DOMINION OF CANADA

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30

1904

PRINTED BY ORDER OF PARLIAMENT

OTTAWA
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EXCELLENT MAJESTY
1905

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir Albert Henry George, Earl Grey, Viscount Howick, Baron Grey of Howick, in the County of Northumberland, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, and a Baronet; Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, &c., &c., Governor General of Canada.

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 June 30, 1904.

Respectfully submitted,

CLIFFORD SIFTON,
Superintendent General of Indian Affairs.

OTTAWA, December 31, 1904.

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REPORT

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1904

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

OTTAWA, December 1, 1904.

The Honourable CLIFFORD SIFTON,
Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the report of the Department of Indian Affairs for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904, the first complete year of my supervision of Indian matters. The report will show that the Indians, composed of a variety of tribes and bands, widely differing in their stages of social development and environment, and scattered over a geographical range extending from the Pacific coast on the west, to the Atlantic seaboard on the east, and from the United States on the south, to the northern limit of Treaty No. 8, which touches the northeast angle of Great Slave lake in about latitude 63 north, with hardly any exception have in their several spheres enjoyed a fair average of prosperity.

A careful consideration of the reports and statistical statements appended, to which I beg to refer you for more detailed information, will divulge that although in the province of Ontario there has been in almost all directions a slight decrease of the material prosperity enjoyed during the preceding year, the cause of which is not apparent, in all the other provinces there has been substantial progress, and while there has been but small perceptible advance in any of them towards the acquisition of the higher spirit of citizenship, to the absence of which reference was made last year, none the less the standard of civilization already reached has been fully maintained.

It may be remarked here that however much further development may be desired, still, should the Indians fail to make it, the country has no little reason to congratulate itself upon a policy which has transformed its aboriginal population into a law-respecting, prosperous and contented section of the community, which, so far from being a menace to or burden upon the commonwealth, contributes in many ways to its welfare.

In the younger provinces among the bands in process of civilization, where progress is naturally more noticeable, there has not been wanting growth in all the directions which make for independence, and as an example of the ultimate, cumulative effect of these often hardly perceptible gradations, it is well worth noting what the Indian Commissioner points out with reference to the Northwest Territories, as to the stage having been reached at which the able-bodied in the mixed farming districts have become practically self-supporting.

Looking back upon the time, well within the memory of many still engaged in the work, when the sudden and complete disappearance of the buffalo deprived the Indians of the plains of the main staple of their subsistence and created the inevitable necessity for the transformation of hordes of destitute savages into self-supporting members of the commonwealth, the attainment of the position to which the Commissioner refers, affords ample proof of what can be done by a little here and a little there, and is full of inspiration for the work which has yet to be accomplished in the direction of teaching these Indians to emerge from the condition of tutelage, and continue without support what they have learnt to do under close supervision. It may be observed here that it need cause neither surprise nor discouragement should some temporary appearance of retrogression attend the first steps of this further education.

Among the outlying bands remote from centres of civilization little change need be looked for. Their fluctuating prosperity depends upon the abundance or scarcity of fish, game and fur, and upon the clemency or inclemency of the winter season, and fortunately it is rarely that they are called upon to endure any thing that from their point of view could be called actual hardship.

The character of the districts inhabited by them for the most part precludes expectation of invasion by settlement, and such encroachment upon their solitudes by civilization as does and is likely to take place is so gradual and of such kind that the Indians concerned imperceptibly and without interference adapt themselves to any changing conditions.

All that is attempted with respect to these bands is to protect them from such unscrupulous traders as would use intoxicants as a medium for barter, to improve their habits of living and their moral tone, and to give them such rudimentary education as may be consistent with a due regard for the conditions under which they live, and from which there is no apparent prospect of their escape.

VITAL STATISTICS, 1904.

Province.	Births.	Deaths.	Gain.	Loss.
Ontario	565	450	115	.....
Quebec	313	196	117	.....
Nova Scotia	79	63	16	.....
New Brunswick	90	62	28	.....
Prince Edward Island	17	13	4	.....
British Columbia	778	887	.....	109
Manitoba	305	263	42	.....
Northwest Territories	495	446	49	.....
	2,642	2,380	371	109

It will be observed from the foregoing that within treaty limits, the births during the year have exceeded the deaths by 262.

For the preceding year the number of births was 2,311, and of deaths 2,143, so that as compared with it there has been a net decrease of 6.

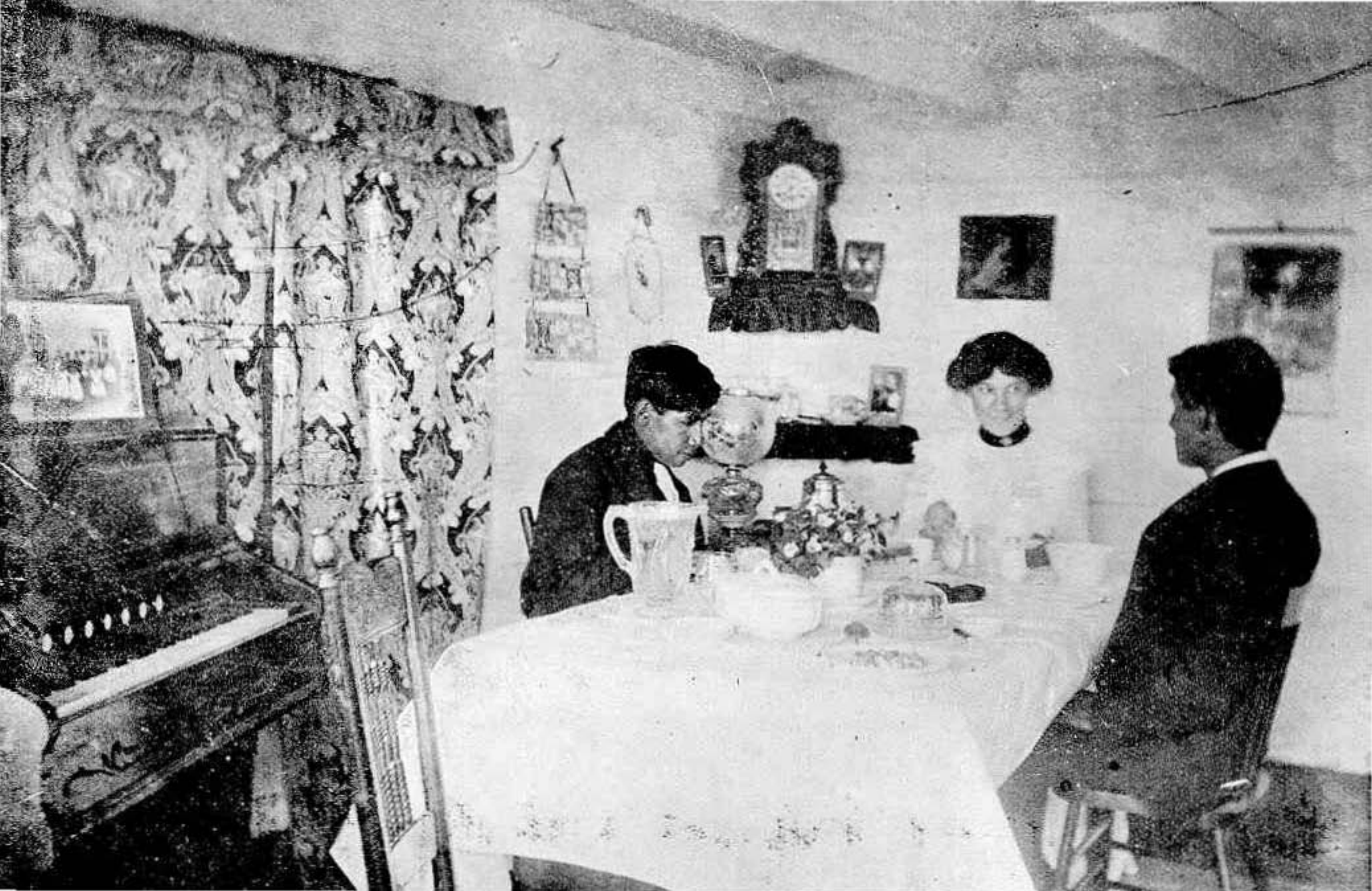
CENSUS.

Province.	1903.	1904.	Increase.	Decrease.
Ontario	21,093	21,191	98	.....
Quebec	11,066	11,149	83	.....
Nova Scotia	1,930	1,998	68	.....
New Brunswick	1,699	1,694	.....	5
Prince Edward Island	301	292	.....	9
British Columbia	25,582	25,234	.....	348
Manitoba	6,829	6,775	.....	54
Northwest Territories	17,649	17,561	.....	88
Outside Treaty Limits	22,084	22,084	.....	.....
	108,233	107,978	249	504

It will be noticed that the net decrease in the population during the year has been 255, a discrepancy of 249 as compared with the net decrease of 6 in the natural increase, which is explained by the fact that the new agent for the Northwest Coast agency, B.C., has deducted 231 from the aggregate of the population in his agency as a result of his success in securing a more accurate census than appears to have been taken by his predecessor for some time past, which reduces the discrepancy to 18, attributable to fluctuation.

It seems difficult in some quarters to get rid of the idea, at one time doubtless quite justified, that the Indian is a dying race, doomed to extinction before the advance of civilization, but facts and statistics fail to support this view of the situation, excepting in so far as concerns the picturesque savage of fiction, who very greatly to the benefit of himself and his civilized neighbours has disappeared. In consideration of the extent to which this view still prevails, it seems pertinent to inquire whether there has been discovered any ineradicable, inherent defect, whether mental, moral or physical, in the Indian's constitution to prevent the successful direction of the forces by which he maintained himself in his original environment, into channels which will enable him to survive in the struggle for existence under civilized condtions.

In so far as some few tribes are concerned it would appear as if there were something endemic in their constitution which suggests their ultimate disappearance, unless it can be discovered and remedied. It may be admitted, moreover, with regard to the race generally, that it might succumb if exposed on the threshold of contact with civilization to its vices and left to cope with the superior knowledge of the unscrupulous, but it has been amply demonstrated in the older provinces that with protection and education the Indion can hold his own in all essential respects. It is, however, with his physical constitution that we are more concerned in this connection, and it cannot be denied that there is prevalent among the Indians a scrofulous condition, generally hereditary, which predisposes them to mesenteric con-



sumption, and still more to phthisis and other pulmonary, bronchial and catarrhal affections more or less kindred. Upon this morbid constitutional condition the first effect of civilization, apart from its vices, is injurious, the chief cause being the change from the open-air life to the vitiated atmosphere of the small, over-crowded, dark and ill-ventilated houses which are first substituted for the teepee or the wigwam, constituting a condition which, aggravated by unclean habits, particularly that of promiscuous expectoration, produces the necessary conditions for the development and propagation of the diseases referred to. As a consequence the comparative sanitary state of the Indians at this stage during any given year, resolves itself very much into a question as to whether atmospheric conditions during the winter and the spring have been favourable or otherwise for the development of the diseases enumerated. The unusual severity of last winter affected the general health detrimentally, and increased the death-rate, but so far as the future preservation of the race is concerned the hopeful feature is that the baneful effects were largely confined to bands which have not yet come under the influence of improved food, dress, dwellings, personal habits, &c., &c., which are so greatly alleviating, if not eradicating, the main cause of excessive mortality.

Despite the unfavourable season it is encouraging to observe that in every province excepting that of British Columbia, the birth has exceeded the death rate, and of the 109 deaths in excess of births in the excepted province 84 occurred in the West Coast agency, and the majority are directly attributable to the determined obstinacy with which these particular Indians cling to their potlaches, and in connection therewith congregate and crowd together in a manner which produces the most unsanitary conditions.

As ameliorating circumstances continue to improve and to extend, and as the excessive mortality among infants disappears through the discouragement of premature marriages and the education of the mothers, there seems no reason to doubt that the Indian population, which for some years past has been fully holding its own numerically, will enter upon a distinct and permanent era of increase.

In other respects there has been little concerning health to call for particular notice.

Small-pox continued to infest certain districts. In the southeastern division of New Brunswick it was carried to the reserve at the junction of the Tobique and St. John rivers, but was confined to five families, within three dwellings. At Saddle Lake and Battleford it broke out in a somewhat severe type, with two attendant fatalities at the former and three at the latter agency.

Whooping-cough was more or less epidemic in Prince Edward Island, and in the Rainy River, Pas, Portage la Prairie, Birtle districts, and in the Babine, Fraser River and Williams Lake agencies in British Columbia.

Measles broke out in Halifax county, N.S., at Maniwaki, Que., and in the Rainy River district.

Scarlet fever was epidemic among the Six Nations, but without fatality resulting, and was responsible for one death at the Pelican Narrows, on the border between the

Saskatchewan district and Athabasca, and some cases occurred in the Rainy River and Portage la Prairie districts.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVE STOCK.

Remarks relative to agriculture and the kindred industry of raising live stock may be prefaced by the following table showing the relative extent to which the Indians of the provinces mentioned engage in these occupations:—

Province.	Population.	Acres.	Horned Stock.	Horses.
1904.				
Ontario	21,191	18,006¾	6,558	3,632
Quebec	11,149	4,601	2,019	763
Nova Scotia	1,998	140¼	296	59
New Brunswick	1,694	622¾	48	12
Prince Edward Island	292	69½	.....	.....
British Columbia	25,234	8,675½	7,575	15,276
Manitoba	6,775	1,024½	2,479	646
Northwest Territories	17,561	11,961	18,852	12,247

With regard to these industries as carried on by the farming communities in the older provinces, there has been nothing during the year to call for particular comment. On many of the reserves in Ontario the methods of cultivation and the supply as well as quality of implements and of live stock are up to the average of the surrounding communities, and on others less advanced, steady progress is being made in the direction of the same standard.

Live stock is held in numbers compatible with mixed farming, and dairy produce is used for domestic consumption and for market, and where opportunity offers, milk is disposed of to the factories.

Agricultural exhibitions are held on some of the most progressive reserves, and the exhibits could compete with what are shown at any other provincial fairs.

The year's harvest of cereals and roots was a good average one, an extra yield of wheat, oats and corn having compensated for some lightness in other crops.

In Quebec there is not the same interest taken in husbandry. Some few years ago a depression in the markets for the industries which these Indians prefer, somewhat stimulated interest in agriculture, but the increased demand for labour in various directions and the revival of the markets for certain industries have tended to check that movement.

In the prairie districts of the Northwest Territories the Indians are more exclusively dependent upon agriculture and still more so on live stock than in any other part of the Dominion.

In some districts, notably in Treaty No. 7, the want of moisture, which is now being overcome by irrigation, and in others the erroneous impression engendered by defective methods of cultivation, that the maturing of cereals could not be depended

on, and again more generally the lack in earlier years of facilities for gristing and markets for grain necessitated reliance to a large extent upon the raising of live stock.

As the Indians have gradually learnt the value of cattle they have come to manifest strong practical interest in caring for them, as an example of which the fact may be mentioned that the Peigans, one of the bands who not many years ago could not be induced to take cattle on any consideration, have recently built some 11 miles of fencing, having purchased for themselves the necessary wire and staples and hauled the posts distances of from 12 to 15 miles.

For the most part the farming Indians throughout the territories have now as many animals as they can properly handle, and the care exercised for years past by the department in purchasing or inducing Indians to purchase good-class bulls has resulted in grading up the stock to a high standard of excellence.

The horses shown in the preceding statement, at any rate in British Columbia and the Northwest Territories, include a lot of inferior ponies, but the policy recently adopted in the territories of introducing stallions into the reserves with a view to grading up the native ponies to a marketable standard seems to be meeting with success, and in the not far distant future profitable results may be expected to accrue.

As to husbandry the improvement of methods of cultivation is attended by many difficulties, not the least of which has been the example set by the earlier settlers, who, finding a practically unlimited area of easily broken prairie lands available, and being handicapped by scarcity of labourers and labour-saving implements, adopted rough and ready methods which the Indians were much more ready to imitate than to abandon.

In some districts farming operations have been somewhat neglected in favour of other employment connected with the influx of settlers, but this interruption is only a temporary one.

In the long run the Indians may be expected to largely benefit from better markets, the cheapening of agricultural implements and machinery, as well as all other commodities, and the generally improved conditions which will result from the extension of railways to meet the requirements of settlement, and even the curtailment of their grazing and hay lands may ultimately prove to their advantage by preventing much of that loss which is inevitable when live stock wanders far afield.

Already the demand for lands in some districts is awakening the Indians to a juster appreciation of the value of their reserves and the benefit to be derived from cultivating them.

In so extensive a territory as that of the Northwest, uniformity of experience can not be expected, but on the whole somewhat unfavourable conditions for the maturing and harvesting of the grain disappointed the earlier promise of an exceptionally profitable yield.

In British Columbia the abundant and general natural resources of fish and game, as well as the prevalence of other openings for profitable employment, render the

Indians comparatively independent of agriculture and stock-raising, the prosecution of which industries is further restricted by the relatively limited areas of cultivable lands. Crops in the province were on the whole a fair success, although similar conditions to those in the Northwest Territories retarded harvesting.

Hay, from the same cause, was hard to cure, but fortunately the abundance of rain so improved the pasturage that the animals were in the best of condition to enter upon the winter. For that reason, and because of the long continuance of fine weather, which enabled stock to graze out well into the beginning of the new year, the hay held out even in districts where the spring was long in arriving, and little if any unusual loss occurred. Some of the farming communities in the province not only employ advanced methods of cultivation, but are well equipped with the latest improved implements for agriculture, and are generally augmenting the number of their live stock. Some bands possess exceptionally well-bred horses, although among others the number of somewhat worthless ponies is still too great.

The following table will show the comparative value of farm produce, including hay, raised in the various provinces during the year under review and the preceding one.

Province.	1903.	1904.	Increase.	Decrease.
	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.
Ontario	339,621 58	330,986 63	.....	8,634 95
Quebec	113,227 00	115,410 25	2,183 25	.....
New Brunswick	12,125 00	12,496 50	371 50	.....
Nova Scotia	10,282 90	13,157 50	2,874 60	.....
Prince Edward Island	1,747 00	1,830 00	83 00	.....
British Columbia	251,559 25	295,077 75	43,518 50	.....
Manitoba	44,537 60	51,396 50	6,858 90	.....
Northwest Territories	321,391 67	288,280 07	.....	33,111 60

Throughout the Dominion as compared with the preceding year, there has been a net decrease of 1,528 acres in the area cultivated, and of 60,456 in the number of bushels of grain and roots harvested, but notwithstanding an aggregate increase in value of products amounting to $4,162.70.

NATURAL RESOURCES.

Nature on the whole contributed with more than its accustomed liberality towards the maintenance of the Indians, and there has been a net increase over the previous year in the amount derived from fishing of $81,399.75, and from hunting of $60,743.72, making the very considerable aggregate addition of $142,143.47.

The figures hereunder will show that in so far as concerns fishing the increase has been shared in proportionately by all the provinces, with the exception of Ontario, where there has been somewhat of a falling off, while that derived from hunting has been less equally distributed, the returns in Ontario and Quebec having considerably reduced the aggregate of the augmented contributions from the other provinces.

FISHING.

Provinces.	1903.	1904.	Increase.	Decrease.
	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.
Ontario	75,414 50	68,617 00	.....	6,797 50
Quebec	3,479 75	4,269 00	789 25	.....
New Brunswick	8,680 00	8,805 00	125 00	.....
Nova Scotia	3,195 00	4,510 00	1,315 00	.....
Prince Edward Island	680 00	1,250 00	570 00	.....
British Columbia	297,030 00	353,698 00	56,668 00	.....
Manitoba	23,506 00	42,009 00	18,503 00	.....
Northwest Territories	25,368 00	35,595 00	10,227 00	.....
	.....	.....	88,197 25	6,797 50

HUNTING.

Provinces.	1903.	1904.	Increase.	Decrease.
	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.
Ontario	115,145 93	90,591 50	.....	24,554 43
Quebec	87,275 10	67,708 50	.....	19,566 60
New Brunswick	7,725 00	8,000 00	275 00	.....
Nova Scotia	5,760 00	5,505 00	.....	255 00
Prince Edward Island	60 00	60 00	.....	.....
British Columbia	165,180 00	216,400 00	51,220 00	.....
Manitoba	61,950 00	74,188 00	12,238 00	.....
Northwest Territories	110,316 30	151,703 02	41,386 72	.....
	.....	.....	105,119 72	44,376 03

Of the Indians in Quebec who depend more or less exclusively upon hunting and trapping supplemented by some fishing, the majority are to be found along the lower St. Lawrence river.

It was pointed out last year that in consequence of one of the periodical migrations of the marten, their staple fur, these Indians had fared somewhat badly.

During the year now under review conditions were more normal, although fur was not plentiful, but the chief factor in the reduction of revenue from this source was the condition of the markets, prices which were good at first having afterwards dropped to a half or even a third, a depression attributed to the fact of a country which is one of the heaviest purchasers of fur being engaged in war. Fortunately deer were very plentiful, so that there was no lack of food.

In other parts of the province the increased opportunities for other remunerative employment have tended to divert from the pursuit of fur and game.

In British Columbia the Indians throughout depend to a considerable extent upon salmon for their food-supply, and numbers from certain localities further rely upon earning money by catching them for the canneries. The runs in the Skeena and Nass rivers were poor in the spring, and not much better later on. Moreover, the Indians refused to accept for their fish the price taken by the Japanese fishermen, and a num-

ber of them returned to their homes, while others went to the Fraser river, where they found conditions little if any better. Fortunately the home runs in the early fall upon which the Indians depend for securing their winter's supply were good, excepting in the Williams Lake agency, where for some unexplained cause streams that as a rule teem with fish remained unentered by them. Moreover, the Indians on the northwest coast who went to the Nass river in the spring for the oulachon fishery, had a very successful catch.

Those in the West Coast agency who accompany the sealing schooners to California and other coasts as hunters, have been gradually faring worse and worse, and last spring returned with little or nothing to show for a two months' absence. The experience of the hunters who remained on their own coast was a happy contrast, as the seals not only arrived early, and in numbers unprecedented for many preceding years, but also approached more closely to shore.

In Manitoba and the Northwest Territories the increased earnings from both fish and fur are attributable to the waters having become restocked with fish, and the multiplying of muskrats, as a consequence of a succession of wet seasons.

In addition to the two main natural resources afforded by fishing and hunting, there are various minor ones, such as the making of maple sugar and the gathering of wild rice and medicinal roots, also of wild fruits and berries, which form a by-no-means unimportant addition to the larder, and moreover command a ready market where there are adjoining settlements.

WAGES AND VARIOUS EARNINGS.

In no other way has the revenue so greatly expanded as from wages earned and various industries, the increase from the former having aggregated $191,736.39, and from the latter $36,500.14, a total aggregate increase of $228,236.44, distributed as shown hereunder.

WAGES EARNED.

Provinces.	1903.	1904.	Increase.	Decrease.
	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.
Ontario	473,178 00	462,476 00	.....	10,702 00
Quebec	267,186 20	377,091 00	109,904 80	.....
New Brunswick	43,000 00	49,550 00	6,550 00	.....
Nova Scotia	20,170 00	27,750 00	7,580 00	.....
Prince Edward Island	300 00	280 00	.....	20 00
British Columbia	367,495 00	425,694 00	58,199 00	.....
Manitoba	30,564 00	38,875 00	8,311 00	.....
Northwest Territories	76,501 64	88,415 14	11,913 50	.....
	.....	.....	202,458 30	10,722 00

OTHER INDUSTRIES.

Provinces.	1903.	1904.	Increase.	Decrease.
	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.
Ontario	88,661 48	93,956 65	5,295 17	.....
Quebec	93,798 00	104,023 00	10,225 00	.....
New Brunswick	19,275 00	18,575 00	.....	700 00
Nova Scotia	21,526 00	20,320 00	.....	1,206 00
Prince Edward Island	17,153 00	17,400 00	247 00	.....
British Columbia	191,681 00	227,210 00	35,529 00	.....
Manitoba	18,560 00	17,510 25	.....	1,049 75
Northwest Territories	125,656 15	113,815 87	.....	11,840 28
	.....	.....	51,296 17	14,796 03

It will be observed that Ontario alone has failed to share in the expansion from wages earned, although she has done so in that from general industries.

In all the provinces a preference is shown when choice offers, for occupation which gives more speedy returns and affords a less monotonous life than farming, and in the older provinces the tendency is, especially for the young people, to make for the towns and cities.

With regard to the first contact with civilization, nothing can take the place of agriculture as a means for effecting the necessary transformation of habits, of which fixity of residence is the fundamental one required for civilization, and at further stages of development it is rare to find Indians making such solid and permanent material progress as when engaged in farming.

On the other hand in so far as respects the ultimate fusion of the races, the mingling with other classes of the community and sharing in their occupations and interests are not without advantage.

The general increase from wages earned is of course mainly attributable to the impetus to all industries throughout the Dominion of recent years, which offers more opportunities for employment at advanced rates of remuneration.

In the neighbourhood of towns the bulk of the employment is in factories, while in the agricultural districts it naturally takes the direction of farm labour, and in the outlying districts is pretty well confined to work for the fishing and lumbering companies, for which kind of labour the Indians manifest a strong predilection.

In Quebec, and on a proportionately reduced scale in the eastern seaboard provinces, the Indians neglect agriculture for various manufactures, such as of snowshoes, mittens, moccasins, baskets, lacrosse sticks, as well as of other more distinctively Indian wares, such as bead, bark and other fancy work.

These industries which had been dwindling away have of recent years been reviving in response to a resuscitated market which continues to improve.

In Manitoba employment is mainly on the lakes and rivers and in the woods, as boatmen, fishers and axemen.

In the Northwest Territories there is a limited demand for the same class of labour, and a considerably greater call for farm labour, and in places a good deal is made by freighting and by the sale of hay and fire-wood.

The increase in wages earned in the territories during the year is largely referable to the demands of incomers during the initial stage of settlement.

In British Columbia the main sources of employment are in connection with the lumbering, mining, fruit-growing and fishing industries (particularly the salmon canneries), also in packing and freighting and as cowboys on the cattle ranches, of all of which the Indians manifest every desire to avail themselves as a means of self-support, and further evince characteristic enterprise in entering upon business ventures on their own account.

HOUSES.

The improvement taking place in the structure of dwellings has been referred to incidentally in connection with its effect upon general health, and it may be observed that the benefit extends to the moral as well as the physical condition of the residents, by making better provision for the separation of the sexes and the decencies of family life. Nor is this benefit limited to sexual morality, for improved residences tend to a general elevation of the whole tone, to increase of self-respect, to a stronger attachment to home life, and the development of a spirit of independence.

In the Northwest Territories the introduction of saw-mills into the agencies and in all of the younger provinces other increasing facilities for securing lumber have greatly contributed towards the improvement.

As to furniture, the substitution of cooking and heating stoves for the old open fireplace, the use of bedsteads, tables, chairs and sewing-machines, &c., &c., indicate a growing appreciation of the conveniences and comforts of civilization, and the attempts at adornment of the homes with such pictures and simple ornaments as can be picked up, and still more the not uncommon acquisition of musical instruments such as organs, and autoharps give evidence of a decided advance upon the standard of a bare utility.

EDUCATION.

With regard to education there has been no change during the year beyond the usual slight fluctuation in the enrolment and average attendance of pupils, and the opening of a few new schools.

The questions have been raised repeatedly as to whether the existing method of education by day, boarding and industrial school as at present distributed and conducted is the best that can be devised for the education of the Indian youth, and again as to whether the potentialities of these schools are being exhausted.

The many difficulties in the way of providing and inducing parents to accept for their children such educational advantages as may seem best suited for their several environments, their present requirements and future prospects, have been repeatedly pointed out.

Since, however, it is intended to go into these most important questions exhaustively at an early date, there would not appear to be anything to be gained by a further discussion of them now, but it may be added that valuable assistance towards the solution of the problem is anticipated from the various religious denominations whose experience, co-operation and interest in the work place them in the best possible position to render it.

The following table will show the number of each class in operation in the different provinces during the year:—

Provinces.	Day.	Boarding.	Industrial.
Ontario	71	1	5
Quebec	17	.....	.....
Nova Scotia	11	.....	.....
New Brunswick	6	.....	.....
Prince Edward Island	1	.....	.....
British Columbia	30	8	9
Manitoba	48	5	4
Northwest Territories (including Treaty No. 8)	33	32	6
Outside Treaty Limits	11	.....	.....
	228	46	24

It will be observed that as compared with the preceding year there has been an aggregate increase of six, composed of four day, one boarding and one industrial school.

Of these schools 44 are undenominational, 104 in connection with the Roman Catholic Church, 88 in connection with the Church of England, 46 in connection with the Methodist and 15 in connection with the Presbyterian Church, while one is conducted by the Salvation Army.

The total enrolment for the year was 9,785, of whom 5,081 were boys and 4,704 were girls, a decrease of 125 boys and an increase of 80 girls, or a net aggregate decrease of 45 pupils from the preceding year's enrolment.

There was a slight gain in the percentage of the average attendance, which was 61·40 of the enrolment.

It may be added that a good many children, not included in the foregoing numbers, attend the schools in the settlements adjoining their reserves.

The number of boys learning trades at industrial schools, in addition to farming—in which all the boys receive instruction—was 221.

MORALITY.

In judging of the Indians' morality, justice requires the exercise of caution in the selection of the standard for comparison, and in estimating the results of the various religious denominations labouring among them, due consideration must be given to the many difficulties which are encountered in the work.

No doubt the highest and only immutable standard of ethics is that of real Christianity, but the remembrance of the long course of preparation by which mankind was enabled to reach the standard attained, even under the most favourable conditions, should dictate the exercise of the utmost charity in attempting to judge people who have come comparatively recently into contact with them.

Among the difficulties to be contended against, particularly at the pioneer stage, not the least is the class of white men with whom they come into contact, and whom lack of discriminating power leads them to regard as the product rather than the failures of Christian civilization.

Again, the pagan Indian who at the beginning, if indeed he ever attains it, completely lacks the capacity to appreciate the theological distinctions and their attendant consequences between the various denominations, is called upon to make his selection, and possibly with some intuitive apprehension of the fruitlessness of a doctrine which exhorts the naked and destitute to be warmed and filled, while withholding the wherewithal, he decides upon the denomination which seems to offer the best prospects of material advantage.

To this material element is added that of his strong natural superstitution, and it is questionable whether despite the best efforts of the missionary, the pagan on the border-land between darkness and light, does more than exchange his superstitions, which at the most can only be productive of a negative form of morality.

However, the missionaries to the aborigines of this country are not peculiar with respect to the experience of such difficulties, and have to exercise patience in the faith of better things to come, and on the positive side of the matter it is pleasing to notice among Indian communities a kindliness of intercourse and mutual helpfulness, which is a nearer approach to Christian charity than is often to be found among others who enjoy greater advantages, but of which the extent and duration bear a distinct relation to the comparative simplicity or complexity of their social conditions.

In some directions class legislation, whether intentional or otherwise, produces as regards comparison a fictitious showing to the detriment of the Indians.

With regard to the marriage bond and other sexual relations, while the law with the laudable desire for the enforcement of nuptial obligations recognizes the validity of marriages contracted in accordance with tribal customs, in furtherance of the same object it refuses to recognize kindred divorces among them, but as the Indians are unable to appreciate such distinctions, it comes to pass that men and women are not infrequently to be found living on the reserves in relations which are condemned as illegal and immoral, although regarded by those immediately concerned as quite correct, and would in other communities be remediable by recourse to the divorce courts.

Over and above this it can not be denied that considerable looseness exists in the relations between the sexes, which is by no means confined to the younger provinces, or outlying bands in the older provinces, but on the whole the morality of the Indians, up to their light, is as good as that of their neighbours, and improvement is going on in this as in other directions.

To turn to another direction in which class legislation casts a deceptive shadow upon the relative conduct of the Indians, it may be observed that the use or even the abuse of intoxicants on the part of a member of any other class of the community attracts comparatively little attention as compared with the same thing on the part of an Indian. At the same time the contraband character of the traffic in intoxicants with Indians offers such prospects of gain as results in special temptations being thrust upon them, and it becomes quite impossible so long as liquor is manufactured and freely sold in surrounding communities to prevent its reaching to some extent those of their number who either go to look for it, or are without the necessary strength to resist the importunity of those who press it upon their acceptance.

The department, however, does what it can, under the circumstances, to keep the traffic within bounds, and in a great measure, owing to the good sense of the majority of the Indians themselves, the percentage who suffer is not a large one.

During the first quarter of the current fiscal year, for which returns are at hand, in the older provinces under direct and active supervision from headquarters, convictions to the number of 122 have been obtained, and fines ranging from $5 to $300, and aggregating $5,949, imposed, while in ten cases imprisonment for terms varying from 30 days to 6 months' duration have been inflicted.

Special activity has been exercised to guard against intoxicants reaching the Indians in the Northwest Territories, as a consequence of the influx of settlers ignorant of the law, and of the special danger of letting them have access to alcohol, and in British Columbia energetic steps have been taken in the same direction, more particularly in the neighbourhood of the canneries where the Indians congregate during the fishing season.

The effects of the crusade against the traffic with the hunting bands along the lower St. Lawrence referred to in last year's report, have so far proved lasting and most beneficial to the Indians in every direction.

Should the strong efforts now being made for the further restriction of the sale of intoxicants, particularly in the province of Ontario, prove successful, the prevention of the traffic with Indians will be greatly facilitated, not only by the removal of direct temptation, but by the modification or destruction of the appearance of class legislation with respect to the Indians, which largely alienates public sympathy from the enforcement of the law.

LANDS.

Of surrendered, surveyed Indian lands during the past fiscal year 67,965·38 acres were sold and realized the sum of $62,942.82. During the same period 321 patents were issued and recorded; 43 returns of patents were forwarded to the different registrars of counties and districts, and four returns were made to the Provincial Secretary of Ontario of lands patented within the province.

The town plot of Fisher, in the township of Fisher, in the district of Algoma, was subdivided into lots and placed in the hands of the local agent at Sault Ste. Marie, for sale at upset prices fixed by the department.

In April last, the Indians of the Nipissing band surrendered 10 square miles of their reserve at the falls on the Sturgeon river, which were sold to the Occidental Syndicate, Limited, for $10,000.

In October, 1903, the Indians of the Rice, Mud and Scugog Lake bands surrendered islands Nos. 74 and 108 in Dummer township, and 2, 3 and 7 in Harvey township, to be disposed of for their benefit, and they were subsequently sold by public tender.

A portion of the Michel reserve, No. 132, situated west of Edmonton, containing about 7,800 acres, was surrendered by the Indians in July, 1903, to be sold for their benefit. Tenders were duly called for the quarter-sections comprised in the land surrendered, but out of the 53 quarter-sections for which tenders were called, only 12 quarter-sections were tendered for and disposed of.

In May last, the town plot of Maniwaki, in the county of Wright, Quebec, having been re-surveyed and subdivided, was placed in the local agent's hands for sale at fixed upset prices.

MINERALS.

During the year a number of applications were received for the baser minerals on lands in the Garden river and Batchawana bay districts.

The Indians of Manitoulin island, unceded, having surrendered oil and mining privileges in connection therewith, the department, on October 2, 1903, granted to André S. Poirier, of Shediac, the exclusive right to prospect for oil on the unceded portion of Manitoulin island from July 16, 1903, until November 1, 1906, subject to conditions specified in agreement.

LOCATION TICKETS.

Location tickets, granting title, under the provisions of the Indian Act, to individual Indians for land on reserves, were issued to the number of 188, and at the end of the fiscal year there were current 1,330 location tickets.

In July and August, 1903, location tickets to the number of 96 for the Port Simpson band, and 45 for the Metlakatla band were issued for lots in their town plots.

LEASES.

Leases to the number of 104 were issued to white men, at the request of the Indian locatees, and at the end of the fiscal year there were 1,199 such leases current.

Of timber licenses renewed and in force there are 23,—of unworked berths for which licenses have not been renewed there are 4, and of vacant berths 3.

SURVEYS.

Ontario.

The re-survey of the Moravian reserve, in the county of Kent, which was commenced two seasons ago, has been completed.

The survey and subdivision of the Walpole Island reserve, in the county of Kent, has been commenced.

All the limits of the Rama reserve, in the county of Ontario, have been re-established and posted.

The boundaries of the West Bay reserve, Manitoulin island, are being re-surveyed.

Quebec.

The southwest boundary of the Doncaster reserve, county of Montcalm, has been defined by survey and marked with stone monuments.

The Quarante Arpents reserve, county of Quebec, surrendered by the Indians to be sold for their benefit, has been surveyed and subdivided into lots for the purpose.

The portion of the eastern boundary of the Restigouche reserve, county of Bonaventure, between the reserve and the lands of the Messrs. Fraser, has been finally decided and marked with stone monuments.

The boundaries of the Pierreville reserve, county of Yamaska, which had become obliterated, and in some instances disputed, have been established by survey.

A tract of land for a reserve at Seven Islands, in the lower St. Lawrence, has been granted by the provincial government, and the same surveyed for the Indians of the locality.

The station ground of the Gatineau Valley Railway having been located in the southern part of the town plot of Maniwaki, county of Ottawa, the same which was previously blocked out has been re-arranged and surveyed into lots for sale.

Nova Scotia.

Forty acres of woodland, adjoining the Millbrook reserve, county of Colchester, were purchased and surveyed into lots for the Indians of the said reserve.

The boundaries of the Ship Harbour reserve, county of Halifax, were re-surveyed.

New Brunswick.

The disputed boundaries of lot A, in the Big Hole Tract reserve, county of Northumberland, were defined by survey.

The north part of the east boundary of the Tobique reserve, county of Victoria, has been re-surveyed.

A number of lots in the Red Bank reserve, county of Northumberland, occupied by squatters, have been surveyed.

British Columbia.

The following surveys were made in this province:—

Disputed boundaries of the Kapilano and the Cowichan reserves.
The Lach-kal-tsap townsite.
The subdivision of the Stony Point reserve, Nass river.

Manitoba and Northwest Territories.

Survey of addition to White Bear reserve, No. 70, Moose Mountain.
Levels for draining hay sloughs, White Bear reserve, No. 70, Moose Mountain.
Retracing survey (boundaries) Sarcee reserve, No. 145, Calgary.
Retracing survey (boundaries) Saddle Lake reserve, No. 125.
Retracing survey (boundaries) Frog Lake reserves, Nos. 121 and 122.
Re-adjusting survey Keheewin reserve, No. 123.
Re-adjusting survey La Corne reserve, No. 100.
Subdivision survey of portion of St. Peter's reserve, No. 1.
Survey and subdivision of the surrendered portion of the Michel reserve, No. 132.
Survey of the townsite of Kamsack, Coté reserve, No. 64.

Miscellaneous Surveys.

The following works were executed under the direction of the department:—

The construction of pavilions, wharfs and boat-landings on six islands in the 'Thousand Islands,' River St. Lawrence, reserved as public parks.

A wagon road across the Doncaster reserve, Que.; and improvements on a new road leading to the north end of the Restigouche reserve, in the same province.

In order to supply Walpole island with fresh water and for sanitary purposes, an extensive work of dredging is being executed on the island.

Measures are being taken to prevent the Bella Coola river, B.C., from overflowing its banks and damaging the reserve of the same name.

FINANCIAL.

At the close of the fiscal year the capital of the Indian Trust Fund, which at the end of the preceding year amounted to $4,408,912.57, had increased to $4,476,907.81.

The balance sheet of this fund will be found in Part II of this report.

The amount expended from the Consolidated Revenue Fund, voted by parliament for the purposes of the department, was $1,107,951.32.

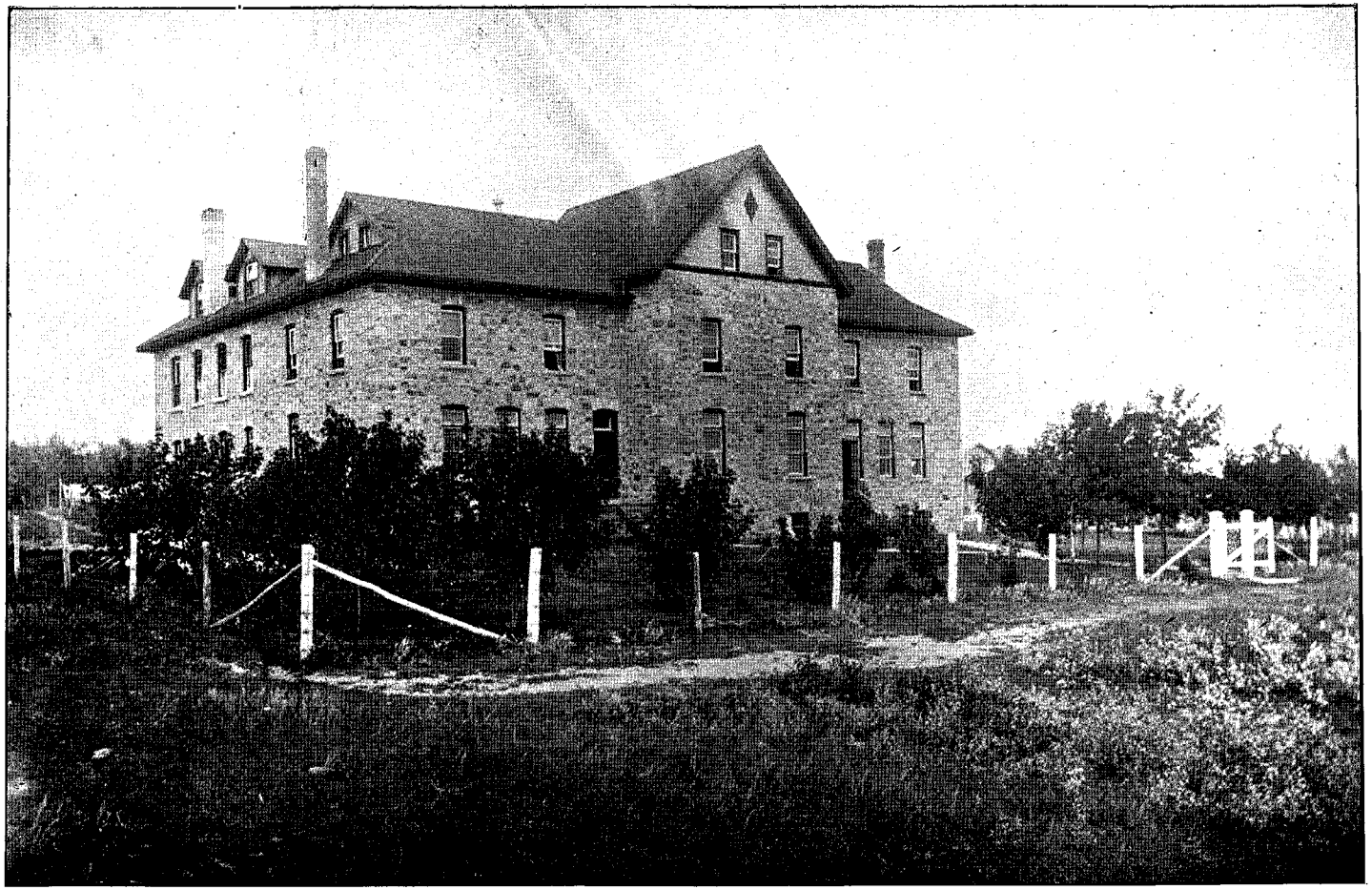
On June 30 last, the balance to the credit of the Indian Savings Account, for the funding of the annuity money and earnings of pupils at industrial schools, together with collections from Indians for purchase of cattle and ranching expenses, was $36,494.23. Deposits and interest during the year aggregated $22,813.30, and withdrawals amounting to $21,645. 89 were made during the same period.

I have the honour to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,

FRANK PEDLEY,
Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs.

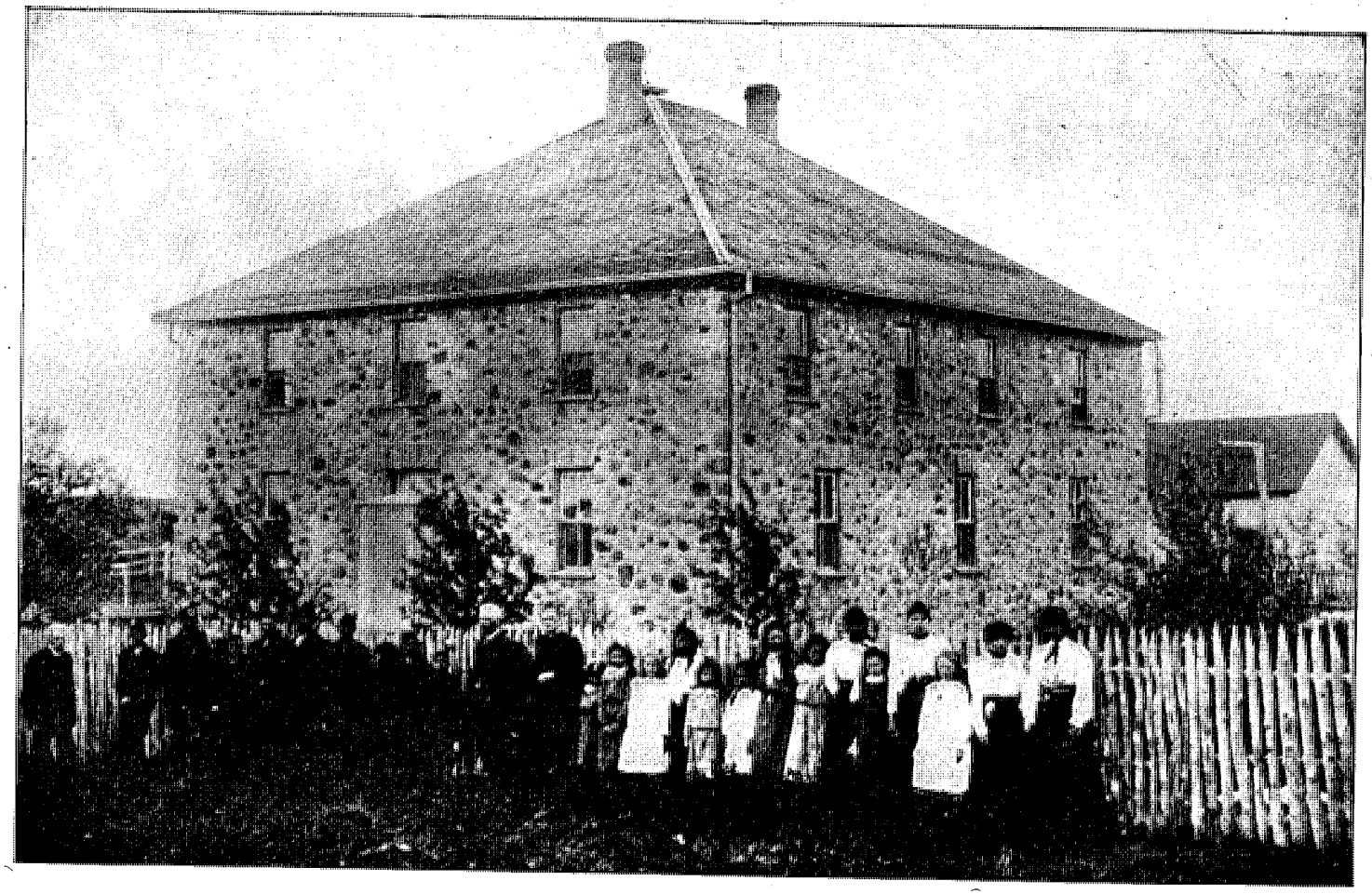
Cecilia Jeffrey School, near Rat Portage, Ont.

RAT PORTAGE (R. C.) BOARDING SCHOOL, ONT.

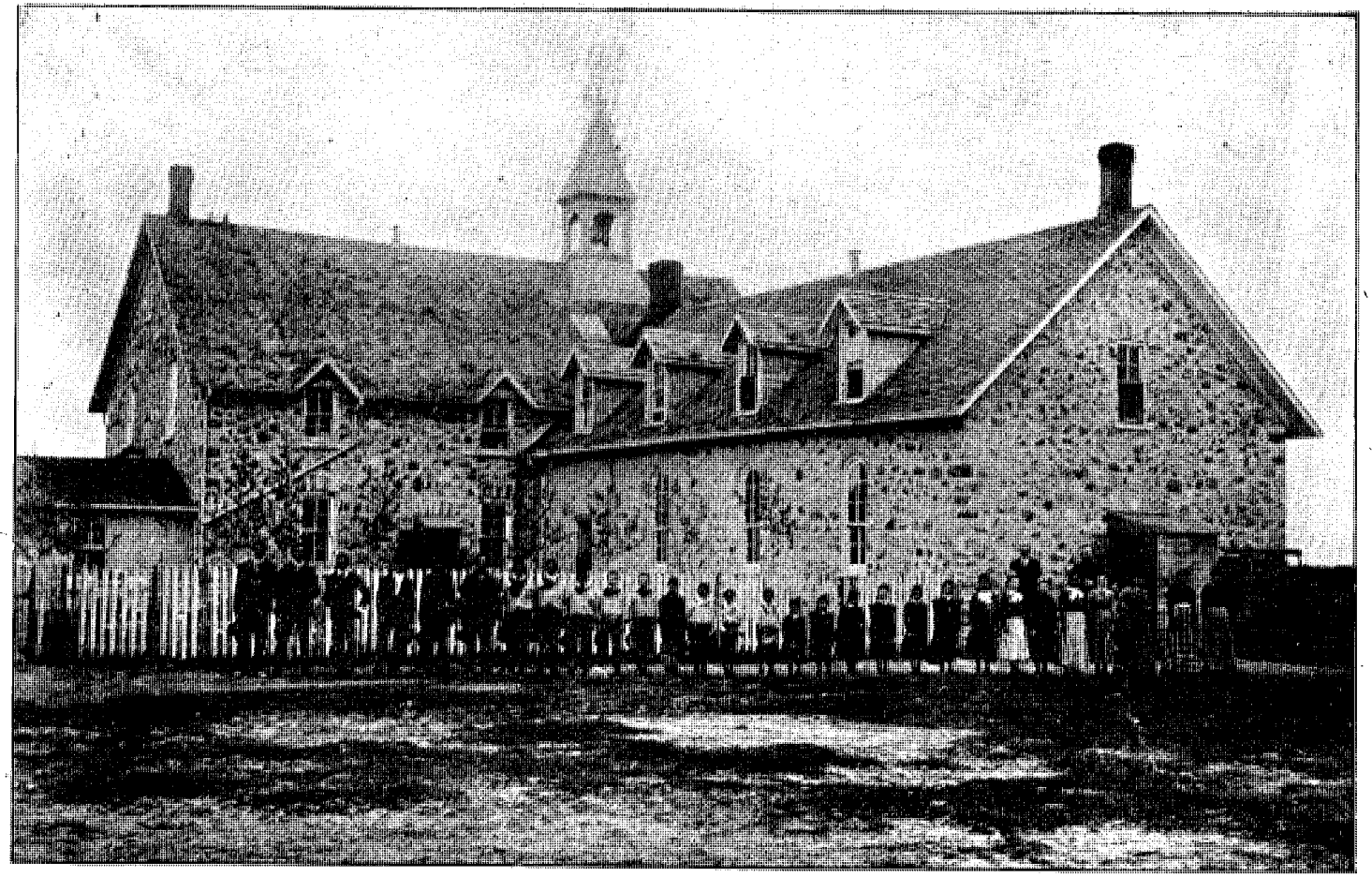


Birtle Boarding School, Man.

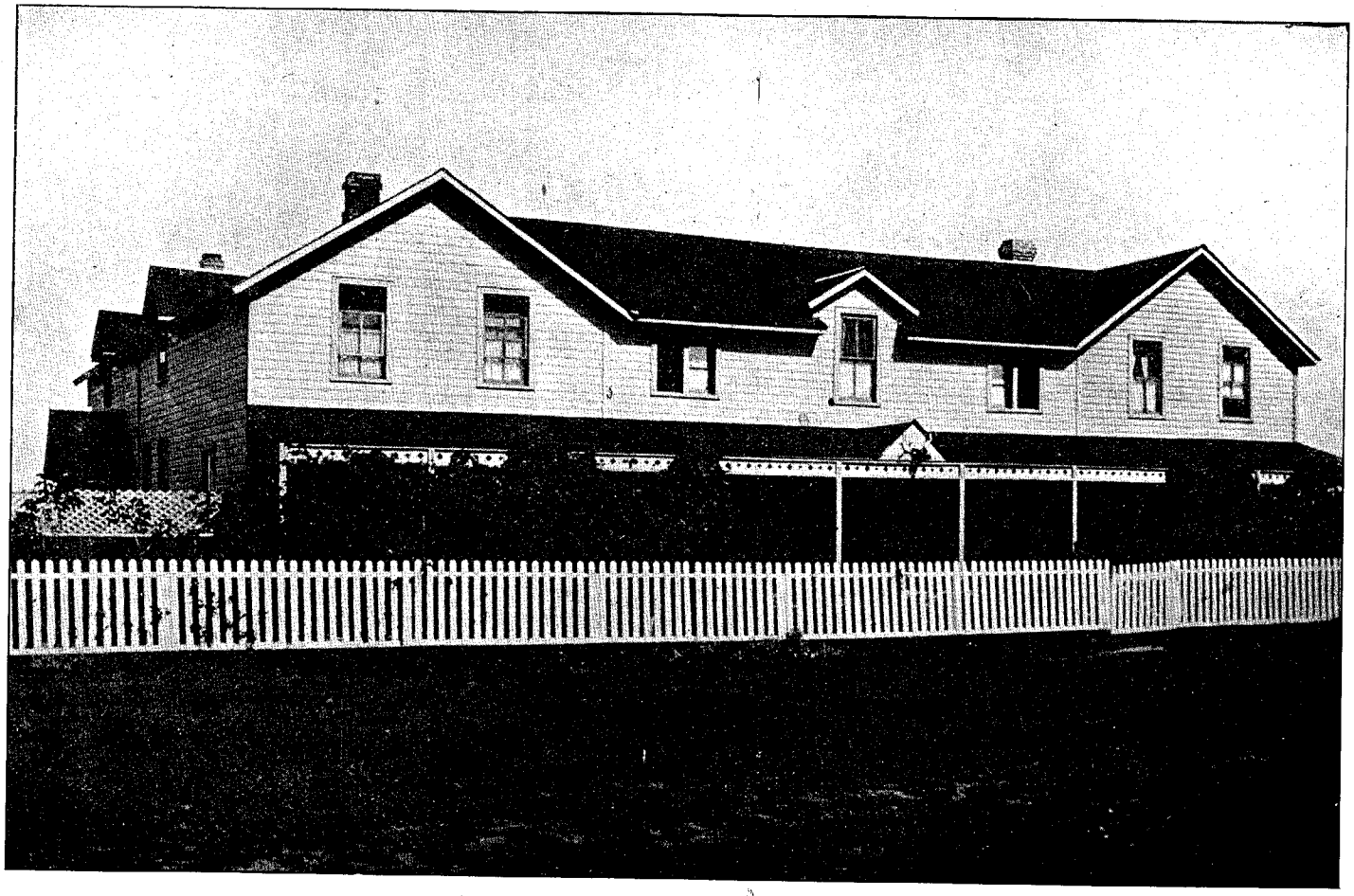
EMMANUEL COLLEGE, PRINCE ALBERT, SASK.



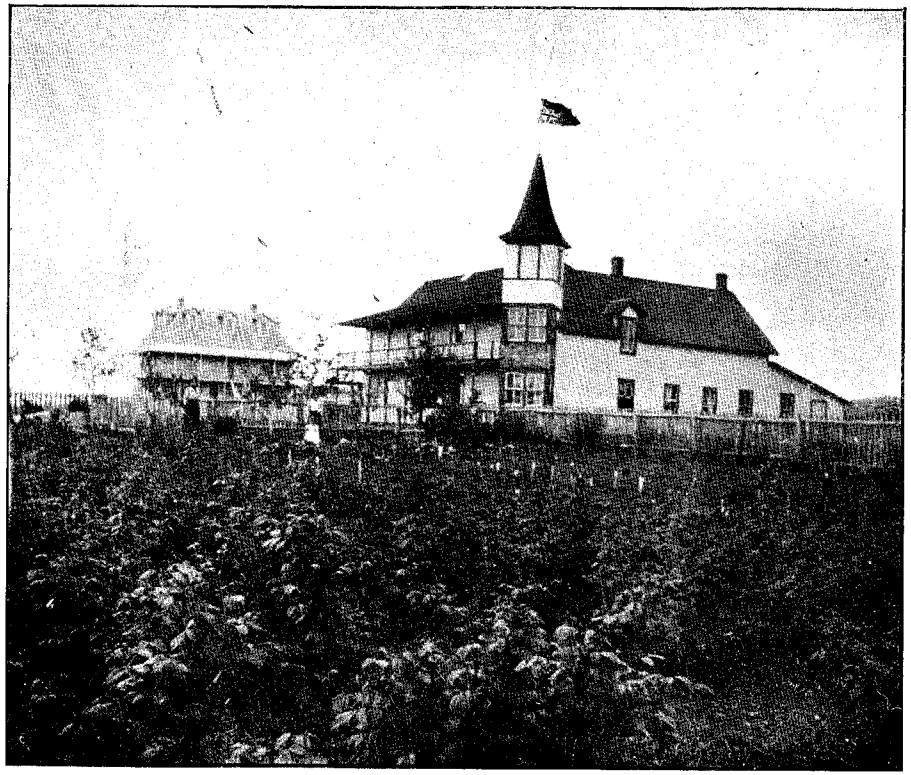
GORDON'S SCHOOL, NEAR KUTAWA, ASSA.



MUSCOWEQUAN'S BOARDING SCHOOL, TOUCHWOOD HILLS, ASSA.



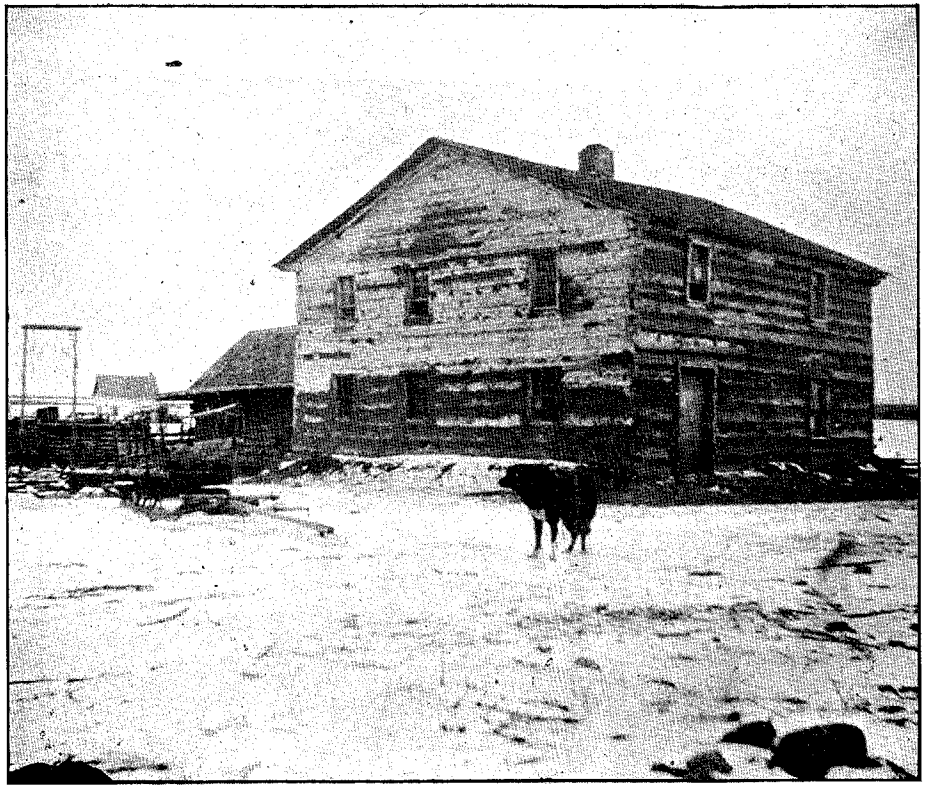
Old Sun's Boarding School, Blackfoot Reserve, Alta.
(Church of England).



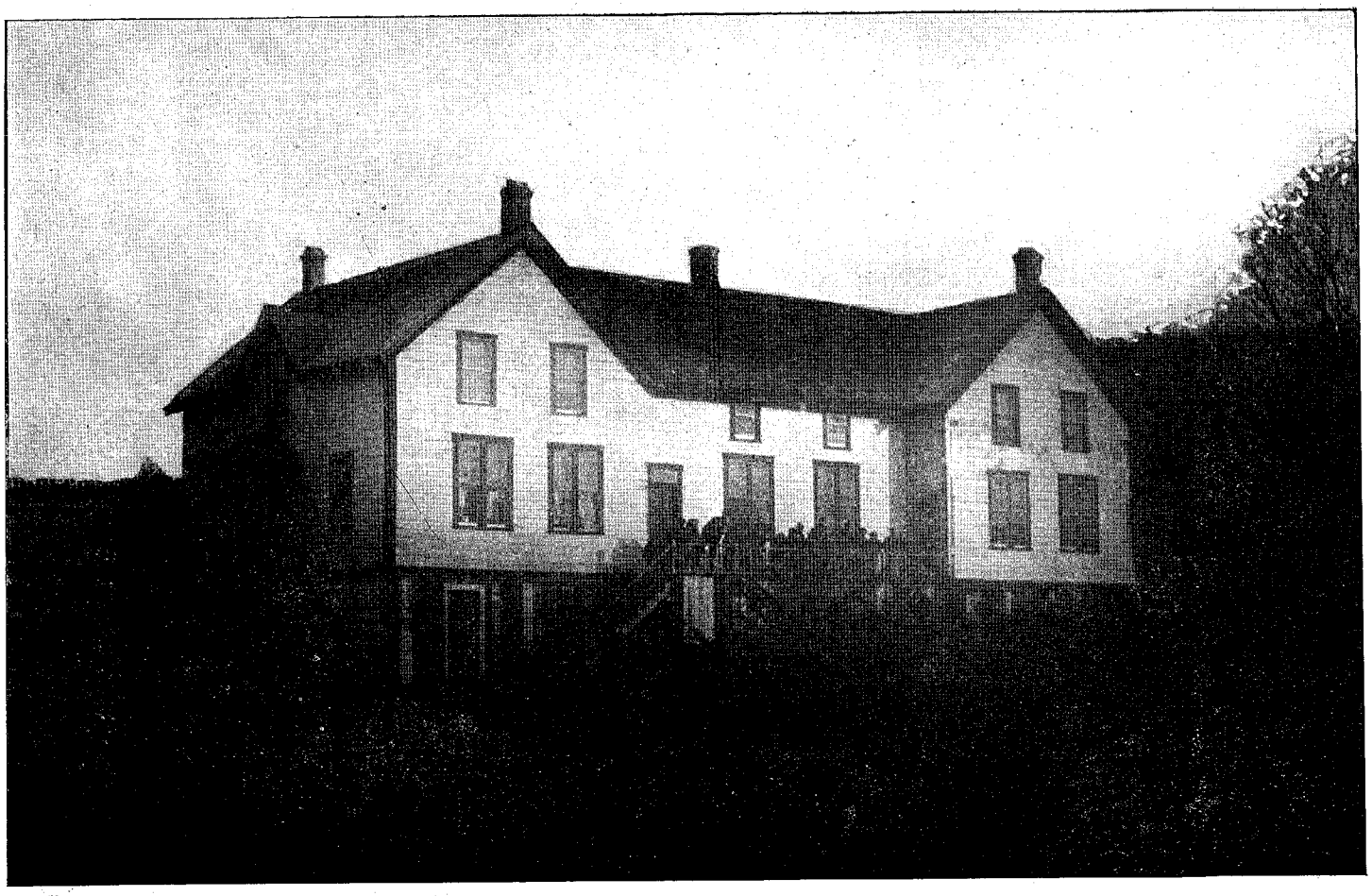
Onion Lake C. E. Boarding School, Sask.

St. Albert Boarding School, near Edmonton, Alta.

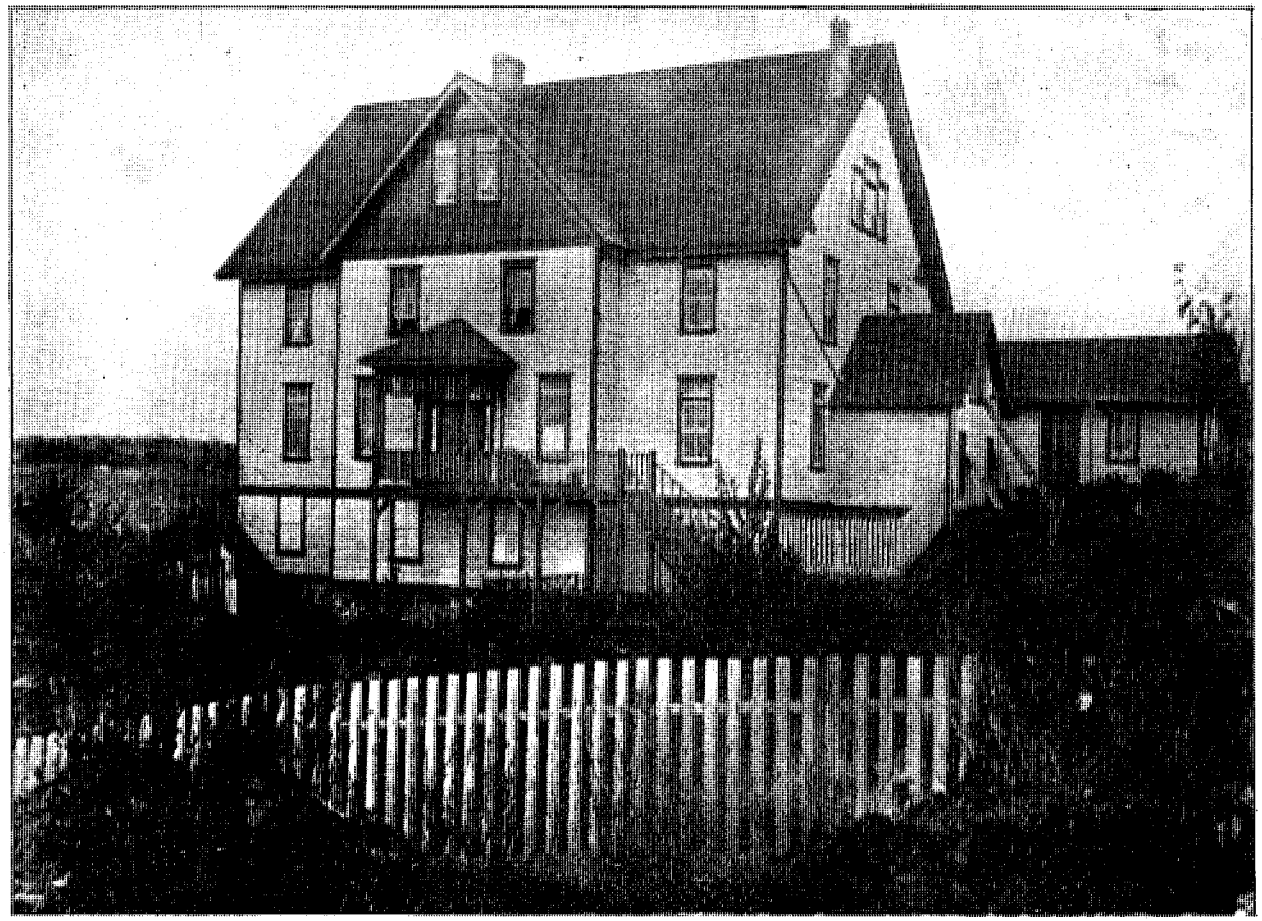
SARCEE BOARDING SCHOOL, NEAR CALGARY, ALTA.



View of C. E. Boarding School, at Wabisca, now Burnt. [385]

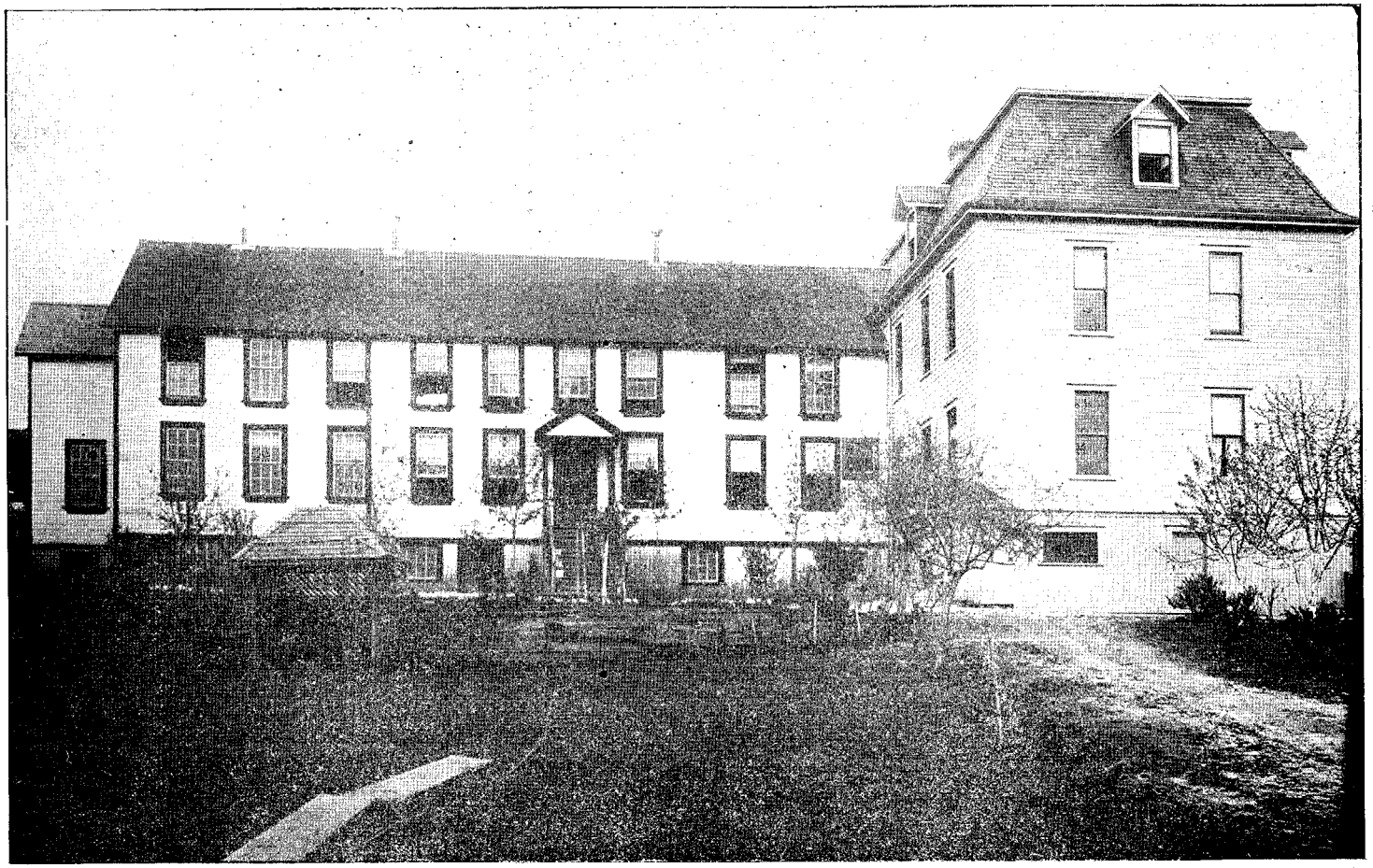


Boys' Boarding School, Port Simpson, B.C.



Port Simpson Girls' Home, B.C.

St. Mary's Mission (B.C.) School Buildings and Church. Boys at Work on Farm Making Hay.

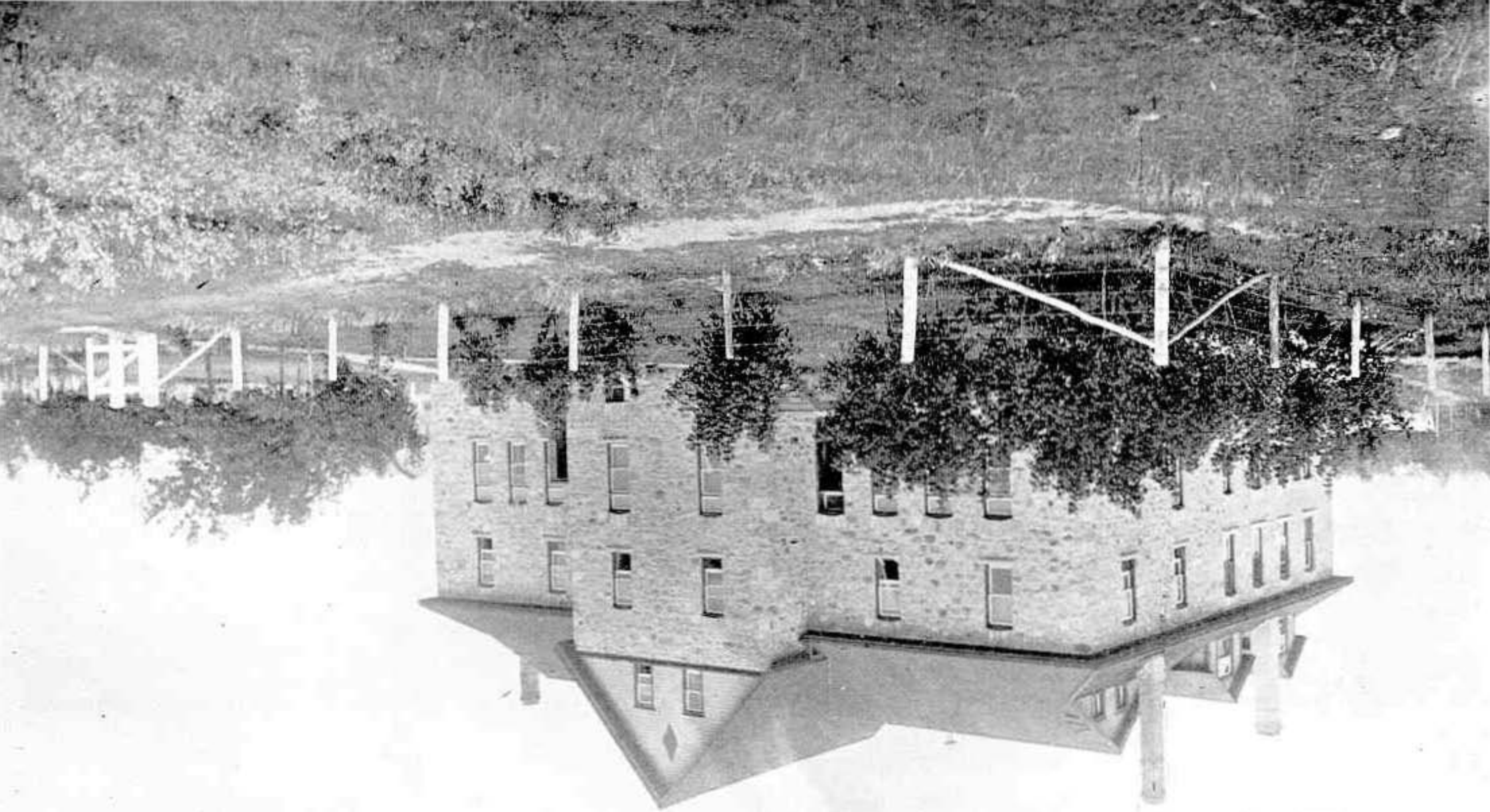


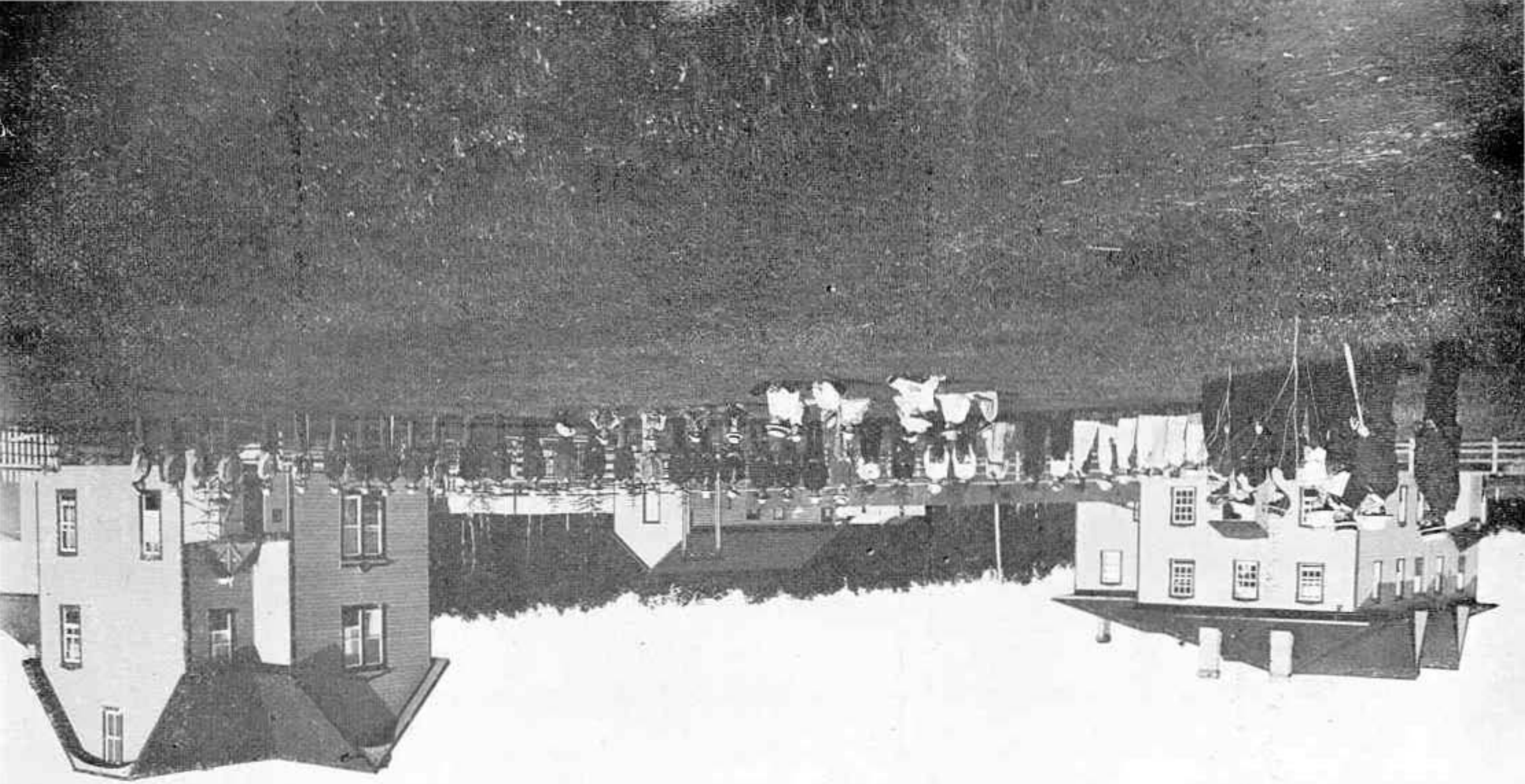
Squamish Mission Boarding School, near Vancouver, B.C.

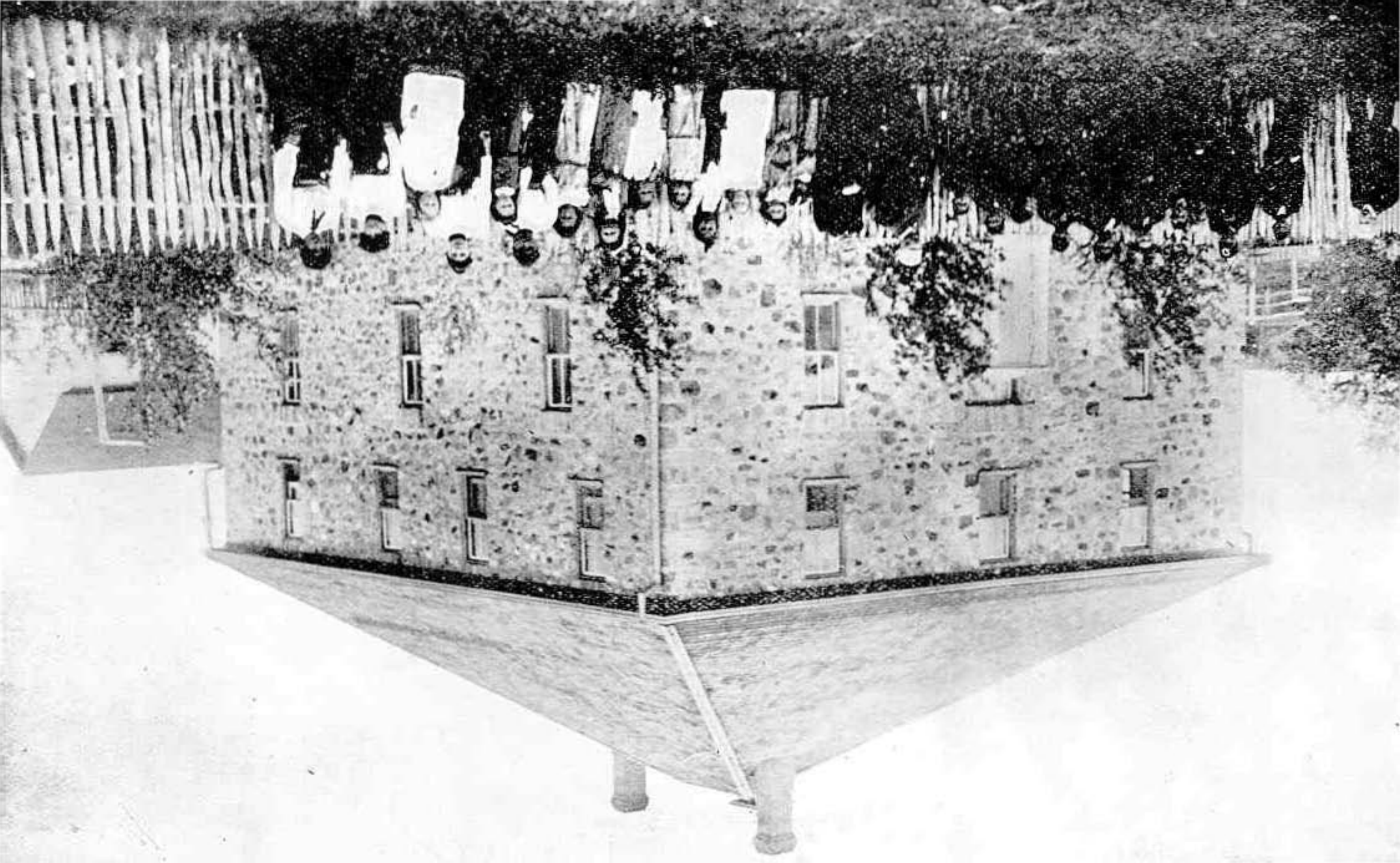
SQUAMISH MISSION BOARDING SCHOOL, NEAR VANCOUVER, B.C.

