 a.m and from 4.15 to 4.50 p.m.

Industries taught.—The girls are trained in all branches of domestic work: cooking, baking, laundrying, gardening, sewing, dressmaking, darning, quilt and rug making. All the childrens' clothing, with the exception of the boys' dress suits, is made in the Home. Gardening, cutting and carrying wood and going errands form the principal occupation of the boys when not in school.

Farm and Garden.—We have no farm. In our garden we have potatoes and different kinds of vegetables, all looking well at present.

Moral and Religious Training.—Great attention is paid to the moral and religious training of the pupils. The conduct and general behaviour of the pupils has been commented on several times and is a source of satisfaction to all who come in contact with them. All in general are obedient and require very little punishment.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the pupils has been remarkably good, scarcely a case of sickness; no doctor called and no deaths. The sanitary conditions leave very little to be desired, as the health of the pupils testifies.

Water Supply.—The water is drawn from the Kaministiquia River by means of a force pump placed in the basement, which conveys the water to a tank fixed near the roof of the building, from which the water supply is distributed by means of lead pipes to different parts of the house.

Fire Protection.—Placed in different parts of the building there are four star glass-lined fire-extinguishers and fireman's axes.

Heating.—The building is heated by two hot-air furnaces, wood being the fuel used.

Recreation.—During the winter the pupils are supplied with different kinds of games, music, singing and as much out-door exercise as possible. In summer months the boys take pleasure in playing, fishing and other sports; the girls rowing, singing, playing and other games. Once a week all take a walk to the grove to gather wild flowers, berries and nuts in season.

We have, &c.,

SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

MOHAWK INSTITUTION,

BRANTFORD, ONT., August 25, 1899.

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 ended June 30, 1899.

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.

Land.—The land occupied by the school comprises four hundred and sixteen 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 seventy horses, and there are two greenhouses.

Accommodation is provided for one hundred and twenty-five pupils—fifty-five boys and seventy girls.

Attendance.—On June 30 there were fifty-six boys and seventy-seven girls, classified as follows:—

Standard I.....	12 pupils.
do II.....	21 do
do III.....	19 do
do IV.....	24 do
do V.....	23 do
do VI.....	34 do
Total.....	133

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 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. First week, A division attends school in the morning, B division in the afternoon; second week, the order is reversed.

Standard I is in school full time throughout the year, and Standard II during the winter months.

One girl passed the 'Entrance' examination, and another obtained a 'Commercial' certificate (end of second year's course in Collegiate Institute); both have taken six months' special training for teachers' certificates.

Farm and Garden.—This department has been exceptionally successful: after defraying the cost of erecting a large hog-pen, 60 x 14 feet, valued at \$275, repairs to farm cottages, \$133.36; and rebuilding one wall of stable, \$75.22; writing off ten per cent on tools and implements, shows a balance in favour of profit of \$1,756.29. The cash receipts from sales were \$3,353.16, or \$1,059.34 more than in 1897, and the supplies to the institution, \$2,583.49.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Of the receipts, \$346.37 were for flowers and plants grown in the greenhouses.

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.—I regret to say that we had a number of cases of malarial and a mild form of typhoid fever, caused by contamination of our water supply through the high spring floods.

Two girls died during the year, one from pneumonia, the other from blood poisoning from necrotic abscess.

Water Supply.—Water is supplied by a windmill from a well; an entirely fresh supply of water has been provided. To keep up the supply rendered necessary by the introduction of water-closets, a horse-power has been attached to the windmill 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 also 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 July 16 to August 21; during this time the master and governors 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, and 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 June 30, 1899.

This board was established in 1878. The present members are :—

E. D. Cameron, Esq., Indian Superintendent, Chairman.

Rev. R. Ashton, Superintendent of Mohawk Institution, Hon. Secretary.

Rev. J. L. Strong, Missionary.

W. Wilkinson, Esq., M.A., Principal of Public Schools, Brantford.

Joab Martin, J. S. Johnson, N. Monture—Chiefs of the Six Nations.

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 a decrease of three names on the roll, and of eleven in the average attendance, and of two in the rate per cent of average, making the latter 39·39.

There were two hundred and nineteen school days. Six pupils made full attendance, twenty-four attended two hundred days and over; sixty-eight, one hundred and fifty days and over; two hundred and five, 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.

A contrast between two schools :—

A.—Rate per cent of average upon Register No.....	28·8
Per cent of passes at examination.....	48·3
Amount paid in prizes	\$3.75
B.—Rate per cent of average upon Register No.....	66·6
Per cent of passes at examination	78·3
Amount paid in prizes	\$21.50

Since the organization of the board twenty-one years ago, seven school-houses have been built, and the other two have been improved and refitted.

The average attendance of pupils has increased from one hundred to one hundred and ninety-five, and the rate per cent of average upon Register No. from twenty-two to thirty-nine.

The cost per pupil on the average attendance was \$16.21.

R. ASHTON,
Hon. Secretary.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

REPORT for the Year ended June 30, 1899, Comparative Condition of Schools.

Number of School.	Name of Teacher.	Number on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Rate per cent of average upon Register No.	Number present at Examination.	Standard of Attainment.	Number Presented.	RESULT OF EXAMINATION.					Percentage of Passes upon number presented.	Percentage of Passes, previous year.
								Reading.	Dictation.	Notation.	Arithmetic.	Grammar.		
1	Mr. E. Bearfoot	38	15.3	40.2	13	III II I	3 2 2	3 1 0	3 0 1	3 2 0	0 1 1	68.0	65.0	
2	Miss L. Davis	48	20.8	43.3	26	IV III II I	2 6 8 10	2 5 6 0	1 5 3 0	2 3 3 0	1 6 5 0	68.3	75.0	
3	Mrs. W. Smith	62	17.9	28.8	31	IV III II I	2 2 3 19	1 1 1 0	0 1 2 5	2 2 4 4	1 2 6 6	48.3	58.0	
5	Mrs. M. J. Scott	46	22.4	48.6	12	V IV III II I	1 3 2 3 3	1 1 0 1 0	0 0 9 0 0	1 3 1 1 2	1 3 2 2 3	51.1	60.0	
6	Mrs. W. Curley	36	12.5	34.7	10	III II I	2 4 4	1 1 0	0 0 4	2 4 4	2 4 4	66.6	44.0	
7	Miss E. N. Latham	92	31.3	34.0	43	V IV III II I	1 1 4 16 21	1 0 0 9 2	1 0 0 2 3	1 1 4 7 7	0 0 4 15 15	52.7	27.8	
9	Mr. J. Lickers	51	34.0	66.6	33	VI V IV III II I	2 5 6 7 4 9	2 4 4 6 4 3	2 5 6 5 5 4	2 5 5 5 5 4	0 4 3 2 5 4	78.3	61.3	
10	Miss S. Davis	65	22.5	34.6	28	VI V IV III II I	2 2 2 2 12 7	2 1 0 2 0 0	0 2 2 3 3 6	2 2 1 3 3 8	1 6 1 3 10 10	57.1	45.7	
11	Mr. P. Adams	58	17.7	32.2	26	IV III II I	3 3 5 14	1 2 4 1	0 1 2 0	2 2 3 5	0 4 2 5	56.6	40.0	
		496	195.4	39.39	222		222	67	49	90	92	60.8	52.9	
Total number in each standard						VI V VI II II I	4 9 19 33 62 95	4 7 9 20 27	2 8 9 18 12	4 9 17 24 36	1 6 13 31 41	1 4 7 25 55		

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

BALANCE SHEET Year ended June 30, 1899.

RECEIPTS.	Amount.		Total.	
	\$	cts.	\$	cts.
To Balance brought forward			322	26
Department of Indian Affairs	2,950	00		
Methodist Conference	250	00		
			3,200	00
EXPENDITURE.				
By Salaries	2,651	90		
Building and grounds	221	69		
Fuel	68	50		
School requisites	66	17		
Printing and office expenses	14	06		
Prizes	82	50		
Sundries	35	45		
School fees	24	50		
Bank interest	4	32		
			3,169	09
Balance in bank			363	17
			3,522	26

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

MOUNT ELGIN INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTION,

MUNCHEY, July 26, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—It is with pleasure I transmit to you my annual report of the conditions and prospects of this institution. I am happy to say that the conditions are the most favourable in the fifty years of its history and the prospects are most encouraging.

Location.—Our location on the south bank of the River Thames is beautifully situated. It would be difficult to find a more suitable site.

Our nearest station is the M. C. R. on the St. Clair Branch, about a mile from the institution. We are thus thirteen miles from the rising railway city of St. Thomas and twenty from London.

Land.—The two hundred and four acres of land assigned for the industrial farm is all that could be desired in quality but not in quantity. So to make up for the lack in quantity we lease through the department about three hundred acres of the Oneida Reserve just opposite and reaching from the river bank back to high-water mark. While this land is annually overflowed and swept by the spring freshets, it is nearly as rich as the valley of the Nile. It is the choicest of pasture land and is principally used for that purpose.

Farm.—It will give some idea of our farming operations to say that one hundred acres of timothy clover and millet last year gave us fully two hundred and fifty tons, while one-half of our thirty-six acres of corn filled two silos, which together, accommodate three hundred tons. The balance of the corn properly cured, without

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

husking, was passed through a cutting-box, with oat sheaves and hay in equal quantities, and then mixed with the ensilage in equal quantities, twenty-four hours before using. This is a recipe for an abundant yield of milk, butter and beef, if the stock has been carefully selected for these purposes. This feed is still further improved by putting the dry stocks through a ripper before it enters the cutting-box. It is in this way much easier on the cattle's mouths and even quite young calves will clean it up without any loss whatever. This preparation can be used for horses once in the day to great advantage winter and summer and is a very inexpensive food. From a herd of cattle of two hundred and twenty of all ages we have since March of this year sent out for the British market four car loads of heavy cattle and have replenished our young stock by thirty-two calves, mostly ready for the grass. We will probably add to this bunch of calves by purchasing, so as to put a drove of seventy or eighty on the grass when they are one year old. In this way we are able to ship about four car loads each year. Our yield of wheat for years has been over one thousand two hundred bushels per year; while mangels, carrots and potatoes have amounted in all to fully five thousand bushels. One garden of other kinds of vegetables and small fruits, together with an orchard of four acres, is an immense help in providing for the tables of over one hundred pupils and about ten of the staff and in part for their families.

Buildings.—At present, apart from the group of buildings proper, we have two comfortable residences, one for the foreman over all departments on the farm, the other for the foreman over the live stock. When present improvements are completed on the old institution, it will furnish hospital accommodation, there being two wards for the girls and two for the boys, baths, lavatories and all complete. It will also furnish a music-hall and a kindergarten school-room, together with a home for the male cook and family, and the watchman and his household. Our extensive buildings and the amount of loose property, together with untimely visitors, make a watchman a necessity. The work of remodelling the old institution is being pushed forward as rapidly as the multifarious other claims on the staff will admit. With its elevated slate roof, new and modern windows and doors, together with a complete covering of cement finished in squares, it will not be recognized as the building of a former age. With a per capita of only \$60 per pupil to cover all expenses and very largely do all the labour part of the improvements—and no other source of supply but the farm,—it requires the utmost vigilance to cover all expenses. If the department would relieve us of the burden of rent, by adding about two hundred acres to our farm, it would wonderfully assist us financially.

School-room.—Under our system of careful classification we have all the advantages of a graded school, so that two 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. We are subject to the county school inspector. Our long list of successful competitors for the high school entrance examination was only increased this year by one pupil, the lowest in years.

The boys' department, including play-room, lavatory, assembly-room, is all under daily inspection by the male teacher, while the corresponding inspection of the girl's department is a part of the daily charge of the matron.

Accommodation.—Our Government number of pupils is one hundred. Our average attendance for the year has been slightly in excess of that number. When the two attic dormitories are completed and the kindergarten department equipped, we can accommodate fifteen more girls and the same number of boys.

Our pupils represent this past year sixteen reserves. It is very difficult for us to know their whereabouts when they have been absent from the institution for a few years.

Religious Training.—The regular family worship and Sabbath school services are rendered more attractive by the alternate reading of the Scriptures, judicious questions,

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

illustrations with the use of 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 the 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, September 25, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

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 feet, three stories; north wing, 21 x 27 feet, three stories; west wing, 32 x 30 feet, two stories; bath-kitchen, 24 x 16 feet, one story; south-east corner wing (principal's residence), 38 ft. 6 in. x 17 ft. 2 in., two stories; visitors' entrance hall, on south-east corner, 17 ft. 6 in. x 17 ft. 2 in., one story.

Drill hall and school, 30 ft. x 60 ft., two stories; chapel, nave and chancel, 57 ft. x 30 ft.; vestry, 7 ft. x 11 ft.; porch at east end, 10 ft. 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 ft., two stories, and 14 ft. 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 ft. 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 ft. x 16 ft.; farm cottage, 31 ft. x 18 ft. 6 in., one story; barn and cow stabling, 35 ft. x 50 ft.; carpenter's cottage, 24 ft. x 16 ft., two stories, 24 ft. x 14 ft., one story; closets, 16 x 16 ft.

Accommodation.—Under present arrangements, there is sleeping accommodation for sixty-five pupils; in other respects, viz., dining-hall, schools, &c., ninety pupils could easily be accommodated.

Attendance.—The total attendance during the year was seventy-six; eight boys were admitted, ten discharged and two died.

The average daily attendance was sixty-five.

Class-room Work.—The school is divided into senior and junior schools, under the tuition of two male teachers, in separate buildings. The hours of attendance are from 8.30 to 12 and 1.30 to 5 p.m., with fifteen minutes recess during the middle

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

of each session. There is also an hour of study from 7 to 8 p.m., Wednesdays and Saturdays excepted.

The subjects taught are Scripture, arithmetic, geography, grammar, history, reading, writing, spelling and drawing.

It is gratifying to note that the second part, II class, is to-day principally composed of boys who, when admitted two or three years ago, were wholly untaught, and many of whom could not then speak one word of English, and shows that teachers and pupils alike have made the most of their opportunities.

The standing of pupils at present in attendance is as follows: twenty-four boys in Standard I; seventeen boys in Standard II; eighteen boys in Standard III; seven boys in Standard IV.

Industries Taught.—Excellent service has been rendered by the following industries, viz.: carpentry, tailoring, shoemaking and farming, which have been in operation during the year, and which have been kept fully occupied with the general work of and requirements in connection with the institution.

In addition to the trades, all the domestic work of the institution, such as scrubbing, washing, bread-making, and laundry work, is also performed by the boys, under the supervision of instructors, it being considered equally important that a boy should be able to scrub a floor properly or bake a loaf of bread, as to be proficient in the use of carpenter's tools, or able to plough a straight furrow.

Moral and Religious Training.—The religious training is that of the Church of England. Two services are conducted each Sunday in the Shingwauk Memorial 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.

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.—The health of the pupils was very good up to November 22, when an epidemic of measles, which had been prevalent in the district and town of Sault Ste. Marie for some two months previous, broke out in the home. Thirty-six of our boys were laid up, but all recovered by the New Year. Two boys, however, died of pneumonia in May and June respectively.

The sanitary condition of the school is good. Drains are kept clean and regularly flushed. Lime and other disinfectants are used. All large refuse is placed in barrels 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 in 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 firemen's axes.

Heating.—The main building is heated throughout by a hot-water system. The system of heating is satisfactory. Wood stoves are used for heating the factory, boot shop, senior school-room, laundry, hospital and other detached buildings.

Recreation of Pupils.—Out-door games are encouraged and freely indulged in by the pupils. In summer, the chief recreations are baseball and football. In-door games are provided for the winter.

I have, &c.,

GEO. LEY KING,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

WIKWEMIKONG INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,

WIKWEMIKONG, July 1, 1899.

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 portion 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 the mission and of the school 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 old dormitory, with a floor area of 3,250 square feet; it is now used as a play-hall for the day scholars. On this same floor is the infirmary, the dining-room and the wardrobe. The boys have now their dormitory in the main building of the mission, where the staff have their lodgings; there also, are the kitchen, the chapel, the library, &c. The girls' school is 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 few yards apart from this building is the wash-house, with two stories, 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 barn 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 easily be 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 less than 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-five girls, making a total of one hundred and fifteen pupils. The department allows a grant of \$60 per capita for ninety pupils only; the remainder, twenty-five, are provided for at the expense of the mission.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

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 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 fifth standard were present in class only two hours and a half, 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.

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 the 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 fifth standard are trained to different industries from 7 to 10 a.m. and from 3.30 to 6 p.m. Others in the third and fourth standard go to their trades from 7 to 9 a.m. and 4.30 to 6 p.m. We had this year four carpenters, two shoemakers, one tinsmith, one blacksmith, one cook and fifteen farmers.

Besides this special training given to a limited number of boys, all the other pupils are employed a few hours daily, each one according to sex and ability, at various kinds of labour, such as sweeping, scrubbing, 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 is done at the girls' school, the wind-mill and tank lately erected supplying them with the water necessary.

Morals and Religion.—The pupils are instructed very carefully in morals and religion by their teachers and by the missionaries themselves, and I am pleased to say that great progress has been made in that respect by the pupils in general. Very frequent religious exhortations have been the principal means used to obtain this most-desired result. 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 church, and receive twice a week special religious and moral instruction.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the pupils has been very good this year. All pupils have now been vaccinated. The sanitary condition of both schools is good, owing to their healthy location and their general arrangement. The new dormitory in the mission building has been in that respect a great improvement. There are infirmaries provided for those who may be unwell at times. No refuse matter is allowed to decay around the premises.

Water Supply.—A wind-mill and a large tank erected last year at a cost of \$2,125 granted by the department, supply the water necessary to the whole institution. They constitute also the principal protection against fire. 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.

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 first 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

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

amusements. They have also play-halls for rainy weather, winter and evening recreations.

General Remarks.—This 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,

PINE CREEK BOARDING SCHOOL,

WINNIPEGOSIS POST OFFICE, July 8, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report on the Pine Creek Boarding School for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—The Pine Creek Roman Catholic Boarding School is situated on the shore of Lake Winnipegosis, at the mouth of Pine Creek.

Land.—One hundred and sixty acres of land belonging to the Roman Catholic mission is connected with it.

Buildings.—These consist of one stone building 114 feet long by 49 wide. This building is divided as follows: the kitchen, 20 x 16 ft.; refectory, 46 x 22 ft.; wash-room, 30 x 29 ft.; store-room, 30 x 15 ft.; pantry, 14 x 13 ft.; class-room for the boys, 23 x 22 ft.; class-room for the girls, same width; recreation-hall for the boys, 20 x 22 ft.; recreation-hall for the girls, same width; infirmary for the boys, 17 x 15 ft.; infirmary for the girls, 17 x 15 ft.; sewing-room, 22 x 15 ft.; dormitory for the boys, 45 x 39 ft.; dormitory for the girls, 45 x 39 ft.; and a chapel, 60 x 22 ft. Besides this, there are rooms for all the employees. There are also one carpenter shop, one carriage and implement shed, one ice-house and stables.

Attendance.—The attendance is very good.

Class-room Work.—Almost all the children give full satisfaction, especially the oldest ones.

Farm and Garden.—Seven acres are under cultivation. Roots are the principal products of the farm.

Industries Taught.—The boys are taught light housework, care of horses and cattle, and farming. The girls are taught sewing, knitting, cooking, dairying and care of poultry.

Moral and Religious Training.—One hour every day is devoted to moral and religious training.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—All the boys enjoyed very good health. The house is well aired. The food is substantial and exercise is never wanting.

Water Supply.—This is supplied by a pump, which draws water from the river.

Heating.—The house is heated by stoves.

Recreation.—As stated above, there are for this purpose two recreation-halls; also two yards of one acre each.

I have, &c.,

A. CHAUMONT, Ptre., O.M.I.,
Principal.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE BOARDING SCHOOL,
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, July 31, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report on matters in general connected with the school under my charge; also a separate statement of receipts and expenditure for the year.

Location.—The school is situated in the east end of the town of Portage la Prairie.

Land.—There are sixteen lots, 33 x 100, which belong to the school.

Buildings.—The building consists of a two-story dwelling-house, which will accommodate forty pupils, a commodious school-room and play-room attached.

Attendance.—The attendance during the year has exceeded twenty-nine. Four of our girls are out at service, and five pupils were transferred to the industrial school at Regina.

Class-room Work.—Classes were regularly conducted both morning and afternoon. Advancement was made by all pupils in the general branches of English.

Industries Taught.—The boys are taught gardening and any outside work which we have to do. The girls are taught housework, sewing, knitting and fancy work.

Religious exercises are held every day, all the pupils taking part. Texts are memorized daily. The Shorter Catechism is also taught.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the children has been good. We have had no deaths during the year. The school physician paid his regular visits, and came according as his services were required.

Water Supply.—The supply is excellent.

Fire protection consists of one fire-axe and fire-extinguishers.

Heating.—The dwelling-house is heated with hot air, and the school-room with a wood stove.

Recreation.—The boys play football, baseball, and numerous other games. The girls join in quieter games and take long walks frequently.

I have, &c.,

ANNIE FRASER,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,
RAT PORTAGE BOARDING SCHOOL,
RAT PORTAGE, ONT., July 2, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Location.—This school is situated south of the town of Rat Portage, on the shores of the Lake of the Woods. It is distant about two miles from the centre of the town. Communication is mainly by water in summer, as a deep inlet separates the property from the town limits. The shore around is mostly high and abrupt; but the school is on a terrace-like incline, and the eye is regaled with charming scenery during the summer season.

Land.—There are fifty acres of land in connection with this school, the property of the Catholic mission. Much of the land is rock; but fertile strips stretch out here and there and furnish sufficient soil for gardening purposes.

Buildings.—The school buildings are of frame construction, with brick veneer. Inside is plaster-finish, except ceilings, which are of wood. The main building is 36 x 30 feet, three stories high, with an extension 36 x 26 feet, two stories high. There is a summer kitchen attached to the rear of the main building 16 x 14 feet. The other buildings are: a temporary storehouse, ice-house and wood-shed; a cottage 20 x 16 feet, with lean-to 14 x 12 feet, with five rooms, occupied by the principal and caretaker; workshop, 22 x 16 feet; stable, 14 x 12 feet (temporary).

Accommodation.—There is suitable accommodation for forty children, distributed as follows: girls' dormitory on upper flat, 36 x 30 feet, less a room for assistant matron. On the second floor are girls' sewing-room, recreation-room, and two rooms occupied by the sisters. The ground floor comprises dining-room, pantry, parlour and private dining-room, four rooms besides the hall.

Attendance.—Thirty children attended school during the year.

Class Work.—The class work extends over the three first standards. The programme of studies is faithfully carried out. Boys and girls go to class at alternate hours. Mr. Harrison teaches the boys and superintends their work and play. The girls are taught by Sister Duffin, a practical teacher of long experience. The boys prefer class work to outdoor work; so class comes to them as a relief from weightier labours.

Farm and Garden.—Considering that farming can hardly be attempted here, all our attention is centered on the garden. A professional gardener, Mr. Paulis, has been engaged, and a varied vegetable garden has been put in this year in approved style.

Industries Taught.—No industry is specially taught; it can hardly be expected of a boarding school; but it is the aim of the staff to form the children to habits of industry and thrift. Apart from recreation hours, they are kept busy at some occupation or other; the girls at sewing and housekeeping, the boys at hauling and cutting wood, and at gardening in season. The big girls also learn the art of bread-making, and they have turned out capital bakers.

Moral and Religious Training.—As is meet, the moral and religious training of the children receives special care. It is also our main source of consolation. Respect

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

for authority and obedience are continually inculcated and insisted upon. Christian humility, the adornment of the soul in preference to the body, is taught by word and example. Besides a certain time every day is devoted to Christian doctrine; during which the catechism is committed to memory in the Indian tongue.

Great credit is due to the sisters for their pains and persistent efforts in this regard. The children attend public devotions morning and evening in the chapel.

Ten baptisms took place during the year.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The general health of the school has been good for the most of the year, but the coming of spring was marked by eruptions of a scrofulous nature on the part of a good many. However we were called upon to pay tribute to death in the person of a dear little girl of nine years, who succumbed to an attack of pneumonia, after a short illness. A couple of cases of general debility still exist among the girls, and will likely result in necessitating their discharge from the school. The food is sufficient, substantial and varied, and cleanliness of person is insisted upon. The house and especially the dormitories receive thorough ventilation every day.

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 girl's 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 amusement in winter. Bathing and boating are favourite pastimes during the summer season.

General Remarks.—Our genial inspector, Mr. J. A. Leveque, has paid us regular visits and taken particular interest in the progress of the school. The most notable event of the year was the arrival of the Grey Nuns from St. Boniface on the 2nd of last November to take charge of the domestic management of the institution.

I have, &c.,

C. CAHILL, O.M.I.,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,
WATER HEN RIVER BOARDING SCHOOL,
WATER HEN RIVER, MAN., June 30, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

Sir,—I have the honour to transmit my annual report for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—The school is situated on Water Hen River Bay.

Land.—There are about ten acres of land belonging to the school.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Buildings.—These consist of four, the dimensions of which are: 70 x 20 feet, 31 x 24 feet, 18 x 22 feet and 15 x 18 feet.

Accommodation.—Recreation-room, dining-room, sewing-room, kitchen, dormitory and storehouse.

Attendance.—The attendance during the year has been twenty-nine.

Class-room Work.—The subjects taught are English, general knowledge, writing, arithmetic, geography, reading, vocal music, ethics and history.

Garden.—The following vegetables were grown: potatoes, turnips, onions and carrots.

Industries Taught.—Housewifery, sewing and knitting, the care of poultry, and dairying comprised the industries taught at the school.

Moral and Religious Training.—This consists of the Ten Commandments, Lord's Prayer and Scripture reading.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—These have been good.

Water Supply.—The water supply is obtained from Water Hen Bay.

Heating.—The school is heated by four stoves.

Recreation.—The children amuse themselves in their own way. Singing, playing cards and other games are indulged in.

I have, &c.,

I. H. ADAM,
Teacher.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,

BRANDON INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,

BRANDON, October 24, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR.—The Brandon Industrial School is situated three miles north-west of the city of Brandon, about the centre of the hill that once formed the bank of the Assiniboine River. There are three hundred and twenty acres of land in connection with the school.

Buildings.—Main building, 93 feet front, 33 feet back, with projection 33 feet x 45 feet; principal's residence, 32 feet x 28 feet, containing twelve rooms and two halls; assistant principal's residence, 22 feet x 28 feet, containing five rooms; farmer's residence, 18 feet x 30 feet, containing six rooms; barn and stable, 80 feet x 36 feet; carpenter's shop, 20 feet x 30 feet; ice-house, 14 feet x 20 feet; laundry, 30 feet x 33 feet; root-house, 60 feet x 30 feet; bake-house, 23 feet x 16 feet; school-room, 30 feet x 33 feet.

Accommodation.—In the main building there is accommodation for nine single members of the staff. Dormitory room for fifty girls on the second floor and about sixty boys on the third floor. There is sufficient school room for eighty pupils; this, with seventy on duty, would be sufficient to carry one hundred and fifty pupils.

Attendance.—The total attendance during the year has been 21,080; the average attendance, 87.107. Fifty-one of our number are girls; forty-nine are boys.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Class-room Work.—Classes in the morning and afternoon are taught; reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling, drawing, geography, English composition and Canadian history, with such exercises in music as are required by the department.

Grade of Pupils:

Standard I.	38
“ II.	14
“ III.	37
“ IV.	9
“ V.	2

School hours are from 9 to 12 a.m. and from 1.30 to 4 p.m.

Some of the smaller children are in school during a.m. and p.m., while the greater number of them attend school but half the day, being engaged during the regular hours of each day in sewing, baking, laundry work, cooking, dining-room work, house keeping, farming and carpenter work.

Farm and Garden.—The farm consists of three hundred and twenty acres.

	Acres.
Sown with wheat.	11
“ vegetables.	1
“ potatoes.	6
“ corn.	6
“ oats.	35
“ barley.	3
“ roots.	5
“ feed oats.	11
Summer fallow.	18
Breaking.	9
Hay land.	14
Pasture land.	120
Uncultivated and water.	80

Industries Taught.—The boys are taught farm, garden and carpenter work; the girls, sewing, cooking, dining-room work, dairy-work and general housekeeping.