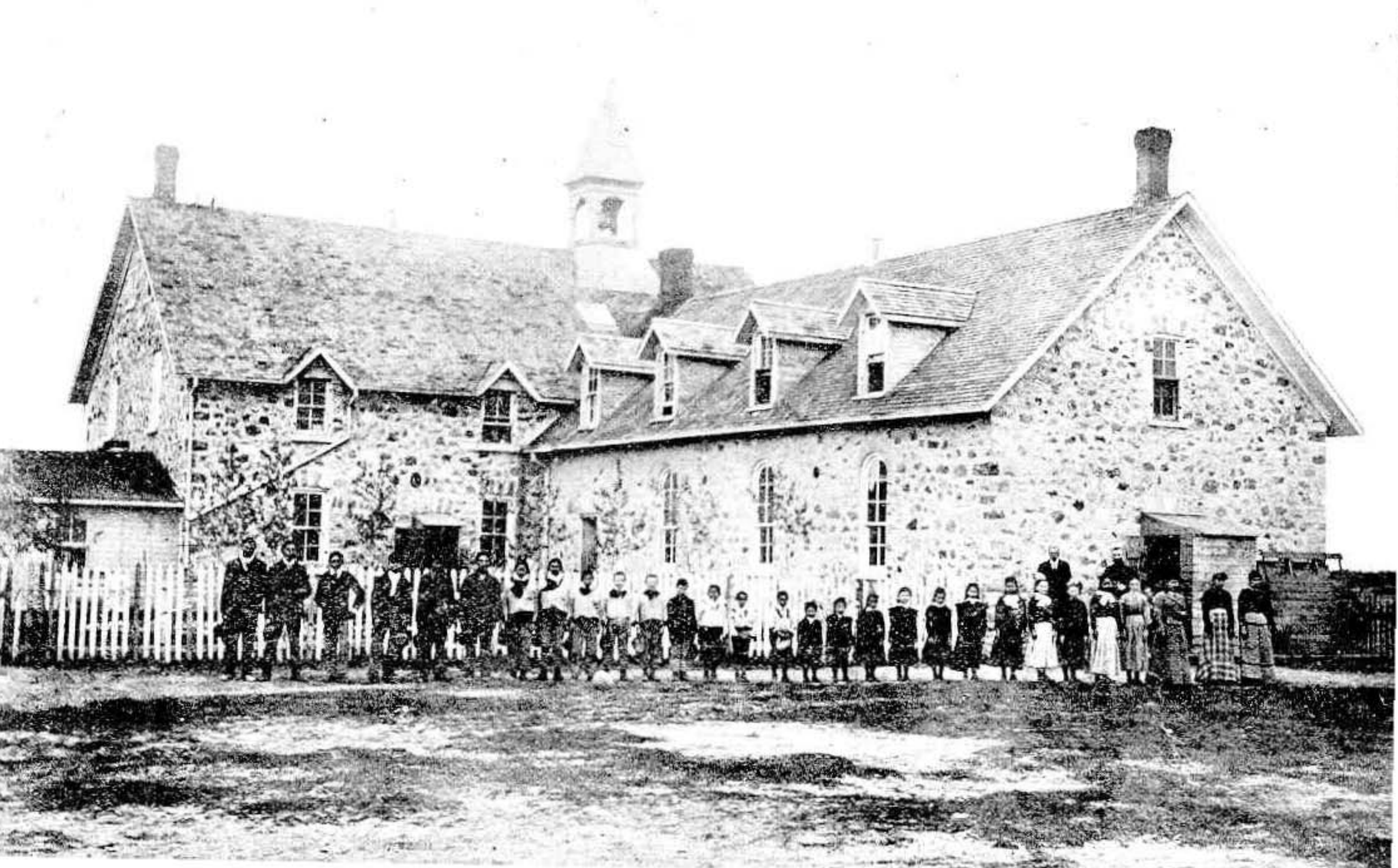
(*Frontispiece.*)

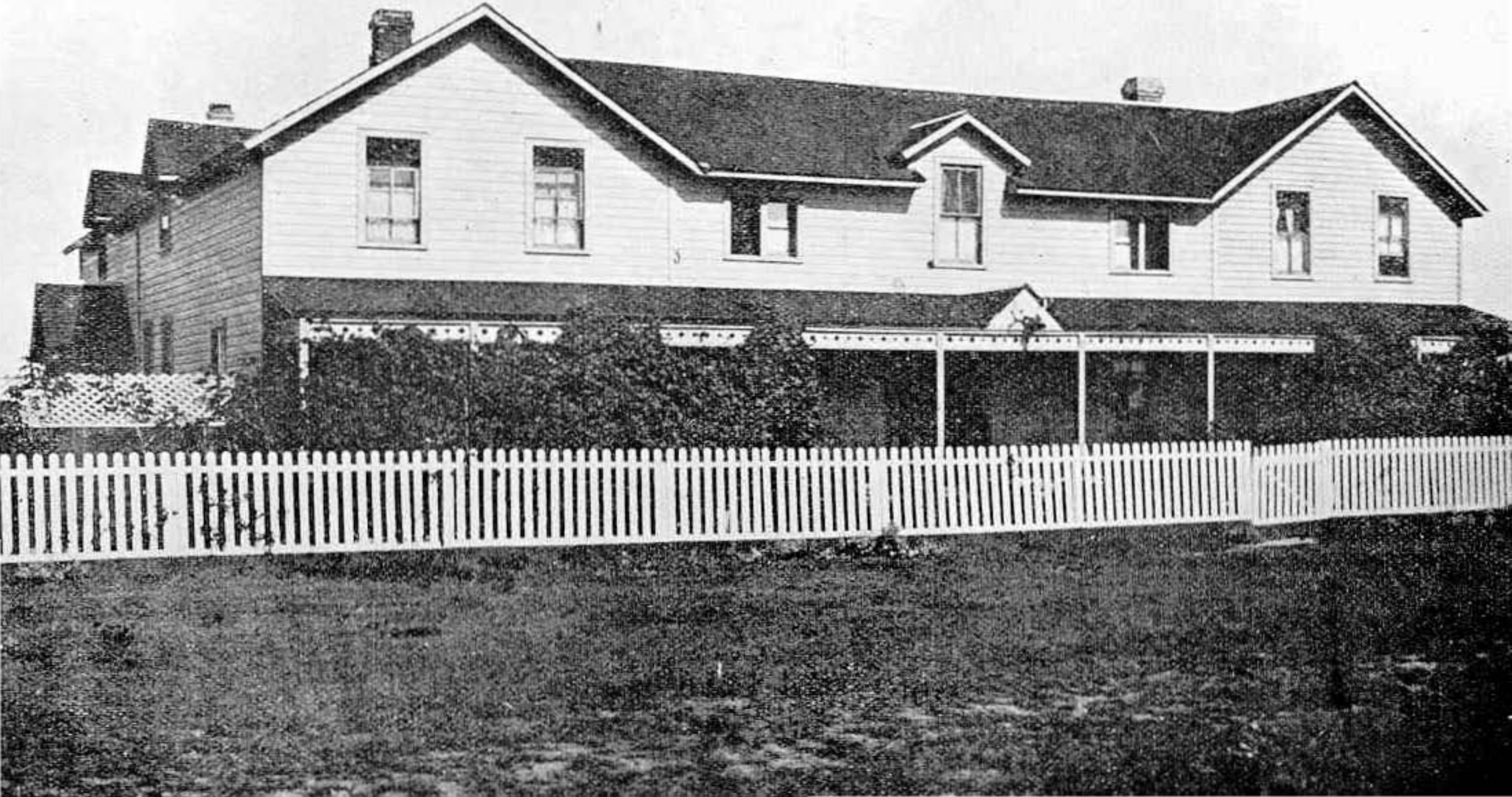
INTERIOR OF BEN STONE CHILD'S HOUSE, EX-PUPIL OF FILE HILLS BOARDING SCHOOL.

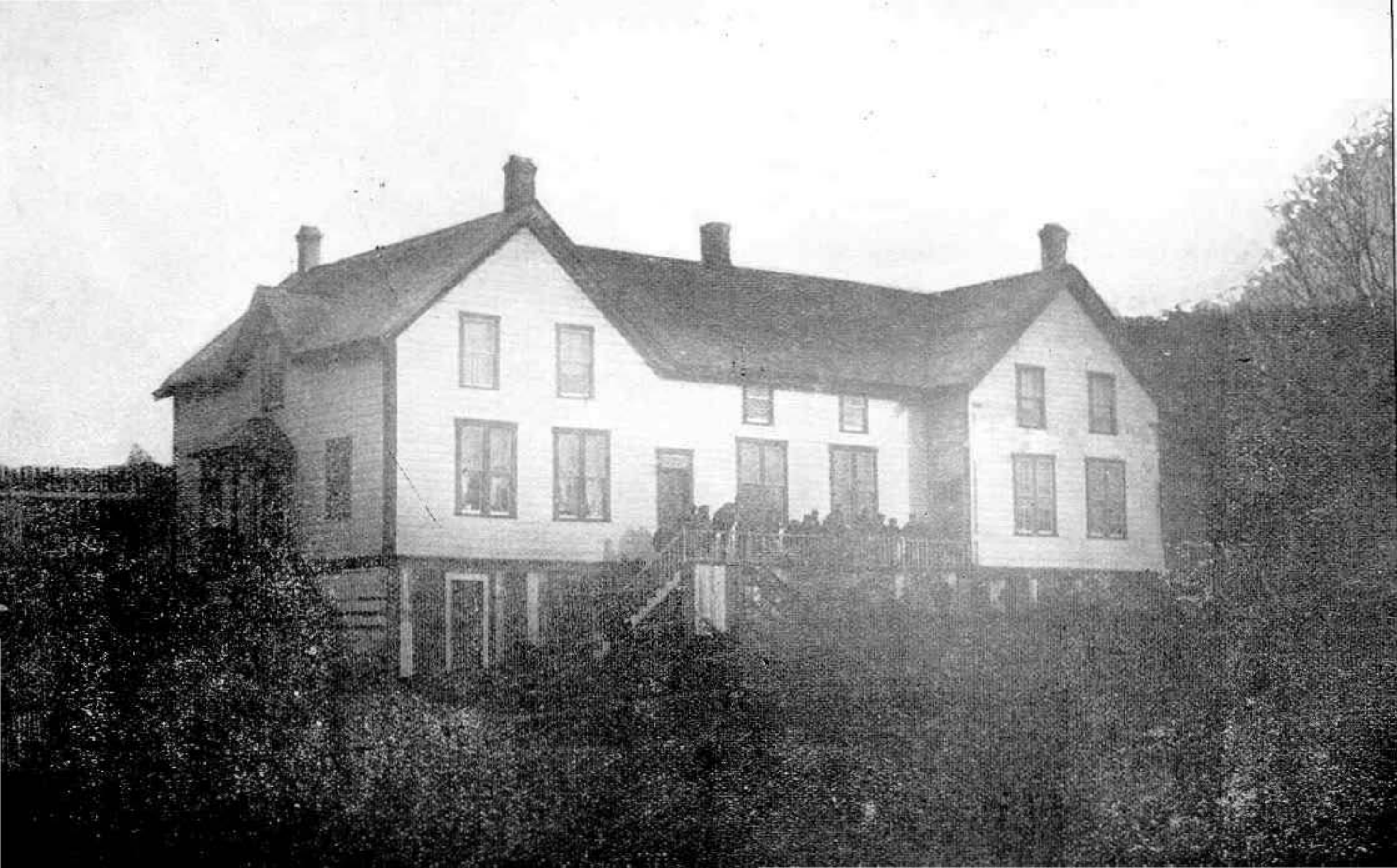


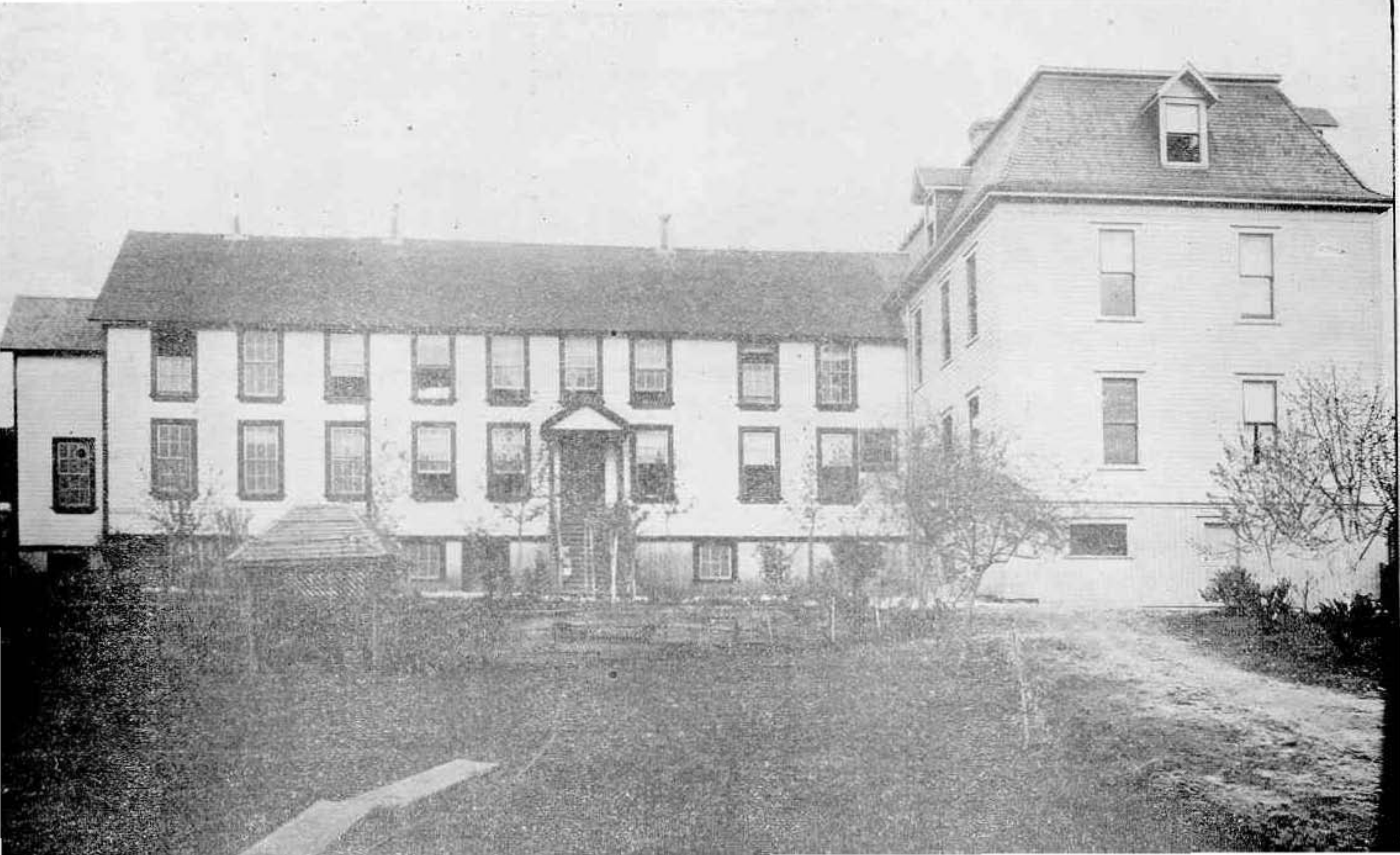












REPORTS

OF

SUPERINTENDENTS AND AGENTS

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
CHIPPEWAS OF CHRISTIAN ISLAND,
PENETANGUISHENE, August 31, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is located on Christian island, situated at the southern end of Georgian bay, on the steamboat route from Collingwood to Parry Sound and from Collingwood to Midland and Penetanguishene.

Tribe or Nation.—These Indians are called the Chippewas of 'Beausoleil,' because they formerly resided on Beausoleil island.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 233, there having been 6 births and 4 deaths, an increase of 2 over last year.

Health.—The health of the band has been good, no contagious diseases of any kind having been prevalent during the year. The houses are clean and comfortable, sanitary regulations being strictly observed.

Occupations.—Farming is the chief occupation of the Indians of this reserve. During the winter they take out wood for steamers, in summer the young men act as guides to tourists. Large quantities of fish are caught in the bay close to the reserve. The women make baskets and fancy-work, so that constant employment tends to make them very comfortable.

Stock.—The Indians have good cattle; and abundance of excellent grass and water keep them in good condition. The importation of a thoroughbred bull some few years ago has proved very satisfactory.

Education.—The school on this reserve is taught by the Rev. Mr. Evans, under whose efficient supervision the children make good progress.

Religion.—There are two churches on the reserve, the Methodist and Roman Catholic. Both are well attended on each Sabbath, services being held twice on this day. The Methodists are at present erecting a new brick church and the Roman Catholics are contemplating extensive repairs to the present church. These two practically new up-to-date buildings will be a very attractive ornament to the island and display a progressive spirit amongst these people.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians as a rule are temperate and in this respect are improving. The chief and councillors, particularly, being temperate and

very exemplary men, which tends to show that these Indians appreciate men of good habits by electing them to office.

I have, &c.,

CHAS. McGIBBON,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
CHIPPEWAS OF GEORGINA AND SNAKE ISLAND,
VACHELL, July 3, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated in the southern waters of Lake Simcoe, Georgina island being five miles from Jackson's Point, a popular summer resort, where large numbers spend the summer months each year. Snake island is a part of the reserve and is twelve miles further west and one mile from Morton Park, another summer resort. The reserve contains 3,497 acres and is a good clay soil and raises good grain and roots, but has numerous swales running through it.

Tribe.—These Indians are nearly all Chippewas and are thoroughly civilized.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers 114, 4 less than my last year's report; consisting of 34 men, 35 women, 26 boys and 19 girls; there were 2 births and 7 deaths and 1 woman joined the band through marriage during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band has been rather poor during the past year. There were two deaths from consumption, which still carries off some each year, notwithstanding that the Indians guard against it all they can by observing all ordinary precautions such as keeping their houses and yards clean and dressing warmly in winter.

Occupations.—Farming is the chief occupation of most of the Indians. Some of them work out part of the time. Some go to the lumber camps; a few work for farmers, some sell fish and others take campers out fishing. Some sell a little fur such as mink and muskrat. The women make baskets and fancy-work of quills, birch-bark roots and peel bark which they sell for medicine.

Buildings.—The buildings are all of wood. There are fourteen frame houses and three frame barns; the rest are built of logs. There is one frame barn being built this summer and some repairing is also being done to houses.

Stock and Implements.—The stock is fair. There are some very good horses, but not enough of them. There are also some fine cows and a few sheep. All the stock is well cared for; the implements are also very good. There is a horse-power threshing machine in good repair and sufficient wagons, sleighs, ploughs, harrows, buggies, and cutters for the needs of the Indians.

Education.—There is a good school on Georgina island taught by Mr. H. L. Tweed, who attends to the moral training as well as to the educational interests of his pupils, and does his best to improve the habits and morals of the whole band.

Religion.—There is a Methodist church on the reserve and most of the Indians are members; there is at least one service held each Sabbath. The attendance is good and the conduct of the Indians while at church is excellent. The church is kept scrupulously clean and in splendid repair.

Characteristics and Progress.—Most of the Indians are fairly industrious and are making fair progress. Those who stay on the reserve and farm get along best. A few of them will not work till they are forced to, and always seem satisfied if they have enough for present needs. A number of the Indians provide for the future like white men; among this class I might mention Alfred McCue, Thomas Port, James Charles, Thomas Charles, G. H. Charles, Charles Bigcanoe, Daniel Bigcanoe and John E. Bigcanoe, who are especially industrious and making good progress.

Temperance and Morality.—The great majority of the Indians of this band never drink liquor nor use bad language, but I cannot say as much for all of them. There is one old man and five or six young men who will drink every time they get a chance. I do not think any of the women drink, and they are, as a rule, more industrious than the men.

General Remarks.—Nearly all the Indians can read and write fairly well; all of them can speak English pretty well, but use the Indian language in all their public meetings. In council they discuss all questions fully before deciding them. Such meetings are always orderly and quiet.

I have, &c.,

JOHN YATES,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
CHIPPEWAS OF NAWASH,
CAPE CROKER, July 8, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserve.—There is only one reserve in the agency. It is situated in the extreme northeast portion of the township of Albemarle, in the county of Bruce. This reserve contains nearly 16,000 acres, about sixty per cent of which is good for cultivation and pasture.

Tribe.—These Indians are nearly all Chippewas.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers 386 on the pay-list, and about 25 non-treaty Indians, who reside on the reserve; on the pay-list are 113 men, 126 women, 89 boys and 58 girls. There have been 9 births and 8 deaths and 5 women came in by marriage, making an increase of 6 as compared with the census of last year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians has been very good during the past year. There is a marked improvement in this respect. All sanitary measures are carefully attended to, the dwellings whitewashed and in most cases kept neat and clean and premises in good order, being kept free from rubbish and other refuse matter by burning it. In their personal appearance the Indians are well dressed, neat and clean.

Occupations.—In agricultural pursuits this tribe is not doing as well as formerly. Twenty-five families are working their holdings fairly well, they have nearly all the farming implements required. On account of the high wages and good times, there is a tendency for part of the families to work out, a number of the young men work in saw-mills, loading vessels and rafting. Some work for white farmers, and in winter in the lumber woods; a number of the women make baskets, pick berries and gather ginseng-root for sale.

There is a saw-mill and shingle-mill on the reserve, manufacturing out of the dead and waste timber, and this year some green timber. The Indians derive a considerable revenue from this industry. They have a good fishing reserve and annually catch about $4,000 worth of fish.

Stock.—They have a number of very good horses, but the price of horses being high, they are induced to sell a number of them each year. The cattle are increasing in numbers, ten more cows have been purchased during the past year. The Indians raise a large number of hogs, and the sheep are increasing.

Education.—There are three day schools on this reserve, all of which are making very good progress, the school-buildings are in good order and well equipped, being supplied with good teachers.

Religion.—The Indians attend divine service well, they have two churches. The Methodists, two hundred and forty in number, have a large stone church and a resident missionary in the person of the Rev. Mr. Nelson, recently from Norway House in the Northwest ; he understands the Indian work; while the Roman Catholics, numbering about one hundred and twenty-eight, have a frame church. They are agitating for the building of a new brick church of larger size ; they also have a resident missionary. The Rev. Father Artus has been very energetic in his good work among the Indians, he goes to a larger field and is succeeded by the Rev. Father Catto from Sault Ste. Marie. There are about fifteen members of the band leaning to the English Church, but they have no church-building.

Temperance and Morality.—I am pleased to report that a large majority of this band are strictly temperate and have temperance societies, there are still a few noted characters that on days of large gatherings outside get unscrupulous white men to procure them whisky. I have trouble with those, but on the whole there continues to be a decided improvement in this respect.

The Indians continue to improve in morality, but when an officer of the department comes up from Ottawa, they tell everything on one another. This makes it appear worse than it would be with an equal number of white people.

Characteristics and Progress.—The industrious Indians are getting along well and making a good living and their progress on the whole is fair. They had a good crop of hay this year and an abundance of pasture. Their grain crop is below the average, potatoes and roots are looking well. There is a marked improvement in their buildings and fences ; two good stone houses have been recently built, the Indians doing most of the work themselves. They have good public buildings and they have all been put under good repair this summer. The Nawash Indian fall agricultural show has been held annually for the past seven years and is the means of creating a good deal of healthy rivalry in competition with each other in the products of their labour. It is the only big day they all participate in for outside sport and amusement on their own reserve.

I have, &c.,

JOHN McIVER,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
CHIPPEWAS OF RAMA,
ATHERLEY, August 22, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report together with statistical statement, showing the condition and progress of the Indians of this agency, for the year ended June 30, last.

Reserve.—The Rama reserve is situated in the northern extremity of the county of Ontario, on the eastern shore of Lake Couchiching. The land is high and a fairly good clay loam.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Chippewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 231, composed of 50 men, 64 women, 60 boys and 67 girls, a decrease of 3 since my last annual report.

Health and Sanitation.—In general the health of the Indians has been good. In spite of the severe cold of last winter, no epidemic prevailed among them. Consumption is the cause of death in the majority of cases. All sanitary precautions are strictly observed and the houses are neat and clean.

Resources and Occupations.—A large majority of the Indians make a good livelihood from agricultural pursuits, others hunt and trap in the fall and spring, gather and dry bark and wood for fancy-work in the winter, and guide American tourists during the summer months. Steady employment can be had at the Standard Chemical Works at Longford. The women find ready sale for their baskets and fancy-work in Orillia.

Stock and Farm Implements.—Most of the buildings are frame and are kept in very good repair.

There are some good horses on the reserve and the other stock is of a fair class.

Some of the Indians are fairly well supplied with farm implements.

Education.—There is one school on the reserve, which is ably taught by the Rev. J. Laurence. Those who attend regularly make good progress.

Religion.—These Indians are mostly Methodists. They have a beautiful stone church equipped in modern style. Service is held each Sabbath, morning and evening, by their pastor, the Rev. J. Laurence.

Characteristics and Progress.—Most of the Indians are industrious and law-abiding. But, although they earn a good deal, they are in the majority of cases always poor; this is due to their lack of economy and to their improvidence.

Temperance and Morality.—I am pleased to report that a large majority of this band are strictly temperate, and moral in their habits.

I have, &c.,

D. J. McPHEE,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
CHIPPEWAS OF SARNIA,
SARNIA, September 8, 1904.

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 in my agency for the year ended June 30, last.

Reserves.—There are three reserves belonging to this agency, Sarnia reserve, bordering on the River St. Clair for a distance of six miles, and Kettle Point and Stony Point reserves, situated on Lake Huron in Lambton county. The combined area of the three reserves is about 9,700 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the three is 450, consisting of 119 men, 123 women, and 208 young people and children; an increase of 4.

Health.—The health of these Indians has been fairly good this year. No epidemic

has broken out among them. The deaths from consumption have been fewer this year than last. Sanitary measures have been fairly well observed.

Education.—There is a school on each of the three reserves, only two of which are open, that on Sarnia reserve and that on Kettle Point reserve. The teachers are Miss Alice Matthews, and Miss Maud Erb, respectively. The attendance is not very good; the parents seem to fail to see the necessity of making their children attend school.

Religion.—There are two churches on Sarnia reserve—a Methodist and an Anglican—in which services are held regularly; also a church on each of the other two reserves, but the church at Stony Point has been closed for some time, service being held at Kettle Point regularly.

The Indians attend these services fairly well.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians, as a rule, are quiet and law-abiding. The progress in the way of farming has not been very great these last few years, owing to the fact that so many of the men work at the oil refinery, and at the docks at Sarnia. As they can make good wages at this work, they neglect the farming to do so.

Temperance and Morality.—Some of the Indians are inclined to drunkenness; otherwise they live fairly moral lives.

I have, &c.,

A. ENGLISH,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
CHIPPEWAS, MUNSEES AND ONEIDAS OF THE THAMES,
DELAWARE, July 25, 1904.

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, 1904.

ONEIDAS OF THE THAMES.

Reserve.—The Oneida reserve is situated in the township of Delaware, Middlesex county. It contains 5,271 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 total population of this band is 770, consisting of 268 men, 202 women and 300 children. There were during the year 16 births and 18 deaths.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good during the year. No epidemic broke out. Consumption is the most prevalent disease.

Occupations.—The principal occupation is day labour. There are a few good farmers. They have very good vegetable gardens. They earn a large amount of money from pulling flax, berry-picking, cutting wood among the whites and from employment in connection with canning factories. A good deal of money is also realized from basket-making and mat-making.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The dwelling-houses are principally small frame or log buildings. These Indians do not raise much stock, but what they have is of the average breeding. Those who farm are fairly well supplied with farm implements.

Education.—There are two day schools on this reserve. The attendance has been fair and the progress made by the children during the year has been very satisfactory.

Religion.—There are four churches upon this reserve—two Methodist, one Anglican and one Baptist. The Indians take a lively interest in religious affairs. The missionaries are doing excellent work.

Characteristics and Progress.—Generally speaking, the Oneida Indians are industrious and law-abiding. There are a few members of the band who are progressing very well, but as a whole, their progress is slow.

Temperance and Morality.—It is to be regretted that some of the Indians occasionally use intoxicating liquors, and the marriage law is sometimes not observed as well as it ought to be.

CHIPPEWAS OF THE THAMES.

Reserve.—This band occupies a part of the Caradoc reserve, comprising about 8,702 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 total population of this band is 484, consisting of 149 men, 137 women and 198 children. There were during the year 20 births and 13 deaths; 5 women entered the band by marriage and 1 left.

Health and Sanitation.—Sanitary precautions have been fairly well observed. No epidemic broke out during the year. Consumption is the most prevalent disease.

Occupations.—The occupations of this band are principally day-labouring and farming. A good deal of money is earned by these Indians from pulling flax among the whites and from employment in connection with canning factories.

Buildings and Stock.—The barns and stables, though generally small, are in fairly good repair. The houses are principally small log or frame buildings. They do not raise much stock. Their horses are fair.

Education.—There are three day schools on the reserve. The schools are well equipped. Owing to the very severe winter, the attendance has been smaller than usual.

Religion.—These Indians take a lively interest in religion. The church services are well attended. A little more than half the population adheres to the Methodist Church and the remainder to the Church of England.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are usually law-abiding and fairly industrious. They are making little progress.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are usually temperate. The marriage law, I regret to say, is not observed as well as it ought to be.

MUNSEES OF THE THAMES.

Reserve.—This band occupies 2,098 acres, a portion of the Caradoc reserve.

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

Vital Statistics.—The total population of the band is 122, consisting of 43 men, 29 women and 50 children. There were during the year 7 births and 3 deaths and 1 woman married out of the band.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been fairly good. No epidemic broke out during the year. Sanitary measures have been fairly well observed.

Occupations.—The occupations of this band are principally day-labouring and farming.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The buildings are not as good as could be desired. They do not raise much stock. Those who farm are fairly well supplied with farm implements.

Education.—There is one day school on this reserve. The attendance was small during the winter months owing to the severity of the weather. The children have made some progress in their studies.

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

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

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are generally temperate and fairly moral.

I have, &c.,

S. SUTHERLAND,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
GOLDEN LAKE AGENCY,
KILLALOE STATION, July 1, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the southern end of Golden lake, Renfrew county.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Algonquin tribe.

Vital Statistics.—During the year there has been an increase of 1 in the band under my care; there were 2 births and 1 death, leaving the population of this band 97.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians on the reserve has been very good. Their houses are clean and compare favourably with those of any other class in this respect.

Occupations.—The principal occupation of these Indians is working in the shanties in winter and on the drives in the spring. Some of them are taking more interest in farming lately, and I think that after a while, most of them will have to farm, as game is getting scarce.

Education.—The children are learning fairly well under the management of Miss Casey, who is a splendid teacher.

Religion.—The Indians on this reserve are all Roman Catholics.

Temperance.—I cannot say these Indians are all temperate, still by watching them pretty well, I think they are no worse than at last report.

I have, &c.,

MARTIN MULLEN,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
GORE BAY AGENCY,
GORE BAY, June 30, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report concerning the Indians of my agency for the year ended June 30, 1904.

COCKBURN ISLAND BAND.

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

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

Population.—Fifty-three is the population of the band.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band is generally good, no epidemic having made any depredations on the reserve, but there were two deaths from pneumonia in a family that had left to have their children educated at Sheshegwaning. The sanitary regulations are observed and appreciated.

Occupations.—Forest, farm and stream are the resources of these Indians. They farm on a small scale and have very good garden and root crops. Their principal occupations are working in the lumber camps and making ties and posts in the winter and loading boats and peeling ties and posts in the summer.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Their buildings are neat, clean and comfortable, and fairly well furnished. Their construction shows considerable skill and adaptability to requirements.

They have few cattle and horses, in fact little stock of any kind ; but what implements and rolling stock they buy are good.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve.

Religion.—These Indians belong to the Roman Catholic faith and have a 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 a very intelligent band, appreciating the teachings of the missionaries.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are sober and industrious and make a good living.

Temperance and Morality.—The absence of liquor on the island has given these Indians a chance to be exceptionally temperate, and their isolation has kept them in their primitive state of morality, which is above the average.

General Remarks.—These Indians are industrious, sober and moral, adapting themselves more and more to the ways of the white man, and are inclining more to agricultural pursuits and manufacture of timber.

WEST BAY BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve lies in the township of Billings, at the head of Honora bay, Manitoulin island. The soil is sandy and clay loam, producing good crops ; it is timbered with hardwood, with patches of cedar and soft woods, and comprises in all thirteen square miles within its limits.

Tribe.—The Indians belong to the Ojibbewas and Ottawas of Manitoulin island.

Population.—The population of this band is 332, an increase of 7 in the year.

Health and Sanitation.—Sanitary measures are being fairly well carried out; the houses are neat and clean and whitewashed outside and in.

Several deaths occurred on the reserve from old age and consumption and though pneumonia and grippe were epidemic, owing to the medical precautions of Dr. Crauthers and the good nursing and advice of Miss A. Peacock, the teacher, very little harm was done.

Resources and Occupations.—The chief occupation of these Indians is farming, in which they are making good progress. They are quick to see the benefit of good seeds and buy from the best farmers in Billings and Carnarvon townships. They also work in the lumber camps in winter and load vessels and peel ties and posts in summer. Sugar-making, berry-picking and fancy wares are also sources of revenue.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The buildings are mostly constructed of logs. Their dwellings and outbuildings are neat and comfortable, many of the houses being well furnished and comparing favourably with the average settler's both as to cleanliness and interior fittings.

Their stock of cattle and horses is increasing both in number and quality, and some implements are in use on the land, in which they are making good progress as farmers.

Education.—A fine new school has been erected in the village of West Bay and many of the pupils read and write well both in English and Indian. In addition to the regular school courses, sewing and the making of all kinds of clothing are taught.

Religion.—These Indians are Roman Catholics. They have a fine church on the reserve and a resident missionary from Wikwemikong. They are very devout and are particularly attentive to the missionary's teachings.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding and are copying the white settlers in many respects and are doing away with the old Indian ways of living.

Temperance and Morality.—Along the lines of temperance and morality there is an improvement and few complaints are made in these respects.

General Remarks.—This band is progressive, following the lead of the white agriculturist they are improving their lands and are taking a great deal of interest in repairing their roads. They are well dressed and drive good vehicles and horses.

OBIDGEWONG BAND.

This band consists of only six persons. Their reserve is located on the west shore of Lake Wolseley, Manitoulin island. The area is about four hundred acres. Some of it is exceptionally well timbered with hardwood.

The members of this band depend largely on the soil for maintenance. They are good bushmen and in the winter-time make ties and posts and in summer earn quite a sum peeling posts and ties and loading vessels.

SHESHEGWANING BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated in the northeast part of the township of Robinson, Manitoulin island. Its area is about 5,000 acres, fairly well timbered with hardwood, cedar, pine and spruce.

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

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers 160. There were 4 births and 2 women married into the band; and 10 deaths and 1 removal, making a decrease of 5.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band for the past year has been poor. Pneumonia and grippe were rampant and had it not been for precautions taken and the timely assistance of the teacher, Miss Duhamel, who distributed medicines to all,

grave results would have followed. The sanitary precautions are well carried out. Their houses are clean and neat, and their clothing is well made and suitable for their work.

Occupations.—Farming and gardening are the chief resources. Lumbering, making ties and posts in winter and loading vessels and peeling posts in summer are also sources of revenue.

Farming is the chief occupation of the band. Some of the Indians farm quite extensively, cultivating the land and raising stock. Others are employed in the camps and loading vessels.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—Their buildings are mostly of logs hewed outside and in and whitewashed. They are kept clean and neat, some being well furnished with musical instruments, sewing-machines and other luxuries.

Their stock is increasing and is well cared for. Cattle, horses and pigs are numerous. There are several buggies and democrats and heavy wagons and sleighs ; and some good farm implements were purchased last year, including a threshing-machine.

Education.—The school is well attended. Good work is being done not only in teaching the usual courses, but practical housework and the cutting out and manufacture of all clothing and garments are taught to the young girls and some of the work shows unusual skill.

Religion.—These Indians are all adherents of the Roman Catholic Church. The church is a very good structure, well attended, and the services are conducted by missionaries from Wikwemikong.

Characteristics and Progress.—Those of the band who are farmers are doing well, but need more cleared lands. Their children are the best educated and appear to have more inclination to steady pursuits.

Temperance and Morality.—As a whole the band is fairly temperate ; one or two families have been rather unsettled, but appear to be improving.

General Remarks.—Some of the Indians of this band are good farmers, the Sampsons and Nigonnewenahs have erected good houses on their farms, where they reside permanently. By thrift and industry these Indians keep themselves well supplied with money.

I have, &c.,

ROBERT THORBURN,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
MANITOWANING AGENCY,
MANITOWANING, June 30, 1904.

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, 1904.

WHITEFISH RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated near the mouth of the Whitefish river on the north shore of the Georgian bay. It contains an area of about 10,600 acres.

Tribe.— These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 95, consisting of 20 men, 22 women and 53 children. During the year there were 3 births and 1 woman joined the band by marriage, and there were 3 deaths, making a total increase in the number of persons comprising this band of 1 for the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of the band during the past year has been good. All necessary precautions have been observed in respect to cleaning and whitewashing their buildings.

Resources and Occupations.—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, fishing, basket-making and sugar-making.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Their buildings are of log and frame construction and are kept in a fair state of repair. What stock they have is fairly well cared for, and these Indians have all the farm implements they require.

Education.—There is a day school on the reserve, which is attended fairly well by the children who live on the reserve.

Religion.—These Indians belong to the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are fairly industrious, and easily obtain employment at good wages. They are law-abiding and are making fair progress.

Temperance and Morality.—They are fairly temperate and up to the standard in morality.

POINT GRONDIN BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is located east of Collins inlet, on the north shore of Georgian bay.

Tribe.—These Indians are Ojibbewas.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 51, consisting of 13 men, 18 women and 20 children. During the year there were 2 births and 1 woman joined the band by marriage, there were 8 deaths, making a total decrease of 5 in this band for the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians for the past year has been very good and the sanitary condition of their dwellings is satisfactory.

Resources and Occupations.—The resources of this reserve are timber, agriculture and fishing. The Indians farm on a small scale, fish, hunt, pick berries in the summer and work for the lumber firms in winter.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have comfortable log dwellings, have very litle stock and few farm implements.

Education.—They have no school on this reserve ; the children attend school at Wikwemikong.

Religion.—These Indians are Roman Catholics, and are spiritually ministered to by visiting missionaries from Wikwemikong.

Characteristics and Progress.—As a rule these Indians are very industrious, but they do not devote as much attention to agricultural pursuits as is desirable.

Temperance and Morality.—Temperance is very well observed, and the morality of these Indians is excellent.

WHITEFISH LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated about twelve miles from Sudbury, on the Algoma branch of the Canadian Pacific railway, where there is a station called Naughton. This reserve has an area of 43,755 acres.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 157, consisting of 38 men, 43 women and 76 children. During the year there were 7 births and 8 deaths, making a decrease of 1 in the population of this band for the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians for the past year has been above the average for this reserve, and they are all in very good health at present.

Resources and Occupations.—The resources of these Indians are gardening and hunting. They plant small gardens, fish, hunt, act as guides to prospectors and work in the lumber camps.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Nearly all their buildings are constructed of logs. They have very little stock and but few farm implements.

Education.—They have two schools on the reserve, one at Naughton and the other at the village, a distance of about four miles from Naughton. Both schools are fairly well conducted, but the attendance is small, owing to the absence of a great number of the Indians who devote their whole time to hunting.

Religion.—These Indians belong to the Methodist and Roman Catholic Churches.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are fairly industrious and intelligent, but take very little interest in anything but hunting.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are fairly temperate and are moral in other ways.

TAHGAIWININI BAND.

Reserve.—These Indians have a reserve at Wahnipitae on the north shore of Georgian bay, but nearly all of the band reside on the unceded portion of Manitoulin island, at or near Wikwemikong.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 194, consisting of 40 men, 51 women and 103 children. During the year there were 4 births, and 1 woman joined the band by marriage, there were 5 deaths and 3 women left the band by marriage, making a total decrease of 3 in this band for the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The Indians of this band are, generally speaking, a healthy lot. During the past year there were no epidemics. Their premises have been thoroughly renovated and their dwellings and outbuildings whitewashed with lime.

Resources and Occupations.—The greater part of this reserve is woodland. The timber on it has been sold under license and a good return secured to the Indians by the department. General farming, lumbering, fishing, berry-picking, bark work and basket-making are the chief pursuits of this band.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The buildings are mostly of logs. Their stock is of the average quality and very well cared for. They have an ample supply of farm implements for their requirements.

Education.—The children of this band attend school at Wikwemikong.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics.

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

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 56. They live mostly at West Bay, on Manitoulin island, where they successfully farm and garden. In winter they find employment in the lumber camps. This reserve together with the affairs of its Indians, is under the control of the Parry Sound superintendency.

SPANISH RIVER BAND, DIVISION NO. 3.

The members of this band number 342. They all reside on the unceded portion of Manitoulin island, where they successfully farm and garden. Their general measure of advancement is identical with that of the Indians of the unceded portion of Manitoulin island, with whom they are included in the agricultural and industrial statistics.

SUCKER LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of these Indians is situated in the fourth concession of the township of Assiginack, Manitoulin island. The area of the reserve is 599 acres.

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

Vital Statistics.—The population of this reserve is 13, consisting of 4 men, 7 women and 2 children. During the year there was 1 death, making a decrease of 1 in this band for the year.

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

Occupations.—Farming is the only occupation engaged in by these Indians.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Their buildings are in good condition, and their live stock and farm implements sufficiently plentiful for their requirements.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve and there are no children in this band of school age.

Religion.—These Indians are Roman Catholics.

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

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

SUCKER CREEK BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of these Indians is situated in the northern part of the township of Howland, about four miles from the thriving town of Little Current. It has an area of 1,665 acres.

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

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 99, consisting of 32 men, 30 women, and 37 children. During the year there was 1 birth, and there were 3 deaths, which makes a decrease of 2 in the number comprising this band for the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians for the past year has been fair and all their dwellings have been thoroughly cleaned and whitewashed.

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

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Most of these Indians have good dwelling-houses and barns and stables, which compare favourably with those of their white neighbours. Their stock is of a fair quality and well cared for. They have all kinds of modern farm implements.

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

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

Characteristics and Progress.—As a rule these Indians are industrious and law-abiding. Their chief is an intelligent and energetic man, who seems honestly and satisfactorily to discharge the duties devolving upon him.

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

SHEGUIANDAH BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve lies in the northwestern part of the township of Sheguiandah. It contains an area of 5,106 acres.

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

Vital Statistics.—The population of this reserve is 92, consisting of 27 men, 23 women and 42 children. During the year there was 1 birth, and there were 2 deaths, making a decrease of 1 in the population of this band for the year.

Health and Sanitation.—This band is, generally speaking, one of the healthiest in the agency, which fact is due in a great measure to the personal cleanliness of the Indians. They are quite amenable to sanitary laws.

Resources and Occupations.—The farming done on this reserve is of a general nature. Sugar-making, basket-making, berry-picking, are also engaged in at different seasons of the year, and the Indians also find employment in loading lumber barges at Little Current during the season of navigation.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The buildings of these Indians are comfortable and fairly well furnished. Their stock is well cared for, and they have all the farm implements they require.

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

Religion.—The Indians of this band 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.—They are moral and temperate in their habits.

SOUTH BAY BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is a portion of the unceded part of Manitoulin island, about twelve miles from Manitowaning.

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

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 67, consisting of 13 men, 22 women and 32 children. During the year 1 woman joined the band by marriage and there was 1 birth and 1 death, making an increase of 1 in the population of this band for the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band has been exceptionally good for the past year. Sanitary precautions have been observed.

Resources and Occupations.—The chief resource of this reserve is agriculture. The Indians farm and fish in the summer and take out timber in the winter.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They mostly occupy log houses, which are neatly built and are kept clean and comfortable. Their stock is well cared for, and their supply of farm implements is ample for their requirements.

Education.—These Indians have a good day school on the reserve. It is competently conducted and the children are making very satisfactory progress.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics and the visiting missionary holds regular services on the reserve.

Temperance and Morality.—In this band the principles of temperance and morality are fairly well observed.

INDIANS OF MANITOULIN ISLAND, UNCEDED.

Reserve.—This reserve comprises the eastern end of Manitoulin island, east of the township of Assiginack. It contains an area of 105,000 acres.

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

Vital Statistics.—They number about 731.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians, generally, for the past year has been good, no contagious disease, other than consumption, has visited the reserve. All necessary precautions have been taken in respect to cleaning premises.

Resources and Occupations.—The resources are large tracts of good land, well adapted for agriculture, timber-land and fishing. These Indians are learning to follow farming on an intelligent scale. Last winter they took out over 25,000 cedar railway ties and 10,000 posts, all of which the department disposed of for them at the highest market prices.

Buildings, Stock and Farm 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 fair quality. A goodly number of modern farm implements are used to good advantage.

Education.—Facilities for education are within easy reach of all children of school age 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. Full particulars as to these matters will appear in the reverend principal's report. There is also a day school at Wikwemikongsing and one at Buswah village.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. The influence of the missionaries is a great factor in the advancement of the band.

Characteristics and Progress.—Most of these Indians are hard-working and industrious, and are quite up to the standard of advancement. Their chief is a good man, who seems to take great interest in the 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.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
MISSISSAGUAS OF ALNWICK,
ROSENEATH, August 13, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit my report and statistical statement in connection with the above Indians for the year ended June 30, last, and in gathering the information I was very careful to have it as nearly correct as possible.

Reserve.—Of this reserve 3,308·89 acres are in the township of Alnwick, in the county of Northumberland ; the reserve also comprises Sugar and Hickory islands in Rice lake, the former contains 100 acres and the latter 10 acres. Of the reserve proper, about 1,400 acres are rented to white tenants.

Vital Statistics.—In April last, when I took the census, the band numbered 230, being the same as in 1903. We had 9 births and 9 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band, with the exception of two cases of consumption, is good. Beyond the above-mentioned cases, there is not another case of sickness in the band.

Occupations.—Several of the Indians are actively engaged in farming and dairying. Their crops are good, with the exception of wheat, and they receive considerable amounts from the cheese factories where they send their milk. Besides farming and dairying, wage-earning is the next occupation in importance, and, owing to the scarcity of help, many get good wages.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The buildings on the reserve, with few exceptions, are frame, as a rule kept clean and tidy and in a good state of repair.

The stock in general is in good condition and many of the animals are valuable.

Those who farm are mostly provided with modern machinery.

Education.—The progress of the school is not all that could be desired, owing to the irregularity of the attendance.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians as a rule are making considerable progress in improving their places, buildings and fences, and in many other respects are doing fairly well.

Religion.—Nearly all the members of this band are members or adherents of the Methodist Church.

Temperance and Morality.—The moral status of the band in general is good, but there are several who get liquor whenever they can.

I have, &c.,

JOHN THACKERAY,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
MISSISSAGUAS OF THE CREDIT,
HAGERSVILLE, July 5, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report of the Mississaguas of the Credit reserve for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Reserve.—The reserve is situated partly in the township of Tuscarora, county of Brant, and partly in the township of Oneida, county of Haldimand. It comprises 6,000 acres, of which 4,800 are in the township of Tuscarora, the remaining 1,200 in the township of Oneida. The reserve is adjacent to and lies to the south and east of the Grand River reservation; about eighty-five per cent of this land is good for cultivation.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers 249 on the pay-list, consisting of 72 men, 78 women, 59 boys and 40 girls. There have been 5 births and 4 deaths, 2 women came in by marriage and 1 went out by marriage, making an increase of 2 since last census.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians has been good during the past year. All sanitary measures are faithfully attended to. The dwelling-houses in most cases are kept neat and clean and the premises in good order. Many of the housekeepers on this reserve would compare favourably with their white sisters.

Occupations.—In agricultural pursuits this tribe is making some improvement. Nearly half of the men are working their own holdings, and many more are endeavouring to get teams to do so. Quite a number of the women and some of the men spend

most of the summer in the fruit-growing district around St. Catharines and Grimsby, and make good wages, and return to the reserve for the winter.

Buildings.—There has been very little improvement on buildings on this reserve during the past year.

Stock.—The stock is mostly of common breed and requires improvement; it consists of horses, cattle and swine.

Farm Implements.—These embrace a fair number of ploughs, harrows, hay-rakes, fanning-mills, with a few reapers and mowers.

Education.—There is a good brick school-house situated in the centre of the reserve on land adjoining the council-house, which is well equipped with modern conveniences.

The discipline is good and the pupils are making satisfactory progress under a very efficient teacher, Miss Mary G. Bogle. Some of the pupils attend the high school in the village of Hagersville. At the last entrance examination in Hagersville a pupil of this school obtained the highest marks for writing.

Religion.—There are two Methodist churches on this reserve. These Indians are nearly all members or adherents of this denomination.

Rev. C. F. G. Cole is the resident missionary and looks after the spiritual welfare of the band. A majority of them attend church regularly. The Seventh Day Adventists have a few followers among the members of the tribe.

Characteristics and Progress.—Quite a number of this band are very industrious and doing well, one member has three teams and twenty-eight head of cattle, sends milk from eight cows to a cheese factory, has a good bank barn with first-class stone stables under. Among the band there are quite a number who work only when necessity demands and are inclined to be improvident. The majority of them are very liberal, and when they have plenty are always ready to share with a needy neighbour. They are all good citizens.

Temperance and Morality.—The members of this band as a rule are temperate and moral, although occasionally infractions of the regulations occur.

I have, &c.,

W. C. VAN LOON,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
MISSISSAGUAS OF RICE AND MUD LAKES,
KEENE, July 20, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report on Indian affairs in my agency for the year ended June 30, 1904.

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 some 1,750 acres of land, of which about 775 acres are cleared ; about 300 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 83, composed of 23 men, 23 women, and 37 young people under twenty-one years of age. During

the year there were 3 births, 1 marriage, 1 death, and none left the band, so that there is an increase of 2 since last report.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians, generally speaking, has been fairly good. Sanitary measures are very well observed on this reserve.

Occupations.—The occupations of this band are trapping, gathering wild rice, and basket-making. Some go to the lumber camps in winter and drives in the summer.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The buildings on this reserve, with few exceptions, are frame, and are kept in a good state of repair. The stock is good, and the Indians have a good supply of agricultural implements.

Education.—The children on this reserve are now attending the white school, with Miss Crowley as teacher. They are progressing very well.

Religion.—The members of this band are all Methodists, and, with Rev. Mr. Dunkley as their minister, are taking a deep interest in the services held in their church each Sabbath evening.

Temperance and Morality.—The members of this band are well-behaved and law-abiding, and it is very seldom any of them indulge in strong drink.

MUD LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is located on the shore of Mud lake, in the township of Smith, county of Peterborough. It contains some 2,000 acres, of which about 300 are cleared.

Vital Statistics.—The total number shown by the present census is 177, composed of 45 men, 43 women and 89 young people under twenty-one years of age. During the past year there were 7 births, 2 deaths, and 3 joined the band by marriage, an increase of 8 since last report.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been very good. Sanitary measures are very well observed, the houses present a clean and tidy appearance and every precaution is taken to prevent contagion.

Occupations.—In agricultural pursuits these Indians are making steady improvement. A good many of them work in the lumber camp in winter.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The buildings on this reserve are of log and frame, and are kept in good repair. The stock is fair indeed. Quite a number of the Indians are supplied with farm implements.

Education.—The children on this reserve are making very fair progress in their studies. They have as teacher Mr. Alfred McCue, a member of the band.

Religion.—These Indians are all members or adherents of the Methodist Church. A minister comes to the reserve every Sabbath, and the Indians attend the services very regularly.

Temperance and Morality.—The members of this band are well-behaved and law-abiding, there being very little intemperance among them.

I have, &c.,

WM. McFARLANE,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
MISSISSAGUAS OF SCUGOG,
PORT PERRY, September 17, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserve.—The reserve of the Mississaguas is situated in the township of Scugog, county of Ontario. The total area is 800 acres, of which 740 are reckoned of the choicest grain-land, the remaining portion being wooded. About 500 acres are rented to whites.

Vital Statistics.—The total population is 34, consisting of 11 men, 10 women, 6 boys and 9 girls. One death and one marriage occurred during the year, thus leaving a decrease of two since my last report.

Health and Sanitation.—Good health generally prevails. One death from old age occurred at the beginning of the year. The women are good housewives and take extra precautions to prevent uncleanliness.

Resources and Occupations.—The older Indians fish and hunt for a living, while the younger class turn their attention to agriculture. The women engage in basket-making.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—One new residence is in course of construction. The old log dwellings are being gradually replaced by neat and comfortable homes, until now only one of the old type remains. The stock is not improving, while the implements, although good, are not too well cared for.

Education.—There is no separate school. The children associate with the whites at a school close by, but their attendance is not of the best.

Religion.—The prevailing religious denomination is Methodist. The Indians have a church of their own at which the Rev. Mr. McConnell officiates every afternoon. About three parts of the band are members.

Characteristics and Progress.—A noticeable feature is industry, especially among the younger class.

Temperance.—The Indians are for the most part temperate. Some of the older ones find it hard to abstain when temptations present themselves.

General Remarks.—In summing up the foregoing remarks, it is fair to assume that advancement is going on, and this band is enjoying a fair share of prosperity.

I have, &c.,
A. W. WILLIAMS,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
MOHAWKS OF THE BAY OF QUINTÉ,
BELLEVILLE, August 29, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserve.—The Mohawk reserve, in the township of Tyendinaga, county of Hastings, on the north shore of the Bay of Quinté, extends from the town of Deseronto on the east to the township of Thurlow on the west, and contains approximately 17,000 acres of land; the greater part of this reserve is good tillable land, almost wholly stripped of timber and largely under cultivation.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 1,271, made up of 275 men, 301 women, and 695 young people and children.

Quite a number of old people died during the year and two white girls married into the band.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of the dwellers on this reserve has been good during the year, with remarkable freeness from contagious diseases ; but last winter was an unusually trying one to many families on account of the continuous cold weather, deep snow and high price of fuel.

Resources and Occupations.—The chief employment of the Indians of this reserve is farming, and some of the farms are kept in a splendid state of cultivation and everything about them is neat and shows care and thrift.

Some forty white families occupy Indian lands on the reserve, under lease, and the rents received from them are applied on improvements of the farms and are used up in living expenses along with the wages the locatees earn working in the mills and factories at Deseronto and elsewhere. One Indian girl is teaching, and quite a few others are out at service. The hay and grain crops are quite equal this year to the average, and there are most favourable prospects for abundant root crops.

Buildings.—A few new buildings were erected and others were repaired, but many more need repairs. Arrangements were made during the year for repairing Christ church by an expenditure out of the capital fund of the band of about $2,000. The work is now being done.

Stock.—The horses and cattle on the reserve are of mixed breeds and of a pretty good quality. Dairying in this county has grown into a most important industry and the Indians contribute to the business ; their cows are well looked after and the milk for the cheese factories is carefully attended to.

Farm Implements.—All kinds of modern machinery for farming purposes are used on this reserve.

Education.—There are four public schools on this reserve, two Indian and two union of whites and Indians.

The mission school is taught by an Indian girl, the other three schools are taught by white teachers.

The schools were but indifferently attended last winter on account of the deep snow and intense cold, but so far this summer they are doing well and the Indian children are making fair progress.

Religion.—The Mohawks of the Bay of Quinté are all Protestants, and with but few exceptions members of the Church of England. There are two Anglican churches on the reserve, both stone. Christ church, near Deseronto, has connected with it a good farm with comfortable dwelling-house and outbuildings thereon for the Church of England missionary.

There are a few Presbyterians and they have a small frame church and burying-ground. The Presbyterian minister from the West-end Mission of Deseronto conducts services in this church.

Characteristics and Progress.—Most of the Indians, both men and women, are industrious and law-abiding. All such are improving their circumstances and properties, but some still are indolent and they are getting poorer and more miserable the longer they live ; with the exception of this indolent class, the members of this band are making progress in education, in home comforts and amenities of civilization.

Temperance and Morality.—Far too many of the members of this band use liquor to excess, and they are consequently shiftless and idle. Stringent measures have been taken to punish those who furnish the liquor, but still the practice goes on, and I cannot say that the drinking habit is less than it was years ago in this band. Some Indians contract debts and then claim the protection the law gives them and thereby injure the credit of the honest members. In other respects the morality of the band is reasonably satisfactory.

I have, &c.,

WM. R. AYLSWORTH,

Acting Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
MORAVIANS OF THE THAMES,
DUART, August 6, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserve.—The reserve is located in the northern part of the township of Orford in the county of Kent, and contains about 3,010 acres of land.

Tribe.—These Indians are known as the 'Moravians of the Thames,' but belong to the Delaware tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the band is 321, consisting of 83 men, 83 women, 83 boys and 72 girls, an increase of 11 over last year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band has been excellent, no epidemic or contagious disease having appeared. Their houses are cleaned and whitewashed every year and the children vaccinated.

Occupations.—General farming is the chief occupation, but owing to the wet weather for the last two years, and the scarcity of labourers, the Indians have taken advantage of the high wages offered and worked out among neighbouring farmers and neglected their own farms. A few make some money by fishing, mat-making, and basket-making.

Buildings and Stock.—Only two new houses have been erected on the reserve during the year. The Indians are continually improving their stock, which adds greatly to their bank account and makes living easier.

Implements.—Those who attend to farming use all the modern implements, such as binders, mowers, horse-rakes, ploughs, disc-harrows and cultivators, while those who do not farm much, use more primitive ones.

Education.—There is one good school on the reserve available to all, but I am sorry to say that it is not so well attended as it should be. It is impossible to have regular attendance.

There is an agricultural society on the reserve under the control of the Indians, which holds a fair about the middle of October each year and thousands of people visit it. Last year over four thousand people were present on the opening day, and the Indians realized about $1,200 from the two days' fair.

Roads.—Our roads are in good condition and under the supervision of eight pathmasters; they will compare favourably with those in the other parts of the township.

Religion.—We have two Methodist and one Anglican church. Services are conducted regularly in each and the attendance is always good.

Temperance and Morality.—Upon the whole, the Indians are quite moral. The marriage law is fairly well observed, but some of the younger people are inclined to use liquor to excess.

I have, &c.,

A. R. McDONALD,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
OJIBBEWAS OF LAKE SUPERIOR, EASTERN DIVISION,
SAULT STE. MARIE, ONT., September 1, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report and statistical statement of the several bands of Indians in this agency for the year ended June 30, 1904.

GARDEN RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated a short distance east of the town of Sault Ste. Marie, comprising an area of upwards of forty-five square miles, on the north bank of St. Mary's river, extending in length along the river from east to west about ten miles, and in width from north to south, from three to five miles.

It is traversed through its entire length by the Canadian Pacific Railway; Garden River station being situated near its centre.

The soil near the river is sandy or sandy loam, a large portion along the river, excepting those holdings under cultivation, is dotted with clumps of evergreens, forming a series of beautiful parks.

The portion of the reserve under cultivation is chiefly along the river, extending back in some places about a mile.

North of the cultivated portion, it is timbered with mixed timber ; a portion of the timbered land is rough and rocky, the rest fair agricultural lands.

A number of mining locations within the limits of the reserve have been surrendered and sold. Iron, copper, gold and marble have been discovered here.

Tribe.—This band belongs to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The band numbered 453 persons, consisting of 110 men, 127 women, 110 boys, and 106 girls, besides a number residing on the reserve belonging to other bands or not claiming to belong to any band.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of the band has been good during the past year, no epidemic has broken out. The situation is one of the healthiest in the district. The majority of the dwellings are kept clean and neat, and sanitary conditions are reasonably good.

Resources and Occupations.—Many of the people cultivate small plots of land in the reserve, raising cattle and horses, and the coarser grains, roots and vegetables, which are cultivated to a considerable extent. A few engage in hunting and trapping in the winter, while some are employed in the lumber woods for a considerable portion of the year ; others perform the duties of guides and prospectors, as well as working with survey parties. During the winter months a number of the band usually take out ties and saw-logs under contract, and make considerable money. Besides the above industries, sugar-making and berry-picking are engaged in during their respective seasons. The women manufacture fancy articles from sweet grass, birch bark and deer-skin.

Buildings.—The dwellings are either log or frame, generally whitewashed. Stables and barns are mostly of log.

The public buildings consist of the large council-house of two stories, and a lock-up.

Stock.—The stock consists of horses, cattle and swine, mostly of common breeds. There is a great need that some improvement be made in the quality of stock, as it is very inferior. A suggestion has been received from the department that it would assist in providing a better class of animals for the purpose of improving the stock.

Farm Implements.—This embraces the ordinary farm implements such as ploughs, harrows, hay-rakes, fanning-mills and ordinary tools, and a number of mowing machines.

Education.—There are two schools on the reserve. The Roman Catholic school, in charge of the resident priest, has two rooms, two lady assistants being employed. The average for the quarter ended last June was 23·7. Fair progress has been made during the year by the pupils. A new Church of England school was built two years ago, which is now under the charge of Mr. L. F. Hardyman. The building consists of a school-room and living-room for the teacher. The school grounds consist of about one acre, a portion of which is being cultivated by the teacher as a garden, and is embellished by a very beautiful flower garden. The school grounds have been neatly fenced with a wire fence by the supporters of the school, and the teacher has taken great pains to improve its appearance. The average attendance for the quarter ended June 30, was 16·04.

Religion.—The religious denominations of the band are Roman Catholic and Church of England, the Roman Catholics are the more numerous. Both denominations have neat churches, which are generally well attended. Rev. Father Drolet, S.J., is the priest in charge of the Roman Catholic church, and Rev. Mr. Frost of the Anglican church.

Characteristics and Progress.—Most of the band are industrious, some work only occasionally as necessity demands. As a rule they are rather inclined to be improvident, liberal to their friends and neighbours when they have plenty, and ready to share with them to the last. They are generally good citizens.

Temperance and Morality.—A large number of the band are temperate and well-behaved, but there are some who indulge freely in intoxication whenever the opportunity presents itself ; and complaints have been made during the year indicating that intemperance was on the increase among them. There have been several cases of drunkenness on the reserve which I found necessary to punish by fine or imprisonment.

BATCHAWANA BAND.

Reserve.—The greater part of the reserve which originally belonged to the Batchawana band has been surrendered and placed in the market for sale. They still retain a portion of Whitefish island on the St. Mary's river, where two or three families still reside. At Goulais bay, a small reserve has been purchased for them in the township of Kars, containing about 1,000 acres.

Tribe.—This band is also of the Ojibbewa tribe, a portion of them being half-breeds of French extraction. The Agawa branch of this band nearly all reside on the west shore of Batchawana bay, and are mostly pure Indians.

Vital Statistics.—The Batchawana band numbers about 373 persons, consisting of 98 men, 111 women, 88 boys and 76 girls, of which the Agawa branch of the band embraces 59 persons,—16 men, 12 women, 20 boys and 11 girls. There has been an increase in this band during the year of 6.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band has been very good during the past year, no epidemic has appeared. The dwellings are usually clean and well kept, and sanitary regulations are fairly well observed.

Resources and Occupations.—Those of the band who reside on the Garden River reserve, of which there are upwards of one half, cultivate small patches of a few acres each. They are engaged in the winter in working in the woods and hunting and trapping, while in the summer they act as guides, explorers and river drivers. They also manufacture baskets, moccasins and fancy articles. The Goulais bay and Batchamana members of this band nearly all engage in fishing and hunting in the summer, in fact some of them continue fishing during the winter, through the ice. No farming is done by them at either Goulais Bay or Batchawana.

Buildings.—The houses are generally log with a few frame buildings and are generally comfortable.

Stock and Implements.—The members of the band living at Garden River, raise stock, consisting of cattle, horses and pigs. At Goulais Bay and Batchawana only a few cows and pigs are kept. The implements are ploughs, harrows and other ordinary farm and garden implements.

Education.—There are no schools belonging to this band. The children living on the Garden River reserve attend the schools there. A petition has been forwarded to the department asking that a school be built at Goulais Bay, and it is expected that in a short time a suitable building will be supplied, as the people are very anxious to have a school.

Religion.—The majority of the Batchawana band are Roman Catholics, especially those residing at Batchawana and Goulais Bay. A few residing at Garden River attend the Anglican church. They have a small church at Goulais Bay, and one at Batchawana, but no resident priest, a priest paying periodical visits.

Temperance and Morality.—The members of the band who reside at Goulais Bay and Batchawana are generally temperate and moral, some, however, who reside at or near Sault Ste. Marie are addicted to drunkenness and immorality.

Character and Progress.—The majority of the members of this band appear to be intelligent and industrious, but inclined to be improvident.

MICHIPICOTEN BAND.

Reserve.—This band has had a small reserve set off for it a short distance west of the mouth of the Michipicoten river on Lake Superior, embracing an area of between 8,000 and 10,000 acres. The lake terminus of the branch of the Algoma Central and Hudson Bay Railway running to Helen mine is situated on a surrendered portion of this reserve.

There are only five families on the reserve, the rest of the band reside at the Mission, Michipicoten river, at Missinabie on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and in the neighbourhood of Chapleau, also on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Tribe.—This band belongs to the Chippewa tribe, and embraces a few French, English and Scotch half-breeds.

Vital Statistics.—There are 356 persons in the band—79 men, 93 women, 88 boys and 96 girls.

Health and Sanitation.—Owing to the very severe winter of the past year, considerable sickness and some hardship was undergone by the members of the band, but generally the health for the year was good. No epidemic attacked any portion of the band, with the exception of the four or five families living on the reserve. Most of the Indians of the band reside in temporary habitations or tents during the greater part of the year and these appear to be the stronger or healthier portion of the band. Both at Missinabie and Chapleau, those residing there have petitioned the department to have set apart for them one or two hundred acres of land in each locality mentioned, for a permanent camping-ground, agreeing to pay for such land out of the moneys coming to them from the annuity. It is probable that before another year they will be in possession of such lands. The few residents on the reserve appear to be clean and comfortable.

Occupations.—The chief employment engaged in by the members of this band is hunting and trapping in the winter, canoeing, acting as guides for exploring and surveying parties, and other like occupations during the summer season. They are largely employed by the Hudson's Bay Company as well as by railway contractors and others in like occupations.

Buildings.—There are only five houses on the reserve, one frame and four log.

Stock.—There is no stock of any kind on the reserve. At Michipicoten River some members of the band own a few cattle.

Education.—Education is in rather a backward state, there being only one small school under the charge of the Roman Catholic priest at Michipicoten River. The Indian children at Missinabie attend the public school, having an arrangement to that effect with the school authorities. A very fair attendance is the result.

Religion.—The members of this band at Michipicoten River are of the Roman Catholic faith. They have on the reserve a neat frame church, where they have occasional services. There is also a small Roman Catholic church at Michipicoten River, where occasional services are held. The members of the band at Chapleau and Missinabie, with the exception of three or four families, belong to the Church of England. They have no place of worship of their own at this place, but attend the English Church services at the regular churches, where special services in their own language are held. The members of this band appear to be reasonably industrious, contented and happy, those at Chapleau and Missinabie presenting about the best type of race under my supervision.

Temperance and Morality.—As a rule they are temperate and moral, although occasional infractions of the regulations occur at Michipicoten River.

SHINGWAUK AND WAWANOSH HOMES.

These homes are situated a short distance beyond the eastern limit of the town of Sault Ste. Marie. The Indian children are trained in regular school studies, and in various industries, the boys being taught farming, carpentry, shoemaking, tailoring and other trades, and the girls sewing, baking, cooking, laundry work, &c., by skilled instructors in the different arts, the whole being under the management of Principal George Ley King and Mrs. King.

The Church of England controls this institution, and it is largely dependent upon voluntary subscriptions, the per capita grant of $60 per annum received from the department not being adequate to cover all the necessary expenses.

The boys and girls are taught together in class-rooms, but are separate in their playgrounds. Neatness and cleanliness prevail throughout every department, each pupil performing a portion of the work. The pupils appear to be progressing and obtaining a training that will fit them for positions in after-life.

During the quarter just ended there were in the institutions fifty-seven pupils, thirty-six boys and twenty-one girls.

I have, &c.,

WM. L. NICHOLS,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
OJIBBEWAS OF LAKE SUPERIOR, WESTERN DIVISION,
PORT ARTHUR, September 2, 1904.

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, 1904.

FORT WILLIAM BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated along the Mission and Kaministiquia rivers, and is on the south side. It contains 13,500 acres. The quality of the

land along the river is good, so much so that the land next to the reserve is being bought up for farming purposes.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 292, consisting of 64 men, 90 women, 72 boys, and 66 girls. During the year there were 5 births and 9 deaths, and 5 joined the band by marriage.

Health and Sanitation.—In the first part of the year there was considerable typhoid among the band, but by great care they managed to get free from it. Almost every year quite a number of houses are whitewashed ; they seem to take great interest in keeping their homes clean.

Occupations.—The occupations of the band are exploring, farming, wood-cutting, and a few of them engage in fishing. Some of them seem to prefer working at the building of elevators, coal-docks, &c., and they can always get this kind of employment at Port Arthur and Fort William, which places are not far distant from them.

Buildings.—Their homes are not as a class very large, but they build them well so that they are comfortable. When found necessary, the members of the band will work together in building a home for widows or others who are in need.

Stock.—They seem to be taking more interest in having good stock, and some of them compete and take prizes for their cattle at the yearly exhibition held in Port Arthur.

Farm Implements.—They have considerable machinery and buy more as they need it.

Education.—There are two schools on the reserve, the Indian boys' and girls' day school and the St. Joseph's Orphanage. These schools are taught by Sisters of St. Joseph, and the children are making very fair progress.

Religion.—There are two hundred and thirty-six Roman Catholics, and fifty-six pagans in the band. There is one church on the reserve and the members of the band take great interest in it. It is well attended. There is one convent, kept by the Sisters of St. Joseph.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians of this band are taking more interest in agriculture than they used to in years gone by, and it is expected that before very long they will not have to depend on outside work, but that they will reap more benefit by devoting all their time to their farms.

Temperance and Morality.—The morals of the Indians are good ; and as to temperance their conduct is as good as can be expected.

RED ROCK BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the Nipigon river near Lake Helen, and contains 486 acres.

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

Vital Statistics.—The population is 215, consisting of 47 men, 57 women, 62 boys, and 49 girls. There were 6 births and 5 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of the members of the band is and has been good. The old rubbish has been burned, as it nearly always is, and some of the houses have been whitewashed.

Occupations.—The chief occupation of the members of this band is serving as guides for tourists and others who go up the Nipigon river fishing and exploring.

Some of them devote a little time to farming, but as yet they seem to cultivate only enough land to serve as gardens for themselves. During the winter they depend chiefly on their hunting, but in the last few years they seem to have cultivated a liking for lumbering and it is not difficult for them to obtain good wages, as there are many camps that need men.

Buildings.—Their buildings are quite comfortable.

Stock.—They are gradually taking more interest in stock-raising and are getting more and better stock.

Farm Implements.—As they do not cultivate large farms, they do not require many farm implements, but they have as many as they need.

Education.—The school at the Lake Helen Mission is always fairly well attended, and the children are making good progress. The Red Rock school has been closed for want of attendance, but the department has arranged to have it re-opened at the request of the parents, who promise a good attendance.

Religion.—There are thirty-five Anglicans and one hundred and eighty Roman Catholics in this band ; they take great interest in their religion.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians also are industrious and get along very well.

Temperance and Morality.—In these respects they are improving year by year.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND MISSION.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the west shore of McIntyre's bay and is occupied by part of the Red Rock band. It contains 580 acres.

Population.—The population is 23.

Tribe.—These Indians also belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Occupations.—These Indians do considerable farming and lumbering, but hunting and exploring seem to be their chief occupations.

Buildings.—The experience of the cold winters has taught the Indians to build warm houses, and those of this band are very comfortable.

Religion.—These Indians are all Anglicans.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and are breaking new land continually. They have built a house, which is now the home of a missionary.

NIPIGON BAND.

Reserve.—One part of this reserve is situated on Gull bay, Lake Nipigon, and contains 9,825 acres. The soil on this part of the reserve is not the very best for farming purposes, but there is good timber on it and it is quite close to the river.

The other part of this reserve is situated at Jackfish island near the Hudson's Bay Company's post, and contains 135½ acres.

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

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 491, consisting of 76 men, 108 women, 165 boys, and 142 girls. There were 13 births and 19 deaths during the year.

Occupations.—The chief occupation of this band is serving as guides to tourists. They do a little at farming, but as yet they do not seem to depend much on it. During the winter months they depend chiefly on hunting.

Buildings.—There were a few buildings completed this year.

Farm Implements.—They have all the farm implements they need at present.

Religion.—Of this band 12 are Anglicans, 175 are Roman Catholics, and 304 are pagans. There is a Roman Catholic church on Jackfish island, where mass is held occasionally.

Temperance and Morality.—Their morals are good and their temperance is fair.

PAYS PLAT BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Pays Plat river, Lake Superior, and contains 605 acres.

Tribe.—These Indians also belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 42, consisting of 6 men, 12 women, 14 boys, and 10 girls. There was one death during the year and there were no births.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band has been good. The Indians take considerable interest in keeping the reserve clean ; at different times during the year they burn the old rubbish.

Occupations.—Their principal occupations are hunting, fishing and mining. A few of them have small gardens and raise enough vegetables for their own use. In berry season most of them pick berries and sell them to dealers close by.

Buildings.—They have built about four new houses this year and now they are working together building one for one of the band who had the misfortune of having his home burned a short time ago.

Stock.—Till this year they had no stock, but this year they have purchased two horses.

Education.—The school has not been opened for two years. It was closed for want of attendance, and even now the parents do not take any interest in the education of their children.

Religion.—All the Indians of this band are Roman Catholics. There is a church on the reserve and a missionary priest goes there at different times during the year to say mass.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and do not seem to find any trouble in getting employment, as prospectors almost always require help, and generally pay them good wages.

Temperance and Morality.—In both these respects there is nothing of which to complain.

PIC BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the Pic river, Lake Superior, and contains 800 acres, divided into twenty-five farms facing the river.

Tribe.—This band also belongs to the the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 213, consisting of 46 men, 57 women, 59 boys, and 51 girls. There were 7 births, and 5 deaths, and 2 joined the band by marriage.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band has been good. The members of the band do a good deal every year towards keeping the reserve clean.

Occupations.—The Indians of this band do considerable farming, but they depend more on fishing and exploring, and in the winter some of them go into the lumber camps, others depend chiefly on hunting.

Buildings.—The buildings they occupy are comfortable.

Farm Implements.—They have all the farm implements that they need.

Education.—There is a school on the reserve ; it is well attended.

Religion.—Of this band six are Anglicans and two hundred and seven are Roman Catholics. There is one church on the reserve and mass is held there occasionally.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are a very industrious people and are prosperous. They have broken a considerable quantity of new land during the year.

Temperance and Morality.—Their morals are very good and their temperance is above the average.

LONG LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated at the northwest corner of Long lake, and contains 612 acres.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 339, consisting of 60 men, 86 women, 83 boys, and 110 girls. There were 11 births and 9 deaths during the year.

Health.—The health of the band has been good.

Occupations.—This band depends generally on hunting, but this year most of them are engaged in portaging supplies for the survey of the Grand Trunk Pacific.

Religion.—Of this band sixty-five are Anglicans and two hundred and seventy-four Roman Catholics. There is one Roman Catholic church on the reserve and a missionary priest goes there occasionally to say mass.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and are fairly prosperous. The temperance and morals of the band are good.

I have, &c.,

L. U. BONIN,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
PARRY SOUND SUPERINTENDENCY,
PARRY SOUND, August 20, 1904.

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, 1904.

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 27 square miles.

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

Vital Statistics.—The population of this reserve (exclusive of those Indians residing on the reserve who do not belong to the band) is 103, consisting of 21 men, 37 women and 45 children. During the year there have been 2 deaths and 1 joined the band, making a decrease in the number of persons in the band of 1 for the year.

Health.—The health of the Indians of this band for the year has been very good, only two deaths being recorded during that period.

Occupations.—The members of this band have exceptional means of earning a livelihood. Besides their agricultural pursuits, which are gradually being improved, they secure considerable employment acting as guides to tourists who visit the adjacent summer resorts during the season, they also find employment in the works of the Canada Atlantic Railway at Deport Harbour, located on the reserve, and in winter they can secure work in the lumbering camps located within easy reach of the reserve. The also hunt and fish.

Buildings and Stock.—The improvements in these are not as noticeable as I could wish. There is, however, one very good farm on the reserve owned by James Walker, a former member of the Cape Croker band, but who now belongs to the Parry Island band, and I am endeavouring to induce the other members of the band to emulate this Indian in their agricultural pursuits.

Education.—The educational affairs of this band are in a fairly satisfactory condition. There are two schools on the reserve, each taught by a female teacher holding a third-class certificate. There are twenty children of school age on the reserve, besides those children residing 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 progress of the pupils has been as good as could be expected.

Religion.—In this band religious denominations are represented as follows: forty-five Methodists, thirty-nine Roman Catholics and nineteen pagans. The Methodists have a very good church on the reserve, and the services, which are conducted by the Rev. Richard Black, 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 church at Skene village.

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

Temperance.—The members of this band are a most temperate body, as no case of intemperance among them during the year has been reported to me; their conduct in this respect has been quite satisfactory.

SHAWANAGA BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated about four miles inland from the eastern shore of Shawanaga bay, on the east side of 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 111, consisting of 26 men, 32 women and 53 children. During the year there have been 3 births and 1 death, making an increase in the band of 2 for the year.

Health.—The health of this band for the past year has been very good, only one death being recorded.

Occupations.—Farming to a limited extent forms a part of the occupation of this band. Fishing and hunting is, however, the means adopted by most of them in earning a living. The Buffalo Fish Company, which has a depot at Pointe au Baril, employs quite a few of the members of this band in the capacity of fishermen, at which they make good wages. These Indians also gather and sell wild fruits, &c.

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

Education.—The children of this band 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 number of children of school age is twenty-eight. The progress of the pupils during the past year has been very fair.

Religion.—Religious denominations are represented in this band as follows: seventy-six Methodists and thirty-five Roman Catholics. There are two churches on the reserve; the one belonging to the Methodists, which is now completed, being a very creditable structure; the other, belonging to the Roman Catholics, is not near completion yet. Services have frequently been held in the new Methodist church, and they have been well attended.

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

Temperance and Morality.—I am pleased to be able to say that no case of intemperance among the band has been reported to me during the past year. Their moral conduct 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 172, consisting of 47 men, 60 women and 65 children. During the year there were 7 births and 4 deaths, which makes an increase in the population of this band of 3 for the year.

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

Occupations.—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 twenty-nine. 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, &c.—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 picturesque bluff, and I think, taking their houses collectively, they form the most creditable group of Indian dwellings in this superintendency.

Their agricultural implements are not numerous and comprise five 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 now completed, and services are occasionally held in it by the missionary priest who resides at Byng Inlet. The Methodists have also erected a very good church and services are frequently held in it by visiting clergy.

Characteristics.—The members of the band are of a superior character. They are a stalwart body of men and their appearance indicates constant industry.

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

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 25,582 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 139, consisting of 37 men, 32 women and 70 children. During the year there were 3 births, 1 joined the band, 2 died and 4 left the band, making a decrease of 2 in the number of persons comprising the band for the year.

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

Occupations.—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 a number of them act as guides to tourists who frequent the Muskoka lakes in large numbers.

Buildings.—The buildings belonging to the members of this band are superior to those found on any of the 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 thirty-two. 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, consisting of 123 Methodists, 14 Roman Catholics and 2 Plymouth Brethren. A Methodist missionary in the person of the school teacher, is stationed on the reserve, and regular services are held in the church, which are well attended by the adherents of this denomination.

Characteristics.—This band may be considered the most industrious and progressive of any in the 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.

MAGANETTAWAN BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated about five miles from the mouth of the Maganettawan river. It contains an area of 8,670 acres.

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

Vital Statistics.—There are only 28 members of this band who reside permanently on the reserve, the remainder reside on the Manitoulin island. The population of the reserve consists of 6 men, 9 women and 13 children. During the past year no births nor deaths were recorded, which leaves the population the same as last year.

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

Occupations.—The members of this band engage in farming in a small way. Their reserve lies adjacent to the large lumber mills of the Messrs. Holland & Graves Company at Byng Inlet, which enables them to secure employment at any time they may require it, so that if they want to work, they can easily earn a very fair living. They also hunt and fish.

Buildings and Stock.—As the population of the resident members of this band is small, their buildings are, of course, in proportion, and consist of two dwellings, two stables and two other buildings. Their live stock is fairly numerous for the population of the reserve.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve. The children who attend school do so at Byng Inlet, about two miles distant from the reserve, where there is a large and well conducted school.

Religion.—The members of this band are all Roman Catholics. They have no church, as the population of the reserve is too small to build and support one.

Characteristics and Temperance.—The Indians of this band are an industrious and well-behaved people, and are as temperate in their habits as any of the bands in this superintendency.

I have, &c.,

W. B. MACLEAN,
Indian Superintendent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
SAUGEEN AGENCY,
CHIPPAWA HILL, July 18, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserve.—The Saugeen reserve is located in the county of Bruce, on Lake Huron. It comprises about 9,020 acres.

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

Vital Statistics.—The population numbers 389 persons, consisting of 190 males and 199 females. There has been a net increase of 3 persons during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians has been generally good during the year. There have been no epidemics of any contagious disease, and the deaths that occurred were either of aged people or of infants. The sanitary precautions contained in the circular issued by the department are fairly well observed.

Occupations.—The chief occupation of the Indians is mixed farming. A limited amount of timber is sold during the year. This quantity has been greatly decreased in the last two years. A number of Indians of both sexes are engaged as hired help among the white people. The Indians also derive a considerable income as dock and mill hands, by teaming for lumber companies, by manufacturing baskets and rustic work, and by berry-picking, and gathering medical herbs and roots.

Buildings.—The number of new buildings erected during the past year has not been large, but many valuable improvements in buildings and fences have been made.

Stock.—The horses are the most valuable part of the live stock owned by the Indians. They also possess cattle, hogs and poultry of considerable value.

Farm Implements.—The farm implements owned by the Indians include all those required in cultivating the land and in harvesting their crops.

Education.—This is a question of the greatest interest among the Indians. There are three brick school-houses on the reserve. Each one is well equipped and is kept open during the whole teaching year. The children are progressing very well.

Religion.—The Methodist, Roman Catholic and Congregationalist denominations are each represented on this reserve. The Methodists have a resident missionary and three churches on this reserve. The Roman Catholics have a beautiful stone church and are under the care of a missionary who does not reside on this reserve. All the Indians manifest a commendable interest in religious affairs.

Characteristics and Progress.—Most of the Indians on this reserve are law-abiding. Nevertheless almost without exception they possess those characteristics common to their race, namely, lack of ambition and thrift. On account of this their progress is not rapid.

Temperance and Morality.—As a rule the Indians of the reserve are temperate. Unfortunately a few are addicted to the use of intoxicants and are not strictly moral.

I have, &c.,

JOHN SCOFFIELD,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
SIX NATION INDIANS,
BRANTFORD, July 27, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserve.—The reserve is located in the township of Tuscarora, and partly in the township of Onondaga, in the county of Brant, with a portion in the township of Oneida, in the county of Haldimand. It contains 43,696 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 Nation 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. Some one hundred and fifty Delawares were adopted later.

Vital Statistics.—There are 1,177 men, 1,129 women, 943 boys, and 946 girls, making a total of 4,195, being an increase of 63 over the previous year. The changes during the year were as follows : 143 births, 12 women were added to the band through marriage, there were 86 deaths, 2 women ceased to be members by marrying into other bands, and 4 women through residence in the United States for over five years.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health has been usually good during the year. During the first quarter there was an epidemic of scarlet fever of moderate severity, but without fatal result in any case ; there were fifteen cases in one section, which necessitated the closing of the school until the danger of infection was removed. During the same quarter there were seven cases of typhoid fever and a considerable number of cases of malarial fever. The rest of the year was free from disease of an epidemic character. During the winter there was more than the usual number of pulmonary afflictions, probably due to the severe weather.

There were 6,907 patients treated at the medical office on the reserve ; 1,738 visits were made ; making 7,384 miles travelled by the physicians on the reserve during the year.

The annual sanitary circular issued by the department was carefully explained and interpreted at the general council held on April 5, and distributed among the members of the band by the members of the board of health, which board greatly assisted in enforcing the sanitary measures contained in the department's circular.

Occupations.—General farming is the chief occupation. The crops and stock compare favourably with those of the white men surrounding the reserve. The crops for the past year were generally good, wheat, oats and corn being a heavy crop, while barley and pease were a light crop. Potatoes were a fairly good crop.

Buildings and Stock.—The Indians are continually improving their farms by enlarging their barns for the better protection of their stock, crops and implements, building wire fences and sinking of wells.

Education.—There are eleven schools on the reserve, all well attended. Six white and five Indian teachers are employed. A most successful teachers' convention was held in June. Officers were appointed and instructed to prepare rules and regulations to include two meetings in each year.

Religion.—Great interest is manifested by the Indians in church and Sunday school work, all the services are well attended, which are regularly held by the Church of England in seven localities, the Baptists in three, the Methodists in four and the Seventh Day Adventists in two. The three resident missionaries are very popular and doing good work. Considerable labour and expense were contributed by the Indians to improve their churches and meeting places.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians are constantly improving and taking more interest in farming ; during the past year two large frame dwellings and twenty-one large barns, mostly with stone basements, were erected, as well as many new wire fences ; also a number of wells for the better and more convenient supply of water for the stock were completed. The Farmers' Institute of the south riding of Brant held an afternoon and evening public meeting on the reserve in January ; both meetings were largely attended by Indians. The Agricultural Society of the reserve, wholly under the control of the Indians, held its three days' annual fair in October, which was a great success.

The road-work under the direction of forty-seven pathmasters, who are appointed annually by the chiefs in council, was well attended to.

Temperance and Morality.—There are several temperance societies on the reserve, and meetings are regularly held.