Moral and Religious Training.—The following are the services held: prayers after breakfast in the school-room; school is opened each day with prayer. Public prayers are held every evening at 8 o'clock. Sabbath, the usual morning devotions; Sabbath-school in the afternoon; in the evening, a service of song, prayer and exhortation.

Health.—During the year four pupils have died. With the exception of an outbreak of scarlet fever, from which two of the deaths occurred, the general health of the children has been good. The drainage system is not working well, and is in great need of immediate attention.

Water Supply.—The water supply is good. A large windmill pumps water from a well on the hillside into two large tanks on the upper flat. From these the water is supplied to all needful places throughout the main building.

Fire Protection.—The fire protection is poor. Two Babcock, three Star and twelve Canadian extinguishers are in the building, but they would be little, if any use, since but one member of the staff understands how to use them in case of necessity. Some three dozen fire-pails are kept full of water, and these form the best and most useful protections. Hose is attached to the water supply, but very little pressure is obtained, except in the basement.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Heating.—The Smead-Dowd system of heating was the original system in the main building, but it has been so tampered with and mutilated that it exists no longer in its original form. The projection of the main building is heated by two additional furnaces, which have so many disconnected pipes and broken doors, disordered draughts and dilapidated grates, that it is impossible for the circulation of air to take place. Though these furnaces appear to have been kept like Nebuchadnezzar's, seven times more hot than they were wont to be heated, the building itself was far from being comfortable.

Recreation.—Football, for the boys, is their favourite sport. This, with the opportunities afforded in roaming, gathering nuts, &c., gives ample recreation for the boys while the weather is suitable. Some provision, however, must be made for the winter, both for boys and girls. More room is much needed for this purpose, and it will be a great problem to give proper recreation during the long winter evenings without it.

General Remarks.—Having taken charge here on July 1, it is somewhat difficult to formulate a complete report for the past year; hence much of the report is made according to the state of the institution as I found it.

I have, &c.,

T. FERRIER,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,

ELKHORN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,

ELKHORN, September 21, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I herewith have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—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 three hundred and twenty acres, which contains excellent pasturage and wheat land.

Buildings.—During the past year we have still occupied the buildings which were rented after the disastrous fire of November 13, 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 erected for us, I purpose now giving a description of the same.

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 x 113 ft.; back wing, 32 x 40; front wing, 6 x 32; height from ground to top roof, 46 feet; bell-tower, 26 ft. x 6 ft. (average diameter).

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

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 feet 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 from 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 up 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.

Accommodation.—Our new home will accommodate one hundred and twenty-five children.

Attendance.—There are now eighty-nine pupils on the roll, with a daily attendance of seventy-four. 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.—The work in this department has been under the charge of Mr. H. Stewart, assisted by Victoria Sutherland, one of the senior pupils, as pupil teacher, and has been conducted with success. A manifest interest has been exhibited in all the standards, and good progress been made in reading, arithmetic and composition, as well as in geography, history, and other subjects. Current topics from newspapers were taken up daily and the pupils interested.

Farm and Garden.—There are three hundred and twenty acres of farm land in connection with this institution; we were able to cultivate about thirty-five acres this year, ten acres we have reserved as a vegetable garden, the other twenty-five have been sown in oats, mangels, turnips, pease and millet, which will be invaluable for fodder for our stock. We expect to have about one thousand bushels of roots. We have also put up about forty loads of hay in good condition. Our garden looks well and promises a good yield. It is our purpose to give greater attention to the vegetable garden, inasmuch that all the boys may not be farmers, but that all of them may learn to grow roots successfully. There are two teams at work ploughing and cultivating, and with the assistance of Mr. J. Siple as instructor, we hope to have a fair acreage under crop next season. We have three cows, but the supply of milk is inadequate.

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. W. R. Bear, ex-pupil of the school, is journeyman foreman of the shop, which is owned by Mr. J. R. Duke, formerly instructor in the school.

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-reading, 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 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 McDonald, Angus Anderson and Fred. Thomas have been working steadily at this trade in the local harness shop, and their employer speaks most highly of the progress made by them.

Blacksmithing.—Alfred Bridges is the only pupil working at this trade and his employer speaks encouragingly of the progress made by him.

Girls' Industrial Training.—The girls receive instruction in knitting, sewing and dressmaking at the hands of a competent dressmaker. They perform all the necessary household work, and among other branches are thoroughly taught cooking and laundry work. Many of the girls are becoming most competent in the various departments.

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 St. Mark's Sunday-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 the health of the pupils has been satisfactory; we were almost entirely free from sickness of any serious nature. The sanitary arrangements in the new school are excellent; a large cistern is erected at a considerable distance from the main building, into which pipes are laid that carry off the water from the bath-rooms, kitchen and laundry; this is pumped out on the land for fertilizing purposes. No sewage goes into the cistern. The outhouses for boys and girls are erected at a safe distance from the school buildings so that any danger from defective sanitation is removed.

Water Supply.—The water supply at the new school is excellent and free from alkaline substances. A hot-air Ryder engine pumps our supply to a tank in the top flat.

Fire Protection.—All fire appliances are in good order. The 'McRobie' fire extinguisher is placed in the new building; besides this there are a number of patent fire-extinguishers, fire-axes and other appliances.

Heating.—The heating is done by a system of hot water.

Recreation.—All sports are encouraged in the home; football is the most popular game indulged in by the boys. They have competed with other teams with varying success. They have held the championship of the Western District for three successive years. 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 under the leadership and instruction of W. R. Bear, ex-pupil, has made excellent progress during the past year, and in the early part of the summer successfully undertook several engagements to play at other towns, and in every case the

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

report of both the boys' playing, and of their conduct while away from home, was most satisfactory.

General Remarks.—We had hoped that we should have been able to occupy our fine new school this year, but owing to our not having the necessary outbuildings and fencing, which were absolutely required to conduct the work satisfactorily, it was considered advisable under the circumstances to remain as we were, until these have been erected, which we expect shortly to accomplish.

During the past year we have been gratified with the steady progress of the school. The members of the staff by their faithful efforts and example are producing most desirable results amongst our pupils, who are contented and happy.

I beg to acknowledge with deep gratitude the kindness of the department and trust with the bright prospects which lie before us, that, under Divine guidance the work may be greatly blessed and prospered.

I have, &c.,

A. E. WILSON,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,
RUPERT'S LAND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,
MIDDLECHURCH, July 10, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—The school is situated in a beautiful spot on the bank of the Red River, and is surrounded by beautiful groves. The school is about seven miles from the city of Winnipeg, in St. Paul's parish.

Land.—The land consists of about three hundred and eighty acres.

Buildings.—The main building is of white brick, on a stone foundation, and is three stories high, with a basement. The basement contains the four large hot-air furnaces, engine for pumping water, lavatories for boys and girls, and storehouses. On the first floor is a large and spacious dining-room for the children, offices, sewing-room and kitchen. On the second floor are the officers' quarters and girls' dormitories, bath-room and clothing-rooms. On the third floor are the boys' dormitories and clothing-room.

A little to the north of the main building is a large two-story frame building, with a large basement, used for storing coal. The first floor is used as a recreation-hall for the boys, and the second floor for two class-rooms, the senior and the junior.

There is also a frame house used as a farmer's residence, a carpenter and blacksmith shop, and horse and cow stables.

Attendance.—The attendance has been excellent during the past three months, in which time there have been added fifty-five new pupils. Previously to that time the attendance was very small.

Class-room Work.—The work in the class-rooms has been carried on faithfully and well, the teachers devoting a great deal of time and care to the children, and good results are being obtained.

Farm and Garden.—A large acreage has been sown, and present indications point to an excellent crop. Not so much attention has been given to the farm in past

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

years as it is hoped will be given in future. It is very desirable to grow sufficient grain to maintain the stock and provide flour for the school.

Industrial Work.—During the past year very little attention has been given to industries, except carpentering and farming for the boys, and all branches of domestic work for the girls.

Moral and Religious Training.—Religious instruction is given in the schools daily by the teachers and from two o'clock to three o'clock every Sunday afternoon. Morning and evening prayers are said daily. On Sunday the parish church, which is adjacent to the school, is attended by all the children, morning and evening.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the school has been good, there being no epidemics of any nature during the year; and with the exception of a few consumption cases, we have been practically free from sickness.

Water Supply.—The water for the building is obtained from an artesian well, and is pumped by a hot-air engine to very large tanks in the top story, and thence distributed throughout the building.

Fire Protection.—There are hose attachments on each floor, connected with a large tank in the attic, which gives considerable pressure, and produces a good stream of water. There are also several hand grenades distributed throughout the building, as well as three large Babcock extinguishers conveniently placed in the building. Fire-escapes are also conveniently placed, so that all the school could easily be emptied in case of fire.

Heating.—The main building is heated by hot-air furnaces, which seem to do their work satisfactorily.

Recreation.—The boys play all games, such as cricket, football, baseball, quoits, and many others, which they enjoy. The girls play croquet, tennis, and such other games as they are fond of. Each day they go for a walk through the beautiful roads along the banks of the river—between four and five o'clock in the afternoon—which they seem to enjoy.

General Remarks.—In conclusion I might say that I have only been principal for the past three months, and during that time have added fifty-five new pupils, making a total of almost one hundred, the full capacity of the building. The children are all happy and contented, and none have given the slightest trouble, but all seem anxious to learn, and seem easily taught.

I have to thank the department for its many kindnesses to me, and the assistance it has given me during my short incumbency.

I have, &c.,

JAS. G. DAGG,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,

ST. BONIFACE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,

St. Boniface, June 30, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—The St. Boniface Industrial School is situated on Meuron avenue, one mile from the town of St. Boniface, and two miles from the city of Winnipeg.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Land.—Forty acres of land are in connection with the school, of which from ten to fifteen acres only are under cultivation. In order to provide the children with an opportunity of learning farming on a larger scale, it was found necessary to rent some land. Therefore, we have rented some land from the Archbishop of St. Boniface, in close proximity to the school, being only about a mile from it. To reach this land two bridges were required, one of eighty feet over the Seine River, the other sixty feet long, over the Springfield Canal. I expect to have a field of about twenty acres ready for seeding next spring. I considered this necessary for the welfare of the children, as farming affords a good means of support in this country.

Garden.—About one thousand heads of cabbage and three hundred bushels of onions were raised this year; also a quantity of cauliflower, carrots and celery. Of our potatoes, about two-thirds of the crop was ruined by the continual rain.

Buildings.—All the buildings are in good repair. A root-house of 18 x 20 ft. with an implement-shed over it, has been built at one end of the stable. This was necessary, as there was no place to keep the vegetables in the fall. The implement-shed, hen-house, pig-sty and boys' and girls' recreation-halls have all been painted; the two last mentioned in a colour which accords with the brick veneering of the main building; all the others were painted dark red.

Accommodation and Attendance.—One hundred and ten children could be accommodated if they were present; but owing to the difficulty of recruiting new pupils, there are only ninety-six for whom a grant is received. Parents have great objection to part with their younger children; and these children, when they are older, refuse to come. This explains why the attendance is not up to the accommodation.

Class-room Work.—The authorized programme of studies is followed. The progress in English is very fair. Singing, calisthenics, gymnastics, dumb-bell exercises and drill are given daily. When visitors come, they greatly admire the splendid way in which the children perform the various drills. The band also is very good, the children being very fond of music, and are making great progress.

Industries Taught.—Five boys are employed in the carpenter-shop. They put up the buildings, and do all the painting and repairing, as well as making wash-stands, dressers, cupboards, and such like, for the house.

The girls are well instructed in all branches of plain sewing, as making new clothes, repairing the old ones, darning and knitting. All their clothes are made by their own hands, and also most of those worn by the boys. They are also taught household work, scrubbing, dusting and general cleaning, cooking, baking, dairy and laundry work.

Moral and Religious Training.—No trouble is spared to impart to the children a knowledge of Christianity, their duties to God, obedience to the laws of the land, and to their superiors, as well as their behaviour to one another. As a proof of their good-will and obedience, allow me to say that no corporal punishment is ever required. Their conduct is very satisfactory.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—In the spring there was an outbreak of measles, from the effects of which we lost four children. Dr. Steep was most attentive and kind, doing everything in his power. He often came twice a day. Except for the measles, the general health has been very good. The sanitary conditions are good. Improvements being added from time to time.

Water Supply.—There is a plentiful supply of excellent water. About two thousand five hundred gallons are kept in the tanks, pumped up from a deep well by a hot-air engine, which always gives entire satisfaction. Close to the girls' recreation-hall a tank of a capacity of about one thousand five hundred gallons was made to gather the rain water from the surrounding buildings.

Fire Protection.—Every care is taken to guard against an outbreak of fire; and the house is well fitted up with extinguishers, 'Carr Chemical Fire Engine,' fire-pails,

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

axes, pipes and hose, with hand grenades, are kept in conspicuous places, always ready for use.

Heating.—The main building is heated by a hot-water system, which proved sufficient until it was extended to the boys' and girls' recreation-halls, but since then it has not given entire satisfaction. During the very cold weather last winter, stoves had to be put up in the recreation-halls.

Recreation.—The boys and girls have each a separate recreation-hall, large and well lighted. Outside the grounds are well adapted for all sorts of games. The boys take great pleasure in all boys' games, and play them well, particularly baseball. They also go for rambles in the bush. The girls enjoy all girls' games and amusements; they often go for walks with their mistresses, in which they take great delight.

General Remarks.—The staff cannot but take pleasure in the bright and happy appearance of the children. The boys attract general attention by their proficiency in the rifle and bayonet drill, which they thoroughly enjoy. The band also is very much appreciated.

It is to be hoped that everything will continue to progress as it is doing at present.

I have, &c.,

J. B. DORAIS,
Principal.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
RAT PORTAGE INSPECTORATE,
RAT PORTAGE, ONT., December 12, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit for your information my report on the Indian day schools within the Savanne Agency.

There were five schools in operation during the year in this agency, viz.: Wabigoon, Frenchman's Head, Canoe River, Lac Seul, on Treaty Point, and Eagle Lake, all under the auspices of the Church of England. The school on the Wabuskang Reserve, which has been closed for upwards of two years, was to be opened at the end of September quarter.

The number of children of school age within the agency is two hundred and thirty-three: boys, one hundred and twenty-six; girls, one hundred and seven. The number of children of school age on the reserves where schools have been in operation is one hundred and forty-two; that of those enrolled, one hundred and seven, being 71·18 per cent of those that should attend school. The average attendance was 52·09, being 48·73 per cent of those enrolled.

WABIGOON DAY SCHOOL.

This school was inspected on August 17 last, Rev. Messrs. Cooper and Pritchard being present, as well as the chief and a few of the pupils' parents. Number of pupils

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

present, sixteen: boys, eight; girls, seven. Number on roll, sixteen, classified as follows:

Standard I.....	7
“ II.....	5
“ III.....	4
	16

School equipment sufficient. Mrs. Amy Johns has been teacher for several years; she is a good teacher, is systematic and doing her best in visiting the families in order to bring their children to school. The girls are taught sewing and knitting, &c. The building, a new one, the best in the agency, is neat, clean and in good repair.

FRENCHMAN'S HEAD DAY SCHOOL.

This school is in connection with the Church of England. It was inspected on August 22 last. Number of children present, twenty: boys, nine; girls, eleven. Number enrolled, twenty-five.

Classification of pupils:

Standard I.....	18
“ II.....	7
	25

Some books and other materials were asked for and a list forwarded to the department.

The school had been closed from the end of June quarter, 1898, to December 12. Mr. Arthur W. Brindley, catechist and teacher, late of Emmanuel College, Prince Albert.

The old school-house has been rebuilt since I was there—27 x 24—log, covered with bark; a new floor of dressed lumber has been put in; building partly clap-boarded outside; not finished yet.

CANOE RIVER DAY SCHOOL.

This school is in connection with the Church of England, and it was inspected on August 24 last. Number of pupils present, seventeen: boys, ten; girls, seven. Number enrolled, twenty-four.

Classification of pupils:

Standard I.....	19
“ II.....	5
	24

School materials ample.

'Quoquolt,' an ex-pupil of the Rupert's Land Industrial School, has made, in a workmanlike manner, the following furniture for this school: one teacher's desk, eight combined seats and desks, and one cupboard, thus doing credit to the good training he has received in his trade from that institution. A. R. J. Bannatyne, teacher, married. He succeeded Mr. Boardman, resigned, on January 1 last.

The school building, which is a new one, is in good order and repair, outside as well as inside.

LAC SEUL (TREATY POINT) DAY SCHOOL.

This school is in connection with the Church of England. It was inspected on August 24 last. Number of pupils present, sixteen: boys, seven; girls, nine. Number enrolled, twenty-six.

Classification of pupils:

Standard I.....	14
“ II.....	7
“ III.....	5
	26

Several pupils from this school have been drafted to the Rupert's Land Industrial School.

This school is kept in operation from the latter part of June until the time the Indians leave for their hunting ground in the fall.

Rev. Thos. H. Pritchard, missionary and teacher.

School material sufficient.

The building, although in use for a number of years, is in a fairly good state of repair inside and outside; a stone foundation has been put under it this summer, and adds a great deal to its solidity and appearance.

EAGLE LAKE DAY SCHOOL.

This school was inspected on September 13 last. Number of pupils present, sixteen; boys, seven; girls, nine; number enrolled, sixteen. Classification of pupils:—

Standard I.....	16
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School material ample.

Arthur J. Bruce, teacher, late of St. John's College, married; appointed in January last to open this school.

A new school building had been erected last summer of square logs 19 x 19, shingle-roof, plastered inside and outside, ceiling and floor made with matched groove and tongue lumber; building not completed yet.

WABUSKANG DAY SCHOOL.

This school was inspected on August 28 last. There are fourteen children of school age on this reserve, but for upwards of two years the school has been closed.

B. Prince, late pupil of the Rupert's Land Industrial School, having been appointed teacher in September last, proceeded to that place to re-open the school.

The building, which is an old one, had been repaired at a cost of \$50, and made comfortable for some time to come.

The class work is as yet, with few exceptions, in all the day schools above referred to, of an entirely elementary character. Much attention is rightly given to the various means of cultivating the use of English. The most essential subjects, reading, spelling, writing, and the use of numbers, are being taught well, with fair results.

Cleanliness of the Children.—A noticeable improvement has been remarked in this instance, particularly at Wabigoon and Canoe River schools, the cleanliness and neatness of some of the pupils' clothing, more especially the young girls, was commendable, and I have no doubt that my remarks of last year to the Indians had a good effect in this respect.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

During the past year la grippe or influenza was prevalent amongst the children of this agency, with fatal results in many cases, which was one of the various causes to account for the average attendance being little below that of last year.

I have, &c.,

L. J. A. LEVEQUE,
Inspector Indian Agencies.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

BIRTLE BOARDING SCHOOL,

BIRTLE, MAN., August 28, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the annual report of the school under my charge for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—The Birtle Boarding School is located within the limits of the town of Birtle. The town proper is situated upon the banks of the Bird Tail River, and is noted for its health, wealth and general prosperity. The school, situated upon the upper bank of the valley, overlooks and commands a most beautiful view of the town and surroundings.

Land.—There are belonging to the school thirty acres of land, and also about twenty-eight acres of rented land. Only about five acres of this land is suitable for agricultural purposes. The rest is only useful for pasture lands.

Buildings.—The school is a large, solid stone building, 80 x 30 feet, and three stories high, not including basement. An addition, 30 x 36 feet, is now in the course of erection.

There is also a fair-sized banked barn, large enough to winter fifteen head of cattle.

Accommodation.—The present building gives fair accommodation for forty children. When the addition is completed there will be ample room for fifty-five or sixty.

Attendance.—The average attendance for the year was forty-one.

Class-room Work.—The pupils are classified as follows:—

Standard IV.....	2	pupils.
“ III.....	2	“
“ II.....	6	“
“ I.....	9	“
Class 3.....	5	“
“ 2.....	6	“
“ 1.....	11	“

All of the subjects on the programme of studies are taught more or less, but particular attention is given to reading, writing and the acquisition of the English language.

Garden.—There are about five acres under cultivation as a garden, in which are grown sufficient vegetables for the use of the school, besides enough to fatten several head of cattle each year.

Industries.—The girls are taught all kinds of housework, as baking, cooking, washing, ironing, sewing, knitting and mending. The boys are taught gardening, care of stock and wood-carving.

Moral and Religious Training.—Besides the usual religious exercises morning and evening during each day, the older pupils attend prayer-meeting on Wednesday night in the Presbyterian church, and once at least to church on Sabbath, and Sunday-school in the afternoon.

All of the pupils attend the Sabbath school.

Health and Sanitary Conditions.—The health of the children during the year has been excellent, there being little if any sickness to speak of.

The sanitary condition of the school is nearly all that could be desired. Situated upon a hill makes it high and dry, and all of the fresh air that is going comes our way.

During the winter, by exercising a little care, the building is easily ventilated, and with only forty-two or forty-three pupils, there is no crowding.

Water Supply.—There is no water supply at the school. All of the drinking water is drawn from a spring in the neighbourhood, which supplies nearly the whole town. The water is always good.

Heating.—The building is heated by two wood furnaces, and generally speaking, they are sufficient. It is only in very severe weather that there is any difficulty in making the place warm enough.

Recreation.—During the summer the boys have their games, such as football and baseball. The girls are allowed out in the open air a good deal, at which times various games are played. In the winter when it is too cold to be outside, they find their recreation in two large play-rooms, which are kept for that purpose.

I have, &c.,

WM. J. SMALL,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
BLACKFOOT BOARDING SCHOOLS,
GLEICHEN, ALTA., July 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report of our boarding schools on this reserve, conducted by myself, as agent of the Church Missionary Society, and to acknowledge as heretofore the substantial Government aid received by us during the 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

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

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 the boarding school proper, a large school-house, a laundry, coal-shed and small outbuildings. During the year all these buildings were carefully painted. The boarding school, which was originally constructed for the accommodation of boys and girls, has since June, 1897, been used for girls only, the boys having been drafted to White Eagle's School. The building consists of two principal wings, comprising dormitories, bed-rooms, lavatories, class and day rooms, and staff sitting-room. These wings are connected by a large dining hall, kitchen and pantry on the ground floor and an isolated dormitory and clothing-room upstairs. During the year the whole of the south wing was thoroughly repaired, plastered and painted and otherwise improved. We hope it may be possible to do the same with the north wing this year.

The school-house is a sufficiently large and well ventilated building and is heated by a furnace. It is in excellent repair.

A well kept picket fence protects the front of these buildings, and an ordinary wire fence serves the same purpose at the back. The laundry and coal-shed are in need of repair, but are neat in appearance.

There is accommodation here for about fifty children.

White Eagle's Boarding School is a large and handsome building. It has been improved in many ways during the year, but it is sadly in need of at least two good coats of paint, which I hope it may be possible to give it this year. It comprises under the one roof both home and school-room, and has large spacious dormitories, dining-hall and kitchen four bed-rooms, one isolated room, dispensary, staff sitting-room, principal's office and store-room, with useful basement addition. The building, which is for boys only, is capable of accommodating about fifty children. Stable, driving-shed and other outhouses are also provided.

This school was erected in response to a request made by the chiefs to the Superintendent General, on the occasion of his visit to the south reserve in 1893.

Attendance.—At the close of the fiscal year we had twenty-seven boys and twelve girls in attendance, with accommodation for more than twice the present number.

Class-room Work.—The interest of the children in their work and their general progress, particularly in conversational English, has been satisfactory.

Farm and Garden.—At the boys' school there is an excellent kitchen garden of about two or three acres in extent. It is generally considered to be one of the best gardens in the district, and reflects considerable credit on the home. In addition to this the boys have charge of the horses and cows, and do their work well.

At the girls' home a small kitchen and flower garden has yielded excellent results. The bigger girls are taught to take an interest in looking after the cows.

Industries Taught.—The boys are trained in the ways just indicated, and in addition make their own bread, help in the mending of their own clothes, and in the scrubbing. The girls are trained in all household duties, including general cooking, bread-making, laundry work, sewing and dressmaking, waiting at table, and in many other ways. The older ones can mostly act without supervision.

Moral and Religious Training.—The discipline exercised is kind but firm. Discipline is entirely wanting in camp life. Careful Bible instruction is given daily. Every effort is made to train the conscience to act as in the sight of God. The order and discipline has been exceedingly good. Corporal punishment is seldom if ever resorted to. The influence upon the children of several former pupils, who have settled down near us, has been excellent, both from a Christian and social point of view.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—I am pleased to report that another year has passed without a death in our home; and the presence of our mission hospital has been

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

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 from the Bow River, they need more attention than if they were fed from springs. That at the north home is in excellent condition, but the other still needs recirribing 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 they can 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, C.E., BOARDING SCHOOL,

ALTA, July 1, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward herewith the annual report of the St. Paul's, Church of England, Boarding School.

Location.—The school is situated about thirteen miles south of Macleod and adjoining the reserve at the agency. It is located on a quarter section of land belonging to the Church Missionary Society, which is well fenced.

Buildings. These consist of girls' home, with mission-house attached, boys' home, church and school combined, hospital partly completed, but not in a fit state for use in winter; laundry, storehouse and stables.

Accommodation.—There is accommodation for eighty pupils.

Attendance.—There are at present forty-four pupils in attendance.

Class-work.—Of this we have every reason to be thankful and proud. Our teacher, Miss Wells, duly certificated, has a power of control and of imparting knowledge, beyond description. The advance of the children does herself and themselves great credit.

Farm and Garden.—Some six acres are now under cultivation. Last year we raised all the vegetables required for the school, and have every prospect of doing better this year.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Industries Taught.—We are not an industrial school, but have ambition, and therefore teach the girls cooking, sewing, clothes-making and general housekeeping. The boys mend boots, clothes, and assist in gardening.

Moral and Religious Training.—Here again our excellent staff greatly assists the principal. I may say that morally the children are wonderfully improved, and that the religious training is bringing forth evident fruits.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—In health our children are improved. Dr. Lafferty has just operated on ten cases of scrofula, but it is too soon to look for results, although all came well through the operation. But a nurse is most urgently needed. As to sanitary arrangements: we have put into the girls' home two earth closets, which will improve the health, and purpose doing the same for the boys. Outbuildings are properly kept, and no dirt is allowed to remain about the buildings.

Water Supply.—There are three wells, but a windmill would be a great boon.

Fire Protection.—We have a chemical engine, fire-buckets, hand-grenades and axes; also a barrel on wheels, with pump and hose.

Heating.—This is done with stoves and furnaces, supplied with a liberal amount of coal.

Recreation.—We try to give what time we can to this; the girls have croquet, the boys football and cricket, but so much time is taken up with work, that little is left for amusement.

General Remarks.—I would state that the children, in my opinion, amply repay the money and labour invested in them, and only wish that all on the reserve were receiving what these here are.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I have, &c.,

ARTHUR DEB. OWEN,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

BLOOD R. C. BOARDING SCHOOL,

BLOOD RESERVE, October 10, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the annual report of this school for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—The school is located about twenty-four miles south of Macleod, one mile from the Upper Agency, within a few yards of the Belly River, on the reserve.

Buildings.—The school building is divided into four parts. The main building, 36 x 36, with three stories, has in the first story the dining-room, a parlour and an office room; in the second story are the chapel, and two rooms for the staff, and in the third story there is no division yet. The second and the third part are two wings to the main building, both with two stories: in the first stories are the class-rooms and the recreation-halls, in the second stories the dormitories. Behind the main building, and adjacent to it, is another part, 20 x 20, with three stories, the first being the kitchen, the second a sewing-room, and the third the teacher's room.

Heavy Shield's day school building has been moved, and is used now as a laundry.

Accommodation.—The school, being divided so, gives accommodation for sixty pupils.

Attendance.—The school was started on November 1, the building not being completed for the beginning of the fiscal year. Thirteen pupils have been admitted from the starting of the school.

Class-room Work.—Class-room work consists of reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic, drawing, vocal music, &c.

Moral and Religious Training.—Instruction in the Roman Catholic Church doctrine is imparted to the pupils; morning and evening prayers; half an hour every day devoted to religious instruction, given by the Rev. Principal.