I have, &c.,

E. D. CAMERON,

Indian Superintendent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
STURGEON FALLS AGENCY,
STURGEON FALLS, August 1, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my first annual report and statistical statement concerning the Indians of this agency for the year ended June 30, 1904.

NIPISSING BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the north shore of Lake Nipissing, two miles west of the town of North Bay ; it formerly comprised an area of 80,640 acres, but 6,400 acres has been surrendered, still leaving 74,240 acres for the use of the band.

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

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 213, consisting of 44 men, 61 women and 108 children. During the year there were 10 births and 1 death and 2 entered the band by marriage, making a total increase of 11 for the year.

Health.—The health of the members of this band for the past year has been exceptionally good ; there has not been any epidemic, and the cleanliness evidently contributed to this.

Occupations.—The principal occupations of these Indians are hunting, fishing and acting as guides to tourists and surveying parties ; some cultivate small farms along the lake front and during the winter they engage in the lumber camps. At present quite a number are engaged in taking supplies to surveying parties on the route of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway.

Buildings and Stock.—The Indians are continually improving their buildings, particularly houses ; during the past year six new houses were completed. They are kept clean and comfortable. The Indians have only a few small barns and stables, for they are not much in need of such. They have very little stock, only a few horses, a few cows, pigs and poultry.

Farm Implements.—They have a few ploughs and harrows, and are well supplied with spades, shovels, hoes and garden tools ; all the cultivation is done with these implements.

Education.—There is one school on the reserve, situated at Beaucage, presided over by a female teacher holding a third-class certificate ; the attendance is good and the progress of the pupils satisfactory.

Religion.—The members of this band are all Roman Catholics. They have a good church on the reserve, where services are conducted by visiting missionaries, and the Indians appear to take a very active interest in religious instruction.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are very industrious and law-abiding and are improving in their manners and show a desire to be well thought of in their business methods.

Temperance and Morality.—With a few exceptions, temperance is now fairly well observed ; the morality of these Indians is excellent.

DOKIS BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve belonging to this band is situated at the head of the French river, where it leaves Lake Nipissing ; it contains an area of 30,300 acres, consisting of the two large Okindawt islands. These Indians are the owners of a valuable tract of pine timber, which if disposed of would place a large sum at the credit of the band and would enable them to live comfortably on the interest.

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

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 78, consisting of 19 men, 26 women and 33 children. During the year there were 2 births and 3 deaths, making a total decrease of 1 in the number of persons comprising this band for the year.

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

Occupations.—The occupations of these Indians are hunting, fishing and working in adjacent lumber camps. Those who live on the reserve cultivate small gardens and catch fish for their own use.

Buildings and Stock.—The buildings of this band are few in number and built of logs. The stock comprises only a few cattle and ponies.

Education.—There is not any school on this reserve ; consequently, the children are not getting an education.

Religion.—The Indians belonging to this band are all Roman Catholics ; they have no church on the reserve.

Characteristics.—The members of this band are not industrious and seem to live contented in small cabins, they do not take to farming, but follow their old mode of living.

Temperance and Morality.—The conduct of this band in these respects is of exceptionally good order.

TEMAGAMING BAND.

Reserve.—No reserve has yet been given to this band; the members live around the shores of Lake Temagaming, while quite a number live on Bear island, near the Hudson's Bay Company's post. Lake Temagaming is situated seventy-two miles from North Bay and is noted for its many beautiful islands and clear water, and is fast becoming prominent as a tourist resort.

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

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 88, consisting of 24 men, 36 women and 28 children. During the year there were 2 births and 2 deaths and 1 woman entered the band by marriage, making a total increase of 1 in the number of persons comprising this band for the past year.

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

Occupations.—The principal occupations of these Indians are hunting, fishing and acting as guides. They do not farm, as they say that they have no land of their own to settle on.

Buildings and Stock.—The buildings of this band are very limited, a large number living in tents and wigwams around the shore of the lake, and others having houses on Bear island.

Education.—This band has a good school on Bear island, Lake Temagaming, in charge of Mrs. Woods, a competent teacher, who is also a general favourite with the members of the band. The children are a smart, intelligent class and are progressing rapidly with their studies.

Religion.—This band is composed entirely of Roman Catholics ; they have recently completed a new church near the Hudson's Bay Company's post on Bear island, where services are conducted by visiting missionaries. These Indians appear to take a very active interest in religion.

Characteristics.—The members of this band are a bright, intelligent body and appear to take readily to the mode of living of the whites. They are noted as excellent canoemen, a number being employed by the Hudson's Bay Company for this purpose.

Temperance and Morality.—As no cases of intemperance have been reported to me during the past year, I conclude their conduct has, in this respect, been satisfactory, while morally their conduct has been good, as usual.

I have, &c.,

GEO. P. COCKBURN,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
THESSALON AGENCY,
THESSALON, August 12, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report relating to the affairs of the several bands of Indians in my agency for the year ended June 30, 1904.

THESSALON RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the north shore of the North channel of Lake Huron, about six miles east of the town of Thessalon, and contains an area of 2,307 acres.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 142, consisting of 30 men, 42 women and 70 children. The numbers remain about stationary, there being a decrease of 1 since my last report.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good during the year.

Occupations.—These Indians are chiefly employed as labourers on farms, and in loading vessels in summer ; and many of them work in the lumber camps in the fall and winter. The younger people do some fishing for their own use, and the women make baskets and gather berries for sale.

Buildings.—No new buildings have been erected during the year ; but the dwellings they have are kept clean and comfortable. They have a few barns and stables, and at present are not in much need of any more.

Stock.—Their stock is limited. They have a few horses and cows, and some young cattle, pigs and poultry.

Farm Implements.—They have a few ploughs and harrows, but most of their cultivation of the soil is done with spades, shovels, hoes and hand-rakes.

Education.—There is a school-house on the reserve, but it remains closed owing to the lack of interest taken by most of the parents in education. Several of the young people are attending the neighbouring public school and are doing well.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics and are regularly attended by a visiting missionary. They appear to take a considerable interest in their religious instruction, more particularly since the completion of their new church over a year ago.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are law-abiding and industrious, and are generally improving in prosperity, and in their clothing and civilization.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are not addicted to the use of intoxicants ; in fact it would be difficult for them to get intoxicating liquors, and they are, generally speaking, a moral community.

MISSISSAGI RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the east side of the Mississagi river and on the north shore of the North channel of Lake Huron, and comprises an area of 5,636 acres.

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

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 162, consisting of 27 men, 49 women and 86 children.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of many of this band is not satisfactory. A few of them have scrofula and kindred diseases, and several are afflicted with consumption. They keep their habitations clean and orderly.

Occupations.—These Indians are mostly labourers and work in the lumber camps in the fall and winter. In the summer they are employed in the saw-mills near the reserve and in loading lumber vessels, and earn good wages. The women and children gather berries and make baskets for sale and realize some money.

Buildings.—For the most part their dwellings are log, in a fair state of repair and comfort, and the few stables and outhouses they have are of little value.

Stock.—They have only a few horses, and a few cows, and some young cattle, poultry and pigs.

Farm Implements.—They have one plough, a couple of harrows and a lot of spades, hoes and rakes, and they have a few driving-sleighs.

Education.—There is a school-house on the reserve, but the attendance of the children is not good. The parents do not seem to take much interest in education.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics, and they obtain their religious instruction from a visiting missionary.

Characteristics and Progress.—This band is, generally speaking, industrious. The members are well clothed, and dress with care, and have an earnest desire to be considered respectable people.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate community, but some of them are not moral, owing largely, it is believed, to the reserve being adjacent to large lumber mills.

SERPENT RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve lies east of the mouth of the Serpent river, and is bounded on the south and west by the North channel of Lake Huron, and on the north by the Serpent river, and contains 27,480 acres.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 123, there being 23 men, 29 women and 71 children.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good during the year ; 2 very old people and 3 young children accounting for the deaths.

Occupations.—These Indians are labourers, working mostly in the saw-mills on the reserve in the summer, and in the lumber camps connected with the saw-mills in the winter, and earn good wages. They cultivate plots of vegetables, and the women and children gather berries for sale.

Buildings.—About one-half of the dwellings are a good class of frame, and an extra good one has been added to the list during the year. The remainder of the dwellings are a good class of log buildings and all are kept in good repair and clean and neat. They have few outbuildings and little use for them.

Stock.—They have a few horses, mares and colts and a few pigs and some poultry, and they express a strong determination to acquire more in the near future.

Farm Implements.—They have a few ploughs, and sufficient shovels, spades, hoes, and rakes, for their requirements.

Education.—They have an excellent school and a good teacher ; and the parents seem to take a lively interest in education.

Religion.—These Indians are Roman Catholics. They have a nice church, and they appear to take an interest in religious instruction.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are a happy, contented, law-abiding, industrious and progressive people.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate, abstaining from intoxicants, and are moral in their habits and conduct.

SPANISH RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the north shore of the North channel of Lake Huron, along the south bank of the Spanish river. It is bounded on the south and west by the waters of the said North channel and on the north by the Spanish river, and contains 28,000 acres. As to residence, this band is divided into three communities. Two of these are dwelling on the reserve and are in my charge, viz., at Sagamook, a beautiful point running out into the North channel, and on the left bank of the Spanish river in the easterly end of the reserve. The third community is on Manitoulin island under the jurisdiction of Indian Agent Sims.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population of these two communities is 322, consisting of 61 men, 75 women and 186 children.

Health and Sanitation.—These Indians have continued healthy during the year; and, as is their custom, keep their habitations clean and tidy.

Occupations.—Many of these Indians are employed as farm-hands, and many as ordinary labourers ; a few follow hunting and fishing for a living. The women and children gather berries and make baskets for sale.

Buildings.—This band has exceptionally good buildings and outbuildings, all of which are kept in a good state of repair; but no new buildings have been erected during the year.

Stock.—This band has a very good assortment of stock, which comprises horses, cattle, pigs and poultry, and there has been considerable improvement in this respect during the past year.

Farm Implements.—They have a few ploughs and harrows and a lot of hoes and rakes, all indeed that they need for the cultivation of their gardens.

Education.—They have a very good school at Sagamook, very well attended, and the best school in my agency. The school at Spanish River has not been well attended by the children during the past year.

Religion.—Those of the band designated No. 1, at Sagamook, are nearly all Roman Catholics, and those of the band designated No. 2, at Spanish River, are nearly all Anglicans.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious, peaceful and law-abiding, and have made some progress in their improvement in habits and manners. They are well clothed and make a comfortable living.

Temperance and Morals.—They are a temperate people—I might almost say total abstainers, and they are a moral people, I am led to believe.

I have, &c.,

SAMUEL HAGAN,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
WALPOLE ISLAND AGENCY,
WALPOLE ISLAND, September 8, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit my annual report on the Chippewas and Pottawattamies of Walpole island for the year ended June 30, 1904, together with a statistical statement for the same period giving the census returns of both bands

taken in the months of August and September, showing the increase and decrease in the population and progress in agriculture and other industries whereby the Indians make their living.

Health and Sanitation.—The Indians have been generally healthy during the year, no epidemics having appeared among them. The Indians are giving a good deal of attention to cleanliness in and around their premises by frequent airings of the bedding and wearing apparel.

Population.—There has been an increase in the Chippewa band of 1, there being now 605. The Pottawattamies have decreased 5 during the year, and now have a population of 181.

Education.—There are three schools on the reserve, taught by native-born teachers. School No. 2 is well attended; the other two are not so well attended. The parents do not take the interest in education that they should. A number of the larger pupils attend the different industrial schools.

Religion.—There are two churches on the reserve, an Anglican and a Methodist. Divine service is held every Sunday both morning and evening. The Methodist church is filled both morning and evening. The members of the Roman Catholic Church attend divine service at Port Lambton and Algonac, Michigan.

Characteristics and Progress.—Generally speaking the Indians of this reserve are law-abiding and fairly industrious. Most of the young men work among the whites all the year round.

Temperance and Morality.—It is to be regretted that a few of the young men and women indulge in intoxicating liquor, but it is a rare thing to see a middle-aged person under the influence of liquor. There is a chance for improvement in their morality; the marriage law is not observed as well as it should be.

Agriculture.—The crops are poor this year on account of so much rain and cold weather. There will not be enough for their wants, but they can find all the employment that they want among the whites.

Other Industries.—The women make fancy baskets, for which they have a good market at home, selling to the people of the United States who come to the reserve in large numbers and pay good prices for their wares. The men make bows, arrows, canes and small canoes, which brings them in a large revenue.

Public Improvements.—There is a drainage canal now under construction which, when completed, will be a great benefit to the reserve, not only for drainage purposes, but also as a means of bringing pure water through the centre of the reserve.

I have, &c.,

J. B. McDOUGALL,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
ABENAKIS OF ST. FRANCIS,
ST. FRANÇOIS DU LAC, July 15, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserve.—The reserve of the Abenakis of St. Francis consists of several pieces of land situated in the seigniories of St. François du Lac and Pierreville. Its total area is 1,819 acres and 52 perches. The portion of the reserve inhabited by the Indians is designated by the No. 1,217 on the official plan of the parish of St. Thomas de

Pierreville and contains 1,228 acres. The village is situated on the bank of the St. Francis river, about six miles from its mouth on Lake St. Peter. It has a very picturesque site.

Tribe.—The Indians of this tribe call themselves the Abenakis of St. François de Sales.

Vital Statistics.—This band is composed of 327 persons, consisting of 79 men and 86 women over twenty-one years of age, and 81 boys and 81 girls under that age. There were during the year 19 births and 11 deaths.

Health.—There has not been any contagious disease or epidemic during the year.

Occupations.—The principal occupations of the Indians are basket-making and fancy-work. They make baskets all winter, and about the month of June most of the families go to the sea-side resorts in the United States, especially to the Atlantic coast and the White mountains, as well as to resorts in the province of Ontario, to sell their wares. They return in autumn. This business is their chief source of revenue. There are also some families that hunt as well as sell baskets ; but the number of those that follow this pursuit is diminishing each year more and more, in proportion as game becomes rare.

Agriculture is only a secondary occupation among the Abenakis of St. Francis. Some of them even do not farm at all ; others raise some vegetables, such as potatoes, corn, &c. Some families cultivate a little more, but the sale of their baskets, which compels them to be absent during the greater part of the summer, prevents them from giving to agriculture the required attention.

The Abenakis own some horses, a large number of good cows, and some pigs. They have very few farm implements.

Education.—The education of the children receives much attention. Most of the Indians can read and write and a good many of them have taken a course at college or at some other higher institution of learning. There are two schools on the reserve: the Protestant school under the direction of Rev. H. O. Loiselle and the Roman Catholic school under the direction of the Grey Nuns.

Last autumn a wing was added to the Roman Catholic school and this building forms now a pretty little convent under the direction of four Sisters. These two schools are well conducted, providing an excellent education for a large number of children.

Religion.—The Abenakis belong to various religious faiths : two hundred and twenty-eight are Roman Catholics, eighty-seven are Anglicans and twelve are Adventists.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Abenakis as a rule are hard-working and industrious. The making and sale of baskets brings them enough money to permit them to live comfortably, and some of them are very rich. Each family returns in the fall with a pretty good sum, and if they were more economical and less improvident, they might put money aside for a rainy day. However, several of them have built large comfortable houses for themselves, and the village presents a very pretty aspect.

Temperance and Morality.—There has been very little disorder caused by the use of liquor, and the conduct of the Abenakis is in general, good.

General Remarks.—These Indians are as civilized as the white people of the surrounding district, and live in harmony with the latter. Very few of the members of this band are pure-blooded Indians, all have more or less white blood in their veins. Many of them have lost the characteristics of the red man, and it is very difficult for those seeing them for the first time, to recognize them as Indians. Nearly all of them speak English and French, and use one or other of these languages in their dealings with white men, but in the family and in their meetings and council they speak Abenakis, which they preserve with religious care.

I have, &c.,

A. O. COMIRE, M.D.,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
ALGONQUINS OF RIVER DESERT,
MANIWAKI, September 13, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserve.—The Maniwaki reserve is situated on the River Desert at its confluence with the Gatineau river, and contains an area of 44,547 acres and 26 perches. The reserve is remarkably well situated for navigable streams, and is almost completely surrounded by water, the Eagle river forming a greater part of its western boundary, the Desert river on the north and the Gatineau river on the east. These, with the Big and Little Cedar lakes, the Bitobee and their tributaries, all combine to make Maniwaki an exceptionally picturesque and beautiful township.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band belong to the Algonquin tribe.

Vital Statistics.—This band is composed of 386 persons, consisting of 98 men and 105 women over twenty-one years of age, and 81 boys and 102 girls under twenty-one years of age. During the year there were 10 births and 11 deaths, and 1 woman entered the band by marriage. The causes of death were: 4 of consumption, 1 of cholera, 1 of pneumonia, 1 by drowning, 1 of old age, 1 of typhoid fever, 1 of measles and 1 of infantile disease.

Health and Sanitation.—There was an epidemic of measles last spring among the Indians. Luckily it did not spread to any great extent. Otherwise the health of the Indians has been fairly good.

Occupations.—The principal occupations of the Indians are shantying, driving, and hunting. Some of them farm and lumber on their own account, others make canoes, snow-shoes and axe-handles, and the women make baskets, mittens, moccasins, and other handiwork.

Agriculture.—There has been very little progress in farming among the Indians during the past year, money being too easily earned at other occupations; their services being greatly in demand by surveyors, explorers and sportsmen.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—There has been very little change in stock during the year. Cattle have been raised and sold, but the number on hand is about the same. One horse died and one was sold, also one colt was sold.

There was only one new building—a dwelling-house—erected on the reserve during the year; and one threshing-machine and buggy purchased during the year.

Education.—There are three schools on the reserve, but only one in operation. The attendance of the pupils is falling off considerably on account of some families moving away from the vicinity of the school, and in other cases the children growing up. The teacher, Miss Annie O'Connor, is doing everything possible for the advancement of her pupils.

Religion.—The Indians of this band are all Roman Catholics, and attend the Oblate Mission at Maniwaki.

Characteristics and Progress.—There has not been the same progress in farming this year as last year, the Indians being inclined to take advantage of the more ready means of earning.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians of this band are much addicted to drinking intoxicants. Although a great deal has been done during the year and heavy fines imposed, the evil is by no means stamped out.

The morals of the Indians have been fairly good for the past year, and with two schools running, in the future I expect good results, as those who have attended school are much better than those who could not.

I have, &c.,
W. J. McCAFFREY,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
AMALECITES OF VIGER,
CACOUNA, June 30, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit my annual report accompanied by statistical statement in respect to the Amalecites of Viger for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the shore of the St. Lawrence river, near the village of Cacouna, but most of the Indians are scattered over various counties, so that it is difficult to take a census of them.

Vital Statistics.—There are 103 Indians on the reserve. There were no births nor deaths this year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians is fairly good, except in the case of some who are old. Sanitary precautions are well observed.

Occupations.—The principal occupation of these Indians is the making of baskets, snow-shoes and fancy wares; these last are made by the women and sold to tourists during the summer. The men do a little fishing and hunting ; they also make snow-shoes in winter. Most of them are very poor. The government grants them a little assistance, especially the widows, and they certainly are very thankful, for it is a great act of charity to relieve these unfortunate people. Some families, I believe, cultivate land in the valley of the Metapedia, but their progress is slow. I believe this is due to their poverty, and I think they are more easily discouraged than the whites.

Education.—The children go to school and to the convent at Cacouna, but there are not many on the reserve. As to the Indians scattered through the different counties, I am told they attend school fairly well.

Religion.—As far as I know, the Indians are all Roman Catholics.

Temperance and Morality.—With rare exceptions, temperance is well observed. The morality of these Indians, especially the women, is excellent.

I have, &c.,
EDOUARD BEAULIEU,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
HURONS OF LORETTE,
JEUNE LORETTE, August 23, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit my annual report in regard to the Huron tribe of Lorette and other Indians settled in my agency, with a statistical statement, for the year ended June 30, last.

Reserves.—The Huron tribe still owns three reserves as follows :—

1. The reserve of the village of Lorette, containing thirty acres, where most of the Indians reside, near their ancient chapel, which always attracts the atention of strangers.

2. The Quarante Arpents reserve, containing 1,352 acres. The surrender of this reserve to the Crown will soon be an accomplished fact. This reserve was originally

given to the Huron Indians for the purpose of enabling them to obtain timber for building and fuel required for their use, but now, as it does not bring them in any profit, advantage or interest, as the timber has been taken off it, I believe that the sale of it in lots will be of benefit to the band.

3. The Rocmont reserve, in the county of Portneuf, containing an area of 9,600 acres, which was worked under license grantd to Mr. Henry Atkinson for the timber on it, but which is not so any longer, as this license was not renewed, and as the Indians have surrendered the same to the Crown for the purpose of sale.

Vital Statistics.—Since my last report the population has decreased by 1. During the year there were 8 births and 9 deaths, which makes the population 455. To this number must be added the Indians of other tribes found in my agency, which includes the counties of Quebec, Portneuf, Montmorency and Charlevoix.

At St. Pierre de Charlesbourg, county of Quebec, there is a family of Amalecites, composed of nine persons, the head of which is employed as game warden by the Quebec government.

Twelve Abenakis also reside in the county of Quebec. Their chief occupation consists in the manufacture of Indian fancy wares, by which they make a living.

The Abenakis of St. Urbain lead a miserable life. Abbé G. A. Girard, curé of the parish in which they reside, is very attentive to their needs, and always ready to notify me of their condition when necessity arises. Some of these Indians receive every year assistance and seed-grain from the department.

The combined population of these four groups is 513.

Occupations.—There is again this year plenty of progress in the special industry of the Hurons. The trade in moccasins and snow-shoes is flourishing. This year there is much more demand than last year, and nearly all the families in the band have remained in the village. Fancy wares, as well as moccasins and snow-shoes, have been in great demand ; so that it can be said that these various sources of revenue have been fairly remunerative for the Hurons.

I have observed this year that the number of tourists visiting the lakes in the region of Lake St. John is somewhat smaller than last year. However, those who come always encourage the Indians of Lorette, whose skill they admire.

Health and Sanitation.—The sanitary condition of the band in general is always very good. There has not been any epidemic, and the cleanliness of the village contributes much towards this state of affairs.

Education.—The Indians are satisfied with the teaching given to their children by the Sisters, and they have a right to be proud of the education afforded their children. The Sisters do their utmost for the children committed to their charge, and nothing but praise is due to them. Nevertheless, I observe the children leave school too soon. As soon as they have made their first communion, that is to say, arrived at the age of eleven or twelve, the parents neglect to continue to send their children to school. This is an anomaly for which the parents alone are responsible; but their indifference in regard to their children has the result that the latter are unable to take any position that requires a certain degree of education.

Religion.—As I said in my report for last year, with the exception of four Hurons of Lorette, one of whom is an Anglican and the three others Presbyterians, the Indians of my agency profess the Roman Catholic religion. There is only one church on the reserve ; it is Roman Catholic.

Temperance and Morality.—No serious reproach can be made against the Indians of my agency in regard to morality. They are respectable people and know how to conduct themselves. The same praise cannot be given them in respect to temperance. In addition to the occasions that tempt them to take intoxicating liquor, some brewers of Quebec send their employees to sell beer to the Indians. I have taken measures to put a stop to the audacity of these brewers, and I hope to succeed.

General Remarks.—The affairs of the band are satisfactory. The Indians are peaceable and seem content with the form of life that they lead.

I have, &c.,

ANTOINE O. BASTIEN,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
IROQUOIS OF CAUGHNAWAGA,
CAUGHNAWAGA, July 20, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit my annual report in regard to the Caughnawaga agency for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Reserve.—The reserve is situated on the south shore of the St. Lawrence river, opposite the town of Lachine, a distance of nine miles from Montreal; it contains an area of about 12,327 arpents, of which about 4,000 are in timber and underbrush and the rest under cultivation and in pasture. The soil is good and compares favourably with that of the French Canadian parishes surrounding it.

The village is surrounded by quarries, some of which are worked.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 2,074, an increase of 40 for the year. There were during the year 94 births and 54 deaths.

Health.—The health of the Indians has been fairly good. There has been no epidemic among them, but consumption claimed several victims. Hygienic laws might be better observed.

Occupations.—These consist of bead-work, making lacrosse-sticks and snow-shoes, taking rafts down the Ottawa river and on the St. Lawrence river through the Lachine rapids as far as Montreal. Several of them make a good profit selling patent medicines in Canada and the United States. Many are employed by the Dominion Bridge Company, the Wire Works and the Cooper Machine Works at Lachine, and by the Machine and Locomotive Company at Longue Pointe, while others are engaged in building bridges in various parts of Canada and the United States. They are acknowledged to be skilled workmen in all such work. Several are employed as farm-hands by white men at Lachine and at Laprairie.

Buildings.—The Indians at the present time have comfortable houses and buildings of modern style.

Education.—There are two Roman Catholic school-houses, one for boys, with two teachers, and one for girls, also with two teachers. The Protestants also have a good school for boys and girls. The assiduity of the children at school is not generally satisfactory, the parents are a little negligent in this respect, they do not pay enough attention.

Religion.—The large majority of the Indians are Roman Catholics. They have a nice church and two Jesuit missionaries, Rev. Fathers Granger and Melançon. The Methodists also have a chapel, which serves as a school-house. Their missionary is the Rev. Mr. Oke, an Indian from Oka. The Indians show great interest in their religious exercises.

Characteristics and Progress.—Several of the Indians are industrious in their work and in their education.

Temperance.—There has not been much progress in this respect, especially among the young men. However, there seems to be a little more caution since the prosecution of three hotel-keepers at Lachine for selling liquor to Indians.

Their morality is generally good.

I have, &c.,

J. BLAIN,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
IROQUOIS OF ST. REGIS,
ST. REGIS, June 25, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the bank of the St. Lawrence river, in the province of Quebec, opposite the town of Cornwall, Ontario, including islands a little below Prescott, Ont., thence down stream opposite the village of Lancaster, Ontario. On the opposite shore is the village of St. Anicet, in the province of Quebec. The reserve contains an area of about 6,887 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of 302 men, 313 women, and 811 young people under twenty-one years of age, making a total of 1,426. There were 25 births and 15 deaths during the year ; 7 went out by marriage, and 3 came in by marriage, making an increase in population of 6.

Health and Sanitation.—There was no epidemic on the reserve during the year, and the sanitary condition of the Indians' homes has been good.

Occupations.—The principal occupations of these Indians are farming, hunting, fishing, trapping, acting as guides for tourists, running rafts of timber, doing monthly and daily labour with farmers and on railways, also manufacturing lacrosse-sticks and baskets to a large extent.

Education.—There are two schools in operation on the reserve ; one on Cornwall island and the other at St. Regis village. Owing to the parents of the children not taking an interest in sending them to school, the attendance is not large. The schools are well supplied with school material and good teachers.

Religion.—There are two churches on the reserve, a Roman Catholic and a Methodist. The Methodist church is on Cornwall island, and the Roman Catholic in St. Regis village. There are two missionaries, one for each of the denominations mentioned. The Indians are attentive to their religion.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians are making fair progress in cultivating their lands and improving their buildings. They are well supplied with farm implements.

Temperance and Morality.—There has been but little change in respect to temperance.

The morality of the Indians is fairly good.

I have, &c.,
GEORGE LONG,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
LAKE OF TWO MOUNTAINS AGENCY,
OKA, July 2, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Lake of Two Mountains, Ottawa river, in the province of Quebec.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band belong to the Iroquois and Algonquin tribes.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 461, consisting of 143 men, 105 women and 213 children under twenty-one years of age. During the year there were 23 births and 9 deaths ; one new family numbering 5 came to the reserve ; a family of 3 left ; making an increase of 16.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been fairly good during the year. Their houses and outbuildings are kept fairly well.

Occupations.—These Indians farm, make staves, baskets, moccasins, mitts and lacrosse-sticks ; many of them work in the shanties and by the day with the farmers.

Education.—There are two schools on the reserve, taught, one by Miss L. A. Carmichael and the other by Miss Hodgson, both of whom have the necessary qualifications to teach successfully. But the laxness of the parents in sending their children to school constitutes the greatest obstacle to success. This year, however, some of the children have made fair progress.

Religion.—The Methodists worshipped this year in a small church which they have recently built and which is very comfortable. The Roman Catholics go to the parish church. These Indians take great interest in their spiritual affairs.

Buildings.—Some of the Indians have fairly comfortable buildings, but the majority among them have poor ones. There are several who farm but have no barn, which occasions much loss to their crops. This is due to the poverty of the Indians.

Stock.—The majority of these Indians have good stock, including horses and milch cows. These Indians are beginning to understand the dairy business ; several of them take their milk to the creamery.

Temperance and Morality.—This year several of these Indians took to drinking, amongst others the young men who came in from the shanties. During the year I instituted six actions for the sale of liquor to the Indians ; most of these resulted in convictions. This did a great deal of good in several families.

Most of these Indians observe the laws of morality.

I have, &c.,

JOSEPH PERILLARD,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
MICMACS OF MARIA,
MARIA, July 9, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report for the year ended June 30, last, as well as statistical statement in regard to the affairs of the Micmacs of this agency.

Reserve.—The reserve is situated on the shores of a magnificent river, the Great Cascapedia, and of Chaleur bay. This reserve has a beautiful aspect. It contains 416 acres, 136 of which is under cultivation; the rest is covered with young trees. Nearly the whole of the land is cultivatable and has a fairly fertile soil.

Vital Statistics.—The population is only 92 this year, there having been a decrease of 13. There were 2 births and 2 deaths.

Health.—There was no contagious disease this year and the Indians enjoyed fairly good health.

Occupations.—My Indians have many means of making a living ; they do a little farming, hunting and fishing. Sportsmen looking for salmon-fishing employ them as

canoemen on the Great Cascapedia. Some of them work in the shanties in the neighbourhood, and at stream-driving in spring. Others are employed by farmers or work at home making snow-shoes, snow-shovels and baskets of all kinds, or in tanning green skins with which they make a great number of shoepacks for winter wear. These articles afford them their chief source of revenue.

Buildings and Farm Implements.—With the exception of four or five which are good, their houses are of small value.

Their farm implements are also few and not of much value.

Education.—There is a good school on the reserve, where the children who attend regularly receive good instruction. The pupils learn English passably well; French is also taught. Unfortunately too many of the parents too often neglect to send their children to school.

Religion.—All the Indians of my agency are Roman Catholics and attend to their religious duties well. Converted by the first missionaries to the country, they have always remained faithful to their religion.

Characteristics.—The Micmacs are generally very skilful and industrious; but although they earn much, they are always poor, owing to their lack of economy and to their improvidence.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians of my agency are generally intemperate, even the women. Under a strict and continued watchfulness they will commit disorderly acts; but the presence of the constable and the lock-up built recently in the centre of the reserve is a powerful hindrance, which generally prevents them from indulging in drunkenness.

Their morality is good.

I have, &c.,

J. GAGNE, Priest,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
MICMACS OF RESTIGOUCHE,
POINTE À LA GARDE, July 26, 1904.

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, 1904.

Location.—This reserve is situated on the north side of the Restigouche river, in the township of Mann, in the county of Bonaventure, opposite the town of Campbellton, N.B.

Tribe.—These Indians are all of the Micmac tribe with the exception of one who is an Abenakis.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 486. During the past year there were 25 births and 21 deaths and 11 left the reserve, making a decrease of 7 since last year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band has been fair; sanitary measures are well observed. These Indians are clean in their habits and dwellings.

Occupations.—The principal occupations of these Indians are agriculture, lumbering, ship-loading, stream-driving, working in the mills, and acting as guides for tourists, at which they get good pay. Some are employed as game wardens. A few of the old people make baskets, snow-shoes and fancy-work.

Buildings.—The buildings are for the most part fairly good ; there are some very good houses, with good furniture. Some have also very good barns.

Stock.—These Indians own a good many horses, which they use well, also a good many cows, young cattle and pigs.

Farm Implements.—They have not in general many farm implements, but a few of them are well supplied with them.

Education.—The education of the children receives much attention. The school is under the direction of the Reverend Sisters of the Holy Rosary, who have already made good progress with the children who have attended regularly. Unfortunately there is carelessness with respect to regular attendance, in spite of the encouragement given them by the Reverend Father, the teacher, the chief and myself. I am glad to say that there is some improvement, the attendance being better than last year.

Religion.—All the Indians of this reserve are Roman Catholics ; they are very attentive to their religious duties. The Reverend Capuchin Fathers take a great interest in them. They are about completing a very fine stone church, the old church being too small. These reverend gentlemen have also completed a good residence for the Sisters who have charge of the Indian school.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians as a rule are hard-working, industrious and law-abiding. It is a pity they are not more economical and less improvident, although some of them are getting on well. They have good residences, are well supplied with the necessaries of life, own wagons, buggies, sewing-machines, organs, &c. Of these I might mention Louis Michel, Peter Gray, Isaac Isaac, Polycarpe Martin, Thomas Metallic, Thomas Germain and several others.

Nevertheless there are some very poor, old and sick people, especially widows. The government has given them a good deal of assistance during the winter, which is a great act of charity.

Temperance and Morality.—I regret to say that too many of our Indians are still addicted to strong drink, though there appears to be a little improvement in this respect recently.

In general their morals are fairly good, though with some of them the standard is not as high as might be desired. Some of the white people are solely to be blamed in this connection.

I have, &c.,

J. PITRE,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
MONTAGNAIS OF LAKE ST. JOHN,
POINTE BLEUE, June 30, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ending June 30, 1904, together with my statistical statement.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the northwest shore of Lake St. John, in the county of Chicoutimi, province of Quebec, and about five miles from the village of Roberval. The reserve has an area of 22,423 acres, all in the township of Ouiatchouan, of which 19,525 acres have been surrendered by the band, and part of it sold and part still to be sold for the profit of the band, leaving for the use of the

Indians 2,900 acres. This part of the reserve allotted to the Indians is magnificently situated. From the top of a cliff a few feet from the shore, the view embraces the whole of Lake St. John, around which there are to be seen everywhere flourishing parishes. The monotony of the view is relieved by the daily passage of the numerous steamers comprising the fleet of this inland sea, all of which pass only a few yards from the shore, where the depth of the water is quite considerable. It is life, it is activity, it is modern progress among the whites going on all the time under the eyes of these children of the forest, and this is a constant school of cilivization to them all.

Tribe.—The Indians of Lake St. John are all Montagnais ; there are, however, among them some Abenakis and Algonquins ; a long time ago these latter were adopted by the great Montagnais family, whose customs and manners they quickly followed and whose language they have adopted.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 522; two families came from the regions of the north, numbering 9 persons, and joined the band; the number of births was 31 and of deaths 14. Among the Indians who have gone to that far-away country of the infinite, where they will no longer meet on their journey portages to cross or rapids to run, I regret to mention the names of two very old and very respectable members of the band : François Jourdin, former chief, who died at the advanced age of eighty-six ; he had followed up to his death the old customs of his forefathers. he was an exact type of the Indians of former times ; Charlie Robertson, another old Montagnais, passed away during the course of the year at the age of seventy-five. Although married to a Roman Catholic Indian woman, he belonged to the Anglican Church, of which he was one of the most fervent followers on the reserve. In addition to these, among those that have passed away, there were four adults, including one woman, the rest being young children. During the last twelve months nine couples have been united in the sacred bonds of marriage.

Health and Sanitation.—Nearly all the members of the band have enjoyed excellent health this year, and it affords me real pleasure to know that there has not been a single death from consumption, that disease so fatal and so common among these poor Indians. The reserve was not visited by any epidemic. The whole population—men, women and children—has been vaccinated, and all trace of small-pox seems to have disappeared for ever. The laws of health are beginning to be understood by the Indians, and the chief sanitary regulations are well observed. In the latter respect I believe that some of our Indians are as advanced as a great many persons among the surrounding whites. In spring, as soon as the weather is favourable, the great majority of the inhabitants of the reserve hasten to burn all the rubbish and dirt accumulated during the winter, and all make it a duty to ventilate their houses properly. It is unfortunate, however, that the water from the lake, which the Indians are obliged to drink and to use for cooking during the summer, is not fit for drinking and is full of dirt. This water, during the summer heat, becomes so nearly warm as to produce disgust. It is very difficult, not to say impossible, to remedy this. Springs are rare and the few that are met with are too far from the Indian village to be of use. The medical service of the reserve rendered by Dr. J. Constantin, of Roberval, is excellent, and all the sick Indians have been treated by him with care and diligence.

Occupations.—The great majority of the Indians of this reserve live by the chase. As a rule they leave the village in the month of September, and do not return until June. This year the hunt was generally good, but the price of furs went down more than one-third compared with the prices paid last year for the same skins. In spite of that, nearly all the Indians have paid the debts that they contracted when starting out, and several of them have been able to put away sufficient money to live very comfortably and independently during the summer. A number of other Indians act as guides to sportsmen, and work in the shanties in winter and in stream-driving in spring ; they are very much sought after for this work. Last of all, some of our Montagnais live exclusively on the products of their lands, which they cultivate with care and in the same manner as the most experienced white farmers. The soil is of

first-class quality and suitable for all kinds of crops; wheat, barley, oats, rye, potatoes and other vegetables. The fences between neighbours are well maintained. Altogether the development of industry and agricultural work is advancing.

Buildings.—The houses are sufficiently isolated from each other; nearly all of them are very suitable and quite comfortable, many and important repairs were made to several buildings during the course of the spring; some of the Indian houses now resemble in all respects pretty cottages with their large verandas and piazzas as well as on account of their being painted both outside and inside. Three new houses have been built during the course of the year.

Stock.—The quality of the stock has not been much improved this year; but there is a tendency to buy a better and better class. Several Indian families make butter and it is a product of excellent quality, which they easily dispose of on the reserve itself. Other families also sell milk and cream in considerable quantities. The herds are in good condition, well and regularly cared for. There are also some good horses, and a fact worth mentioning is that in the races open to all the horses in the county of Chicoutimi it was a horse belonging to an Indian of the reserve and raised by him that carried off the greatest number of prizes and that has been considered one of the best trotters in the county.

Farm Implements.—The Indians of the reserve who engage in agriculture are well provided with modern farm implements, of which they make excellent use. They take such good care of them as to ensure their lasting as long as possible.

Education.—The school-house is situated in the centre of the reserve. It is spacious, comfortable, well lighted and well ventilated. The teaching, which is carried on in French only, was done by Mrs. O. P. Dufresne until about the middle of the winter, when illness compelled her to resign. She was immediately replaced by another certificated teacher, Miss Marie Girard, who has been able to keep this school on a good footing. There are one hundred and twenty-nine children of school age. The number of pupils on the roll is fifty-five, which is a very satisfactory figure, considering the fact that many of the children accompany their parents to the hunt in the woods. The average attendance was thirty during the first part of the school year and forty-three during the last six months. In spite of the change of teacher the general progress is satisfactory. Discipline without being severe, though energetic, is well observed. The children who attend school are remarked for their politeness and their good education, both at home and in public.

Religion.—The Indians of Pointe Bleue are all Roman Catholics with the exception of about ten families who belong to the Anglican Church. There are two churches on the reserve, the Roman Catholic under the direction of the Oblate Fathers, and an Anglican under the control of the Archbishop of Quebec. Divine service is conducted every day in the former building and once a fortnight in the latter. Each of the religious denominations has also a cemetery. The Indians of both faiths are fervently attached to their religion, and there must be grave reason to keep them from attending religious services.

Characteristics and Progress.—A good number of the Indians are active, industrious, hard-working and economical; the indolent and improvident are in the minority. The financial condition of the Montagnais appears to improve year by year and all now seem to understand that it is their duty to pay their debts. I know two or three Indians who have fairly considerable amounts deposited in the savings branch of the Banque Nationale at Roberval. Last Easter an Indian took advantage of a trip to Roberval, where he sold a lot of skins and deposited in the savings bank the sum of one hundred dollars, which he will apply during the course of the summer to the building of a house. The Indians, as a general rule, are more intelligent than one is led to believe and they are not easily deceived by the whites; last fall before going off hunting, an Indian made an arrangement with a workman of Roberval to build him a house which was to be ready for occupation on his return. The Indian having returned sooner than was expected, the house was not yet finished. He watched the

workman at his work during these last days, when, in the frame of the building he saw an opening caused by two boards not properly joined. 'That will not be warm,' he said to the carpenter, 'it is badly done.' The workman annoyed at this remark asked him in a mocking manner what he knew about the work. 'I do not know much about your trade, it is true,' retorted the Indian, 'but when I see a hole I know well that it is a hole.' Several members of the tribe can read, write and speak both French and English. General and marked progress is shown every year.

Temperance and Morality.—Whisky! That is the only and real enemy of public order, peace and tranquillity and the cause of the violation of the law on the reserve. When sober the Montagnais are excellent citizens in all respects. Unfortunately a great many of them are addicted to alcohol, and more unfortunately still the latter always know how to meet at the house of white men, low creatures without conscience, who, for the sake of making a few cents, are always ready to supply their wants and that in the greatest contempt of the law. These persons, without feeling, cannot know what they do, or they would act otherwise. Alcohol kills the Indian; it makes him contract incurable diseases that kill him when he is still in the flower of his age. A few glasses of whisky are sufficient to rouse in the Indian his real savage instincts. After having tasted this liquid, poisonous for him, he must have some more, and he cannot assuage his thirst until he reaches the point of losing his senses; the passion seizes him and leads him to all possible excesses. So it was with joy, with pleasure, that I saw the department take rigorous and energetic measures in sending to the region of Lake St. John last summer a Dominion police constable to perform secret service in order to discover more certainly the distributers of alcohol to the Indians. The result of this campaign has been very fruitful. Effort has been made to get at the root of the evil and success has been attained in great measure. Several white men have been caught in the act and have suffered rigorous but well merited punishment. May the hard lesson that has been given them be salutory and serve as an example to those who would be tempted to imitate them in this nefarious business! Magnificent results have been attained, but we cannot rest on the success attained; a war to the finish and without mercy must be carried on against these contemptuous violaters of the law. The ranks of this army of assassins have been cleared out, but there are still some of them who must be got rid of.

Cases of immorality are rare, and when they do happen they are always due to the abuse of liquor.

Loyalty.—Our Indians love their King and native land. Last summer a whole company of the 18th Regiment of Saguenay was recruited among the Montagnais of Pointe Bleue and put in its military service at the camp at Three Rivers. I have learned with pleasure that all these Indian volunteers conducted themselves excellently and were remarked by all their superior officers for their soldierly qualities. Like old troopers they easily complied with all the requirements of the discipline and regulations of the Canadian militia. I have observed that military exercises have done great good to these Indians in opening a new horizon in the development of their intelligence. They learnt down there in the camp that they had to submit to discipline, to the regulations and the laws established by authority. They learnt, moreover, that they ought to love their country, and this sentiment is so well inculcated in them that in the event of a danger to the native land, I am sure that our Indians would not be the last to respond to the call.

I have, &c.,

ALPHONSE MARCOUX,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
MONTAGNAIS OF LOWER ST. LAWRENCE—BERSIMIS AGENCY,
BERSIMIS, August 1, 1904.

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, 1904, for my agency, comprising the bands residing at Escoumains, Bersimis and Seven Islands.

ESCOUMAINS BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the southwest side of Escoumains river, on the north shore of the St. Lawrence, in the county of Saguenay, and comprises an area of 97 acres. The soil is sandy and not very good for cultivation except for potatoes, of which the Indians generally reap a fairly good crop each year. In June this summer the Indians surrendered to His Majesty the King, the right of way for a public road which passes over part of the reserve, to a wharf which is being built in deep water, so that all kinds of vessels will be able to come to this wharf. It is thought by everybody that this will add great value to the reserve, as the site is very nice, fronting on the St. Lawrence.

Escoumains is a very good place for fishing and hunting, whilst there are good roads for driving west to Tadousac, and for thirty miles east to Hamilton Cove, which is a good place for trout fishing. It is expected that tourists will flock there as soon as the wharf is finished, and hotel accommodation provided, which will be in the near future. The Indians of Escoumains, who are all very good guides, will then be employed all summer.

Tribe.—All the Indians of this band are of the Montagnais tribe, with a dash of white blood in their veins.

Vital Statistics.—The population this year is 43, consisting of 11 men, 11 women and 21 children. The increase is due to Indians joining the band.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band has been good throughout the year; their houses and premises are kept clean, in fact they live as far as they can like white people.

Occupations.—The occupations of these Indians are various, such as fur-hunting in winter, planting potatoes in the spring, acting as guides to sportsmen, fishing in summer. Some of the young men sometimes work in the lumber camps of Escoumains in winter, and in the saw-mills in summer.

Education.—There is no school on the reserve, but all can read and write their own language, and all can speak French. In summer-time some of the children attend the school for the whites in the village of Escoumains.

Religion.—All the Indians of this band are Roman Catholics, and attend church in the village of Escoumains.

Progress.—I regret to say that this band, although living better in some respects than Indians of other bands, does not make much progress.

Temperance and Morality.—All the Indians of this band are very temperate, none are addicted to strong drink, all are very moral.

BERSIMIS BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the east side of Bersimis river, on the north shore of the St. Lawrence, in the county of Saguenay, and comprises an area of 63,100

acres. There is some good farming land on the reserve, if it were cleared, but the Indians do not care about farming. Within the last two years two or three have planted a few potatoes.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are all of the Montagnais tribe, but quite a large number have a dash of white blood in their veins, indeed not many are full-blooded Indians.

Vital Statistics.—The population this year is 476, consisting of 115 men, 103 women, and 258 children under twenty-one years of age. The increase in population is due to Indians coming here from Lake St. John and Seven Islands.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band is not very good at any time; many are consumptives. Their way of living is the cause of this. So many people live together in the same house that it is almost impossible for them to keep their houses clean. Sick people are to be found on the reserve almost at any time of the year. The Indians cannot understand that their way of living is the cause of nearly all their diseases. The oldest Indian on the reserve died a few weeks ago; he was over ninety years of age.

Occupations.—The only occupations of these Indians are fur-hunting in winter, in summer making their own canoes for their next hunting trip. They also catch some salmon in Bersimis river without much trouble, as the river is a good one for salmon. This year many Indians came out of the bush only in the beginning of July. This year the Indians will not make as much as usual with their hunt, as the prices of raw furs have fallen nearly one half. The prohibition of beaver is also a great hindrance to the Indians making good hunts.

Education.—There is a good school on the reserve conducted by two nuns, and all the children attending school regularly are making fair progress; but a great number of children cannot attend school, being at Bersimis only a couple of months every year and just at the time the school is closed for the holidays.

Religion.—All the Indians of this band are Roman Catholics. They have a very nice little church. The services are conducted by three Roman Catholic missionaries who reside at Bersimis.

Progress.—I cannot say that they are making much progress, they think of nothing but making a good hunt, and of spending their money as quickly as possible.

Temperance and Morality.—I am sorry to say that the greater number of this band cannot understand that the use of intoxicants is the cause of many of their troubles, although I must say that this year they have behaved far better than usual. Whisky traders are not so plentiful here this summer as in the past, they are afraid of being caught, hence the Indians have to keep quieter. As to morality they compare favourably with other bands.

SEVEN ISLANDS BAND.

Reserve.—A reserve was surveyed for this band last summer.

Tribe.—All the Indians of this band are of the Montagnais tribe, and like the other Indians of my agency, a great many have white blood in their veins.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 377.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the members of this band has been fairly good this year. Their houses, some of which are very good, are kept clean, as also their premises.

Occupations.—The only occupation of this band is fur-hunting.

Education.—These Indians have no school on the reserve. Some of them can speak both English and French.

Religion.—All the Indians of this band are Roman Catholics, and have a church for their own use.

Temperance and Morality.—A great number of the Indians of this band are addicted to intoxicants, which they can easily procure, there being so many traders who carry whisky that the Indians generally can get as much as they want, although

I must say that the fines imposed on white men and Indians alike last summer seem to have had a salutary effect. In other respects they are fairly moral.

I have, &c.,

ADOLPHE GAGNON,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
MONTAGNAIS OF THE LOWER ST. LAWRENCE—MINGAN AGENCY,
MINGAN, August 26, 1904.

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, 1904. The statistical statements will be forwarded later, as they are not quite completed. This report will reach you somewhat earlier than last year. Owing to the number of Indians in this agency, and their living during the summer along the coast anywhere for a distance of 300 miles, it is not an easy matter to visit them all and have my report earlier in the year. By the time I have visited the different places in the agency and met the Indians, previous to their departure for the interior, it is generally the end of August, and although this report has been ready some time, on our return from St. Augustine, having missed the mail steamer that trip, I have been obliged to wait for the next, due now.

Reserves.—In this agency, which includes Mingan, Natashquan, Romaine, and St. Augustine, and extends a distance of three hundred miles east of here to the Strait of Belle Isle, there has never been any special reservation of land made for the Indians at the above places ; when they arrive from the interior they generally camp near the Hudson's Bay posts, which has always been the custom.

Tribes.—All the Indians in this agency belong to the Montagnais tribe.

Vital Statistics.—At Mingan the band consists of thirty-nine families, a total of 236 individuals ; the number of births during the year has been 6 and deaths, 3 young children under one year and 2 adults, this shows an increase of 1.

At Natashquan the band consists of eighteen families, with a total number of 72, an increase of 3 this year ; births have been 7, deaths, 2 adults and 2 children under one year.

At Romaine there are thirty-nine families, numbering 157, an increase of 3 ; births have been 8, deaths, 3 adults and 2 children under one year.

At St. Augustine, the band consists of fifty-two families, a total of 198, the increase being 4 ; during the year there have been 9 births, and 5 deaths, three children of from two to four years and one adult. The increase is not much, but they generally more than hold their number, except when some epidemic passes among them, they are all and have been in excellent health this year, which is owing to a very great extent to their having been obliged to give up the use of intoxicating liquor for the last two years, the usual traffic in liquor which was the rule in former years being stopped, no where on this agency has an Indian been seen intoxicated or under the influence of liquor during the year, and I have reason to believe that none has been made use of by any Indian under my supervision within the year just closed. They all see how much better they are without it, and I do not expect to have any further trouble in this connection in future : since the severe sentences imposed on a number of these liquor-sellers last season, they have given up the business, and the Indians are quite satisfied that it should be so, as they know that no person will risk selling any to them,

these persons have been warned that if again caught selling liquor to Indians, they will be fined and imprisoned.

Health and Sanitation.—The camps and houses at each place are kept clean, and in a healthy condition, and improvement in this respect is noticeable from year to year.

Resources and Occupations.—The members of these bands are fur-hunters, hunting being their only means of making a living. They have not done so well as last year, the number of skins taken being less, and prices realized much less; the prices paid this year are from forty to fifty per cent less than last, owing to the heavy decline in value of all kinds of furs, in comparison with prices which have prevailed for some time past; many of them in consequence who do business with the Hudson's Bay Company at the several places mentioned above, have been unable to pay their accounts.

They did not suffer for want of food during the winter while in the interior, having been successful in killing deer in sufficient numbers to keep them from want.

Owing to the heavy decline in the price of furs, and failure of hunt, the Hudson's Bay Company, and others on the coast dealing with the Indians, have during the present season been obliged to reduce the outfits given them, but they have come through the summer well, and have been able to live fairly comfortably while on the coast. The majority of them have now left for the interior, most of them left early in August, and are not likely to return to the coast till May or June next year; a few old persons who are unable to follow the others, as usual remain out, around or near the posts during the winter; these are well looked after, and do not suffer from want.

Buildings.—There are twelve nice comfortable houses owned by the Indians here, and several others under construction, which will be finished next year. Many of these are well furnished, and look quite neat with the outbuildings, all well painted in bright colours. Except here, and one each at Natashquan and St. Augustine, there are no other houses owned by Indians in the agency.

Stock and Farming.—No stock of any kind is kept by the Indians, nor do they attempt any kind of farming, except one half-breed, at Mingan, who has a small plot of potatoes each season. He, however, is not a hunter, and thus has time to attend to them. The land is not suitable for cultivation, nor would their mode of life permit them to undertake any kind of farming in the agency.

Education.—There are no schools, their only means of instruction being during the annual visit of the missionary, which lasts two weeks at each place.

Religion.—All the Indians belong to the Roman Catholic Church, and show much attention to matters pertaining to their faith. There are two churches in use in this district, one at Mingan, and a new one at Muskwaro, finished last year.

Characteristics and Progress.—There are not many changes to note, except practically no liquor being made use of by any of the Indians; no prosecutions have been taken against anyone this season for selling liquor, or supplying other intoxicating liquids to Indians. There were several persons who were accused last year of having done so, but there was not time to take these up then, and this year we could not get sufficient proof to convict this season, and in future they are not likely to offend in this way again.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians, not coming in contact with the whites much, are very moral, and especially so among themselves, a case of immorality among them being seldom or never heard of.

I was again successful this year in preventing any liquor being consigned direct to Indians, by steamer or vessels from Quebec; this was one of the ways by which large quantities were obtained by them formerly.

I have, &c.,

W. D. B. SCOTT,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,
TIMISKAMING AGENCY,
NORTH TIMISKAMING, September 15, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report of the Timiskaming band for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Reserve.—The Timiskaming reserve is situated on the north bank of the river Quinze at the head of Lake Timiskaming, county of Pontiac. It formerly comprised an area of 38,400 acres, but 23,046 acres have been surrendered, leaving 15,354 acres for the use of the band. Of the above quantity the Indians have located 3,270 acres.

Tribe.—The Indians belong to the Algonquin tribe, though a large percentage of them to have an admixture of Scotch blood.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the band is 220, consisting of 46 men, 60 women and 114 children. During the year there were 8 births and 1 death, and 1 joined the band through marriage, making a total increase of 8 during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band has been better than for years past, sanitary measures are tolerably well observed.

Occupations.—The principal industries engaged in by the greater part of the band are agriculture, acting as guides to tourists or sportsmen in the summer, working in lumber camps during winter and on timber drives in spring. A few of the Indians build canoes for sale ; others do some trapping, but fur-bearing animals are becoming scarce in the immediate vicinity.

Buildings.—There have been no buildings erected during the year, but some improvements have been made to some already erected.

Stock.—There has not been much change in the number or in quality of their stock during the year.

Farm Implements.—The band is very well supplied with farm implements.

Education.—There is one school on the reserve; the majority of the children attend very irregularly, a few not at all. Those that do attend regularly learn tolerably well.

Religion.—The Indians of this reserve are all Roman Catholics, they attend church very regularly. Rev. Father Pian is in charge of the mission here.

Characteristics and Progress.—Some of the Indians are making fair progress, others are doing but little.

Temperance and Morality.—A large majority of this band are very temperate in their habits; there are a few individuals that are somewhat addicted to drinking liquor when they can get it, but they are the exception. In morals, there are a few that are not quite what they should be.

I have, &c.,
ADAM BURWASH,
Indian Agent.

NEW BRUNSWICK,
NORTHEASTERN DIVISION,
RICHIBUCTO, July 27, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I beg to submit my annual report and statistical statement for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location of Agency.—This agency is in northeastern New Brunswick, and embraces all the Indian reserves in the counties of Restigouche, Gloucester, Northumberland, Kent and Westmoreland.

Tribe.—The Indians of this agency all belong to the Micmac tribe.

EEL RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is in Restigouche county, about four miles from the town of Dalhousie and about the same distance from the main line of the Intercolonial Railway. It contains 220 acres, of which but a small portion is cleared, the remainder being woodland and bog-land.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 71, an increase of 2 since last year ; there have been 4 births and 2 deaths.

Occupations.—These Indians work in the lumber woods, in stream-driving and in the saw-mills, where they command good wages. They also fish, and manufacture Indian wares. The only attention they give to farming is to plant a few barrels of potatoes and some garden vegetables. They do some hunting. Most of the women beg.

Stock and Farm Implements.—They have no stock or farm implements.

Education.—They pay no attention whatever to education.

Characteristics and Progress. They are not making much progress.

BATHURST BAND.

Reserves.—These Indians have two reserves, one, the Pabineau reserve, seven miles from the town of Bathurst, and the other, St. Peter's Island, about half a mile from the town, both in the county of Gloucester. The Pabineau reserve contains about 1,000 acres, chiefly woodland. Formerly all the Bathurst Indians lived on this reserve, but they have nearly all moved off, some settling on St. Peter's island and others on the mainland adjoining, near the town of Bathurst. The island contains 16 acres, mostly cleared land. It is separated from the mainland by a passage about half a mile wide.

Vital Statistics.— The population of this band is 31, an increase of 3 for the year ; there have been 4 births and 1 death.

Occupations.—These Indians live by fishing, manufacturing and selling Indian wares, and by working in the woods and lumber mills. They do a little farming and the women engage in begging.

Stock and Farm Implements.—They have no stock or farm implements.

Education.—They pay no attention to education.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are not making any progress.

BURNT CHURCH BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the north side of the Miramichi bay, about 30 miles from the town of Chatham. The shore is at this point high and the reserve pleasantly located. It contains about 2,058 acres. The Indians occupy about 250 acres ; the remainder is covered with woods and bushes. There is some timber.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 215, a decrease of 3 since my last report ; there have been 10 births and 13 deaths during the year ; one Indian woman from this reserve married and removed to Restigouche and one of the Eel Ground women married and moved to this reserve. Of the total population there are 62 men and 51 women. There are 52 children of school age on the reserve.

Occupations.—These Indians chiefly engage in fishing. They also do some farming and manufacture Indian wares.

Stock and Farm Implements.—Not more than a dozen of these Indians have any stock or farm implements.

Education.—There is a school-house on this reserve and the school has been kept open for several years past. Many of the younger Indians can read and write, and more interest is taken by them in education than in former years.

Characteristics and Progress.—A few of these Indians are progressing, but the greater number have not made much progress of late years. Many of them are industrious, but sickness has kept them back.

EEL GROUND BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the north bank of the northwest branch of the Miramichi river, Northumberland county, about six miles above the town of Newcastle. It contains 2,682 acres, about 225 of which are cleared, the remainder being wood and timber land. The soil is fertile.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 153, an increase of 5 since last year ; there were 11 births and 5 deaths during the year ; one woman of this reserve married and removed to Burnt Church.

Occupations.—These Indians all do a little farming and fishing. They also manufacture Indian wares. The principal industry, however, is working in the lumber mills and at stream-driving and in the woods in the winter. Their services are always in demand in lumbering and they command good wages.

Stock and Farm Implements.—Only about a dozen of these Indians have any stock or farm implements.

Education.—The school-building, which was burned about two years ago, has not yet been rebuilt, but the school is still kept in a building rented for that purpose. About a dozen children attend regularly and are making good progress.

Characteristics and Progress.—A number of these Indians continue to progress, but a large number of them are too indolent to make much advance. They are, however, in better circumstances than they were a few years ago.

RED BANK BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on both sides of the Little Southwest Miramichi river, Northumberland county, about fifteen miles above Newcastle. It is well wooded with soft and hardwood timber, and fire-wood. It contains 6,150 acres. The land near the river is fertile, but in the rear it is poor and stony. The Indians occupy about fifty acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 50, an increase of 1. There have been no deaths and only 1 birth.

Occupations.—These Indians engage in farming to a greater extent than the other Indians of this agency. They also lumber and do some fishing and a little hunting.

Some of them engage in guiding sporting parties, fishing and hunting, at which they make good wages.

Stock and Farm Implements.—A number of these Indians have provided themselves with horses, cattle and agricultural implements.

Education.—Very little attention is given to education.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are amongst the most progressive in this agency.

BIG COVE BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the north bank of the Richibucto river in Kent county, and contains 2,002¾ acres, a great part of which is fertile land. The Indians have cleared and occupy about 300 acres. The remainder is woodland and a tract of bog-land.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 295, an increase of 4; there have been 20 births and 16 deaths during the year. The Big Cove band is the largest band of Indians in the maritime provinces. There are 84 men and 75 women in the band. There are 66 children of school age.

Occupations.—These Indians all engage to a small extent in farming. They are also expert fishermen, and engage in all kinds of fishing. Many of them leave the reserve in the summer and live in shanties at Rexton, Jardineville and Bass River, where they obtain employment at good wages in the mills and at the wharfs loading lumber. In the winter they return to their reserve. They also engage in the manufacture of Indian wares.

Stock and Farm Implements.—A number of these Indians have provided themselves with horses and cattle and also the more necessary farm implements.

Education.—There is a school on the reserve and many of the younger Indians are learning to read and write. Last term Miss Babain, who had been teaching the school for the past three years, was obliged to give it up on account of ill health. She was succeeded by Miss Isaac, a young lady of the Micmac tribe from Restigouche, Quebec. The Indians are greatly pleased at having a teacher of their own nationality and are consequently taking more interest in education than they formerly did.

Characteristics and Progress.—Some of these Indians are making progress, but the greater number are content to live a hand-to-mouth existence, without taking any thought of the future so long as their present necessities are provided.

INDIAN ISLAND BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated at the mouth of the Richibucto river in Kent county, and contains 100 acres. The land is dry and sandy. About 25 acres are under cultivation, the remainder being covered with small spruce and fir.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 32, a decrease of 1, caused by the death of a member of the band. There were no births during the year.

Occupations.—These Indians engage chiefly in fishing, but they all do some farming. Their reserve is near the sea and they are all expert fishermen.

Stock and Farm Implements.—They keep very little stock and have but few farm implements.

Education.—These Indians take more interest in education than most other Indians of this agency. They have no school on the reserve, but nearly all the children of school age attend a white school in the vicinity. One, an Indian boy, is attending the grammar school of the county at Richibucto.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians with few exceptions are industrious and are progressing.

BUCTOUCHE BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the north side of the Buctouche river about three miles above the village of Buctouche, in Kent county. It contains about 350 acres, of which about 50 are cleared. The soil is fertile.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 18, the same as last year. There have been no births and no deaths.

Occupations.—These Indians do a little farming, but they chiefly engage in the manufacture of Indian wares and in begging.

Education.—Education is altogether neglected by these Indians.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are making no progress.

OTHER RESERVES.

The remaining reserves in this agency are not occupied by Indians, except Fort Folly reserve, in Westmoreland, on which three Indian families reside. Pockmouche reserve, in Gloucester county, and Tabusintac reserve, in Northumberland county, belong to the Burnt Church band. Pockmouche reserve contains 2,477 acres chiefly woodland growing small pine and spruce and also some bog-land. Tabusintac reserve contains 8,070 acres of woodland and timber-land, growing spruce, pine, cedar, hemlock and hardwoods. Half of the Big Hole reserve, in Northumberland county, belongs to the Red Bank band and half to the Eel Ground band. It contains 6,303 acres, part of which is covered with wood and timber and part with scrub pine. There is a valuable salmon-fishing privilege in connection with this reserve, and also one in connection with the Pabineau reserve, in Gloucester county. Renous reserve contains 100 acres of woodland and belongs to the Eel Ground band. Indian Point reserve also contains 100 acres of woodland and belongs to the Red Bank band. Both these reserves are in Northumberland county. Fort Folly reserve, on the Petitcodiac river in Westmoreland county, contains 62½ acres, only a strip of which along the river is fit for agriculture, the remainder consists of high, stony land covered with spruce bushes.

INDIANS NOT SETTLED ON RESERVES.

There are a number of Indians at Dorchester, Shediac, Painsec, Moncton, Salisbury and other places in Westmoreland county not settled on reserves. They number 68, a decrease of 4 since last year, caused by the death of four of their number. They reside in shanties and live by begging and the manufacture of Indian wares, They have no stock or farm implements, pay no attention to the education of their children, and are making no progress whatever. The three Indian families residing on Fort Folly reserve live in frame houses and do a little farming.

Heath and Sanitation.—The severity of last winter was much felt among the Indians of this agency and there was a great deal of sickness among them. The death-rate was higher than that of last year, chiefly from pulmonary and bronchial diseases. They have been free from epidemics or contagious diseases. In the spring, care was taken on all the reserves to remove the filth and garbage that had accumulated near their dwellings during the winter. Many of them limewashed and disinfected their buildings.

Buildings.—Nearly all the Indians of this agency living on reserves have small frame dwelling-houses. Some of them are small, cheaply built and badly ventilated; but they are much superior to the shanties of those Indians who are not living on reserves. Those who keep stock have small frame barns. The Burnt Church band has a school-house, church and council-house built on its reserve. The Eel Ground band has a church and lock-up, and the Red Bank band has a church on the reserve. The Big Cove band has a church, school-house and lock-up erected on its reserve and a council-house in course of erection. The Indian Island Indians have a church on their reserve and the Fort Folly Indians have also a church on their reserve.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. They are deeply attached to their religion, and their clergymen have much influence with them.

Temperance and Morality.—Many of these Indians are temperate ; others get drunk whenever they can get the liquor. In this respect there is, however, a steady improvement. They are as a general rule moral, peaceable and law-abiding.

I have, &c.,

WM. D. CARTER.

Indian Superintendent.

NEW BRUNSWICK,
NORTHERN AND SOUTHWESTERN DIVISIONS,
FREDERICTON, July 15, 1904.

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, 1904.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

EDMUNDSTON BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated in the county of Madawaska. It consists of 720 acres, of which 518 are forest-lands. The remainder comprises intervale, pasturage and high lands that are well adapted for farming purposes.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the band is 49, an increase of 2, due to the births being in excess of deaths for the year.

Occupations.—The employments engaged in by the Indians for a livelihood are hunting, acting as guides, milling, stream-driving, and the manufacture of Indian wares. Owing to the time taken up at the several employments mentioned, farming, although the soil is fertile, free from stone and in every way well adapted for this business, is not engaged in to any extent by the band.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians for the past year was exceptioally good. The situation of their dwellings is favourable to good sanitation. All accumulations of winter refuse were removed in the month of May last.

Temperance and Morality.—Intoxicants are not indulged in by the members of this band with but one exception, and their morals are good.

Education.—A few of the children attend the free school of the village ; others cannot be induced to do so.

Religion.—All these Indian are Roman Catholics, their spiritual affairs are attended to by the Rev. L. C. Damour, of Edmundston.

TOBIQUE BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated at the junction of the Tobique and St. John rivers in the county of Victoria. It consists of about 15,000 acres of forest and farming lands. The land north of Tobique river offers every facility for farming, but the Indians with few exceptions will not give the time required to this industry.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 187, a decrease of 8 for the fiscal year, due to the removal of Indians from the reserve to parts of the State of Maine.

Occupations.—The employments engaged in by these Indians are hunting, acting as guides, stream-driving, working in the lumber woods, rafting lumber, running rafts from Tobique river to Fredericton, farming and the manufacture of Indian wares. Work as related is plentiful in this section of New Brunswick. The services of the Indians, they being an active class of men, are at all seasons in good demand and at good wages. A number of the band devote a part of their time to farming ; they raise sufficient crops to meet their wants, but, owing to the time taken up at the employments referred to, farming in most cases is not practically engaged in.

Health and Sanitation.—This band during the past year was subject to considerable sickness such as grippe, consumption, scrofula, and many other ailments. During the month of July last a case of small-pox was brought to the reserve by an Indian who was working where the disease was. As soon as the case was discovered, prompt measures were adopted to prevent the spread of the disease, and I am pleased to report that by strict enforcement of the quarantine regulations, the disease was confined to three dwellings containing five families, all of whom recovered. Sanitary regulations were attended to in the spring by the removal of all garbage and winter refuse from their dwellings. The houses of the Indians are of modern style, isolated from each other, are neatly painted and the interior of them and the surroundings are kept neat and clean. The water used for domestic purposes cannot be surpassed in the interest of health, as it is conveyed by two aqueducts from springs located on a hillside at the rear of the reserve.

Temperance and Morality.—The morals of the band are good. The majority of the Indians avoid the use of intoxicants, there are some of them, however, that will, from time to time, indulge to excess in the use of intoxicants.

Religion.—All the members of this band are Roman Catholics. Their church is situated on the reserve, and their spiritual affairs are attended to by a resident clergyman, the Rev. A. Morine.

Education.—The day school for the two first quarters of the fiscal year, was under the supervision of Miss P. M. Goodine, who retired from teaching on December 31, last. Since then Miss E. H. Costigan is their teacher. The pupils in regular attendance are making good progress in their respective studies. A number of children fail to attend school owing in a great measure to the removal of their parents to adjoining villages.

Characteristics and Progress.—The majority of the band are industrious and progressive ; there have been quite a number of improvements to dwellings and several new buildings have been put up during the year. The Indians are peaceable and command the respect of their white neighbours.

SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION.

WOODSTOCK BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the St. John river, three miles below the town of Woodstock. It consists of 200 acres, of which 30 acres are used as farming and pasturage lands, the remainder being forest lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this reserve including Indians of Upper Woodstock, is 75, an increase of 3 for the year.

Occupations.—The industries engaged in are chiefly the manufacture of Indian wares. A few of the young men work in winter season in the lumber woods, and at stream-driving. Others find labouring work with farmers in the vicinity of the reserve. Farming is not engaged in to any extent, as most of the cleared land is used for pasturage ; as a rule a quick return for their labour is what is required by all of the band.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians for the past year has been fairly good. Their attention was called to the department's regulation in the month

of May last as to the removal of winter refuse from within and about their dwellings; this duty has been attended to. Happily there were no deaths among them during the fiscal year.

Temperance and Morality.—Their habits and morals are generally good, though occasionally a few may be found who indulge excessively in the use of liquor.

Education.—There is a free school in the district, about a mile from the reserve, at which the Indian children are welcome to attend; but, owing to their peculiar habits, they cannot be induced to take advantage of the facilities offered.

Religion.—All of this band are Roman Catholics. The Rev. Father McMurray, of the town of Woodstock, attends to their spiritual affairs.

KINGSCLEAR BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated in the parish of Kingsclear, York county, and is eleven miles from the city of Fredericton. It comprises 460 acres, of which 360 are forest lands, that is covered with a second growth of soft wood. The remainder of the reserve consists of farming and pasturage lands.

Occupations.—The manufacture of Indian wares is the principal occupation of these Indians. Their wares are sold at Fredericton and to farmers in the vicinity of the reserve; if cash is not available, they take farm produce in return. Quite a number of families in the summer season visit the watering resorts along the River St. John, where they sell their fancy wares to tourists at double the price they can realize at home. A few of the band give considerable attention to farming. Others, especially young men, prefer labour such as working in the lumber woods, stream-driving, hunting, working in saw-mills, or any other employment that offers fair wages and a speedy return for the same.

Temperance and Morals.—Their habits and morals are good. They are industrious and law-abiding and live in peace and harmony with each other. They avoid the use of intoxicants, and are respected by their white neighbours.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been fairly good during the past year. Sanitary measures are carefully looked after. The reserve is located on a hillside with ample means for good drainage. Their buildings are comfortable, neat and clean, several of them have been further improved in the past year by the erection of additions, such as kitchens, and the reshingling of dwellings whenever required.

Education.—There is on this reserve a day school, at which the attendance of pupils was most satisfactory. This is due to the lively interest manifested by both teacher and parents in the education of their children. The results are that all the pupils are making rapid progress in their respective studies.

Religion.—All the members of this band are Roman Catholics. The church situated on the reserve, at which they were regular attendants, was totally destroyed by fire in May last. Their spiritual director, the Rev. Father LeBlanc, is using every effort to have a church erected in its place.

ST. MARY'S BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve comprises but two acres of land, and is situated in St. Mary's parish directly opposite the city of Fredericton.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this reserve is 126, an increase of 9, due to births in excess of deaths, and the removal of Indians from Oromocto reserve to this place.

Occupations.—The Indians of this reserve, with the exception of a few families who devote all their time to the making of Indian wares, which are disposed of in the city of Fredericton at poor prices, engage in various forms of labour, such as acting as guides, hunting, stream-driving, loading deals and scows at the Nashwaak, mill-

ing, and any other employment that offers in the vicinity of the reserve. The services of the young men and those of middle age are always in good demand at fair wages. None of this band engage in farming outside of a few who have garden patches that produce vegetables for immediate use.

Health and Sanitation.—Apart from sickness of an ordinary nature that most Indians are subject to, the health of the band has been fairly good. They were free from epidemics and diseases of a contagious nature during the year. Sanitary measures were strictly attended to in the early part of May last, by the removal and destruction of all offensive matter considered injurious to health.

Temperance and Morals.—Owing to this reserve being situated in close proximity to the city of Fredericton, at the approach of a public bridge leading from St. Mary's to Fredericton, and also situated directly in the centre of the villages of St. Mary's and Gibson, the Indians are subject to greater temptations than are those of any other band in this agency. It is, therefore, not surprising, considering the area of the reserve, and the number living thereon, that many of them indulge to excess in intoxicating liquors, the result being that there is much strife and quarrelling among families, coupled with other misconduct that is not only unedifying to the rising generation, but often necessitates the assistance of the Fredericton police force to quell disturbances.

Education.—There is a day school on this reserve under the supervision of Miss M. I. Rush, a teacher holding a second-class certificate. The attendance has been fairly good, and the children are making fair progress in their studies.

Religion.—All the members of the band are Roman Catholics. The church at which they attend is in the vicinity of the reserve. Their spiritual affairs are attended to by the Rev. J. J. Ryan, of St. Mary's.

OROMOCTO BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated at the village of Oromocto, eleven miles below the city of Fredericton. It fronts on the St. John river and contains 125 acres, 30 of which are farming and pasturage lands, the remainder being forest lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the band is 72, being an increase of 10, due to the removal of a number of Indians from Upper Gagetown to the reserve.

Occupations.—Most of the band follow labouring work for a living. In the winter season, some work in the lumber woods, others cut cord-wood. Only a few engage in the manufacture of Indian wares, while a few devote some attention to farming, which consists only of the raising of sufficient potatoes and vegetables to answer their immediate wants.

Health and Sanitation.— This reserve is most favourably situated in the interest of health. The health of the band, apart from such diseases as grippe, scrofula, consumption and other ailments that Indians are subject to, has been fairly good. All of the band were free from contagious diseases. The sanitary condition of the reserve is good, and the water used for domestic purposes is supplied from several springs on the reserve.

Temperance and Morality.—The habits and morals of all these Indians are exceptionally good.

Education.—There is a new school in the district at which the children are welcome to attend. None, however, owing to their peculiar habits, have attended during the past year. During a recent visit to the reserve a number of the parents promised me that after the summer holidays, they would send their children to school. It is to be hoped that they will do so, as it is to be regretted that these children should grow up without an education, as many of them are bright and intelligent in other respects.

Religion.—All of these Indians are Roman Catholics. There is a church in the vicinity of the reserve at which they attend. Their spiritual affairs are attended to by the Rev. Father McDermott, of Queen's county.

General Remarks.—The remainder of the Indians of this agency are located in the counties of King's, Queen's, St. John and Charlotte. Their occupations are chiefly the same as above related.

In conclusion, I have to state that the great majority of the Indians of this agency are industrious, law-abiding and are using every effort to better their situation in life.

I have, &c.,

JAMES FARRELL,

Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF ANNAPOLIS COUNTY,
ANNAPOLIS, June 30, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit my annual report and tabular statement for the year ended this day.

Reserve.—There are two reserves in Annapolis county, containing a combined area of 972 acres. The one situated on the Liverpool road has no land suitable for agriculture ; a part of the one at Chemagha or Fairy lake, on the boundary line between Annapolis and Queen's counties, is fairly good soil and parts are covered with a good growth of timber. There are some low meadows around the borders of the lake upon which wild grapes grow. There are no Indians living on either of the reserves nor do they derive any benefit from them.

Vital Statistics.—During the past year there has been a decrease in the Indian population of 8, making the present population 60 instead of 68 as last year. This decrease was partly due to emigration ; more Indians leaving the county than came in. There were 3 births and 4 deaths.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians, with two exceptions, has been good ; there were two deaths from consumption, but none from other contagious diseases. Their dwellings are all frame buildings, and are generally kept neat and clean, they willingly comply with sanitary regulations.

Occupations.—Their principal occupations are : basket-making, coopering, hunting, salmon-fishing and acting as guides to hunting and fishing parties. Some few live by farming.

Education.—Some of the children attend the public schools at Lequille and Middleton ; but make slow progress.

Religion.—All the Indians in this agency are Roman Catholics, they attend church at Annapolis and Bridgetown.

Characteristics and Progress.—The majority of the Indians are industrious. All of them are law-abiding and temperate, and while enjoying good health make a comfortable living. They are not a saving people as a rule and sickness generally finds them without any reserve to draw from ; then they expect assistance from the department. They live on friendly terms with their white neighbours and are noted for their honesty.

I have, &c.,

JOHN LACY,

Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF ANTIGONISH AND GUYSBORO' COUNTIES,
HEATHERTON, September 12, 1904.

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, 1904.

Vital Statistics.—During the past year there has been an increase of 6 in the band, making the population of this agency 215. There have been 13 births and 7 deaths. Consumption is the main cause of the deaths.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics and are very attentive to their religious duties.

Temperance.—As a rule the Indians are temperate, and not inclined to immorality.

I have, &c.,
J. R. McDONALD,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF CAPE BRETON—ESKASONI AGENCY,
CHRISTMAS ISLAND, October 4, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the north side of East bay, on the Bras d'Or lake. It contains 2,800 acres of land, but of this less than one-third is fit for cultivation, the remainder being rocky mountains. Hay and potatoes are the only crops grown. None of the Indians live exclusively by farming.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the band is 122, being an increase of 22 over last year; but this was owing to migration. There were 6 births and 6 deaths in the band. No sickness of a contagious or infectious character afflicted them during the year.

Education.—They have a good school, and they take advantage of it better now than for many years past.

Occupations.—Their occupations, besides farming, are fishing, hunting, coopering, basket-making, &c., and this constitutes three-fourths of their means of sustenance.

Religion.—In religion they are Roman Catholics, and their morals are exceptionally good.

I have, &c.,
A. CAMERON, P.P.,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF CAPE BRETON COUNTY—SYDNEY AGENCY,
SYDNEY, June 30, 1904.

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, 1904.

SYDNEY BAND.

Reserves.—The Indians of the Sydney band have two reserves. One is situated within the limits of the city of Sydney, and contains about two and three-quarter acres of land. On this reserve all the Indians of the Sydney band reside. The other reserve is situated at Caribou marsh, six miles from the city, and contains about six hundred acres. This reserve is mostly timber-land, and the Indians obtain their timber-supply from it. There are a few acres of intervale, which, if fenced and carefully looked after, would produce quite a quantity of hay, but the Indians do not take kindly to agricultural pursuits; so the hay is, year after year, appropriated by white people living in the neighbourhood of the reserve, and the Indians do not murmur.

Tribe.—All the Indians of this agency belong to the Micmac tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 83, consisting of 14 men and 15 women, and 54 under twenty-one years of age. The population has been increased by 6 during the year, 4 having migrated from Prince Edward Island and 2 from St. Peter's, C.B. There were 2 births and 2 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band has been fairly good. There are two cases of consumption (one of which came from Prince Edward Island in an advanced stage) and one case of cancer. These three patients are under regular treatment and receiving instructions as to the methods to be adopted for the prevention of the spread of infectious diseases. The sanitary conditions are improving. The grounds and houses are better kept than heretofore. The department has furnished means of sewerage and general water-supply for the reserve. The water was to be supplied by the city, but owing to some difficulties in the way, the connection has not been made yet. When a proper supply of water has been obtained, the sanitary conditions will be greatly improved.

Occupations.—The men have not done much work during the past year, not that they are more indolent than the usual run of Indians, but because times have been quite dull, and the kind of employment to which they are accustomed was not easily obtained. The women are very industrious, and, I believe, have done more during the past year to support the band than the men.

Buildings.—Improvement is steadily going on in this direction. Although no new buildings have been lately constructed, many changes have been made in those already built, with a view to making them more comfortable.

Education.—There never had been any educational advantages on this reserve until nearly a year ago, when a new school-house was built and a competent teacher engaged. The school has been in operation for about nine months, and so far is succeeding admirably. The teacher is earnest and painstaking, and not only is she mistress of the school, but the beneficial effects of her influence are becoming apparent in the whole band.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics on this reserve.

Temperance and Morality.—Drunkenness has been greatly on the decrease among the Indians lately. Whether this very desirable change is due to the efforts of the Rev. Father McAdam and his curate (who are always zealous for their spiritual and temporal welfare) and the moral influence of the school teacher, or to the fact that the Indians are not earning as much money as they used to, I cannot positively say, but I am inclined to the belief that the former is the principal cause. In proportion as drunkenness decreases, the standard of morality ascends.

NORTH SYDNEY BAND.

The Indians have no reserve at North Sydney, they are simply squatted in the woods on private property, about a mile and a half from the town of North Sydney.

Tribe.—They are all Micmacs.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 32, consisting of 7 men, 9 women and 16 young people under fifteen years of age. The number of births during the year was 1, and the number of deaths 2. A decrease of 3 took place in the population, due to migration.

Health and Sanitation.—These Indians have been fairly healthy during the year, only two among them are chronically ill. Their houses, though not of the best, are cleanly kept.

Occupations.—Their chief occupations are basket-making and coopering, and they earn some money by labouring around the town.

Buildings.—The buildings are small, but on the whole somewhat comfortable.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics.

Temperance and Morality.—They are all sober and regular in their habits, with the exception of two, and these are women.

I have, &c.,

D. K. McINTYRE,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF COLCHESTER COUNTY,
TRURO, July 25, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report with accompanying agricultural and industrial statistics for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904.

Reserve.—The Millbrooke reserve is situated three miles south of Truro. It contains an area of thirty-five acres; also a wood-lot, one-half mile from the reserve, consisting of forty acres, purchased by the department last year.

Vital Statistics.—There have been 3 deaths and 4 births. The population is 85.

Health.—The health of the Indians has been good.

Occupations.—The principal occupations of the Indians are coopering, making rustic work, basket-making, berry-picking and bead-work. A number of men are busy making hockey-sticks. In spring-time they raft logs, chop cord-wood, &c.

Education.—The Indians of the reserve have enjoyed the privilege of a school for over five years, and are making fair progress.

Characteristics and Progress.—A number of the Indians have some land, and grow crops such as potatoes and oats. They do very well, but on account of being able to obtain good wages at other occupations, agriculture is somewhat neglected.

Religion.—The Indians on this reserve belong to the Roman Catholic Church.

I have, &c.,

THOS. B. SMITH,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY,
PARRSBORO, September 12, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report, together with the accompanying agricultural and industrial statistics, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—This agency comprises the whole of Cumberland county. The headquarters of the Indians, however, is at the Franklin Manor reserve at Halfway river. This reserve consists of 1,000 acres of good land and is situated far from any town, being about fourteen miles from Parrsboro, and about thirty-five miles from Amherst. Some of the Indians preferring to live nearer a town, or railroad, have settled near Southampton ; a still larger number reside at Springhill Junction, and a few may be found in the vicinity of Amherst.

Vital Statistics.—During the year there has been an increase of 5 in the Indian population in this county, making the number at present 96. There were 8 births and 6 deaths and 3 left the county.

Health and Sanitation.—In spite of the fact that the sanitary precautions recommended by the department have been, as far as possible, carefully carried out, nearly all the deaths that have occurred were caused by some form of tuberculosis.

Resources and Occupations.—The Indians living on the reserve, or in that vicinity depend, partially, on the produce of their farms for a living. Some of them, however, work in the lumber woods in the winter and the mills in summer. Some make baskets and tubs and mast-hoops, and all hunt and fish more or less. Several of the young Indans act as guides for hunting parties, and in this way make quite a lot of money. Those living at Springhill Junction make large numbers of pick-handles for use in the Springhill coal mines. The women and children pick berries, and many of them beg more or less clothes and food from the whites.

Education.—Nearly or quite all the young Indians in the vicinity of the reserve can read and write. They are taught in the Halfway river school, to which the department kindly makes a quarterly grant to pay for this privilege.

Religion.—All the Indians in this vicinity are Roman Catholics. They have a chapel of their own, in which they worship.

Temperance and Morality.—I am glad to be able to report that during the past year there has been no drunkenness among these Indians ; morally, too, they are much improved.

I have, &c.,

F. A. RAND,

Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF DIGBY COUNTY,
BEAR RIVER, July 13, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I beg to submit my annual report and tabular statement for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Reserve.—The reserve is situated one and a half miles from the village of Bear River, and contains 1,600 acres, of which 48 are cultivated, 200 are natural pasture, the remainder is underwood, chiefly second growth.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 125; 35 live in Weymouth. There have been 5 births and 5 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—There has been no contagious disease amongst these Indians during the year. Their general health has been very good with a few exceptions. Sanitary regulations have been observed. The houses and premises are kept clean.

Buildings.—The buildings are frame, most of them are in good repair, and comfortable.

Occupations.—They derive their support by hunting, acting as guides for sportsmen, river-driving, farming, making canoes, baskets and fancy-work of different kinds, and some as day labourers.

Education.—They have one school-house on the reserve. The attendance is very good. The pupils learn quickly and their parents are taking quite an interest in their education.