Water Supply.—The river supplies the water for the wants of the school.

Fire Protection.—Fire-extinguishers, hand-grenades, fire-pails and fire-axes are distributed throughout the halls and the rooms; but this will be scarcely sufficient as long as the water supply is not more convenient.

Heating.—The school is heated with stoves.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health and sanitary condition have been very good. No death occurred during the year.

I have, &c.,

J. RIOU, O.M.I.,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
BLUE QUILL'S BOARDING SCHOOL,
(FORMERLY LAC-LA-BICHE BOARDING SCHOOL),
SADDLE LAKE, ALTA., June 30, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

Location.—The school is situated about six miles south-west of Saddle Lake, one mile north of the Saskatchewan River, on the Edmonton Road.

Land.—A little more than five acres is set apart for the use of the school.

Buildings.—The building is 60 x 30 feet, two and a half stories high, and suitably divided into the various departments necessary for the convenience of the school. The kitchen adjoins the main building by a connecting hall.

Attendance.—The attendance is regular, owing to the fact that the pupils are all boarders at the institute.

Class-room Work.—The 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 housework.

Moral and Religious Training.—Careful attention is paid to moral and religious training, discipline and order.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health and sanitary condition of the pupils has been very good, with the exception of a few cases. Two deaths occurred among the pupils.

Water Supply.—The school is supplied with water from a well beside the school, and a small river some distance away.

Fire Protection.—Ladders are attached to the house in case of fire, and, besides this, two stairways lead from the upper story to the ground floor. Fire-pails are always at hand.

Heating.—The school is heated by wood-stoves.

Recreation.—Part of the recreation is passed in out-door exercise, and the remainder in house-games.

Trusting this will be satisfactory,

I have, &c.,

H. GRANDIN, Ptre.,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

CROWSTAND BOARDING SCHOOL,

CROWSTAND P. O., ASSA., July 1, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith the annual report of the Crowstand Boarding School for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—This school is located on the border of Côté's Reserve, in the Swan River Agency. The property is situated on the left bank of the Assiniboine River, at a point forty-five miles north-east of Yorkton, the present terminus of the Manitoba and North-western Railway.

Land.—There are two hundred and eighty acres of land, more or less, connected with the school. This land is the property of the Presbyterian Church.

Buildings.—The buildings heretofore have consisted of a two-story frame building, with a log annex, serving as dining-rooms, kitchen, laundry, store-rooms, private bed-rooms, and girls' dormitory; a stone building, 30 x 36 ft. and 2½ stories high, containing a boys' recreation-room, class-room, boys' dormitory and staff bed-rooms. But the condition of the stone building, as well as the log annex to frame building, has been unsatisfactory, and it was decided to take them down.

This is now being done, and a new frame building, with stone basement throughout, is being put up. The size of this new building will be about 38 x 70 ft., and when completed will give ample accommodation for forty-five pupils. The other buildings are: log stables, carpenter shop and log storehouse for clothing, as well as a milk-house and ice-house.

Accommodation.—As I have already stated in the preceding paragraph, when the new building is completed there will be accommodation for forty-five pupils, as well as for the staff necessary to carry on the work.

Attendance.—Throughout the year there have been thirty names of treaty children on the roll, with an average attendance of twenty-seven. There was, in addition,

an average attendance of seven non-treaty Indian children. The attendance throughout the year was very regular.

Class-room Work.—This branch of the work was carried on under the able management of Miss Petch, who holds a second-class certificate from the Toronto Normal School. Quarterly written examinations were held throughout the year, and the results were quite encouraging. The school was recently inspected by the Public School Inspector, who reported very favourably of the work being done.

Farm and Garden.—About twenty acres of land are cultivated, and of this four acres are given to vegetables. Unfortunately, last year, on account of the drought, and several severe summer frosts, our crops were a complete failure. This year the prospect is much better, and we look for a good crop of vegetables, especially potatoes.

Industries Taught.—With the boys, attention is mainly given to instructing them in farming, gardening and care of stock, along with a little plain carpentering.

In the girls' department, our aim is to give them a good knowledge of every department of housekeeping, as sewing, knitting, washing and ironing, cooking, baking, dairying, &c.

Moral and Religious Training.—While we aim at giving the children a practical training in the civilized arts, we also keep in view the missionary aspect of the work. Ethics are taught by precept and example. The children are regularly instructed in the religious teaching of the Bible. Each day is begun and ended with family worship. On Sunday morning two loads of the children are driven to church on the reserve. At three in the afternoon Sabbath-school is held at the school, the international S. S. lessons being taken up, and the Shorter Catechism taught. Again, in the evening a children's service is held. At each quarterly examination a paper is set covering the Sabbath school work for the quarter.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—In July of 1898 a severe epidemic of gripe visited the school, and there were a couple of weeks of deep anxiety; but all recovered, and since that time the general health of the school has been good. A few cases of scrofula developed, and one death from this cause occurred. Every care is taken to see that the sanitary conditions are always as perfect as may be.

Water Supply.—The supply of water is altogether obtained from the Assiniboine River, which flows through our property. This water is judged to be very good.

Fire Protection.—For this purpose two Babcock extinguishers are kept constantly charged, and ready for use. Fire-pails full of water are always kept at convenient points in case of need. Hand-grenades are hung in the several halls, and in the dormitories where they can be got at quickly if there should be occasion for their use. In the new building, there will be a fire-escape from each dormitory.

Heating.—The buildings will be heated throughout by two hot-air furnaces.

Recreation.—Ample and separate grounds are provided for the boys and girls, where, under supervision, they can engage in various athletic and other sports, and are allowed a certain amount of time each day for this purpose.

General Remarks.—The Crowstand school is very much handicapped financially by reason of its isolation. We are forty-five miles from the nearest railway town, as 'base of supplies,' and consequently have very large freight bills to pay. We are unfortunate, too, in our location by reason of the prevalence of summer-frost. For two years in succession our crops have been an entire failure, and considerable additional expense has been entailed.

I have, &c.,

NEIL GILMOUR,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
COWESSES' BOARDING SCHOOL,
CROOKED LAKE AGENCY,
BROADVIEW, ASSA., July 2, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report on the Crooked Lake Boarding School for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Opening of School.—This school was first opened on December 19, 1898. The structure is not yet completed, therefore we are obliged to carry on the work of the school in buildings already existing.

Situation.—This school is beautifully situated at the south end of Crooked Lake, on Cowesses' Reserve, in the Qu'Appelle Valley.

Land.—The area of land connected with the school is not known.

Buildings.—A beautiful and very commodious building, 57 x 37 feet, will be completed by next October. It will be three stories high, with a nice basement containing the kitchen, dining-room, pantry, dairy, laundry and a cellar, with sufficient room for furnaces. The new building is frame and will be brick-veneered afterwards.

Accommodation.—There will be ample accommodation for forty-five children.

Sanitary Condition.—The sanitary condition of the new school will be, I believe, all that can be desired. The house will be roomy, bright and very well ventilated.

Attendance.—The attendance during the six months has been very good. We have fourteen children on the roll. Having received no grant from the department last December, our school boarders have been completely supported at the expense of the mission.

Class-room Work.—As the children are all beginners, the class-room work does not extend beyond the first two standards.

Farm and Garden.—Fifteen acres of land are now under cultivation and we have broken up eight acres more during this summer. This spring we put in nearly ten acres of crop and planted thirty bushels of potatoes. We have in the garden onions, lettuce, rhubarb, carrots, beets, parsnips, pease, beans, cucumbers and melons.

Industries Taught.—The boys are chiefly confined to farming and gardening. The girls are taught domestic work.

Moral and Religious Training.—Every day there is three-quarters of an hour devoted to religious instruction, after school hours.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—All the children have enjoyed good health. The sanitary condition of the surroundings has been carefully attended to.

Water Supply.—Two wells give us all the water we require. The water is excellent.

Heating.—The present buildings are heated by ordinary stoves. The new school will be heated by 'New Idea' furnaces.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Recreation.—The children have recreation after each meal, and a few minutes during school hours. In fine weather they have their recreation in the open air, always under the eyes of their teacher.

I have, &c.,

T. P. CAMPEAU,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
DUCK LAKE BOARDING SCHOOL,
DUCK LAKE, SASK., July 1, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—The school is situated about half a mile from the town of Duck Lake, facing the lake of the same name, and from its proximity to the C. P. R. station affords every convenience for traffic.

Area.—The land in connection with the school comprises one hundred acres, which belong to the Government, and its legal subdivision is section 4, township 44, range 2, west of the third meridian.

Buildings.—The main building consists of entrance hall, reception-room, principal's bed-room, offices, class-rooms and kitchen. On the second floor are the boys' and the girls' dormitories, which have both been much enlarged. The out-door buildings include the stables, granary, piggery, coach-house, dairy, meat-house, wood-sheds, store-rooms, shed for wintering cattle, bakery and laundry.

Attendance.—The attendance is very good. We have at present ninety-six on the roll—forty-eight girls and forty-eight boys. Owing to recent improvements, more accommodation has been secured.

Class-room Work.—The course of studies authorized by the department is adhered to as much as possible, and in addition the pupils receive vocal and instrumental music lessons every alternate day. On Friday the week's lessons are reviewed, and slight though the reward may be, it is surprising what a spirit of emulation it arouses in the classes. The children speak and write English much more fluently and in a shorter time than one could expect.

The supply of school material so kindly granted has been much appreciated, both by teachers and pupils.

During the spring months the bigger boys could not give the full time to class-work, as their services were required out of doors.

Farm and Garden.—Our garden produce was much better than we anticipated, and sufficient vegetables were obtained to supply the wants of the school. Owing to the protection which our high fence gives, our fruit trees did not share in the general failure, and we were thankful to be able to make a fair share of preserves this year.

Stock.—The stock which last year consisted of one hundred and thirty head of cattle, seventy sheep and four horses, has increased greatly owing to the care given by the bigger boys, who rarely shirked their work, even during the coldest part of the year.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Industries.—The necessary work of the school, such as painting, carpentering and tinsmithing is entirely done by the boys, under the direction of Mr. Alfred Boyer. The girls, under the supervision of the sisters in charge, are taught all branches of house-work, such as washing, ironing, cooking, dressmaking and tailoring, and all are regularly employed in keeping not only the house in order, but the clothes of all in it in good repair.

Moral and Religious Training.—The general conduct of the pupils has been excellent, and, as in other years, not one case of punishment had to be inflicted. The spirit of faith and religion are carefully inculcated.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—It is with thankfulness we record the prevalent good health. No epidemic has made its appearance in the school, and though we lost three of our young pupils by consumption, we attributed their death to their enfeebled constitution which never recovered from their former weakness, and which a slight attack of la grippe terminated fatally. Their absent places were soon filled with an addition of twelve new pupils, and our Government number is now one hundred. Additional rooms have been appropriated for dormitories, which gives better accommodation in every way.

Water Supply.—We cannot be too grateful to the department for remedying this want. Two artesian wells give a plentiful supply of good water, which never fails summer or winter, and with the aid of pipes, supplies the dormitories, bath-room and kitchen.

Fire Protection.—Two Babcock extinguishers are placed in convenient positions, and a number of hand-grenades are hung up throughout the different rooms.

Heating.—The building is heated throughout by means of a furnace.

Recreation.—Open air exercise is taken freely, the pupils having two splendid playgrounds. The boys indulge in baseball, football, jumping and running, while the girls enjoy a quiet walk in summer and in winter, music and singing.

Remarks.—In concluding my report, I beg to tender my thanks to the department for the kind assistance given during the year. The work, too, being made comparatively easy by the devotedness and interest evinced by our good agent, Mr. McKenzie, and my able and zealous employees.

I have, &c.,

M. J. P. PAQUETTE, O.M.I.,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
EMMANUEL COLLEGE,

PRINCE ALBERT, SASK., November 29, 1899.

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 June 30, 1899.

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.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

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 of 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 playgrounds for the pupils, both boys and girls.

Accommodation.—We have found it necessary to increase the accommodation in the main building. The loft, the full size of the building, 60 x 30 ft., had never been finished nor utilized. We are having it floored and ceiled, and additional windows put in. It will be used as a dormitory for the girls. Two long rooms, used before as dormitories, are being partitioned so as to make four rooms, one of which will be used for a clothing-room, one for a work-room, one for a bed-room for one of the staff, and the fourth will be reserved for cases of sickness.

Class-room Work.—The pupils all attend school twice daily, with the exception of the elder girls, who assist in the kitchen by turns. The school hours are from 9.30 a.m. to 12, and from 1.30 p.m. to 3. Besides the regular school hours, they have study from 8 to 8.30 a.m. and from 7 to 8 p.m.

Farm and Garden.—Our crops last autumn amounted to one hundred and thirty bushels of wheat, three hundred and ten bushels of oats, five hundred bushels of potatoes, one hundred bushels of onions, and we stored twenty tons of turnips, besides leaving a quantity on the field for the cattle and sheep, as the amount stored was all we required for use. We had twenty-three acres under crop. This season we have eleven acres in wheat, eight acres in oats, four acres in vegetables, and six acres in oats, vetches, brome grass and rape for feed. We have broken six acres of new land and summer-fallowed five acres.

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 ordinary work required. We have a carpenter's shop, and the elder boys are practised in the use of tools. The girls are taught housework, cooking, sewing and knitting.

Moral and Religious Training.—Half an hour each day is devoted to religious instruction. On Sundays the pupils attend two services in the church, which is close by. It is encouraging to be able to report that there has been a marked improvement in the moral tone of the senior pupils, in the course of the past year.

Improvements.—All three buildings have been re-shingled, the plastering repaired, and the whole kalsomined and painted inside; also a new stable has been erected, 44 x 22 ft., with a root-house connected, and a loft large enough to contain twenty tons of hay. We have also put up over two miles of fencing.

Health of Pupils.—The health of the pupils has been generally good, although we have had to mourn the loss of two by death.

Water Supply.—We have three wells on the premises, and an abundant supply of good water.

Fire Protection.—The department has supplied us with Babcock fire-extinguishers, hand-grenades, fire-buckets and axes.

Heating.—Stoves have hitherto been used in all the buildings, but, with the changes and improvements that we are making in the main building, we are arranging for putting in a furnace.

Attendance.—The fiscal year closed with forty-nine pupils in actual attendance, nine of whom are not on the department list.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Recreation.—The boys and girls engage in the usual out-door and in-door amusements. Music is one of their favourite recreations. The organ in the large school-room is free to them, and almost constantly in use. We have several who are fair organists. Of out-door games, the boys seem never to tire of football, and, in winter, the girls greatly enjoy tobogganing.

All respectfully submitted.

I have, &c.,

J. A. MACKAY,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
ERMINESKIN'S BOARDING SCHOOL,
HOBBEMA, ALTA., July 3, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Location and Area.—The Roman Catholic Boarding School is situated on Ermineskin's Reserve, about a mile from Hobbema Station. There are twenty acres of land in connection with the building. The garden, comprising three acres, is cultivated by the pupils.

Buildings.—The school building was completed in 1898. It is divided as follows: school-room, dining-room, boys' dormitory, sewing-room, girls' dormitory, infirmary, chapel and kitchen. The reverend sisters have their own private rooms in the building, which they have always had for that purpose.

Attendance and Class-room Work.—The pupils being all boarders, the attendance is very regular. School opens at 9 a.m. till 12 and from 1.30 till 4 p.m. A recess of fifteen minutes is given both in the forenoon and afternoon. Besides these regular school hours, the pupils in the higher standards study from 5 to 5.30 and from 8 to 8.30 p.m. The programme of studies given by the department is exactly followed. Therefore, I have been able to notice the marked progress the pupils have made in all their studies during this last year, and I am more than happy to state it.

Industrial Work.—The boys look after the cattle, and have the care of the stables. They split all the wood needed for the heating of the buildings. They are also quite busy in keeping the yards in a good order. The girls do the cooking, sewing and washing by turns, receiving for the same daily instructions. They have made during this last year one hundred pairs of stockings, and mended all the clothes. Also, in the June quarter twenty-five aprons were made by them.

Morality.—The pupils have half an hour of religious instruction every day. Nothing is neglected to make these young hearts love God and their religious duties. In general, they respond to the attention we give them.

Health.—There were four cases of death during the past year, caused by inflammation of the brain, scrofula and measles. In the fourth case the cause was unknown. With the exception of these isolated cases, the health of the pupils has been excellent.

Sanitary Condition.—The dormitories and all the rooms are high and well ventilated. The chief condition, cleanliness, is maintained as much as can possibly be done.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Water Supply.—We have two wells near the establishment, which are not sufficient for the wants of the school. On washing-days, we have to take the water at quite a distance.

Fire Protection.—Fire-engines are placed in different rooms, and ladders are attached to the buildings. Tubs are kept full of water.

Heating.—We have ten stoves and stovepipes throughout the buildings for heating, and three brick chimneys.

General Remarks.—The pupils are improving rapidly in the use of the English language, and also in every respect. The inspectors sent by the department declared themselves quite satisfied with the examination the pupils had to pass in their presence. So did Mr. Indian Agent Grant.

In conclusion, I respectfully beg to thank the department for the amount of money we were allowed to spend on school equipment. Our school is, therefore, well furnished with desks, iron beds, hay mattresses, stoves, &c.

I have, &c.,

J. O. PERRAULT, O.M.I.,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
FILE HILLS BOARDING SCHOOL,
QU'APPELLE, November 14, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit a report of this school for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—This school is situated on section 32, township 23, range 11, west of the 2nd meridian, about four hundred yards to the west of the File Hills Agency buildings, and has about two hundred acres of land connected with it.

Buildings.—The buildings are: the home, which is built of stone, with a mansard roof, and is thirty feet square, three stories high, well furnished, and very comfortable; the school-room, about fifteen yards to the west of the home, is a frame building on a stone foundation, 34 x 16 feet, with a porch in front, which is used as a wash-room; also a log building, used as a play-room by the pupils; stables and a driving-shed.

Grounds.—About ten acres are inclosed with the buildings for vegetable and flower gardens, playgrounds and yards.

Accommodation.—In the home are two dormitories, with ample accommodation in each for ten children. We have also an upstairs over the play-room, which is used as a dormitory by the larger boys. The school-room is furnished with seventeen double desks of the most approved style, and is bright and cheerful.

Attendance.—The number on the roll is twenty.

Class Work.—In the class-room are taught the usual subjects found in the public school course, with special attention given to composition and the use of the English language.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Garden.—We have about five acres under cultivation, in which were raised last year over two hundred bushels of potatoes, two hundred bushels of turnips, with all the carrots, beets, cabbage, onions and other vegetables required for table use. We have also a number of flower plots, in which the children are much interested.

Industrial Work.—The girls are taught sewing, knitting and general house-work. The boys do the gardening, attend to the stock, do the milking, saw the wood, make their own beds, help to wash, scrub and do general chores. Six of our boys are out with farmers during the summer, receiving from \$5 to \$18 and board per month, for periods of from four to seven months. They are giving good satisfaction.

Moral and Religious Training.—A part of each day is spent in religious instruction.

Conduct.—The pupils' conduct is good, and very little punishment is required.

Health.—During the year the general health of all has been fair.

Water Supply.—We have an abundant supply of water convenient.

Recreation.—In winter, skating, coasting and other outside sports are engaged in, along with different games during the evening.

I have, &c.,

ALEX. SKEENE,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
GORDON'S BOARDING SCHOOL,
KUTAWA P.O., July 4, 1899,

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 ended June 30, 1899.

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, and the boys' and girls' lavatories. The second floor consists of three bed-rooms, boys' and girls' dormitories.

The outbuildings consist of the old school, which is used for a laundry, a store-house and play-room, stables to accommodate ten head of cattle and five horses, root-house, 16 x 24 feet, and an ice-house, 12 x 16 feet.

Accommodation.—We have ample accommodation for thirty-five pupils.

Attendance.—The average attendance for the past year has been twenty-three, with twenty-six on the roll, and one day scholar, making a total of twenty-seven.

Class-room Work.—The pupils' course of work is that laid down by the department. 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 for table use. There is 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, butter-making and general housework.

Moral and Religious Training.—Careful attention is paid to moral and religious training.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health during the past year has been good, except in two or three cases of sore necks, and also one who had some brain trouble and died at her home on June 25. The rooms are well ventilated and clean.

Water Supply.—Our water supply was obtained from a slough this summer. It was impossible to get to the well on account of so much water, the well being in a low place.

Fire Protection.—We have twelve fire-buckets which are always kept filled with water and put in convenient places through the building. Besides there are Babcocks and other extinguishers and axes, all of which are kept in readiness. The children are also taught to turn out by a bugle call, and take the places told off to them.

Heating.—The building is heated by stoves and was very comfortable during the winter.

Recreation.—In the winter, coasting and other outside sports are engaged in, also different games during the evenings in the school-room. Football is indulged in, also many other games during summer.

I have, &c.,

M. WILLIAMS,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

MUSCOWEQUAN'S BOARDING SCHOOL,

TOUCHWOOD HILLS, ASSA., July 1, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I acknowledge with gratitude the substantial Government aid received by me during the past year, and I beg herewith to submit my annual report of the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—The Muscovequan'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.

Land.—The land connected with the school is a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, and belongs to the Society of the Oblates, to whom nothing is paid for the use and benefits given to the school. There is a large garden, prettily laid out, in front of the house, and beautiful trees are planted alongside of the former; there is an avenue, eighty feet wide, and good fences on each side.

Buildings.—The school buildings include the old church, 24 x 56 feet, which now serves as a school-room, and a new stone house erected two years ago. This new build-

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

ing is in size 50 x 30, two stories high and basement. The basement comprises a large cellar, seven feet high, of the same dimensions as the house itself. On the first floor are: a kitchen, dining-room, chapel and two smaller rooms for visitors; on the second floor: girls' dormitory, sewing-room, and sisters' apartment; there is also a large and comfortable attic. The other part of the building, forming an angle, contains on its first floor the class-room; on the upper floor is the boys' dormitory, airy and well lighted. No cellar to that part of the building. Last fall, various rooms in the house were kalsomined, and walls in kitchen and dining-room painted, wainscoting also; in the kitchen and dining-room, floor painted.

Accommodation.—Under present arrangements, there is sleeping accommodation for twenty-five in the boys' dormitory and twenty-five in the girls' dormitory; in the school-room, dining-hall, &c., the same number of pupils could easily be accommodated.

Attendance.—Thirty Indian children attended school regularly during the year, seventeen boys and thirteen girls.

Class-room Work.—Satisfactory progress is noticed, especially in the juniors standard. The programme of studies authorized by the department is strictly followed. English is spoken generally. Special attention has been given to vocal music, writing and freehand drawing. The boys especially show great interest in the latter.

Farm and Garden.—There is no farm attached to the school yet. Gardening is followed by the pupils to a certain extent.

Industrial Work.—The boys help to do gardening, attend horses and cattle, and do the milking and wood-chopping. Girls are instructed in sewing, knitting, baking, cooking, washing and general housework. They help in the making of their own clothes and most of the boys, and have all the mending and darning of both.

Moral and Religious Training.—The pupils are instructed very carefully in morals and religion, and I am pleased to say that the general conduct has been good and but few punishments had to be administered last year. At times the pupils are cunning, and sometimes forgetful, but they are submissive and faithful. The pupils also attend the religious services held in the church, and show a great interest in the singing part.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—On account of the splendid situation of the school, the health, with the exception of two cases of scrofula and slight colds, has been very good. Sports and work in the open air are the means generally employed to maintain health.

Water Supply.—Water is supplied to the school from three wells: one in the cellar under the kitchen, and the two others 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 four stoves with wood fire.

Recreation.—Both boys and girls have large and well laid out playgrounds, and all take their recreations in the open air, even in winter. Skating, football, swing, croquet, arrow-shooting and gymnastic exercises are the principal out-door amusements for boys. Cards, checkers, dominoes, swing and croquet are the girls' favourite amusements.

General Remarks.—The school was examined by Inspector Alexander McGibbon, to whom I beg to tender my sincere thanks for his unvarying kindness and his earnest co-operation in all matters connected with the interests of the school. To our able agent, Mr. Swinford, do we also return thanks for the kind attention given us on so many occasions.

I have, &c.,

S. PERRAULT,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

McDOUGALL ORPHANAGE AND BOARDING SCHOOL,

MORLEY, P.O., ALBERTA, June 30, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—The following is a statement of affairs at this institution for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Buildings.—During the past year the buildings have been in fairly good repair; the main building has been suffering for lack of painting. Application has been made for a grant sufficient from the department to cover the expenditure of this. Both outside and interior require painting in the very worst way.

Outside Buildings on Ranch.—These require repairs, and a new horse-stable is required, in fact, is almost indispensable. Application has been made in the estimates for a grant for this. During the year the old shedding has been torn down, and two hundred and twenty-five building logs got out for shedding to shelter cattle. Work will be commenced on these as soon as crops are harvested.

Accommodation.—The accommodation at this institution is very limited for the number of pupils in attendance. During the first half of the year this was not felt so much, but since the increased attendance, we have felt very much crowded. We have accommodation for about forty pupils. During part of the year we have had more than this number.

Attendance.—Never before in the experience of this institution has the attendance been so high and regular. With very few exceptions indeed the attendance has been regular, and matters in this respect most gratifying. During the first half of the year the attendance, on an average, has been thirty-nine, and the latter half about forty.

Class-room Work.—The work done in the class-room has been satisfactory, but, as the majority of the pupils are young, and twenty-three of these have come here since June, 1898, the task of imparting knowledge and understanding to them has been rather a difficult one. It is very pleasing to observe how bright some of these pupils are in acquiring the English language. Every effort is being made to encourage this.

Farm and Garden.—Owing to the abundant and timely rains of this spring and summer, crops are a great success, and while this is exclusively a stock country, and grain will not ripen in this neighbourhood owing to its nearness to the mountains, from all indications at present we shall have an abundance of green feed, such as oat straw, wheat straw, rye straw and bromus inermis.

Our garden is also a great success, and vegetables such in quantity as have never been grown here before are now ensured. A considerable quantity of seed potatoes have been planted, and are a most promising crop.

One mile of five-rail fence has been built during the year, and three-quarters of a mile of three-rail fence. These required repairing in the worst way.

Industries Taught.—As shown on quarterly returns, the girls have assisted in the housework and sewing-room, and the boys have helped on the farm and in the blacksmith shop when required. Satisfactory progress has been made in these lines.

Moral and Religious Training. Under this heading, instruction is given daily, and meetings held on Wednesday evenings and Sundays. Methodist Catechism, Life

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

of Christ and Ten Commandments are studied; altogether we are pleased to report good work and signs very cheering under the above heading.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health during the year has been good. We had a severe attack of grippe and pneumonia during the month of March, but with careful medical attendance from Dr. Lafferty, who was untiring in his zeal, coupled with good nursing, all recovered, and we have had no fatalities whatever during the year. The sanitary condition has been good.

Water Supply.—During the past year this has been our main drawback, lack of abundance of water. All of the water required had to be hauled, and in a school like this, with forty pupils, it has been a very hard matter to keep up a supply.

Fire Protection.—Our fire protection consists of two Babcock fire-extinguishers, fourteen bottles of grenade, two axes and twelve fire-buckets. In a country like this, where high winds prevail, considerable care has to be taken with fire lamps and such like.

Heating.—The main building is heated with an E. & C. Gurney furnace, which, with careful attention has given good satisfaction. Wood-burning box stoves have also been used. A coal-burning cooking-range is used in the kitchen.

Recreation.—Owing to our crowded condition, we have felt the need of a recreation-room, but every effort has been made to make matters agreeable for the children in this respect. Games have been purchased for winter evenings' amusement, which the children have enjoyed very much, and quite a home-feeling has been felt amongst the pupils.

I have, &c.,

JOHN W. NIDDRIE,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
ONION LAKE R. C. BOARDING SCHOOL,
ONION LAKE, SASK., July 31, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—The school is situated on Seekaskootch Reserve, about twelve miles from Fort Pitt, on the north side of the Saskatchewan River.

Land.—About four acres of land are fenced in for the use of the school; this land belongs to the Indians of the reserve, but is allowed by them to be used for school purposes.