Religion.—The Indians of this band are all Roman Catholics. They have one church on the reserve, where they attend worship.

Characteristics.—With few exceptions, they are industrious and law-abiding.

Temperance.—With few exceptions they are temperate. Measures have been taken to prevent liquor being sold on the reserve.

I have, &c.,
JAS. H. PURDY,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF HALIFAX COUNTY,
SHEET HARBOUR, August 22, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I beg to submit my annual report for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—This agency embraces the Indians who reside within the confines of Halifax county. The principal points at which Indians are settled are : Sheet Harbour, Elmsdale, Wellington, Windsor Junction, Bedford, Dartmouth and Cow Bay.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 174, consisting of 35 men, 35 women and 104 children.

Health.—There have been no epidemics among the Indians of this agency during the past year, though they suffer considerably from ordinary ailments.

Education.—No distinctively Indian school is in existence within the county; where possible the Indian children generally avail themselves of regular schools provided for whites, though at the same time some are too careless to appreciate the benefit of a school.

Occupations.—Basket-making, lumbering and fishing constitute the regular sources of income for the Indians of this agency. Of late years the manufacture of hockey-sticks has contributed substantially to their income.

Religion and Morality.—The Indians are all of the Roman Catholic faith. They are well-behaved as a class. Instances of over-indulgence in liquor are sometimes remarked, but considering the fact that very many Indians find the market for their goods in the city of Halifax and are, therefore, more exposed in such a place to the dangers of intoxication than in their own homes in the country, we wonder that they do as well as they do.

I have, &c.,
CHAS. E. McMANUS,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF HANTS COUNTY,
SHUBENACADIE, October 8, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserve.—The reserve is situated in the north part of the county of Hants. There is only part of the band living on the reserve, the remainder are scattered through the county.

Vital Statistics.—The population is now 94, a decrease of 1 during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band has been fairly good and I am pleased to be able to state that there have been no deaths reported on account of consumption; this is exceptional, as it is the one great scourge of the band which hitherto has carried off the greater part of those dying before middle age.

Occupations.—The Indians are engaged principally in making goods for the fancy and sport market, but several families are engaged in farming and are apparently doing better than any who follow any other calling.

Education.—Education is surely but slowly having its effect as can be seen by the children who go to school. They are apt to learn, and remember well what they have acquired at school even although absent for a long time.

Religion.—All are Roman Catholics and attend divine service, which they enjoy in the church on the reserve and which is under the charge of Rev. Father Young.

General Remarks.—With one exception there has been no cause to regret their conduct during the year, and intemperance is held in check by the better-meaning ones assisted by the fear of exposure by law.

I have, &c.,
ALONZO WALLACE,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF INVERNESS COUNTY,
GLENDALE, June 30, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserve.—In this agency there are two reserves: Whycocomagh, containing 1,555 acres, and Malagawatch, containing 1,200 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population at Whycocomagh remains at 135. During the year there were 8 births, 2 joined the band, 6 died and 4 went away. At Malagawatch the population numbers 43. There were 2 births during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—Measles was epidemic at Whycocomagh during the early spring, as a consequence of which school was closed for a time. Nearly all the mortality was among small children. Of the two adults one was the victim of consumption. Small-pox came near to the Indians of this agency both at Whycocomagh and Malagawatch ; but, fortunately, no cases were reported among them. The Indians at Whycocomagh were nearly all vaccinated.

Occupations.—One or two families earn their living by farming. Previously to last year the Whycocomagh reserve was used by the surrounding white people to pasture their cattle, but the Indians put up warnings of 'No Trespass' in the shape of fences, and now their own cattle profit by such energetic action. Basket-making, moccasin-making, woodwork, fishing, hiring out to service and begging support these people.

Buildings.—Mostly all the homes are frame houses.

Education.—Progress in this particular is slow owing to irregularity of attendance at school.

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

Temperance and Morality.—With a noted exception or two, these Indians are sober and well-behaved.

I have, &c.,
DONALD MacPHERSON, P.P.,
Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF KING'S COUNTY,
STEAM MILLS, August 13, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report with statistical statement for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Reserve.—The Indians of this agency are scattered throughout the county, there being but two families on the reserve at Cambridge. It contains about nine and three-

quarters acres of sandy plain with some scrub pine, lying on the Cornwallis river not far from the line of D. A. R. Railway.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 80. There were 5 births and 8 joined the band.

Health.—The health of the Indians is good. There have been no infectious diseases.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics.

Occupations.—They do but little farming, but are engaged in basket-making, coopering, hunting and acting as guides.

Temperance.—There is but very little drinking amongst them : I have seen nothing in excess; they are naturally fond of strong drink, but see the evils of it.

Morality.—Their morals are good and they are fairly industrious.

Education.—There are no Indian schools, but the children attend school with the white children.

I have, &c.,

C. E. BECKWITH,

Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,

MICMACS OF PICTOU COUNTY,

NEW GLASGOW, July 23, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserves.—There are two reserves in this agency, the Indian Island reserve and the reserve at Fisher's Grant. A piece of land adjoining the Fisher's Grant reserve was bought by the department during the past year, enlarging the reserve by 36 acres. The Fisher's Grant reserve has now an area of 200 acres. This increased land property should prove a boon to the Indians here.

Vital Statistics.—The combined population of the two reserves is 155. There were 5 deaths and 5 births during the year. A family of 5 moved to the Fisher's Grant reserve from Cape Breton.

Health.—The health of the Indians has been good. A few deaths from consumption occurred during the year.

Occupations.—Farming, fishing, coopering and the making of baskets and pick-handles are the avocations in which the Indians are employed. Many of the Indians get work at Pictou Landing during the summer months, loading and unloading steamers.

Buildings.—The houses of the Indians are fairly large and comfortable. The Indians are ever anxious to improve their houses and their village at Fisher's Grant presents a pretty appearance from the highway.

Education.—The school at Fisher's Grant is keeping up the good record it has made. The attendance during the winter months was good, and the children under the tuition of Miss Carrie A. McDonald, have made much progress. The work done in this school has been lately most favourably commented upon by the public press.

Religion.—All the Indians of this agency are Roman Catholics and much attached to their faith.

Temperance and Morality.—With a few exceptions, the Indians of Pictou county are sober and industrious. In their simple unworldly minds, religion is deeply rooted and it is edifying to observe the honesty and purity of their secluded lives.

I have, &c.,

J. D. McLEOD,

Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF QUEEN'S AND SHELBURNE COUNTIES,
CALEDONIA, September 15, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserves.—There are three reserves in this agency of 1,000 acres each, two in Lunenburg county, and one in Queen's county. There are Indians living on all three of these reserves who are making their living chiefly by farming. There are others living in Lunenburg and Bridgewater, in Lunenburg county, and at Milton Mill village, and Caledonia, in Queen's county. Those not residing on the reserves live by fishing, hunting, basket making and working in the lumber woods.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this agency is 177, a decrease of 8.

Health.—The health of the Indians of this agency has been good, most of the deaths being from old age.

Education.—There is only one school in the agency, at New Germany, under the charge of Miss Shea. The Indians of this reserve enjoy the advantage of a school and are making good progress.

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

Characteristics.—The Indians in this agency are law-abiding and live peaceably and quietly.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES HARLOW,

Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF RICHMOND COUNTY,
BROOK VILLAGE, July 15, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserve.—Chapel Island reserve is situated on the shore of the Bras d'Or lake, in Richmond county, and contains an area of 1,200 acres of good soil.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the reserve is 116, consisting of 30 men, 29 women and 57 young people under twenty-one years of age. There is an increase since last year of 4, the births having been 5, the new comers 7, while 8 have died, of whom one was old Francis Scotchman, whose age at the time of his death was one hundred and six.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians during the past year was comparatively good, only two having died of consumption, one of old age, one of scarlet fever, and five children from infantile debility.

Occupations.—The majority of the Indians engage in farming, while a good portion go fishing and hunting during the summer and in winter are occupied in making baskets, tubs, axe-handles and cutting pit-props and sleepers.

Buildings.—The buildings are, on the whole, good, strong and serviceable frame dwellings. The barns are in good condition, and two new ones and new houses are in course of erection.

Stock.—The stock consists principally of horses, cattle and poultry, which are all in a fair condition.

Farm Implements.—The farm implements are in fair condition, and consist of some ploughs, harrows, &c.

Education.—There is one school, which is situated about the centre of the reserve. The interest taken by the Indians in the educational progress of their children is not all that could be desired ; yet the progress is very fair under the painstaking teacher, Joseph L. McDonald.

Religion.—All the Indians of the reserve are Roman Catholics. They have a beautiful church on Chapel island, where they gather together from all parts of Cape Breton every year during the month of July to enact laws, to make a spiritual retreat and celebrate most solemnly the festival of their patron staint, St. Ann.

Characteristics and Progress.—The majority of the band are becoming very industrious. The policy adopted by the department in withholding aid from those who are strong and healthy and quite able to earn their own livelihood is beginning to have good results in so far as to make them more industrious and more self-reliant, as has been decidedly the case during the past year.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are most temperate and moral in their habits and law-abiding, living together peaceably and quietly.

I have, &c.,

JOHN FRASER,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF SHELBURNE COUNTY.
SHELBURNE, July 26, 1904.

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, 1904.

Vital Statistics.—The population on June 30, last, consisted of 32 persons, an increase of only 1 over the former year ; 2 were added by marriage, and there were 2 births and 3 deaths.

Religion.—The Indians in this agency are Roman Catholics, with the exception of one, who is a Baptist.

Health and Sanitation.—A young wife and her child of six months died of consumption at Jordan Falls. The sanitary conditions of the premises they occupied were bad, a family of twelve in very small quarters. During the month of July this family sold their premises to a white man, and moved to Tusket, in the county of Yarmouth. The health of two of the eastern families is not good.

Occupations.—The chief source of income is from a monthly wage earned in the lumbering business. But little time is now expended, as of old, in fishing, hunting, furring and basket-making.

Temperance.—The Indians in this agency are all temperate except one, and that one will probably continue to offend in this line so long as the greater offenders, who sell to him, cannot be found.

Characteristics.—The Indians are industrious and law-abiding, and although their progress is not very marked, yet they are gradually bettering their condition.

I have, &c.,

ROB. G. IRWIN,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF VICTORIA COUNTY,
BADDECK, August 25, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserve.—There is only one reserve in this county, situated at Middle River. It contains 650 acres, nearly 400 acres of which is under wood. The wood consists of second growth of light timber. The soil is very fertile, being specially adapted for raising hay.

Tribe.—These Indians are Micmacs.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 95, a decrease of 3 since last year, there having been 1 birth and 4 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians for the past year has been good. Owing to the prevalence of small-pox in the vicinity of the reserve last spring, the Indians were vaccinated, their dwelling-houses cleaned, and all refuse and garbage burned. Owing to the precautions taken, none of the Indians took the disease.

Occupations.—The principal pursuits are farming, coopering, basket-making, hunting, fishing and hiring out as labourers. A less number of them hired out as labourers than in former years.

Education.—There is a new school-house on the reserve. The attendance for the past year shows a slight increase over the previous year.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics. There is no church on the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians here are an industrious and law-abiding class of people. They seem to be materially improving in their manner of living. They live in neat, comfortable, dwelling-houses. A number of them are becoming interested in farming.

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

I have, &c.,

A. J. MACDONALD,
Indian Agent.

NOVA SCOTIA,
MICMACS OF YARMOUTH COUNTY,
YARMOUTH, August 8, 1904.

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, 1904.

Reserve.—The reserve is situated on the north side of Starrs' road about two miles from the town. It contains twenty-one and a quarter acres. There are four families living on the reserve; the rest are scattered all over the county, some at Salmon river, Tusket, Tusket Forks, Hectanoogo and Pubnico Head.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this agency is 80, decrease of 1. There were 2 births and 3 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians is poor; they observe the sanitary regulations with regard to their dwellings fairly well.

Occupations.—The Indians are engaged in saw-mills, log-driving, making baskets, mast-hoops and axe-handles. Some go as guides for hunting and fishing parties, and some do general work.

Education.—The children attend school fairly well when they have a chance.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics.

Characteristics and Progress.—Within the last year or two the Indians show an inclination to settle down and make homes for themselves.

Temperance and Morality.—With few exceptions they are temperate and law-abiding.

I have, &c.,
W. H. WHALEN,
Indian Agent.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND,
MICMACS OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND,
HIGGINS ROAD, August 24, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit my report and tabular statement for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Reserves.—There are two reserves in this superintendency, viz., Lennox Island reserve and the Morell reserve. The former is an island in Richmond bay; it contains 1,320 acres. The Morell reserve is situated on lot 39 in King's county; it contains 204 acres of good land.

Vital Statistics.—The population comprising the two reserves and other localities in Prince Edward Island, consists of 80 men, 77 women and 135 children, making a total of 292. There were during the year 17 births and 13 deaths.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been fairly good. There was, however, an epidemic of whooping-cough among the children in the winter.

Occupations.—The principal occupations are farming, fishing and the manufacture of Indian wares.

Buildings, Stock and Implements.—The Indians who reside on the reserves live in comfortable houses ; several of them keep horses, cattle, pigs and poultry. They are fairly provided with farm implements, such as ploughs, spring-tooth harrows, &c.

Education.—There is but one school, situated on Lennox Island reserve. The children who attend regularly are making fair progress.

Religion.—The Indians of this superintendency are all Roman Catholics, and are attentive to their religious duties.

Temperance.—On this subject I am pleased to be able to report that the Indians residing on the Lennox Island reserve are sober. They organized some years ago a temperance society. The members meet monthly under the presidency of Mr. Anthony Mitchell ; this society has done a great deal of good on this reserve.

I have, &c.,

JOHN O. ARSENAULT,
Indian Superintendent.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
CLANDEBOYE AGENCY,
WEST SELKIRK, August 17, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs.
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit for your information my report of the Clandeboye agency for the year ended June 30, 1904.

The office and headquarters of the agency are situated in the thriving town of West Selkirk and are immediately adjacent to the most important section of my work.

Reserves.—The agency has in it three reserves, viz.: Saint Peter's, Brokenhead River and Fort Alexander. The first-mentioned has an area of about 80 square miles, Brokenhead 22 square miles, and Fort Alexander 32 square miles.

The distance from south to north across the agency is about 100 miles, and the reserves can be reached in summer by canoe or steamer, and in winter by dog-train or by horses.

All three of these places named are situated in areas of excellent land suitable for grain-growing and for stock-raising purposes. The ground is covered with oak, poplar or spruce trees, affording fine shelter in the winter months; and rivers flowing through each reserve afford opportunities for boating and fishing. All conditions conspire to make the welfare and happiness of the people complete.

Vital Statistics.—At St. Peter's are found 262 men, 280 women, 299 boys, and 268 girls, making a total of 1,109.

At Brokenhead River are 47 men, 50 women, 29 boys and 35 girls, making a total of 161.

At Fort Alexander there are 119 men, 132 women, 130 boys, and 103 girls, making an aggregate of 484.

The grand total in the whole agency is 1,754, a decrease from various sources of 23.

Health and Sanitation.—Excellent health has prevailed throughout the agency this year. Conditions have been favourable to the general physical condition of the

people ; 60 deaths have occurred, outbalanced by 82 births. Several have obtained commutation and there was an unusual number of absentees this year.

Dr. J. R. Steep has made eighteen visits to St. Peter's and two each to Fort Alexander and Brokenhead, giving relief to special cases and supplying medicines for the use of the dispensers in cases of emergency.

Most of the Indians of this agency are well-to-do. They live in well-built, well-ventilated houses and have about them every evidence of thrift and comfort. We have endeavoured to teach them to observe the regulations of the department referring to the preservation of health, and for the most part have had their co-operation.

Occupations.—St. Peter's reserve has some of the best land in the province of Manitoba. It has the advantage of being very near to an excellent market. It also has the best shelter from north and west winds offered to any locality. It is safe to say that, properly cultivated, it might produce one hundred thousand bushels of the best wheat per year. As a matter of fact, however, the whole output will scarcely measure up to one thousand bushels. It should be said that considerable oats and barley are sown this year.

The reasons why so little agricultural work is done are not hard to find. The same instinct which leads Indians to disregard right angles in their haste to find the shortest road between two points, actuates them in this line of activity. A net put in at nightfall gives at dawn a full day's eating. A crop put in during early April must be watched and tended for three months and a half before the time of harvest.

Fishing is the time-honoured pursuit of the fathers, an easy and inexpensive method of supplying the wants of the family. Farming is regarded as hard, menial and foreign work, good enough for white men who are familiar with the short cuts to plenty and ease.

Besides this, Selkirk is the headquarters of an extensive navigation. As soon as the waters flow free, all the young men of the tribe are in demand as boatmen. Steamers, schooners, fishing smacks and tugs must all be manned and for the most part from St. Peter's. This draws so heavily on the vim and muscle of the reserve that only the infirm are left to take care of the women and children and carry on farm work. This continues until October. At this time comes the winter draft of men to the shanties and lumber mills, where they are employed from November until April. The short spaces of time spent at home by such people are regarded as holidays, and I am sorry to say are spent in carousals of the most hurtful character.

The Brokenhead River band is not thrifty along agricultural lines. Some gardening has been done, but fishing and hunting are the main sources of income.

The Fort Alexander band is more progressive, and a number of improvements are in evidence, but the main industry is fishing. Very little farming has been done and crops are weed-grown.

Throughout the agency much money is earned from one source and another, but as soon as there is a small supply of money on hand, it is wasted in selfish pleasure, and the dark days coming are for the time forgotten. Most of the people seem to have no ambition to do more than live from hand to mouth. I am glad to say that there are honourable exceptions who deserve great praise. There is work for all and good wages for all, and the best of success is possible to all.

Buildings and Stock.—I have carefully noted the class of animals owned by our people and also the character of the places where they are housed. I find that no attention is paid to the improvement of the stock, and there is a great deal of carelessness in providing what I think to be necessary to preserve their animals in the best condition. There was great difficulty in obtaining sufficient hay last year, and the spring was unusually long and the cattle suffered much before the grass was green. Only a few of the more enterprising have proper buildings for the accommodation of stock, and many deaths have been reported, plainly traceable to these and similar causes. Sheep are not extensively raised. Almost every one has a horse, and not a few good buggies are noticed on St. Peter's reserve.

Education.—There are eight schools in operation in the agency. The attendance at St. Peter's is only fair. At Brokenhead there are discouraging influences at work which have reduced attendance. At Fort Alexander there is a very fair attendance. Educational work is under the direction of the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches, the former having five schools and the latter three. A new boarding school is in course of erection under the auspices of the Roman Catholics, which promises to meet the educational wants of the children of this locality associated with this faith.

Many of the children of this agency are at present found in the St. Paul's industrial school at Middlechurch, or at those of St. Boniface and Elkhorn. A goodly number of ex-pupils are living at St. Peter's and elsewhere, who reflect credit on their training. Others have unfortunately made shipwreck of themselves and their advantages.

The question of funding the money of the children attending the industrial schools continues to awaken opposition. This is intensified by the fact that the parents who desire that their children return for a brief holiday have been asked to pay the return fare.

Religion.—Anglicans, Baptists, Roman Catholics and minor sects, such as Seventh Day Adventists and Plymouth Brethren, have undertaken religious work in this agency. The three first mentioned have beautiful churches with resident clergymen and organized work. The smaller bodies hold occasional services conducted by lay agents.

The Indian, as I have found him, is a religious person, well disposed to that which is good, but the number of religious denominations represented with the consequent introduction of new doctrines, or the over-emphasis of minor doctrines, has an unfavourable effect. I cannot but perceive a gradual departure from the faith and practice of the fathers. Evil practices are all too popular and the restraining influences seem to become weaker.

Temperance.—The one vice prevalent here is the curse of strong drink; intemperance is rampant. This is not only true of the men, but also of the women to some extent. In this wretched habit I find that young men, from whom we might naturally expect the best things, are the very ones who manifest the most lawlessness. They are often fined for being drunk and disorderly on the streets of Selkirk, and the fines imposed only seem to make them careless, even desperate, in the mad race for liquor.

Morality.—Although we should not judge the Indian by the standards used in judging white people, yet the Indian as he is known here might be a great deal better than he is. He is not as honest as he should be. There is much immorality. There are many good people, but it is evident that the rising generation have very low ideals of life. I am not disposed to prophesy disaster, but I see the need of radical reforms both in church and social life. Progress in industrial and commercial life is marked by mental and moral retrogression. The outlook is scarcely hopeful.

I have, &c.,

JOHN SEMMENS,
Indian Agent.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
RAINY RIVER DISTRICT—FORT FRANCES AGENCY,
FORT FRANCES, ONT., July 30, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report for this agency for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Agency.—The agency buildings are situated at the mouth of Rainy lake on what is known as Pither's point, about three miles east of Fort Frances, and the agency comprises the following bands, viz.:—Hungry Hall, Nos. 1 and 2; Long Sault, Nos. 1 and 2; Manitou Rapids, Nos. 1 and 2; Little Forks, Couchiching, Stangecoming, Niacatchewenin, Nickickousemenecanning, Seine River, Lac la Croix and Sturgeon Lake, being fourteen in all.

HUNGRY HALL BANDS, NOS. 1 AND 2.

Reserves.—These reserves, Nos. 14 and 15, are situated at the mouth of Rainy river and contain 6,280 acres. The timber on reserve No. 15 is of poor quality, as fires have frequently run through it during past years and destroyed most of the merchantable timber ; but on reserve 14 there are large quantities of tamarack, spruce, cedar and poplar. The land is a rich clay loam.

Tribe.—All the Indians in these bands belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the two bands is 48, consisting of 13 men, 18 women, 9 boys and 8 girls. There were 3 births and 1 death during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of all the bands in this agency has been good. All the Indians have been vaccinated.

Occupations.—The majority of these Indians work at the saw-mills and timber camps, and can always get employment at good wages.

Religion.—The majority of these Indians are pagans; a few belong to the Church of England.

Education.—There is no school in operation on these reserves.

Temperance.—These Indians are addicted to the use of intoxicants, which they usually get on the American side.

LONG SAULT RAPIDS BANDS, NOS. 1 AND 2.

Reserves.—These reserves, Nos. 12 and 13, are situated on the north bank of Rainy river, opposite the rapids of that name. Their combined area is 11,413 acres. The land is a rich black loam with a clay bottom and is well adapted for farming and stock-raising.

Vital Statistics.—There are 22 men, 25 women, 12 boys and 17 girls in these bands, making a total of 76 in all. There were 3 births and 4 deaths.

Occupations.—They work at saw-mills, lumber camps and on steamboats, clearing land for settlers, and last winter they took out a large quantity of dry cord-wood and some ties and dry saw-logs.

Education.—There is a very good day school here under the auspices of the Church of England. The attendance has been fairly regular. The school-house has been recently re-shingled. Miss Jeanet McLeod is the teacher and is giving very good satisfaction.

Religion.—The Church of England has a very good church here with a resident missionary, Rev. J. Johnston, who looks after the religious welfare of all the bands on Rainy river.

Temperance.—I regret to state that these Indians are very intemperate and, owing to their close proximity to the American boundary where a number of 'blind pigs' are kept, can get all the liquor they want.

MANITOU RAPIDS BANDS, NOS. 1 AND 2.

Reserve.—These bands occupy reserve No. 11, which is situated on the north bank of Rainy river, opposite the rapids of that name. The area is 5,736 acres. The land is a rich clay loam. The merchantable timber sold by public auction to the Rat Portage Lumber Company has now been all taken off. Dues amounting to $1,391.43 have

been collected and placed to the credit of these bands for the timber cut last winter. This makes a total of $2,343.25 for dues collected during the past two years for this timber.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of 25 men, 30 women, 30 boys and 26 girls, making a total of 111. During the year there were 7 births and 3 deaths.

Occupations.—These Indians are good axemen and good workers and can always get employment in lumber and tie camps at good wages. They also make considerable money working for settlers, fishing and hunting, and selling dry cord-wood.

Education.—There is a day school on this reserve under the auspices of the Church of England, which is taught by Mr. R. H. Bagshaw.

Religion.—They are all pagans in these two bands.

Temperance.—These Indians are very much addicted to the use of intoxicants.

LITTLE FORKS BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the north bank of the Rainy river, twelve miles east of Fort Frances and opposite the mouth of the Little Forks river and is designated as reserve No. 10. It contains an area of 1,920 acres. The land is a rich clay loam.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of 11 men, 16 women, 10 boys and 11 girls, making a total of 48. There was 1 birth and 1 death during the year.

Occupations.—These Indians were employed last winter in taking out saw-logs, ties and cord-wood on the American side, and in running timber down the river in the spring, and made very good wages. The men, can always get work at good wages in working for settlers, on steamboats and in lumber camps. The fishing and hunting is very good.

Temperance.—These Indians are intemperate, and as there is a 'blind pig' kept on the American side of the river, opposite the reserve, and also one a few miles down the river, they can get all the liquor they can pay for, consequently a great deal of their money is spent in liquor.

WILD LAND RESERVE, NO. 15 M.

This reserve, consisting of 20,671 acres, is owned in common by all the above mentioned Rainy river bands. It adjoins the Hungry Hall reserves near the mouth of Rainy river. This reserve is well timbered with pine, spruce, tamarack, cedar and poplar. The land is a rich clay loam.

COUCHICHING BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band are situated on Rainy lake and Stangecoming bay, three miles north of Fort Frances, and are designated as 16A, 16D and 18B. They contain an area of 15,947 acres. There is considerable good land, but the greater portion is rocky and broken. There is very little merchantable timber on these reserves, owing to frequent fires in the past having destroyed the best of the timber. During the winter the department leased 155 acres of this reserve for a mill-site for a term of twenty years at $300 per year. A saw-mill has been built and is now running, owned by Messrs. Preston & Bell.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 142, consisting of 37 men, 43 women, 31 boys and 31 girls. There were 4 births and 2 deaths during the year.

Occupations.—The resources of this band are many, consisting of working in lumber camps, saw-mills, cutting and hauling cord-wood, river-driving, working on steamboats and for settlers, fishing and hunting, at good wages. A number of the Indian women get considerable work at washing and scrubbing at Fort Frances.

Buildings.—The houses are well built and very comfortably furnished, and all are kept clean and neat.

Education.—There is a good day school here. It is under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church. The attendance has been good and progress fair.

Religion.—The majority of this band are Roman Catholics. They have a very good, large church, which they built themselves. The Rev. Father Bresseau has charge of this mission.

Progress.—These Indians are principally French half-breeds and are an industrious and law-abiding people.

Temperance and Morality.—On the whole, this band is a fairly temperate and moral community.

STANGECOMING BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve, No. 18C, is situated on Rainy lake about eight miles north of Fort Frances and contains 3,861 acres, the greater portion being barren rock and the timber of poor quality.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of 6 men, 8 women, 14 boys and 20 girls, making a total of 48 in the band. During the year there were 2 births and no deaths.

Occupations.—These Indians live principally by fishing, hunting and working in lumber camps.

Education.—There is a day school here under the control of the Roman Catholic Church, but it has been closed since last September.

Religion.—Excepting about ten persons, all the Indians in this and the following bands are pagans.

NIACATCHEWENIN BAND.

Reserve.—The reserves attached to this band are 17A and 17B and are situated about twenty-six miles northwest of Fort Frances, on the Northwest bay in Rainy lake. The area of these reserves is 6,201 acres. The greater portion is rocky and broken. There is considerable good timber, especially on 17B.

Vital Statistics.—There are 11 men, 13 women, 14 boys and 21 girls in this band, making a total of 59. There were 2 births and no deaths during the year.

Occupations.—The able-bodied men in this band get employment in lumber camps, but they principally make their living by fishing and hunting.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve.

NICKICKOUSEMENECANNING BAND.

Reserve.—This band owns reserve 26A on Red Gut bay, reserve 26B on Porter's inlet and reserve 26C on Sand Island river and Rainy lake. The combined area is 10,227 acres, a considerable portion of which is heavily timbered, but the greater portion of the land is rocky and broken.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band consists of 5 men, 13 women, 17 boys and 10 girls, making a total of 45. There were 2 deaths and 1 birth.

Occupations.—This band lives principally by fishing and hunting.

SEINE RIVER BAND.

Reserves.—This band has two reserves: No. 23A, extending from Wild Potato lake to Sturgeon Falls on the Seine river ; No. 23B is at the mouth of the Seine river. They contain a combined area of 11,063 acres.

Vital Statistics.—There are 28 men, 33 women, 30 boys and 34 girls, making a total of 125. There were 2 births and 2 deaths.

Occupations.—Only a few Indians reside on these reserves. They live principally by fishing and hunting.

Education.—A new school-house has been built at Wild Potato lake, but has not yet been opened.

LAC LA CROIX BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve, No. 25D, belonging to this band, is situated on Lac la Croix, near the boundary and contains 15,353 acres.

Vital Statistics.—There are 20 men, 31 women, 29 boys and 33 girls in this band, making a total of 113 persons. During the year there were 4 births and 3 deaths.

Occupations.—The principal occupations of these Indians are trapping, hunting and fishing.

STURGEON LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve allotted to this band is situated on Kawawiagamak lake, and contains an area of 5,948 acres.

Vital Statistics.— There are 8 men, 8 women, 10 boys and 4 girls, making a total of 30. There was 1 birth and 2 deaths during the year.

Occupations.—These Indians depend entirely upon hunting and fishing for their subsistence.

I have, &c.,

JNO. P. WRIGHT,
Indian Agent.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
NORWAY HOUSE AGENCY,
WINNIPEG, MAN., June 25, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report for the above agency for the time I was in charge. Being appointed agent on December 1, 1903, I left the Blood agency on the 21st of that month for Winnipeg, making that place my headquarters.

On February 6, 1904, I left Winnipeg, visiting all the reserves, with the exception of Little Grand Rapids and Pekangekum, my trip being with dog trains, returning to Winnipeg on April 1.

Reserves.—There are eleven reserves in the Norway House agency, which, counted from the south, are named as follows : Black River, 2,000 acres; Hollowwater River, 3,316 acres; Bloodvein River, 1,185 acres; these three occupied by Saulteaux Indians; Fisher River, 9,000 acres, occupied by Crees; Jackhead River, 2,850 acres; Berens River, 7,400 acres; Little Grand Rapids, 4,920 acres; Pekangekum, 2,080 acres; Poplar River, 3,800 acres, these five occupied by Saulteaux, and Norway House, 10,840 acres, and Cross Lake, 7,760 acres, occupied by Crees.

Vital Statistics.—The total population of the agency is 2,224, consisting of 482 men, 597 women and 1,145 children.

Health.—The general health of the whole agency has been good, with of course the usual exception of consumption and scrofula, cases which are always found on every reserve.

Provision has been made for a good supply of medicines at each reserve, and careful dispensers have done their best to treat the various sufferers.

Occupations.—Most of the Indians have ample chances to earn money at almost every season of the year. There are saw-mills or cord-wood camps. Fishing has been increasing and boatmen are in good demand.

Hunting last winter was particularly good, so that every man can make a good living if he wants to work.

Buildings.—The houses on the reserve are improving, many new ones having been erected during the last three or four years. Many are nicely furnished. These improvements apply principally to the Fisher River Indians, who are decidedly progressive.

Stock.—Cattle-stables are fairly well built, but the cattle industry, with the exception of Fisher River reserve, shows no progress whatever. Hay is very difficult to obtain on the east side of the lake; in most cases, especially at Norway House, the Indians have to cut hay standing up to their waists in water, consequently there is always a shortage of feed, and cattle die every spring. Another thing is that at the time they should be making hay, they are either making good wages at the fisheries or wasting several days doing nothing before and after treaty payments, which take place at the busy time of the year.

Education.—The boarding school at Norway House is doing good work, and credit must be given to the principal, Mr. Lousley, and the matron, Miss Yeomans, who have their hearts in the work.

Day schools at Fisher River and Berens River, both Methodist, are doing well, and Cross Lake, Roman Catholic, which has not long been opened, shows splendid progress, there being an average attendance of over twenty; the missionary there sees that the children do attend school. As to the rest of the day schools in this agency, the progress is nil and attendance very irregular, partly accounted for by the parents taking their families with them when fishing and hunting.

While on this subject, I should mention that there is a day school at Norway House, under the Church of England, doing good work, but not supported by the department.

Religion.—The Methodists have missionaries at Norway House, Cross Lake, Poplar River, Berens River, Fisher River and Bloodvein River; the Church of England at Norway House, Jackhead, Hollowwater River and Black River; the Roman Catholics at Cross Lake, and occasionally a priest visiting reserves from Black River, as far as Poplar River. Regular services are held at all the above places, well attended, and with, I trust, good results.

Characteristics.—The Indians of this agency are, as a rule, law-abiding and industrious. Some do not work, but the great majority do work and have enough to keep them very comfortable in every respect. Intemperance, I am glad to say, is not general, but at the same time large quantities of liquor are taken into several of the rivers and fishing stations where Indians are engaged, and it is well known that some obtain it frequently from the whites, who should know better, either as a present or trade for labour at fishing, &c. I am very glad to see that the department has taken action, after receiving my special report, and has arranged to send a detachment of Northwest Mounted Police to the northern end of the lake, which action I feel sure will at least lessen the evil of this abominable traffic with the Indians.

The morality of the Indians is fairly good, and no doubt will be much better when intemperance is reduced, as no doubt this evil leads to immorality, at least in many cases.

I have, &c.,

T. J. FLEETHAM,

Indian Agent.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
PAS AGENCY,
THE PAS, SASK., July 12, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the annual report of the Pas agency for the year ended June 30, 1904.

This agency comprises eight bands, but only seven reserves. Four of the reserves are situated on the banks of the Great Saskatchewan river, viz.: Grand Rapids, at the mouth where the river empties into Lake Winnipeg, Chemawawin, seventy miles upwards, adjoining Cedar lake; the Pas, which is the headquarters of the agency, seventy-seven miles up from Chemawawin, and Cumberland, adjoining Pine Island lake, seventy miles west of the Pas. The other reserves are Moose Lake, situated on the shores of Moose lake, which is about fifty miles north by west from Chemawawin, and Shoal Lake and Red Earth on the northwest slope of the Pas mountain, which are reached by ascending the Carrot river, which enters the Great Saskatchewan one mile west of the Pas, from which point they are distant, respectively, about one hundred and one hundred and twelve miles.

Although there is a stretch of country two hundred and fifty miles in extent between Grand Rapids in the east and Red Earth in the west, yet the natural features are much the same throughout, being composed of hay swamps, marshes and muskegs, fringed by low ridges covered with spruce, birch, poplar, willow and elder, with an occasional bluff of cedar, and interspersed with innumerable lakes and streams which find their outlet into the Great Saskatchewan. The unusually high water which has prevailed for these last four years seems to have restocked these streams and lakes with fish, and at present they are literally teeming with sturgeon, trout, whitefish, perch and pike.

Aquatic birds in great variety are also very numerous during open water, and any time during the open season the sportsman can have full satisfaction stalking the moose and deer or hunting the fur-bearing animals, of which nearly every variety known in North America is to be found in the district.

In the distant future when the channel of the Great Saskatchewan wears deep enough to drain this district or a canal is constructed between Cedar lake and Winnipegosis, this large extent of country, instead of being the hunter's paradise, will be the home of the husbandman, the richest prairie-land of Canada. Such is the country at present in which the seven reserves of the Pas agency are located.

The individual members of Peter Ballendine's band are scattered over the northern country from Beaver lake to the Churchill river. They have no reserve, but meet at Pelican Narrows to receive their annuity payments. This band formerly belonged to the Carlton agency, but owing to its being in closer touch with the Pas, was transferred after the payments of 1902.

Pelican Narrows is an old established Hudson's Bay Company's post, situated on the boundary between Saskatchewan and Athabasca.

In the month of August, 1903, we made our first visit and were much impressed with the complete and striking contrast between that part of the country and the rest of the agency. It is high and dry, hilly and rocky, up to Beaver lake it is a limestone formation and from there north can be found all the varieties of granite, lined everywhere with veins of quartz. From Beaver lake to the Narrows is a long chain of lakes with narrow channels between. The shores of these lakes are very romantic, being rag-

ged and threatening with protruding rocks and boulders, which through the persistent action of the waves have detached themselves and collapsed. The course of the river nearly all the way is encased within banks of solid rock and offers many formidable rapids and in many places terminates in real waterfalls which necessitate the canoes and their contents being carried across many portages.

The laborious ascension of these rapids, inch by inch, with alternating stretches of smooth water, the thundering noise of the falls, at the foot of which delicious white-fish can be caught, the magnificent and ever changing views of lakes dotted over with projecting quartz rock, the small islands and distant hills covered with young timber waving on the breeze and harmonizing with the rapid flow of the pure limpid waters, form a pleasing contrast with the low, damp and monotonous country in which the agency headquarters is situated.

After four days' hard work our party, composed of Inspector Marlatt, Dr. Larose and myself, with two canoes and six boatmen, reached Pelican Narrows at sunset. The Roman Catholic church, newly finished in substantial and artistic style, built on a gentle elevation and surrounded by a few small but neatly built cottages, ensconsed in the shelter of a sandy bay at the foot of a towering hill overlooking a lake with a thousand islands, formed a most delightful picture. A little to the east the eye was attracted by a square yellowish white spot offset above and beyond by the dark green spruce woods; this to our surprise was nothing less than a field of barley, a heavy crop and No. 1 quality, cultivated by Mr. Belanger, chief of the Hudson's Bay Company's post.

These, together with numerous little gardens of potatoes and vegetables, made us question if it were possible that we were four hundred and fifty miles north of the international boundary.

On our return trip, most of the rapids, twenty-four in number, were shot over with the canoes; this was much quicker and very much more exciting than the slow laborious time we had in getting up, and would be a very risky undertaking except under the guidance of the most skilled, experienced and watchful canoemen.

The area of each reserve and the population of each band are as follows :—

Grand Rapids.—4,646 acres, with a population of 118, consisting of 21 men, 26 women, 40 boys and 31 girls ; an increase of 10 over last year.

Chemawawin.—3,040 acres, with a population of 153, consisting of 34 men, 45 women, 43 boys and 31 girls ; a decrease of 9 during the year.

Moose Lake.—6,342 acres, with a population of 138, consisting of 30 men, 42 women, 31 boys and 35 girls; an increase of 3 over last year.

The Pas.—8,128 acres, with a population of 428, consisting of 94 men, 114 women, 108 boys and 112 girls; an increase of 2 over last year.

Shoal Lake.—2,240 acres, with a population of 60, consisting of 14 men, 14 women, 19 boys, and 13 girls; a decrease of 3 during the year.

Red Earth.—4,769 acres, with a population of 117, consisting of 28 men, 31 women, 29 boys, and 29 girls; a decrease of 2 during the year.

Cumberland.—4,025 acres, with a population of 161, consisting of 32 men, 48 women, 42 boys and 39 girls ; an increase of 9 during the year.

Peter Ballendine's band has a population of close on 400, but, owing to the long distances they have to come for their annuities, many of them only attend every alternate year. Only 266 were paid last year.

Tribe and Occupation.—Nearly all the Indians of this agency are of the Cree family, with a goodly admixture of white blood. They live by hunting and fishing, and many find employment with the Hudson's Bay Company and the Dominion and North West fish companies.

Buildings and Progress.—During the summer months many of them live in tents, but on some of the reserves they have now got comfortable houses and have discarded the tent altogether. There has been a rapid progress in the size, comfort and cleanli-

ness of their habitations. The old-fashioned fireplace is supplemented with a box-stove, and cooking stoves are getting quite common, as are also sewing-machines, autoharps and phonographs. In these and many other things the Indians are rapidly adopting the ways of the white man.

The muskrats, which are the most profitable animals the Indians can hunt, owing to their food value as well as their fur, have been rapidly decreasing, as they do periodically, yet the year has been a fairly prosperous one, owing to the higher prices paid for other furs in the fore part of the season, and the many benefits accruing from the fishing industry.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians has been comparatively good throughout the agency. There was an epidemic of whooping-cough at the Pas, but it was of a mild form, and no deaths were attributable to that cause. Scarlet fever was prevalent in the far north for a while, and a number of Peter Ballendine's band, both adults and children, had it, but being of a mild character only one child died from a relapse ; no new cases have been reported since last April.

Scrofula is much less met with than formerly, owing to a proper treatment under the supervision of Dr. Larose. In nearly every case where his instructions are carried out a vast improvement is noticeable. The most frequent causes of death amongst the children are capillary bronchitis and protracted disorders of the digestive system, due to bad hygiene, carelessness, and improper feeding. It has been customary among the Indians, no matter what the disease might be, to have the house heated to the point of suffocation, and filled with sympathetic neighbours, causing the patient to die asphyxiated. These and many other such habits are persistently fought against with a fair degree of success.

Education.—The progress in the day schools is far from satisfactory, owing principally to the difficulty in getting teachers who understand how to teach Indian children. It is often said that the roving habits of the Indians are against any lasting benefit being derived by their children from the day school, but experience has shown that in every case where there was a teacher who had the proper qualifications, he could always show good results and have a fair average attendance all the year round. Unfortunately, teachers of this kind are not plentiful, for the simple reason that an Indian teacher, like many other complex organisms, must be born—they cannot be merely made. Our schools are far away from civilization, and the teacher's salary is small, and consequently there is no inducement for a man of ability to remain at the work. Under these circumstances, the industrial or boarding school is the only remedy. We have eight schools in this agency, and at present only three teachers, one having left in January and four at the end of the year. Fortunately, the three that are remaining are above the average. Mr. Macdougall, at the Pas, has all the required qualifications, and is, no doubt, one of the best Indian school teachers in the Territories ; Mr. Seymour, of Cumberland, has only been a year at the work, and out of the material he had to begin with has shown as good results as could be expected ; Mr. Cachrane, of Shoal Lake, has had some years of experience, and, under the circumstances, gets along fairly well.

Religion and Morality.—The Indians of this agency are all Christians, except a few at Red Earth, who are modern pagans, but their numbers are rapidly decreasing. The great majority on all the reserves belong to the Church of England. In Peter Ballendine's band the Roman Catholics predominate. They all attend their religious services with great regularity. Their morals are comparatively good, and no intemperance has been so far reliably reported.

I have, &c.,

JOSEPH COURTNEY,

Indian Agent.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE AND MANITOWAPAH AGENCIES,
September 7, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following annual report of my agencies for the year ended June 30, 1904.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE AGENCY.

Treaty No. 1.

Reserves.—There are five reserves in this agency.

Roseau River reserve, situated at the confluence of the Red and Roseau rivers, has an area of about 5,670 acres. It is well adapted for grain and stock raising, as the soil is rich, and there is plenty of hay in ordinary seasons ; but last spring there was too much rain in that district, and consequently some of the crop was drowned out and hay-lands were under water until late in the season. Along the streams there is enough wood for fuel, and timber for small buildings.

Roseau River Rapids reserve, situated on the Roseau river, about eighteen miles from the mouth, has an area of 800 acres, and at present the department is negotiating for the purchase of about two sections more in compliance with a request made by these Indians when they agreed to dispose of the twelve sections on the reserve at the mouth of the river. This reserve is well adapted for grain-growing ; and the addition will give them good pasture and hay land.

Long Plain reserve is situated about fifteen miles southwest of Portage la Prairie on the north side of the Assiniboine river, in township 10, range 8, west of he 1st meridian. It has an area of 10,816 acres, is well wooded, and there is some good farming land.

Swan Lake reserve is situated on the north side of Swan lake, in township 5, range 11, west of the 1st meridian, and contains 9,634 acres. It is well adapted for grain and stock raising, as there is plenty of hay and water, and sufficient high land for farming.

Indian Gardens reserve is situated near the south bank of the Assiniboine river. It comprises section 11, in township 9, range 9, west of the 1st meridian, and contains 640 acres. It is all first-class arable land without any wood and very little hay.

Tribe.—The Indians of this agency are all of the Ojibbewa tribe, with more or less strain of white man's blood.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the different bands is as follows :—Roseau, including the Rapids 196; Long Plain, 133; Swan Lake, 104, making a grand total of 433 according to the pay-sheets at date of writing. At Roseau River and Rapids there were 4 births, and 16 deaths; at Long Plain, 9 births and 7 deaths; and at Swan Lake and Indian Gardens, 2 births and 2 deaths.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians this year has been about as usual, there have been no epidemics, but the late spring made it very hard for those affected with tubercular troubles, and to this disease can be charged the majority of the deaths.

The usual sanitary precautions of cleaning up and burning rubbish on all the reserves have been taken, but at the earliest possible date in the spring the Indians

move out of their houses into tents, which they move from place to place and thus take advantage of natural sanitation, and an improvement can be noted in their health from the time they go into tents.

Occupations.—On the Roseau River reserve, grain and stock raising are both carried on, but not on a sufficient extent to render the Indians an independence. However, there is always a demand for farm labour that brings a cash return, which to the Indian is much surer than taking chances on a crop, and consequently his farming suffers proportionately. At the Roseau Rapids grain-growings followed principally, but the attraction of cash wages held out by the surrounding farmers is detrimental to good steady work on the Indian farms. However, in working for the settlers the Indians are learning good practical farming, and in time I think they will derive the benefit. All these Indians are good hunters, and in ordinary seasons seem to make a good living without very great exertion.

On the Indian Gardens reserve, grain-growing, only, is carried on. At Swan Lake both grain and stock raising are followed with success. At Long Plain grain farming is carried on, but only on a small scale. The Indians of all these reserves can get all the work they want for cash wages with the surrounding settlers. Together with hunting, fishing, gathering snakeroot, picking berries, &c., they make a good living, and we seldom hear of their being hard up except when they are living on their reserves continuously.

Buildings, Stock, and Farm Implements.—Log buildings with pole and mud roof predominate on all the reserves ; nearly all have lumber floors, and shingle roofs are increasing very fast.

Those that take an interest in their cattle, provide plenty of hay and take good care of them ; but those who keep only a few head simply to gratify the desire of the department, take no interest in their cattle, often run short of fodder, lose a large per centage of their calves every year, and might as well be out of the business altogether.

Their supply of implements and tools is sufficient for their requirements, except in a few instances, and year by year they buy more of these articles for themselves.

Education.—There are two day schools in the agency, one at Swan Lake, at which it has been most difficult to get a regular attendance ; and a new day school was opened at Roseau Rapids reserve in October, 1903, at which the attendance has been very good.

Religion.—At Swan Lake the teacher looks after the spiritual welfare of the Indians, under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church.

At Roseau River reserve, a priest of the Roman Catholic Church visits periodically, and attends to the spiritual wants of the Indians.

At Roseau Rapids, Indian Gardens, and Long Plain reserves the old forms of pagan worship still prevail, and the Indians have expressed a desire not to be interfered with by a minister of any Christian denomination.

Characteristics and Progress.—Progress on the reserve is apparently very slow, but there are many reasons for this. An Indian will work for a white settler from seven in the morning till six in the evening without thought of shirking his work, but a few hours a day is the best effort he can put forth for himself on the reserve. The majority of the older generation are opposed to progress, and a progressive Indian has too many relatives and friends to participate in his prosperity. Until the men of the present generation learn to do hard work continuously, I think they do better working for the settlers, and in the lumber and cord-wood camps.

Temperance and Morality.—Intemperance and immorality run hand in hand, and as far as my experience goes, where there is one there is also the other. The Indians of all these reserves squander a lot of money buying liquor, and paying fines at the police court ; but punishment and fines will not stop them, neither will it make them tell where they got it, there are always a class of white men and half-breeds around who will supply them with liquor, not altogether for the profit there is in it, but simply because it is prohibited by law. Contact with the whites certainly has a degenerating

effect upon the Indian, physically and morally; and although mentally he develops greatly, there seems to be a lack of character to withstand almost any kind of evil temptation.

General Remarks.—Although the Indians made a good living all winter by hunting and the sale of dry wood, yet on account of the long winter, late spring, and their unfortunate characteristic of not providing ahead, they were very hard up in the spring, although they soon recovered when the weather opened sufficiently to trap muskrats.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE SIOUX.

These Indians own and live on a tract of land, about 26 acres, purchased by themselves within the town limits. They also have lot No. 14 of the parish of Portage la Prairie, given to them by the Dominion government, but up to date they have refused to make any use of it. The adults are a big strapping type of Indian, but many of the children show signs of tubercular troubles. They have good houses and gardens and make a good living working for the farmers in the district. When they all return home in the fall, they usually squander a lot of money in intoxicating liquor and paying fines in the police court, but they will very seldom give any information as to where they got the liquor. I should like to see them on a reserve away from town influence, and I believe there are some of them who would develop into farmers.

There is a Sioux boarding school in the town with accommodation for forty pupils, and the government allows a per capita grant for twenty. There are usually from twenty-two to twenty-five pupils in the school, and more could be obtained, did the per capita grant allow.

Mr. W. A. Hendry is principal of the school, and his sister has charge of the teaching. They are much interested in the work and have the confidence of the pupils and their parents to an extraordinary extent, in fact it is like a family affair.

The principal, his wife, and Miss Hendry are all interested in the spiritual welfare of the little band, under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church, and hold a weekly service in the village church, as well as many other meetings.

MANITOWAPAH AGENCY.

There are ten reserves in this agency, of which Sandy Bay is in Treaty No. 1, Shoal River in No. 4; and the rest are in No. 2.

Reserves.—Sandy Bay reserve is situated on the southwest shore of Lake Manitoba, in township 18, range 9, west of the 1st meridian. It has an area of 12,160 acres, the greater part of which is covered with scrub and bush. It is not suitable for grain farming, although there is sufficient good land for gardens and a good supply of hay.

Lake Manitoba reserve is situated on the northeast shore of Lake Manitoba, in township 22, ranges 8 and 9, west of the 1st meridian. It has an area of 9,472 acres. It is much broken by arms of the lake, is covered by a heavy growth of brush and timber, and quite unsuited for farming. There is enough good land for gardens and a good supply of hay.

Ebb and Flow Lake reserve is situated on the west shore of Ebb and Flow lake in townships 23 and 24, ranges 11 and 12, west of the 1st meridian. It has an area of 10,816 acres. It is unsuitable for farming, but has a good supply of hay and plenty of timber.

Fairford reserve is situated on the Fairford river, in townships 30 and 31, range 9, west of the 1st meridian. It has an area of 11,712 acres. It is well supplied with good timber and hay, and has plenty of good land for gardens.

Little Saskatchewan reserve is situated on the west shore of Lake St. Martin, in township 31, range 8 west of the 1st meridian, and has an area of 3,200. It is well supplied with wood and hay, but is not adapted for farming.

Lake St. Martin reserve is situated on the north end of Lake St. Martin, in township 32, ranges 7 and 8, west of the 1st meridian, and has an area of 4,032 acres ; is well wooded, and has a fair supply of hay, but is not adapted for farming.

Crane River reserve is situated on the east side of Crane river, in township 29, range 13, west of the 1st meridian. It contains 7,936 acres. There is a quantity of good spruce timber and sufficient good land for gardens. Being a little short of hay land, a piece of land across the river, with good hay meadows, has been reserved for the use of the band.

Waterhen River reserve is situated on the south end of Waterhen lake, in township 34, range 13, west of the 1st meridian. It has an area of 4,608 acres. It has a good supply of timber and hay, but is unsuited for farming.

Pine Creek reserve is situated on the west shore of Lake Winnipegosis, in township 35, ranges 19 and 20, west of the 1st meridian. It has an area of about 12,000 acres, is well supplied with hay and timber, but is not adapted to farming.

Shoal River reserve is composed of one small reserve on Swan lake, and four small reserves near the mouth of Shoal river, which is situated on the south end of Dawson bay, on Lake Winnipegosis. They have an area altogether of about 5,500 acres. They are all well wooded with poplar and some spruce intermixed; they have sufficient hay-land, but are not adapted for farming.

Tribe.—Nearly all the Indians in this agency are Saulteaux, but the members of the Shoal River band are principally Crees. There are many French, English and Scotch half-breeds, in fact there are very few pure-blooded Indians in the agency.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the whole agency is 1,376, according to the last annuity payments ; during the year there were 52 births and 30 deaths.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians generally has been good during the year. On the Fairford reserves there has been an epidemic of whooping cough this spring and summer, but they are getting well over it now, with but few fatalities. On Lake Manitoba reserve and Sandy Bay there has been quite a lot of itch, but it is disappearing through treatment. The usual coughs, colds, scrofula and consumptive cases prevailed on all the reserves, but not to any greater extent than in other years.

The usual sanitary precautions have been carried out, such as cleaning up and burning rubbish, and as nearly all the Indians move into tents in the spring, they thus practise the best of sanitation.

Resources and Occupations.—Nearly all the Indians have small gardens, and over and above that, the raising of live stock is about the only civilized industry they can take up on the reserves, as the land is not suitable for grain-raising. The Indians that take an interest in their cattle do pretty well, and are increasing their herds, but those who only keep a few head to please the department would do better if they went out of the business altogether and followed something they had more liking for. There is plenty of fish and game yet, and there is little need for the Indians to go hungry in the winter-time. Year by year they are learning how to earn more money cutting wood, rails, and in the lumber camps : and at Fairford the gypsum mine and mill are a regular Ophir to the Indians there, as they can get all the work they want winter and summer at good wages. They also earn a lot of money in the hay and harvest fields and during the threshing season. Digging senega-root, picking berries and fishing are other resources from which they earn considerable money.

Buildings and Stock.—All buildings are of log, some houses have shingle roofs, and nearly all have lumber floors. The stables have log walls with poles and hay on the roof, and when they are mudded or plastered in the autumn they fulfil the purpose for which they are intended admirably.

On account of the unusually long winter I expected a great loss amongst the cattle, but I am glad to say that the Indians did much better than many of their half-breed and white neighbours, and their loss of grown cattle was not heavy although a number of calves died shortly after birth. Strange as it may appear, the Indians that

had the biggest herds and took an interest in their cattle did not lose any, while those that had only a few head did not provide sufficient for them, simply because they are not interested, and only keep them to please the department or its officials.

Education.—There are day schools in operation on each reserve, except Crane River and two at Fairford. But as the parents have to keep moving from place to place either getting work or hunting, it is impossible for the attendance at the schools to be anything but irregular, consequently the state of education is not advanced. There is a very fine large stone boarding school adjoining the Pine Creek reserve owned and conducted by the Roman Catholic Church, with a staff of professional teachers from the Order of the Rev. Franciscan Sisters. The department allows this school a per capita grant for fifty-five boarding, and fifteen day scholars. The advantage of professional teaching can be noticed here in all branches, in fact in the order of the whole institution. A pupil attending a school like this will receive more benefit in one year than he will in five at the ordinary Indian day school. I am glad to say there is another large boarding school being built on the Sandy Bay reserve. This also will be conducted under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church.

Religion.—The Church of England has churches at Upper Fairford, Little Saskatchewan, and Shoal River, and also a catechist at St. Martins; the Baptists have churches at Lower Fairford and St. Martins ; and the Roman Catholics at Sandy Bay, Lake Manitoba, Ebb and Fow, Waterhen and Pine Creek.

Progress.—The progress of the Indians is certainly slow, but as long as they can make their living so easily by hunting and fishing and working a day or two when ever they feel like it, they cannot be expected to show anything very wonderful in the way of advancement. However, they dress better, live better, talk better, than when I came here five years ago, and, best of all, they have given up begging for everything they could think of.

Temperance and Morality.—I am pleased to say that not a single case of intoxication on the reserves has been reported to me during the year, not that I am not perfectly certain that they do get liquor, but they keep it so quiet that I only hear of it through some round-about source a long time afterwards, and it is impossible to get any proof. Many of the Indians can now get work up the lake or with settlers near their reserves, and thus avoid coming down to the railway towns for haying and harvest, and mixing up with tough drinking crews at the threshings.

I have only heard of one case of immorality on the reserves and that was settled amongst themselves.

General Remarks.—When visiting the reserves this year to make the annuity payments we found all the Indians well clothed, healthy generally, and in a contented state of mind. I have no hesitation in stating that I consider them as progressing satisfactorily.

The day school teachers on all the reserves have given me all assistance that lay in their power.

I have, &c.,

S. SWINFORD,

Indian Agent.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
RAINY RIVER DISTRICT,
RAT PORTAGE AGENCY,
RAT PORTAGE, ONT., September 8, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report on the Rat Portage and Savanne agencies for the year ended June 30, 1904.

The headquarters of these agencies is situated in the town of Rat Portage, in the post office building.

RAT PORTAGE AGENCY.

This agency comprises the following bands, viz.:—Rat Portage, Shoal Lake, Nos. 39 and 40, Northwest Angle, Nos. 33, 34 and 37. Buffalo Bay, Big Island, Assabaska, Whitefish Bay and Islington, making a total of eleven bands.

RAT PORTAGE BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band are No. 38 A, B and C. The first named is situated on Clearwater bay, Lake of the Woods; its area is 8,000 acres; 38 B is situated on Matheson's bay, near the town of Rat Portage, its area is 5,280 acres; and 38 C is situated at the Dalles, on the Winnipeg river, a distance of about ten miles north of the town of Rat Portage; its area is 800 acres. These reserves are well timbered with spruce, poplar and jack and Norway pine. On reserves A and B there are several veins of rich gold-bearing quartz; the remainder consists of hay-lands.

Tribe.—All the Indians of this agency belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 139, consisting of 35 men, 43 women, 36 boys and 25 girls. There were 9 births and no deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band has been good; all the Indians have been vaccinated and regularly attended to by Dr. Hanson.

Occupations.—Fishing, hunting, berry-picking and wild-rice harvesting and, in the winter, cutting cord-wood are the principal occupations of this band. A few of them put in fairly good gardens.

Buildings.—Their buildings are of log, and are small and of an inferior class. Two new houses of a better class have been built during the year.

Education.—There is no day school on these reserves, but a number of the children are attending the Rat Portage boarding school.

Religion.—There are 39 Anglicans, 35 Roman Catholics and 65 pagans in this band.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are very much addicted to the use of intoxicants and will use them to excess whenever they can possibly procure them; otherwise they are fairly moral.

SHOAL LAKE BANDS, NOS. 39 AND 40.

Reserves.—The reserves of these bands are on the west and northwest shore of Shoal lake and partly in the province of Manitoba. Their area is 16,205 acres, and they are timbered with spruce, cedar and poplar; there is a considerable amount of good agricultural land on these reserves.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the two bands consists of 32 men, 40 women, 40 boys and 32 girls, making a total of 144. There were 5 births and 5 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band has been good; all the Indians have been vaccinated.

Occupations.—Working in lumber camps and on steamboats, hunting, berry and wild-rice picking are the principal occupations of these Indians. Some few of them have had good gardens of potatoes and other vegetables.

Education.—There is no day school on these reserves, but there is a good boarding school, and most of the children attend this school.

Temperance and Morality.—All these Indians are addicted to the use of intoxicants and, although a strict watch is kept on them, yet they appear to be able to get liquor when they want to do so or have money to pay for it; otherwise they are fairly moral.

NORTH-WEST ANGLE BANDS, NOS. 33, 34 AND 37.

Reserves.—These bands hold reserves, 33 A, on Whitefish bay, 33 B, at Northwest Angle, 34, on Lake of the Woods, 34 A, on Whitefish bay, 34 B, on Shoal lake, 34 C at Northwest angle ; also 34 C on Lake of the Woods, No. 37 on Big island, 37 Rainy river, 37 A, Shoal lake, 37 B, Northwest angle, Lake of the Woods, and 37 C, at Northwest Angle river, in Manitoba. The combined area is 20,983 acres. On all the reserves there is a quantity of good timber, namely, pine, tamarack, spruce, cedar and poplar.

Vital Statistics.—The combined population of the bands consists of 37 men, 52 women, 31 boys and 42 girls. There were 4 births and 9 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of the Indians has been good ; a few cases of consumption and scrofula exist, which in most instances result fatally. All the Indians have been attended to by Dr. Hanson, and vaccinated.

Occupations.—A number of these Indians put in good gardens with good results. They generally make their living by working in the lumber and mining camps and on steamboats, hunting, fishing, picking berries and wild rice ; and in this way they earn a large amount of money and live well.

Education.—There are no schools on these reserves, as the Indians are very much opposed to having their children educated ; they are particularly opposed to any form of religion. However, some of them have sent their children to the boarding schools at Shoal Lake and Rat Portage.

Religion.—There are 4 Christians and 158 pagans in these bands.

Temperance and Morality.—All these Indians are more or less addicted to the use of intoxicants when they can in any way procure them, but otherwise they are fairly moral and law-abiding.

BUFFALO BAY BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on Buffalo bay, Lake of the Woods, in the province of Manitoba; its area is 5,763 acres, and it is well timbered with different kinds of wood, interspersed with hay meadows and swamps.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 29, consisting of 9 men, 10 women, 8 boys and 2 girls. There were 5 deaths and no births during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band was not good; measles and chicken-pox visited the reserve during the fall and winter, and, although they were attended by the medical officer, yet three or four cases resulted fatally; but with the warm weather these diseases disappeared. All the Indians have been vaccinated, and sanitary precautions are fairly well attended to.

Occupations.—Hunting, fishing, berry and wild rice picking are the principal occupations of this band. A few of them do a small amount of gardening.

Education.—These Indians, being pagans, object to any form of education, and consequently there is no school on the reserve.

Religion.—All these Indians are pagans.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are in the habit of using intoxicants to excess whenever they can procure them, and as they live near the boundary line they can always get liquor at Warroad, on the American side; otherwise they are fairly moral.

BIG ISLAND BAND.

Reserves.—This band has the following reserves allotted to it : 31 A, on Nangashing bay ; 31 B and 31 C, on Lake of the Woods; 31 D, E, F, G and H, on Big island, Lake of the Woods. The combined area is 8,737 acres. These reserves are timbered with a large quantity of merchantable timber and mixed wood, and an immense quantity of dry wood. There are also hay swamps.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 159, as follows : 33 men, 40 women, 50 boys and 36 girls. There were 8 births and 6 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of the band has been good, no epidemic having visited the reserve; all the Indians are vaccinated, and sanitary measures have been fairly well complied with. A few cases of scrofula and consumption exist in the band, for which nothing can be done.

Occupations.—A number of the band have very fair gardens of potatoes and other vegetables; some work in the lumber camps and on the steamers during the summer months, but their principal occupations are hunting, fishing and picking berries and wild rice, in which way they make a good living.

Education.—There is no school on these reserves, as the majority of the Indians are pagans, and very much opposed to having their children educated.

Religion.—There are 152 pagans, 2 Anglicans, 2 Roman Catholics and 3 Presbyterians in this band.

Temperance and Morality.—While the Indians of this band are fairly moral and law-abiding, still they are addicted to the use of intoxicants.

WHITEFISH BAY BAND.

Reserves.—The following reserves have been allotted to this band:—32A, on Whitefish bay; 32B, on Yellow Girl bay; and 32C, on Sabasking bay, the combined area of which is 10,599 acres, all heavily interspersed with good merchantable timber and hay swamps.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 53, as follows:—15 men, 17 women, 7 boys and 14 girls. There were 4 births and 3 deaths in this band during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band has been fairly good. Sanitary measures have been fairly well carried out and all the Indians vaccinated.

Occupations.—Some of these Indians do a little gardening and have also put in a lot of potatoes, but their chief occupations are hunting, fishing and berry-picking.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve, but a number of the children are at the Rat Portage and Shoal Lake boarding schools.

Religion.—There are 10 Roman Catholics, 1 Anglican, 2 Presbyterians and 40 pagans in this band.

Temperance and Morality.—Generally speaking, these Indians are moral, but the majority of them are fond of liquor.

ASSABASKA BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band are nine in number, as follows:—35A, on Nangashing bay; 35B, on Obabeiking bay; 35C, 35D, 35F, 35H, 35J, on Sabasking bay; 35E, Little Grassy river, and 35G, Big Grassy river, are on Lake of the Woods. The combined area is 21,241 acres. All these reserves have a large quantity of merchantable timber on them, and the soil in many places is well adapted for cultivation if properly cleared up.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 147, as follows:—36 men, 41 women, 31 boys and 39 girls. There were 4 births and 8 deaths in this band during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of these Indians has been good, although they were visited by measles and chicken-pox. These, however, have completely disappeared. Sanitary measures have been taken, and all the Indians vaccinated.

Occupations.—Hunting, fishing and berry-picking are their principal occupations. A number of the men are employed by the lumber and mining companies. Their gardens are well cultivated.

Buildings.—The buildings are of log, small but clean and comfortable.

Education.—There is a day school on reserve 35H, with a fair attendance. The teacher is taking considerable interest in his work and making fair progress.

Religion.—There are 142 pagans and 5 Christians in this band.

Temperance and Morality.—The majority of this band are very fond of intoxicants whenever they can possibly get them; on the whole they are fairly moral.

ISLINGTON BAND.

Reserves.—This band has three reserves, as follows:—Islington, on the Winnipeg and White Dog rivers; Swan Lake reserve, on Swan lake; and One Man's Lake reserve. The combined area is 24,899 acres. These reserves are well timbered with tamarack, spruce, jack pine and poplar. The ground is rough and stony; the soil is good, and grain and vegetables can be successfully grown when properly cultivated; there is also a large quantity of hay on these reserves.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 159, as follows:—45 men, 42 women, 40 boys and 32 girls. There were 6 births and 8 deaths.

Health and Sanitation.—There are a number of cases of consumption and scrofula in this band; otherwise the health of the band is good. Sanitary measures have been well attended to, and all the Indians have been vaccinated; their houses are neat and clean, and all necessary precautions have been taken against the spread of disease.

Occupations.—The majority of the men work for the railroad and steamboat companies and as guides to explorers; also at hunting, fishing, picking berries and wild rice. A number of the band put in nice patches of potatoes and vegetable gardens. Their stock is well taken care of; abundance of hay is supplied and good stables.

Buildings.—The buildings are of log, of a good size, well finished, with shingled roofs, and in most cases painted, and present a neat and tidy appearance. Their fields are well fenced, in most cases with barbed wire.

Education.—There is a good day school on this reserve under the auspices of the Church of England. The school was opened in October last, with Mr. D. W. Wood as teacher, and a good attendance, and the pupils are making fair progress.

Religion.—On this reserve there is a nice church built by the Anglican denomination, and services and Sunday school are regularly held. There are 152 Anglicans, 2 Roman Catholics and 5 pagans in the band.

Temperance and Morality.—I regret to say that the majority of this band are both intemperate and immoral to a certain extent, and require to be constantly watched while in town.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The Indians in this agency make a good living by hunting, fishing, berry-picking, cutting cord-wood, working in the lumber and mining camps and as guides and steamboat men. They could save money if they were not so much addicted to the use of intoxicants. There are two Indians of the Islington band who deserve mention; they have been working for the railway survey party. Their names are James Land and Moses Land. The former has $183 and the latter $70 in the Post Office savings bank, and I trust they will continue to put in more.

The principal drawback we have to contend with in this place is the frequent supplying of liquor to Indians by unscrupulous persons, and although several have been severely punished for so doing, still I find it very difficult to suppress this evil, but stringent efforts are being made to do so.

During the year four Indians have been drowned through being intoxicated, and one killed on the railway by accident.

SAVANNE AGENCY.

This agency comprises the following bands, viz.:—Lac des Mille Lacs, Wabigoon, Eagle Lake, Lac Seul, Wabuskang and Grassy Narrows bands.

LAC DES MILLE LACS BAND.

Reserve.—The reserves of this band are 22 A I, on Lac des Mille Lacs, and 22 A 2, on Seine river ; their combined area is 12,227 acres.

Tribe.—All the Indians of this agency belong to the Ojibbewa tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 70, as follows: 11 men, 13 women, 19 boys and 27 girls. There were 3 births and 4 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band has on the whole been good. There has been no epidemic of any kind amongst them. Sanitary measures have been well carried out, and all the Indians vaccinated.

Occupations.—Working at the logging camps and saw-mills, hunting, fishing and picking berries and wild rice are their principal occupations, while a few of them put in gardens and potatoes.

Buildings.—Their buildings are of log, of good size, and well finished. They are fairly well furnished and kept clean and neat.

Stock.—Their stock is in fine order and well cared for, but they have not much.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve, all the Indians being pagans; they are opposed to having their children educated.

Religion.—All these Indians are pagans.

Temperance and Morality.—The morals of the band are very good; no complaints have been received or made against any of them. They will make use of intoxicants whenever they can possibly procure them, but as no liquor is sold in Savanne, the temptation does not often occur. They are law-abiding and civil.

WABIGOON BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on Little Wabigoon lake, the area is 12,872 acres, well timbered with spruce, tamarack and poplar.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 88 as follows: 16 men, 26 women, 20 boys and 26 girls. There was 1 birth and 2 deaths in the band during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—Measles and scarlatina were on the reserve, but without any fatal results; otherwise the health of the band has been good. All the Indians have been vaccinated.

Occupations.—A few of this band put in vegetable gardens and potatoes; some work in the lumber and mining camps, but their principal occupations are hunting, fishing and berry-picking.

Buildings.—Their buildings are of log, and of an inferior class, but clean and comfortable.

Education.—There is a good school on this reserve under the auspices of the Church of England, Mr. Newton being teacher. There is a good attendance, and fair progress is being made by the pupils.

Religion.—There are 83 pagans, 4 Roman Catholics and 1 Anglican in this band.

Temperance and Morality.—While I have not heard any complaint as to their morality, still they are all, both men and women, very much addicted to the excessive use of liquor, which they can procure when visiting the small towns in the vicinity of the reserves, and although several of them have been punished for so doing, yet it appears to have no good effect on the majority of the band.

EAGLE LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the east side of Eagle lake, and contains an area of 8,882 acres. There was a quantity of merchantable timber on this reserve,

which was cut during the winter, and dues amounting to $1,424.28 have been collected and placed to the credit of the band. The soil is of a good quality for roots, grain and vegetables.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 69, as follows: 18 men, 16 women, 20 boys and 15 girls. There were 2 births and 6 deaths in the band during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—Sanitary measures have been carried out, and all the Indians have been vaccinated; consumption and scrofula are the principal diseases these Indians are subject to. The general health has been fair.

Occupations.—Some of the Indians find employment in the lumber camps, but their chief occupations are hunting, fishing and berry-picking, while a few of them have very good gardens and patches of potatoes.

Buildings.—Their buildings are of log, of fair size, and well finished. They are fairly well furnished and clean and comfortable.

Stock.—They are totally destitute of cattle.

Farm Implements.—They have all the implements they require.

Education.—There is no school on the reserve at present, as it had to be closed owing to the lack of interest taken by the Indians in the education of their children.

Religion.—There are 4 Anglicans, 5 Roman Catholics and 60 pagans in the band.

Temperance and Morality.—The majority of this band are much addicted to the abuse of intoxicants, which I am given to understand are frequently supplied them by unscrupulous white men and half-breeds. Their morality is fair.

LAC SEUL BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the southeast shore of Lac Seul or Lonely lake; a fragment of this band known as 'Frenchman's Head,' is situated about fifteen miles south. There is also another fragment of this band on Sawbill lake, four miles north of Ignace station; these have been ordered to return to their reserve, as they have no right there. The Lac Seul reserve has an area of 49,000 acres, the greater portion of which is well timbered with pine, spruce, tamarack, birch and poplar, and a portion of the reserve is well adapted for cultivation. The remainder is rough and stony, with some good hay swamps and meadows.

Vital Statistics.—The combined population of this band is 571, as follows :—130 men, 125 women, 166 boys and 149 girls. There were 19 births and 1 death during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band has been fair, the chief trouble being scrofula and consumption. All the Indians have been vaccinated and all necessary precautions taken against the spread of the disease.

Occupations.—Hunting, fishing, berry-picking, cultivating their gardens, working for the Hudson's Bay Company and travellers, are their principal ways of making a living.

Buildings.—Their buildings are of log, of fair size, well built and the majority with shingled roofs of their own make; they are fairly well furnished and comfortable.

Stock.—Their stock is all in good condition and well cared for both as to stabling and feed.

Education.—The day school at Canoe River has been indefinitely closed owing to lack of pupils. The school at Frenchman's Head was opened on August 11, 1903, with a good attendance ; this, however, has been gradually falling off for the past three months and this school will eventually have to be closed, as, owing to the Indians' mode of life, it is impossible to have a good attendance.

Religion.—There are 428 Anglicans, 102 Roman Catholics and 41 pagans. There is a church at Frenchman's Head, and services are regularly held by a Church of England clergyman, and the Indians attend very regularly.

Temperance and Morality.—The majority of these Indians are addicted to strong drink ; during the winter two persons were punished for supplying them with liquor. They are fairly moral.

WABUSKANG BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on Wabuskang lake, its area being 8,042 acres, timbered with spruce, jackpine, poplar and other species of wood. There are also small hay swamps.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 55, as follows :—11 men, 15 women, 15 boys and 14 girls; there were 2 births and 5 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band has not been a good as could be desired; scarlatina, measles and chicken-pox were prevalent on the reserve for a time, resulting fatally in some cases. Sanitary precautions have been taken and all the Indians vaccinated, and at present their health is good.

Occupations.—Fishing, hunting and picking berries and rice are the principal occupations of this band; a few of them put in a small quantity of potatoes and vegetables.

Education.—There is a school on the reserve, but owing to a very small and irregular attendance, it was closed at the end of the present fiscal year.

Religion.—There are 28 Anglicans, 8 Roman Catholics and 19 pagans in the band.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians of this band are intemperate, and as they frequently visit the towns on the line of the Canadian Pacific railway, they are sure to meet with some one that will procure liquor for them. Their sense of morality is doubtful.

GRASSY NARROWS BAND.

This band is a fragment of the Wabuskang band, but treated separately.

Reserve.—The reserve is situated on the English river ; its area is 10,244 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 119, as follows :—28 men, 32 women, 32 boys and 27 girls. There were 4 births and 4 deaths during the year and 5 joined this band by marriage.

Health and Sanitation.—Sanitary measures have been fairly well carried out ; all rubbish has been raked up and burnt and all Indians have been vaccinated.

Buildings.—Their buildings are small but clean and in a measure comfortable.

Occupations.—There are a number of these Indians working for the railway survey parties and traders and some of them put in good patches of potatoes and vegetable gardens, but their main occupations are fishing, hunting and picking berries and rice, in which they make a good living.

Education.—There is a good school-house on the reserve, but it has been closed for some time, as the attendance was so small and irregular.

Religion.—There are 9 Anglicans, 67 Roman Catholics and 43 pagans in this band.

Temperance and Morality.—A number of these Indians are intemperate whenever they can possibly get liquor; a few of them, however, are temperate. They are law-abiding, civil and in a manner moral.

General Remarks.—I regret to say that I find the Indians of these agencies making but very slow progress; they appear to go on from year to year in the old pagan way. The chief drawback is the liquor question; it makes no difference how strict a watch is kept on them, they appear to have but little trouble to get all they want. During the year several have been punished by imprisonment and fines, yet the traffic goes on. I have had six convictions against whites for supplying liquor to Indians, and three Indians have been convicted before me and quite a number before the police magistrate of the town. It is very difficult to put a stop to this evil, but every effort possible is being made to do so.

During the annuity payments I was assisted by Agent Wright, of Fort Frances agency, and I accompanied him on the payments in his agency, all passing off satisfactorily.

I have, &c.,

R. S. McKENZIE,

Indian Agent.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
LAKE MANITOBA INSPECTORATE,
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, October 1, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to present my seventh annual report upon Indian affairs in this inspectorate during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904, and to the date above mentioned in the present fiscal term.

This inspectorate includes four agencies, namely: Portage la Prairie, Manitowapah, Birtle and the Pas. The first three are in the province of Manitoba, the last in the district of Saskatchewan, with the exception of one band, which takes its annuity at Pelican Narrows, in the district of Athabasca. This band has no regular reserve, but congregates at Pelican Narrows, in unceded territory, once a year to receive its annuities.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE AGENCY.

There are five reserves in this agency, viz.: Long Plain, Indian Gardens, Swan Lake, Roseau and Roseau Rapids.

The population at the latest annuity payment was 427, as compared with 424 last year.

The Indians of this agency are of the Ojibbewa tribe, with a considerable strain of white blood.

LONG PLAIN BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the Assiniboine river, in range 8, townships 9 and 10, west of the first principal meridian, about fifteen miles southwest of Portage la Prairie. The reserve was formerly all heavily timbered, but forest fires at different times have destroyed a considerable area of it. In the valley of the Assiniboine the soil is very productive; on the higher table-lands it is sandy, and not productive except in very favourable seasons. About 140 acres of land is under cultivation.

A branch of the Canadian Northern railway has been completed adjacent to the reserve on the north side, thus giving the band good shipping facilities.

The reserve is valuable on account of its wood; being so close to a good market, ready sale can always be found for this product.

Population.—The population of this band is 131.

Resources and Occupations.—During the spring and summer months the greater part of the male population are engaged as farm labourers in the surrounding districts. Very few of them care to farm on the reserve. During the winter they live

on the reserve, chopping and selling dry wood. They make a very good living all the year round and are quite independent of departmental aid, except a few very aged persons.

They are very improvident, and it matters not how much they make, they spend it as fast as they get is. Repeated efforts have been made to influence them to change their ways, but without avail. They think that as long as they do not trouble the department, they are quite independent of advice. They will have nothing to do with cattle, but are very fond of horses, of which they have a considerable number.

Buildings.—Their dwellings are log shanties made fairly comfortable for winter use. In summer they live mostly in tents.

Religion and Education.—All are pagans ; they will have nothing to do with missionaries or schools. I have to confess that after some seven years' trial I am unable to advance these Indians. I see no future for them; they are utterly depraved, and have no wish or inclination to improve their condition.

INDIAN GARDENS.

This reserve is beautifully situated on the bank of the Assiniboine, and consists of 640 acres, being section 2, township 9, range 9, west of the principal meridian. It is nearly all prairie and well adapted for agricultural purposes. It is the home of Chief Yellow Quill and members of his family. They crop about 150 acres, which looked remarkably well at the time of my inspection, on July 2. This reserve is an auxiliary of the Swan Lake reserve.

SWAN LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the Morris and Brandon branch of the Canadian Northern railway, in township 5, range 11, west of the principal meridian. The railway runs through the reserve, and Indian Springs station and post office are located about the centre. The land is high, rolling prairie, interspersed with poplar and willow bluffs, with extensive hay meadows in the valley of the lake. In every way it is well adapted for mixed farming; the soil is good, with plenty of hay and excellent water.

Population.—The population is 102, including those who reside at Indian Gardens, a decrease of 8 from last year. This decrease is caused by the migration of a number to other reserves.

Progress.—I am pleased to report that this band is making considerable progress. They have improved their dwellings, and a few of them have comfortable houses and outbuildings. This year they have nearly 300 acres under crop, with excellent prospects of an abundant harvest. This band has quite a nice herd of well-bred cattle, and a number of horses. Members of the band, when not engaged at home in farming operations, make considerable as farm labourers in the immediate vicinity. They also derive quite a revenue from the sale of senega-root.

Religion and Education.—A majority of the band are pagans, but are gradually but surely embracing Christianity. This applies more especially to the younger members of the band. Mr. Kemper Garrioch acts as missionary for the Presbyterian Church and also as day-school teacher. Mr. Malcolm Campbell is farm instructor.

Departmental and other Buildings.—The department has a very comfortable log dwelling for the farmer, also stable and granary. A good frame school-house with rooms above for storage. The Presbyterian Missionary Society has built a comfortable house as a residence for the missionary and school teacher.

ROSEAU BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated at the confluence of the Red and Roseau rivers in the famous Red River valley. The soil is a heavy black loam. Wood and hay are abundant, with plenty of open prairie for agricultural purposes.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 194; there were 6 births and 17 deaths (Roseau Rapids reserve included).

Progress.—I cannot report any material progress in this band. With a few exceptions they are a demoralized lot, lazy and indifferent to the future. A few of the younger men are making some progress. My experience with the Indians is that very little can be made of them when surrounded by a community that is considered a little 'tough,' and adjacent to towns and villages. The band put in 125 acres of crop this spring, but owing to the overflow of the Red river, and, continuous rains in June, it was badly damaged. I have not yet received the threshing reports for 1904. They have 40 head of cattle and 26 horses.

Religion and Education.—About a third of the band are Roman Catholics. The rest are pagans. The Roman Catholics have a good church, but no regular missionary. They are visited occasionally by priests from the neighbouring settlements. There is no school on the reserve, and the people do not desire one. The chief and councillors are old style Indians degenerated.

ROSEAU RAPIDS RESERVE.

This reserve contains 2,080 acres, and is situated on the Roseau river about 11 miles from its mouth. This reserve has been enlarged by the purchase, from the capital funds of the band, of 1,280 acres of pasture and hay-land. The old reserve of 800 acres is nearly all grain-land, with plenty of wood in the river valley.

Progress.—This is a more progressive band than the last-mentioned, being surrounded by better farmers. This year they have 107 acres under crop, which promised a beautiful yield at the time of my inspection. They have twenty-nine head of cattle and ten horses. There is plenty of outside labour for all who are able and willing to work at good wages. In fact they derive most of their living in this way, and by digging senega-root.

Religion and Education.—With two or three exceptions they are all pagans, and will not listen to religious instruction. Last year a school-building was erected, and I am pleased to report that it has been well attended and considerable progress made by the pupils.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE SIOUX.

This band numbers about 150. They live on a piece of land containing twenty-six acres, purchased by themselves, situated on the Assiniboine river, within the corporation limits of this town. They are industrious and thrifty. Most of them have good houses and gardens. I regret to say that their village was again this year, as in 1902, inundated by the overflow of the river, causing considerable loss and inconvenience to the band.

They make a comfortable living, the men as farm labourers, and the women at laundry work, &c., in the town.

The mission church in this village is well attended. It is under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. W. A. Hendry, of the Sioux boarding school, acts as missionary. The boarding school continues to do excellent work under the management of Mr. Hendry.

BIRTLE AGENCY.

G. H. Wheatley is agent, S. M. Dickenson, clerk, and E. H. Yeomans, farmer in charge of Sioux work. The agency office is at the town of Birtle, Man.

This agency consists of nine reserves, namely : Rolling River, Keeseekoowinin's, Gambler's, Waywayseecappo's, Valley River, and the Sioux reserves of Birdtail, Oak River, Oak Lake and Turtle Mountain.

ROLLING RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is beautifully situated on the river from which it takes its name, distant about eighteen miles northwest of Minnedosa. The river runs from north to south through the reserve. The land is undulating and in parts is covered with a strong growth of poplar timber.

The soil is a rich black loam, but I should judge that owing to its altitude it would be better adapted for stock-rasing than for grain-growing. It is all right for coarse grains and the harder varieties of vegetables. The crops this year are not very good, the fore part of the season was too dry.

There are a number of small lakes on the reserve, some of them stocked with fish. There are also a number of good hay meadows; the Clanwilliam extension of the Canadian Northern railway runs adjacent to the reserve.

Vital Statistics.—The population at the annuity payments was 97; there were only 2 deaths during the year.

Progress.—As it was my first visit to this band, I cannot say much about its progress. I was much impressed by the superior class of dwellings. This year they have 116 acres under crop, mostly oats and garden truck. They have about seventy head of cattle and sixty horses.

Religion and Education.—Dr. Gilbart is in charge of mission work for the Presbyterian Church. He also attends to their medical requirements. I regret to say that the missionary reports very little progress in his work. Results may be better than he anticipates.

Education is sadly neglected. There is no day school on the reserve, and only one child from the reserve attending the boarding school at Birtle. The band has no chief or council. This may account for the small degree of interest taken in education by the members of the band. My experience is that a good chief and council are a great factor in school matters. The missionary has a comfortable house at the south end of the reserve, and appears to be engrossed in his work.

Health.—The general health of the band is good. They are all well clothed and present a robust appearance.

KEESEEKOOWININ'S OR RIDING MOUNTAIN BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the Little Saskatchewan river, in the Riding Mountain district, about twelve miles from Strathclair station, on the M. & N. W. railway. A branch of the Canadian Northern railway has been graded by the reserve and was expected to be in operation this fall.

The soil is first-class and well adapted for mixed farming. There is considerable hay-land, but not sufficient for increased herds of cattle. Additional hay-lands are desirable. There is sufficient wood for the requirements of the Indians.

Vital Statistics.—The population at the last annuity payments was 133; there were 6 births and 7 deaths.

Progress.—I should judge that this band is making considerable progress. The houses as a general thing are good, and the Indians present a thrifty appearance. This year they have 175 acres under crop. They have 168 head of cattle and 60 horses. The band is almost entirely self-supporting.

Religion and Education.—Rev. Mr. Macalister (Presbyterian) is the missionary teacher. I regret that he was absent from home at the time of my visit. I understand that nominally the members of his band are all Christians. Religious services are held in the school-house. The missionary has a very comfortable dwelling on the reserve.