Buildings.—There is a frame building 45 x 35 feet, large and comfortable and given exclusively to the use of the pupils. Another room for the junior class and a boys' recreation-room is needed.

Accommodation.—There is good accommodation for fifty pupils, and if it were not for the boys' dormitory, I might say seventy pupils. For the inconvenience arising from using the refectory as a class-room for the junior division and the senior class-room for a boys' recreation-room, is the same for fifty as for seventy pupils.

Attendance.—The number of pupils authorized by the department and earners of the department grant is fifty, but we have had a few more than that and have been obliged to refuse others for want of space. There have been eleven admissions and seven discharges during the year. Two pupils were discharged on account of ill-health and the others returned home to help their parents.

Class-room Work.—The class hours are from 9 to 11.45 a.m. and from 1.30 to 4 p.m., with a recess of fifteen minutes in the middle of each session. There is also an hour for study given to senior class in winter evenings. The programme of studies authorized by the department is strictly adhered to. The pupils are studious and give full satisfaction to teachers. They are earnestly desirous to learn and a laudable emulation for good ranks in class reigns.

The pupils are not exempt from class for any reason, except on washing and ironing days. All the rest of the work is done out of school hours. No rewards or punishments have been necessary to encourage the English language and abolish the Cree. This last language is never heard except when parents visit the school.

Farm and Garden.—A large garden is made and taken care of by the pupils, also a good large potato field. Both boys and girls work in the garden. Trees have been planted around the school premises, but few thrive; after a year or two they wither away.

Industries.—The girls are taught to sew, knit, darn, all kinds of mending, to cut and make new clothes and to run the sewing-machine. They make all their own clothing as well as suits, shirts, caps, &c., for the boys. General housework in all its forms is taught them and practised daily. Both boys and girls wash and make bread.

The boys have the care of horses, cows, pigs, fowls; the preparing of fuel and the carrying of water. They also do the boot-mending and make some very neat stitching and soling. Pupils change fatigue duties every week, coming back turn about to the same work; this both rests and interests the pupils.

Moral and Religious Training.—Care and attention is given to moral and religious training, discipline and order. The conduct of the pupils has been generally good.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The pupils' health has been generally good. A few cases of scrofula appear now and then. No deaths occurred during the year. The sanitary condition of the school is good.

Water Supply.—Very good water is supplied by a well dug at a short distance from the school. The water is carried to the house with horse and cart.

Fire Protection.—Our well, which has not a very abundant supply of water is, we may say, our only protection against fire.

Heating.—The house is heated by stoves, and a good temperature is maintained throughout.

Recreation.—About three hours and a half of recreation are given daily to the pupils in the winter season and four and a half in summer. All recreations are taken in open air as much as possible, even in winter. Swings, football, racing, jumping poles, bows and arrows, croquet and a beautiful lawn tennis given to the pupils by a friend of the school, are the chief amusements. During vacation they have a picnic each week. This day is spent in the woods and swimming in the lakes. The children enjoy it immensely and we think the exercise and bathing most beneficial for the health. Boys and girls go in different directions under proper supervision.

I have, &c.,

W. COMIRE, O.M.I.,
Principal.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

ONION LAKE C. E. BOARDING SCHOOL,

ONION LAKE, SASK., June 30, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—The following is the annual report of this school for the year ending to-day.

Location and Name of School.—This school is called the Onion Lake Protestant Boarding School, and is situated on the north-east corner of Makaoo's Reserve, No. 120, about four hundred yards to the south-west of the agency buildings.

Land.—About ten acres are inclosed, eight of which are used as a pasture and playground, and about two acres are cultivated as a garden and potato patch.

The land forms part of the reserve, but has been granted to the mission by the Indians and the department for mission purposes.

Buildings.—The building used for the quarters of the staff and the girl pupils of the school, as well as for culinary and laundry purposes and dining-rooms, consists of four buildings put up at different times, all joined together, and forming now one building of over sixty feet frontage on the west side, by over forty feet wide, and is two-story high.

The school is a building 28 x 24 feet, constructed last winter. The upper floor is at present used as a dormitory for the boys. This building is about fifty yards away from the first-described buildings.

In addition to these above-mentioned buildings, there are, of course, the necessary outbuildings, such as water-closets and stables.

I have also all the material now on the ground for the erection of two more buildings of 25 x 30 feet each, and the building of these will be commenced immediately, so as to be completed by the time school opens after the midsummer holidays.

I was unable last winter to get the school building completely, as the Klondike rush had made it impossible to get lumber from Edmonton, which place is our only base of supplies for such. As soon, however, as school closes for holidays—about July 10—the work of finishing this building will be rushed.

Attendance.—The attendance of the children has been all that could be desired, except in two instances, in which children were taken home by their parents last July and neglected to be brought back when school opened. In one of these cases, the child was returned, but in the other case, in spite of all my efforts, the parents refuse still to bring the child back or to let any one else bring it. In this instance, the parents took away two children, and in the end of September last, one of them was burned to death at a camp fire.

Accommodation.—Although at present we have enough room for all hands, we have none to spare. When the new buildings are finished, we shall have ample accommodation for at least sixty scholars and the necessary staff.

Class-room Work.—In all branches of common school education the children are making very pleasing progress. They seem very bright and intelligent and willing to learn. Mrs. Matheson, who had charge of the class-room work during the first ten months of the year, is a professional teacher, and the children made great progress.

For the last two months an Indian boy, James Brown, who was transferred to this school from the Battleford Industrial School last August, has had full charge of the

school, and has done splendid work. He is a credit to the institution in which he was trained. He is now discharged from this school, as he is eighteen years old, and is qualifying to enter college this fall, with a view to further study.

Farm and Garden.—Although the area of land cultivated is small, only about two acres, still we are able to raise all the vegetables and root crops we require or care to use. In fact, we had potatoes and turnips to give away this spring, being, I believe, the only place inside an area of one hundred miles that had a sufficiency, owing to the poor and dry season last summer. This will show that the work must have been carefully and efficiently done, and it was done by the children themselves, of course under careful instruction and oversight.

Dairying.—This branch is most carefully taught. Up to April, we only had the old-fashioned methods, but now have improved machinery. We make all the butter and cheese used on the whole place, and, as we number over fifty souls, we use considerable. The raising of pigs and poultry also forms part of their teaching in this line.

Industries Taught.—The range of industries, other than those mentioned, is very limited, carpentering being the only trade taught to any extent, although leather-making, or tanning, and shoe or harness-repairing and mending is also occasionally taught.

Moral and Religious Training.—This part of their education is the one over which our greatest effort and most careful watchfulness is constantly exercised. We fully recognize that without a careful moral and religious training, our work in all other lines is worse than wasted. No effort is spared to instruct them thoroughly in the Bible, and to give each child, as far as his years will admit, a thorough grounding in Protestant Evangelical truth and faith. It is a matter of surprise and pleasure to find how clearly they grasp these truths and practise the lessons taught them.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the children is good. Perhaps having a doctor for one of the staff may have something to do with the fact. Of all the children who have belonged to this school since we first began the work, nearly seven years ago, not one has died, except the one mentioned above as being burned to death. In only one case have we discharged a pupil on account of ill-health, and that one, although a very bad case of scrofula, bids fair to recover and live for years yet. The above facts also speak for the sanitary condition of this school.

Water Supply.—We have three very good wells, and to these I am going to add another alongside the school-house. In digging a hole there last fall—or winter—I struck water in abundance, apparently a spring, at a depth of less than five feet.

Fire Protection.—Inside the main building of the mission I have a good double-action force pump, with sufficient hose to reach any part of the building. I also have a force pump to place shortly in a well outside the building, and have plenty of hose for proper working in case of fire. In addition, I have two small fire-extinguishers furnished by the department, ten fire-buckets and plenty of barrels to hold water, in case of danger.

Heating.—All our heating is done with stoves. Particular care is taken to have good brick chimneys, and wherever a pipe goes through a wall or partition, a large square is cut out of the wood and carefully filled in with brick.

Recreation.—Ample scope is given the children for all harmless recreation. Football, baseball, swings, running, jumping, wrestling and club-swinging form their chief amusements out doors, while in-doors they have books and papers, musical instruments, chess and checkers. In addition, I occasionally furnish them more profitable recreation with cross-cut saws at the wood pile.

General Remarks.—Under this head I have nothing to say, except to thank the department very sincerely for the kind and courteous manner in which it has invariably met all my plans or wishes in this work, and I feel that if success does

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

not follow the effort for the education and training of the Indian children in the boarding and industrial schools under its direction, that no blame can be laid on the department, but that rather the failure lies with those to whom is intrusted the work of supervising and teaching in the different schools.

I have, &c.,

J. R. MATHESON,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

PEIGAN C. E. BOARDING SCHOOL,

PEIGAN RESERVE, July 4, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I beg to submit my report on the above institution for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—This school is built on the banks of Pincher Creek, and is situated 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 above-mentioned.

Buildings.—The buildings consist of a boarding school proper, a carpenter's shop, stable, and other necessary buildings.

The boarding school is 78 x 32 feet, thirty-two feet over all. It is built of wood, and is lathed and plastered throughout. It contains kitchen, dining, play and sleeping-rooms for the children, and rooms for the staff, as well as store-rooms and lavatories.

A new summer kitchen has been erected during the year.

Accommodation.—This school has accommodation for forty pupils, viz.: twenty-four boys and sixteen girls; also accommodation for a staff of six persons.

Attendance.—The attendance has been fair, owing to a number of the boys being transferred to the Calgary Industrial School, but the outlook is bright, for the places of those transferred to Calgary are soon to be filled.

Class-room Work.—The children have made good progress, especially in English.

Farm and Garden.—Owing to having no fence around the garden, it was thought desirable to leave it until such time as wire could be purchased, and a proper fence erected, to keep out the cattle which belong to ranchers in the vicinity.

Industries Taught.—The boys are taught how to take care of cattle, pigs and poultry; they do all the baking and the work on their own side of the school; also washing, and assist with the mending. The girls are taught housework, knitting and sewing, and assist in the kitchen.

Moral and Religious Training.—Religious instruction is given daily by the principal, both morning and evening, and everything is done by both precept and example to improve the morals of the pupils.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the pupils has been fair, scrofula and consumption being the most prevalent. There were four deaths during the year,

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

one boy and one girl died from consumption, and two boys were killed in a snow-slide. The sanitary condition is excellent, the building being well ventilated throughout.

Water Supply.—All the water is drawn from a drive well in the kitchen, and is always pure, even when the Pincher Creek is dirty and flooded.

Fire Protection.—Fire-extinguishers are kept in convenient places throughout the building.

Heating.—The building is heated by means of hot air, from two large furnaces in the basement.

Recreation.—The pupils have ample grounds to play in. The creek flows close by the school, and in summer swimming is a constant delight. All kinds of outdoor games are played, such as football, hockey and others.

In cold weather gymnastic exercises are practised in their play-rooms.

I have, &c.,

W. R. HAYNES,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

PEIGAN R. C. BOARDING SCHOOL,
MACLEOD P. O., ALTA., August 13, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report on the Sacred Heart Boarding School, conducted by the Roman Catholic Church on the Peigan Reserve.

Location.—The school is situated on a fine elevated ground, in a very healthy location and in the centre of the reserve, in close proximity to the agency buildings, near Old Man's River.

Buildings.—The buildings consist of a large house, 90 x 30 feet, the kitchen and pantry not included.

Accommodation.—The building affords accommodation for forty children.

Attendance.—We have twenty-five pupil boarders—seven boys and eighteen girls.

Class-room Work.—The work in the school has been steadily pursued; the progress is good and 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, sewing, mending clothes, cooking and doing general housework. The boys are too young to do any serious work. The two oldest commence to sweep and clean their recreation-room and dormitory, make their beds and do some little work around the house or in the garden.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the pupils was generally good last year. We have only to record some slight indispositions. We had to send to the Blood hospital a girl for scrofula.

Heating.—Coal stoves are used for heating purposes.

Fire Protection.—One fire-extinguisher and pails of water are always kept at convenient places.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Moral and Religious Training.—We take special care to instruct our pupils in moral and religious truth.

Recreation.—We have two recreation-rooms, one for the boys and the other for the girls. We have also a nice prairie around the premises where the pupils play in fine weather.

I have, &c.,

L. DOUCET, O.M.I.,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

ROUND LAKE BOARDING SCHOOL,

WHITEWOOD P.O., ASSA., NOV. 1, 1889.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I beg to submit the following annual report of the Round Lake Boarding School for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—The school is situated in the Qu'Appelle Valley, at the east end of Round Lake.

Buildings.—The buildings are frame, on stone basements. The main building contains kitchen, laundry, dining-rooms, girls' room, sewing and store-rooms, pantry, girls' sleeping apartments, together with the principal's apartments; also large basement and cellars. This building is capable of accommodating sixty children.

The school-house is fitted up with school-room, two class-rooms, teacher's room, farmer's room and the boys' sleeping-room, capable of accommodating twenty boys. There are also outer buildings, barn, stable, implement-shed, &c.

The buildings are valued at about \$7,000.

Sanitary Conditions.—The location is well drained towards the lake and river. Every impurity is removed and the buildings and surroundings kept clean. The rooms are large with plenty of light and good ventilation. The persons and clothing are also kept clean. An abundant supply of good food, outdoor exercise and sport when weather allows, amusements and recreations indoors in bad weather, plenty of sleep and the cultivation of cheerful dispositions.

Fire Protection.—We have two chemical fire-extinguishers, one dozen fire-extinguishing chemicals placed in convenient places, a good supply of water and fire-buckets and a fire-axe. The stovepipes and flues are kept clean and in good order and particular care is taken about fires.

Attendance and Progress.—The school was open during the whole of the year. There were thirty-four names on the roll; four scholars were sent home, as they were consumptive and scrofulous. Of these four, one died. The other three are living, but have running sores and for that reason are not allowed to mingle with the healthy children. The health of the rest has on the whole been good. The average attendance was about twenty-eight. The progress made by the pupils in the school-room has been encouraging.

Industries Taught.—The girls receive instruction in general housework, baking, laundry work, cooking, sewing, knitting, &c. The boys have been taught farming, including dairy work and the care of cattle.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

The Farm.—There is a half section of land in connection with the school, about eighty acres of which is under cultivation. There is also one hundred head of cattle, two yoke of oxen, two span of horses, binder, mower, seeder, ploughs, harrows, wagons, &c. Each boy is expected to work one hour each day without remuneration, and for any extra work he receives pay. A boy who is capable of working a team receives ten cents an hour. On account of dry weather and the general failure of crops and hay, farming did not bring us much profit during the year.

I have, &c.,

H. McKAY.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

SARCEE C. E. BOARDING SCHOOL,

CALGARY P. O., ALTA., June 30, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith the following report on this school, under my charge, for the fiscal year ended to-day, June 30, 1899.

Location and Area of Land.—The school is situated on the south-east corner of the reserve, and near the agency buildings.

It has about eight acres of land in connection with it.

Buildings.—The school is under one roof, the boys' and girls' wings being separated by school-room, dining-room and kitchen. The boys' wing, 24 x 50, consists of work-room, lavatory, store-room, office, bed-room and school-room, 24 x 20, downstairs; and boys' dormitory, bed-room and clothes-room upstairs.

The girls' wing, 22 x 24, consists of work-room, lavatory, sitting-room and bedroom downstairs; and girls' dormitory upstairs.

The dining-room is 18 x 25, and the kitchen 18 x 18.

Accommodation.—The school could be made to accommodate thirty pupils.

Attendance.—There have been no absences during the year. The number of pupils on the roll is fifteen.

Class-room Work.—This has been conducted regularly throughout the year, and good progress made.

The grading is as follows:

	Pupils.	Boys.	Girls.
Standard I.	5	2	3
“ III.	3	1	2
“ IV.	6	3	3
“ V.	1	1	..
	<hr/> 15	<hr/> 7	<hr/> 8

Farm and Garden.—The garden connected with the school is about one acre in extent, in which most kinds of vegetables are grown.

Trees have been also raised from seed kindly supplied by Mr. Mackay, of the Indian Head Experimental Farm, who has also given many trees and shrubs on different occasions. Moderate success has been had in this industry. Three hundred maples and artemisias, grown from seed sown three years ago, have been planted out this spring for the purpose of forming hedges and wind-breaks, and over one thousand maples will be ready for transplanting next spring.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Industries.—The boys of this institution being small, no showy results can be looked for in their department. It is endeavoured, however, to teach them to see the pleasure of the work that they do, to watch with interest the growth of the plants and the seeds they sow, and the benefit to be derived from careful weeding and cultivation; this interest and observation leading to a good and thorough rudimentary knowledge.

With the assistance of the teacher, they have sown all the garden seeds, and have planted the trees and seedlings. The boys also help in the stable work, and most of them can milk cows as well.

The girls help in the cooking, washing, mending and ironing for the institution. The bread-making and most of the cooking for the pupils is done by them. All the girls can sew and knit well. They make a great part of their own clothing, and also knit their own stockings and mitts, besides mitts for their parents.

Some of the girls can cut out and make their own dresses in a most creditable manner, two of them requiring little if any assistance.

The willing and happy way in which the pupils do their respective duties is most pleasing.

Moral and Religious Training.—All the pupils attend daily prayers and instruction in the Holy Scriptures, and on Sundays attend the church services. Most of the pupils are good Christian children.

Punishment is meted out when deserved, detention during play-hours being chiefly resorted to.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the pupils has been very good, only one severe case of sickness having occurred during the year. The sanitary condition appears to be in every way satisfactory.

Water Supply.—The water supply is bountiful, and is drawn from a well thirty feet deep, by means of a double-cylinder hand-pump.

Fire Protection.—Barrels are kept filled with water in different parts of the building, also fire-buckets. Every precaution is taken by pupils and staff against fire, and pupils are not allowed to empty any hot ashes without first extinguishing them by water. All lights and fires are out before the staff retire. No matches are allowed in the pockets of the pupils under any pretence; severe punishment being inflicted if this rule is broken.

Heating.—This is done by stoves, except in the boys' wing, where a large 'Syndicate' stove is cased in and made to perform the work of a furnace. The heating is satisfactory.

Recreation.—The boys play football, cricket and other manly sports. The girls play croquet, skipping, and also take walks with their matron, who gives them, on such occasions, useful observation lessons from the flowers, trees and insects. The pupils also take great delight in reading, and devour with great interest children's histories, Henty's works, and the lives of noble men and women. All reading of an unelevating class is carefully kept away from the institution.

Staff.—The members of the staff, who all work in perfect harmony for the welfare and advancement of the pupils, are three in number: Miss Crawford, girls' matron; Miss Marriott, boys' matron; Percy E. Stocken, principal and teacher.

General Remarks.—In conclusion, I would gratefully acknowledge the kindness of the department in supplying us with a new set of model desks for the class-room; also how much I am indebted to the agent, Mr. A. J. McNeill, for his earnest co-operation with me in all matters connected with the school.

I have, &c.,

PERCY E. STOCKEN,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,
LESSER SLAVE LAKE R. C. BOARDING SCHOOL,
LESSER SLAVE LAKE,
'VIA' EDMONTON P. O., ALTA.,
August 1, 1899.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward the annual report of the above-named school for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—The 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.

Land.—The area of land connected with the school is about nine acres and belongs to the mission.

Buildings.—There are three buildings, one of which is not entirely completed. This structure is 72 x 28 feet, and of three stories; the two others are respectively 30 x 24 feet, one being of three stories, the other 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.

Attendance.—The greater number of our pupils 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.—Their class-room work is done neatly and with much application.

Farm and Garden.—About two hundred and ninety-five acres of land are under tillage, the farm comprising two hundred and fourteen acres; the rest is cultivated as a garden.

Industries Taught.—The young girls learn the culinary art, washing, ironing, sewing, dressmaking and in a word everything that a good housekeeper should know. The boys are early accustomed to work on the farm and some have commenced carpentry.

Moral and Religious Training.—Their moral and religious training is based upon the pure and unsullied doctrine of Holy Scripture. All the children are Catholics.

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.—Very good water is supplied by wells dug close to the house and also by the lake.

Fire Protection.—The 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.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Recreation.—During the summer months the children amuse themselves with footballs, swings, skipping-ropes, bow and arrows, marbles and boating. In the winter they have tobogganing, skating and indoor amusements common to their age.

General Remarks.—During the month of June Hon. Mr. Laird, ex-lieutenant-governor of the North-west Territories, passed through this country and paid a visit to our pupils. We were very much honoured by this visit.

J. M. DUPE,
For Rev. Father Falher, O.M.I.,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

ST. ALBERT BOARDING SCHOOL,

ST. ALBERT, ALTA., July 1, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith a report of the St. Albert Boarding School for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—The school is situated about nine miles north of the town of Edmonton, Alberta, in the St. Albert settlement, and on the banks of the Sturgeon River.

Land.—The area of land in connection with the school, and owned by the Sisters of Charity, is three hundred and thirty-five acres.

Buildings.—The buildings are as follows: two main buildings, one for boys and the other for girls; the outbuildings consist of a bakery, laundry, implement-shed, meat-house, ice-house, granaries, horse and cattle stables, besides numerous smaller buildings.

Accommodation.—The school affords accommodation for one hundred and twenty-five pupils.

Attendance.—The present attendance is seventy-eight.

Class-room Work.—We follow the public school programme for the Territories.

Farm and Garden.—There are two hundred acres of land under cultivation, and with the exception of three, who are hired, the work is done by the boys. The number of boys engaged in agricultural work varies with the seasons.

Moral and Religious Training.—Careful attention is paid to moral and religious training; the conduct of the pupils being generally good, punishments are rarely resorted to.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The health of the pupils was good until early last spring, when we had an epidemic of influenza. All recovered with the exception of one little girl, on whose lungs it settled. Our school is well ventilated and is provided with water-closets and bath-rooms.

Water Supply.—The water supply is obtained by a hot-air pumping engine, giving five hundred gallons of water per hour.

Fire Protection.—We have a tank of fifteen hundred gallons capacity in the attic. The water is forced there by the hot-air engine, and from this tank it is distributed throughout the buildings. We also have twenty-three grenades and a hose.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Heating.—The building is heated by a hot-air furnace and stoves.

Recreation.—Three times a day, after each meal, during which the pupils indulge in usual outdoor games.

I have, &c.,

SISTER L. A. DANDURAND,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

ISLE-A-LA-CROSSE BOARDING SCHOOL,

MISTAWASIS P. O., July 1, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Land.—The space of land on which the mission, comprising the school, is situated, covers about fourteen acres, and has always been the private property of the missionaries.

Location.—The Isle-à-la-Crosse Boarding School is built on a peninsula at about two hundred and forty-six feet from the edge of the lake which surrounds it.

Buildings.—The house occupied by the children is 80 x 30 feet, with class-rooms, refectory, parlour, dormitories, recreation-rooms and garrets; the whole being well aired by means of doors and windows.

Accommodation.—Our rooms enable us to receive fifty children.

Attendance.—As the twelve children admitted to school by the Indian Department are boarders, they attend school regularly every day. There are seven other children under our charge, for whom we received nothing, and they also attend school like the others.

Class-room Work.—The subjects taught are: religious instruction, grammar, spelling, reading, history, geography, writing, useful knowledge, arithmetic and singing. Gymnastic exercises are given to the smaller boys and girls.

Farm and Garden.—The work of the farm is done by a brother, with the help of a few men, and the largest of the boys. The garden is kept by a sister, who sometimes has the help of the larger girls. Their garden was partly laid waste by worms, which are found by thousands during the months of June and July.

Industries Taught.—The children are shown how to sow and gather in the potatoes and barley. The eldest girls learn kitchen-work, washing and sewing; the younger girls learn sewing and knitting, and help in the weeding of the garden.

Moral and Religious Training.—The children being under the care of the Sisters of Charity, I can certify that the superintendence is well kept. The first thing they are taught is to behave themselves well here, and to do so later on, and with a few exceptions, they all give satisfaction.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—The children have enjoyed good health all the year, except a few slight coughs and headaches, not serious enough to prevent them from attending school.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 14

Water Supply.—The water is taken from the lake surrounding the peninsula of Isle-à-la-Crosse.

Fire Protection.—There is no fire protection.

Heating.—Stoves heat the rooms; wood is the fuel employed.

Recreation.—Recreation is taken during two hours each day, in a nice yard in front of the school. During summer, the children often take walks, or bathe in the lake, under supervision. In the winter, they have the lake on which to take sanitary exercise.

General Remarks.—The progress of our school, although fair, is probably not such as could be compared with that of other Indian schools.

His Lordship Bishop Pascal examined the school last month, and expressed his approbation of the knowledge displayed by the pupils.

I have, &c.,

J. M. PINARD, Ptre., O.M.I.,
Principal.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

LESSER SLAVE LAKE C. E. BOARDING SCHOOL,

ATHABASCA, November 10, 1899.

The Honourable

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report on the Lesser Slave Lake Church of England Boarding School for the year ended June 30, 1899.

Location.—The building faces south, looking towards Buffalo Lake, which is about a mile off. Lesser Slave Lake is about six miles from the school buildings.

Land.—The land on which the building is erected belongs to the Church Missionary Society.

Buildings.—The Home is a two-storied building, 24 x 30 feet, with a kitchen attached, 12 x 15 feet. The rooms are as follow: girls' bed-room and play-room, boys' bed-room and play-room—the latter room being used for a dining and school-room—matron's bed-room, teacher's bed-room, with a small room used as a sitting and dining-room, and also a temporary school-room, 13 x 24 feet, joining the building, and which has just been finished.

Accommodation.—We have had as many as thirty-five in the Home, and consequently we have been greatly pressed for room.

Attendance.—For the first quarter, ended September 30, 1898, we only had three boarders, but there were thirteen day pupils; few of the parents are willing to leave their children with us all summer; hence the reason for this small number. The average attendance for the three other quarters was as follows: thirty, thirty and twenty-seven respectively.

Class-room Work.—English, general knowledge, writing, arithmetic, geography, recitation and religious instruction were the subjects taught during the year.

Farm and Garden.—We raise enough potatoes and vegetables for our own consumption, and keep ourselves supplied in milk.

Industries Taught.—No industries are taught.

63 VICTORIA, A. 1900

Moral and Religious Training.—The children are instructed on Church Missionary Society lines, and we have a church built on mission land.

Health and Sanitary Condition.—We had sickness in the Home during part of the winter, but no fatal cases. There are two outhouses, some distance from the building.

Water Supply.—In summer the water is supplied from a river half a mile away by means of a water-cart; during winter we use ice.

Fire Protection.—Two ladders fastened on the roof of the building are the only fire protection.

Heating.—Wood-stoves are used for heating the buildings.

Recreation.—Tobogganing, football and indoor games form the principal amusements.

I have, &c.,

C. D. WHITE.

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES,

BATTLEFORD INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,

BATTLEFORD, SASK., June 30, 1899.

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, about two miles west of where it falls into the North Saskatchewan. It is nearly two miles due south from the town of Battleford.

Land.—There is a tract of land reserved, in the immediate vicinity of the school, of nearly five hundred acres, but only a small portion of it is suitable for farming purposes. We have thirty-three acres under cultivation. The department also owns a good hay marsh, containing about three hundred acres, distant three miles from the school. From this we get most of the hay required for the stock.

Buildings.—The main building—with some additions and alterations found to be necessary for its present uses—is that formerly occupied as a residence by the Hon. David Laird (our present Indian Commissioner), when he was Lieutenant Governor of the North-west Territories, and Battleford was the capital. The portion used in those days for the council chamber and legislative hall is utilized in these latter days for our class-room work. The building, as it now stands, contains class-rooms, dining-room, kitchen, staff-rooms, dormitories, wash and bath-rooms, sewing-room, clothing-room, &c. Apart from this, and from each other, are the principal's residence, two buildings for married employees, carpenter shop, with printing office upstairs, blacksmith shop, with paint-shop upstairs, and implement-shed as a lean-to, store-room, stable, pig-pen and well-house, laundry, bakery, hen-house, warehouse, root-house and other outbuildings.

Accommodation.—The school has accommodation for the authorized number of pupils—one hundred and fifty—but we have never succeeded in getting the number much over one hundred, although there are more than enough children in this immediate agency alone to fill the school, if only we could persuade the parents to allow them to be placed in the school. Many of the children referred to are growing up in