I understand that the day school is fairly well attended, and that considerable progress is being made by the pupils. I am sorry that Mr. Macalister was away. I should have liked to inspect the school. This band sends seven pupils to outside institutions for education.

GAMBLER'S RESERVE.

This reserve is situated on Silver creek, five miles from the village of Binscarth, and contains 820 acres of beautiful farming land. There is only one family resident on the reserve, that of John Tanner. This man is a very progressive farmer and has everything around him that is to be found amongst our best white farmers ; fine crop of eighty-one acres ; twenty-five head of cattle, eight good farm horses, full line of agricultural implements, hogs, poultry, &c. He has comfortable dwelling and outbuildings, and is part owner of a valuable syndicate stallion. It seems an absurdity to class this man as a treaty Indian.

WAYWAYSEECAPPO'S BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the Birdtail creek about eighteen miles northeast of Birtle. It is the largest reserve in this agency. It contains 25,000 acres. It has a population of 169. This reserve is particularly well adapted for stock-raising. There is wild hay in plenty, and the grazing on the high land is first-class. It is a rolling prairie, with scattered ponds, small lakes and bluffs of willow and poplar.

Progress.—Farming is carried on in a very small way, and from my own observation I do not think that the band is making very gratifying progress. They have not nearly the number of cattle that they should have, considering their advantages in this respect. Their dwellings are comfortable and the Indians appear satisfied with their present condition. This year they have 72 acres under crop and garden ; 110 cattle and 41 horses.

VALLEY RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the Kamsack branch of the Canadian Northern railway, forty-three miles west of the town of Dauphin. Strevel station is located on the reserve. The Valley river runs through it. The soil in parts is stony and gravelly. There is plenty of good land for agricultural purposes ; fairly well wooded with spruce, poplar and tamarack. Forest fires have destroyed considerable timber. There is not much hay-land.

Vital Statistics.—The population was 75 at the last annuity payments. There were 2 births and 7 deaths during the year.

Progress.—The band appears to be progressive. As yet these Indians have done but little farming. The able-bodied male population make good wages as lumbermen and river-drivers. They also do a great deal of hunting. The houses are good and are kept very clean and neat. A few of them have good gardens of potatoes and other vegetables. This year they have only three acres under cultivation. They have seventy-five head of cattle and thirty-two horses.

Education and Religion.—There is no school on the reserve. Five pupils from this band are sent to boarding schools. In religion these Indians are almost equally divided among Presbyterians, Roman Catholics and pagans, the first slightly predominating. I understand that no regular mission work is done on this reserve.

SIOUX OF BIRTLE AGENCY.

These embrace the Oak River, Oak Lake, Birdtail and Turtle.

The small reserve at Turtle mountain I have not yet visited since it was added to my inspectorate.

The three bands visited are making excellent progress, the thrifty appearance of the Indian, excellent houses and stables, good horses, well-bred cattle, and large stock of up-to-date farm implements, was a revelation to me, so different from the Saulteaux and Cree reserves that I am more familiar with. These Indians may be said to be almost self-sustaining. They do not receive annuity, and get very little aid from the department in other ways. The reserve at Oak River is the banner one, and under the excellent management of Mr. E. H. Yoemans, as farm instructor, is making rapid progress. Birdtail is a close second, and Oak River is not far behind.

All are situated in good agricultural districts, and the Indians vie with their white brothers in their farming operations. Under a little supervision by the department, I am of the opinion that the future of these bands is assured. They have settled down to agricultural pursuits in a manner that almost warrants success. It is on these reserves that the training of industrial and boarding schools is most apparent. Many of the younger generation now at work on the reserves received their idea of thrift and agricultural knowledge at these institutions, besides having been taught a knowledge of English, reading and writing, the possession of which is invaluable to them.

To give an idea of the advanced condition of some of these Indians, I have only to state that I found in several houses copies of weekly newspapers, subscribed for by the occupants. This is surely keeping abreast of the times.

Religion and Education.—On the Oak River reserve the Church of England has a church and dwelling for the missionary. Services are held every Sunday. The young men of the band have a live Young Men's Christian Association. There is an excellent school-house on the reserve, but I understand it was closed a few years ago for lack of attendance. Elkhorn industrial and Birtle boarding school, recruit largely from these reserves. At Birdtail and Oak Lake the Presbyterians have churches with regular services. At Birdtail reserve the Indian women have a branch of the Presbyterian Foreign Missionary Society, and I am informed that they contributed the sum of $60 last year to the Society. The money was raised principally by the sale of beadwork.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the four reserves is about 400, of which more than one-half reside at Oak River.

MANITOWAPAH AGENCY.

The total population of this agency is 1,364; during the year there were 59 births and 32 deaths.

As the physical conditions are so similar in the different reserves of this agency, I shall report on them as a whole, and not individually, as has been done with regard to the other agencies.

There are ten reserves in this agency, viz: Sandy Bay, situated on the west side of Lake Manitoba; Lake Manitoba reserve, on the east side of the lake, 20 miles northeast from Sandy Bay reserve; Ebb and Flow reserve, on the lake of the same name at the northeast corner of Lake Manitoba; Little Saskatchewan reserve on Sandy bay, Lake St. Martin; Lake St. Martin reserve on Lake St. Martin; Crane River reserve at the junction of Crane river with Lake Manitoba; Waterhen reserve, at the south end of Waterhen lake; Pine Creek reserve, on the west side of Lake Winnipegosis; and Shoal River reserve, at the mouth of Shoal river, where it empties into Dawson bay, Lake Winnipegosis.

The Indians of this agency are all Saulteaux, except a few Crees at Shoal River. They may all be classified as Lake Indians, making the principal part of their living by fishing and hunting and as labourers at the gypsum mines.

There is very little agricultural land on any of the reserves. Wild hay is plentiful, and each band has quite a large herd of cattle, in which they are taking more and more interest. They also have excellent gardens of potatoes and other vegetables.

During the past year Lake Manitoba and Lake Winnipegosis and their tributary waters have lowered considerably, much to the benefit of the reserves. For several years past these lakes have been so high that most of these reserves have been partly inundated, greatly to the detriment and discomfort of the Indians.

Progress.—I cannot report progress very marked, but they are certainly advancing. They are becoming more self-reliant and independent year by year; their houses and outbuildings are better, they are better clothed and fed and in every year more advanced in the arts of civilization. For Indians who will not abandon the old modes of life to become agriculturists the agency is ideal. They need never go hungry if they will take the trouble to set their nets.

Religion and Education.—The Indians of this agency are mostly christianized. The denominations represented are the Church of England, Roman Catholic and Baptist. They are represented as follows: Roman Catholics, 660; Anglicans, 500; Baptists, 63; pagans, 141. The Roman Catholics have churches at Sandy Bay, Lake Manitoba, Waterhen River and Pine Creek reserves. The Anglicans have churches at Fairford and Little Saskatchewan, and Shoal River reserves. The Baptists have missions at Lower Fairford and Lake St. Martin. On the other reserves the services are held in the school-houses.

There are schools in operation on all the reserves but Crane River. It was found necessary to close this school through lack of attendance. All are day schools except Pine Creek, which has a boarding school. A boarding school with accommodation for one hundred pupils is now being erected on Sandy Bay reserve, and it is expected to be opened this fall. Of the ten schools now open, five are Roman Catholic and five are Protestant.

PAS AGENCY.

I have just returned from my annual trip of inspection to the reserves and bands of this agency.

Reserves.—A marked similarity exists between all the reserves of the agency. The agency consists of seven reserves, viz.: Grand Rapids, Chemawawin, Moose Lake, the Pas, Shoal Lake, Red Earth, and Cumberland. In addition to these, payments are made at Pelican Narrows to a band of Indians in unceded territory in the district of Athabasca. All the reserves of the agency are situated on the lower Saskatchewan river, or waters tributary thereto. This section of the district of Saskatchewan contains little or no agricultural lands, but is ideal for Indians who have no inclination to change their mode of life by assuming the white man's ways. Fish, water-fowl, and fur-bearing animals are still abundant. The Indian leads a careless indolent life, and it requires but little exertion on his part to provide for the simple requirements of his family. The life he leads is anything but conducive to thrift, and the development of those qualities which go to build up a vigorous, independent manhood. Transportation is all by water during the open season, and by dog train in the winter. Some of the bands have a few cattle. I regret to say that these herds have become very much depleted during the last few years, owing to the abnormally high water of the Saskatchewan, which overflowed the whole country, flooding the hay swamps to such a degree that it was impossible to provide sufficient hay to keep the cattle alive. I am pleased to be able to say that this year the waters have receded to their normal level, and it is hoped that they will not rise sufficiently to menace the herds of the people for a good many years to come.

The loss of cattle is not of so much consequence in this agency as it is in some others, for the reason that they are too far from market to dispose of them, and as a food-supply to the owners, of little value in a country where moose, bear and fish are so plentiful. They do not make butter and only a few of them use milk. As a matter of fact, they would not raise cattle at all if it were not their desire to please the department, for whose desires and wishes they appear to have the most profound respect.

Progress.—As in the former agency, the Indians are making gradual progress. They are improving their dwellings year by year, and furnishing them with more comforts of life. It should be remembered that they do not live on the reserves all the time; in fact, not more than half the time. They go away long distances, taking their families with them, on hunting trips, and are sometimes away months at a time.

The Pas band is an example to the other bands of the agency.

This reserve is the agency headquarters, and also the centre of mission work in the district. It is the largest band in the agency, and the paragon to which the other bands look for an example.

This year, at the urgent request of the Pas band, the department purchased for them a saw mill, the Indians agreeing to pay a third of the cost, which amounted to $600. They were to pay one-sixth this year, and the balance next year by an equal assessment on their annuity money. This assessment amounted to 14 per cent of their annuity, and I am pleased to report that it was paid without one dissenting voice. It is expected that the mill will be of great benefit to them, and the surrounding bands. It will be in operation next spring. Heretofore they have had to whipsaw all the lumber they used.

Religion and Education.—The bands of this agency are nominally all Christians of the Church of England, except the Pelican Narrows band, which is about two-thirds Roman Catholic, and one-third Anglican. They are a law-abiding, moral people. Serious crime is almost unknown. Previously to last year there had been little trouble with them through the use of liquor. I am informed that during last winter the fishermen operating on Cedar and Moose lakes took in liquor at different times, and a few of the Indians were supplied with it. The agent made an investigation, but could not get sufficient evidence to make a conviction. Again at Cumberland, there is a large half-breed population engaged as boatmen during the summer months. The route is from Prince Albert down to Cumberland and the Pas. These men sometimes bring down liquor, and give, or sell it to the Indians. But in both cases I found the reports exaggerated. However, it might be well to station a small detachment of police at Cedar Lake and Moose Lake reserves during the winter months to protect the Indians. The winter fishing on these lakes has become quite extensive, and the men engaged in the work are naturally inclined to the use of liquor. If unchecked, and the Indians once acquire the habit or appetite, it is hard to say what the consequences may be. The Church Missionary Society maintains ordained missionaries at Cumberland, the Pas, Chemawawin, and Grand Rapids, and lay readers at the other three reserves. They have churches at all the reserves, and hold services, which are well attended. Each reserve has its day school; of the utility of these in most cases, I am somewhat doubtful. If the idea is to teach the children the English language, they are a decided failure. It is Cree, first, last and always, except a little parrot English in the class-room, Cree is the language of the country. An exception to this may be taken at the Pas reserve, where I do think they understand a little English, but it is almost impossible to get any of them to give expression to it. Mr. R. A. McDougall, the teacher of this school, is indefatigable in his efforts to promote the use of English outside the school. If the missionaries would exercise the same zeal in their work, it would be easier for the teachers. Instead of this, they consider it their duty to master the Cree and to use it on all possible occasions when talking to Indians. This, I consider is a great mistake. The Indians will never become truly enlightened, loyal subjects, until they can understand the language of the country. They look on all white men with suspicion and distrust, and cannot believe the most benevolent action is disinterested. As for gratitude or thankfulness for a favour received from the department, or other sources, it is out of the question; everything is accepted as a matter of course, and they think much more is coming to them.

Vital Statistics.—The total population at the last annuity payment, 1903, was 1,441; and there had been 66 births and 49 deaths.

I regret that I have not yet secured the above statistics for 1904, but the proportions will be about the same.

The past year has been uneventful in this inspectorate. The general health in all agencies has been good. There have been no serious cases of crime. In Portage la Prairie and Birtle agencies the use of intoxicants has caused considerable trouble. I see no remedy for this while the liquor traffic continues in the country. If liquor is to be bought, and the Indian wants it, he will find a way to get it in spite of the most careful watching, fines and imprisonment notwithstanding. I see no way of remedying this evil, all we can do is to try to minimize it.

I have one very gratifying matter to report, that is, the marked decrease of tubercular diseases among the Indians, more particularly in the Manitowapah agency, and in a lesser degree in the Pas agency.

Last year it was apparent, this year it is striking. I can only account for this desirable condition by the fact that the Indians, owing to the prosperous times, have been living much better the last few years than formerly, and under better sanitary conditions, a diet composed of more vegetables; and to less intermarriage.

Materially all the Indians of this inspectorate are prosperous. They are almost self-sustaining. The only assistance in the shape of food or clothing, is to a few very aged and sick.

A few implements are also supplied, but the quantity is being reduced year by year.

During the past three months, I have visited every reserve and band of annuitants in the inspectorate, and I am glad to report the work accomplished.

I have, &c.,

S. R. MARLATT,
Inspector of Indian Agencies.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
LAKE WINNIPEG AND RAT PORTAGE INSPECTORATE,
STONEWALL, MAN., September 15, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—In submitting my second annual report of inspection, I have the honour to be again able to congratulate the department upon the great prosperity and feeling of contentment which prevail among the Indians of the Clandeboye and Norway House agencies.

The demand for labour by the various fish companies still keeps up, and all the Indians wanting work have no trouble in getting employment, either at day work or work at the fishing themselves, and sell to the companies at so much per fish. Fish of all kinds have been very plentiful this season, and the Indians have been making large wages and will continue to do so while the season lasts.

The winter demand for Indian labour during the past season was good and a very large number of the younger men got good wages from all the different lumber companies that are operating around Lake Winnipeg. This work started last year in November and lasted till April. A large number of Indians are employed in chopping cord-wood, one firm on Snake Island employs about twenty the year round in getting out wood to supply the steamboat lines. All the hunters of the various reserves also

report a fair catch of fur, during the past winter, though the prices were lower than usual.

As requested by the department, I made the annuity payments in the Norway House agency, assisted by the new agent, the Rev. Neil Gilmour, and in doing so came into contact again with all the Indians of the agency, and in general am able to report that all the Indians are well dressed in civilized attire, and evidently have been well fed during the past year judging by their appearance, also there were no complaints as to shortage of food. I held a council or band meeting on all the reserves, and found that only in some minor matters were there any complaints, the one general complaint being the taking away of the provisions they received at treaty time for about twenty years and which they say were promised them should continue as long as the sun shines and the water runs.

NORWAY HOUSE AGENCY.

This agency is partly in the province of Manitoba and partly in the district of Keewatin. It consists of eleven reserves, of which Black River, Hollowwater River, Bloodvein River, Fisher River, Jackhead River, Berens River and Little Grand Rapids, are in the province of Manitoba, and, with the exception of the last named, at or near the shores of Lake Winnipeg; Little Grand Rapids reserve is situated on the Berens river, about 120 miles east of the mouth. Pekangekum, Poplar River, Norway House, and Cross Lake reserves are in the district of Keewatin. Poplar River reserve is situated on Lake Winnipeg. Norway House and Cross Lake reserves are situated on the Nelson river, the first named about twenty miles from its rise and Cross Lake, about eighty miles. Pekangekum reserve is situated about two hundred miles inland from the mouth of the Berens river, and is a most difficult reserve to get at for the annuity payment. The area of the named reserves is about 58,000 acres, and is a very poor district for farming with the exception of the Fisher River reserve, which is on Fisher bay and has a lot of excellent land on the reserve. Notwithstanding the poor character of all the other reserves, good land can be found on all of them more than sufficient to furnish good gardens to each of the Indian families residing thereon.

BLACK RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve belonging to this band is on the east shore of the lake, where the Black river empties into the lake. There is a great deal of swamp and rock, but all over can be found patches of fairly good land which are or can be used for gardens; as a rule, where the bush is cleared off the land is good. There is a considerable amount of good timber (spruce) on this reserve which can be utilized for lumber. The area of this reserve is about 2,000 acres.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are nearly all Ojibbewas, their language is also the same as in the adjoining Clandeboye agency.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band at last treaty payment was 64, made up as follows: 15 men, 19 women, 15 boys, and 15 girls. There were 2 deaths (1 woman and 1 boy) and 5 births (3 boys and 2 girls).

Health and Sanitation.—The health on this reserve has been good during the year, and the doctor reports the band as being healthy and only suffering from minor ailments.

Resources and Occupations.—A number of Indians of this band worked for the fishing companies, principally in catching fish, for which they receive a price fixed by the companies, which send a tug around to collect the fish. The men work in the bush during the winter at the lumber camps, and make quite a lot of money in this way. This cannot be called an employment that is likely to be permanent, as the timber is being cut so fast that the work will be done in a very few years in this particular

locality. Very little gardening is done on this reserve, a few potatoes, not nearly enough for the band consumption. They have a few head of cattle and look after them well. They catch some game, which helps to keep the pot boiling.

Buildings.—Their houses are made of spruce and poplar logs, sometimes hewed inside and out; they are chinked and plastered on the outside with mud and an occasional one with lime plaster; they are also as a rule plastered inside between the logs. With a good stove these houses are very comfortable. On this reserve there is very little provision for wintering cattle, the stables being small anl poor. The school-building is good and the teacher reports it as being very comfortable in the winter.

Stock.—They keep very few cattle on this reserve, pasture and hay being scarce; what they have, the chief informed me, are in good order. The Indians on this reserve are within easy reach of cattle; if they would only make an effort, save their money and buy some cows, they would soon increase their stock.

Farm Implements.—They have as many implements as they require to work the very small area of land under cultivation.

Education.—There is a day school on the reserve, taught by George Slater, an Indian who was educated at St. John's College, Winnipeg, and is doing fairly well. The attendance during the summer months is very poor, but increases well after winter sets in.

Religion.—The members of this band are nearly all Anglicans, the few outside that church being pagans. There is a church on the reserve, at which there is a good attendance at times.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians on this reserve are an honest and fairly moral people who try to do by their neighbours as they would be done by. They are not making much progress, but seem satisfied in holding their own.

Temperance and Morality.—The members of this band do not get a great quantity of liquor, though an occasional bottle reaches the reserve; though knowing the evils resulting from the use of whisky, they find it hard to resist taking a drink if it is afforded to them. Their morals among themselves are as good as in the average white settlement.

General Remarks.—At the council meeting, they had no new complaints to make, having had peace and quietness during the year. They were much pleased to see the mounted police, which they thought showed the interest the government is taking in the Indians.

HOLLOWWATER RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the Wanipigow or Hollowwater river, which flows into Lake Winnipeg on the east shore not far from Black island. As usual on the east shore of this lake, it is mostly granite rock, swamp, and bush. There is a lot of scrub timber growing on the rocky parts in the depressions. Where not under water, there is as a rule a good growth of white poplar and birch timber, and where the white poplar is found the land is good for gardens when cleared and cultivated. The area of the reserve is 3,316 acres.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are a branch of the Ojibbewas, and speak the same language.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band at the last treaty payment was 103, consisting of : 23 men, 28 women, 30 boys and 22 girls. There were 4 deaths (4 boys) and 7 births (3 boys and 4 girls) during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of the band is good. Of the four deaths during the year, three were infants who had never received treaty money. Sanitation is good, the people for six months of the year live in tents and in consequence get plenty of fresh air.

Resources and Occupations.—Fishing in the summer and hunting in the fall, winter and spring take up most of their time, and as well quite a number of the

younger men work in the logging camps during the winter months. They are valued by the lumber companies and are in great demand. Only a few of the band grow any potatoes. One Indian, in answer to the inquiry why he did not grow potatoes, said that he and the family were nearly always away during the growing season and he could buy potatoes cheaper than he could raise them. Fish have been plentiful during the past season and all that the Indians catch can be disposed of by them at good prices. They get flour and other provisions at a reasonable rate from the fish and lumber companies.

Buildings.—The houses are in good condition, being nearly all built of logs, and a number of them have shingled roofs and board floors. The school-house is a very good comfortable building and is a credit to the reserve. The stables and out-buildings are of logs and of a very primitive appearance, only a few of the Indians having any stock.

Stock.—There are a few cows on the reserve and the Indians intend to get enough hay to keep them through the winter.

Farm Implements.—They have all the implements they want and they are kept out of doors in the weather. I have pointed out to them the benefit of putting their tools under cover.

Education.—They have a fairly good school on the reserve and the teacher, Mr. Sinclair, says the only difficulty is the irregular attendance. Mr. Sinclair is not in good health, he is getting old and is thinking of quitting the work, which will be quite a loss to the band.

Religion.—All the people of this band are Anglicans, and Mr. Sinclair, the school teacher, holds the Sunday services, and acts as missionary for that church.

Characteristics and Progress.—These people are making slow but sure progress, every year one can see some little improvement, more particularly in the appearance of the younger people. They are also improving in thir methods of housekeeping, most of the houses being neat and tidy. They are a people easily satisfied, and make little or no complaint when provisions have been plentiful as they have been during the past year.

Temperance and Morality.—This band impressed me very much, as being a sober and moral people. Having a resident missionary of the Church of England, has helped a good deal to civilize this band of Indians. Mr. Sinclair, the missionary teacher, reports a good attendance at all the religious services.

BLOODVEIN RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the Bloodvein river, just northeast of the narrows of Lake Winnipeg, and is very low and swampy where the treaty payments are made, nothing but rock and water in sight. Accompanied by the new agent, Mr. Gilmour, and Councillor Fisher, I made a trip up the Bloodvein river, to take a look over the reserve, and we found that as one gets away from the mouth of the river, the rocks disappear and good land and bush take their place. The Indians are also trying to improve the looks of the reserve, by making some clearings on the bank of the river. The area of the reserve is 3,369 acres.

Tribe.—The Indians are of the same tribe as the Hollowwater River and Jackhead River bands, and at one time there was a chief for three reserves, but at the present time they have only a councillor for each of the bands.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band at the last treaty payment was 57, made up as follows: 10 men, 23 women, 15 boys and 9 girls. There were 3 deaths (2 boys and 1 girl) and 2 births (both girls) during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band was very good during the year, very little sickness was reported to the doctor.

Resources and Occupations.—Hunting and fishing are the main sources of revenue. There is a good deal of fur still to be had by the hunter in the country east

of Lake Winnipeg, and tributary to this reserve, and full advantage is taken of it by the Indians. Some of the men also work for the fish companies during the summer months, and in the winter a few go into the camps where the logging is done, as a rule taking their families with them. It seems almost impossible to get these people to raise vegetables ; on making inquiry as to the reason, they say it would not pay them to stay away from the work they can get for the sake of raising a few potatoes. They very often plant potatoes, but do not stay at home to attend to them, and in consequence their small garden plots are all grown up in weeds. They have no stock whatever on this reserve. Two or three new houses are being built, which is furnishing some little occupation to members of the band.

Buildings.—All the houses on this reserve are built of logs, with thatched roofs, and can be made very comfortable in the winter. The school-building is a very good one, and the teacher and his family also live in it, having their cook-stove in the school-room.

Stock.—No cattle or horses are owned by the Indians of this band ; they express a desire to have some, but so far have not been able to secure any, owing to the expense of getting them to the reserve.

Farm Implements.—They have all the implements necessary for the small quantity of land they have under cultivation. They consist of the small tools such as grub-hoes, rakes, spades, garden-hoes, &c.

Education.—There is a school now on the reserve taught by an educated Indian named Jerry Rundle ; he is from the Fisher River band, and is doing fairly well considering the irregular attendance. This teacher was sent by the Methodist Church of Canada, and conducts services for that denomination.

Religion.—The greater number of this band are very indifferent about the Christian religion, but now that they have a native Methodist missionary living among them, it is expected that they will quit their pagan habits, and most of them will join that church. Mr. Rundle reported that quite an interest was taken in all the services held by him.

Characteristics and Progress.—The members of this band are making very little progress, they are about holding their own, and appear perfectly satisfied with that. They are an honest, law-abiding people, and from all the indications wish to provide well for their families.

Temperance and Morality.—There are a number of the Indians of this band who have no idea of morality, from the civilized standpoint, and when they are tempted, cannot say no, and the consequence is, living as near as they do to a floating white population, there will be more or less immorality for some time yet.

FISHER RIVER BAND.

Reserve.— This reserve is located on the Fisher river, which empties into Fisher bay, a large bay on the west shore of Lake Winnipeg, and just north of what is known as the narrows of that lake. The reserve extends from near the bay inland for several miles on both sides of the river, and is a very good location for mixed farming. The land will grow any kind of grain or vegetable that can be grown in the province of Manitoba ; the only drawback being that when the water is high in the lake, it floods their hay-land, which lies at the lower part of the reserve, near the lake. In 1879, on July 17, I was on this reserve and saw a small field of wheat fully headed out, and four feet high ; we also had potatoes from Chief Rundle's garden which were as large as a cricket ball. The area of the reserve is about 9,000 acres.

Tribe.—All the Indians of this band are Crees, they originally came to this reserve from the territory surrounding Norway House, and are related to that band.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the band at the last treaty payment was 388, consisting of 94 men, 105 women, 97 boys, and 92 girls; there were 21 deaths (3 men, 3 women, 9 boys, and 6 girls) and 23 births (10 boys and 13 girls) during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band is fairly good, they lost a number during the year, but still there was no epidemic of any sort, just the ordinary ail-

ments that afflict all sorts and conditions of people. The houses are kept very neat and clean, and show the effect of the education that the young people are getting, the houses are as well ventilated as the average house in the newer white settlements.

Resources and Occupations.—Nearly all the younger members of this band are working out with the numerous fish and lumber companies that are operating on and around this lake. They are earning a large amount of money, which they are spending for clothes and provisions for themselves and families. There is no scarcity of work, and as long as the fish and lumber lasts, this band will have no trouble in making a living. Till that time arrives, there will be great difficulty in getting them to take very much interest in their gardens on in their stock. There are a few exceptions on the reserve who are making a living by farming, and these people are doing well; they have a lot of good stock and comfortable barns to house them in. Mosquitoes and a fly called the 'bulldog,' are very bad here during the summer months, and will be till the members of the band get more land cleared up. There are a number of very good hunters, who make a good deal of money out of the fur they catch in the fall and winter months.

Buildings.—Nearly every family on this reserve has a good log house, and both sides of the river for several miles are thickly covered with houses and stables, which present a very nice appearance, as most of them are whitewashed on the logs.

Stock.—In the aggregate they have a large number of horses and cattle, and now the complaint is that it will not be long before they will have trouble in securing enough hay to feed them. They have made a request of the government for some hay-ground which adjoins their reserve to the west.

Implements.—They have ploughs, harrows, and all sorts of smaller garden tools in great plenty, and as well some mowers and hay-rakes. In nearly every instance the implements while not in use are out in the weather, notwithstanding it has been pointed out to them again and again, the damage that accrues to all such tools.

Education.—There is a good school on this reserve, and it is attended by all the children on the reserve at some time or other during the year; the trouble is the irregular attendance, the parents having to go away owing to their engagements working out, take the family with them, and the children are only sent to school when the parents are at home, and not always then. The holidays being on at the time of my visit, and the teacher away, I had no chance this year to see whether there was any improvement over the last visit.

Religion.—Nearly all the members of the band belong to the Methodist Church. There is a large church and parsonage, centrally situated with a fine site on the banks of the river, near the first rapids, the point where navigation by lake boats ceases. This mission is in charge of the Rev. E. R. Steinhauer, who has been stationed here by the Methodist Church of Canada. He speaks the Indian language fluently, and has from all appearances a great influence for good on this reserve. Mr. Steinhauer also has charge of the medicines, and does the dispensing. Dr. Anderson, (acting for Dr. Jamieson) left him a supply of medicines sufficient, under ordinary circumstances, to last till next treaty payment.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians of this band are of a good stamp, religious and law-abiding; they have some weaknesses, but will average high for an Indian population; they are also an industrious and fairly hard-working people, all of them seem to have work to do. They are making a good deal of progress in a good many directions, building new houses, and getting more land under cultivation, though they do not pay that attention to their gardens that should be given. This is one of the reserves where a competent farm instructor could do a great work, if the right man could be obtained.

Temperance and Morality.—Considering their many opportunities to get liquor, these people are of a very temperate character; there are a great many industries where white men are employed in their immediate vicinity, and in consequence more or less liquor gets into their reserve. Several of the Indians have told me that they

are temperance men, and on all occasions where it is offered to them refuse to touch or taste.

With regard to morals, I am able to report that the members of the band generally are moral with some few exceptions; the Indians feel very bad when any lapses are reported at the council meetings, and wish the guilty persons punished.

General Remarks.—There is a resident trader on the reserve, who sells goods to the Indians at a reasonable price. He reports that the Indians are very good pay when he lets them have any goods on credit. Since my previous visit, the late chief, David Rundle, has died and all the responsibility of looking after the affairs of the band is resting upon the shoulders of Henry Coustatak, the only councillor belonging to this band.

JACKHEAD BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve for this band is situated on a small river of the same name, about forty miles north of Fisher river on the west side of Lake Winnipeg. A good deal of the land is low, but there is plenty of high land to give each head of a family enough for a large garden, and also, if he so desires, a good big field of grain; all it requires is to be cleared of the bush that grows thereon. There is a great plenty of wood suitable for building purposes, and also for fire-wood.

Tribe.—This is a portion of the band living at Hollowwater River and Bloodvein, and speak the same language (Saulteaux). This band has no chief.

Vital Statistics.—The population at the last treaty payment consisted of 16 men, 21 women, 20 boys and 8 girls, making a total of 65. There were 4 deaths (3 boys and 1 girl), and 2 births (both boys) during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band in the course of the past year has been very good, just the ordinary ailments, colds, rheumatism, &c. The question of sanitation is not considered very important, as for seven or eight months the Indians live in tents, and have for that time at least plenty of fresh air, and when they do live in their houses, as a usual thing there is good ventilation through the cracks left open.

Resources and Occupations.—The Indians of this band live principally by hunting and fishing, there is a large section of unoccupied government land situated adjacent to the reserve to the west, and it is one of the best hunting regions left in the province, in the woods can be found all sorts of game, both large and small; it is a well watered country, so every species of fur can be caught. A number of families from this band are at the present time cutting cord-wood on an island (Snake) about thirty miles southeast of the reserve; they are cutting at so much the cord, for a firm that contracts to supply wood to the different steamboat companies which navigate Lake Winnipeg. The man in charge at the island informs me that they give work for the year round to a large number of the Indians who live on the adjacent reserves.

Buildings.—There are a number of very comfortable log houses on this reserve, they are neatly built and are quite warm in the winter-time. Their school-building is log, plastered inside and out with mud. I was there the day after a heavy rain, and the building was in a very bad condition, floors all over mud, which had been washed out of the cracks. I advised them to try and get some lime and make a decent job of the school-building.

Stock.—They keep a few cattle, but do not depend much upon this branch of industry; hay is scarce and hard to get, which prevents their making much of an effort to increase their herd. What cattle they have are in fine order, in fact rolling fat.

Farm Implements.—The members of this band have very few implements, and do not require many, except of the smaller kind. They claim that a plough is coming to them from one of the Fisher River band, and the new agent has promised to look into the matter.

Education.—There is a teacher now on the reserve, which is satisfactory to the councillor and band. I went over to the school with the teacher, Louis Larond, and looked over the register. There are enough children on the reserve to make a good school, but owing to the nomadic habits of the people, the attendance is poor. We arrived at this reserve on Friday evening and left on Sunday morning, so I had no opportunity to examine the children; the teacher reports that those who attend regularly are doing well.

Religion.—The school teacher, who is a student from St. John's College, holds an Anglican service every Sunday, and reports some interest; but as at least half of the people are pagan, the attendance is small.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians of this band are an intelligent and fairly bright people, who think they have a good reserve, and would welcome an addition to their numbers, if it could be arranged by the department. They are not making very much progress at present, but are just about holding their own, they are making a good living, and have plenty of provisions, and are well clothed.

Temperance and Morality.—Nothing much can be said against their temperance, very little liquor gets to this reserve in the summer-time, and in the winter an odd bottle gets in because the reserve is on the line of travel for the men who are freighting fish; but the Indians as a rule are not looking for liquor, and do not get very much. Their morals are fair, and no complaints were made to me by any one at this visit.

BERENS RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the Berens river, near where it empties into Lake Winnipeg. It is a very rocky and bold-looking country on the banks of the river, but half a mile back from the river the land gets low and swampy, and nearly all the country is covered with a heavy growth of small timber, poplar, spruce, birch and tamarack. As a rule where one finds the poplar bush, the land is good, and when it is cleared off it makes as good a garden plot as could be desired. The area of the reserve is 7,400 acres.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are of the Ojibbewa tribe, and speak the Saulteaux language.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band at last treaty payment was 289, made up as follows : 59 men, 64 women, 97 boys and 69 girls. There were 14 deaths (1 man, 1 woman, 100 boys and 2 girls), and 7 births (5 boys and 2 girls), during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band has been fairly good throughout the year, of the fourteen deaths reported, seven were from drowning, six children and one man, who were drowned by the upsetting of a sail-boat in Lake Winnipeg. They were accompanied by the Rev. J. McLachlan, and the children were on the way to the Brandon industrial school. The chief and band feel very bad over this affliction. The houses on the reserve are very good, and a credit to the owners, who in almost all cases are the builders, they have doors and windows and are well ventilated through chimneys. The chief, Jacob Berens, who is an old and reliable man, tells me that he has impressed on all, the desirability of keeping their houses neat and clean.

Resources and Occupations.—The Indians of this band are doing very little in the way of cultivating the ground, their other occupations seem to take them away from home at the season of the year when they should be at home looking after the garden plot. The fisheries are responsible to a very large extent for this neglect of their gardens ; one Indian told me that it did not pay him to stay at home and bother with a garden, as he could make so much more money in other ways, and he could buy his potatoes in the fall. The chief informs me that as soon as the treaty payment is over, his band scatter in every direction, some of them going to work for the different fish companies, some go inland hunting, not for fur, but simply for game that they eat,

they can get plenty of fish anywhere in the rivers that abound in this country. When I was coming back after paying the Little Grand Rapids band, I met five families of the Berens River band about fifty miles east of their reserve; they were going out to camp for a couple of months, where game could be found easily. There is a Hudson's Bay Company post at the reserve, where the Indians do most of their trading; but Mr. Disbrowe, the officer in charge, tells me that the old system of giving credit at this point has been altogether done away with, the Indians not requiring it now; previously to the treaty payments some of the Indians get a little credit, but it is always paid out of their annuity money.

Buildings.—The houses are extra good on this reserve, the members of the band seem to take a great pride in their houses; when we were going up the river in canoes, the men in our party were telling us who owned the different houses, and when they came to their own, they would say 'That is my house.' Nearly all their buildings are neat and clean-looking. There is a school-building on this reserve newly built just by the old log school. The old building is used by the band for storing their indigent supplies, school biscuits, &c. The new building is well suited for the purpose of teaching, being warm and well lighted, and in a good location on a high bank of the river; it has a fine belt of timber on the north, which is a great shelter in the winter-time. The Methodist Church of Canada has a good church and parsonage at this point, with a resident minister.

Stock.—They have a few head of stock on the reserve, but on account of the difficulty of getting hay, this reserve will never be able to depend much on that branch of industry, a few cows will be kept for milk, but outside of this, very little can be done till some of the swamps on the back parts of the reserve are cleared up, and made into hay-grounds.

Farm Implements.—They have all the implements that they require for the small gardens cultivated.

Education.—They have a very good school, and a competent teacher. She was away at treaty time, the holidays being on, so in consequence I was not able to examine the school. Later when I passed through on my way back from Little Grand Rapids, I saw the teacher, Miss Eliza Postell, who holds a third-class certificate from Ontario. She informed me that she had twenty-five children on the roll, with an average attendance of ten. As on all the other reserves, the irregular attendance is what makes progress poor.

Religion.—More than two-thirds of the members of this band belong to the Methodist Church, the rest being Roman Catholics and pagans. The Methodists have in in the past done a great work at this point, and are doing fairly well at the present time. The Indians of this band with whom I have come in contact, through having them in my employ as canoemen, show the effects of their early religious training, and put to shame a great many of our, so-called, Christian people. Every night before going to their beds, they hold a short service, and have prayer. They appear to think that this is the proper thing to do and have no hesitancy in doing it. They felt very bad over the loss of their late minister, the Rev. James McLachlan, who was drowned in Lake Winnipeg last fall.

Characteristics and Progress.—The members of this band are making progress, slow it may be, but sure; quite a number of them speak good English, they dress well and keep their children neat and clean, they are obedient to those in authority, attentive to their religious duties, and anxious to pay their debts.

Temperance and Morality.—The morals of the band are fairly good; there are a few women of bad character who cause quite a lot of trouble on the reserve. The chief and councillors have a lot of difficulty in keeping their young people from being contaminated. There is some drinking on the outer edge of the reserve, where the fish companies have their headquarters, but very little liquor gets on the reserve, and they can be called a very temperate and sober people. The chief, Jacob Berens, is very anxious that all kinds of intoxicants should be kept away from the reserve, and was de-

lighted to hear that a member of the North West Mounted Police would in all probability be stationed somewhere in the vicinity of the Berens and Poplar rivers.

POPLAR RIVER BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve for this band is situated in the district of Keewatin, on the east shore of Lake Winnipeg, at the mouth of the Poplar river, and about forty-five miles north of Berens river. There is a great deal of rocky country on this reserve, but there is also a lot of good land, pockets between the rocks, where the Indians can get plenty of good land suitable for gardens. There is also a fine lot of wood on the good land, and it will be a long time before there is any shortage of fire-wood among this band. The area of the reserve is 3,800 acres.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are of kin with the Berens River band, Ojibbewas, and speak the same tongue.

Vital Statistics.—The population at treaty payment was 152, consisting of 35 men, 39 women, 43 boys and 35 girls. There were 4 deaths (2 women and 2 boys) and 5 births (2 boys and 3 girls) during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band has been fair for the twelve months preceding the annual payment.

Resources and Occupations.—The members of the band have fairly good gardens, but do not depend much upon them ; if they manage to raise a few potatoes, they think their duty in that line is done. They have lots of work in the summer-time fishing for their own consumption and for various fish companies that operate in their vicinity. In the winter a number of the older men do a lot of hunting and get a considerable amount of fur, the younger men going into the logging camps at good wages.

Buildings.—There is a large number of new houses completed during the year, and they present a very nice appearance; they are all log and a number of them have good floors and shingle roofs. There are few stables, as stock is not kept to any extent and no dependence is placed on that branch of industry. There is a good school-house on the reserve ; it is neat and comfortable.

Stock.—Only four or five animals are kept, hay is scarce and hard to get, and in consequence there is not much encouragement for the Indians to spend their money in buying cattle, and as long as other work remains open, lack of feed will remain a great obstacle to this branch of industry.

Farm Implements.—They do not need many implements, and what they have are principally for garden use.

Education.—They have a good school with a capable teacher, James F. Blackford. Of 40 children in the vicinity of the school he has 36 (23 boys and 13 girls) on the register, and for the three months ended June 30, 1904, he had an average attendance of 13.

Religion.—Nearly all the Indians of this band are Methodists; there are a few pagans, but as reported to me, they are getting less every year. Mr. Blackford holds Sunday services, and he reports a fair attendance. The Methodist minister at Berens River has charge of and visits this reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—This band is making good progress in a good many ways. Situated as these Indians are, they make a good lot of money and they are spending it in bettering their houses and improving their ways of living. They are of a quiet and honest disposition, and, if treated right, do not desire any special favours.

Temperance and Morality.—I am informed that owing to the proximity of a fishing station to this reserve (Black River), the morals of the younger women are not as good as they should be. The band does not get much intoxicating drink, and will get less if the R.N.W.M. Police are stationed on the lake. Though they will all take liquor if they can get it, they know the evils, and desire that the traffic be stopped, and then they would be kept out of temptation.

NORWAY HOUSE BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is in the district of Keewatin. It is on the east branch of the Nelson river, about twenty-four miles from its source and also partly on Little Playgreen lake. There is plenty of rock and water, but also plenty of good land in pockets, not large, but having a good depth of soil. The finest garden seen by me on the trip was at the Hudson's Bay post at Norway House, which adjoins this reserve. They had, in perfection, every vegetable usually grown in Manitoba. The area of this reserve is 10,840 acres.

Tribe.—The members of this band are principally Swampy Crees, and speak the same language as the Fisher River band. There is a great deal of white blood in this band, some of the Indians taking treaty being almost pure white in appearance.

Vital Statistics.—The population at the last treaty payment was 525, consisting of 117 men, 154 women, 130 boys, and 124 girls. There were 12 births (7 boys and 5 girls) and 19 deaths (1 man, 11 boys and 7 girls) since my last visit, during the 1903 treaty payment.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band has been fairly good, nothing to cause remark on the part of the chief and councillor, though the band decreased seven during the year. There is nothing wrong with their houses. They are similar to the log houses used by the homesteaders settling in Manitoba, and as a rule lots of fresh air is admitted both winter and summer.

Resources and Occupations.—I have to report similarly to last year that a very large number of the members of this band work for the fish companies that are operating at or near Warren's Landing, which is situated at the point where the Nelson river leaves Lake Winnipeg, and about twenty-four miles from the centre of the reserve. A large number also work for Ewing & Fryer, who have a freezer at Spider islands, which lie about thirty miles south of Warren's Landing, near the east shore of Lake Winnipeg. While the fish last, the Indians of this reserve have plenty of work and provision in sight. The Indians think that the fish are more plentiful now than they were ten years ago, which I have no doubt is accounted for by the fish hatchery at Selkirk, which is doing a great work for the fish interests of the lake.

Buildings.—The houses are all of log and a great number of them are very well built, and of neat appearance. They use the pit-saw to make nearly all their lumber, as the freight to the reserve is prohibitive to the Indian on lumber. The buildings used by the Methodists for the Indian boarding school are very well located on a high point on Little Playgreen lake, at Rossville, on the reserve, and from the lake present a fine appearance. The main building has a dining-room, two play-rooms, kitchen, principal's apartments, small rooms for the staff, and the dormitories for the boys and girls. They are going to build an addition, which will cost $800; it will contain a sick ward and more accommodation for the staff. The principal, Rev. J. A. G. Lousley, has since my last visit completed a new log stable, 28x30, and all the material was manufactured by himself and the boys. The boarding school has a good school-building, separate from the main building and in close proximity to the regular day school building belonging to the reserve.

Stock.—They keep a few head of stock, but they do not depend at all on this branch of industry. All the hay has to be cut in water and carried out on the rocks to dry; such being the case we can not expect this band to do much in the way of stock.

Farm Implements.—They have a number of ploughs and harrows, and plenty of the smaller implements for the garden.

Education.—The holidays were on at the time of my visit and the boarding school was closed, all the pupils being sent to their homes, so I was unable to inspect either the boarding school or the day school. The principal of the boarding school was also away in Ontario, and as a result no official inspection was made by me. I visited the buildings and found everything in good order and very little or no change from my last visit in the fall of 1903.

Religion.—Nearly all the members of this band are Methodists, a few being Anglicans. The Methodists have a large church and a good parsonage. Rev. J. A. G. Lousley is the pastor. The Anglicans have no church, but the teacher of a school about three miles from Norway House holds a Sunday service, which is well attended.

Characteristics and Progress.—The great bulk of the members of this band are of a law-abiding and industrious character, they want to see the laws against drinking and immorality enforced. They are also progressing in the way of becoming more settled in the homes they have built and are now building on the reserve. They also see the benefits that are accruing to their children through the department's spending large amounts of money to educate their children, and this year at the band meeting they expressed their pleasure at the way in which the government was carrying out its promises and are particularly well pleased to have their reserve made the headquarters of the agency. They also desired me to say that they will welcome the police that the government thinks of stationing among them to enforce the laws.

General Remarks.—The chief and councillor, also the band generally, were well pleased at the action of the government in sparing no expense to have the killing of one of the members of the band (Beacham) investigated and a proper trial held at Norway House—and from what they said, were satisfied.

CROSS LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on Cross lake, about seventy miles down the Nelson river. There is a good deal of rock in this country and all the garden patches are just pockets among the rocks. There is any quantity of bush suitable for fire-wood, but trees big enough for lumber are the exception. The area of this reserve is 7,760 acres, of which a portion is swamp.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are also Crees, with an admixture of white blood.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band consists of 74 men, 93 women, 86 boys and 78 girls, in all 331 people. There were 12 births (8 boys and 4 girls) and 4 deaths (1 boy and 3 girls) during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good through the past year, they live so much in the open air during their work in making a living that their health cannot but be good. Their dwellings have doors and windows and some of them that I was in were extremely well ventilated, the chinks in the logs being left open. On my pointing this out, they said that when winter comes they close them up when it gets too cold.

Resources and Occupations.—Fishing for sale and home consumption is one of the main summer occupations. Ewing & Fryer, a fish firm with headquarters at Selkirk, have a gasoline tug plying from the reserve to Whisky Jack portage, where it connects with a steam tug which carries the fish to Spider island. They buy sturgeon from the Indians, who make a large amount of money from the catching of that one fish alone, and if the government should open this territory for the catching of the whitefish, it will still further improve the Indians' chances for making a living.

Buildings.—The houses are all of log and just about equal to the houses on the other reserves in the agency. Quite a number of new houses are being built this summer. The school-house is quite a large building, but is in an unfinished state and needs to be sheeted inside at least to make it fit to teach in during the winter. The Roman Catholics have a very comfortable church and a new school-building, which is fitted up so that the children can go there in the winter without suffering any discomfort. The Methodists are about to build a new church. The Rev. Mr. Ferrier was at Cross lake during the treaty time arranging for the construction, and he told me that $1,000 was the amount at his disposal for that purpose and it was the intention to build this year.

Stock.—They keep very little stock on this reserve, not being able to get hay to put the animals through the winter.

Farm Implements.—They have enough implements for all the land broken up, which is all in small plots.

General Remarks.—The Hudson's Bay Company and a Mr. Hyer have posts here as well as Ewing & Fryer. Goods are sold to the Indians at reasonable rates. There is also a lot of fur caught by the Indians of this band during the fall, winter and spring, which helps them to make a comfortable living. They as a rule have good gardens on this reserve and raise a lot of potatoes.

Education.—The Roman Catholics have Mrs. Deschambault as a teacher, and the Methodists have engaged a Miss Armstrong, who will teach in the old school-building. Neither school was in operation during my visit, but the chief and council are satisfied now that they know both schools will soon be in operation. There are a large number of children in the vicinity of these schools and they will be well attended.

Religion.—The members of this band are nearly equally divided between the Methodists and Roman Catholics, two priests being there, living at the Roman Catholic mission, and the Methodists have a resident minister. They report a good attendance at the Sunday services.

Temperance and Morality.—The members of this band are very temperate, very little liquor gets as far as this from the lake, and from what I saw and heard, the Indians would prefer that none should come in.

The morals of the band will average up with that of any other reserve in the agency. One case came up before the agent and myself against a white man living near the reserve. The Indian girl had a child by him, he acknowledged that he was the father, and we fined him $100 or three months in jail. The band was much pleased and said it would be a warning to others.

LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated about one hundred and thirty miles up the Berens river. There is plenty of rock and also plenty of pockets of good land. The area is 4,920 acres.

Tribe.—The members of this band are Ojibbewas, and they have some relatives in the Lac Seul band, Savanne agency.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band consists of 27 men, 34 women, 46 boys, and 29 girls, a total of 136. There were 5 births, (2 boys and 3 girls), and 5 deaths, (4 boys and 1 girl), during the year; of the 5 deaths, 3 were infants.

Health and Sanitation.—This is a healthy band. I never saw a finer or a healthier lot of children than in this band. These Indians live mostly in tents.

Resources and Occupations.—They depend altogether on fur to procure them clothing and groceries. They have plenty of fish and small game, so they are never at a loss for something to eat. There is a Hudson's Bay post here, and most of the Indians work for the company, directly or indirectly. Last year they raised 110 bushels of potatoes.

Buildings.—There are very few houses on the reserve. The Indians would like to assist in building a school at some central point.

Stock.—The Indians of this reserve have no stock.

Farm Implements.—They have some garden tools, such as rakes, hoes and spades, which they use in their gardens.

Education.—A school teacher has been sent into the reserve by the Methodist Church of Canada. A building has been rented from the Hudson's Bay Company, and Mr. Wm. Ivens, the teacher, expects to have quite a large attendance, at least during the summer months. The acting councillor and the band are very much pleased at the school opening and would like if possible to have a school-house built.

Religion.—Two-thirds of these Indians are Methodists, the rest pagans. The missionary from Berens River visits them occasionally.

Characteristics and Progress.—The members of this band are not making much progress. They have plenty to eat and drink and are well clothed. The acting councillor informed me that they do not want to change their reserve, as they can do well where they are. On inquiry later, I found that the chief, Jacob Berens, desires that, this part of his band change to where the Pigeon river empties into Lake Winnipeg.

Temperance and Morality.—None of the Indians of this band have much chance to taste liquor, they are so far inland. They are a fairly moral people, and have very little contact with the whites, outside of the Hudson's Bay Company's officials.

General Remarks.—We made the trip to this reserve in canoes ; it took nearly four days from Berens River reserve, and we had to unload and portage everything thirty-nine times, besides we tracked the canoes up five or six more rapids. There are fifty-two rapids between Berens River reserve and this one. The Indians of this band own 33 canoes, 45 nets, 126 traps, and 19 shot guns. They had 110 bushels of potatoes last fall and planted 20 bushels this spring.

PEKANGEKUM BAND.

This reserve is situated about one hundred miles east of Little Grand Rapids, on the Berens river. The heads of the families came down to meet us, and we paid them at that point. The population consists of 22 men, 27 women, 26 boys and 40 girls, a total of 115. There were 3 births (3 boys), and 1 death (1 boy), during the year.

They report having raised 356 bushels of potatoes, and having plenty of game and fish during the year. The Hudson's Bay Company gives employment to most of the people. They are nearly all pagans. They ask that a councillor be appointed so that they will have some one they can hold responsible for the proper division of the supplies that are sent to the destitute by the department.

GENERAL REMARKS.

I left Stonewall on July 4, and arrived back on August 12, taking just forty days to make the trip. We were on schedule time at all the reserves, except Poplar River, where we were one day late. We had an extremely rough and stormy voyage in the schooner 'Hustler.' We had our two-inch oak centreboard broken clean off even with the keel, and had twelve feet of the our foremast blown overboard in a heavy wind, and had to run thirty miles for shelter. Inspector Worsley, of the R.N.W.M.P., and two constables, accompanied us to all the reserves, and they searched all the boats belonging to the traders. In all they found four bottles of whisky, the liquor was poured out and the trader was fined $10. The Indians at all the reserves welcomed the police, and trusted that a number of them would be stationed at different points on the lake. There is no question that it would be of great benefit to all the Indians, who reside near the lake, to have a detachment of that body sent out to see that all the laws are observed.

RAT PORTAGE AGENCY.

The headquarters of this agency is situated at the town of Rat Portage, the office is on the second floor of the post office building, and the agent has two very comfortable rooms, with a vault attached, and there is nothing to be desired as to location. The storehouse is located near the Lake of the Woods, and is a small frame building owned by Mr. Pither, and is fairly suitable for the purpose. I inspected Agent R. S. McKenzie's books, and found his cash-book correctly and neatly kept; all the other books and papers connected with the office were also in good order. Mr. McKenzie appears

to be in touch with all the reserves in the agency, and reports the Indians in a fairly prosperous condition. I inspected the Rat Portage boarding school and found everything working to the best interests of the Indian children who are residents of the school. My full report on this school has been sent to the Indian commissioner, Winnipeg. I interviewed Dr. Hanson as to the health of the Indians of this agency, and he makes a very good report.

FORT FRANCES AGENCY.

The headquarters of this agency is situated at a point at the mouth of Rainy lake, and is a very choice location. The agency buildings are good and comprise a very comfortable house for the agent, an office and store-room, and also a small stable. Mr. J. P. Wright, the agent, has a very fine garden, with every kind of vegetable growing luxuriously, which ought to be a great object lesson to all the Indians who come to visit him. On my trip in on the boat, very fortunately for me, Mr. Wright happened to get on the boat in the morning, having been down the river on business connected with the agency, and as we travelled up the river he pointed out all the different reserves that are situated on the Rainy river. The bands settled along this river have certainly a very choice location, and ought to do well, but as I was shown as well a number of new houses erected for the especial purpose of selling liquor, these being all located on the American side of the river, it will be seen that there is an overpowering temptation placed before our Indians, and the results are very bad. I understand that most of these places are running without any license, which makes it all the worse, as they are under no sort of control.

I inspected the stores on hand, and also the books of the agency. The cash-book was found correct, and everything connected with the agency was in good order.

I have, &c.,

S. J. JACKSON,
Inspector of Indian Agencies.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
ASSINIBOIA—ASSINIBOINE AGENCY,
SINTALUTA, August 15, 1904.

The Honourable,
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report together with a statistical statement and inventory of government property under my charge for the year ended June 30, 1904.

ASSINIBOINE BAND, NO. 76.

Reserve.—The reserve is a block of land, in size nine by eight miles, lying south and in distance about seven miles from the village of Sintaluta on the Canadian Pacific main line. It is rolling land and made up roughly speaking of about half brush and scrub and the remainder clear prairie containing many sloughs. The wood is poplar, balm of Gilead and willow.

Resources.—The natural resources are hay, wood and some senega-root. The Indians sell quantities of each to the settlers.

Tribe.—The Indians on this reserve are Assiniboines, sometimes, called Stonies, a branch of the Sioux.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians during the year has been good on the whole, and the calls upon the doctor and for medicines have been correspondingly few. Dr. Boujou, who lives in Sintaluta, visits cases upon the reserve when called upon. Some of the older Indians still prefer their own medicine man, but this class is getting less in numbers and losing its hold on the younger generation.

Population.—The population of the Assiniboines is 210, of which some are in the United States.

Occupations.—About fifteen families are engaged in farming and stock-raising and others work for wages among the settlers, whilst some engage in selling wood, fence-pickets, &c., and also in tanning hides, and other sundry work of all kinds.

Buildings.—The buildings occupied by the Indians are mostly of log. As the logs as a rule are small, some ingenuity is required to make a good house, but they make them fairly comfortable and generally keep them clean. Their stables are also made of logs, and whilst most are not much to boast of in appearance they are warm and comfortable in winter.

Stock.—The cattle are doing very well. We had some losses last winter owing to the cattle being taken up thin in the fall, caused by the close manner in which they had to be herded in the day-time and corralled at night to keep them out of the crops. A number of the settlers had heavier losses, as the winter was long and severe. The herding is now a thing of the past, as, owing to the department's having kindly loaned the money, a pasture about three miles and a quarter square has been fenced in by the Indians and the cattle roam practically at will on the best of feed, night and day. I may say that the Indians have already made a substantial repayment of the money advanced. It is difficult to get many of the Indians to take hold of stock from the fact that there is an increasing cash market for hay, which they prefer selling to feeding to stock.

Implements.—The Indians own a considerable number of implements, which they have purchased with their own money, such as mowers, binders, seeders, &c.

Education.—There is no school on the reserve; the children of school age attend the industrial schools at Regina and Fort Qu'Appelle, respectively.

Religion.—The religious wants of the Indians are attended to by the Presbyterian Church, which has a good stone building on the reserve and a resident missionary. The Roman Catholics also have a frame building on the reserve, which is used occasionally for services.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians are steadily progressing towards self-support and no rations are issued to the able-bodied. In fact with the exception of a few old and sick, I am glad to report that the band is self-sustaining and the ration-house is a thing of the past.

Whilst the increase in the quantity of grain raised and also the cattle, has been steady, it would have been more so if some of the older Indians had continued farming, but these, finding that they could make what to them is a more congenial living by working for settlers, selling wood, &c., have given up farming. In the past the rations usually given to working Indians from the agency acted as a loadstone to keep them farming in a manner, but as they found the rations cease, they preferred other modes of making a living to tilling the soil. The younger generation will in time no doubt, increase the number engaged in agriculture. The dress and habits of the Indians have undergone a marked change in the last few years, and the blanket, long hair, paint, &c., are gradually giving way to a more civilized attire. The heathen dances are stopped, and although at first their suppression caused some grumbling, I think the Indians have become reconciled to the change. On first settling on reserves the Assiniboines split up ; part remaining in Canada and part settling in the United States. A close relationship has existed and their visits to each other have been

much against their progress. Endeavours are being made to curtail these in the interest of the Indians themselves.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians do not trouble to get liquor as a rule. There are a few members of the band who will take it if it comes in their way, but on the whole their behaviour in this respect is as good as that of any white community of the same number. Regarding their morals, there are one or two who are not as good as might be, but the band as a whole are well-behaved.

General Remarks.—The crop last season was a banner one and far exceeded any previous one in quantity. Unfortunately, owing to the prolonged wet weather, hindering the grain from ripening, it was all frozen. This was most discouraging, as it not only reduced the quantity but the quality as well, some of it being totally unsaleable. The band has just taken prizes for work at the Sintaluta and Regina fairs respectively. A larger exhibit at both places could have been made, had time permitted.

In conclusion, I am glad to say that the progress of the Assiniboines towards civilization and self-support is steady and I believe permanent, and in the future the calls upon the department for assistance will be strictly confined to a very few old and sick people and the expense very small.

MOOSEJAW SIOUX.

These Indians, commonly called the Moosejaw Sioux, are a remnant of Sitting Bull's band who came from the United States during the hostilities in 1876-7. For some years they hunted about Wood mountain and with the disappearance of the buffalo, came to Moosejaw, making a living by doing work around town, selling beadwork, &c. Whilst they do not receive much from the government, they are non-progressive, living in tents the year round. Some of them are fond of liquor and notwithstanding that several persons have been fined for supplying liquor to them, they no doubt still get it frequently. They would be better settled on a reserve away from the town.

The population of the Sioux at Moosejaw and vicinity is 112.

I have, &c.,

THOS. W. ASPDIN,
Indian Agent.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
BATTLEFORD AGENCY,
BATTLEFORD, September 1, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report on the affairs of the Battleford agency, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904.

This agency comprises seven reserves, situated at distances of from fourteen to forty-four miles from the town of Battleford.

The buildings of the agency headquarters are conveniently and centrally located on the Battle river, about two miles south of the town.

RED PHEASANT BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve consists of 24,320 acres, and is located twenty-two miles southeast from Battleford, in the Eagle hills.

Tribe and Population.—These Indians are Crees, and number 40 men, 38 women, 36 boys, and 36 girls, making a total of 150.

Resources and Occupations.—Oats and barley are a sure crop on this reserve, but hitherto it has always been regarded as unsuitable for the raising of wheat, as, owing to the situation, it is so liable to summer frosts; this year, however, we have three or four fields of wheat which have the appearance of fully maturing.

The soil is excellent and hay is abundant; water is plentifully distributed, in the shape of lakes, all over the reserve.

Much wood has of late years been destroyed by fire, but there yet remains sufficient for present needs.

These Indians make a good living by raising stock, freighting, burning lime and charcoal, working for settlers, and from the sale of muskrat skins.

The crops on this reserve were very meagre last season.

Stock.—There are 365 head of cattle owned by this band; they are well cared for, and are quite a source of revenue.

Farm Implements.—These people are well equipped with wagons, mowers, rakes, binders, and all other necessary implements; they have paid for these things out of the proceeds derived from the sale of hay and fat cattle.

Education.—There is a very good day school on this reserve; it is conducted under the auspices of the Church of England; the attendance is regular, the teacher takes great interest and pride in her work, and the children make fairly good headway with their studies; they also look neat, clean, and cheerful.

I am glad to say that a few of the parents are beginning to appreciate the value of some education for their children, and I trust that the number will yearly grow larger.

Religion.—The major portion of this band are Anglicans, the rest being Roman Catholics.

Services are regularly held in the church on the reserve, by the Rev. Mr. Inkster, and the attendance is very good.

Charasteristics and Progress.—The men of this band are very steady and industrious; they are striving to make an independent livelihood, and are making very satisfactory progress in that direction.

Their houses, for the most part, are clean, tidy, and comfortable; and a number of them have shingle roofs, and good lumber floors, with a very fair quantity of furniture.

As to their morals, I think I am safe in saying that they are distinctly higher than those of the average Indian.

Temperance is, perforce of circumstances, strictly adhered to on this reserve; although it is only by constant supervision, and advice, that the inclinations of some of the younger members are curbed.

SWEET GRASS BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve has an area of 42,528 acres, and is located on the south side of Battle river, twenty miles west of Battleford.

Tribe and Population.—All these people are Crees; there are 24 men, 35 women, 17 boys, and 16 girls, a total of 92 souls.

Resources and Occupations.—Devil's Drum creek runs through this reserve, and as it is open winter and summer, a plentiful supply of water is always obtainable. There is enough hay for their cattle and horses, and also timber for their own requirements.

The land is well suited for the raising of wheat and oats.

Live stock and grain are the principal means by which these people make a living; they also do some work for settlers, a little freighting, burn lime and occasionally haul a few loads of fire-wood to town.

The crops last year were very poor; yet these people lived just about as comfortably as usual, which shows that they have already a knowledge of providing their own sustenance.

During the early part of this year these men erected a good substantial bridge across Devil's Drum creek, and also made considerable improvements on the Cut Knife trail, which work was paid for by the Northwest government.

They also completed fencing a pasture-field, of about 3,000 acres, for their cattle.

Stock.—The cattle here are a very well-bred bunch of animals, and are carefully tended; they number, in all, 333 head.

Buildings.—The houses are all built of logs, and are mudded; they are white-washed at least once a year; they are warm and comfortable in the winter-time, when they are mostly used, but there is a tendency towards overcrowding ; this I hope to remedy, in the near future, by inducing them to build additional dwellings, and of a better class.

Farm Implements.—These Indians are well off for farm implements of every description, and by the way they take care of them show that they appreciate their worth.

Education.—Education for the children of this band is amply provided for by the industrial and boarding schools.

The day school here was closed more than a year ago on account of insufficient attendance.

Religion.—A few pagans still exist in this band, but the greater portion of these Indians belong to either the Roman Catholic or Anglican Churches.

Services are seldom held on the reserve; so the Indians may be somewhat excusable if they are not quite up-to-date on religious topics.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are very law-abiding and industrious; a few of them have a hankering after spirituous liquors, but when detected, are promptly and severely punished, which has a most wholesome effect on their future behaviour.

Their morals are fairly good ; although some of the young folks have an elastic code of ethics, which needs constant watchfulness on the part of the officials to keep them out of mischief.

POUNDMAKER AND LITTLE PINE BANDS.

Reserves.—There are two reserves here, which adjoin one another; they are situated on the south side of Battle river, about forty miles west of Battleford. The combined area is 35,200 acres; the main part of which is splendid agricultural land, the remainder being well suited for grazing purposes. Wood and water are plentiful. Of hay there is only a limited quantity; and it taxes all the efforts of these Indians to procure enough for their large number of cattle; we have hitherto been successful in this measure, but it was by gathering a good deal of the hay on lands outside the reserves; now, however, that the district is being settled so rapidly, we shall have to grow fodder, in order to supplement our crop of wild hay.

Tribe.—These Indians are Plain Crees. The combined population of the two bands consists of 62 men, 66 women, 51 boys and 40 girls, making a total of 219 souls.

Resources and Occupations.—Grain and stock raising are the staple industries on these reserves. The Indians also do some work for settlers, and a little freighting; they make a good comfortable living, and will soon be totally independent of the storehouses; even last year when the crops were a partial failure, they earned their flour by working in some other manner; the only drawback being a scarcity of good seed wheat for this spring.

Stock.—The cattle owned by these bands are of extra good quality, and they are doing well, as the Indians are very particular in the care of them. A noticeable im-

provement is observed in the horses belonging to these bands; there is a strong tendency to get rid of their smaller ponies, and replace them with general purpose horses; in this endeavour they are receiving every encouragement, as I consider that good strong horses are an indispensable necessity to run their binders and mowers. Some of these men are very successful in the rearing of sheep and pigs.

Education.—Two day schools are in operation here ; the one on Poundmaker reserve being under the management of the Roman Catholic Church ; the other is situated on Little Pine reserve, and is controlled by the Church of England authorities. During the past year the attendance has not been what might be called quite satisfactory; some progress, however, has been made, and I trust that in the future a larger number of children will attend regularly at both of these schools.

Buildings.—All the houses are built of logs, mudded, and whitewashed; a few of them have shingled roofs, the rest being covered with poles and sods. Every year sees a great improvement in the class of houses erected, and also in the manner in which they are furnished, and kept. A good deal of this better state of affairs, is due to the Indians' noticing and copying from their white neighbours, who are getting to be quite numerous.

Farm Implements.—These bands have a full complement of farm implements, which they carefully look after, and keep in good working condition.

They have paid for all these implements out of their own earnings, and by the sale of cattle and beef.

Religion.—Paganism is dying out slowly, but surely; some of the older folks still cling tenaciously to sun worship; the majority, however, are just as earnest in their endeavour to live a Christian life.

Services are occasionally held in the Roman Catholic church, and the Church of England school; these services are well patronized by the Indians, who are attentive listeners to the expounding of religion.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are very frugal, and domesticated in their habits; they are farmers and stockmen, and to give an instance of how they are becoming self-sustaining, I may say that during the fiscal year 1898-9 these bands received 151 sacks of flour from the government; in 1902-3 they received 60 sacks, and in 1903-4, 61 sacks were issued to them, and notwithstanding this very large reduction of rations, they are more cheerful and contented now than was the case when they were spoon-fed.

The morals of these Indians will favourably bear comparison with many communities of white people; and I am glad to say that no intemperance exists on either of these reserves.

STONY BANDS.

Reserve.—At this point there are two reserves, which join one another. They are about 14 miles south of Battleford.

The Mosquito reserve consists of 23,040 acres.

Grizzly Bear's Head and Lean Man bands are on the other reserve, which contains 23,168 acres.

These reserves are made up of high rolling country, partially wooded with poplar and balm of Gilead; there are stretches of open prairie, containing a rich black soil well adapted for cultivation, but also very liable to summer frost. There are other portions where the surface is undulating, and in the hollows and flats around the larger lakes there are excellent hay-grounds, and large tracts are well suited for grazing and stock-raising.

Tribe and Population.—The members of these bands are all Stonies. There are 24 men, 26 women, 14 boys and 5 girls; a total of 69.

Resources and Occupations.—These Indians are not good farmers; it is very difficult to get them to work steadily. They make a good living by freighting, and the sale of hay and fire-wood, also by hunting small game.

Buildings.—The Stony houses are the poorest and dirtiest in the agency. We are constantly advising them to improve their domiciles, but I can only notice an improvement in one or two places.

I am thinking of inducing them to tear all their old houses down and erect new ones that would be more substantial, comfortable and healthy in their structure.

Stock.—The cattle belonging to these bands are of first-class quality, although they only number seventy-four head.

A pasture-field of 2,600 acres is now being prepared, so that when the fence is completed, I trust that we shall be able to keep the stock from wandering all over the prairie, and that it will also be an aid to increasing the herd.

Farm Implements.—As at present the Stonies do not go in extensively for agriculture, they have all the implements they need; besides these they are well equipped with wagons, mowers and rakes.

Education.—The day school under the control of the Church of England authorities, has given very poor results so far, chiefly I consider on account of the teachers being no good ; a change of teacher is now taking place, so that I hope a very great change for the better will be shown at this school.

Religion.—Paganism still continues to be the general belief among these bands, although there are about twelve or fifteen people who are nominal members of the Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches.

MOOSOMIN BAND.

Reserve.—Moosomin reserve is twelve miles west of Battleford. It contains 14,720 acres. This land lies between the Saskatchewan and Battle rivers; the country is rolling and partially wooded with bluffs of poplar; the soil is a sandy loam, and is well adapted for both agriculture and stock-raising.

There is also a hay reserve, for both Moosomin and Thunderchild bands, of 960 acres, at Round hill, twenty miles northeast of Battleford.

Tribe and Population.—The majority of these Indians are Crees, the rest being Saulteaux. There are 30 men, 28 women, 28 boys and 28 girls, a total of 114.

Resources and Occupations.—Mixed farming is successfully carried on by the members of this band. These Indians are very progressive; in addition to farming, they do a lot of work for settlers, haul fire-wood to town, and in fact make a very good living. Last year's crops were very poor, but they made up for this shortage by earning money in other ways.

Stock.—The stock belonging to this band is very well bred, and is in fine condition; there are 239 head. The horses, with few exceptions, are small; but I look for a great improvement in the near future, as the stallion provided by the department last year has produced some good-looking colts.

The houses and stables on this reserve have been somewhat improved and repaired, they are in fair condition and more comfortable than was previously the case.

Farm Implements.—All the members of this band are completely equipped with farm implements, which, when not in use, are carefully kept under cover.

Education.—There is no day school in operation on this reserve, but the boarding and industrial schools in this district can amply accommodate any children of school age on this reserve.

Religion.—There are still a few pagans here, but I am glad to say that their numbers are steadily decreasing. The remainder of this band are members of either the Roman Catholic or Anglican Churches.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are becoming self-reliant and independent in their character; they are steady and very industrious.

Law and order prevail here; a good moral tone is also observed by these people.

Reserve.—The Thunderchild reserve adjoins that of Moosomin, and is eighteen miles west of Battleford. It comprises 15,360 acres on the south side of the North Saskatchewan river, and 5,440 acres on the north side of the same river.

In addition to this, they have a share of the hay reserve at Round hill.

The land is rolling prairie of black loam with scattered bluffs of poplar and willow.

The reserve is very well adapted for mixed farming.

Tribe and Population.—Nearly all the members of this band are Crees; the others are Saulteaux.

There are 39 men, 36 women, 24 boys and 24 girls, making a total population of 123 Indians.

Resources and Occupations.—Mixed farming is practised with more or less success by these Indians; they also do a good deal of work for settlers, freighting for the merchants, and hauling fire-wood to town.

Buildings.—The buildings on this reserve are not of first-class quality, yet a number of them are kept clean and comfortable while they are inhabited during the winter time.

Stock.—There are 213 head of cattle belonging to the members of this band. They are a fine bunch of animals, and are in prime condition.

Farm Implements.—These Indians have sufficient farm implements for their requirements. They have paid for them out of their own earnings, and look after them very carefully.

Education.—The day school, managed by the Church of England authorities, is still in operation, but the attendance is small.

The boarding school, adjacent to this reserve, conducted by the Sisters of the Assumption, still continues to do excellent service. I cannot speak too highly of the manner in which this institution is conducted. The children all look clean, happy and intelligent. They are making splendid progress, and I think that when these children are discharged from school, the training they have undergone will have a very beneficial effect in their own future lives, and also in those of their brethren.

The proximity of this school to the reserve is also a present, potent and good example to these Indians.

Religion.—Regular services are conducted in the Church of England day school, and at the Roman Catholic mission adjoining the reserve. Both these services are well attended, and the Indians appear to be devout and attentive in their manner of worship.

Characteristics and Progress.—The young men of this band are very good workers, and are quite alive to the fact that they must make their own way in the world.

They are inclined to be somewhat lazy at times, and need to be continually spurred and encouraged to keep them moving in the right direction.

I am sorry to say that they have not made any advancement in their farming during the past year, but as a change of farming instructors is taking place, I hope that these people will soon make up for lost time in this direction.

The morals of these Indians are good, and they are, perforce of circumstances, total abstainers.

REMARKS APPLYING TO THE WHOLE AGENCY.

Vital Statistics.—We paid 767 Indians this year, which is an increase of 2 over last payments.

There were 34 births and 50 deaths during the fiscal year.

Health and Sanitation.—During the past winter the bands of Moosomin, Thunderchild, Sweet Grass and the Stonies, and the boarding school, were heavily scourged by small-pox. Only three deaths occurred, but the disease was, generally, of a very severe form, and hideously marked a number of the Indians.

It was only by the most strenuous exertions on the part of the employees that this disease was confined to these bands.

With the exception of the small-pox epidemic, the Indians have had excellent health.

Stock.—As cattle are one of the main staples of industry here, they are also the chief object of care. They are like a well and judiciously handled investment, a source of food, revenue and profit.

Our calf crop is a good average one, and they are all strong and hearty.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians of this agency are an intelligent, industrious and law-abiding people.

They are up-to-date in their ideas and methods of making a living; and I do not think that the date is far distant when they will be totally independent of government aid, although they will, for a number of years, have to be carefully supervised, in order that they may be kept in the right path.

During the year we got the saw-mill, supplied by the department, into active operation, and cut about 80,000 feet of lumber. This will be a great and much-needed help for roofing and flooring the Indians' houses, also for making bedsteads, tables and other articles of furniture.

The amount realized during the past fiscal year from the sale of cattle and beef was $6,453, the greater portion of which was invested in farm implements.

The above-mentioned sum would represent about two-thirds of their income, the balance being earned by the sale of lime, fire-wood and furs, and freighting.

I am having large pasturages made on all the reserves, averaging about 3,000 acres on each of the seven reserves. This is so that the cattle may be able to range, under easy control, from the time they are turned out of the stables in the spring until it is again time for them to be taken into winter quarters.

I am glad to say that there are no cases of crime to report.

Cases of immorality are very rare, much improvement having been shown in this direction.

Several cases of Indians having received intoxicating liquors, have taken place during the year; but in every instance a very severe punishment has been meted out to both the Indians and the persons who supplied the whisky.

Miscellaneous.—The advent of railroad construction, and a very large influx of new settlers into this district, have opened new fields and possibilities for the advancement of our Indians; they have also brought in their train fresh means of temptation and demoralizing effects, which will have to be overcome by increased care and watchfulness on the part of the department's officials.

My staff has done its utmost to aid me in carrying on the work of the agency.

I have, &c.,

J. P. G. DAY,
Indian Agent.

NORTHWEST SUPERINTENDENCY,
BIRTLE AGENCY,
BIRTLE, August 29, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following annual report, together with agricultural and industrial statistics for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904.

Headquarters.—The headquarters of this agency are located in the town of Birtle, Manitoba, which is on the northwestern branch of the Canadian Pacific railway.

Tribes.—There are nine reserves in this agency. Five are occupied by the Saulteaux and four by the Dakota or Sioux, who receive no annuity, but were given reserves and assistance in cattle and farm implements.

The Saulteaux are a branch of the Ojibbewa tribe and receive an annuity of $5 for each Indian and for each chief $25 and headman or councillor $15.

BIRDTAIL SIOUX BAND, NO. 57.

Reserve.—This reserve has an area of 6,400 acres and is located at the junction of the Birdtail creek and the Assiniboine river. The soil is a light loam and well adapted for wheat-growing and root crops. The soil in the valley is clay loam and suitable for grain-growing. The hay-supply is secured in the valley along the Assiniboine river, Birdtail creek in section 28, township 14, range 27, west of the 1st meridian. Wheat and oat straw is also saved after the harvest and fed to stock during the winter months.

There are about six hundred acres in wood, mostly scrub, consisting of oak, elm, maple and small poplar. The Assiniboine river borders the south and west and the Birdtail creek runs through the northwest portion of the reserve.

OAK RIVER SIOUX BAND, NO. 58.

Reserve.—This reserve has an area of 9,700 acres, and is located about eight miles north from Griswold, Manitoba, a town situated on the main line of the Canadian Pacific railway, and the reserve post office. The soil on the reserve is a mixture of light and heavy loam, and is well adapted for the raising of wheat and roots of all kinds. Wheat grown on this reserve generally grades No. 1 hard. On some of the hills the land is stony and sandy and is only suitable for pasture. There is about 1,000 acres in wood, mostly elm, oak and poplar. With the exception of elm the growth is small. The Oak river runs through the northeast corner and empties into the Assiniboine river. The Assiniboine river is the southern, and part of the eastern boundary of the reserve. The hay-supply is cut on the river flats.

OAK LAKE SIOUX BAND, NO. 59.

Reserve.—This reserve has an area of 2,560 acres and is located about four miles north of Pipestone, Manitoba, a small town on a branch of the Canadian Pacific railway. The soil is a sandy loam and there is about 1,050 acres suitable for cultivation. There is about 150 acres in wood, principally ash, elm, maple and poplar, and 1,450 acres in pasture and hay-lands. The Pipestone creek flows through the eastern portion of the reserve.

TURTLE MOUNTAIN SIOUX BAND, NO. 60.

Reserve.—This reserve has an area of 640 acres and is located on the northern base of the Turtle mountains. There are 10 acres in wood and the remainder is suitable for cultivation and pasture-land. Deloraine, Manitoba, a small town on the Pembina branch of the Candian Pacific railway, is the nearest town and post office.

KEESEEKOOWENIN'S BAND, NO. 61.

Reserve.—This reserve is located on the Little Saskatchewan river and on the southern base of the Riding mountains, and has an area of 6,660 acres. The Indians of this reserve have also a fishing station on the northern shores of Clear Water lake, about 12 miles northeast of the reserve. The soil is a rich black loam and suitable for raising grain and roots of all kinds. In the flats along the river there are large hay meadows irrigated by the Little Saskatchewan river, which runs through the reserve from north to south. There are numerous small lakes and ponds on this reserve. There

are 1,000 acres in wood, mostly small poplar. Fires have destroyed most of the large timber. The Canadian Northern railway, from Neepawa, Manitoba, has its line graded through the southeast corner of the reserve. Strathclair is the nearest town to the reserve, being located 10 miles south, on the northwestern branch of the Canadian Pacific railway.

WAYWAYSEECAPPO'S BAND, NO. 62.

Reserve.—This reserve has an area of 24,960 acres and is located about 15 miles in a northeasterly direction from Birtle, and on the Birdtail creek, which runs through the northeast corner of the reserve. In the southern and western portions there are numerous lakes, ponds and hay meadows. The soil is a heavy black loam and suitable for raising grain and root crops; and an ideal reserve for stock-raising. Rossburn is the nearest village to the reserve, being about 5 miles east.

VALLEY RIVER BAND, NO. 62½.

Reserve.—This reserve has an area of 11,680 acres, and is located at the junction of the Valley river and Short creek, and about 15 miles west of Grand View, Manitoba, a small town on the Canadian Northern railway. This line is now completed and trains run through the reserve to a point 60 miles further west. Strevel is the name of the station on the reserve. There is a section-house built at this point. The soil is a light loam suitable for grain-growing, but owing to the hilly nature of the land it is best adapted to stock-raising. There are about 2,460 acres in wood, mostly spruce and poplar. Fire has done great damage to the timber on this reserve. There is still good timber on the reserve suitable for lumber, railway ties, &c., also large quantities of fire-wood. The hay-supply is secured along the Short creek and sloughs on the reserve. The lumber industry is carried on to a large extent in the vicinity of the reserve, and gives employment to the Indians.

GAMBLER'S BAND, NO. 63.

Reserve.—This reserve has an area of 774 acres, and is situated on Silver creek. The Assiniboine river is on the west side, and Binscarth, a small village on the northwestern branch of the Canadian Pacific railway, is 5 miles northeast from the reserve. The soil is a black sandy loam, with poplar bluffs and some scrub oak, and well adapted to the growing of grain and root crops.

ROLLING RIVER BAND, NO. 67.

Reserve.—This reserve has an area of 12,800 acres, and is located about 8 miles north of Basswood, Manitoba, a small village on the northwestern branch of the Canadian Pacific railway. The reserve is undulating, with a great deal of poplar and willow brush. There are numerous lakes (four of which contain fish), ponds and hay meadows. The soil is a rich black loam, suitable for grain-growing and raising stock. There are 4,500 acres in wood. The Rolling river runs through the eastern portion of the reserve from north to south. The branch line from Neepawa, of the Canadian Northern railway, runs past the northern boundary of the reserve.

REMARKS APPLYING TO THE WHOLE AGENCY.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the bands in this agency is as follows: 221 men, 269 women, and 390 young people under twenty years of age. There was a decrease of 10 in the population during the year, accounted for as follows: 25 births and 39 deaths, 17 joined this agency, transfers from other agencies, 13 left this agency, transfers to Portage la Prairie and Crooked Lake agencies.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians during the year has been fair. Whooping-cough was prevalent on the Keeseekoowenin's reserve; one death resulted

from this disease. The majority of the deaths were among children, and the principal cause of death was tuberculosis, in some one of its many forms. The dwellings in this agency are kept in good order; of course there are some who will not improve their houses, which are not what they should be, but on the whole, the majority keep them in fairly good order and take delight in doing to. All the refuse that accumulates during the winter months is raked up and burned. Most of their houses are whitewashed on the inside.

Resources and Occupations.—The Sioux Indians of the Oak River, Birdtail and Oak Lake Sioux bands, earn their living by farming. This season, 1904, the Indians of the above bands have under cultivation 2,885 acres in wheat, oats, barley, corn, potatoes and garden stuff. The prospects for a bountiful harvest are very assuring and much brighter than last season. Considerable money is also earned by the sale of ponies, cattle, fish, wild fruits, baskets, mats and bead-work, which they sell to merchants and white settlers in the vicinity of their reserves. The value of the wheat, oats and barley raised last season, 1903, by the Sioux bands, amounted to over $24,000. A new source of revenue, commenced last year, was from contracts taken by the owners of two threshing-machines, who, after finishing in a very satisfactory way all the threshing on the reserve, undertook threshing for the white settlers in the vicinity. They gave good satisfaction in every instance, and in this way realized snug sums from their new venture. The Saulteaux Indians farm on a small scale and raise a little grain, and nearly all have small gardens of potatoes and other vegetables. They add to their income by the sale of cattle, wood, hay, baskets, mats, senega-root, working on the river drives and for farmers in the vicinity of their reserves. The heads of families succeed in making a good living for them during the year.

Buildings.—The houses in this agency, are mostly built of logs, hewn on both sides with dovetailed corners and gabled roofs and of good size, and in most cases have a kitchen annex. We have also twenty-two frame houses, and a number of these have been built on stone foundations, with kitchens annexed. These frame houses have been neatly and well built and the work has been done by the Indians themselves. Several frame stables and barns have also been built on the Oak River Sioux reserve. The cattle and horse stables are mostly built with logs, with earth and board roofs, and make good warm buildings for their stock during the winter months.

Stock.—The stock in this agency is in good condition. On most of the reserves larger-sized horses are being purchased by the progressive Indians, for farming purposes. The Indians take good care of the thoroughbred bulls furnished by the department and, notwithstanding the past long winter and hay running short, all the bulls, fourteen in number, came through in good condition. March and April were two hard months on cattle, feed running short; and these months being cold and stormy, and the animals being in a weak state, the casualties amongst the cows and young stock were heavy. The animals suffered from indigestion, caused by poor feed and drinking too much snow water.

Farm Implements.—All the reserves in this agency are well supplied with farm machinery, and the progressive Indian, each season, if he requires a new implement, purchases only an up-to-date plough, binder, seeder, &c., as required, at his own expense. There are two steam threshing outfits in this agency owned by individual Indians. The implements in this agency comprise walking, gang and sulky ploughs, seeders, binders, disc and drag harrows, cultivators, land-rollers, mowing-machines and rakes, wagons and bob-sleighs. In most cases good care is taken of their farm machinery.

Education.—In this agency there is one boarding and one day school. The boarding school is in the town of Birtle and has an average attendance of forty-two pupils. The staff is as follows:—principal, matron, assistant matron and teacher. The progress made during the year is very satisfactory. The girls are taught general housework, cooking, &c., and the boys gardening, use of carpenter's tools and the care of stock, besides their usual school studies. The members of the staff are to be commended for

their strict attention to their duties and the interest they take in their pupils. The day school is on the Keeseekoowenin's reserve and is called the Okanase day school; it is fairly well attended and the pupils, who are very bright, are making progress in reading and speaking English. There are a number of children from this agency who are pupils of the Regina, Elkhorn, Brandon and Qu'Appelle industrial schools, also the Pine Creek and Cowessess boarding schools. The Indians, with some exceptions of course, are taking more interest in the education of their children, and prefer the boarding and day schools to the industrial. This is, I believe, on account of the boarding and day schools being nearer and in closer touch with the reserves.

Religion.—Religious services are held regularly by the Presbyterians on the Birdtail Sioux, Oak Lake Sioux, Waywayseecappo's, Keeseekoowenin's and the Rolling River reserves, and an Anglican service on the Oak River Sioux reserve. The attendance at the Presbyterian services by the Indians of the Birdtail Sioux and Keeseekoowenin's reserves is very encouraging, and nearly all the adults take an interest in the services. On the Waywayseecappo's and Rolling River reserves the Indians take very little interest in religious matters. On the Valley River reserve no religious services of any kind are held, although a number of the Indians are interested and desire to have a minister to perform religious services for them, offering to erect a log building, to be used for church purposes. The attendance of the Oak River Sioux Indians at the Anglican services is small. Sunday school is also held every Sunday afternoon, presided over by a native lay teacher, Itoyetanka; a number of the young men attend. Birdtail Sioux, Oak Lake Sioux, and Waywayseecappo's, have each a church-building on their reserves. At Rolling River services are held in the missionary's house, on the reserve, and at Keeseekoowenin's in the school-house, all Presbyterian. The Anglican services for the Oak River Sioux Indians, are held in the mission church, a short distance east of the reserve. As an evidence of interest in religious matters, the Indians of the Birdtail Sioux reserve contributed the sum of $86 towards the Home and Foreign mission funds of the Presbyterian Church.

Progress.—I am very pleased to report that the Indians of this agency are progressing. The acreage under crop this season, 1904, is 3,284 acres, mostly in wheat, oats and potatoes. The grain return last season amounted to 59,749 bushels, and graded mostly No. 1 and 2 northern, and potatoes 4,098 bushels. Among the progressive Indians are Jos. Boyer and Geo. Bone of the Keeseekoowenin's reserve, who are good farmers and have this season 86 acres in wheat and oats, have good houses and stables and have over 56 head of cattle and 9 horses between them. Sunkahonahon, Moses Bunn and John Thunder of the Birdtail Sioux reserve have this season among them 270 acres of wheat and 62 acres in oats and 5 acres in barley, besides gardens. They have good comfortable houses and stables and have 26 head of cattle and 23 horses. Tunkancekiyana, Kinyanwakan, Caskehanska, Itoyetanka, Harry Hotanina and Mahpikaska of the Oak River Sioux reserves have all good frame houses with kitchens annexed. Itoyetanka and Kinyanwakan have good frame stables, and the others good log stables. They have also the necessary farm machinery and two steam threshing outfits. They have among them, under cultivation, 626 acres in wheat and oats, besides gardens. A number of horses, granaries and stables have been built during the year.

Temperance and Morality.—There were five liquor cases during the year; four resulted in convictions and one case was dismissed for lack of evidence. The liquor is generally obtained during visits to the towns and villages in the vicinity of reserves.

The morals of the Indians in this agency are very good; of course there are a few who might improve in this respect, but, on the whole, the standard is improving.

Crops.—Ploughing and seeding were retarded by the late cold spring, and some of the grain was late in being sown. The summer months, however, were excellent for growing crops, although in June the grain suffered for want of moisture; rain fell, however, in time, and the prospects for a bountiful harvest are very bright indeed. The late-sown grain will not be ready to cut before September, but the early-sown should

be ready for the binder in August. Some cutting was done on August 15, but cutting will not be general until about August 25. The sample will be much better than last season.

General Remarks.—During the past year at the agency headquarters, a new office has been built, 18 x 21 feet, frame, and painted outside and oiled inside. It is a neat substantial building. There has also been built and painted outside, a kitchen, attached to the agency house, 16 x 18 feet, one story and a half. It requires to be sheeted on the inside. The Sioux Indian Young Men's Christian convention was held on the Birdtail Sioux reserve in June, and the Indians from the surrounding reserves assembled there for their mutual benefit and improvement. I think that an occasion of this kind, in which so much good feeling and religious fervour is shown, is a very great evidence of progress, both in religious and material matters, for unless they were improving along both lines, there would be wanting both the feeling of good fellowship and the spirit of hospitality which were marked features of this convention. There has been no change in the staff since my last report, and they continue to discharge their duties satisfactorily.

I have, &c.,

G. H. WHEATLEY,
Indian Agent.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
ALBERTA—BLACKFOOT AGENCY,
GLEICHEN, July 1, 1904.

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, last.

Reserve.—The Blackfoot reserve, with its area of 470 square miles, is situated just south of the main line of the Canadian Pacific railway, about 50 miles east of the city of Calgary.

The Bow river enters the reserve near the northwestern boundary, runs in a southeasterly direction, and leaves the reserve very near the southeast corner. Crowfoot creek enters on the northern boundary and empties into the Bow river within 10 miles of the eastern limit. In the southwestern portion of the reserve the two Arrow-wood creeks rise, and, flowing northerly, also empty into the Bow river.

On both the north and south sides of the Bow, are ridges of low sandy dunes. Some scrub and small timber grows on these sandy dunes and along the river and creeks.

The banks of the Bow river average about 150 feet in height, in some places sloping gradually for a mile or more back from the stream, but in others rising almost perpendicularly, when they are known as 'cut banks.'

This river valley consists of not only the river bed, but, at intervals, fertile valleys and plains covered with scrub or heavier timber. The uplands on both sides of the Bow are rolling prairie, broken in places by ponds and the sandy dunes before referred to. Both valley and upland produce rich pasturage for stock, and it is only rarely that the snow lies so deep as to prevent the gaining of a subsistence thereon by cattle or horses.

Tribe.—Only the historic Blackfeet reside on this reserve.

Vital Statistics.—The men number 233, the women 253, and the young people, under twenty-one years of age, 359, making a total population of 845.

Health and Sanitation.—There was no serious epidemic during the year, but too many succumb to pulmonary ailments that evidently lurk in the system of many of these people.

Refuse matter that collects about their habitations during the winter months is regularly collected and burned. Most of these Indians abandon their winter quarters on the advent of spring and take to the teepees.

There is a hospital containing two wards on the reserve. A resident doctor and two nurses are in charge. This hospital is under the auspices of the English Church, but it is open to all Indians.

Dr. Lafferty, of Calgary, supervises the medical work for the department.

Occupations.—Ranching or stock-raising, mining and hauling coal, farming and putting up hay for the near ranchers and various kinds of day labour, are the chief occupations of these Indians. As their cattle now number over 1,800 head, and are yearly increasing, a considerable quantity of hay must be cut and stacked each year for winter use for them, besides a supply for their work horses.

The coal mine was operated for five months last winter, and during that time these Indians mined and hauled over 3,800 tons of coal and earned from this work alone over $5,000. The most easily worked seam lies just south of the Bow river, on the opposite side from the line of railway. The only season that it can be reached is when the ice forms on the river and is used in lieu of a bridge. The nearest point where coal can be loaded on the railway cars is three miles from the mine, and the hauling of the coal from the pit to the cars, and to the Gleichen market, sixteen miles distant, gave a good deal of employment to the Indians and to their teams, besides those employed at mining the coal. These operations were carried on under my management, and I employed a practical miner to directly supervise the mining operations, hauling and the other work in connection therewith. The Indians were paid for hauling by the estimated ton and for mining, some at a rate per yard and others at a rate per day. All were paid weekly in cash and they viewed the operations as of great importance and magnitude and one and all were very sory when, at the end of March, the work had to be abandoned, owing to the fact that the ice bridge was flooded and soon after broken up by the elements.

A surrender of this coal area was made to the department, to be leased on conditions that were embodied in the surrender. It is to be hoped that capitalists will be found who will undertake the operation of this valuable property. It is too vast an undertaking for these Indians to operate successfully. The surrender is amply protected and, to my judgment, particularly favourable to the Indians.

The Indians who took cattle some years ago are now reaping the benefits of their labour. Each season some of them have from one to ten head to sell and yet their holdings are growing in number.

At the beginning of the fiscal year a system was inaugurated here by which members of the band having marketable cattle could, if so disposed, turn a portion of these animals towards providing a supply of fresh meat for their own use. The working of this plan in short is: any Indian has the privilege of turning a beef animal into the reserve abattoir and having his account credited with the quantity of beef so delivered. This individual is allowed to withdraw, weekly, such quantities of meat as will amount by the end of the year to the quantity turned in. The plan has worked admirably, and as the cattle increase in the hands of individual Indians, the greater will be the number who can provide for themselves in a similar manner. It is, so I think, the wedge that may be used to sever gently the able-bodied from that free ration system that has prevailed here since the making of the treaty.

The gratuitous issue of beef for the fiscal year was about 280,000 pounds less than it was four years ago, and this saving was brought about, partially at least, by this self-support system.

Previously to three years ago, the cattle of this reserve were in few hands, but since that time a number accepted heifers under the loan system, i.e., accepted them

on the condition of returning a like number at the expiration of several years, but retaining the increase for their own benefit. These heifers have since had progeny, and in the course of a few years the holders will have matured animals available either for the market or for providing meat for their own requirements. I foresee no reason then why all able-bodied members of this reserve and their dependents cannot be struck from the free ration list, and only the aged, infirm and their dependents, left to the charity of the government.

Buildings.—While no great strides have been made towards the improvement of their buildings, a few better dwellings and stables have been erected and a few others considerably improved.

Education.—The two boarding schools, one under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church and the other under those of the Anglican Church, are still in operation and doing very good work.

There are yet within the reserve a number of children of school age who have never attended any school, but in our opinion the objections to education are gradually dying out.

Religion.—There are two missions on this reserve, one Roman Catholic, the other Anglican. Both denominations have splendid edifices in which the Indians may worship.

Religious services of both are fairly well attended, but a great majority of the Indians still cling to the religion of their forefathers.

Characteristics.—To get as much as they can for nothing out of every one, and the government in particular, is said to be one of the chief characteristics of the Indian. This begging habit is encouraged by indiscreet people giving them letters of introduction to the public asking for donations. While the begging characteristic may be great, I have found some who view it with disfavour and I think if it were generally discountenanced it would soon die out.

Another characteristic is, and I do not think they differ much in this respect from many of their white brethren either, that they expect their preceptor to be an example of his or her own precepts, or in other words they are great believers in consistency.

Progress.—While being unable to report great progress, I think that I can honestly claim some, and on foundations that to my mind are the ones most lasting and productive of advancement in other lines. I refer particularly to their efforts towards self-support, which is very amply exemplified in the fact that the free food issue is now costing the government about $20,000 less than it did a few years ago. I think, too, that it is a fact that the great majority of the Indians are in a much better financial position than ever before. They are more anxious to work now, and I think it a truism that does not except even an Indian, that money earned is more wisely expended than money acquired without labour. I do not wish to be understood to say that they do not squander any of their gains now, for a great deal of their spendings is yet misdirected; sufficient is, I believe, still ill-spent to cover the cost of the food they get gratuitously. Steps have been taken, I am sure, in the right direction and I trust will continue so until the goal of self-support is finally reached.

Temperance and Morality.—There are, I regret to say, too many addicted to the use of intoxicants of one kind or another. A number have been fined and imprisoned during the year for indulging in decoctions put up and sold under the misleading names of flavouring extracts and medicines, when in reality they contain a much greater per centage of alcohol than does the ordinary whisky. Whenever the vendors of any kind of intoxicants could be convicted, they were prosecuted and a few hundred dollars was collected and sent to the department during the year. While such action apparently does not entirely eradicate the evil, it goes without saying that it tends to diminish it.

These Indians seem to be as moral as most Indians similarly situated.

General Remarks.—While the advancement has not been as marked as one would desire, there have been many encouraging features, and I think the year one of substantial progress.

I have, &c.,

J. A. MARKLE,
Indian Agent.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
ALBERTA—BLOOD AGENCY,
MACLEOD, October 5, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the annual report of this agency, together with agricultural and industrial statistics and inventory of government property for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904.

Reserve.—The reserve is situated between the Belly and St. Mary's rivers, and runs in a southern direction for about forty miles to within fourteen miles of the international boundary. It contains an area of over 540 square miles, or some 354,000 acres of splendid grazing land. The two rivers form our boundary lines on the north, east and west sides and give an abundant supply of fresh clear water.

There is no timber upon the reserve, but the river bottoms in places have a few cotton-wood trees and a fair growth of willow, which form good cattle-shelters during the cold weather.

It is the largest Indian reserve in the Dominion.

Tribe.—These Indians are a branch of the Blackfoot nation, which comprises the Blackfeet at Gleichen, North Peigans, near Macleod, and the South Peigans, in Montana, U.S.A.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the reserve at the annuity payments in November last, was 1,196, (an increase of 11 over the preceding year), consisting of 294 men, 408 women, 281 boys and 213 girls.

The births numbered 56, the deaths 46 and 1 Indian returned to the reserve.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of the Indians has been very good during the year, the deaths being less than half what they were last year. As usual among Indians, there are a number afflicted with scrofula and consumption, but every care and precaution is taken with them. They are all instructed to keep their houses well ventilated and whitewashed, also to burn up all refuse, especially in spring. During the summer most of the Indians vacate their houses and live in tents, which is very beneficial to their health. The hospital continues to be of great benefit to the Indians, and is under the care of the medical officer, Dr. Edwards. A great number of the Indians are also treated for minor ailments in the dispensary of the hospital every week. On my visit in June last, I found the hospital in splendid order and spotlessly clean. The Reverend Sisters in charge deserve every credit for their good work here.

Resources and Occupations.—The Indians have as yet not engaged much in farming, this being more of a stock-raising district, so that the principal sources of our Indians' revenue are cattle, cattle-raising, sale of hay and freighting hay, coal and other supplies for the reserve and the neighbouring ranchers.

Some 3,500 tons of hay were put up by the Indians for their own use and about 1,200 tons sold to the police and surrounding settlers at from $4.50 to $7.50 per ton,

according to the distance hauled. A large quantity of coal was also freighted from the Galt mine at Lethbridge to the agency headquarters, to the several police posts and to settlers, at which the Indians earned between $1,500 and $1,600.

An Indian named Black Horses, assisted by his son, is working a coal mine on the banks of St. Mary's river, by which he makes a good living. The coal is apparently of the same vein as the Galt mine at Lethbridge, which is about fifteen miles from Black Horses' mine.

Our Indians also earned $2,182.25 for topping and hauling beets for the Knight Sugar Company, Raymond.

Stock.—Stock-raising is the principal pursuit of our Indians and their herds are growing rapidly. By our records I find that they began stock-raising with the assistance of the department some ten years ago, and their herd now consists of nearly 5,000 head. Nearly 900 calves were branded this summer. The Indians are now realizing the great value of this industry, and this year there were a great many applications for stock from those who had hitherto not asked for any. The department very kindly sent in over 900 head of young heifers in June, which were mostly issued on loan to those Indians who wished to begin cattle-raising, and the remainder were issued to those who had had one or two issued to them in previous years, so that now every Indian who expressed a desire to start in the stock business has had breeding stock loaned to him.

There are, of course, some of them who have not yet realized the benefit of owning cattle, but they will no doubt soon fall into line.

Thirty-nine pure-bred shorthorn and Hereford bulls were sent in by the department, so that now we have 100 fine pure-bred bulls on the reserve. We have also six good stallions, which were supplied by the department to improve the breed of the Indian ponies. A great many of the Indians have fine teams of horses, very different in breed and build from the cayuse which was formerly their chief possession.

Our Indians supplied the department with over $11,000 worth of beef last winter, nearly all being prime three-year-old steers. The barren cows were also cleared out of the herd and killed for beef.

The Indians have still a large number of ponies, which they keep selling from time to time, realizing a good addition to their income.

Buildings.—Many of the Indians have much improved their dwelling-houses by putting in new floors and shingle roofs.

A new house was erected for the herder and a large cattle-shed was built in one of the agency pastures for shelter for the bulls and beef steers.

An addition of two rooms was built to the agent's house, which much improves it in appearance and convenience.

A commodious and comfortable house was built for the use of the resident medical officer, Dr. Edwards.

All the agency buildings are in process of being painted white, which they needed very much, as it is many years since they were last painted.

Several of the Indians have done a large amount of fencing during the year, an area of 500 acres having been inclosed in the various fields and corrals with substantial fences of posts and barb wire.

Implements.—The Indians have purchased during the year 12 mowers, 14 rakes, 4 ploughs, 21 wagons, 42 sets of harness, 28 saddles and 6 democrat wagons, to be paid for out of their earnings. They are thus getting together a good working outfit.

Education and Religion.—There are two boarding schools and one day school belonging to this reserve.

The Roman Catholic boarding school has an attendance of 33 pupils and the Church of England boarding school an average of 47 pupils in residence. The Church of England day school at Bull Horns has between 20 and 30 pupils on the register, but the attendance fluctuates very much, as it is exceedingly difficult to get

these pupils to attend regularly day by day, their parents taking very little interest in the matter.

Pupils from this reserve are in attendance at the Calgary and Dunbow industrial schools.

The large majority of the Indians are pagans ; some few attend one of the two churches here, where services are regularly held, together with the pupils of the schools.

Characteristics and Progress.—There is no reason to complain of the progress of these Indians. The majority are good workers, although as in every community, both civilized and uncivilized, there are indolent ones to be found, who, however much they are urged, will make little or no effort towards earning money and bettering their condition.

Many of our Indians are gathering together good herds of cattle, so much so that in March last a new movement was begun here, that of making the cattle-owners who had sufficient stock provide beef out of their own herds for the support of themselves and families. There are 19 families, consisting of 76 persons, who are doing this wholly or in part.

When their beef animals are killed, a certain proportion of the beef sufficient for their requirements is credited to them and entered in a pass-book, which is given to each owner. Each ration-day they draw their usual ration of beef, which is entered to their debit in their pass-books, and so each Indian knows how much beef he had, how much he draws each ration-day and how much is still left to his credit.

Preference is also given to these Indians who are trying to become self-supporting, when we have any work to be done whereby they can earn money. The other Indians, therefore, see that there is a great advantage in it in many ways, and will no doubt in a short time, when able, follow the example. Of course it is a work of time to educate the Indian in these ideas of self-betterment.

Our Indians are becoming alive to the possibilities of grain-growing. During past years it seems to have been the idea that this part of the country was only suited to stock-raising. In the past two or three years many white settlers have raised good crops of grain, and now it is a topic of conversation among the Indians that they should try to do likewise. This year they broke about 25 acres of land, which were sown with potatoes. If it is found that grain can be grown successfully, they talk about building a grist-mill for themselves and providing their own flour.

Temperance and Morality.—Their morals are, I think, as good as any of the other bands of Indians that I know, and there is not much to complain of in this direction. In spite of the strict law, some of them manage to procure intoxicating liquor. Four Indians were convicted of being drunk on the reserve and sentenced to one month each with hard labour, without the option of a fine. A fine is little or no punishment to an Indian ; he pays it and then forgets, but he decidedly remembers a term of imprisonment.

General Remarks.—We had a very favourable winter for stock and our casualties were very small. We had no severe storm such as occurred in May, 1903. There has been a general improvement towards the betterment of the Indian. There has been a substantial increase in their stock and working outfits, which thus increases their earning powers. I think the agent and staff are to be congratulated upon their work in assisting the Indians towards this end.

I regret to say that at this time of writing our agent and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Wilson, are in Macleod hospital, suffering from typhoid fever. I am glad to state they are now on the way towards recovery. Mr. Wilson was, therefore, unable to write his annual report, and, as I was only transferred from Crooked Lake agency to this agency last December, I must ask indulgence for any shortcomings there may be in this report.

I have, &c.,

JNO. W. JOWETT,

Acting Indian Agent.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
SASKATCHEWAN—CARLTON AGENCY,
MISTAWASIS, September 30, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the annual report of this agency for the year ended June 30, 1904.

WILLIAM TWATT'S BAND, NO. 101.

Reserve.—This reserve lies to the north of, and 20 miles distant, from the town of Prince Albert. It contains some 20,000 acres. Its northern portion is heavily timbered with spruce and poplar, while the southern part of the reserve is suitable for agricultural purposes.

Tribe.—These Indians are Crees.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of 36 men, 47 women, 43 boys and 19 girls, a total of 145.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians is generally good. As for sanitary precautions, there is no trouble, as they now fully understand the necessity for them.

Resources and Occupations.—The members of this band depend to some extent on hunting and fishing; they are good workers and earn very considerable in the lumber woods and at log-driving; they farm but little in consequence.

Buildings.—A number of these Indians have good shingle-roofed houses, which are very comfortable; while others are contented with flat-roofed shanties.

Stock.—They have a fine herd of cattle, of which they take fair care. They have no surplus stock this year beyond what beef will be required on the reserve.

Education.—There is a day school on the reserve, at which the attendance is fair. Some four or five pupils also attend Emmanuel College.

Progress.—These Indians are progressing slowly, but, with the advantages they have, should do much better.

Religion.—Those who are not pagans attend the Church of England service.

Temperance and Morality.—The members of this band, while working in the lumber camps and at log-driving, come a great deal in contact with the white man and liquor; the temptation is very great, yet they behave fairly well. Their morality is not below the average.

PETAQUAKEY'S BAND, NO. 102.

Reserve.—This reserve has an area of forty-two square miles northwest of Carlton; the soil is rich and suitable for mixed farming.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Cree nation.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of 18 men, 23 women, 25 boys and 22 girls, a total of 88 souls.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band has been very good. The houses are kept very clean, and sanitary precautions are well carried out.

Resources and Occupations.—Farming and cattle-raising constitute the chief occupation of the band, little or no hunting being done.

Buildings.—All the houses are substantial, and some are very comfortable.

Stock.—The cattle of this reserve are of a good class and are well cared for.

Farm Implements.—These Indians are well supplied with all implements that are required. These are purchased in most cases from their own earnings.

Education.—There is no day school on this reserve, the children are sent at an early age to the Duck Lake boarding school.

Religion.—These Indians are Roman Catholics, they have a church on the reserve, their spiritual welfare being looked after by the Rev. Father Paquette, who, although at present in poor health, takes great interest in these Indians.

Progress.—They are doing very well, are good workers, and should be in a very short time self-supporting.

Temperance and Morality.—The members of this band are very temperate and moral.

MISTAWASIS' BAND, NO. 103.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated twenty-five miles north of Carlton, and has an area of 77 square miles. It is well watered, hay is plentiful, and the grazing is magnificent.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are Crees.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of 35 men, 40 women, 26 boys and 25 girls, a total of 126 souls.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been very good, they are intelligent and as a rule carry out the instructions given them by the medical attendant; they also observe sanitary measures.

Resources and Occupations.—Farming and stock-raising are the chief occupations on this reserve; there are but few hunters.

Buildings.—The majority of the Indians of this reserve have good comfortable shingle-roofed buildings.

Stock.—The cattle are of a good class, the Indians are poor feeders and it is difficult to get them to put up sufficient fodder; the majority of them were short of hay last winter, consequently the cattle went to the grass this spring in poor condition.

Implements.—These Indians have all the implements they require for farming purposes.

Religion.—There are several families that belong to the Roman Catholic faith, but the majority profess to belong to the Presbyterian Church; they attend service well. The Rev. Mr. Moore is the incumbent and is doing good work.

Education.—There is a day school on the reserve; the attendance is very good. They have an excellent teacher in Mrs. Moore; under her tuition the pupils are making rapid progress. Nine children are at present attending the Regina industrial and Duck Lake boarding schools.

Characteristics and Progress.—Some of these Indians are doing fairly well; they have, however, been too much indulged and lean too much on the ration-house, but if properly handled, there is no reason why they should not become more thrifty.

Temperance and Morality.—Although I have been here but a short time, I have learned that the Indians of this band are neither as temperate or moral as they should be.

AHTAHKAKOOP'S BAND, NO. 104.

Reserve.—This reserve lies 18 miles north of Mistawasis, and contains an area of 67 square miles, much of which is heavily wooded, but sufficient land is to be found for the raising of grain.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Cree nation.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of 42 men, 58 women, 46 boys and 56 girls, a total of 202 souls.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of this band has been good, they keep their houses fairly clean, and follow the instructions given them as to sanitary measures very well.

Resources and Occupations.—Grain-growing and stock-raising are their principal means of support, which they supplement to some extent with that of hunting.

Buildings.—Most of the houses are very good, shingle roof log buildings, some of which are very creditable and will compare very favourably with the best of log houses put up by white settlers.

Stock.—They have a fine herd of cattle, which wintered fairly well ; they also own some good horses.

Education.—There is a day school on the reserve, with a fair attendance ; the progress made, however, is not encouraging. About twenty children attend the industrial schools.

Religion.—The majority of the band are members of the Church of England, their spiritual welfare being looked after by the Rev. Mr. Cook.

Progress.—A number of the Indians are making fair progress and are industrious ; most of them are young and able-bodied, and, if properly handled, should soon be on the way to becoming self-supporting.

Temperance and Morality.—They are very moral, but some of them will drink whenever they can procure any whisky.

KOPWAYAWAKENUM'S BAND, NO. 105.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the northern shore of Meadow lake, about one hundred and twenty miles north of the town of Battleford, and has an area of fourteen square miles. The Meadow river flows through the eastern portion of the reserve, which as a whole contains excellent soil, plenty of timber and good water, and possesses in its waters an abundance of excellent fish. On the reserve there is one of the largest hay meadows in the Territories.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Cree nation.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of 15 men, 23 women, 23 boys and 20 girls, a total of 81 souls.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band has been very good, fair attention is paid to sanitary measures.

Resources and Occupations.—These Indians are hunters ; they put in a few gardens, but that is all, they are too far from a market or mill to go into grain-raising, they derive a good living from hunting and fishing.

Buildings.—There are but few buildings on the reserve, they are of the poorest class and are very seldom occupied, the Indians being but very little on the reserve.

Stock.—They have about eighteen or twenty head of cattle and twenty ponies.

Implements.—They have but few farm implements.

Education.—There is a day school on the reserve, but, owing to the Indians being continually away hunting, the attendance is poor and progress slow.

Religion.—These Indians are Roman Catholics, their spiritual welfare being looked after by the Rev. Father Testo of Green Lake.

Characteristics and Progress.—They make a good living by hunting and fishing, they may in time be prosperous cattle-raisers ; but beyond their gardens, agricultural pursuits cannot be attempted for want of a market. They are industrious and law-abiding, and very clean and neat in their appearance.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

KENEMOTAYOO'S BAND, NO. 118.

Reserve.—This reserve is located along the Green Lake trail and lies twelve miles north of Sandy lake. It has an area of forty-six square miles.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Cree nation.

Vital Statistics.—The total population of the Big River and Pelican Lake sections of Kenemotayoo's band is 34 men, 44 women, 48 boys and 51 girls, a total of 177 souls.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these bands has been very good, sanitary precautions are fairly well carried out.

Resources and Occupations.—These bands depend for a livelihood principally on hunting and fishing ; they have been farming for some two or three years, but the reserve is not adapted to the raising of grain, it being too light ; after being cropped one or two years, the soil becomes exhausted ; the raising of grain successfully on this reserve is out of the question.

Buildings.—Their houses are very poor, but they intend building better ones, and a number of logs have been got out for that purpose.

Stock.—Their herd is not large, although a good class of cattle.

Implements.—They have been furnished with such implements as they require.

Education.—The day school on this reserve is well attended and good progress has been made.

Religion.—But little progress has been made in this direction, but the efforts made by the missions of both the Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches may in time produce good results.

Progress.—They are fair workers, obedient, and are slowly advancing ; an earnest and persistent effort on the part of the agent and farmer will, I have no doubt, be rewarded.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

WAHSPATON'S BAND (SIOUX), NO. 94A.

Reserve.—The reserve contains 2,400 acres, and is 9 miles northwest of the town of Prince Albert; the soil is light and sandy; about three-fourths of the reserve is covered with brush, scrub, jack pine and poplar.

Tribe.—These Indians are of the Sioux nation.

Vital Statistics.—The band numbers about 100 souls, but only some seven families dwell on the reserve, the remainder live near Prince Albert ; exact details are not available.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band has been good; sanitary precautions are well carried out.

Resources and Occupations.—These Indians have about two acres in gardens and about 30 acres in oats and barley. Their chief support is derived from the sale of roots, berries, wood and hay, to the convenient market at Prince Albert.

Buildings.—Their buildings are substantial and comfortable, and are neatly kept.

Stock.—Their cattle and ponies, although small, are of a good class and are well looked after.

Implements.—The supply on hand is adequate, and they are very careful of them.

Education.—There is a day school on the reserve, but the attendance is very small and progress slow.

Religion.—These Indians are adherents of the Presbyterian Church, and divine services are held every Sunday in their native tongue by the missionary.

Progress.—They are very industrious and are steadily advancing.

Temperance and Morality.—In these respects they compare very favourably with the other bands.

GENERAL REMARKS.

From the returns on file in this office, I find that this agency has been fairly successful during the past year, fur and game of all kinds have been plentiful, the crops

were fairly good, although the average yield was small, the agency mill ground over 1,000 sacks of flour for the Indians, besides which some grain was sold at Duck Lake and to passing freighters.

Some 1,500 logs were taken out by the Indians at Sandy Lake reserve, and were converted into lumber.

It is satisfactory to state that the rules laid down by the department are strictly adhered to.

I have, &c.,

J. H. PRICE,

Acting Indian Agent.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
EASTERN ASSINIBOIA—CROOKED LAKE AGENCY,
Near BROADVIEW, August 1, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my first annual report from this agency, with agricultural and industrial statistics, together with the inventory of government property under my charge to June 30, 1904.

I have had temporary charge of this agency since April 20, 1904, the date that the late Mr. Magnus Begg, the former agent, died.

Agency Office.—The agency buildings are situated on the northeast quarter of section 4, township 18, range 5, west of the 2nd meridian, about 9 miles northwest of the town of Broadview, on the main line of the Canadian Pacific railway.

Reserves.—The reserves are as follows: Ochapowace, No. 71; Kahkewistahaw, No. 72 and 72A; Cowessess, No. 73; Sakimay and Shesheep, No. 74 and 74A, and Little Bone reserve, No. 73A, lying north of the Canadian Pacific railway, and extending from Whitewood, on the east, to Grenfell, on the west. The total area of these reserves is 181,676 acres. The reserves are all well watered, being broken up by sloughs and creeks, the latter emptying themselves into the Qu'Appelle river.

Most of the soil is sandy and clay loam. The country in general is rolling and parts of it are very picturesque.

OCHAPOWACE BAND, NO. 71.

Reserve.—This reserve lies to the east of the agency headquarters and is northwest of Whitewood. It contains 52,864 acres.

Tribe.—These Indians are Crees.

Vital Statistics.—There are on this reserve 34 men, 30 women and 40 children, making a total of 104. There were seven deaths on this reserve during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—There are a number of old people on this reserve, but on the whole the health has been good. Dr. J. R. Bird, the medical attendant, has been very attentive to his duties.

Education.—The children of this reserve attend the Round Lake boarding school, which is conducted by the Rev. H. McKay.

Religion.—A few of these Indians are Presbyterians, under Rev. H. McKay's care, the remainder being mostly Roman Catholics and pagans.

KAKEWISTAHAW BAND, NO. 72 AND 72A.

Reserve.—This reserve lies north of Broadview ; it contains an area of 46,816 acres.

Tribe.—These Indians are Crees.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 98, consisting of 31 men, 33 women and 34 children. There were 5 births on this reserve.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of these Indians has been good, except for a few cases of scrofula.

Education.—Six of these children are attending the Qu'Appelle industrial school, 2 at Cowessess boarding school, and 13 at Round Lake boarding school.

Religion.—The majority of these Indians who are Roman Catholics attend service at the mission in Qu'Appelle under Rev. S. Perrault, and a few Presbyterians attend services held by the Rev. H. McKay.

COWESSESS BAND, NO. 73.

Reserve.—This reserve lies to the west of Kahkewistahaw reserve and north of the Canadian Pacific railway between Broadview and Grenfell. Its area is 49,920 acres.

Tribe.—These Indians are mostly half-breeds, the remainder being Crees and Saulteaux.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 190, consisting of 41 men, 55 women and 94 children. During the year there have been 7 births and 6 deaths.

Health.—The health of the members of this band has been fairly good.

Education.—Seventeen of these children are attending the Qu'Appelle industrial school, 2 at Regina industrial school and 19 at Cowessess boarding school.

Religion.—The majority of this band are half-breeds and attend services at the Roman Catholic mission, which is on the reserve, in charge of Rev. S. Perrault.

SAKIMAY BAND, NO. 74.

Reserve.—This reserve is on the west side of the north half of Cowessess reserve and bounded on the north by the Qu'Appelle valley, a small portion of the reserve (No. 74A) being on the north side of the river.

The area of this reserve is 25,208 acres. These Indians have the Leech Lake (No. 73A) reserve 40 miles north containing 6,976 acres.

Tribe.—These Indians are mostly Saulteaux, but a few are Crees.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 166 ; there are 35 men, 41 women and 90 children. There were 10 deaths in this band during the year.

Health.—The health of the majority of these Indians has been fairly good ; there has been no epidemic of any kind.

Education.—Six of these children attend the Qu'Appelle industrial school, 2 at Cowessess boarding school and 3 at Round Lake boarding school.

Religion.—A few of these Indians attend service held by Rev. H. McKay and the remainder are nearly all pagans.

Occupations.—Mixed farming is carried on by most of these Indians with a fair amount of success. They also make quite a little extra by selling wood and hay in Broadview and Whitewood and also by digging senega-root, for which they obtain a good price.

Stock.—The Indians of these different reserves have some very good cattle and cut sufficient hay to carry them safely through the winter. They have also quite a number of good horses.

Farm Implements.—The Indians of these reserves are pretty well supplied with ploughs, harrows and other farm implements. Some of the more advanced Indians

have purchased some of the later improved implements, which are their own property.

Buildings.—The dwelling-houses and stables on these different reserves are not very good. Improvements are going on all the time whenever they have the money to spend, but building material costs a lot of money and no debt for anything is encouraged.

Characteristics and Progress.—Quite a number of these Indians are progressing. They like money and they know they have to work for it and also have realized that it comes by raising crops and raising cattle for market.

Some of them raised over a thousand bushels of grain and they were the ones that were well off and a large number are following their example.

Temperance and Morality.—The character of these Indans has improved, although I may say their temperance is not as good as their morality ; but on the whole they have conducted themselves very well.

I have, &c.,

J. A. SUTHERLAND,

Acting Indian Agent.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
SASKATCHEWAN—DUCK LAKE AGENCY,
DUCK LAKE, September 1, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report of this agency for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904.

ONE ARROW'S BAND, NO. 95.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is located to the east of the south branch of the Saskatchewan river, about 13 miles from the agency headquarters, and has an area of 16 square miles. It is considerably broken up with small lakes and sloughs. The soil is sandy and cannot be depended on during dry seasons.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are Plain Crees.

Vital Statistics.—The number of souls in this band is 103, composed of 22 men, 29 women, 36 boys and 16 girls. There have been 4 births and 3 deaths, 1 absent and 2 returned to the band, making an increase of 2.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band has been very good. They are attentive to sanitary instructions and keep their houses fairly clean.

Resources and Occupations.—Farming and stock-raising occupy some of their time, but the older men have never seriously taken hold; still, what from sale of cattle and produce, along with gathering roots in summer and hunting in winter, they make a good living, receiving little assistance from the department.

Buildings.—Their buildings are not as good as might be, but improvement along that line is going on.

Stock.—Their stock of cattle wintered very well and without loss, but they do not take sufficient interest in the increase.

Religion.—These Indians belong to the Roman Catholic Church.

Education.—There is no day school on this reserve, the children being sent to the Duck Lake boarding school.

Characteristics and Progress.—Having got to a stage that procures them a living they do not show much desire to go beyond this.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are moral and fairly temperate.

OKEMASIS AND BEARDY'S BANDS, NOS. 96 AND 97.

Reserves.—The reserves for these bands border chiefly on Duck lake, and its hay marshes, being about three miles from the town of Duck Lake, which, having its flour mill and good market, adds considerably to the advantages these bands have. The total area is 44 square miles. On Okemasis' and part of Beardy's, the soil is sandy and poor, but the remainder is very good on the south and west sides; these sections the Indians are now going to, for cultivation, with favourable results.

Tribe.—These two bands are Plain Crees.

Vital Statistics.—The number in Okemasis' band is 28, composed of 7 men, 10 women, 4 boys and 7 girls. There were 2 births and no deaths; 1 joined and 2 left the band, making an increase of 1.

In Beardy's band there are 144 souls, composed of 32 men, 38 women, 32 boys and 42 girls. There have been 7 births and 2 deaths, 5 have returned and 1 left the band, making an increase of 9.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good, and they pay attention to sanitary measures.

Resources and Occupations.—Farming and stock-raising occupy most of their time. The younger men, having taken hold with a will, are fast making themselves self-supporting and independent. Having excellent hay-grounds on these reserves and being near the village of Duck Lake, they have always a surplus of hay on hand, for which they find a ready cash market.

Buildings.—Some have good shingle-roofed houses; others not so good; but the general trend is towards a better order of things.

Stock.—They own a fine herd of cattle, of which they take good care.

Religion.—Most of these Indians belong to the Roman Catholic Church, a few to the Presbyterian Church.

Education.—There is no day school on this reserve. The children belonging to Roman Catholic parents go to the Duck Lake boarding school, while those who belong to the Presbyterians go to the Regina industrial school.

Temperance and Morality.—They are, for Indians, moral, and considering their proximity to the village of Duck Lake, are fairly temperate.

JOHN SMITH'S BAND, NO. 99.

Reserve.—The reserve for this band lies on both sides of the south branch of the Saskatchewan river, 14 miles from the town of Prince Albert, and consists of 37 square miles. The soil is all that could be desired, with plenty of sloughs and upland hay, also having a large quantity of poplar timber for building purposes.

Tribe.—This band consists of half-breeds and Swampy Crees.

Vital Statistics.—John Smith's band consists of 143 souls, composed of 40 men, 36 women, 32 boys and 35 girls. There have been 8 births and 3 deaths; 5 left and 10 returned to the band, making an increase of 10.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of this band has been good. They keep their houses clean and attend to sanitary regulations.

Resources and Occupations.—Grain-growing and stock-raising occupy most of their time, while they supplement this by hunting.

Buildings.—In most cases the buildings are good.

Stock.—These Indians have a fine herd of over 300 cattle.

Implements.—These Indians have all the implements they require for their work

Education.—There is a day school on this reserve, which has a fair attendance.

Religion.—The Indians of this band belong to the Church of England.

Progress.—These Indians may be said to be self-supporting.

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

JAMES SMITH'S BAND, NO. 100.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the Big Saskatchewan river, near Fort à la Corne, and contains a fraction over 56 square miles. There is a strip of it on the north side, where the land is poor and sandy; otherwise the soil on the rest of the reserve is of very good quality, interspersed with small lakes, sloughs and hay meadows, but in all, a splendid property.

Tribe.—These Indians are Plain and Swampy Crees.

Vital Statistics.—James Smith's band has 220 souls composed of 60 men, 55 women, 51 boys and 54 girls. There have been 13 births and 5 deaths, 1 has left and 2 returned to the band, making an increase of 9.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of this band has been fairly good. They keep their houses clean and attend to sanitary regulations.

Buildings.—On this reserve nearly all have good shingle-roofed houses ; 6 new ones having been built during the past year.

Stock.—These Indians have a nice herd of cattle ; but from various reasons in the past they have not increased as they should have done. An improvement in this line may now be looked for, as they have had two large pastures made, where constant care during summer and fall can be given the animals.

Implements.—These Indians were rather short of implements until this season, They have now been supplied with everything necessary in that line ; payment for the same being made from funds in hands of the department belonging to the band from the sale of reserve lands.

Education.—There are two day schools on this reserve, both of which are fairly well attended.

Religion.—The Indians of this band belong to the Church of England.

Progress.—These Indians are making fair progress.

Temperance and Morality.—They are moral and temperate.

GENERAL REMARKS.

During the past year the Indians of this agency met with a fair measure of success in farming and stock-raising, while the plentifulness of both fur and game materially assisted them in making a comfortable living. A slow but steady improvement is going on in all the reserves ; which at no distant date will leave them self-supporting.

I have, &c.,

J. MACARTHUR,

Indian Agent.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
ALBERTA—EDMONTON AGENCY,
EDMONTON, July 27, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report on this agency for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904, together with the statistical return and an inventory of the government property under my charge at that date.

The affairs of five reserves are managed at this agency, and while each of them will be dealt with separately in this report, a general reference to such matters as are common to all will save repetition.

If we leave Michel's band out of the survey, the remaining Indians, although belonging to two different tribes, may be treated of here, as one people, continual intercourse between the bands, similarity of pursuits and of environment having made them so. They are hunters and trappers by choice and by inherited tendency and become farmers only through official persuasion or pressure. As long, therefore, as their chosen avocations assure them prosperity, the less esteemed methods of obtaining a livelihood which we are asking them to adopt will be avoided.

An abundant catch of fur, with high prices for the product, made this a prosperous year for the Indians; but various causes intervened to hinder their progress. The prophecies of an abundant harvest, based on the conditions of the early season of 1903, were destined to remain unfulfilled.

The rain which set in at the beginning of haying delayed work and damaged the hay to an extent that resulted in quite a serious mortality among the cattle which had to subsist the winter on it. This wet weather continuing into the harvest, prolonged the growing season till frost overtook the crop and caused additional loss in this respect. It is gratifying to note that, in spite of these reverses there are no evidences of discouragement among the Indians, the area now under crop being somewhat more than in 1903.

The health of the Indians has been good. The usual sanitary measures are inculcated and generally well observed. The visits of the medical officer have been regularly made and professional aid ungrudgingly given to all who sought it. To avoid any risk of contagion from small-pox, which was said to exist in the vicinity, the Indians were confined, as far as possible, to their reserves, and the protection of vaccination was extended to all the bands. Neither this nor any other contagious disease has appeared among them during the year.

In the early part of last winter gossip was current of excessive drinking among the Indians and, on the Mounted Police being appealed to, the authorities were good enough to direct an investigation. The duty was assigned to Inspector Belcher, who made a tour of all the reserves. While Inspector Belcher was honestly anxious to attain the end aimed at by the investigation, all the information he was able to elicit was, that those who disseminated the reports were more anxious to publish than willing to aid in suppressing the evil by giving any information whereby it might be effectively dealt with. It is undeniable that drinking exists, but I have no reason to believe it is increasing.

ENOCH'S BAND, NO. 135.

Reserve.—The reserve is situated about eight miles west of Edmonton. It contains 19,520 acres of land. It is well supplied with timber of good quality for all purposes, is well watered and produces natural hay in profusion both for pasture in summer and fodder for winter. There are large areas of open country which require little, if any, clearing to render them fit for the plough. All the natural requirements for successful diversified farming appear to be assembled here.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are Crees.

Vital Statistics.—At the last annuity payments held in October, 1903, 123 persons were paid, of whom 33 were men, 41 women, 26 boys and 23 girls. The deaths for the year were 9 and the births were 5.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band has been good; medical attendance has been satisfactory and sanitation well attended to.

Occupations.—The principal occupation of this band is mixed farming. Besides the returns from sales of hay, grain and beef, they make considerable money from the sale of dry timber for fence-posts, fuel and such purposes. They operate a saw-mill

of their own, but, being required to provide themselves with adequate buildings before disposing of any considerable part of the output, their income from this source is not much as yet. The construction of a telephone line from Edmonton to the agency office sent nearly $400 their way for poles delivered along the route last winter. Money is also earned by the women selling berries and charring, but none of them go into domestic service. A few of the young men earn wages in the lumber woods and running the river, but none hire out with farmers.

Stock.—The provision of hay made was, in respect of quantity, ample, but as has been said elsewhere, the quality was bad. Outdoor grazing having continued till after the sources of water-supply had frozen up in the early winter and an icy condition of the ground prevailing at the same time, stock went into winter quarters in no very good condition to withstand the ill effects of bad fodder. Unauthorized killing and selling are not increasing and such cases as occur are confined to old offenders. Four of the pedigreed shorthorn bulls purchased for the agency this year have been assigned for service to this band. Hitherto these people have been indifferent to the possession of cattle, but the closing of the ration-house will, doubtless, stimulate their interest.

Buildings.—In this direction there is quite an awakening, due largely to their ability to secure the material by their own efforts from their saw-mill. Three dwellings are well on the way to completion and the material is on the ground for five more to be built this season. One frame and two log stables will also be built by winter. The class of buildings being erected is a great improvement on the past. All will have shingled roofs and boarded gables, with lumber floors. They will be well lighted and more commodious than has been common.

Farm Implements.—The extensive purchases made from the funds of the band give them an ample equipment of modern and approved implements and machinery.

Education.—There is no day school on the reserve. The children are sent to such of the boarding schools as their parents may elect.

Religion.—The majority of the band are Roman Catholics ministered to by a resident priest. The minority are Methodists without a missionary at present.

Characteristics and Progress.—Notwithstanding the buffeting they endured at all points during the year under review, they have uttered no complaint and have taken up the work of the present, undiscouraged and undismayed. They sawed about one hundred thousand feet of lumber at their mill last winter and with the product are busy building, while carrying on their farm work as extensively as in the past. Only those who by reason of old age or other infirmities, would be considered a public charge in any community will for the coming year be rationed, and those cut off, appear to face the prospect with equanimity. Hunting is practically a thing of the past and progress may be expected from year to year.

Temperance and Morality.—Measured by the commonly accepted standards, they would not rank high in these virtues, but, compared with Indians in similar circumstances, their standing is fair. I may say that, within my own knowledge, there have been no accessions to the ranks of the intemperate within the year.

MICHEL'S BAND, NO. 132.

Reserve.—This reserve lies about seven miles west of St. Albert. The present area of the reserve is 17, 834¾ acres ; 7,665¾ acres having been surrendered to the Crown within the year, to be sold for the benefit of the band. What remains to the band is good agricultural land, carrying sufficient timber for all their needs.

Tribe.—The band is an intermixture of Iroquois, Cree and French blood, with the appearance and characteristics of half-breeds.

Vital Statistics.—At the annuity payments in October, 1903, the number paid, as of this band, was 93, made up of 16 men, 20 women, 26 boys and 31 girls. No deaths had occurred during the year and the band was increased by 5 births.

Health and Sanitation.—Although they live under conditions of cleanliness and sanitation which compare favourably with those of their white neighbours, consumption has fastened on them and claimed two of their young men this spring as victims. A few cases of tubercular and bronchial troubles had the medical officer's attention, apart from which their health has been good.

Occupations.—Mixed farming is their principal calling. They dispose of a good deal of dry timber for fuel, fencing and such purposes. They earn money freighting in winter, and their young men engage with surveyors, lumbermen and others for wages. Some of the old men still follow the chase, perhaps for pleasure as much as profit, and this year did well at it financially.

Buildings.—Their dwelling-houses, in general, are good and tidily kept. The stables and outbuildings are fair and are being improved.

Stock.—The care they bestow on their stock is commendable, but improvement in quality was greatly to be desired. The remedy has been provided by the issue of two pedigreed bulls for service in their herds. They suffered, in common with other reserves, from untoward effects of the weather.

Education and Religion.—The ability to read and write is general among the young people and the desire of the elders to have the children taught is quite marked. The boarding school at St. Albert affords them every facility to this end. In religion they are Roman Catholics.

Temperance and Morality.—The practice of these virtues is abreast of their standing in other respects.

Progress.—They have been seriously hindered by want of horses with which to farm. This and a scarcity of implements, it is hoped, will be overcome when the proceeds of the sale of their land become available. Although these causes are making apparent a little stagnation for the time being, the general tone of the band is progressive. Pigs and poultry are seen at most of the places, cows are milked, implements sheltered and a general air of thrift prevails.

ALEXANDER'S BAND, NO. 134.

Reserve.—This reserve lies four miles north of Michel's and contains 26,240 acres of land, about half of which is covered with timber.

Tribe.—With the exception of a few Stonies the members of the band are Crees.

Vital Statistics.—At the annuity payments in October, 1903, the number paid was 182, made up of 48 men, 55 women, 43 boys and 36 girls; 8 had died during the year and 6 births had occurred.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band has been good. The sanitary measures are well observed and the doctor's visits are regularly made.

Occupations.—Hunting and fishing are their main dependence. They are fairly supplied with cattle, and farm but little. Operating their saw-mill gives them employment and the product rewards them for their labour.

Buildings.—The character and condition of these have been a reproach to the band in the past, but the diligence and vim with which they went to work to stock and operate the saw-mill warrants the belief that the stigma will soon be removed.

Stock.—The Indians had made ample provision of forage for the winter, but the feeding of damaged hay and accidents arising from the icy conditions of the early winter made inroads on the herd and adversely affected the prospective increase through injuries to the mothers. A number of new stables will be built before winter and beneficial results are looked for. Unauthorized killing is still too common and, though carefully watched, is hard to prevent. It is regarded by the Indian as coming in the same category as infractions of the game laws. Three of the pedigreed shorthorn bulls were sent for the improvement of the stock here.

Education and Religion.—These Indians are averse to sending the children to boarding schools and are asking for a day school. As regularity of attendance and

submission to restraint are requisite to success in teaching Indians, the nomadic habits of the band offer no warrant that these conditions will be fulfilled, and the value of the experiment would be doubtful. They belong to the Roman Catholic Church and have a resident missionary of that faith.

Progress.—Under the guidance of the farmer, Mr. Bard, who enjoys their confidence and has them well in hand, they show some progress. They bought a sawmill and are paying for it by their own exertions. One hundred thousand feet of lumber were sawn this winter and half of it will be used to better their buildings. The returns from farming are precarious and the occupation itself is distasteful. Markets for produce are distant and the road to them good only at the time fur is at its best. The inducements to persevere are, therefore, slight, but on the whole they are going as far and as fast as can be reasonably expected. With cattle they do better, for hay is put up at a season when the call of the wild is not so alluring and they arrange among themselves to assist each other in feeding during winter so that all the owners do not have to stay at home.

JOSEPH'S BAND, NO. 133.

Reserve.—The reserve is situated on the shore of Lake Ste. Anne, near the village of that name. It contains 14,720 acres of land almost wholly covered with timber.

Tribe.—Excepting a few Crees, the Indians of the reserve are Stonies.

Vital Statistics.—In October, 1903, 142 members of this band were paid, of whom 28 were men, 36 women, 40 boys and 38 girls. The births reported for the year were 7 and the deaths were 6.

Health and Sanitation.—Leading an open air life, their health is good. The doctor visits the reserve regularly and attends all who need his aid.

Occupations.—Although the band, among them, keep some 20 head of cattle, the members look to hunting and fishing for their living.

In the latter callings they are expert and in consequence prosperous. This year the proceeds of these pursuits were sufficient to give every man, woman and child in the band $25. As they get their meat by the same means and at the same time that they secure this revenue, it will be seen they are in very good case and need be but a very light charge on the stores at the agency.

Stock.—The cattle seem to be held more as a good-natured concession to our prejudices and importunities than from any conviction that they afford a desirable way of making a living. They put up enough hay to keep them, and live on the increase while doing so. They relegate the winter care of them to a few of the women who, it must be said, discharge the trust very satisfactorily.

Buildings.—Their houses are, in general, poor, being only occupied occasionally. Their stables serve well enough what stock they have.

Education and Religion.—There is a day school on the reserve, which is fairly well attended while the Indians are at home. In religion they are Roman Catholics.

Temperance and Morality.—Owing to their roving habits, their standing in these respects is hard to arrive at. Drinking exists, but as it leads to no reported breaches of the law, its extent can only be a matter of conjecture.

PAUL'S BAND, NO. 133A.

Reserve.—Paul's reserve is situated on the shore of White Whale lake about 20 miles west of the agency offices. It contains 20,920 acres, three-fourths of which is timbered..

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are Stonies.

Vital Statistics.—In October, 1903, 154 persons were paid annuity, of whom 34 were men, 43 were women, 42 boys and 35 girls. There were 7 deaths and 5 births recorded for the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band has been good ; sanitary regulations were well carried out and the medical attendance was satisfactory.

Occupations.—Hunting and fishing are the main sources of their livelihood, cattle-raising comes next, and farming follows quite a bit behind and in a small way. They are far from markets for their produce and find difficulty in getting what grain they raise threshed. They earn wages working for surveyors, lumbermen and among farmers.

Building.—Their houses are small ; and light, ventilation and privacy are but little considered in their construction. The stables are, also, poor.

Stock.—Hay was secured in better condition than at the other reserves, but the icy ground claimed its victims. Unauthorized killing was more rife than usual, the severe weather which caught them at home about New Year, after their first hunt, preventing their going out again, and leaving them without meat from their usual source of supply.

Farm Implements.—They have sufficient for their requirements and are always provided when needed.

Education and Religion.—A day school is maintained under the direction of the Methodist Church. Owing to the lamented death of Mrs. Hopkins, the teacher, last winter, it has not flourished, but revival is looked for under Mr. Blewett, whose engagement opens July 1. These Indians are Methodists and have a resident missionary.

Characteristics and Progress.—With whitefish at their doors and fur-bearing animals at hand, they are prosperous, and because of their prosperity they are unprogressive. Mr. Pattison, the farmer, is assiduous in his efforts to advance them in the way of civilization, with as good results as the conditions make possible.

Temperance and Morality.—While they remain at the reserve, there is little to complain of in their conduct in both respects. When they are abroad it may be different, but then we only hear vague rumours, which no one appears willing to substantiate.

General Remarks.—In the course of the year the cattle stable at the agency headquarters was removed to a more convenient and less unsightly location and additional shed-room for stock was provided. The houses of the agent and clerk have been objects of restoration and repair and the appropriation made to reshingle the storehouses has been utilized. At both Paul's and Alexander's reserves the farm buildings have been repaired and a new ration-house is under construction at the latter place.

Apart from the resignation of Mr. Blewett as farmer at Enoch's reserve, which took effect June 30, the staff remains unchanged and I beg to record my appreciation of the hearty co-operation of the members in all that makes for the welfare of those committed to our charge.

I have, &c.,

JAS. GIBBONS,
Indian Agent.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
ALBERTA—HOBBEMA AGENCY,
HOLLBROKE, July 1, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report of the affairs of this agency for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904.

Headquarters.—The headquarters of this agency is prettily situated on the left bank of the Battle river, about 10 miles down from Ponoka.

Reserves.—The following reserves, with their location, are comprised and within the jurisdiction of this agency: Samson's reserve, No. 137, lies to the southeast of Hobbema, on the Calgary and Edmonton railway, about half-way between the towns of Wetaskiwin and Ponoka, and contains 39,360 acres. Ermineskin reserve, No. 138, lies to the northwest of Samson's, commencing a little east of and near the railway line, extends westerly across the railway to the Bear's Hill lake; it also contains 39,360 acres. Louis Bull's reserve lies to the northwest of Ermineskin's, and is not yet apportioned to the band.

Montana reserve, No. 139, also called the Bobtail reserve, lies to the south of Samson's reserve and the Battle river, and to the northeast of Ponoka. It contains 19,520 acres.

Pigeon Lake reserve lies at the south end of Pigeon lake and contains 4,800 acres. This reserve is for the use of all the Indians within the jurisdiction of this agency.

The total area of these reserves is 103,860 acres, or 162 square miles. The whole, of course, excepting Pigeon Lake reserve, forms an irregular figure with the Calgary and Edmonton railway line, running diagonally through it, north and south for fifteen miles. Its surface consists of swamps, timber-lands, willow brush, hay-lands, and prairie knolls; all very much mixed.

Tribe.—All, or very nearly so, of these Indians, are Crees.

Vital Statistics.—At the annual payment of annuities there was a total of 645 souls; that is, there were 162 men, 188 women, 151 boys and 144 girls. The total increase by births alone was 38.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians generally has not been altogether satisfactory. It is true, there were no contagious disease, unless colds, catarrh, influenza and consumption be contagious. There were victims to one or other of these afflictions every month of the year. Everything was done that could be done to alleviate the distress of the afflicted, and also to prevent any possible contagion. During the fall of the year, before winter set in, and while the families were living in tents, every Indian house was lime-washed inside and outside. After the winter was over and as early as possible, all the accumulated garbage from around all the dwellings was gathered and burned; the refuse around stables and sheds was hauled away. The Indian custom of living in tents or lodges during the summer is probably more conducive to health than otherwise. It is habitual also to change localities once or twice a month. But cleanliness of person, cleanly habits, cleanliness in the household, so that the women and children shall partake and be a part of it, is something not yet attained. Expectoration, anywhere and everywhere at any time, is the pernicious habit of nearly all. Moreover, there is the ancient customary habit from times prehistoric of passing the same long medicine pipe from mouth to mouth when in council convened, keeping alight and glowing the pipe of peace and brotherhood, and at the same time keeping active methods of infection of their throat diseases.

There is no resident physician, but Dr. Robertson, of Wetaskiwin, is the medical attendant when required, and promptly responds when any call is made for his services.

Resources and Occupations.—The resources and occupations have been very varied and numerous.

Quite a number, probably twenty, found occupation and fair remuneration near the reserves by clearing brush-land for new settlers. The fishing at Pigeon lake was a fruitful source of income. The new settlers and the little towns on the Calgary and Edmonton railway are capital markets for whitefish, of which the Indians have reaped their share of benefit. Last November about forty families cleared for Buffalo lake and for two months were engaged catching muskrats, when the demand for skins by merchants stopped, prices fell, and the Indians returned to their homes.

A few were engaged in butchering and a few others were employed by merchants as traders. After the winter and as soon as the ice was gone out of the Battle river, about twenty-four men were engaged by saw-mill owners to drive saw-logs down from Pigeon lake to the Ponoka saw-mills. But the chief and main resource for all the Indians, if they could only thoroughly be brought to realize it, is the land with its productions. From this source more supplies and steady comforts were realized than from all outside resources combined. The particulars of all these resources are found in the agricultural and industrial statistics now being forwarded to the department. I might add that, notwithstanding some severe and unlooked for losses among the crops, the total gains were $5,000 greater than the previous year. The most of this increase was received from the sale of hay, of which all over the reserves there was a bountiful crop.

Buildings.—The progress made in building new houses and stables was satisfactory. The plan pursued was to build with hewed logs one story, and put on a half story made of lumber and cover with shingles. The lumber is procured from the Indian saw-mill at the agency headquarters. The saw-logs were hauled to the mill during the winter by such Indians as required lumber and shingles during the ensuing summer. At a convenient and suitable time these logs were sawn into dimension stuff and lumber as required by their respective owners. The department paid the expenses for a sawyer, and the Indians did the remainder of the necessary work. The saw-mill, a small turbine water-power, has been an exceedingly useful convenience to all the Indians.

Cattle.—A fine lot of cattle, having one hundred and thirty owners, are evenly distributed over the reserves ; and equally distributed among them are thirty thoroughbred bulls, purchased by the department. This method of assisting industrious Indians has proved an excellent one ; and even promises as good results, if not greater, for the future. The quality of the beef raised by the cattle-owners and sold to the department for the use and benefit of destitute Indians, unfitted by infirmity to help themselves, was excellent and equal to any beef sold in the towns on the railway. The amount sold for this purpose was thirty-seven thousand pounds ; an additional amount for family use, and so used, equalled forty-eight thousand pounds. The cattle are a promising lot of a thousand head. Even now I see waddling past the agency headquarters a bunch, rolling fat, the picture of health and development.

Equipment.—At the present time the implements in use meet the requirements of the Indians. The care of implements of all kinds when not in use is a difficult matter to impress upon them.

They seem utterly unconcerned either as to the fragile nature, or as to the cost of any implement. Where it was used there it can remain until it is wanted to be used again. They know then where it is. Of course this improvidence and waste is a great impediment to their progress. My farmers are constantly trying to make them care for their harness and wagons and implements in use by putting them away under cover after the day's toil, but the lesson only lasts the one day. Even after a whole season or even after years of line upon line, precept upon precept, example upon example, the same thing has to be gone all over again.

Education.—The Roman Catholic and Methodist Churches have charge of the education of the children. Each denomination is of course assisted to a large extent by the department. The former has a missionary living on Ermineskin's reserve who is in charge of Ermineskin's boarding school, where 50 pupils of school age are being cared for, and are taught the precepts of the Roman Catholic Church. They also receive an elementary education including manners and the necessary discipline children generally require. The success of the Sisters as teachers, in moulding into shape the extremely raw material with which they have to deal, reflects credit of no ordinary kind upon their untiring zeal and patience in the work they have voluntarily taken upon themselves to perform. The fact that four pupils have attained and completed the fifth standard this year, shows the good and great work that is being accom-

plished in this Indian boardng school. The latter, or Methodist Church, has a missionary and two teachers in charge of two day schools, one on the Samson reserve near the agency headquarters, the other on Louis Bull's reserve twelve miles from headquarters. The progress in these day schools is not equal to general expectation. The greatest drawback is the irregularity of attendance. When an Indian whose children are attending one of these day schools, leaves the reserve for a time to seek a livelihood, say fishing or hunting, he takes his family with him and school education must perforce for a time cease or until his return to the reserve; for he has no one with whom he can leave his children while away at his employment.

The teachers are very painstaking and industrious, and even anxious to do their utmost for those in their charge, but are handicapped by this irregular attendance. The difference too in the mental attainments of the children at the boarding school and those at the day schools is an object lesson in itself. Some of the children, nevertheless, in these day schools show keen intelligence, are quick to learn and, under the conditions, make good progress.

Religion.—The religious requirements of the Indians are supplied by two well built good-sized church edifices, and by two missionaries. On all holy days and every Sunday, there is a regular attendance at the churches for divine service. This is especially so at the Roman Catholic church, where the missionary is constant in his devotion to his work of instructing his hearers in their duty towards God, and in their duty towards their neighbour. Due respect and attention is paid to the rites and ceremonies by the Indian so far as he knows.

The missionary of the Methodist Church continues untiringly in his attempts to raise the Indian adherents to the practice of the virtues that he teaches them. Of course it is to be expected that profession of religion will for some time yet be ahead of its practice. All the Indians of Ermineskin's band with a portion of Samson's band are Roman Catholics ; while Louis Bull's band and three-fourths of Samson's are Methodists.

A few of the Montana band are pagans; but in their daily life and practice they could not be selected from the others.

Characteristics and Progress.—In many ways the characteristics of these Cree Indians are very peculiar and in some indeed are past finding out. For instance, love of physical ease, of indolence, appears as one of them. I have an experience as follows : One day upon the prairie, after considerable persuasion with an Indian to go to work, he attached his two horses to his mower, climbed into his seat and commenced cutting grass. The sun, never overpoweringly hot in this far north, came out warm and comfortable. The Indian enjoyed it and continued cutting. As the day proceeded, his enjoyment increased until it became overwhelmingly comfortable. He stopped his horses, got down from his seat, and lay in the grass to luxuriate in comfort and more ease, till he would be off to sleep and perchance to dream. After a short time of quietness, a fair-sized gopher, with its usual inquisitiveness, bobbed up like a picket pin, chirped at the outfit and curiously watched the Indian; motionless for a time the Indian in return watched the gopher, then stealthily and gradually, he cut off the gopher from his lair and retreat. The chance to kill something aroused his sporting instincts—his indolence vanished, he becamt alert, active, imbued with energy and after that gopher he went with all his might and main, in and out and around that machine and horses and finally having a chance at the little brute, he made a quick swish with his whip, when, away went the team. For a short period hay was cut with lightning rapidity, but quickly with a bang and a smash the machine struck a rock and over it machine and horses were tossed into a tangled heap. Once more inertness had come upon him. Easily, cooly and quietly he watched the destruction of his fifty-dollar machine, lazily he walked over to the chaos of matter, succeeded in setting free his horses, tossed the harness on to the heap of the ruins, and went home to rest. No gopher. No mower.

Here we have characteristics not easily extracted or explained. I have another experience, but of a different nature, with an Indian of Ermineskin's band, Alexis White Bear, No. 98, whose career is an illustration of industry well directed. Eight years ago, this young man came from Saddle Lake, being transferred at his own request to Ermineskin's band. He married a daughter of old Grasshopper, No. 22, and started on his career. For two years he worked for others, among whom, one was Ermineskin, the chief. Then he commenced to farm for himself and started a home on his own account. To-day after six years steady work he has a good house, a good stable and cattle-sheds with corrals; a growing crop of thirty-five acres in a field of sixty acres well fenced with wire. He used his own four good horses to cultivate his field, has a heavy farm wagon, a bob-sleigh, harness and all the necessary equipment of a small farmer ; keeps himself and family comfortably, has thirty head of cattle, and after wintering them had fifty tons of hay which he sold in Wetaskiwin at a good price. There are others, I am glad to report, nearly equally as successful. The yearly progressive step is most marked by those in closest contact with them. While Alexis bought a wagon, there were eleven others who did the same thing. Six other Indians bought as many mowers, and four horse-rakes. During the winter fourteen Indians purchased as many bob-sleighs and as many bought double heavy harness and other equipment that could be used as a means of further production and progress. As the years roll on, less and less do the industrious Indians need the help of the department. However, there is a large class of sick old cripples, infirm in one way or other and destitute, for whom the department still makes provision. Then there is another class—the lazy and wayward—those who have parasitical habits, who can only be saved by being brought over to industrial ways. It is this class that worries an agent and occupies the most of his time with the least results. This is the class that does nothing in the proper way or at the proper time. The destitute can be rationed; the industrious can be left alone ; while the shiftless, the most unsatisfactory, get the most of attention.

Temperance and Morality.—That the majority of these Indians have a fairly strong taste for intoxicants there can be no doubt. The scheming and dodging to secure the vile fluid, and the lying to protect and hide the seller, are ample proof of the subjection to its seductive wiles. But there are Indians, I am glad to report, who will in nowise have anything to do with it in any shape or form. The leaders of this as yet small band are Ermineskin, the chief of Ermineskin's band, and Samson, the chief of Samson's band. This surely is real progress for an Indian. In a general way the law protects the Indians and they are temperate; and very seldom is anything heard of any immorality amongst them.

I have, &c.,

W. S. GRANT,
Indian Agent.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
EASTERN ASSINIBOIA—MOOSE MOUNTAIN AGENCY,
CARLYLE, July 6, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs.
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report, together with a statistical statement and inventory of all government property under my charge for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904.

WHITE BEAR'S BAND.

Reserve.—The White Bear's reserve is situated at the east end of the Moose mountains, about nine miles north of the town of Carlyle, and comprises an area of 30,288 acres. A large portion of the reserve is covered with hay meadows and lakes. Fish such as pike, pickerel and mullet are abundant in two of the larger lakes. The reserve is well adapted for mixed farming. The soil is heavy clay loam, and a portion of the southeastern part is fairly level, and suited to grain-raising. Good building logs are easily obtained in the bush.

Tribe.—The Indians occupying this reserve are a mixture of Crees, Saulteaux and Assiniboines.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of 54 men, 61 women, 39 boys and 42 girls, making a total of 196. There were 10 births and 8 deaths during the year. One adult died from heart failure and 7 children died, mostly from consumption. One woman was transferred to the Birtle agency.

The population, according to former statements, ought to be 202, but after taking a careful census, I find that 196 is the correct number.

Health and Sanitation.—The health, generally speaking, has been good during the past year. No disease of an infectious nature has shown itself on the reserve. A number of Indians suffered from the grippe during the winter, but only one death was caused by this disease.

Dr. Hardy has been attentive in the performance of his duties, and, in addition to the work done while on the reserve making his monthly visits, he prescribed for many who called at his office in town.

The sanitary measures as prescribed by the department are carried out as far as it is possible to do so. The houses are with few exceptions kept in a cleanly condition. All the Indians requiring vaccination have been attended to. No trouble is now experienced in having this operation performed.

Occupations.—The Indians derive much of their support from the sale of dry fire-wood, willow pickets, logs, fish and wild fruit. The women make bead-work, and tan cow-skins for the white settlers.

They have been very industrious during the present season. Over 200 acres of spring ploughing was done, and in addition to their farming operations, the work of draining hay sloughs, and fencing the reserve, provides them with steady employment.

The prospects for a bountiful harvest were spoiled by a heavy snowstorm which came before grain was all cut, and as it was followed by heavy frost, the grain threshed was unfit for sale. The grain was used to good advantage as feed for the stock during the winter.

The acreage under crop this spring is the largest they ever had. The grain is growing rapidly, and looks well. The prospects so far are good if the grain is not caught by early frosts.

Stock.—These Indians have now all the cattle they can provide feed for. Owing to the past few seasons being so wet, the hay sloughs are all full of water, and as the uplands have all been cut over during the past few years, it will not be wise to increase the herd until conditions change.

The hay-supply put up last year had to be largely supplemented by the use of straw, and as the weather conditions were very bad, the losses sustained were heavier than usual.

Twenty-six head of cattle were butchered for the Indians' own consumption and for the requirements of the agency. Four steers were sold to the department for work oxen. Four thoroughbred bulls are now used in the herd. Two bulls were transferred to File Hills in June. These animals were all well cared for during the winter at the agency headquarters.

Buildings.—The Indian houses are on the whole warm and comfortable, and are well lighted with windows, and floored with lumber.

Owing to the high price of lumber and shingles the majority of the houses have to be roofed with sods. Another drawback to progress in the matter of dwellings is the custom of abandoning, and tearing down, the house when the death of one of the family occurs. It will take time and patience to overcome this practice.

Farm Implements.—The Indians are now provided with a good supply of farm implements, such as wagons, mowers, &c.

A threshing-engine, separator and tank, and also a grain-crusher were purchased during the year, and will be a great benefit to the band.

Education.—The day school is now in charge of Miss E. Scott as teacher, Miss McDonald having resigned in February.

There are 20 pupils on the roll, 13 boys and 7 girls.

The pupils are classified as follows :—

	Pupils.
Standard I	10
" II	7
" III	3

The average attendance for the past year was a little over 10.

Miss Scott is getting along very well and keeps good order in the school. Sewing and knitting are taught in addition to their studies.

The school-building was warm and comfortable during the past winter, and as it is well ventilated and kept in a cleanly condition, the sanitary condition of the building is excellent.

Religion.—The resident Presbyterian missionary, Mr. Dodds, holds services regularly at the mission-house every Sunday, and the attendance at these services is good. He also visits the day school and instructs the children on religious subjects. Mr. Dodds is ably seconded by his wife, and together they are doing good work.

Rev. Father Morard, of Forget, visited the reserve twice during the year, and held services for those of the Roman Catholic persuasion.

Temperance and Morality.—No cases of intemperance or immoral conduct have been brought to my notice during the past year.

Dancing of all kinds has been stopped on the reserve.

The introduction of athletic sports and football as a recreation does much to keep their minds off the dance question.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians in this agency are making fair progress towards civilization. The moral and social life on the reserve shows marked improvement. The whole tone of the Indians is changing for the better. They are law-abiding and civil, and are not given to loafing around the towns.

They still require constant supervision when engaged at their farm work, but they are steadily increasing their acreage for crop, and less trouble is experienced than formerly in getting them to perform farm work.

The following is a statement of the acreage sown this year by a few of the Assiniboines who were removed here from the West reserves in 1901 :—

	Acres.
Echwayatonka, wheat	24
X. J. McArthur, wheat	26
Washtay Oakshid, wheat	22
Rupert, wheat	14

The Indians are steadily increasing in personal possessions.

General Remarks.—A good implement-house, in which the threshing-machine, binders and other machinery are stored, has been erected at the agency headquarters. An engine-house, which is also used as a workshop, has also been built, and is a great benefit, as the engine can be used during the winter.

I am teaching Emile Allan, one of the Qu'Appelle school graduates, to run the engine, and, as Mr. Jack, my assistant, is a capable separator man, we shall not have to depend on outside help during the threshing season.

Mr. J. Lestock Reid, Dominion Land Surveyor, surveyed the addition to the north side of the reserve in May. He also took the levels of several of the hay sloughs with a view to draining them. This work is now well under way, and although very little benefit will be derived from them this year, owing to the grass being killed by water, it will in time prove a great benefit.

The question of securing a permanent source of hay-supply is an important one for the Indians.

The work of fencing the reserve is progressing favourably, and about two-thirds of this work is now done. The labour of cutting roads through the bush, and along the line where the fence has to go, is much greater than the actual work of fence-building.

Mr. W. M. Graham, Inspector of Indian agencies, made a general inspection of the stock and audited the books in April.

The staff in this agency consists of Mr. James Jack as general help, and myself.

I have, &c.,

W. MURISON,

Indian Agent.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
SASKATCHEWAN—ONION LAKE AGENCY,
ONION LAKE, September 27, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report on the affairs of this agency for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904, which will be followed by an inventory of government property under my charge, also a tabular statement.

The bands of Indians comprised in this agency are six, known by the following names and numbers : Seekaskootch, No. 119 ; Weemisticooseahwasis, No. 120 ; Oneepowhayo's, No. 121 ; Puskeeahkeewin's, No. 122 ; Keehewin's, No. 123 ; and Chipewyan, No. 124.

SEEKASKOOTCH BAND, NO. 119.

This reserve is situated north of the Saskatchewan river and about directly north of Fort Pitt. It contains an area of 38,400 acres and varies very much in regard to natural features. The northern portion is wooded with poplar and pine interspersed with patches of prairie. The centre is flat, studded with groves of poplar and willow and at present well supplied with water in the form of small lakes and ponds, and in favourable seasons hay is plentiful. The southern portion is wooded with poplar and pine and has some fine pasture-land and hay swamps. The predominating character of the soil is sandy.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 294. Since the previous payments 17 births and 10 deaths have taken place.

WEEMISTICOOSEAHWASIS BAND, NO. 120.

Reserve.—This reserve contains an area of 14,080 acres and is situated on the west side of the Seekaskootch reserve, which it adjoins, and the southern boundary of each reserve runs on the same line of longitude. The surface is rolling and poplar groves and hay swamps are plentiful. The soil is light and any profitable yield of grain can be looked for only in seasons when there is plenty of rain during the summer.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 94. During the twelve months 2 births and 6 deaths took place.

ONEEPOWHAYO'S BAND, NO. 121.

Reserve.—This reserve is also known as Frog Lake reserve, deriving its name from the large lake which pierces it from the north. In extent it is 21,120 acres. Poplar groves are numerous, with here and there a few pines, and the soil is sandy loam.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 101. There were 8 births and 3 deaths during the fiscal year.

PUSKEEAHKEEWEEIN'S BAND, NO. 122.

Reserve.—This reserve is joined to Oneepowhayo's, the northwest corner of which forms part of its boundary. On the eastern side it is partly bounded by Frog lake. Its area is 25,600 acres and it abounds with poplar groves and has some good stretches of hay. Towards the north it is more heavily timbered. The general character of the soil is sandy loam.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 31 ; 2 births and 1 death occurred.

KEEHEEWIN'S BAND, NO 123.

Reserve.—This reserve lies northwest of Frog lake about 35 miles and covers an area of 17,920 acres. There is a large alkali lake extending into the northern portion and a long stretch of the western boundary, to the south, is formed by the shore of a fresh-water lake known as Long lake. The area of the reserve is 17,900 acres. The central and northern portion abounds with hay swamps and has some good-sized poplar groves. The southern portion is hilly and well timbered with poplar and pine.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the reserve is 124 and during the year there were 9 births and 5 deaths.

REMARKS APPLYING TO FOREGOING BANDS.

Tribe.—In the foregoing, five bands have been referred to, all of them being of the Cree nation; these will be dealt with as one because the most industrious of the members have been located on the reserves close to the agency headquarters, viz.: Seekaskootch and Weemisticooseahwasis, and treated as one band under the head of Seekaskootch band, No. 119.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians during the past year has been good, no epidemics having visited any of the reserves. Precautions are taken at the opening of spring to have the filth and rubbish that accumulates round the houses during the winter burnt, and the premises generally cleaned up. There is a general improvement in regard to cleanliness to be noticed among these Indians.

Occupations.—Grain-raising never has proved an actual success here and during the past season not much attention has been given to this industry. There has been a steady demand for labour in the district and during the spring many of the Indians earned their own living freighting from Fort Pitt to Lloydminster and in bringing supplies down the Saskatchewan from Edmonton. The principal industry

followed by the Indians is cattle-raising and in this they generally have good success ; the past season has, however, not been so profitable as usual. A considerable income was also derived from the sale of furs, not only by the hunting Indians, but by those termed 'working Indians,' as muskrats were plentiful and the latter could trap them without seriously interfering with their other occupations, and the demand for rat-skins was good. The Indian women are seldom found idle at their homes ; they make clothing for themselves and their children, a very common occupation is tanning hides, from which they make moccasins for themselves and the family ; they also receive a number of hides from settlers to be tanned for use as robes. Some of the women also assist in the hay-fields.

Buildings.—The Indian houses are small but warm and comfortable ; they are seldom occupied in the summer, as Indians find it healthier and in some ways more comfortable, under canvas. In the fall the houses are repaired for the winter and are whitewashed with 'whitemud' or lime when procurable. Besides open mud fireplaces many have cooking stoves, and modern cooking utensils are in general use, and there are but few houses one enters where one is not offered a chair ; tables are no rarity, but strangely enough it is a rarity to see them used at meal-time, most Indians still prefer the floor, but the cups and plates are usually spread upon a piece of oilcloth or something of the kind.

Some of the Indian stables are much improved and I look for further improvements next fall.

Stock.—The cattle owned by these Indians are of a very good class, and three thoroughbred bulls are being supplied to add to the service of the open season. The number of cattle in the hands of Indians has been increased by the distribution amongst them of stock by the department, most of which has been given on the loan system.

Farm Implements.—The Indians are well provided with mowers, rakes, wagons and sleighs, most of them being their own property purchased out of earnings and sale of cattle; many of the sleighs are, however, of their own make.

Education.—There are two boarding schools situated convenient to the agency, which are attended by children from the neighbouring reserves as well as by some from the Chipewyan reserve thirty-six miles north ; there are also some non-treaty children that come from a distance. One school is under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church and the other of the Church of England. Both schools are making progress, but the greatest sign of the parents not taking sufficient interest in the education of their children is a desire to take them away while they are yet too young.

Religion.—There are two missions, one connected with each school, Roman Catholic and Church of England. The former is the one most largely attended, having the greater number of adherents; the members of both churches seem to be devout in their worship.

Characteristics and Progress.—The majority of these Indians are industrious and seldom lose the opportunity of earning money when such presents itself; they wish to be self-supporting and there is an instance of two families having left the Onion Lake reserve, taking their cattle with them, and locating on Keehewin's reserve, and they are only allowed to do so provided they will not expect assistance from the department. So far it has succeeded satisfactorily, and two other families are expected to follow during the year we have now entered.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are not addicted to the use of intoxicants, and in other moral respects they compare favourably with the rest of their race.

CHIPEWYAN BAND, NO. 124.

Reserve.—During the past year a reserve containing 46,720 acres was surveyed for this band of Indians. It is situated about thirty-six miles north by seven miles west

of the agency headquarters; at least that direction finds the southeast corner. The Beaver river to the north flows in a southeasterly direction and cuts off the northeasterly corner of what otherwise would be a rectangular reserve. The centre is flat, and in wet seasons somewhat marshy in places; the wild vetch grows luxuriantly and there are long stretches of excellent hay intermixed with vetch. The whole is interspersed with poplar groves, and to the south and west it is more heavily timbered with poplar and spruce. The soil is rich loam.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 264, and during the year 10 births and 11 deaths occurred.

Tribe.—These Indians are Chipewyans.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been fairly good, no epidemics have attacked them. Consumption, as with other Indians, is their greatest trouble and among the old there is a good deal of blindness. In spring there is a general cleaning-up around the houses and the rubbish collected is burnt.

Occupations.—It is the exception when any of these Indians require assistance from the department, they are almost altogether a hunting band. They raise potatoes and other vegetables, but, as the district is subject to early frosts, the growing of grain is not profitable. They have a number of cattle, which in winter occupy the attention of those not away hunting. The women take part in attending to the cattle during the winter.

Buildings.—The houses are larger and more substantially built than those of the Crees. Their stables are as good and are generally well prepared for the winter.

Stock.—The class of cattle is inferior to that of the Crees; they have refused to accept thoroughbred bulls which would be loaned them if they would do away with those of their own raising. Considering that these Indians beyond the treaty annuities they receive, are little expense to the department, they look after their affairs fairly well.

Farm Implements.—They have a sufficient number of mowers, rakes, wagons and sleighs for their requirements, all of which are their own property.

Education.—There is no school nearer than Onion Lake, where there are six pupils at the Roman Catholic boarding school. They are apt pupils, but, like the Crees, the parents are anxious to take them home before they have derived full benefit.

Religion.—The band is altogether Roman Catholic and under the auspices of that church there has been a mission of long standing which comes within the limits of the reserve. The Sunday services are well attended when the Indians are not away hunting.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Chipewyans are, generally speaking, comfortably off; they have had a successful year's hunting and in that way can derive a living so long as the hunt lasts.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are not given to the use of intoxicants; and, taking them as a whole, they are a well-behaved and law-abiding people.

I have, &c.,

W. SIBBALD,

Indian Agent.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
ALBERTA—PEIGAN AGENCY,
MACLEOD, August 13, 1904.

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, 1904, together with the usual statement of agricultural and industrial statistics covering the same period.

Reserve.—The Peigan reserve is situated on the Old Man river, west of Macleod. Its form is almost square, and its area 181⅔ square miles, or more than 116,000 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 Crow's Nest Pass railway passes through the reserve from northeast to southwest corners, there being fifteen miles of track and two sidings (Nos. 5 and 6) within the reserve limits. This reserve is composed of undulating prairie and untimbered hills, all being suitable for grazing purposes. Favourably situated among the hills, are several large springs of good water, to which the range cattle have easy access throughout the whole year, while the Old Man 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 the three tribes, Blackfeet, Bloods and Peigans, that form the Blackfoot nation or family in the great Algonkian linguistic stock. These Peigans are commonly called 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 506, of which total number 151 are men and 163 are women, and 192 are chldren under sixteen years of age. Further details in connection with this subject are shown in the tabular statement.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of the Indians has been good, and improvement is noticeable in the cleanliness of their dwellings.

Occupations.—The cattle and horse industries are the principal occupations of this band, for the reason that they take more kindly to this work, and the natural facilities, climate and soil, are better adapted for stock than grain. They have, however, fenced in this spring two hundred acres and broken thirty-five acres, and intend going into grain-raising on a limited scale.

Buildings.—More or less building is continually in operation; among these are Good Prairie Chicken's frame house, one and a half story; Joe Pott's frame house, Little Bear's house, of log wall, with lumber gables and shingle roof.

Cattle.—The year was a prosperous one. For the animals butchered the Indians received $3,897.30, most of which was expended, as in previous years, upon wagons, harness, saddles, ploughs, mowers, rakes, lumber, food and clothing. Last year 363 calves were branded at the spring round-up. This year we branded 468, an increase of 105.

Fencing.—We have built 11 miles of wire fencing this spring. This constitutes considerable work, as the timber for posts, of which we used several hundred, was hauled from 12 to 15 miles. The wire and staples were paid for by the Indians out of their own earnings from various sources.

Education.—The Church of England and Roman Catholic boarding schools still continue in their efforts to improve the mental and moral condition of the children.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are more or less fond of whisky, and although every means is used to try to stop the traffic in liquor, there are still a few who manage to get it. In other respects the Peigans are a moral lot of people.

I have, &c.,

J. H. GOODERHAM,
Indian Agent.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
ASSINIBOIA—PELLY AGENCY,
CÔTÉ, August 19, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my second annual report for this agency, together with agricultural and industrial statistics and inventory of government property under my charge up to June 30, 1904.

Reserves.—The total area of the three reserves in this agency is 78,784 acres; about 31,000 of this is covered with small poplar, unfit for timber, except on the northwest of Key's reserve, where there is considerable good spruce and tamarack from which building logs can be obtained. The soil in most places is deep clay loam, producing a rank vegetation, and the reserves, being well watered with small lakes and creeks, the latter running from the Duck mountains to the Assiniboine river, provide ideal runs for cattle; while the whole country, being rolling and dotted with bluffs, is most picturesque.

CÔTÉ'S BAND, NO. 64.

Reserve.—In my last report I designated Yorkton as the locating point to find this reserve; since then Kamsack, a new divisional point on the main line of the Canadian Northern railway, has been started on the southwestern part of it; the reserve comprises 56 square miles.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are Saulteaux.

Vital Statistics.—At the annuity payments completed last month, there were 252 souls in this band, consisting of 55 men, 61 women, 73 boys and 63 girls. There were during the year 9 births and 12 deaths; five of the latter were adults, all of whom died from consumption.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians in this agency has been good during the year, there having been no epidemic; 19 were born, a birth-rate of forty per thousand, and 20 died, a death-rate of forty-two per thousand, 9 out of the 20 who died were adults, 6 of whom died from consumption, 2 from old age and 1 from accident; all the children died from lung trouble, chiefly scrofulistic tuberculosis. These people look after sanitation closely, keeping the surroundings of their houses clean and tidy, while as to the interiors, I always find them clean and neat. Most of the houses that I eat my lunch in, when visiting the reserves, lay the table with a nice white table-cloth and other table necessaries. A doctor who accompanied me when visiting the reserves last winter was astonished at the neat clean appearance of the interiors of their homes. I had to request Dr. Cash, the medical attendant, to visit the agency five times during the year, as against thirteen visits the previous year.

Education.—The children of this reserve are educated at the Crowstand boarding school, which is situated in the southeast corner of the reserve. The department

allows a grant for 40 pupils, but 45 are generally on the roll. I cannot speak too favourably of the excellent work being done at this school by the Rev. Mr. McWhinney, the principal, the staff of four ladies and the farming instructor. The girls get a thorough training in all kinds of housework, while the boys are well drilled in good farming and the best ways of feeding and caring for cattle, horses, pigs and poultry. Can it therefore be wondered at, that the parents, seeing that their children can get such an educational and farm training on their reserve, object more and more to being severed from them, by sending them to industrial schools ? Four children attend the Regina industrial school.

Religion.—One hundred and sixty-three of these people are Presbyterians ; they attend their church on the reserve very regularly ; there are twenty-three Roman Catholics, who attend the church on Kisickonse's reserve, one Anglican and sixty-five pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—Now that I have been here long enough to know these people individually, I consider them, taking them as a whole, the most industrious, law-abiding band I have ever come in contact with ; they never let a chance slip by of earning money ; they are most willing to advance themselves ; as an example of this: a number subscribe for a large eastern paper and Manitoba monthly agricultural papers. I attended a concert in their school-room at New Year's, where about two hundred of as quiet, well-dressed, orderly people as one would wish to find were present, most of the men being in black suits with collars and neck-ties. A blanket Indian is unknown in this band. Physically and mentally this band is much superior to the others ; the men are a shrewd, sharp lot, and now that they have railway facilities, I expect to see them go ahead financially.

KEY'S BAND, NO. 65.

Reserve.—This reserve is three miles west of Fort Pelly and twenty northwest of Kamsack ; its area is thirty-eight square miles. The Assiniboine river forms its western boundary.

Tribe.—The people of this band are Swampy Crees.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 79, made up of 19 men, 19 women, 18 boys and 23 girls. There were during the past year, from annuity payment to annuity payment, 2 deaths and 3 births, both deaths were from consumption.

Education.—The children attend the day school on the reserve very regularly.

Religion.—Rev. Owen Owens is the Anglican missionary. Thirty-two members of the band attend his church, which is a substantial building on the reserve, close to the mission and school-house. There are also 8 Roman Catholics, 1 Presbyterian and 38 pagans, the latter being the pure Indian part of the population, the others being treaty half-breeds.

Characteristics and Progress.—I can report little progress during the year. The reserve is, owing to its broken formation, unsuitable for farming, which work I am not urging on this reserve, until the question of a piece of good farming land I am trying to obtain for these people is settled ; but it is admirably suited for stock-raising, being well watered and sheltered, with abundance of hay.

KISICKONSE'S BAND, NO. 66.

Reserve.—The southern part of this reserve is nine miles from Kamsack, while its northern boundary is twenty miles; its greatest width is six miles. It is bounded on the west by the Assiniboine river and on the east by the Duck mountains and Lac la Course. It contains twenty-eight and a half square miles.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Saulteaux nation.

Vital Statistics.—At the census taken last month there were 138 souls in the band, consisting of 29 men, 41 women, 34 boys and 34 girls; this makes the total popu-

lation of the agency 469 souls, or 103 men, 121 women, 125 boys and 120 girls. There were 6 deaths and 7 births during the year ; one of the deaths was that of Chief Kisickonse, from old age, a most polite old man and a staunch friend to the government during the rebellion in 1885. He directed in his will that a marble tombstone be erected to his memory, which I have had done.

Education.—Rev. Father de Corby, the Roman Catholic missionary, has completed his large boarding school, situated just off the east edge of the reserve, and has it in operation with seventeen of the children in attendance ; the pupils are making excellent progress; when the school comes under the usual government grant and farming operations start, the boys will be able to get a thorough training.

Religion.—The rev. father above mentioned, has a neat little church in the centre of the reserve, which is well attended by sixty-one of the population ; there are also twelve Anglicans, sixteen Presbyterians and forty-nine pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—This band is very willing to work and compares favourably in some ways with Coté's; although their reserve is not so well adapted for farming operations, they have broken a number of new fields this year and are making the best use of the opportunities they have.

Buildings.—Taking them as a whole, they are a fair class and are yearly improving. A number of Côté's band is now building a good two-story frame house, paying for all the material and labour from his farm, cattle and work earnings. All other houses on the three reserves are log, mostly a story and a half, chiefly with thatched roofs; six have shingled roofs. The interiors are all kept very clean and neat, many of them being comfortably furnished.

Cattle.—Although the past winter was the most severe we have had since 1892, the stock came through in good condition, there being a sufficient supply of hay and to spare. There were thirty-three losses, from accidents, cows calving, &c. The total stock on the three reserves on June 30, was 746 head. I started inoculating for anthrax last year, operating on all young stock under two years old with the result that I have not heard of the death of one that was inoculated. The Indians sold last year one hundred and one head, comprising seventy-two steers, three years old, twenty-six cows and three oxen; these realized $3,685.92, besides these, nine head were killed for private use. The heaviest steer sold weighed 1,490 pounds, and cow 1,470 pounds. The previous year one hundred and ninety-seven head were disposed of. There are eighteen pure-bred shorthorn bulls on the reserve.

Farm Implements and Agricultural Progress.—As an example of how these people are willing to help themselves toward farming, during the fourteen months I have been with them, they have purchased out of their own earnings, implements to the value of $1,186.18, comprising ploughs, wagons, mowers, a twelve-horse power, and barbed wire for fencing. During the time mentioned the acreage under cultivation has been doubled, 321 acres being under crop in 1903, during which year 106 acres were broken, and 236 acres this year; 8,484 bushels of oats were threshed last year, all good ripe again. Wheat is being tried for the first time this year, some 40 acres being put in; at date of writing it is a fine crop and will be cut in a few days. The Indians were the first to start seeding in this district last spring. The department assisted five school graduates to start farming this spring; they have all done well, having broken up good large fields. These people lack the necessary horse and ox power to work with, which if they had, they would soon be in an independent position, as they are very willing to work if they had the withal to do it; the trouble is not to make them work, as in other agencies I know, but to get them something to work with. A farmer, Mr. W. S. Rattray, was supplied this agency last spring, who is proving a great assistance to me in my work.

Temperance and Morality.—I am pleased to be able to state that, with the exception of the five cases which arose shortly after I arrived here, I have had no case of intemperance brought to my notice, yet I expect to have trouble in this respect, with the growth of the new town, right in our midst.

Taking them as a whole, I consider them a moral, truthful and as honest a lot of people as one would wish to work with, easily led but not driven, who compare most favourably with several classes of the white population.

General Remarks.—In conclusion I beg to say that I am fairly pleased with the advancement made during the past year, not only as regards work done but in respect to reduction of rations and general progress. Although there has not been, for a number of years, a regular issue of rations, a certain amount of help has been given, to assist people to work. I am steadily reducing this, having issued seventy-nine sacks of flour less than the previous year, and hope much further to reduce the issue this year, until shortly it will be a thing of the past amongst those who can work; of course there are a number of old men and women too old and feeble to better their condition who will always require a little relief. Eleven men from the three bands paid their own expenses to the Dominion Exhibition in Winnipeg last month, and will be much benefited by what they saw. Another sign of better prosperity is that at the last two annuity payments, I have, with the parents' consent, been able to increase largely the number of the children who have their annuity money funded for them, which children are attending industrial and boarding schools.

I am also pleased to be able to report that so far my agreement with these people over that very troublesome problem, the dance question, has been carried out faithfully; my agreement is, that no dance whatever, except fiddle dances, are to be held, and none of these between April 1 and November 1, the work season, and only two of these to be held in any one house during the other five months.

The agency has been much improved by replacing all the old rail fences with good tamarack post, wire and top-rail fences, with new gates and posts painted green and white.

During the year, visiting the reserves and in connection with my work, I drove with the same pair of horses, 4,028 miles.

Before closing I should like to testify to the willing and great help I have received from my clerk, Mr. F. Fisher, who also acts as interpreter, storekeeper and dispenser of medicines.

I have, &c.,

H. A. CARRUTHERS,

Indian Agent.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
ASSINIBOIA—QU'APPELLE AGENCY,
QU'APPELLE, August 25, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith a report on this agency for the past fiscal year, together with statistical statement and inventory of government property in my charge.

Eight reserves are included in this agency, viz.: Piapot, No. 75; Standing Buffalo, No. 78; Pasquah, No. 79; Muscowpetung, No. 80; Peepeekesis, No. 81; Okanees, No. 82; Star Blanket, No. 83; and Little Black Bear, No. 84.

I was placed in charge of this agency on February 17 last, and my report will not therefore be a complete review of the work performed and the progress made by the Indians during the fiscal year under review.

PIAPOT BAND, NO. 75.

Reserve.—This reserve comprises the whole of township 20, in range 18, west of the 2nd meridian, and contains in all some 34,547 acres. The soil is very light and will only grow good crops in favourable years. In dry seasons it is difficult to grow grain at all. That portion of the reserve, however, which lies in the valley, contains a large quantity of grass, which when cut early and well cured makes the best of hay.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band nearly all belong to the Cree tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 144, composed of 35 men, 52 women and 35 boys and 22 girls under twenty-one years of age. There occurred during the year 1 birth and 4 deaths.

Health and Sanitation.—The Indians of this band appear to be a healthy lot. No infectious disease appeared amongst them during the year. The sanitary precautions of the department are carried out in a few cases.

Occupations.—Mixed farming is carried on with a good measure of success by the majority of these Indians. A good living is also made by the putting up and selling of hay in addition to what is needed for their cattle. A small quantity of dry wood for fuel is also sold, but owing to the very small supply of dry wood now left on the reserve, this industry is decreasing year by year. During the summer the women dig a large quantity of senega-root, for which they obtain good prices. The women also do quite a lot of tanning for the surrounding settlers.

Buildings.—The buildings, which are of log, although small, are well built, and, being in the shelter of the valley, afford the live stock comfortable quarters for the winter.

Stock.—The cattle on this reserve are of good quality, and although the natural increase is very satisfactory, there is plenty of room and hay for a far larger herd of cattle than these Indians now possess. During the year the government herd, which was located on Muscowpetung's reserve, was disbanded, and the government loaned the Piapot Indians some 78 head of females, so that these Indians now possess a fine lot of breeding stock.

Education.—Little interest is taken by these Indians in the education of their children, although the opposition to schools that formerly existed appears to be dying out.

Religion.—These Indians are mostly pagans and evince little or no interest in Christianity.

Implements.—These Indians are well supplied with all necessary implements.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are making fair progress. They had a good crop last year and although the number of bushels threshed was only a little larger than that of the previous year, the crop itself was much more valuable; in fact, some of the best wheat that went into Regina last winter came from this reserve. In addition to their crop, they sold quite a number of steers. These Indians appear to spend their money wisely, as is evidenced by the number of new implements and wagons owned by them, and also by the way in which they are improving their own dwellings. They are quite independent of material help from the government now, with the exception of a few very old and infirm, who receive a ration and some clothing for the winter. Nearly every cultivated field is inclosed with a wire fence, all of which has been paid for by the Indians.

Temperance and Morality.—No cases of intemperance or immorality have been brought to my notice.

MUSCOWPETUNG'S BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the Qu'Appelle river, between Piapot and Pasquah reserves, and contains in all 38,080 acres. The 'bench' or upland consists

mainly of first-class farming land, whilst that portion that lies in the valley contains some very valuable hay-land. The timber is nearly all small and of very little use for building.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 86, consisting of 21 men, 27 women, and 19 boys and 19 girls under twenty-one years of age. One birth and two deaths were recorded during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of these Indians throughout the year does not appear to have been good, consumption being the main cause of what sickness there was. The sanitary condition of the reserve is good, the Indians carrying out the department's regulations very well.

Occupations.—The occupations of these Indians consist mostly of grain farming, stock-raising and putting up hay for sale. A small quantity of wood is also marketed.

Stock.—These Indians possess a very fine herd of cattle, numbering some 248 head, which is a substantial increase over last year's total. This year's calves appear to be a very fine lot and are numerous.

Buildings.—Owing to lack of suitable building material, the buildings on this reserve are small, but nevertheless they appear to be very comfortable and well-suited to the requirements of the stock. Throughout the severe winter of 1903-4 these Indians lost only three head of cattle.

Education.—All children of school age belonging to this band are attending school, but still I cannot say that the Indians themselves take much interest in the education of their children.

Implements.—These Indians are well equipped with such implements as they require for their agricultural pursuits. During the year they purchased another seed drill.

Religion.—The majority of these Indians are pagans, and appear to take little or no interest in Christianity.

Characteristics and Progress.—In comparing this year's statistics with those of previous years, it is at once evident that progress made in the past two years has continued, and in fact one has only to go amongst them to note that they are an industrious lot of Indians. For the same reason that their stables are small, their dwellings are also small, but comfortably furnished inside. These Indians have a large field fenced in, containing some nine square miles, in which the cattle run all the summer. Most of the fields are fenced with wire, and it is gratifying to note the care that they take of their implements. A portion of the crop on this reserve was frozen last year, but, all round, these Indians realized a fair amount for their labour, and this, together with the sum realized from the sale of their cattle, has enabled them to live well.

Temperance and Morality.—No cases of intemperance or immorality have been brought to my notice.

PASQUAH BAND, NO. 79.

Reserve.—This reserve lies about six miles west of the village of Fort Qu'Appelle and has for its northern boundary the Qu'Appelle lake. It extends back about eight miles and contains some 38,496 acres of land. A large portion of this reserve lies in the Qu'Appelle valley, which yields but little hay, however. Most of the hay is cut from sloughs on the uplands supplemented with 'prairie wool.' The upland consists for the greater part of first-class farming land. This reserve also contains a fair amount of good building material.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Saulteaux tribe, there being a slight admixture of Cree.

Vital Statistics.—The population, which is 132, consists of 29 men, 47 women and 22 boys and 34 girls under twenty-one years of age. There were recorded during the year 4 births and 7 deaths.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians appears to have been good throughout the year, the band having been entirely free from an epidemic of any kind. The departmental sanitary regulations are well carried out here, and most of the houses, which are well built, are kept very clean and tidy. These Indians also appear to keep themselves better dressed and cleanlier than either of the two bands above referred to.

Resources and Occupations.—From the nature of the reserve these Indians must depend almost entirely on grain-growing for a livelihood. Owing to the supply of hay being limited, only a small bunch of cattle can profitably be kept. The herd, as now owned by these Indians, numbers some 161 head, and a very fine lot of cattle they are. Quite a large quantity of fire-wood is sold by these Indians.

Buildings.—The buildings on this reserve are well constructed and comfortable. Many of the houses have shingle roofs with lean-to kitchens.

Implements.—These Indians are well equipped with implements, and are continually adding new machinery to their equipment.

Education.—All children of school age belonging to this reserve are attending school, and there is very little trouble in getting the parents to allow them to do so.

Stock.—The cattle here are nearly all well-graded shorthorns, and, as I have said before, are a very fine lot. Several of the Indians also own some very fine work horses.

Religion.—Many of these Indians profess Christianity. There are two churches on the reserve, one owned by the Roman Catholic Church and the other by the Presbyterian Church. The latter, however, I believe is not now used.

Characteristics and Progress.—There are some five or six Indians on this reserve who are making good progress year by year and who may now be classed as well-to-do farmers. On the other hand there are a lot of young fellows on this reserve who might do a good deal more than they do, in fact it is hard work to get them to do what little they do. This reserve is surrounded by three or four small towns and it is a great temptation to these young fellows to attend all the many celebrations that are continually taking place, of course much to the detriment of the farm work they might otherwise do.

Temperance and Morality.—Since taking charge of this agency three cases of intemperance have come to my notice on this reserve. However, I am glad to say that in each case the person who gave the liquor to the Indian, as well as the Indian, was convicted and punished, in two cases by imprisonment and one by a fine of $75 and costs ; and it is to be hoped that these sentences will considerably lessen the desire of these Indians for liquor.

STANDING BUFFALO BAND, NO. 78.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band covers an area of seven square miles and is situated in townships 21 and 22, range 14, west of the 2nd meridian.

The soil is of a sandy loam and rather too light for successful grain-growing. Roots, however, as a rule do well. The reserve is deficient in hay, and what hay is required is usually cut under permit on land belonging to the Dominion government.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Sioux or Dakota nation, and many of them belonged formerly to the United States population.

This band has a population of 211, consisting of 99 males and 112 females.

Health and Sanitation.—The past year appears to have shown a continued state of the usual good health enjoyed by these Indians. Consumption and scrofula, so common amongst the other bands of this agency, are conspicuous by their absence here, and this, no doubt, may in part be attributed to their cleanly mode of living and the neat and clean condition of their houses and surrounding premises.

Occupations.—Grain-growing is carried on very extensively by these Indians, supplemented by a small herd of cattle. A very large number of them work out for the farmers in the surrounding districts and so capable are they as farm labourers that

they are much sought after and command good wages. A special feature of this reserve is the fine gardens owned by many of the Indians, the soil appearing to be particularly adapted to this branch of farm work. Little or no wood is sold by these Indians, in fact, many of them go off the reserve for their own supply. A large amount of fish is caught and sold during the season. Every crop is now fenced with wire, in addition to a large pasture, which has been wired in for the cattle, and the whole reserve has a thrifty and neat appearance.

Buildings.—Owing to lack of suitable material, the buildings on this reserve are small. They are, however, comfortable and as far as the dwellings are concerned beautifully kept.

Implements.—This band is well supplied with agricultural machinery, which is well cared for. During the year, in company with the three bands above mentioned, these Indians purchased a J. I. Case 32-54 separator and 15 horse-power engine at a cost of $1,900, to be paid for entirely by themselves, as well as the cost of operating the same.

Religion.—Most of these Indians are nominally Roman Catholics.

Education.—The Indians of this band appear to be more interested in the education of their children than the Indians of the bands above referred to, and most of the children of school age are attending school.

Temperance and Morality.—No cases of intemperance or immorality have been brought to my notice.

FILE HILLS BANDS.

Reserves.—The Indians of these bands occupy four reserves, viz. : Peepeekesis reserve, No. 81; Okanees reserve, No. 82; Star Blanket reserve, No. 83; and Little Black Bear reserve, No. 84. The total area of the four reserves is 126 square miles and they are situated some 20 miles northeast of Fort Qu'Appelle.

Tribe.—The Indians of the four bands belong to the Cree tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the four bands is 245, composed of 72 men, 62 women, and 45 boys and 66 girls under twenty-one years of age.

Resources and Occupation.—The natural resources of these reserves are hay and wood, of which there is an abundant supply. The main occupation of these Indians is mixed farming, at which they continue to be very successful. They also own a large herd of excellent cattle, which, together with their farming operations, keeps them very busy all the year round. They are, however, as a rule, able to put up sufficient hay for sale, in addition to what they feed to their stock. A very large quantity of dry wood for fuel is also cut and sold to the surrounding settlers.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of these Indians has been fairly good throughout the year. No epidemic of any kind has visited them. Consumption and scrofula appear to be the main causes of what sickness there is amongst them. On Okanees and Peepeekesis reserves the sanitary condition of the houses is good, quite a few of the houses being comfortable log dwellings with shingle roofs.

Buildings.—There being an adundance of building material on all the reserves, most of the buildings are of a good size and well built and there seems to be a tendency amongst the Indians to build better houses for themselves than formerly. They are also well equipped with granaries.

Stock.—The large herd of these Indians is in excellent condition, both as to quantity and quality. The natural increase this year shows an excellent average.

During the year the government ranch on Muscowpetung's reserve was disbanded and a number of the females loaned to Piapot Indians. The rest of the herd was transferred to the File Hills government ranch, where new buildings were erected and everything is now in first-class order.

Implements.—These Indians are all well supplied with agricultural implements. Nearly every Indian who farms owns a complete set of implements for his own use.

Education.—Little or no opposition is shown to schools by these Indians, and every child who is of school age is attending school.

Characteristics and Progress.—From statistical information it would appear that these Indians are making steady progress year by year. Their threshing returns show a large increase, as does also the large number of cattle owned by them. Most of the farming Indians own first-class teams and up-to-date machinery, and nearly all their grain is stored in good granaries. They own a complete threshing outfit of their own.

The Kirkella extension of the C. P. Railway now runs along the southeast boundary of the Peepeekesis reserve, and the towns that are springing up along the line will open fine markets for the sale of wood and hay for these Indians, besides a close market for their grain and stock. This last will be a great consideration, as formerly these Indians had to haul all their grain to Indian Head, a round trip of some 80 miles. Besides being a very hard and trying trip in winter, it considerably curtailed the profits of their labour. However, this is all changed now and it will probably be a great incentive to the Indians to do even better than they have done.

Religion.—Most of these Indians are pagans, although a few of them profess the Roman Catholic faith and some again adhere to the Presbyterian Church. There is a Roman Catholic church on the reserve, which is well attended, and the missionary from the Presbyterian boarding school, which adjoins Okanees reserve, holds services regularly each Sunday.

THE FILE HILLS EX-PUPIL COLONY.

The File Hills ex-pupil colony was started in the spring of 1901 with the idea of placing the ex-pupils, as soon as they had left school, on farms of their own, instead of allowing them to return to the teepee as formerly. For this purpose a portion of the Peepeekesis reserve was surveyed into 80 acre lots. There are now seven ex-pupils located in the colony, all of whom are doing well. Three of these young men are married and have comfortable homes, with good outbuildings. Amongst them may be mentioned Fred Deiter, who owns a fine three-horse team, a good log, one and a-half story dwelling, with shingle roof, log stable 28 x 16 feet with shingle roof and lumber granary. Last year he threshed nearly 2,000 bushels of grain, and it is safe to say that had it not been for frost, his crop would have been much larger than this.

John R. Thomas, who took off his first crop last season, threshed 982 bushels of grain. This young man is married, and has a comfortable home with outbuildings similar to those of Fred Deiter. His crop this year promises to be more than double that of last year.

Ben Stone Child, who is also married, has stock, implements and buildings similar to those of the two young men above mentioned. Last year he threshed 2,389 bushels of grain. This year he has about one hundred and twelve acres in crop, which promises to do well.

The remainder of the boys are doing equally well, but are only taking off their first crop this year. The colony is only some six miles from the railroad now, so that their grain market is very handy, and will no doubt help to encourage these young men.

Temperance and Morality.—There have been no cases of intemperance or immorality brought to my notice from any one of the four reserves.

I have, &c.,

R. L. ASHDOWN,

Indian Agent.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
ALBERTA—SADDLE LAKE AGENCY,
SADDLE LAKE, July 1, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report on the affairs of this agency for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904, together with statistical statement and inventory of government property under my charge.

SADDLE LAKE BAND, NO. 125.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated in townships 57 and 58, ranges 10, 11, 12 and 13, west of the 4th meridian. The area, including the southwestern portion occupied by Blue Quill's band, No. 127, is 82,560 acres.

The north and west portions of the reserve are undulating prairie-land, while to the southeast it is more level. There are numerous small hay swamps scattered throughout the reserve, some of which produce a good supply of hay, in seasonable years. Poplar groves abound all over, with here and there an occasional clump of spruce. One of the most attractive features of the reserve is its adaptability for stock-raising. The lake from which the reserve derives its name is situated close to the northern boundary, about half-way between the northwest and northeast corners.

Tribe.—The inhabitants of this reserve belong to the Cree nation.

Vital Statistics.—The population inclusive of Blue Quill's band, No. 127, is 244, consisting of 80 men, 80 women and 84 children. There is a decrease of one person as compared with the previous year, accounted for as follows: births 11, deaths 9, 2 Indians left the band through marriage and 2 were transferred to other bands, 1 person also joined this band by transfer.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians, generally speaking, has been good. An epidemic of small-pox prevailed during the winter. In some instances the form was severe, but notwithstanding the large number of cases, only two deaths occurred, and not altogether from the disease itself. The quarantine rules were well observed by the Indians, and by the careful attention of the medical officer, Dr. Aylen, the disease was checked early in the spring. During the year a large number of the Indians were successfully vaccinated. The whitewashing of the houses in the fall, and the cleaning up of the premises in the spring are generally attended to.

Occupations.—The industries followed by these Indians, are stock-raising and farming. Particular attention is directed to the former occupation, from which the Indians derive a good portion of their living. Farming operations on this reserve are being carried on more extensively than formerly; this spring the area under cultivation was increased nearly 114 acres over last year. During the spring the Indians improved their places by considerable new fencing. When not engaged in farming pursuits, some of them get work freighting on the river.

Buildings.—The houses on this reserve are of log and well built; several of them have shingle roofs, and with one or two exceptions are clean and comfortable. In summer few are occupied, as the Indians prefer living in tents, finding them more conducive to health and comfort during the warm weather.

Stock.—The cattle belonging to this band are in good condition, and during the year there has been a fair increase.

Education.—The boarding school is situated on the portion of the reserve occupied by Blue Quill's band, and is under the management of the Roman Catholic mission. During the year the pupils have made good progress in their class work, and in the various industries taught in the institution.

The day school located on the Saddle Lake portion of the reserve, and under the auspices of the Methodist Church, has been closed during the year, on account of non-attendance.

Religion.—The members of the Saddle Lake band are Methodists and Roman Catholics, the former denomination having the majority, and Sunday services are held in the school-house. The Indians of Blue Quill's band nearly all belong to the Roman Catholic faith, and regularly attend the services conducted by the Rev. Father Balter, at the mission, situated on the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are steadily progressing, this year Peepeekesis purchased a binder, and Thomas Makookis has placed a barb-wire fence around his twenty-acre field. Other Indians have added to their equipment during the spring the following : 2 mowers, 4 ploughs, 2 sets of harrows, and several sets of harness, paying for them with the proceeds of earnings. They have improved their mode of living, and are neatly and well dressed. Many of the young men are at the present time engaged in breaking new land, for next year's seeding.

Temperance and Morality.—During the year no cases of intemperance have come before my notice, and the general morality of these Indians is fair.

JAMES SEENUM'S 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. It is a long strip of land about 12 miles in length, running north and south, along the shores of Goodfish and Whitefish lakes, and has an area of 11,200 acres.

Most of the land is rolling, and wooded with poplar and a few patches of spruce. In parts the soil is stony, but in favourable seasons grain can be successfully grown. Whitefish lake is an extensive sheet of water, and produces whitefish and jackfish.

Tribe.—The Indians occupying this reserve belong to the Cree tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The Indians inhabiting this reserve have a population of 331, made up of 97 men, 116 women, and 118 children. Since the last census there has been an increase of 4 in the population, the births numbered 19, deaths 15, one Indian joined the band by transfer and one left.

Health and Sanitation.—During the year the general health of these Indians has been much better than in previous years. Last winter small-pox visited this reserve also, but owing to quarantine being enforced and sanitary precautions taken, the disease was confined to only a few houses, and the quarantine was raised on April 1.

Occupations.—Stock-raising and mixed farming are the industries followed by the Indians of this reserve ; the former is the chief source of livelihood for them, and the country is well adapted for it. The grain crops of last season were only fair, and from a portion of the wheat grown, one hundred sacks of flour were ground for the Indians at the grist-mill on the reserve. Fur was plentiful and a high price obtained all fall, and those who engaged in hunting earned a good deal in this line. During the winter a number of the Indians got out logs for buildings and lumber. In winter a good supply of fish is taken from the lakes, which contributes largely towards their maintenance. When not employed in their usual farm work on the reserve, many of the Indians engage in trading, freighting, and working on the Hudson's Bay Company's boats in the north.

Buildings.—Four new dwelling-houses have been erected on this reserve during the year.

Stock and Implements.—The cattle held by this band are in good condition, and generally well cared for. These Indians have a good supply of machinery.

Education.—Two day schools are supported on this reserve, one at Goodfish lake, towards the south end, and the other at Whitefish lake, at the north end of the reserve. Both schools are under the direction of the Methodist Church, and during the year the attendance at each has been fair.

Religion.—The Methodist mission is situated at the north end of the reserve, where there is a church, in which services are held by the missionary, Rev. R. B. Steinhauer. There is also a church of this denomination near Goodfish lake.

The Roman Catholic church is located near Goodfish lake, about the centre of the reserve. The Rev. Father Comire is in charge of this mission. The Indians attend their respective places of worship regularly.

Characteristics and Progress.—Several of the Indians of this reserve have moved to Saddle lake, where they intend to go in more extensively for farming, as the Saddle Lake reserve affords better facilities. These people are fairly industrious, law-abiding, and in their personal appearance well dressed.

LAC LA BICHE BAND, NO. 129.

This band has a population of 11, consisting of 4 men, 2 women and 5 children. During the year there has been 1 death, and 2 Indians left the band through marriage, making a decrease of 3. They are all half-breeds, and live by hunting, trapping and freighting.

CHIPEWYAN BAND, NO. 130.

At the last annuity payments the population of this band was 79 persons, composed of 24 men, 25 women, and 30 children ; 4 births and 4 deaths occurred during the year. These Indians live altogether by hunting, trapping and fishing ; they occupy the district surrounding Heart lake, which is about one hundred and five miles north of the agency headquarters.

BEAVER LAKE BAND, NO. 131.

This band of Cree Indians live in the neighbourhood of Beaver lake, about twelve miles from Lac la Biche, and make a living by hunting and fishing. The population at the last annuity payments was 92, made up of 30 men, 31 women and 31 children. There have been 5 births, 4 deaths, and 2 Indians joined the band through marriage, making an increase of 3 persons over the previous year.

I have, &c.,

GEO. G. MANN,
Indian Agent.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
ALBERTA—SARCEE AGENCY,
CALGARY, September 2, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report for the year ended June 30, 1904, together with agricultural and industrial statistics and inventory of all government property.

Reserve.—The Sarcee reserve comprises township 23, range 2, 3 and 4, west of the 5th principal meridian, and contains an area of 69,120 acres. The land is of first-class quality and good crops are raised by the Indians each year. It is a good stock range, and ranchers are given the privilege of putting their stock on by paying grazing dues. The exterior boundaries of this reserve were run last spring by Mr. J. Lestock Reid, preparatory to fencing in the reserve.

The Indians are now busily engaged at this work, and are building a fence of barbed wire, three strands, with wooden droppers of willow, posts set 15 feet apart, and sunk to a depth of 2½ feet; the posts are of willow and white poplar. The Indians are making a good job of it, and when completed will have 50 miles of fence, inclosing 69,120 acres. The Indians are also busily engaged in putting up a large quantity of hay to provide for a bunch of cattle they are getting this fall.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Beaver tribe from the far north.

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

Occupations.—Stock-raising, farming, working for ranchers and the sale of hay and wood, comprise the principal industries of this band.

Buildings.—The Indian houses are principally built of logs with frame roofs, and in most cases are very comfortable; several new ones have been erected this year.

Stock.—The Indians are becoming more interested in this industry each year. This is the industry that they have now to look forward to for a livelihood, and they should in a short time be independent of the government. The climate and range here cannot be surpassed for stock purposes. Last spring there were no spring storms and the mild winter put the cows through in good condition, and the calves, in consequence, came stronger. This year's branding is without doubt the best experienced in Alberta.

Education.—We have a boarding school on the reserve under the auspices of the Church of England, and an industrial school six miles from the reserve, which is undenominational; the pupils in these institutions are progressing.

Religion.—The Church of England has a mission on this reserve and a number of Sarcees are members.

Progress.—Progress is observable among many of the Indians, and some are getting better off each year, while a few remain in the same old groove.

Temperance.—The traffic in liquor is slowly but gradually disappearing; this is no doubt owing to the strong measures adopted for putting it down.

General Remarks.—We have had more than the usual number of tourists visiting the reserve this year, attracted by the Indians as well as by the scenery. The North American Indian seems to be as much of a curiosity as ever to foreigners.

Before concluding this report, I must, on my own behalf and also on behalf of the Indians, express my deep sorrow on the death of Major McGibbon, our late inspector, and the loss sustained by the department through the death of so capable and efficient an officer.

I have, &c.,

A. J. McNEILL,
Indian Agent.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
ALBERTA—STONY AGENCY,
MORLEY, ALTA., July 26, 1904.

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, 1904, together with tabular statement and inventory of government property.

Reserve.—The Stony reserve is situated in the foot-hills of the Rockies, about 40 miles west of Calgary, on the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and is divided by the Bow river, Peter Wesley's band residing on the north, and Chiniquay's and Moses Bearspaw's bands on the south side of the river.

Morley station is about half a mile from the agency headquarters. With the exception of the southeast corner, nearly all the reserve is gravelly and hilly, a great portion being covered with large fir-trees. The area is 69,720 acres. It is estimated that nearly two-thirds is covered with timber, fir, spruce and poplar.

Tribe.—These Indians are Stonies, a branch of the Sioux nation.

Vital Statistics.—The present population is 641, composed of 81 men, 130 women, and 430 young people under the age of twenty-one.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been very good, in fact they have not been so free from disease for years. As a rule, they are very careful regarding the cleanliness of their houses, living in them in the winter and in tents during the summer months.

Dr. Lafferty makes frequent visits to the reserve and prescribes for those under his care.

Occupations.—These Indians raise cattle and horses, sell timber, furs and beadwork and work for ranchers.

Buildings.—The buildings have been greatly improved during the past year; the Indians, having their own lumber, have been able to repair their houses, some having replaced the old ones by larger and more sanitary buildings.

Stock.—The stock has done well, the only difficulty being that a number of the cattle are owned by widows and old men who are not able to take proper care of them; consequently, they have to be helped by the department.

The stallions have done well and the Indians take more interest in their horses after seeing the improvement from breeding to good sires.

Farm Implements.—In addition to those already on hand, I purchased six new ploughs this spring, for some of the cattle-owners, these to be paid from proceeds from the sale of beef ; about half a dozen wagons have also been added to the list.

Education.—The McDougall boarding school has been accommodating 48 pupils. The school is conducted in a very satisfactory manner. I would make special mention of the teacher, Miss M. Walsh, who has taken a great interest in her work. In addition to her other duties, she has taught a number of the girls music.

Religion.—These Indians all attend the Methodist church.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians on this reserve are steadily progressing, and if sufficient employment can be found, the able-bodied will require very little help from the department.

Temperance and Morality.—As a rule, these Indians are temperate; and morally they are above the average Indian.

General Remarks.—These Indians, in general, have behaved very well, giving very little trouble, and so long as they find work and reasonable pay for it, are satisfied ;

owing to the reserve being away from a town, there are not so many chances of making money, but it is better for the Indians morally.

I have, &c.,

H. E. SIBBALD,
Indian Agent.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
ASSINIBOIA—TOUCHWOOD HILLS AGENCY,
KUTAWA, July 4, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following annual report for the year ended June 30 last, together with statistical statement and inventory of government property under my charge.

Reserves.—The agency is situated near small poplar bluffs on the north side, and a large clearing to the south and west. It is some eighty-five miles to Qu'Appelle station on the Canadian Pacific railway; from this point all our freight is drawn. The Dominion Telegraph Company has an office within five hundred yards of the agency buildings. A good district school is close by and a few of the older settlers are in proximity to the agency.

Muscowequan's reserve, No. 85, is situated nine miles from the Kutawa post office. The land on this reserve is not very attractive, being broken with small poplar and willow bluffs and ponds; the soil is rich and there are some fine tracts of land suited for farming.

Gordon's reserve, No. 86, is situated about twelve miles from Kutawa post office. The land is of very good quality. The greater portion of the reserve consists of bush, a good deal of which is of a dimension sufficiently large to make the best house logs, many small poplar and willow bluffs interspersed with ponds together with hay marshes the former taking up a large portion of the area, whilst the hay swamps are indispensable.

Day Star's reserve, No. 87, is situated six miles north of Kutawa. There is some very good farming land on the reserve. Two-thirds of the country is small poplar bush and sloughs, which are of no use in the wet seasons, but in dry seasons hay can be secured in abundance. The soil has very excellent qualities, but frosts are so prevalent that so far grain-growing has not been a success.

Poor Man's reserve, No. 88, is situated nine miles west of Kutawa. The country around here is rolling prairie, in some parts much broken by hills and sloughs. There are many large tracts admirably suited for farming, and the soil is of the best. Hay meadows are numerous.

Fishing Lake, No. 89, and Nut Lake, No. 90, reserves, are combined, under the name of the old chief, Yellow Quill. Fishing lake lies about 50 miles northeast of Kutawa post office. This reserve has a large area of arable land; much bush is to be found around the lake, with timber sufficiently large for building purposes, and the other part of the reserve is intermixed with poplar bluffs and prairie. The lake is large and affords fish, pike and pickerel.

Nut Lake reserve is some 40 miles north of Fishing lake; it is well wooded with spruce and poplar, some of which is very valuable, especially for building purposes. The lake is long and narrow and bounds the west side of the reserve; this lake supplies

fish, pike and pickerel. The country is well adapted for ranching; large hay marshes are plentiful.

Kinistino reserve, No. 91, is again some 50 miles from Nut lake. The trail between the two reserves is very rough and winding; it lies in a northwesterly direction from Nut lake, and is on the Barrière river. White spruce grows on this reserve, large enough for saw-logs. The soil is of a light sandy loam. There is a lake, too, with an abundance of pike and pickerel.

Tribes.—The Indians of Muscowequan's band are Saulteaux, with the exception of a few half-breeds. Those of Gordon's band are Crees, with the exception of some half-breeds. The Indians of Day Star's band are Crees. Poor Man's band consists of Crees, with the exception of three families of Saulteaux. The members of Yellow Quill's band are all Saulteaux. Kinistino's band is connected with the Yellow Quill band. These Indians are Saulteaux.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the Indians in this agency is as follows : 204 men, 224 women and 424 young people and children, making a total of 852.

The number of births during the year was 42, and the number of deaths 24; 15 Indians joined this agency, and 9 left it. Most of these cases were marriages, making an increase of 24.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of the Indians has been very good, with the exceptions of some chronic cases of scrofula, which is more prevalent on Muscowequan's and Gordon's reserves, owing to intermarrying. The department's doctor was called, impromptu, to visit the schools, but the ailment was not of such a serious nature as at first anticipated. Bad colds with feverish attacks was the trouble. One girl pupil died this winter at Muscowequan's boarding school.

Sanitary precautions are strictly observed, and the Indians' houses are kept as clean as possible for an agent and farmers to superintend. The doctor on his rounds also inspects and reports. In the spring, especially, Indians are compelled to burn all rubbish accumulations and whitewash their houses, and make a thorough cleaning before moving out to live in tents; and last fall, before re-entering their houses, the same process was gone through, preparatory to living in the houses the past winter.

Occupations.—These Indians' time is occupied in the summer months at farming, putting up fences, haying, rounding up cattle, branding and castrating bull calves, working out for settlers and ranchers, freighting, hauling hay, repairing houses and stables, and hunting.

In the winter months these Indians are occupied principally in feeding and caring for their stock, cleaning stables, hauling hay and wood, cutting fire-wood, freighting, delivering hay and wood at the agency headquarters, and doing odd jobs, such as, repairing harness and breakages. The women engage in housekeeping, sewing, cooking, mending, washing, scrubbing and dressing hides. There is nothing they do not avail themselves of.

Buildings.—These buildings of the Indians are principally log shanties made warm and comfortable. The majority of these people only occupy their houses in the wintertime. The more civilized of them, such as one meets on Muscowequan's reserve and Gordon's reserve, have very creditable dwellings, being two stories high, made of logs 18 x 24 feet (approximately), with shingled roofs.

The stables on the reserves are half-pitch with sod roofs, others are flat roofs. They range from 16 feet square to about 30 feet square.

Implements.—Yearly the demand for implements is increasing. The Indians are becoming perfectly acquainted with their use. The great drawback of late years has been to get the power to run machinery. Oxen were too jerky, and the Indian pony worthless for work. Some good teams have been purchased this year, and the Indians are now commencing to find out the value of the same on a farm, and are using more judgment in driving and taking care of horses than heretofore.

Education.—Mrs. S. E. Smythe, teacher in charge of Day Star's day school, has 13 names on the register; the average attendance is very good. Mrs. Smythe is very

painstaking and her pupils are advancing steadily in their studies, and the sewing, knitting and mending done by them is most creditable.

Gordon's boarding school is under the auspices of the Church of England, and a committee appointed. Mr. Mark Williams is principal, and Mrs. Williams, matron. There are 24 names on the register. The school-house is a stone building, large, spacious and well ventilated. The pupils are kept scrupulously clean and well looked after in every respect. Mr. Williams has the grounds beautifully laid out with flower beds and a shrub nursery, also two large vegetable gardens, where he has always abundance.

It is to be regretted that Mr. and Mrs. Williams are about to resign their positions in the school, and the Indians are very much averse to their doing so, as they are both most painstaking, and carried order to perfection; at the same time the children are happy and contented; consequently the progress is good, and the parents more interested.

At Muscowequan's boarding school there are thirty names on the register. The Rev. Father Magnant is principal. The work of the matron is looked after by three Sisters of Charity, Sister Valade is the teacher. There are two lay brothers, one of whom attends to the boys, and one to the outdoor and farm work. The children are taught all the different branches on the model farm, worked by the boys under the lay brother in charge of them, and this farm is kept in splendid order, the crop being the best in the district last year. The school-house is a large stone building. There is good accommodation, and it is kept in the best of order; the grounds and gardens show the great care and attention they have received from those in charge; the boys are also taught how to care for stock. The brother is a good all-round farmer and mechanic, a valuable man to the school. Pupils attend school under Sister Valade, who is a very clever and painstaking teacher. Therefore, sewing, knitting, baking, cooking, scrubbing and all duties in connection with housekeeping are successfully taught the girls.

Fishing Lake school, on Fishing Lake reserve, is a new log building which has been opened under the auspices of the Church of England. The building is neat and comfortable. Mr. Andrew W. Anderson (a late pupil of Elkhorn industrial school) is the teacher. There was some difficulty at first to persuade the Indians to send their children, but I am pleased to say their aversion has been overcome, and the attendance is rapidly increasing. As the school was only opened in March last, little can be said as to progress.

Religion.—There are two denominations on the reserve, the Church of England and the Roman Catholic. Services are held in the two churches and three school-houses. The majority of the Indians are still pagans, but they keep their ceremonies very quiet, and have given up their past extremes.

Characteristics and Progress.—The natural inclination of Indians is towards indolence, but I am happy to say, there is yearly a more noticeable tendency to industry. As a race they are most law-abiding.

The Indians, generally, are becoming richer yearly, and better off in every way. The following are a few instances of success: Joe Iron Quill, of Gordon's band, started out on his own account, and has now a good two-storied house with shingled roof, about 30 head of cattle, 3 teams of work-horses, 2 double sets of heavy harness and one light set, 2 wagons, 2 sets of sleighs, and a crop of oats.

Willie Favel, of Poor Man's band, who started a few years ago in a small way, has a good two-storied house, with shingled roof, a heavy work team, about 30 head of cattle, mower, rake, wagon, harness, and a crop of wheat and oats.

Little Cree, of Nut lake, has all to go ahead with on a ranch, and there are several other Indians who are making rapid strides to better their past situation.

Temperance and Morality.—There was only one case of intemperance brought before my notice the past year, and this offender got severely punished for the same. One

woman was sentenced to six months in gaol for prostitution. These are the only cases that we know of.

I have, &c.,

H. MARTINEAU,

Indian Agent.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
BATTLEFORD INSPECTORATE,
BATTLEFORD, August 2, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report on the inspection of Indian agencies and reserves.

DUCK LAKE AGENCY.

On October 31 the management of this agency was transferred from Mr. W. E. Jones to Mr. James Macarthur. Inventories of all government property and of the Indians' live stock were made and, after being duly certified to, were transmitted to the Commissioner in duplicate.

The affairs of this agency have been well and capably administered; business has been conducted with promptness; the Indians have been restrained from incurring debts unnecessarily, and in general the policy of the department has been adhered to.

Mr. J. H. Price, agency clerk, deserves credit for the punctuality with which he has kept the office records entered up, in addition to his other duties.

BEARDY'S AND OKEMAHSIS' BANDS.

These reserves are under the direction of Mr. Price, who combines the duties of farmer with those of clerk.

These Indians are making good progress. Interest in agriculture grows. The crops show a further increase both in area and in product, the result of breaking up additional land of a better class than that which has been under cultivation for years past. One Indian of Beardy's band had last season over two thousand bushels of grain. The threshing was performed by the Indians almost without direction and in a manner most creditable.

The net increase in the Indians' herds is but small. This is due in part to the increasing draft for the Indians' beef supply and to the sale of all surplus fat cattle, but also in no small degree to losses upon the prairie through straying and accidents.

This reserve has fortunately an abundant supply of hay within its limits for the present stock, or even sufficient for a somewhat larger number. Consequently, the Indians have no need, as they have in some localities, to be alarmed on this account at the approach of settlement. In order, however, to prevent loss of cattle and at the same time to protect their own and their neighbour's crops, it is evident that the fencing of a portion of the reserve for pasturage is becoming imperative.

A noteworthy feature of the progress of these bands is the good conduct and industry of a half dozen boys, graduates of the Battleford and Regina schools, and a number of equally deserving girls from the Duck Lake boarding school. While much

credit is due to these young men and women and to the institutions at which they have been trained, yet it is clear that their success on the reserve is largely due to the wise counsel and kindly supervision of the officials in charge.

ONE ARROW'S BAND.

This band is located on a reserve six miles east of Batoche and fifteen miles from the agency headquarters on Beardy's reserve. Mr. Louis Marion continues in charge as farmer.

There is no material change in the condition of the band, whose livelihood continues to be derived in large part from hunting and the sale of senega-root.

Notwithstanding the addition of the season's calf crop, the net increase of cattle between March 1 and October 31 was only nine head.

The members of this band, which has figured prominently among Indians in the history of the west, are of almost pure Indian blood, and though not progressive in the industries, yet they make a fair living, and they are peaceful and law-abiding in almost every particular.

JOHN SMITH'S BAND.

At the date of inspection and until quite recently Mr. J. S. Letellier was in charge of this band. The reserve they occupy is located on both sides of the South Saskatchewan, about fifteen miles from Prince Albert.

Most of these people came from St. Peter's reserve, near Selkirk, in earlier days, and are half-breeds rather than ordinary Indians. They are thoroughly christianized and observe very generally the marriage laws of the country, the keeping of the Sabbath, attendance at divine service, and the other moral and religious customs of the land.

Agriculture and stock-raising furnish their main support. A few only engage in hunting and a few in freighting.

Farming has been fairly successful. An effort has been made to clean the fields of some very troublesome weeds with which they had become infested.

The Indians have derived a large benefit from their herds, and there is also a substantial increase.

The majority of the Indians of this band milk their cows and make butter, cultivate good gardens, keep poultry, and in fact employ much the same economy as white settlers. There is, however, much room for improvement in regard to the extent and thoroughness of the methods of cultivation.

JAMES SMITH'S BAND.

This band is composed of what were formerly two bands, namely, James Smith's and Cumberland, which occupied adjacent reserves at Fort à la Corne, and which by mutual consent were amalgamated in 1902, their reserves also being combined.

Mr. Horace Adams took charge of this reserve early in 1903. He is well qualified for his duties and should be successful.

Many of these Indians are hunters and can only with the greatest difficulty be induced to attend to their farms and stock, even during the season when closest attention is required.

The discouragements to grain-growing which have existed in the past, in remoteness from markets and want of gristing facilities, are now on the point of being removed in consequence of railway construction through the district, and the efforts of the farmer should now be attended with greater success than in the past.

In spite of the best facilities for stock-raising, the Indians' herds show no increase during the past year.

In other directions signs of progress are not entirely wanting. Several new houses of an improved description have been built. These are located in two sections of the reserve, convenient for attendance at the two day schools, which are reaping an advantage in consequence.

CARLTON AGENCY.

On November 30 the management of this agency was transferred from Mr. James Macarthur, who had been in charge since June, 1902, to Mr. W. E. Jones. The remainder of the staff is composed as follows : T. E. Jackson, clerk; Rupert Pratt, interpreter; John McKenzie, engineer and blacksmith; Joseph Savard, farmer on Ahtahkakoop's reserve; James Dreaver, farmer on Kenemotayoo's reserve; Patrick Anderson, farmer on Sturgeon Lake reserve, and Peter Villebrun, overseer and teacher on Meadow Lake reserve.

During November and December, a careful inspection was made of the reserves, schools and agency records, and a report covering three years, accompanied by statements and inventories, was submitted to the Commissioner in duplicate.

The agency buildings consist of dwellings for the agent, the clerk, the miller, and the interpreter, an office, a storehouse, a granary, a blacksmith's shop, and a stable. A furnace has recently been placed in the agent's dwelling. The buildings are in good repair, with the exception of the office, which should be replaced by a new one.

I found the office records for the most part in tolerably good order except that in connection with the store ledger there were numerous minor discrepancies between the balances shown there and those actually on hand. There was also a system of Indians' accounts which was quite in arrears as regards entering up, and required some days to complete.

The grist and saw-mills continue to be skilfully handled by Mr. McKenzie. A new engine and separator, which have recently been supplied by the department, should prove a great encouragement to farming throughout the agency, and the old engine, a cumbersome article, can now be left stationary in the grist-mill.

MISTAWASIS' BAND.

This band is under the immediate supervision of the agent. It is composed largely of half-breeds, who for many years past have been christianized and to a fair degree civilized. For a time they made considerable progress in developing their industries, acquiring property, and improving their dwellings. Latterly, however, with two or three exceptions, their condition has been one of retrogression. They have had considerable employment from the agency headquarters in the shape of freighting supplies and material for buildings, working on buildings and fences, hauling hay and wood, &c., and the whole effect seems to have been to divert their attention from industries of a more permanent character. A few have left the reserve in recent years to pursue a livelihood abroad.

There has been no improvement in the Indians' houses in the past three years. A few have moved from decent dwellings to houses of a poorer class.

The crop area has been reduced to about half its former proportions, but the land thus thrown idle has not been kept under cultivation.

The Indians' cattle show a net decrease in three years of forty-eight head, due mainly to disposing of cattle without replacing, and to replacing by purchase from other Indians, instead of outside the reserve, when none of the Indians had young stock to spare.

The agency saw-mill has again been operated for the benefit of this band, the cut amounting to upwards of seventy-five thousand feet. The demand made upon the Indians' time in connection with the sawing has, however, been made a pretext by them for neglecting to do any breaking or summer-fallowing, notwithstanding the urgent need for both. Unfortunately also, they value the lumber more for sale and for the temporary help afforded in this way than for improving their houses or other buildings. There is still a want of granaries and of shelter for implements as great as on re-reserves that have neither timber nor saw-mills.

The ex-pupils of industrial schools on this reserve have not been more than at the best, a very moderate success, in some cases a decided failure; but something better may yet be expected of them. In almost every instance they have lost three or four years before settling down to any definite mode of life. Two of Joseph Ledoux's boys are settled and working pretty steadily and are acquiring some stock and other property. In Jacob Badger, son of the late chief, there is a decided improvement of late, and he is likely to become a steady and industrious man. Willie Dreaver, son of the present chief, is a bright youth, but in the three years that he has now spent on the reserve since returning from school, he has accomplished nothing definite towards a permanent livelihood.

PETAQUAKEY'S BAND.

This band is also under the direct supervision of the agent. It is located on a reserve, at Muskeg lake, about 12 miles from the agency headquarters, which are on Mistawasis' reserve.

These people are all half-breeds and several of them speak English almost as well as Cree. They have been christianized for many years, and their appreciation of educational advantages is evidenced by the fact that as soon as their children arrive at six years of age the parents take them without solicitation to the boarding school at Duck Lake. Accordingly, at present every healthy child of school age is at school.

J. B. Lafond and his sons and the two Gray-eyes boys constitute the progressive element, and are fairly prosperous. Samuel and Daniel Wolfe, though good workers at times, require much direction and are going back, as are also a few others, in respect to their industries. It is true here, as in several other reserves, that the support they have failed to derive from their farms and stock they have obtained temporarily from rat-hunting, which has for a couple of years past been very profitable.

The cattle on this reserve number 100 head, and show neither increase nor decrease. There is no scarcity of hay and the cattle have been well provided for. At least 50 head more could be kept here conveniently.

AHTAHKAKOOP'S BAND.

This band is located on the reserve at Sandy lake, north of Mistawasis, the farm-house being about 18 miles from the agency headquarters.

William McBeath was farmer until July 31, 1902, when he resigned and was replaced shortly after by Joseph Savard.

The band is for the most part of pure Indian blood. They are nearly all Christians and observe the various rites of the Christian religion, a few only still leaning toward the heathen dances, which are occasionally held among their less civilized neighbours.

Hunting has of recent years in this locality been very profitable, as the particular kinds of fur that are most plentiful have been in great demand. Chief Kalmeostotin returned in the middle of December from a four weeks' hunt, having killed during that time nearly $100 worth of fur besides a large quantity of meat. It is not surprising under such circumstances that the interest of the Indians in agricultural

pursuits should for a time be difficult to maintain. The acreage of cultivation has decreased and the product correspondingly. Garden products also are but small.

The fall continued very open until after New Year's and the Indians took advantage of the opportunity to hunt, neglecting to gather up their cattle. In consequence the inventory showed twenty-two head missing, some or all of which would probably be recovered. Assuming these to be on hand, there is still a decrease of seventy-three head in three years. The industry has not been a success.

The management of the reserve has been hampered for a few seasons through the swollen condition of the Shell river, which traverses the reserve. The difficulty has now been overcome by the construction of a suitable bridge, which was an urgent necessity and is a creditable work.

KENEMOTAYOO'S BAND.

The reserve of this band, commonly known as Big River reserve, is situated about fifteen miles north of Sandy lake. It is in charge of James Dreaver as farmer.

This is a hunting band, for whom a reserve was set apart in 1898 on their expressing repeatedly a desire to engage in farming. They are mostly pagans and show as yet but little interest in religion or education.

The houses, though warm, are but small, flat-roofed shanties. Although the sawmill has been operated for the older bands, who have sold a considerable portion of their lumber, yet these Indians have had no benefit from it even for the improvement of their houses.

Bridges recently constructed by the Northwest government over the Shell river and Big river on the Green Lake trail will greatly facilitate the management of this reserve.

The crop of 1903, though not threshed at the time of my visit, was well stacked and contained apparently between 400 and 500 bushels of grain. Considerable breaking and fall ploughing was done, so that this season's crop should be at least twice as large.

The cattle numbered sixty head and full provision was made for their wintering.

The farm buildings, including dwelling, storehouse and stable, together with the day school and teacher's dwelling, were all in good repair and whitewashed and present an attractive appearance, occupying as they do a delightful location, facing eastward and overlooking a beautiful lake.

STURGEON LAKE BAND.

This band continues in charge of Patrick Anderson, who was appointed to this position in July, 1898.

The band is located in two sections, one at the lower or east end of the lake, which stretches from west to east through the reserve, and the other from the Narrows to the west end. The latter is the more advanced and prosperous section, occupying more respectable and more comfortable houses. In all parts of the reserve, but particularly at the east end, where the main road to lumber camps and other northern points crosses the reserve at the foot of the lake, there are such opportunities at certain seasons for the Indians to get liquor that the farmer's watchfulness is scarcely able to prevent it. Mr. Anderson has, however, made a creditable attempt in this direction without fear of unpopularity with the Indians or others, and his presence has served to keep breaches of the law in this regard in check.

These Indians, with a few exceptions, are pagans and have very little regard for religion or religious services. On the contrary they engage in dances, incantations, and other heathen practices. The day school has been moved recently from a point outside, where it was poorly attended, to a central location within, while five children

are in attendance at Emmanuel College, Prince Albert, and it is hoped that in time the influences of education will be felt.

Grain-growing has been pursued with indifferent success and under the greatest discouragements on account of the difficulty in getting the agency engine and separator to the reserve, over forty-five miles of bad road, to do the threshing, and the want of any nearer threshing outfit which could be hired. In consequence their crops have more than once been fed in the straw, though there was good demand for oats at the lumber camps not far distant.

The Indians' cattle show a fair increase and they have for the most part been wintered securely, but only through the utmost vigilance on the part of the farmer in preventing the Indians from selling themselves short of hay.

Notwithstanding that there is large and ready demand throughout the fall and winter for all their surplus farm products, hay, grain, and roots, many continue to derive their chief livelihood from hunting and from teaming for the lumber camps and the traders to the north.

The farm buildings and surroundings show a marked improvement, not so much in what has been added as in the order into which things have been brought. The farmhouse is well kept and comfortable. There are convenient and comfortable house and cow-stables and poultry-house. There is a model branding corral, strongly built and furnished with three strong snubbing posts ; and a slaughtering corral adjoining with a windlass most conveniently constructed. The hay-yard and the farm garden and oat-fields are well fenced. All this is an excellent example to the Indians and has been provided with practically no cash outlay.

WILLIAM CHARLES' RESERVE, NO. 106A.

This reserve, which lies to the northeast of Sturgeon lake, to which it is almost contiguous, is also under the direction of Farmer Anderson, and is occupied by a few families belonging to William Charles' and James Roberts' two bands.

They are, like the bands to which they belong, a completely christianized class of Indians and live very respectably with the exception of one family in which both man and wife are degraded by the use of liquor, which they appear to have little difficulty in obtaining. Their children, fortunately, are at a boarding school, and are thus for the time removed from such influences.

Their chief livelihood is similar to that of the Sturgeon Lake band. They have a small herd of cattle, but there is practically no increase nor yet any benefit to the owners from beef or sales. Their industries have been thus far neglected.

WAHSPATON SIOUX RESERVE.

This reserve is located nine miles northwest of Prince Albert, and is setttled by about forty Sioux Indians, a portion of a band the remainder of whom occupy an encampment near the town.

They are nominally under the supervision of Farmer Anderson of Sturgeon lake, but practically they receive very little attention or direction except from Miss Baker, the missionary-teacher resident on the reserve, who is self-sacrificing in her efforts in their behalf.

These Indians receive but little assistance from the government, and what they have received, mainly in the shape of implements and cattle, they have made good use of. They continue to cultivate small fields and pay for the threshing of their grain. Their crops for 1903, mainly oats, amounted to five hundred bushels. Gardens have been cultivated and the product is sufficient for home use.

Their cattle, as yet only seventeen head, are handled with great care; losses have been slight; and they have already had some benefit from sales. The thoroughbred

bull supplied by the department has been stabled and cared for in a manner equal to the best of the Cree reserves.

About eighty remain at the encampment near town, and live by day labour in town and among the settlers of the neighbourhood. They earn enough to eat and to wear, but apart from this live very miserably. They have no school nor are they susceptible to religious influences, and the heathen dances which they hold occasionally and which are attended more or less by the Christian Indians of the reserve are detrimental to the latter. In relation, however, to the white population of the town and vicinity they are law-abiding and entirely inoffensive, while on the other hand their work is much valued by those who have occasion to employ them.

OTHER CREE BANDS.

Kahpahawekenum's band is located on a reserve at Meadow lake, about forty miles west of Green lake. As the name of the reserve indicates, there are large opportunities for cattle-raising in the vicinity. The band, however, numbers only sixty in all and have only recently manifested any desire to farm, having hitherto lived entirely by hunting. They are partially christianized and are under the spiritual supervision of the Roman Catholic missionary at Green lake. Mr. Peter Villebrun was appointed teacher and overseer to this band in January last.

William Charles' band has a reserve on Montreal lake, ninety-five miles north of Prince Albert. James Roberts' band has no reserve set apart as yet, but occupies for hunting purposes a large tract of country around Lac la Ronge on the northern border of Saskatchewan.

I did not visit these bands during the past year.

MOOSE WOODS RESERVE.

This reserve is situated about eighteen miles southwest of Saskatoon, on the south side of the river. It is occupied by about forty Sioux, the remnant of the band of the late Chief Whitecap.

The reserve is in charge of Mr. W. R. Tucker, who acts as overseer, teacher and missionary.

The population is somewhat reduced through deaths and through the removal of one family to the Wahspaton reserve near Prince Albert.

There is no noticeable change in the condition of these Indians. They continue to live, practically without assistance, by means of their cattle, their gardens, and the sale of wood and hay, there being good demand for these in Saskatoon.

The reserve was inspected on February 4, and the Indians were found very comfortable although the weather was unusually severe. Their cattle were in excellent condition, and there was an abundant supply of hay of prime quality on hand. Stabling and other shelter was sufficient and the calves were well handled and were in fine growing condition.

The beef steers, all three-year-olds, were sold in July, 1903, at $40.50 per head, the market being rather low at the time.

Each Indian beefs one steer or fat cow every fall, by direction of the overseer; and they do not ask, nor apparently wish, to kill more than the one animal in a year, depending for the rest of their meat-supply upon game.

The strength of the herd has thus far been kept up to two hundred head, but only with difficulty, as there are now only six working men and some of them scarcely to be classed as able-bodied.

The day school was closed for the winter months on account of the distance of the Indians from it, namely, from two to three miles. They were once near by, but of late years were obliged to move to a greater distance in order to be closer to their hay.

The results of school work on the reserve are very evident and very satisfactory. Nearly every young man and woman can speak and can write intelligently in English, and can make all necessary calculations.

ONION LAKE AGENCY.

This agency includes five bands of Cree Indians and one band of Chipewyans.

Mr. Wm. Sibbald is agent and has the assistance of L. G. Lovell as farmer and engineer, and Joseph Taylor as interpreter and carpenter.

The inspection was made during March, and the difficulties from deep snow and severe storms were greater than I have experienced at any other time.

The office records were complete and accurate with exception of the live stock book, which required considerable time to write up fully.

CREE BANDS.

For a number of years the five Cree bands of this agency were, for convenience in the management of their industries, located together on the two reserves adjacent to the agency headquarters, namely, Seekaskootch's and Makaoo's. There were, however, a considerable number of Indians who continued to live on their own reserves and who lived by the hunt. These are now engaging more or less in farming and stock-raising, cattle having been issued on loan from the agency herd. Others who dwelt for a time on the reserves at Onion lake, but who belong properly to the outlying reserves, have recently removed thither. This movement has been directed in the interest of the stock industry since the necessary hay-supply for a large herd of cattle is no longer obtainable in the immediate vicinity of Onion lake, a portion of the hay-lands which the Indians formerly utilized being now taken up by settlement.

Regularly settled on the reserve, engaging in agricultural industries, and exclusive of hunters, there are approximately as follows : on the reserves at Onion lake, 325 Indians, including men, women and children; at Frog lake, 55, and at Long lake, 40.

The only well-established industry among the Indians is cattle-raising, and some of the middle-aged who have been in training for nearly twenty years are very creditable stockmen and require but little direction, making provision of both feed and shelter for the winter in a thorough-going fashion and attending to their stock well in every respect.

The most unsatisfactory element are those who were formerly employed a great part of their time in the care of the agency herd and who grew into habits of indolence and of dependence upon rations. There are quite a number of these men, ranging from twenty to thirty years of age, and having had neither cattle nor other industries they are now being initiated in these and are a much heavier care to the agent than the other Indians, who show distinctly by contrast with these the results of years of training in connection with their own industries.

In the fall of 1903, the greater part of the agency herd was issued to the Indians, a considerable portion being allotted to the Indians just mentioned, who had spent some years for trifling remuneration in helping to maintain this herd for the benefit of the agency at large. The cattle issued, chiefly cows and heifers, had come through the preceding winter rather thin; they were very wild and suffered severely from occasional round-ups during the following summer, and particularly from the running involved during November and December in cutting them out of the bunch and bringing them to their various winter quarters. In consequence, they began the winter in such a condition that they required special care, which in some cases, as intimated in the last paragraph, they received, and accordingly came through safely, while in other cases there was a loss running up as hight as eight per cent.

The weather during the last haying season was extremely unfavourable; nevertheless there was a fair quantity of hay secured, and the loss of cattle was due rather to carelessness in handling the feed and in housing the stock than to scarcity of feed.

The Indians who deserve most credit in connection with the wintering of their cattle are, Alexis Crossarms, Sam Waskawitch, Young Chief, Albert, Pathagan, Meeseehayo and Kaneepahtatayo. Some of these were able in the spring to furnish hay to less thrifty Indians, at $5 a load.

With regard to the cultivation of the soil, whether for grain, roots, or vegetables, there is absolutely no progress. The area under cultivation is diminished, partly from scarcity of good seed, and partly on account of the worn-out condition of a number of the old fields, which necessitated their being thrown out of use. The Indians fully believe in discarding old fields, but not in renewing them, nor do they seem anxious to replace them with new ones. The method in vogue among good farmers of cropping only one-third or one-half of a farm each season and cultivating and fertilizing the rest preparatory to seeding the following spring, has never been adopted here, nor has any attempt been made to adopt it.

No cultivated hay of any description is raised on these reserves. When the Indians are confined strictly to the limits of their reserves for their hay-supply, as they must necessarily be in the near future, the cultivation of hay, as well as grain and roots, will be an absolute necessity for the maintenance of their herds.

At the present time, though their cattle are quite insufficient for them to live by, and the product of farms and gardens is meagre, yet they are making a very comfortable living, supplementing the product of these industries by profits derived mainly from trips overland or by river to Edmonton, bringing back supplies for the agency, the Hudson's Bay Company, the merchants of Lloydminister, or the missions on the reserve.

Among the Indians settled on the reserves there is a gradual improvement in manners and morals, due largely, no doubt, to the influence of the missions, between whom and the officers of the department there is a cordial co-operation in all matters affecting the welfare of the Indians. Among those less settled, however, and passing between Island lake, Cold lake and Frog lake, there is an element of obstinate heathenism, still strongly imbued with its ancient superstitions.

The Indians' dwellings are of a poor description and continue from year to year with but slight improvement, notwithstanding that they have skill in dressing house-logs and in building walls, and have a saw-mill at the agency headquarters and a timber limit but a few miles away. This is partly due to the practice which has prevailed of moving frequently from one part of the reserve to another. Granaries and shelter for implements are also wanting.

SADDLE LAKE AGENCY.

There are included in this agency Little Hunter's, Blue Quill's, and James Seenum's bands, besides the Beaver Lake band of Crees and a small band of Chipewyans; the two latter bands inhabiting the country further north and living entirely by hunting and working on the Hudson's Bay Company's boats.

The agency headquarters are situated near the centre of the Saddle Lake reserve, and about nine miles from the Saskatchewn river.

The agency staff consists of G. G. Mann, agent; Miss B. E. Mann, clerk; Sam. Whitford, interpreter; J. Batty, farmer on Saddle Lake reserve; and P. Tomkins, farmer on Whitefish Lake reserve and agency engineer.

A new office, now on the point of completion, will afford many conveniences, the want of which has been much felt.

The inspection was begun on May 2.

SADDLE LAKE AND BLUE QUILL'S BANDS.

These bands occupy a large reserve, of varied physical features, affording excellent facilities for every branch of agriculture.

The Indians' dwellings and surroundings were inspected between May 9 and 13. On the 10th and 11th there was a heavy fall of snow and rain, the effect of which was extremely unfavourable to the cleanliness of the houses as well as to the progress of the spring work.

The women were generally well occupied, in some instances removing potatoes from the cellars and sorting them over preparatory to planting.

The cellars here, as everywhere on the reserves, require to be larger and deeper and to have better provision for ventilation. As they are at present, they become too warm at times and roots keep but poorly.

Apart from this, the houses continue to improve and about one-third of them are of a very respectable class.

Small-pox visited these bands during the fall and winter. It is thought to have been introduced by a non-treaty Indian coming from the neighbourhood of Battleford, where the disease had been prevalent on some of the reserves. A few deaths occurred and the reserve was quarantined from early in January to the end of March, when, after a thorough process of disinfection, the quarantine was raised.

Notwithstanding the sickness and quarantine, the Indians were able to attend to various domestic duties during the winter, to provide fuel, to haul hay, and to attend to their stock; and in addition to cut in all upwards of 15,000 rails and tamarack pickets for fences, which were put up as seeding went on and were completed by the end of May.

Regarding fences I may add that I find them at present, as on several former visits, particularly strong and substantial, both here and at Whitefish lake. They are such as would be a credit to any farm, and the Indians' crops seldom suffer from any defect in this regard. One Indian, not satisfied with rails, has just completed the fencing of a thirty-acre field with wire.

The cattle wintered with but slight loss, though they came through much thinner than usual. The stock of the Indians individually is with a few exceptions so small that it is but a trivial matter for any able-bodied man to make necessary provision and properly care for his cattle.

The Indians are fairly well equipped with farm implements, having at the time of inspection nine new combined ploughs besides several breaking and stubble ploughs supplied by the department some years ago but still serviceable; also thirteen sets of iron harrows, three sets of disc-harrows, one grain-drill, three binders, fourteen mowers, thirteen rakes, and thirty-three wagons.

Last season fifty-five acres of new land was broken and a few acres of fall ploughing done. This land was carefully put in this spring and in good time, while further ploughing was done in the spring for oats and barley. A good deal of the seed had to be bought, as only a few had raised grain fit for seed, and they had sold during the winter, though at a compartively low figure, all above their own requirements.

There is a great scarcity of working teams, especially oxen, the stock having run down while the need for them is increasing. The want will be partially supplied by the action of the department in authorizing the purchase of a few teams for ex-pupils of the schools.

The thriftier class have done no hunting this spring, chiefly on account of the fall during the winter in the price of furs, particularly rat-skins. Moreover, the opportunities for profitable employment outside the reserve have been more numerous than every before, and are tending to divert attention from agricultural pursuits as well. Six men have been engaged on survey parties during the earlier part of the summer at from $30 to $35 per month and board. The services of those familiar with the river, of whom there are many, are in demand as pilots. A few of the most

prosperous, however, namely, Thomas Hunter and his sons, Thomas Mahkokis, Augustine Steinhauer, and Peepeekeesis, support themselves mainly by their own industries and seldom work abroad.

JAMES SEENUM'S BAND.

This band is located for the most part on the Whitefish Lake reserve, a strip of land lying along the east shore of the Whitefish and Goodfish lakes. A few, with a view to farming, have moved recently to Saddle Lake reserve, of which these Indians are joint owners with the bands settled there.

The inspection occupied from May 17 to 20. The weather was fine and favourable in every way. A large number of the Indians had moved into their tents for the summer, but those houses that were still occupied were clean and well kept within and around. One good house, which was in course of construction in June, 1903, is now completed, and further improvements to houses are in progress.

The crop area is diminished and part of what is sown is so late as to have little prospect of maturing. This is on account of the failure to prepare land last season, and also because seed grain had to be freighted in over miry trails at a time when it should have been in the ground. In a few cases in which the Indians had saved good seed it was sown in reasonably good time, although on spring ploughing, and at the time of inspection the grain was well above ground and was very promising, as the season though opening late has been most favourable for rapid growth.

The band is but poorly equipped with farming implements as well as with work teams.

Among those who have removed to Saddle lake are some of the best farmers on the reserve, namely, Enoch Wood, Lazarus Shirt and Charles Jackson ; and their removal appears to be in their own interest as well as in that of the band, provided the lands formerly cultivated by them are now occupied by others, since good farming locations are scarce on this reserve on account of the broken character of the surface.

The Indians' cattle are not numerous. Chief Pakan has twenty-one head ; seven other Indians have between ten and twenty head each ; ten have between five and ten head ; while twenty-five have less than five head.

Feed was scarce and the cattle wintered but poorly and were thin even at the end of May.

A number of the younger and middle-aged men occupy themselves during summer working on the York boats out north, and during the spring and fall with hunting.

BATTLEFORD AGENCY.

This agency comprises seven bands occupying as many reserves, at distances of from twelve to thirty-five miles from the town of Battleford, near which the headquarters of the agency are located.

The inspection was made during June and July.

The agency staff is composed as follows : J. P. G. Day, agent ; C. J. Johnson, clerk ; Solomon Desjardins, interpreter ; and five farmers, who will be mentioned individually in connection with their respective duties.

While the different reserves will be treated separately below, it may be remarked here regarding the agency in general that the Indians live almost solely by farming and stock-raising, as there is practically no hunting in the district, and they have little employment as rivermen or freighters.

In the interest of the cattle industry, a step is being taken this season which cannot be too strongly commended, in the construction on each of the seven reserves of a fence inclosing from four to nine square miles of excellent pasturage. The area thus inclosed will aggregate about 20,000 acres for the agency, and will afford an

average of about ten acres per head of the stock to be pastured. It may be calculated that by pasturing the herds in this way losses in cattle and waste of time in rounding up cattle to a value of several hundred dollars annually will be saved. The fences will be of wire except that on Sweet Grass reserve, which is completed and is of rails. With the possible exception of the Stony reserve, the entire expense will be borne by the Indians.

MOOSOMIN'S BAND.

Moise L'Heureux has been in charge of this band as farmer for the past three years.

Apart from small-pox, which visited the reserve during the winter and from which two deaths resulted, the health of the band has been unusually good.

There has been no improvement in house-building for several years, and there is only one respectable house on the reserve. As the Indians were all in tents, the interior of their houses was not examined.

There is a considerable decrease in the crop area, due mainly to scarcity of seed. Moreover, here as elsewhere throughout the agency, much of the seed used, particularly oats, was of poor quality and will give a medium or very light crop, even on ground which otherwise would give a good one.

The grain for the most part appears to have been sown in good time; considering that the spring was backward, and growth having been rapid, the grain bids fair to be ready for harvesting in good season.

A few of the oldest fields are in the worst need of thorough fallowing, or failing that, of being discarded entirely ; but no fallowing nor breaking of new land had been done on July 13, when I made a second visit to the reserve.

There is five acres of very fair brome hay at the farm, and one Indian, Estowewesick, has a similar field from seed which he procured at his own expense two years ago.

Gardens are still badly neglected both as to the preparation of the soil and as to its cultivation during the season of growth.

Grading for the Canadian Northern railway began on this and Thunderchild's reserves early in July, and owing to the employment incidentially afforded to the Indians in connection with the work, it has proved difficult to maintain interest in farming since that time. However, all summer ploughing, both breaking and fallowing, should have been well advanced or completed by the middle of July, especially on our reserves, where treaty mayments, coming on as they do about that time, are frequently taken as a signal to terminate such work, whether finished or not.

THUNDERCHILD'S BAND.

This band occupies a reserve immediately west of Moosomin's. William Dewan is the farmer.

Last season's crop was poor, and, such as it was, it was mostly disposed of during the winter, without permit, leaving a scarcity of seed in the spring. There is on this account a heavy decrease in the acreage of crop. The wheat is well advanced and promises a good return. The oats are thin and poor on account of poor seed.

Of the large area thrown idle this season for want of seed, only a few acres has been fallowed, while the rest is growing rank with weeds.

SWEET GRASS BAND.

The reserve of this band is situated on the south side of the Battle river, eighteen miles west of Battleford.

Adolphus Nolan is the farmer.

These Indians attend to their industries with much regularity, and consequently are receiving good returns from them. Last season's crop, though not good, was not a failure and gave a fair profit. This year the crops look well except that some fields are infested with weeds, which should be destroyed without further delay. While, as on all the other reserves of the agency, there is a decreased area under crop, yet here forty or fifty acres of the vacant land has been ploughed, and if harrowed occasionally during the summer and fall, will be in good condition for sowing early next spring. There is a four-acre field of brome, the seed from which may be used for seeding down some worn-out and dirty fields which are no longer fit for cropping.

The cattle wintered well and are now in good condition. For convenience the herds of the twenty-one owners were grouped in six bunches during the winter, a plan which has continued to work well here, though it has frequently proved a failure elsewhere on account of the opportunity it affords to lazy men to shirk their share of work and responsibility.

The Indians' gardens are fairly well kept, but will not be as productive as they should be for want of the use of manure in the preparation of the ground. The farmer's garden consists of a very fertile piece of land, but its condition in other respects is by no means an example, and is an evidence of lack of interest in the subject.

These are no longer the dependent, begging Indians they were only a few years ago. They live comfortably, and with the exception of a few of the old and helpless. they provide themselves with everything they require. An Indian, Achanum, recently had his boy home for a week's holiday from the boarding school. He returned him promptly at the expiration of the term of leave, nor did he send him back stripped of the best of his clothing, as frequently happened in former times, but he provided the the best of his clothing, as frequently happened in former times, but he provided the boy with a complete new suit in addition to the clothes he wore on coming home.

POUNDMAKER'S AND LITTLE PINE'S BANDS.

These bands occupy adjacent reserves, situated on the Battle river, about thirty-six miles west of Battleford.

S. Warden is in charge of both.

These Indians take considerable interest in farming, and the condition of their crops is much the same as on Sweet Grass's reserve. Though the acreage is small, the yield is likely to be rather good, and the majority of the Indians are now practically assured of a liberal supply of flour for a year to come, besides considerable grain to sell, both wheat and oats.

As a fair indication of the rapid progress of these bands in agriculture during recent years, I may mention that, notwithstanding that last season's crop was a partial failure, the entire issue of government flour to the two bands was only sixty sacks, while for the year ended June 30, 1899, the issue amounted to five hundred and fifty sacks; and I may add that the Indians were complaining then more than they are now regarding scarcity of food.

Here again the cattle wintered badly. There was some loss of hay through fires in the fall, and feed ran short early in the spring. There was, in consequence, a loss of a few cattle, and had it not been for the careful saving of the season's straw for such an emergency, the case would have proved much more serious. The effects of insufficient protection for the stock against the severe cold and storms of February and March were apparent even in June.

The farmer's garden was well cultivated and in every respect a model. The Indians' gardens are from medium to poor and in every case show the want of fertilizing and otherwise properly preparing the soil.

These bands took up the idea of fencing pasturage for their herds with great enthusiasm and were but a few days in putting down fifteen miles of posts ready for the wire.

RED PHEASANT'S BAND.

R. Jefferson is in charge of this band as farmer.

Their reserve is located on the Eagle hills, twenty miles southeast of Battleford.

Two new houses of a distinctly improved description have been built. This is the only reserve in the agency that shows any progress in this respect during the year. More may, however, be expected during the coming year, as some 75,000 feet of lumber were cut by the Indians in May and June with the saw-mill supplied recently by the department. The logs were obtained and the sawing done at Birch lake, fifty miles north of Battleford.

The crops are fair; but better methods of cultivation are needed before good results can be had; and the acreage is entirely too small.

In gardening there is the same defect as has been noticed in connection with the other reserves; the ground is too poor. The farmers know the value of manure and use a dressing for their gardens amounting to forty or fifty tons to the acre, while the Indians use none. A few of the gardens on this reserve were in a very creditable state as regards the cultivation of the surface.

There was here also a slight loss in connection with the wintering of the cattle, although only a few of the Indians were actually short of hay, while some had hay to spare. The hauling of feed during the latter part of the winter proved a great hardship to men and teams.

Headman Wattannee died on July 8, and was buried on Sunday the 10th. For some years he had been feeble and had taken but little interest in the affairs of the band, but in former times his influence among his people was valuable, and he was held in much esteem and reverence by them. In company with the agent and farmer I attended the funeral of the deceased headman. His seven sons and five daughters were present, and the funeral ceremonies were carried out at the tent, at the mission church, and at the grave, in every respect in a most becoming manner, and quite after the customs of white communities.

STONY BAND.

The reserve belonging to this band lies immediately west of Red Pheasant's and is also under Mr. Jefferson's direction.

The band consists of twenty-two families, whose dwellings are situated in a group, which with garden plots and cattle corrals covers about a quarter-section of land.

There is no noticeable change in the condition of these people since my last visit. They adhere very obstinately to their old ways. They are practically all heathens, but there is reason to hope for a change in their attitude towards religion and education from the efforts of Mr. Leffler, a teacher who has just now arrived to take charge of their day school, and who seems qualified to gain their confidence and to interest them in some things that may tend to their uplifting.

They have practically no crop this season, nor have they made any preparations for next season's crop. Their gardens, however, are clean and somewhat better than those of the Crees.

The cattle of this reserve are the fattest in the agency. This, however, seems to be due not so much to superior care in wintering as to the large percentage of dry cows in the herd, which winter easily and fatten quickly. The increase for the season will be extremely small, not more than thirty per cent of a full calf crop. This is due to lack of herding during the past summer, and is merely a repetition of former experience on this and other ranges. It is hoped the provision now being made for a pasture-field will overcome this constant loss.

I am at present engaged on my report to the Indian Commissioner on the inspection of the Battleford agency, on the completion of which I expect to return to my headquarters at Prince Albert and to further work in that vicinity.

I have, &c.,

W. J. CHISHOLM,

Inspector of Indian Agencies.

REPORT OF INSPECTOR FOR TREATY No. 8.

OTTAWA, October 12, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour herein to submit my annual report of Treaty No. 8.

I left Edmonton on May 4 for Athabasca Landing, about two and a-half days' journey. After completing arrangement here, I left with the party for Lesser Slave lake on Bredin & Cornwall's transport. I had engaged a pack train to meet us at the end of the lake, but, on reaching there, found that the ice in the lake was almost clear. I immediately made arrangements to cross the lake by boat, and, after a wait of two or three days, got fair wind and sailed across. This was the first time that the Indians had ever seen the ice out of the lake at that season of the year.

We arrived at Lesser Slave lake on the 17th, then made ready to cross the portage, the trail being in horrible condition. Four good business horses with the ordinary lumber wagon were stuck, with between seven and eight hundred pounds of freight. We were met there by one of the firm, Mr. Roberts, and aranged with him to take the greater part of our freight across on pack horses. We arrived at Peace River Landing on the 26th, and engaged transportation from Bishop Grouard on a mission steamer to Fort St. John, which place we reached on June 2, making the trip in four days of actual running. We settled with the St. John Indians and several new ones coming into the band. I found the Indians here not in a very healthy condition, as a large number were afflicted with scrofula. However, they are very independent and do not care about coming into treaty.

We reached Dunvegan on the 7th and made payments to the Indians. These Indians are also rather sickly, and quite a number of them old, decrepit and unable to work. Now that the white man is going into their country, they want to build houses and cultivate their ground and want tools to work with—carpenter's tools and gardening implements—as they say they wish to raise a few potatoes, which would add considerably to their comfort. They are perfectly satisfied to live in the old way, but now, since game is not over-abundant, they will have to think about tilling the land. I advised that the best thing they could do would be to raise a few vegetables to commence with. I would recommend that the department furnish garden implements and a tool chest.

On the 8th we arrived at Duncan's band, Peace River Crossing. There the Indians have made good progress and the headman, Duncan, has a number of cattle and horses and last year had thirty or forty acres of grain sown ; unfortunately the grain was sown a little late in the season, and the drought prevented him from having a very good harvest ; nevertheless, under the conditions he had a fair crop. The Indians received their annuities here on the 9th. They are anxious to have their reserve, already staked out, surveyed.

On the day appointed we arrived at Vermilion, where we met the Crees, Slaves and Beavers. These Indians live by the hunt and are very healthy and well-to-do.

Fur was plentiful and there was no real want amongst them. The Crees of Little Red River were very successful this year and are very healthy, there being no epidemics amongst them.

We arrived at Fort Chipewyan a day late and found the Indians all in, and settled with them. They were also in a healthy condition. Reindeer and fish were both plentiful, so they had sufficient food. The Indians at Fond du Lac were very much worked up over the close season for beaver and other game, but, after hearing an explanation, were satisfied. They had an abundance of dried meat and the lake afforded them plenty of whitefish. Taken on the whole, they were the best dressed lot of Indians in my inspectorate.

We left Fond du Lac for Fort Smith, where we arrived a day before the day appointed. The Indians here were healthy and had plenty of dried meat.

From Fort Smith we took transportation with Hislop & Nagle's steamer for Resolution. We met the Indians here two days before the time appointed. There were three bands of Indians here, viz.: Chipewyan, Yellow-knives and Dog-ribs.

We then went to Hay river and met the Slaves. These Indians, though probably not as strong physically as some of their brothers, are very energetic and have productive gardens, which add much to their comfort. They also had plenty of fish this season.

We crossed back to Resolution with the York boat of Messrs. Folk & Swiggart. We had very stormy weather in the far north, in fact the wildest that I have seen north of Fort Smith. We engaged passage with the Hudson's Bay Company transportation steamer 'Wrigley,' and travelled south, arriving at Fort McMurray, August 10. We settled with the Indians here. There were three families of McMurray Indians at Isle à la Crosse, who had small-pox, and I thought it better not to allow them to come into camp, but to remain a little distance down the river, where I had food sent and paid them their annuities.

Owing to the prohibition of beaver, I think it would be well to make the payments to the Wabiscow, Whitefish lake, Sturgeon lake and Lesser Slave lake Indians in the fall, which I could do on my way out from McMurray. The journey could be made with Peterborough canoes by the Peigan river to Wabiscow, and from Wabiscow to Sturgeon lake by pack horses. I could get back some time in the latter part of October or early in November.

The supplies furnished by Revillon Frères, especially the bacon, were of very good quality.

I have, &c.,

H. A. CONROY,
Inspector, Treaty No. 8.

MANITOBA AND THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
OFFICE OF THE INDIAN COMMISSIONER,
WINNIPEG, October 22, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report upon Indian affairs in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories for the past year.

When the government assumed the management of Indian affairs in the west it had to organize an elaborate system for rationing the Indians, who by the changed conditions were deprived of their natural means of support, and had to become adapted to the altered circumstances before being able to provide for themselves. To-day we

have reached a stage at which the Indians of the mixed farming districts, who are able-bodied, are practically self-supporting, and our rationing is being largely confined to those who are destitute through age or infirmity. We must be prepared to continue provision for this class either by the appropriation for relief or, as is done in the Qu'Appelle agency, the producing on agency farms of the food-supplies necessary for the destitute. There are agencies, particularly in Saskatchewan and Northern Alberta, in which there is still room for reduction in food-issues ; but when it is remembered that the estimates for relief last year were reduced $20,000 below those of the preceding year, it will be evident that there is over the whole territory a marked advance in the direction of self-support. Attention having been called to the fact that a considerable portion of the provisions provided for the relief of the destitute was being used in payment for work at agencies which should properly be chargeable to management, and as it was considered that the practice tended to pauperize the Indians and was a misuse of the appropriation, instructions were issued that it was to be discontinued, and that agents were to estimate under the head of general expenses for necessary work, and when Indians were employed to do work to pay them the going wage in cash instead of remuneration in the shape of food. In mixed farming districts it was much easier to do away with the old system of free rationing than in the ranching country in Southern Alberta ; but I am glad to be able to report that a very marked advance has been made in the direction of self-support upon the Blackfoot, Blood, Peigan, Sarcee, and Stony reserves. We have purchased beef from those Indians on these reserves who had marketable steers to dispose of, paying them five cents a pound and feeding the beef back to them free, irrespective of their material condition and physical capacity for labour. Some of them had accumulated money and had large herds, but the difficulty in dealing with the situation was that, if the progressive Indian were cut off from free rations, the non-progressive would be encouraged in idleness by regarding the cutting off of the others as a fine imposed on advancement. At conferences with these Indians the matter was discussed, and an offer was made to pay those Indians who undertook to support themselves the going price of beef, instead of the arbitrary price of five cents a pound, and it was shown that their increased earnings through the increased price would really more than compensate for the cutting off of free rations.

There was some doubt as to the Blood Indians, the largest band in the west, voluntarily giving up the rations which had come to be regarded as a treaty right. Last March, however, a number of heads of families agreed to adopt what is known as the self-support plan. In that month payment was being made for beef supplied, and the heads of those families handed back to the agent $50 each, which was to go to their credit on the meat account, undertaking at the same time to turn in animals to be butchered for themselves after June 30. To-day on the Blood reserve there are twenty-five men, with seventy-five women and children dependent on them, who are self-supporting; 166 men, with 362 dependents, are partially self-supporting, and we are supplying full rations to only 574 men, women, and children out of the population of 1,200 on that reserve. The earnings of the Blood Indians for the year ended June 30 from the sale of beef, hay and ponies, freighting, and the mining of coal, which last is carried on by one Indian and his son, amount to $36,154.78. Last year 900 heifers were supplied to the Blood Indians to complete the number of cattle which the treaty provided should be supplied them, but which were not given for the reason that many of the Indians refused to take cattle. These men, seeing the advance made by the cattle-holders, have changed their minds.

A similar system is in operation on the Blackfoot reserve. It is working well. The gratuitous issue of beef for the past fiscal year was about 280,000 pounds less than the issue of four years ago.

On the Sarcee reserve there has been developed among the Indians such an interest in cattle that special provision was made this year to supply heifers to those who had previously refused to consider the taking of cattle.

On the Stony reserve the system has been put in operation, and there are now forty families on the self-support list. The gratuitous issue of beef on this reserve for the three months ended September 30, 1903, was 34,737 pounds; for the three months ending September 30, 1904, the issue only amounted to 17,463 pounds. Eight Stony Indians have been employed on surveys at from $35 to $40 a month with board. At present others are earning $4 a day hauling material for the bridge being constructed by the Territorial government across the Bow river at the reserve.

On the Peigan reserve there was in the six months ended June 30, a reduction of 22,195 pounds in the gratuitous issue of beef.

While a review of the work discloses discouraging features at certain points, there are striking examples of energy and thrift on the part of Indians all over the country. On Beardy's reserve one Indian last year raised 2,000 bushels of grain. Some of the best wheat brought into Regina for shipment last year was raised by Indians on Piapot's reserve; 2,389 bushels of grain were threshed last year by one of the young Indians at the File Hills colony; this year he had 112 acres in crop. Alexis White, who married and settled on Ermineskin's reserve eight years ago, has by his own efforts put himself in the position of an independent farmer. After wintering his thirty-five head of cattle he had fifty tons of hay, which he sold in the spring in Wetaskiwin at a good price. In his report for the year, Agent Carruthers writes thus of the Indians on Côté's reserve:—'I consider them, taking them as a whole, the most industrious, law-abiding band I have come in contact with; they never let a chance slip by of earning money; they are most willing to advance themselves; as an example of this, a number of them subscribe for an eastern paper and for Manitoba monthly agricultural papers. I attended a concert in their school-room about New Year's, where about two hundred of as quiet, well-dressed, orderly people, as one would wish to find were present.' Chief Côté and a number of his Indians visited the Winnipeg exhibition, as did Little Axe and a couple of members of the Blackfoot band. Some of the Blood Indians availed themselves of the recently established sugar-beet industry, and earned over $2,000 in topping and hauling beets to the factory at Raymond. John Tanner, who lives on Gambler's reserve, had a crop of eighty-one acres, has twenty-five head of cattle, eight good farm horses, hogs, barnyard fowls, a full line of agricultural implements, and is part owner with white farmers in a valuable syndicate stallion. Sinquish, one of the group on Côté's reserve who some years ago were given unrestricted control of their property other than land, has so well administered his affairs that he this year, of his own initiative, erected a large two-and-a-half story frame house.

The time has come when special care should be given to the improvement of the dwellings of the Indians. At points there has been in recent years a betterment; but a general review of the reserves in the west compels to the conclusion that further improvement in housing might be made.

The extension of railways through the west has afforded a market for produce to Indians whose reserves were previously so far from centres of population as to make it impossible for them to dispose of anything that they raised beyond what was necessary for their own support. Others were at such a distance from railways as to make the hauling of grain a severe tax upon them. The Indians of File Hills had to haul their grain forty miles for shipment, but now the Kirkella branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway extends along the southeast boundary of Peepeekesis reserve. The extension of the Manitoba and Northwestern passes through the Nut Lake reserve. The main line of the Canadian Northern Railway passes through Côté's reserve, Fishing Lake reserve, and Moosomin's and Thunderchild's reserves. On Côté's reserve there is a terminal point, and the town of Kamsack has been founded. The settlement of the country makes it increasingly difficult for Indians to make a living by following their own mode of life, but the opening up of new markets and the accessibility of shipping points, enable them to dispose more readily of the products of their farms.

The leading of the Indians into the way of self-support necessitates a larger expenditure for management while reducing the volume, and therefore the cost of free

rations. It would not be economy to stint the expenditure where there is evidence of results which in a measureable time should admit of large and permanent economy. At the same time care is to be exercised lest the expenditure should become too high, and the Indian made too dependent by too close and continuous tutelage.

Vital Statistics.—The total population in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories within treaty limits, at the close of the fiscal year was 24,336. As there were 800 births and 709 deaths during the year, it is apparent that the birth-rate has considerably exceeded the death-rate.

In the death of Mr. Alex. McGibbon, who was inspector at Calgary, and of Mr. J. Arthur Leveque, who was inspector at Qu'Appelle, and Mr. W. E. Jones, who was agent at Carlton, the service has been deprived of three conscientious and capable officials, who were devoted to the work of advancing the aborigines.

Education.—It is difficult to add much that is interesting to what has been said in prior reports. The same policy has been carried out in regard to all kinds of schools and on the whole appears to be the best.

Day Schools.—I am not very satisfied with the standing of a certain number of the day schools. It is almost useless to repeat the reasons therefor. In the first place not only are the parents obliged to be away from the reserves at various times, for very legitimate purposes I must allow; but when at home, they take little interest in the schools, and needless to say, the children are even more indifferent. The salary paid to the teachers on reserves may have been large enough some years ago, but those days are ended and there is so much lucrative work to be found all over this western country that the remuneration offered will scarcely tempt good, qualified persons to engage in teaching Indian schools.

Boarding Schools.—Respecting boarding schools, I wish to say in particular that they are all, or mostly all, in splendid condition. For one thing, the recruiting has been good, and they have almost without exception the full number of pupils provided for, and in some cases above. I may add that some of our buildings have more accommodation than the number paid for can occupy; and in some cases where pupils are offering, it would seem advisable to increase the per capita grant number.

Our inspectors have reported very favourably in most cases as to efficiency of staffs, teachableness and behaviour of pupils, and upon general questions respecting management. In a few cases, however, the equipment of schools is deficient.

The sites of some of the buildings seem to have been selected without proper regard for either water-supply or drainage. I need not mention any school in particular, but I have urged improvement in several cases in regard to fire-protection. The question of expenditure in this connection is one that should concern the school authorities as well as the department. From year to year I have asked from the government such help as appeared to be justifiable, but the schools ought to find the means of supplying part of the requirements.

The training of the children in perhaps half of these schools may be said to be almost equal to that given in the industrial schools. Especial attention is paid to agriculture, which, it must be remarked, is the most likely outside training for children who will eventually return to their reserves, where tinsmithing, printing and the like will be of little use. All vegetable stuff is grown on the premises and the children are amply provided in this respect. The pupils also look after live stock of different kinds from horses down to poultry, and are prepared to attend to similar duties after their discharge.

The Indians naturally prefer to see their children near them, either on or near their reserves, and consequently object less to their admission to boarding schools so placed than to have them sent away to the larger schools. However, I think I have succeeded in a fair measure to further the desire of the department by removing a number of them from boarding to industrial schools, when they attain a certain age. I may say that I have noticed of late more co-operation from the principals of boarding schools in this regard, which is probably due to the influence of the higher church

authorities, who from time to time have been asked to use the same for the benefit of the industrial schools as well as the individual pupils.

In several cases during the year where conditions were favourable, the number of pupils was increased slightly, whilst one new school was opened at Fort Resolution. One important change in course of being carried out is the closing of the St. Boniface industrial school, to be replaced by several boarding schools on reserves ; this substitution only awaits the completion of certain boarding school buildings. I have paid particular attention to these buildings and have insisted that, consistent with the experience of the past, proper attention be paid to a plentiful water-supply, proper drainage, facilities to protect pupils against fire emergencies, adequate heating apparatus, and, in general, good and safe quarters.

Industrial Schools.—Of these there are four in Manitoba, six in the Territories, not including Emmanuel College at Prince Albert, the boarding school at Duck Lake and St. Albert Orphanage, the three last being practically industrial schools.

In all of these the class work is of a superior character relatively, and the persons charged with the teaching are exceptionally capable to do justice to the work ; they are trained for the purpose and as a rule enthusiastic in their work. The children in certain branches of study succeed well, better possibly than white children, whilst in others they may not be quite as much at home. Their perceptive faculties are more acute than those of white children, whilst they do not think as deeply or as accurately; or in other words, they live more in the concrete than the abstract. Higher mathematics or reasoned morals would not appeal to them, whilst handiwork, writing and drawing come to them naturally. The teachers have to distribute their efforts so that some equilibrium may be established between the strong and the weak qualities. This duty requires some experience, very much the same as with white children. Creditable Indian teachers have been turned out of our schools, although as a rule a white teacher has more influence on the young Indians.

The children take well to outside work and succeed well in carpentry, blacksmithing, &c. There have been a smaller number of trades taught of late, owing to the fact that most of the pupils are to go back to reserves, where this training would be of little use. The girls are taken special care of and are trained mainly as housekeepers. They are in demand among white people, but the greatest care is needed to have them placed with respectable families. We prefer to have them married to respectable ex-pupils and settled on reserves.

The conduct of the pupils is good when at school, with very few exceptions, and the majority continue well-behaved after discharge. Of course, as may be expected, there are some serious lapses.

The standard of health is fair, but I am sorry to say that we had to go through small-pox and measles at several schools. It has interfered with the work; but, fortunately, very few deaths occurred. Our greatest trouble is with tuberculosis. I am afraid it will be some time before much can be done to eradicate the disease. All preautions needed are taken; good ventilation, plenty of open air, good food and clothing and general cleanliness; but many of them have scrofula, which develops into consumption. The medical attendance is generally satisfactory; the principals being well satisfied in this respect.

There is plenty of accommodation in the industrial schools, as the place of discharged pupils is not so easily filled as formerly by new comers. I have already pointed out the unwillingness of the parents to let their children go a considerable distance from their abode. They cannot conveniently visit their children, and vice versa, on account of the expense. I may say, however, that the recruiting has been somewhat better than in former years, due partly to transfers from boarding schools. The industrial schools are doing excellent work and I hope the transfer, especially of boys, to them from boarding and day schools, will increase.

I have regretfully to record the calamity that befell the main building of the Qu'-Appelle industrial school, which was burnt down at the beginning of January last.

Nothing of the building remained standing. The rescue of some of the children was done under the greatest difficulties, and at least two members of the staff nearly lost their lives in this generous work. Happily, nobody perished and save for a considerable shake up, no bodily harm was experienced.

The building was considered well provided for in regard to fire-protection and escape, but was very inflammable, and the fire, starting almost at the centre of the ground floor, was all over the structure in a very few minutes. Fortunately, the fire took place at noon; if it had been at night, the loss would have been greater. As it was, very little of the contents of the school were saved besides what the staff and children happened to wear at the time. The cause of the fire can only be guesed at.

ATTENDANCE at Boarding Schools.

Name of School.	Provided for.		On Roll.	
	1902-1903.	1903-1904.	June 1903.	June 1904.
Norway House (Meth.)	50	50	53	57
Pine Creek (R.C.)	55	55	59	57
Rat Portage (R.C.)	30	30	31	30
Cecilia Jeffrey, Shoal Lake (Presb.)	30	30	17	21
Crowstand (Presb.)	40	40	42	45
Birtle (Presb.)	40	40	45	43
Round Lake (Presb.)	40	40	30	26
Cowessess (R.C.)	40	40	40	40
File Hills (Presb.)	15	15	16	16
Gordon (C.E.)	30	30	30	24
Muscowequan (R.C.)	30	30	30	28
Duck Lake (R.C.)	100	100	103	102
Emmanuel College (C.E.)	52	52	49	54
Isle à la Crosse (R.C.)	12	20	12	20
Thunderchild (R.C.)	15	20	15	20
Onion Lake (R.C.)	50	50	51	45
" (C.E.)	16	16	23	20
Blue Quill's (R.C.)	45	45	50	39
St. Albert (R.C.)	80	80	70	72
Ermineskin (R.C.)	50	50	50	52
McDougall Orphanage (Meth.)	40	40	39	48
Sarcee (C.E.)	15	15	14	17
Old Sun's (C.E.)	50	50	42	40
Crowfoot (R.C.)	25	25	17	24
Blood (C.E.)	50	50	49	47
" (R.C.)	25	25	28	33
Peigan (C.E.)	30	30	26	22
" (R.C.)	20	20	21	20
Lesser Slave Lake (C.E.)	15	15	33	30
" (R.C.)	40	40	41	39
Smoky River (R.C.)	15	15	18	11
Fort Chipewyan (R.C.)	40	40	35	36
Portage la Prairie (Presb.)	20	25	20	22
Wabiscow (R.C.)	15	15	27	25
" (C.E.)	15	15	15	15
Hay River (C.E.)	20	20	33	no return.
Ft. Vermilion (R.C.)	15	15	..	2
Ft. Resolution (R.C.) New	..	25	..	13
	1,270	1,308	1,274	1,255

ATTENDANCE at Industrial Schools.

Name of School.	Provided for		On Roll.	
	1902-1903.	1903-1904.	June 1903.	June 1904.
St. Boniface	100	100	75	80
Rupert's Land	120	120	95	89
Elkhorn	100	100	83	75
Brandon	100	115	103	105
Qu'Appelle	225	225	234	225
Regina	125	125	113	111
Battleford	120	120	83	87
Red Deer	80	80	68	92
Calgary	50	50	41	27
Dunbow	120	120	82	81
	1,140	1,155	977	962

I have, &c.,

DAVID LAIRD,
Indian Commissioner.

REPORT OF SURVEYS IN MANITOBA AND THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES.

OTTAWA, December 14, 1903.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report for the past season's work in connection with Indian surveys in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories:

In compliance with your instructions, I left Ottawa on March 11, and, having reported to the Indian Commissioner at Winnipeg, I proceeded to the Roseau reserve and subdivided the portions designated in your instructions.

Having completed the subdivison of that portion of the Roseau reserve, I went on to Prince Albert and from there to La Corne, to mound that portion of the Cumberland reserve, subdivided under your instructions of last winter, but found there was too much water, and decided it would be advisable to wait until the autumn, when the surface water would have run off and the ground be more dry. Returning to Prince Albert, I organized a party for the season's work in the Battleford and Onion Lake agencies.

In compliance with your instructions, I have established and permanently marked the boundaries of all Indian reserves in the Battleford agency, and two reserves in the Onion Lake agency; also laid out a reserve for the Cold Lake Indians in the same agency.

The past season was most unfavourable for carrying out surveys, owing to the cold rains and most disagreeable weather; but in spite of these drawbacks my party had completed a large amount of work.

I notice more particularly this season a marked encroachment of scrub, willow and poplar on the prairie country, owing no doubt to the absence of prairie fires, through the stringent regulations regarding the same.

The following is a list of Indian reserves, the boundaries of which have been resurveyed and established :—

(1) Reserve No. 112 Moosomin.
(2) " 112A " and Thunderchild.
(3) " 115 Thunderchild.
(4) " 115A "
(5) " 113 Sweet Grass.
(6) " 113A "
(7) " 113B "
(8) " 114 Poundmaker.
(9) " 116 Little Pine.
(10) " 110 and 111 Grizzly Bear and Lean Man.
(11) " 108 Red Pheasant.
(12) " 109 Mosquito.
(13) " 119 Seekaskootch.
(14) " 120 Makaoo.

In addition to the foregoing, a reserve for the Cold Lake Indians has been surveyed.

I may mention that, owing to the increased demand for labour and the general prosperity of the country, wages and transport are very much higher than formerly.

I have, &c.,

J. LESTOCK REID,

In charge of Indian Reserve Surveys,
Manitoba and N.W.T.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
BABINE AND UPPER SKEENA RIVER AGENCY,
HAZELTON, July 9, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith my annual report and statistical statement, also list of government property in my keeping, to June 30, 1904.

Agency.—This agency is the most northerly situated, and is bounded towards the north and west by the Northwest Coast agency, towards the south by the Williams Lake agency, and on the east by the Rocky mountains.

For geographical reasons and distinction of entirely different characteristics of nations, this agency is treated under two divisions.

THE KITSUN DIVISION.

Language.—The language of the Kitsuns is the original of such spoken under different dialects by the Tsimpsians of the coast and the Indians of the Nass river.

Location.—The supervision of this part of the district begins from the Kitselas canyon of the Skeena river, and about ninety miles below Hazelton, terminating beyond its head-waters, covering a distance of about one hundred and sixty miles, exclusive of Kitwankool, situated on the trail to Ayensk, Nass river, and Kisgegas, on the Babine river, three miles beyond its confluence with the Skeena. The other six villages are on both banks of the latter river and end towards its source with that of Kuldoe. With the exception of Hazelton, all the villages are connected by trails with the Nass where they converge at Ayensk.

Reserves.—The reserves of this division contain, collectively, an aggregate of 19,570 acres of agricultural, grazing, hay and timber land.

The areas comprise in their contents mainly natural meadows with growths of balm of Gilead, poplar, willow, alder and hazel, and rolling timber-covered knolls.

Population.—The division has a total population of 1,120 men, women and children, being an increase of 9 over last year's count.

Nation.—The Indians under this heading are of the Ksun nation. Its bands will be dealt with in the order towards the source of the Skeena.

KITWANGAR BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band are about equally located on both banks of the Skeena and comprise an area of 4,275 acres. With these are here included five unsurveyed allotments for fishing grounds.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 154, consisting of 56 men, 58 women and 40 children. There occurred 5 births and 4 deaths, making an increase of 1.

Health and Sanitation.—The Indians experienced the best of health, and care is being taken to preserve it by a system of keeping clean all premises and their environs. During the year more of the Indians were vaccinated.

Resources and Occupations.—The resources are fishing, hunting and trapping and keeping some stock. These Indians occupy themselves with cutting cord-wood, tilling their gardens and working for the canneries on the coast. The women and children gather a large quantity of wild berries, and dry them. The berries being spread on

willow-grates with a clear fire underneath and the sun from above, become evaporated. In this state the substance is baked into a sheet-like elastic mass and then cut up into board shape of two feet in length, and tons of it are put up for winter use.

Buildings.—Care is being taken that all buildings are located on dry and healthy ground and are spaciously arranged to combine comfort with privacy, also with windows enough to ensure the admission of plenty of sunlight and fresh air.

Stock.—This band's cattle and horses wintered without loss, and increased attention is constantly being given them.

Farm Implements.—The implements used are not such as would be used in actual farming, but suffice in clearing and tilling land for the potato and other root-crops, and in reaping and stowing hay.

Education.—The school here is under the auspices of the Anglican Church Missionary Society and is centrally located in the village. The school is endowed with the usual grant for day schools and is making good progress. Much attention is given the pupils, and the parents of the latter are alive to the advantage thus afforded them. To the energy of the missionary, the Rev. A. E. Price, credit is likewise due for the well-lighted and equipped school-house.

Religion.—Much interest is being taken in Christian teaching, and the church, which is also a model of structure, is well and regularly attended by the people.

Characteristics and Progress.—The people of this band are honest in their dealings, well meaning and law-abiding. Some of the old of their number still persist in going to feasts, but that is a racial, rather than individual characteristic. The majority of them are good at carpentry and equally so at other handiwork. Additional land is constantly being broken up, and correspondingly more care is bestowed upon growing potatoes, other root-crops and hay, and as conditions and opportunities develop, they promptly avail themselves of them.

Temperance and Morality.—The people are temperate and moral.

KITWANKOOL BAND.

Reserve.—The village of this band, for which no reserve has yet been allotted, is the only one remotely situate from the Skeena, and is located on the right bank of the Kitwangar river, twenty-five miles from Kitwangar and four miles below Lake Kitwankool and on the trail from Kitwangar and Kitsegukla to Ayensk, Nass river.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band—exclusive of its quota of 115 living at Ayensk, Kincolith and Fishery bay, Nass—numbers 67, and is composed of 21 men, 21 women, and 25 children. During the year there were 3 births and 4 deaths, making a decrease of 1.

Health and Sanitation—There is no illness to record. Sanitary measures are fairly well observed, and more of this band have been vaccinated.

Resources and Occupations.—To this band the lake of its name yields an unlimited supply of salmon. Hunting and trapping bring good returns, and the gathering of wild berries by the women and children. Though somewhat isolated, these Indians, like their kindred, display a great facility in seizing opportunities for making money. Generally, during the season, they work in the salmon canneries of the coast and earn fair wages, when conditions permit.

Buildings.—Buildings recently erected are, as elsewhere, of modern make and well located.

Stock.—Cattle and horses wintered well and without loss, and better provision is being made for their keep.

Farm Implements.—Only the tools for clearing, gardening and weeding are in use.

Education.—There is no school in this village. Some of the children periodically attend school at Kitwangar and also at Kincolith and Ayensk, Nass.

Religion.—No missionary is stationed here and no church adorns the village, but the people more or less receive religious instruction in the localities last mentioned.

Characteristics and Progress.—This band, though still somewhat divided by the perverseness of the old people in regard to the ideas prevailing among the younger and progressive of its number, is steadily improving its condition ; as these people are naturally industrious, the diversity of opinion will gradually cease.

Temperance and Morality.—There are few complaints in regard to either intemperance or immorality.

KITSEGUKLA BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band are located on both banks of the Skeena and contain an area of 3,732 acres. The new and old villages are both situated on the left bank of the river ; the latter about nine miles below the first. Since reserve No. 2, containing the new village, inclusive of the part on the opposite bank, became subdivided, the old village can be considered to be almost abandoned.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band's two villages is 91, made up of 30 men, 30 women and 31 children. There were 4 births and 2 deaths, causing an increase of 2.

Health and Sanitation.—During the year the Indians were in perfect health. In the new village, the premises and their surroundings are kept very clean, and in the old village fairly so ; more of its people were vaccinated.

Resources and Occupations.—This band's main resources are fishing, hunting and trapping and its members are occupied in working in the canneries of the coast, also in cutting cord-wood, improving their homes in severalty and in raising produce of the soil other than grain, for part of their subsistence.

Buildings.—All buildings, exclusive of those of the old village, are constructed in conformity with modern principles, modified by local requirements.

Farm Implements.—With the exception of a good plough, only ordinary implements required for breaking up land, clearing and tilling the soil, and for haying, are yet in use.

Education.—Here, fair progress is being made at the school; but contrary to what I naturally expected, the school still remains at the old village, in which it is centrally located.

Religion.—The members of this band belong to the Methodist Church. The church-building also still remains at the old place, but will, no doubt, likewise be removed to form part of the new settlement, and thereby contribute still more effectively towards its well-being.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians of this band are law-abiding, diligent and continuous workers, and in contrast between newly-acquired tastes and old inherent habits, have vastly discarded the latter for an adjustment of conditions much desired.

On their No. 2 reserve more work has been accomplished on the locations in severalty during last fall than previously for many months; and more complete would have been the result, but for the failure in earning of wages during the past season at the canneries of the coast. Since making it an indispensable condition that the holder of a location must be an actual inhabitant, to the exclusion of any other home, the results have been much more expeditious.

Temperance and Morality.—Under both terms their conduct is excellent.

GETANMAX BAND, HAZELTON.

Reserve.—The reserve lands of this band are located, with the exception of a timber reserve, on Two-mile creek, on both banks of the Skeena, and inclusive of Rocher

Déboulé, also assigned to this band, and on both banks of the Bulkley river, comprise a total area of 3,791 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population, largely composed originally of other villages, is 241, consisting of 93 men, 94 women, and 54 children. There were 11 births and 7 deaths, making an increase of 4.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians was very good. The usual precautionary measures were observed, and in addition more of the people were vaccinated. No trace of any contagion made itself apparent. Cases of illness are being treated by Dr. H. C. Wrinch, and by his services many desperate cases among the Indians were most successfully treated by surgical operations and proper treatment.

Attention is given to cleanliness of person, premises and their surroundings. In the latter respect the elective councils of the three preceding bands and the one of this village, deserve credit for assisting.

Resources and Occupations.—Fishing, hunting and trapping are more and more becoming less and less a means of resource. Hazelton being the terminus of communication of the larger part of this district, and the entrepôt of supplies for the interior, the Indians of this band, with those nearby, readily find employment of all sorts at high wages.

Buildings.—All buildings outside of the old village, are well placed, of good pattern, well lighted and commodious.

Stock.—The cattle and horses wintered well; they were fairly well provided for.

Farm Implements.—With the exception of a harrow, the implements are such as are generally used for clearing, gardening and haying.

Education.—The school here is under the auspices of the Anglican Church Missionary Society. It is well attended during the season, and the parents of the pupils are taking more interest in having them attend. The school-house occupies the north end of the Hazelton townsite, near the old Indian village.

Religion.—Interest is taken in religious matters and a fine church-building stands on the townsite, in which the Church of England service is conducted.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians of this band are law-abiding, industrious and provident. What they earn in wages is generally put to good use. Subdivisions of their reserves are steadily being taken up and improved, and inquiries are constantly made for more.

Temperance and Morality.—Though, here, the temptations to transgress in both respects are many, the complaints are few.

GLEN VOWELL BAND.

Reserve.—The village of this band is located about four miles above here, on the special reserve of Sikedach, on the right bank of the Skeena. This reserve contains 900 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 73, consisting of 20 men, 20 women and 33 children. During the year there was 1 birth and 1 death, causing no change in the population.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians was excellent; the necessary precautions are well observed, and more of the people were vaccinated.

Resources and Occupations.—In addition to doing some fishing and hunting, the people keep some stock. In other respects they usually earn good wages at the various employments afforded. Much of their time is also given to the improvement of their holdings.

Buildings.—The buildings of this settlement are largely of uniform pattern, commodious and well lighted.

Stock.—The cattle and horses are properly looked after, and fair provision is made for their keep.

Farm Implements.—Only the necessary implements for breaking up land, gardening and haying are in use here.

Education.—There is good progress made with the school; its premises are centrally located to the village and the pupils are being well taken care of.

Religion.—There is a meeting-house in which Salvation Army service is conducted, and its location is likwise central.

Characteristics and Progress.—The people are law-abiding, industrious and persevering. Much of their land has been converted into pasture and gardens, and more is being cleared and well fenced. All that is accomplished, in so short a time, denotes a record not easily surpassed.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate and moral community.

KISPIAX BAND.

Reserve.—The village of this band is situated about eight miles above here on the right bank of the Skeena and on the left bank of the mouth of the Kispiax river. The main reserve is allotted on that side of the former river, with a special reserve north from the village, and, inclusive of Sikedach, connected with the preceding band, contains an area of 4,916 acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 216, composed of 74 men, 77 women and 65 children. There were 11 births and 4 deaths, making an increase of 7.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been very good. The usual precautions are taken to preserve it, and some of the people were vaccinated.

Resources and Occupations.—The resources are hunting and trapping in winter and catching salmon during the summer. Working in the canneries of the coast, and for wages at general employment, here, occupy the better part of the season.

Buildings.—All buildings erected here of recent years are of very superior quality, being in striking contrast to the old ones.

Stock.—The cattle and horses wintered well and better care is being bestowed upon them from year to year.

Farm Implements.—With the exception of two harrows, only the ordinary tools for clearing land, gardening and haying are in use.

Education.—School is being taught in a house fairly centrally located and improvised for that purpose. During the season it is well attended. Good progress is made by the pupils. The parents of the latter take an interest in the matter by enforcing their attendance, when conditions at all permit.

Religion.—The people are of the Methodist denomination. A nice and commodious church-building serves for religious devotions and is generally well attended.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians were known to be of rather a fractious and obdurate disposition, but are improving. A relapse, however, into the old conditions must occasionally be met again, and again, and again; and in this it is hard to keep the odds uniform with the rest.

Temperance and Morality.—Regarding the former, violations periodically occur, but are promptly punished; morally, their conduct is fair.

KISGEGAS BAND.

Reserve.—The home of this band is about sixty-eight miles to the north of here, on the right bank of the Babine river, and three miles above its confluence with the Skeena. The reserve embraces both sides of the Babine river with an area of 2,415 acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers 241, consisting of 89 men, 91 women and 61 children. There were 3 births and 5 deaths, resulting in a decrease of 2.

Health and Sanitation.—The Indians' health has been excellent. Sanitary measures are observed and an additional number of the people and their children have been vaccinated.

Resources and Occupations.—The resources of this band are : catching salmon, mainly in the canyon below the village, and hunting and trapping. These Indians of late years are more occupied in tilling their potato-patches. The women and children gather wild berries and dry them for winter use.

Buildings.—Here also, only buildings of modern pattern are supplanting the old.

Stock.—The stock, consisting only of horses, wintered well.

Farm Implements.—Only the ordinary tools for clearing land, gardening and haying are used.

Education.—The mission-building, conveniently located, is used for school purposes. The children are making fair progress and their parents encourage attendance.

Religion.—These Indians are Anglicans.

Characteristics and Progress.—These people are very intelligent and industrious, but their energies are still mainly applied to the fishing, hunting and trapping grounds. As a whole, much improvement of their condition is steadily going on.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are temperate and moral.

KULDOE BAND.

Reserve.—The village of this band is situated on the right bank of the Skeena river. The reserve contains 446 acres, almost equally divided in area on both banks of the Skeena.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 37, made up of 11 men, 12 women and 14 children. There occurred 1 birth and 3 deaths from natural causes, resulting in a decrease of 2.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band has been very good. The usual sanitary measures are heeded and more of the people were vaccinated.

Resources and Occupations.—The river furnishes a goodly supply of salmon. For so few people, the large hunting-grounds give large returns. Of late, more of their time is occupied in attending to their gardens.

Buildings.—The buildings here are still made of split cedar and are of the primitive kind.

Stock.—Of stock these Indians have none.

Farm Implements.—Tools for breaking up land, gardening and weeding are employed.

Education.—There is no school at this village, but the children periodically attend that of Kisgegas.

Religion.—There is no church, but ten people take an interest in Christian teaching.

Characteristics and Progress.—The people are law-abiding and intelligent ; though remotely situated, they are striving for the better by extending and improving their potato-grounds, and in breaking up more land.

Temperance and Morality.—This band observes temperate and moral habits.

HAGWILGET DIVISION.

Language.—Hagwilget or the Déné, a language of a small but plastic vocabulary, is spoken by the tribes of Indians of that nation, ranging from within three miles to the southeast of here to beyond the Rocky mountains in that direction.

Location.—This division begins within three miles to the southeast of Hazelton, and extends in that bearing for a distance computed at 325 miles, and ends at Fort George, on the Fraser river.

Reserves.—The reserves of this division embrace an area of 29,510 acres of agricultural, grazing, hay and timber land, with seventeen villages under the Babine and Carrier groups.

The natural features of the reserves consist in the main of flat-lying meadows that are backed by recurring benches more or less timbered.

Vital Statistics.—The total population is 1,831 men, women and children, showing an increase of 13 over last year's census, which will be accounted for later on, in detail.

Nation.—The following bands are of the Déné nation :—

ROCHER DÉBOULÉ BAND.

In dealing with the following, I deem it admissible to reserve for the summing up, remarks in regard to localities identical in feature and conditions from beginning to end.

Reserve.—The village of this band is located three miles to the southeast of Hazelton, on the lofty left bank of the Bulkley river. The reserve comprises both sides of that river, and contains an area of 443 acres, which is assigned to the Getanmax (Hazelton) band.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers 161, consisting of 60 men, 59 women and 42 children. There were 2 births and 4 deaths, causing a decrease of 2.

MORICETOWN BAND.

Reserve.—The village of this band is situated on the left bank of the Bulkley river, and at its main canyon. In area, the reserve is almost evenly divided on both sides of the river, and contains 1,853 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 157, made up of 58 men, 58 women and 41 children. There were 5 births and 3 deaths, making an increase of 2.

FORT BABINE BAND.

Reserve.—The village is situated on the right shore of Babine lake, near its discharge, the Babine river, where there is a bridge of about 200 feet in length. The reserve has an area of 894 acres, partly distributed on each bank.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers 151, consisting of 55 men, 57 women and 39 children. There were 2 births and 3 deaths, resulting in a decrease of 1.

OLD FORT BABINE BAND.

Reserve.—The village is on the right and the reserves are on both shores of the lake, and comprise an area of 359 acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 137, composed of 49 men, 48 women and 40 children. There were 2 births and 4 deaths, making a decrease of 2.

YUCUTCÉ BAND.

Reserve.—The village and reserve are situated at the head of Stuart's lake, on the intervening nine miles of land between Babine and Stuart's lakes, or portage. The reserve area amounts to 817 acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers 17, made up of 6 men, 5 women and 6 children. There were no births and 1 death, resulting in a decrease of 1.

TACHÉ BAND.

Reserve.—The village and reserve are situated on the left bank of Stuart's lake, with the former at the mouth and left bank of the Taché river. The reserve area amounts to 1,779 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 61, consisting of 19 men, 20 women and 22 children. There were 4 births and 2 deaths, making an increase of 2.

PINTCE BAND.

Reserve.—The village and reserve are on the left bank of Stuart's lake, and the former at the mouth and right bank of the Pintce river. The reserve contains 728 acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers 41, made up of 14 men, 15 women, and 12 children. There were 3 births and 1 death, causing an increase of 2.

GRAND RAPIDS BAND.

Reserve.—The village and reserve of this band are on the right bank of Taché river, at the point commonly called Trembleur river. The reserve contains 584 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 24, composed of 8 men, 6 women and 10 children. There were no births, but 2 deaths, resulting in a decrease of 2.

TSISTLAINLI WITH TSISLY BAND.

Reserve.—The two villages and reserves of these, the people of one and the same band, are at the head of Trembleur lake and left bank and mouth of Tatla river. The reserves contain an area of 1,291 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 17, consisting of 6 men, 5 women and 6 children. There were 2 births and no deaths, making an increase of 2.

STUART'S LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The village and reserve of this band are on the left shore of Stuart's lake, and at its discharge, Stuart's river. The area of the reserve is 2,875 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 195, consisting of 72 men, 71 women and 52 children. There were 16 births and 5 deaths, making an increase of 11.

STELLA BAND.

Reserve.—The village and reserve of this band are on the right bank of the Stella river and near its discharge into Fraser lake. The reserve comprises an area of 2,077 acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers 55, composed of 16 men, 16 women and 23 children. There were 11 births and 2 deaths, resulting in an increase of 9.

FRASER LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The village and reserve of this band are on the left shore of Fraser lake and at its discharge, the Natleh river. The reserve area consists of 1,949 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 63, made up of 20 men, 19 women and 24 children. There were 5 births and 1 death, causing an increase of 4.

STONY CREEK BAND.

Reserve.—The village is located on the right bank of Stony creek, and the reserve on both of its banks extends down to its discharge into Noolka lake. The reserve comprises an area of 7,488 acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers 105, composed of 37 men, 39 women and 29 children. There were 6 births and 4 deaths, resulting in an increase of 2.

FORT GEORGE BAND.

Reserve.—The village is on reserve No. 1, on the right bank of the Fraser river; No. 2 is located on the same side of that river. No. 3 is located on the left bank. No. 4 is located on the left bank on the latter's right bank, and also on the right bank and mouth of Mud river, one of its eastern affluents. In area they amount to 3,095 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 121, consisting of 42 men, 44 women and 35 children. There were 5 births and 3 deaths, making an increase of 2.

TSISTLATHO BAND.

Reserve.—Reserve No. 1 is located on the right bank of the Fraser river; No. 2, on the left bank of the Blackwater river, and No. 3, on the eastern shore of Nattesley or Bobtail lake; altogether amounting in area to 537 acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band numbers 67, made up of 25 men, 24 women and 18 children. There were 2 births and 4 deaths, causing a decrease of 2.

MCLEOD'S LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The village is located on the western shore of McLeod's lake, and the reserve on both banks of Long river. The reserve contains an area of 286 acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 96, composed of 31 men, 31 women and 34 children. There were 3 births and 2 deaths, resulting in an increase of 1.

FORT GRAHAME AND LAKE CONNELLY BANDS OF SIKANEES.

Location.—Members of the former band of Sikanees occasionally come into Fort Grahame to trade, and the latter to Connelly lake outpost. Being nomadic and depending entirely on fresh and smoked cariboo and moose-meat, conditions do not permit their travelling and camping in numbers beyond those of single families. Thus they roam over a range of about four hundred miles of mountains, lakes and swamps to the east of their respective trading posts.

Vital Statistics.—From the best information at my disposal, the Fort Grahame band numbers about 93, consisting of 30 men, 31 women and 32 children. There were reported 1 birth and 4 deaths, which would cause a decrease of 3.

The Connelly Lake band numbers about 119, said to be composed of 44 men, 44 women and 31 children. There were supposed to have been 3 births and 7 deaths, which would result in a decrease of 4.

CONNELLY LAKE BANDS OF NA-ANEES.

Two semi-nomadic bands of Na-anees likewise roam under above conditions over a large expanse of mountains and lakes to the north of Lake Connelly.

Vital Statistics.—The population of these two bands of Indians is about 151, reported to consist of 55 men, 53 women and 43 children; with 2 births and 5 deaths, making a decrease of 3 in these two bands.

GENERAL REMARKS CONCERNING HAGWILGET DIVISION.

Health and Sanitation.—During the year the Indians experienced the best of health, and with the exception of some cases of whooping-cough among the children

of Fort Babine, late this spring, no semblance of anything contagious appeared; and that affliction must have sprung from some local cause, as it cannot be traced to any source whatever. The Indians are advised of the necessity of cleanliness, and many have been vaccinated.

Resources and Occupations.—The main resources are hunting, trapping and fishing, and keeping some stock. The bands of Rocher Déboulé, Moricetown and Fort Babine do packing with their horses. At Stuart's lake and Fort George, the Indians earn some money by canoeing and packing with their horses; the latter as an occupation applies likewise to those of Stony creek. As a whole, of late they occupy more of their time in attending to their gardens.

Buildings.—They are taking an interest in building better houses and are more concerned in choosing the ground.

Timber and Bush Fires.—Of late years, the Indians have become more cautious in prevention of the same. Fire notices are posted in the most conspicuous localities through the district. The few fires that became at all evident, were of short duration by the timely intervention of rains.

Stock.—The stock of the Indians wintered fairly well with the exception in the Stony Creek range, where losses occurred from protracted snows.

Farm Implements.—The implements consist of such as are used in breaking up land, gardening and haying.

Education.—There are no schools on any of the reserves of this division, but the people have learnt to use the syllabic writing in their own language.

Religion.—The Indians of this division are adherents of the Roman Catholic Church. The home mission of this district is at Stuart's Lake, and there are churches at Rocher Déboulé, Moricetown, Fort Babine, Old Fort Babine, Taché, Pintce, Fraser Lake, Stella, Stony Creek, Fort George, McLeod's Lake and Blackwater.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians are of good disposition and tractable. The most ambitious are those of Rocher Déboulé and Moricetown. All are prepared to meet the new conditions that a movement of settlers into the valleys and prairies around them will create. Though this innovation may not be up to their conception of things, at present, it surely will prove in expedient the missing link of a change substantially for the better.

Temperance and Morality.—During the year, no information on infraction of either temperance or morality came from within this division.

I have, &c.,

R. E. LORING,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
COWICHAN AGENCY,
QUAMICHAN, August 5, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith my annual report and statistical statement for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Agency.—This agency is situated on the east coast of Vancouver island and extends from Cape Mudge on the north to Sooke on the south, including the reserves on the different islands in the gulf of Georgia.

The total area of the reserves in this agency is 19,893 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 Yale; which reserves are occupied by the following bands :—

SOOKE BAND.

Reserves.—(Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4.) The reserves of this band are situated on the straits of Juan de Fuca, about twenty-five miles southwest of the city of Victoria ; and contain an area of 166 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population numbers 24, consisting of 6 men, 7 women and 11 children. During the year there has been 1 death and no births, making a decrease of 1.

Health and Sanitation.—These Indians all enjoy good health, and their premises are kept clean.

Occupations.—The Indians are chiefly engaged in farming and fishing. During the summer they go to the Fraser river for the salmon-fishing and in the fall to the hop-fields in the State of Washington.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have all good implements and stock ; their buildings are in good repair. They take good care of their stock.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics.

Education.—There is no school on the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and well behaved. Year by year they pay more attention to the cultivation of their farms.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

CHEERNO BAND (BEECHER BAY).

Reserves.—(Nos. 1 to 11 inclusive.) These reserves are situated on the straits of Juan de Fuca, about fifteen miles southwest of Victoria, and contain 779 acres. As most of the land in these reserves is hilly and rocky, very little of it is fit for farming.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band numbers 45; consisting of 9 men, 17 women and 19 children. During the year there has been 1 birth and 2 deaths, making a decrease of 1 for the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band has been good. They have been careful to keep their buildings clean.

Occupations.—These Indians do a little farming on such land as they can cultivate; they also fish for the Victoria market. Some of them go to the hop-fields in the State of Washington.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Their houses are fairly good. They have some cattle of medium quality, also some horses. They possess a few farm implements of fair quality.

Education.—There is no school on these reserves.

Religion.—Most of these Indians are Roman Catholics. A few are pagans and Shakers.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are fairly industrious and show a desire to better their condition.

Temperance and Morality.—Although a small number of these Indians give way to drink, yet they are not what may be termed immoral.

SONGHEES BAND.

This band comprises the following sub-families, the Esquimalt and Discovery Island Indians as well as the Songhees Indians.

Reserves.—(Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4.) These reserves are situated on the harbours of Victoria and Esquimalt ; and on the islands in the straits of Juan de Fuca ; the total area of these reserves is 306 acres. Very little of the land is fit for cultivation.

Vital Statistics.—The total population of this band is 154 ; consisting of 36 men, 45 women and 73 children ; during the year there have been 2 births and 4 deaths ; there have also been 7 migrations into the band, making an increase in population of 5 for the year.

Health and Sanitation.—These Indians enjoy pretty good health. Owing to their proximity to Victoria they keep their houses neat and in good condition.

Occupations.—Fishing and working for white men in the city of Victoria form their chief means of livelihood.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Their dwellings and outbuildings are in a fair condition. They keep very little stock. As to farm implements, they have very few.

Education.—There is a school on these reserves, which is fairly well attended.

Religion.—These Indians are all either Roman Catholics or Methodists.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are fairly industrious and law-abiding and show a desire to improve their condition.

Temperance and Morality.—They are fairly temperate and moral, but, living so near to the city of Victoria, unfortunately a few are addicted to intemperate habits.

BANDS IN THE SAANICH DISTRICT.

Reserves.—The following bands occupy reserves numbered 1 to 13 inclusive, in Saanich district, viz.: Malakut, Tsekum, Pauquachin, Tsartlip and Tsawout; the total area of the said reserves being 3,318 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The total population is 260, consisting of 64 men, 79 women and 117 children. During the year there have been 5 births and 4 deaths; 1 joined the band and 5 left, making a decrease of 3.

Occupations.—The chief occupations of the Indians are general farming, fishing and hop-picking; also working among the adjoining white settlers.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good during the past year and their premises are kept clean.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Some of these Indians have good comfortable dwellings, fairly well furnished, and their outbuildings are fairly good. They have some improved breeds of stock, and take care of them. Their implements, of which they have a good supply, are in good condition.

Education.—There are two schools provided for these Indians, one situated on the Tsawout reserve, the other at Tsartlip. They take considerable interest in educational matters.

Religion.—The Indians of this band are all Roman Catholics and regularly attend church.

Characteristics and Progress.—The majority of these Indians are industrious and law-abiding; unfortunately a few of them get into trouble through violation of the law.

Temperance and Morality.—When the Indians get into the city of Victoria they are exposed to great temptation and fall easy victims to the schemes of unscrupulous sellers of whisky, and the result is several of them get drunk. The band, taken as a whole, is well-behaved.

BANDS IN COWICHAN DISTRICT.

Reserves.—The following bands occupy reserves numbered 1 to 8 inclusive, in Cowichan valley, which is situated on the east coast of Vancouver island, about forty miles north of the city of Victoria, viz.:—Kilpaulus, Comeakin, Clemclemaluts, Khenipsin, Koksilah, Quamichan and Somenos. The total area of these reserves is 6,088 acres.

Vital Statistics.— The combined population of the seven bands is 679, consisting of 202 men, 208 women and 269 children. During the past year there have been 8 births and 11 deaths, making a decrease of 3.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been fair; there have been no epidemics nor contagious diseases among them during the past year. Their chief maladies are scrofula, consumption and rheumatism. As there is an abundance of fresh water running through their lands, the sanitary conditions are good.

Occupations.—The chief occupation of these Indians is farming, although during the summer and autumn they earn a lot of money from the fisheries on the Fraser river, and from the hop-fields in the State of Washington. In addition to this, they do a great deal of work for the white farmers in the neighbourhood and are enabled thereby to earn considerable cash, especially in harvest-time.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The character and number of their buildings continue to improve. Their dwelling-houses become more comfortable each year. Their stock is very good; the horses are of larger and better breed than formerly, the cattle are improving fast in quality and quantity. Several of the Indians own mowers, reapers, binders and threshing-machines both steam and horse-power, with which they earn a great deal of money harvesting and threshing the crops of the white farmers of the surrounding district. Their farm machinery is of the most improved pattern.

Education.—There are two schools provided for these Indians : one situated in the Somenos village, the other between the Clemclemaluts and Quamichan villages. Both schools are doing well and the pupils show good progress. The older children attend the Kuper Island industrial school.

Religion.—The majority of these Indians are Roman Catholics.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians in this district are industrious and law-abiding, seldom violating the law and as a whole are very progressive.

Temperance and Morality.—Taking them all round, these Indians are of temperate habits, a few being fond of liquor. They are very moral and compare favourably with any Indians on the coast.

HELLELT BAND.

Reserves.—(Nos. 1 and 2 of the Chemainus band.) One reserve is situated on the south bank of the Chemainus river, about a mile and a half from its mouth; the other on an island at the mouth of the same river. The two reserves contain a combined area of 427 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 28; consisting of 8 men, 9 women and 11 children. There has been one death during the year but no births, making a decrease of one.

Health and Sanitation.—These Indians have been very healthy; no sickness of a contagious nature has prevailed among them; they all live during the summer months in their private houses.

Occupations.—The Indians of this band engage chiefly in farming and fishing and they earn a little money occasionally by clearing land for the white settlers.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The buildings are neat and of good construction; the Indians do not own much stock, but what few they have are well taken care of; so also are their farm implements.

Education.—There is no school on these reserves; as soon as the children are old enough, they attend the Kuper Island industrial school.

Religion.—Many of these Indians are Roman Catholics; those that are not Roman Catholics are semi-pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious; seldom do they get into trouble.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral. A few occasionally indulge in whisky.

THE SICCAMEEN AND KULLEETS BAND.

Reserve.—(Nos. 10, 11, 12 and 13, of the Chemainus band.) The main reserve is situated between Oyster harbour and Chemainus bay. One reserve is on the western shore of Oyster harbour, a fishing station on the left bank of the Chemainus river near its mouth, the total area of which is 3,084 acres. There are no lines dividing the lands of the two bands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 105, made up of 29 men, 32 women and 44 children. One birth and 1 death occurred during the past year.

Health and Sanitation.—Like the other reserves, there is a good supply of clear spring water on the beach. There has been no sickness among the Indians of this band during the past year.

Occupations.—These Indians do very little farming, fishing and boat-building being their chief occupations. A number are employed in the town of Ladysmith.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—These Indians keep very little stock, but what few they have are well taken care of. Their houses are in pretty fair condition, especially the larger ranch houses.

Education.—There is no school on these reserves. The children of school age attend the Kuper Island industrial school.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding. Some of them are above the average in intelligence.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are temperate and seldom get into trouble.

LYACKSUN BAND.

Reserve.—(Nos. 3, 4 and 5 of the Chemainus band,) These reserves are situated on Valdez island, and consist of three reserves, which have a combined area of 1,840 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 85, made up of 18 men, 19 women and 48 children. During the past year there have been 2 deaths but no births, making a decrease for the year of 2.

Health and Sanitation.—Owing to the location of these reserves, these Indians have enjoyed very good health.

Occupations.—These reserves are nearly all covered with rock and heavy timber. The Indians do very little farming, their chief occupations being fishing and boat-building.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The buildings are all well kept and are of superior construction. The Indians do not now live in the old rancherie houses as formerly. They have added to the number of their stock by purchasing several well-bred animals. Although they have not many farm implements, yet what they have are good.

Education.—There being no school on this reserve, the children of school age attend the Kuper Island industrial school.

Religion.—All these Indians are either Roman Catholics or pagans.

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

Temperance and Morality.—Situated as they are at some distance from a town and all its evil associations and snares, they are temperate and moral.

PENELAKUT BAND.

Reserve.—(Nos. 6, 7, 8 and 9.) This reserve includes the Llmalche and Tsussie bands. These reserves are situated on Kuper island and Tent island and on the north-west extremity of Galiano island. There is also a small reserve belonging to this band situated at the mouth of the Chemainus river ; the total area of these reserves is 2,332 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The total population numbers 217, being made up of 64 men, 63 women and 90 children. During the year there have been 5 deaths and 1 left the band, but no births have taken place, making a decrease of 6.

Health and Sanitation.—These Indians have enjoyed pretty good health during the past year. The sanitary conditions are excellent.

Occupations.—Fishing and boat-building are the chief occupations of these Indians. Not very much farming is done by them.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The buildings are in pretty fair condition. They keep little, if any, stock. They have very few farm implements.

Education.—The Kuper Island industrial school is situated on one of the reserves belonging to this band.

Religion.—All the Indians on this reserve are Roman Catholics.

Characteristics and Progress.—The condition of these Indians has greatly improved, which is due in no small measure to the missionaries, Protestant and Roman Catholic, on the island.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are fairly temperate and moral.

NANAIMO BAND.

Reserve.—(Nos. 1 to 6 inclusive of the Nanaimo band.) This reserve consists of a reserve on the Nanaimo harbour and one on the Nanaimo river with a small fishing station on the southern shore of Gabriola island ; the total area of these reserves is 637 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 165, consisting of 28 men, 38 women and 99 children. During the past year there have been 4 births and 3 deaths, making an increase of 1.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been very good during the past year. There have been no epidemics amongst them.

Occupations.—These Indians farm, work in the coal mines and also earn a lot of money trimming coal in the ships in Nanaimo harbour.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The buildings have greatly improved in quality. Their stock is increasing in number and are well taken care of.

They have some good farm machinery and take care of it.

Education.—There is a school provided for the children of this band and the Indians take great interest in it.

Religion.—These Indians are all Methodists.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding and seem very anxious to improve their condition.

Temperance and Morality.—Considering their proximity to the city of Nanaimo, they are temperate and moral.

SNONOWAS BAND (NANOOSE).

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the southern shore of the Nanoose harbour and has a total area of 209 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 13, consisting of 4 men, 7 women and 2 children. There has been no change in the population this past year ; no births nor deaths have occurred.

Occupations.—The principal employments of these Indians are fishing and the manufacture of dog-fish oil.

Health and Sanitation.—These Indians are fairly healthy. The sanitary conditions are good.

Education.—There is no school on the reserve.

Religion.—These Indians are either Methodists or pagans.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and are very progressive.

Temperance and Morality.—They are not very temperate, being rather addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors.

QUALICUM BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated at the mouth of the Qualicum river. It has an area of 197 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 13, consisting of 4 men, 4 women and 5 children. During the year there have been no births nor deaths.

Health and Sanitation.—These Indians enjoy pretty good health. The sanitary conditions are good.

Occupations.—Not much farming is done by these Indians ; they fish a little and act as guides for fishing and hunting parties.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The buildings are fair. They have pretty fair stock. They have not many farm implements, but what they have are well cared for.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve.

Religion.—All the Indians on this reserve are Methodists.

Characteristics and Progress.—The condition of the Indians of this band has improved very much.

Temperance and Morality.—The Indians on this reserve are temperate and moral.

COMOX BAND.

Reserve.—(Nos. 1, 2 and 3.) This reserve is situated on the northern shore of Comox harbour and on the left bank of the Pentledge river and at its confluence with the Tsolum river. In connection with the reserve is a graveyard on Goose spit, Comox harbour. The area of the reserve is 378 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 58, consisting of 20 men, 18 women and 20 children. During the year there has been 1 birth and 2 deaths, making a decrease of 1.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the band has been good. There have been no epidemics during the year nor any diseases of a contagious character. The sanitary conditions are fair.

Occupations.—The chief occupations are farming, fishing and hunting.

Religion.—The majority of the band are Presbyterians.

Education.—There is no school on this reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding and have made a great deal of progress this year.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—The buildings, though few in number, are in fair condition. The quality of the Indians' stock is fair. They do not possess many farm implements.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are temperate; very few of them drink to excess. Their morality is on a par with that of other Indians.

GALIANO ISLAND BAND.

Reserve.—(No. 9 of the Penelakut band.) This reserve is located on the northwest extremity of Galiano island, and is included in the area of the reserves of the Penelakut band.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of 8 men, 8 women and 16 children; 32 in all. During the year there has been 1 birth and no deaths, making an increase of 1 in the population.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians in this band has been good. Sanitary conditions are fair.

Occupations.—The chief occupations of these Indians are boat-building and fishing. There is no farming done on this reserve; a few gardens are cultivated.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—There are a few buildings on this reserve, but no stock.

Education.—The children attend the Kuper Island industrial school.

Religion.—All these Indians are Roman Catholics.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding.

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

MAYNE ISLAND BAND.

Reserve.—(No. 6 of the Saanich band.) This reserve is situated on the northwest extremity of Mayne island. The area of the reserve is included in that of the reserves of the Saanich band.

Vital Statistics.—The total population is 28, made up of 6 men, 6 women and 16 children. During the year there have been no births nor deaths.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good during the year. The sanitary conditions are fair.

Occupations.—Fishing for the Victoria and Vancouver markets is their only occupation.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—As this is only a fishing station, their buildings are mere shanties, constructed of cedar slabs. For the same reason there is no stock nor farm implements on the reserve.

Education.—There is no school on the reserve.

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

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding and make a good living by fishing.

COWICHAN LAKE BAND.

This reserve is situated on the northern shore of Cowichan lake, near its outlet; it has a total area of 130 acres. There is at present only 1 man and 1 woman occupying this reserve, and that only during the summer months. They spend the winter among their relatives on the west coast of the island. There have been no births nor deaths during the year.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The Indians of this agency are industrious and considerably improved in every way. The employment of oriental labour has displaced the Indian in certain lines, such as cutting of cord-wood, farm work, &c. Being unable to procure work away from home except during the fishing season, when they are in demand, the Indians are rapidly copying the methods of the white man, and remain at home to cultivate the land and attend to their stock. They use the latest improved machinery on their farms and earn a great deal of money by cutting and harvesting the crops of the white settlers; especially is this the case in Cowichan district. In this last-mentioned district

they own no less than seven self-binders and one steam thresher. Their stock is greatly improved in quality, which is due to the introduction into the province of better breeds of cattle, horses, swine and sheep. Great praise is due to the missionaries throughout the agency for their indefatigable efforts to improve the condition of the Indians. Their education is well attended to by the various teachers employed and the result of their work is to be seen in a higher tone of morality being observed by the Indians.

I have, &c.,

W. R. ROBERTSON,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
FRASER RIVER AGENCY,
NEW WESTMINSTER, July 19, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report on the affairs of this agency for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Tribe or Nation.—All the Indians of this agency belong to branches of the Salish nation.

BANDS IN THE CHILLIWACK DISTRICT.

Reserves.—The following bands occupy reserves in close proximity to each other in this district, comprising a total area of 3,841 acres, viz.: Aitchelitz, Kwawkwawapilt, Squiahla, Skwah, Skulkayn, Skway, Tsoowalie, Tzeachten and Kukkwewwioose.

Vital Statistics.—The nine bands named have a combined population of 321. There were 15 births and 10 deaths during the year, making an increase of 5 since last census.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good, no contagious disease appearing among them during the year. Their houses and surroundings are kept clean, and vaccination has been attended to from time to time.

Occupations.—Their chief occupations are farming and fishing; they also earn some money hop-picking and working as farm-hands for their white neighbours.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They nearly all have very comfortable dwellings, and good barns and outbuildings, which are kept in good repair. Their stock is of good breed, and is being improved from year to year. Many of them have farm implements of their own, which are always well looked after.

Education.—These Indians take a great interest in the education of their children, some of whom attend school at the Coqualeetza Institute, Chilliwack, and others at St. Mary's Mission boarding school.

Religion.—These Indians take much interest in their respective churches, viz.: Roman Catholic, Methodist and Anglican.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding, and are making steady progress.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

BANDS ON HOWE SOUND, BURRARD INLET AND SQUAMISH RIVER.

Reserves.—These bands, known as the Squamish Indians, and occupying reserves containing a total area of 6,806 acres, are as follows:—Burrard Inlet, No. 3, Kapilano, Squamish (Howe Sound), Seymour Creek, Mission (Burrard Inlet), and False Creek.

Vital Statistics.—The six bands have a combined population of 373. During the year there were 9 births and 9 deaths.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good during the year. The sanitary condition of their villages is very good; and vaccination has been attended to.

Occupations.—Their chief occupations are fishing, hand-logging, and loading lumber in ships at the saw-mills; they also do some farming and gardening.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have good frame dwellings; and their barns and outbuildings are fairly good. They take good care of their stock during the winter; they are also careful of their implements.

Education.—During last summer a large addition to the Squamish Mission boarding school was completed, and the increased accommodation thus provided is a very material benefit to the pupils attending this institution. These Indians fully appreciate the advantages of education, and are most earnest in their desire to have their children educated.

Religion.—With the exception of a few who are not yet christianized, they are all Roman Catholics. They have a nice church on the Mission reserve, and are most attentive to their religious duties.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding, and are making satisfactory advancement.

Temperance and Morality.—A majority of them are strictly temperate, and they are also a moral people.

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 1,433 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 105, an increase of 3 since last census. There were 5 births and 2 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good, no sickness of a serious or contagious nature appearing among them. They keep their village clean and in a sanitary condition, and vaccination has been attended to.

Occupations.—The Indians of this band engage chiefly in agricultural and fishing pursuits; a little is also earned by them at hop-picking and working as farm-hands for their white neighbours.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—These Indians all have fairly good dwellings, barns and outbuildings. Their stock is well taken care of, as are also their farm implements.

Education.—They take a lively interest in education. Most of the children of school age attend St. Mary's Mission Indian boarding school.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics, with the exception of one, who is a Methodist. They have a nice church in their village, which they attend regularly.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate, with a few exceptions, and moral.

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; they have a total area of 3,144 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of these two bands is 165. There were 9 births and 5 deaths during the year, an increase of 4 since last census.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good during the year; their villages are kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and vaccination has been attended to.

Occupations.—They engage in farming, dairying, fishing and hunting; some of them have splendid farms, competing closely with their white neighbours.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Most of these Indians have comfortable frame dwellings and fairly good stables and barns. They have some good stock, which is properly cared for. They have good farm implements, and take good care of them.

Education.—Most of the children of school age attend the Indian boarding school at St. Mary's Mission.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics, with the exception of five who belong to the Anglican Church. They are attentive to the instruction given by their spiritual advisers.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding, and making steady progress.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate and moral people.

COQUITLAM BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the Coquitlam river, about six miles from New Westminster; it contains an area of 208 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 25; there were no births and but 1 death during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good ; their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and vaccination has been attended to.

Occupations.—They engage chiefly in fishing and hunting; being near to New Westminster, they supply the local market with most of the fish and game required.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Most of them have fairly good dwellings; they do not keep much stock, preferring to make their living by fishing and hunting.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics, and have a nice church on their reserve, which they attend regularly.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

DOUGLAS, SKOOKUM CHUCK, SAMAHQUAM AND PEMBERTON MEADOWS BANDS.

Reserves.—These bands occupy reserves situated between the head of Harrison lake, along the Lillooet portage to Pemberton and contain a combined area of 3,485 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of these bands is 503. There were 19 births and 22 deaths during the year ; being a decrease of 3 since last census.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians on the whole has been good, most of the deaths being from whooping-cough, which appeared among the children, in October and November last, after their return home from the fishing on the lower Fraser river. Their villages are kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and vaccination has been duly attended to.

Occupations.—Fishing, hunting, packing and acting as guides for mining prospectors, also agricultural pursuits, constitute the occupations of these people.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have fairly good dwellings, barns and outhouses, many of the latter, however, being of log construction. Their horses are mostly Indian ponies; but their cattle are of good breeds, and are well cared for as are also their farm implements.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics; they have three churches located at Douglas, Skookum Chuck and Pemberton Meadows, respectively, all of which are attended regularly.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are an industrious, law-abiding, simple, good people; notable among them might be mentioned Chief James, of Pemberton Meadows, to whom is largely due the credit for their progress and prosperity.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are temperate and moral, and strictly honest.

EWAWOOS AND TEXAS LAKE BANDS.

Reserves.—The reserves of these bands are situated, the former on the south bank of the Fraser river about two miles east of Hope, and the latter on the north bank of the Fraser river, about seven miles east of Hope. They contain a combined area of 893 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the two bands is 63 ; there was 1 birth and no deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good, their villages are kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and vaccination has been attended to from time to time.

Occupations.—The principal occupations of these Indians are fishing, hunting and agriculture, a little mixed farming being done by each family.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Nearly all of them have comfortable dwellings, and good outbuildings, which they keep in good repair. Their farm implements are suitable for their requirements, and are well taken care of. Their stock is well cared for.

Education.—These Indians take a keen interest in education ; many of their children attend the Indian school at St. Mary's Mission.

Religion.—They are mostly Roman Catholics, a few being members of the Anglican Church ; all attend church regularly.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are an industrious and good people, living on good terms with their white neighbours.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

HOPE BAND.

Reserve.—These Indians occupy a reserve on the north bank of the Fraser river, and about one hundred miles from its mouth, containing an area of 1,400 acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 87. There were 2 births and 1 death during the year, being an increase of 1 since last census.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good. Their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and most of them have been vaccinated.

Occupations.—They engage chiefly in agriculture and fishing ; each family does more or less mixed farming, and fruit-culture is also carried on, as is also poultry-raising.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have comfortable dwellings, and fairly good barns and outhouses. Their stock is well cared for, and they put up a good supply of hay to last them during the winter. They have a good supply of farm implements, including a threshing-machine, all of which are carefully housed when not in use.

Education.—Many of the younger members of the band have been educated at the Indian boarding school at St. Mary's Mission ; they take a lively interest in education.

Religion.—These Indians are nearly all Roman Catholics ; they have a nice church on their reserve, where they attend regularly to their religious duties.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding and fairly prosperous. The chief of the band, Pierre Ayessik, who was one of the first pupils educated at St. Mary's Mission school, is a very intelligent Indian, and much credit is due him for the advancement of the Hope Indians.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate, moral, good people.

HOMALCO AND KLAHOOSE BANDS.

Reserves.—The reserves of these bands are situated in the vicinity of Bute inlet and Malaspina strait ; they contain a total area of 4,738 acres.

Vital Statistics.—These bands have a population of 162 ; there were 7 births and 5 deaths during the year, an increase of 2 since last census.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good ; their villages are kept in a sanitary condition and vaccination has been attended to from time to time.

Occupations.—Fishing, hunting, farming and logging constitute the occupations of these Indians, their farming being on a small scale.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Their buildings are mostly good frame dwellings ; they do not house their stock, which does fairly well, as the climate is less severe in winter than in some other parts of the agency. They keep no horses and have no implements except those used by hand.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics, and have a nice church at Squirrel cove and another at the mouth of Bute inlet, which they attend regularly.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are a simple-minded, kind-hearted, good people, and generally provide for all their requirements, seldom asking for assistance.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral, not a half-breed being in their band.

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 385 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 79 ; there were no changes during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good. Their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and vaccination has been attended to from time to time.

Occupations.—These Indians engage chiefly in fishing, hunting and farming, each family doing some mixed farming.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have fairly good dwellings, barns and outbuildings, which are kept in good repair. They take good care of their stock; and also of their farm implements, which are all carefully housed when not in use.

Education.—They take much interest in education and send their children to St. Mary's Mission boarding school.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics, and have a small church on their reserve, which they attend regularly.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are temperate and moral, a few only are fond of liquor.

LANGLEY AND WHONOCK BANDS.

Reserves.—The reserves of these bands are situated, the former on McMillan island, in the Fraser river, about twenty miles east of New Westminster; and the latter on the north bank of the Fraser river, about twenty-four miles east of New Westminster; they contain a combined area of 1,452 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of these two bands is 62, there being no change in the population since last census.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good; their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and vaccination has been attended to from time to time.

Occupations.—They do considerable mixed farming, and fish for the canneries during the salmon-canning season.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have comfortable dwellings, and good barns and outbuildings, which are kept in good repair. Their stock is of good breed and well cared for, and their farm implements are carefully placed under cover when not in use.

Education.—They take a great interest in education, many of them having attended St. Mary's Mission boarding school.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics. They have a small church on each reserve, where they attend regularly to their religious duties.

Temperance and Morality.—They are strictly temperate and moral people.

MUSQUEAM BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the north arm of the Fraser river, about one mile from its mouth; it contains an area of 452 acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 97; there was 1 birth and 1 death during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—Their health has been good; their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and most of them have been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupations.—They do considerable mixed farming, and also fish for the canneries during the canning season.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have good dwellings, and fairly good outbuildings. They take good care of their horses and cattle, and their farm implements are carefully housed when not in use.

Education.—They send some of their children to the Coqualeetza Institute, and others to Kuper Island, and St. Mary's Mission schools.

Religion.—These Indians are mostly Roman Catholics, a few being Methodists.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding, and making fair progress.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral, a few only are fond of liquor.

MATSQUI BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the south bank of the Fraser river, about thirty miles from New Westminster, and contains an area of 1,072 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 44, being a decrease of 2 since the last census; there were 2 births and 4 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good; their village is kept in a sanitary condition, and vaccination has been attended to.

Occupations.—They all do more or less mixed farming, and also fish for the canneries during the salmon-canning season.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Most of them have comfortable dwellings, and fairly good barns and outhouses; their horses and cattle are well looked after, and their farm implements are properly kept.

Education.—They take a keen interest in education, the young people having attended St. Mary's Mission school.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics and are attentive to their religious duties.

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

NEW WESTMINSTER BAND.

Reserves.—These Indians have reserves at New Westminster and at Brownsville, comprising an area of 32 acres.

Vital Statistics.—These Indians have a population of 63; there were 2 births and 2 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good; their dwellings and surroundings are kept clean and in a sanitary condition.

Occupations.—They engage mostly in fishing and hunting and supply the local market with much of the fresh fish and game required; they also do some work for white people in the city.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Most of these Indians have comfortable dwellings, some few own houses outside the reserve, on which they pay taxes; very little farming is done by them, just a little gardening, and they do not keep much stock.

Education.—They have a good desire to educate their children.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. They have a nice church on their reserve at Brownsville, where divine service is held regularly.

Temperance and Morality.—With but few exceptions they are temperate and moral.

NICOMEN AND SKWEAHM BANDS.

Reserve.—These Indians occupy two reserves on the north bank of the Fraser river, about forty-four miles from New Westminster, containing an area of 636 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The combined population of these two bands is 47, an increase of 1 since the last census. There were 2 births and 1 death during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians during the past year has been good. Their villages are kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and vaccination has been attended to.

Occupations.—The chief occupations of these Indians are farming and fishing. Nearly all of them do a little mixed farming, and they fish for the canneries during the fishing season.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—These Indians have fairly good dwellings and outbuildings. Their stock is well cared for, as are also their farm implements.

Education.—They do not take much interest in education, and only very few of them can read or write.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics, but pay very little attention to religious matters. They have a small church at Skweahm, but it is used very seldom.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are a simple-minded people and in many respects follow old customs; but they are improving a little.

Temperance and Morality.—Most of them are fond of liquor, but are fairly moral.

SEMIAHMOO BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band borders on the international boundary line, and fronts on Semiamu bay; it contains an area of 392 acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 30. There was no change during the year in population.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good; their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and all of them have been vaccinated.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Most of them have comfortable dwellings and outbuildings, which are kept in good repair. Their horses and cattle are similar to those of their white neighbours, and are well cared for; they also take proper care of their farm implements.

Education.—Only very few of them have received any education.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics, and have a small church on their reserve, in which they take a deep interest and attend regularly.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are an easy-going, simple people, who give very little trouble.

Temperance and Morality.—They are, on the whole, temperate and moral; but owing to their proximity to the American boundary line, they have many temptations as to the ease with which liquor can be procured; however their conduct gives very little cause for complaint.

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, and contains an area of 629 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 56. There were 2 deaths and 1 birth during the year, making a decrease of 1 since last census.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good; their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and they have been vaccinated from time to time.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—These Indians have good dwellings, barns and outbuildings, which they keep in good repair. Their horses and cattle are of good breed, and are well cared for. They are careful to keep their farm implements under cover when not in use.

Occupations.—The chief occupations of these Indians are farming and fishing; most of them do more or less mixed farming.

Education.—They all take a lively interest in the education of their children, who attend St. Mary's Mission boarding school.

Religion.—They manifest an earnest interest in religion. They have two small churches on the reserve; one Anglican and the other Roman Catholic.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding, and are making fair progress.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate and moral people.

POPKUM AND SQUAWTITS BANDS.

Reserves.—The reserves of these 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 5,326 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of these two bands is 56. There was 1 birth and no deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good, and sanitary regulations are well observed.

Occupations.—The chief occupations of these Indians are farming and fishing, each family doing considerable mixed farming.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Nearly all of them have good dwellings, and outbuildings, which they keep in good repair. They take good care of their stock, and also their farm implements.

Education.—Much interest is taken by them in education, the parents being anxious to send their children to school.

Religion.—They belong to the Roman Catholic, Anglican and Methodist Churches, respectively. Eeach denomination has its own church, which is attended regularly.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding, and seldom cause any trouble.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate, with but few exceptions, and moral.

SECHELT BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on Sechelt peninsula, Malaspina strait, and contains an area of 1,800 acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 238 ; during the year there were 10 births and 8 deaths, making an increase of 2 since last census.

Health and Sanitation.—Their health has been good. Sanitary regulations are strictly observed in their village, and most of them have been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupations.—They engage largely in hand-logging ; they also do considerable fishing and hunting ; most of them have small gardens.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—All of them have comfortable dwellings, which are kept in good repair. Their stock runs at large the year round, and does fairly well.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics, and have a very fine church on their reserve. They are most attentive to their religious duties.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are an industrious, law-abiding and strictly honest people, and are making fair progress.

Education.—The parents are most anxious to see their children educated, but so far very few of them have attended school. During the past year they erected, on their Sechelt reserve (No. 2), a large boarding school which cost upwards of $8,000, and has accommodation for fifty pupils. This school, which is conducted by seven Roman Catholic Sisters, was opened on June 28, last, with an attendance of forty-two pupils to commence with.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral, and although liquor is sold on the property adjoining the reserve, drunkenness is unknown among them.

SUMASS BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band are situated at Miller's landing on the south bank of the Fraser river, and at Upper Sumass on Sumass lake ; and contain an area of 1,370 acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 50 ; there was 1 death and no births during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good ; their villages are kept in a sanitary condition, and they have all been vaccinated.

Occupations.—Their chief occupations are mixed farming, fishing and hunting.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They all have good dwellings, barns and outbuildings ; their stock is of good breed and well cared for. Their farm implements are carefully housed when not in use.

Education.—Only a small number of these Indians have attended school, and they do not take as much interest in education as most of the other bands in the agency.

Religion.—In this band there are twenty-seven Methodists and twenty-three Roman Catholics. Each denomination has its own church, and the Indians take much interest in religious matters.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are an easy-going people, rather indolent, but are not troublesome.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

SLIAMMON BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on Malaspina strait, and contains an area of 4,712 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band in 106 ; there were 5 births and 3 deaths during the year, making an increase of 2 since last census.

Health and Sanitation.—Their health has been good ; their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and they have been vaccinated from time to time.

Occupations.—Their chief occupations are fishing, hunting and hand-logging; they also do some farming in a small way.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have fairly good dwellings, which they keep in good repair. They have very little stock.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics, and are much attached to their religion. They have a small church on their reserve, which they attend regularly.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding and strictly honest.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate, with but few exceptions, and moral.

SKAWAHLOOK 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 196 acres.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 23; there were 2 births and 1 death during the year, making an increase of 1 since last census.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good; their village is kept in a sanitary condition, and vaccination has been duly attended to from time to time.

Occupations.—Mixed farming and fishing constitute the chief occupations of this band.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—These Indians have fairly good dwellings and outbuildings; they take good care of their stock; their farm implements also are properly taken care of.

Religion.—They 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.—They are a simple-minded and law-abiding people, living on good terms with their neighbours.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

TCHEWASSAN BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the gulf of Georgia, near Point Roberts, and contains an area of 604 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 45; there were 2 deaths and 1 birth during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been good; their village is kept clean and in a sanitary condition, and vaccination has been attended to.

Occupations.—Farming and fishing are the chief occupations of these Indians. They fish for the canneries during the canning season, and work on their farms during the rest of the year.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have comfortable dwellings and fairly good barns and outbuildings. Their horses and cattle are of good breed, and are well taken care of during the winter. They have some good farm implements, which are well cared for.

Education.—A few of them have attended Kuper Island school.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics, and are now much more attentive to their religious duties than in the past.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are a simple, good-natured people, and usually provide well for those depending on them.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a moral people, but some of them are fond of liquor.

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 1,100 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 83. During the year there was 1 birth and 3 deaths.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been fairly good. Sanitary regulations are well observed, and vaccination has been attended to from time to time.

Occupations.—The chief occupations of these Indians are fishing, hunting and farming. A few of them are employed by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company as sectionmen.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They all have fairly good dwellings and outbuildings. Their stock is well cared for. Their farm implements are carefully kept under cover when not in use.

Education.—They take considerable interest in education; some of their children attend All Hallows school, and others St. Mary's Mission school.

Religion.—Sixty-four of these Indians belong to the Roman Catholic Church, and nineteen to the Anglican. Each denomination has its own church in the village, where divine service is held regularly.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding, and live on good terms with their neighbours.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate and moral people.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The Indians of this agency are, as a rule, making steady progress. Their houses are being improved, better furnished and more neatly kept. They dress well and live more like their white neighbours than was formerly the case. These improvements are more noticeable among those who have attended school.

The Coqualeetza industrial school at Chilliwack, and the boarding schools at St. Mary's Mission, Yale, and Squamish Mission, all continue to do excellent work.

To the devoted principals of these schools, and their painstaking assistants, too much praise cannot be given for the care and attention bestowed upon the children under their charge.

I have, &c.,

R. C. McDONALD,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
KAMLOOPS-OKANAGAN AGENCY,
KAMLOOPS, July 26, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report on the affairs of this agency for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The Kamloops-Okanagan agency is located in and scattered over the greater portion of Yale district, immediately north of the international boundary line; the district contains approximately 24,000 square miles. The agency contains an aggregate acreage of 333,570 acres.

Tribe or Nation.—These Indians are said to belong to the Salish and Tinneh nations. Locally they are classified as Thompson River, Shuswap and Okanagan tribes, and speak dialects known by these terms.

Most of the younger one understand and speak English fairly well.

Natural Subdivisions.—The agency is divided naturally by the rivers which drain it, into the Fraser, Thompson, Nicola, Similkameen and Okanagan districts.

ADAMS LAKE OR HALTKAM BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band are situated near the foot of Little Shuswap lake and at Adams lake. They contain an area of 7,188 acres, comprising agricultural, grazing and timber lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 90. There have been 9 deaths and 10 births during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians during the year has been good. No epidemic has appeared among them, and they have had little medical attendance. A great majority of them have been vaccinated from time to time; they keep their houses and persons fairly clean.

Occupations.—These Indians, since procuring water for irrigation purposes, have devoted themselves largely to farming, for which purpose a considerable portion of their land is well adapted. They raise horses and cattle, and add to these industries by fishing, hunting and working as labourers in different capacities.

Buildings.—Their houses and other buildings are mostly of logs, and while comfortable enough, they are not of a very good quality. They have under consideration the means of procuring lumber and improving these.

Stock.—These Indians have good horses for farm and saddle purposes, which they continue to improve, and some cattle and other domestic stock.

Farm Implements.—They are well supplied with farm implements and machinery of nearly every kind usually found on well regulated and up-to-date farms, self-binders, mowers, horse-rakes, disc-harrows, ploughs, wagons, democrats and a small threshing-machine.

Education.—There are no schools among them. Some children have attended the industrial school at Kamloops, and some have been taught to read and write shorthand Chinook.

Religion.—They all belong to the Roman Catholic Church, have one church building, and are religiously inclined.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are very industrious, and have made rapid progress in farming in recent years. They are law-abiding, peaceable people.

Temperance and Morality.—They are usually temperate and moral. It is rarely that they indulge in intoxicants.

ASHCROFT OR STLAHL BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band, three in number, are located on a plateau on the right bank of the Thompson river, opposite to the town of Ashcroft, and at McLean's lake. They contain an aggregate area of 5,243 acres, combining agricultural, grazing and timber lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 51. There were 2 births and 1 death during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of these Indians has been fair. No epidemic has appeared among them. Sanitary precautions are fairly well observed. The Indians have been vaccinated. Their dwelling-houses are mostly deserted in the warm season, and their drinking water is good.

Occupations.—These Indians carry on a system of mixed farming and stock-raising. The supply of water for irrigation purposes is too limited for extensive farming. They also fish and hunt, and are employed as freighters and packers, and as labourers on farms and as cowboys.

Buildings.—They have log buildings, mostly of the early class of such. A few fairly good dwellings have been more recently constructed.

Stock.—They have some good horses for farming and team work, and others suitable for pack and riding purposes; also some cattle.

Farm Implements.—They are fairly well supplied with farm implements for their requirements.

Education.—They have no system of education among them.

Religion.—They all belong to the Anglican Church; they have a substantial log church, and take a lively interest in religious matters.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are fairly industrious, but as they work quite largely for wages, they do not as a rule accumulate much. The band has improved the reserve very much by fencing.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are fairly temperate and moral.

BONAPARTE OR TLUHTAUS BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band, five in number, are located on the Thompson and Bonaparte rivers, on Hat creek and Loon lake. They contain 61,113 acres approximately.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 158. There have been 5 births and 5 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health has been usually good. No contagious disease has broken out among them. Many of them have been vaccinated; their houses, as to cleanliness and ventilation, are not up to the average of Indian houses. In the summer season the houses are not in constant occupation.

Occupations.—They raise some farm produce, chiefly on Hat creek, have a good-sized herd of horses and some cattle, but they depend more for a living on fishing and hunting, working as labourers and cowboys, with their horses for white settlers, than on what they can produce from their small farms.

Buildings.—They have log buildings of an inferior class. More recently the chief has built a fairly good dwelling, and they have an imposing church edifice, which gives a better appearance to the village.

Stock.—They have a number of horses, some suitable for farm purposes, but mostly a fair class of saddle horse; and some cattle.

Farm Implements.—They have farm implements suited to their present needs.

Education.—They have no means of education other than that afforded some of them at the Kamloops industrial school, and the instruction some of them have received in shorthand Chinook.

Religion.—They all belong to the Roman Catholic Church, and they devote considerable time to church matters.

Characteristics and Progress.—Many of these Indians are good workers, but they are nomadic in their habits, never continuing long at one occupation, and consequently have not laid up much for a future time. They have made some progress recently in the direction of fencing and otherwise improving the reserve at Bonaparte.

Temperance and Morality.—They have in the past been too much addicted to the use of intoxicants, when they could be procured, and unfortunately in their position such were too easily obtainable. I am pleased to report, however, that in this respect the condition of these Indians has improved with improved facilities for enforcing the Liquor Act.

BOOTHROYD (SUUK, KAMOOS, NKATSAM AND CHINOOK) BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band, ten in number, are located slightly on the left bank of the Fraser river. They contain an area of 1,600 acres. A small portion of this land, chiefly about Nkatsam, when cleared, produces good crops. The greater portion of the land is heavily timbered and rocky.

Vital Statistics.—The population is now 154. There have been 4 births and 6 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—There has been no epidemic among these Indians; they have been vaccinated and their houses are fairly clean and well ventilated.

Occupations.—These Indians raise considerable quantities of vegetables and fruit on their small farms. They procure large quantities of fish, and do considerable hunting and trapping; they also mine quite extensively, and work as labourers on the railway and otherwise.

Buildings.—They have a fair class of log houses, which they keep improving.

Stock.—They have some small horses, used for riding and packing, and a better class of cattle than usually found among Indians on this section of the Fraser river.

Farm Implements.—Their requirements in this respect are pretty well supplied.

Education.—They have no means of education.

Religion.—All these Indians belong to the Anglican Church. They have one small church-building, much improved during the year, and they are good-living people.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are very industrious and good workers. As such they are very highly spoken of by employers. Those living at Nkatsam are comparatively well-to-do, and always appear to have money.

Temperance and Morality.—They are exceptionally temperate and moral people.

BOSTON BAR BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band number seven, located around Boston Bar, North Bend and Scaucy. They contain 628 acres. They consist of small patches of tillable land, the rest being rocks and timber.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 150. There have been 6 births and 9 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—No epidemic has visited these Indians, and for the most part, especially those living in the vicinity of North Bend, they keep their houses very clean and well ventilated. The large percentage of deaths arises apparently from natural causes. These Indians get little medical attendance or medicines. Sanitary conditions generally are good.

Occupations.—These Indians raise hay, fruit, and vegetables. They depend more, however, on mining, fishing and hunting, working on the railway, and basket-making among the women, for a living.

Buildings.—About North Bend the Indians have a rather good class of buildings. The majority of them are frame; in other places they are not so good, although considerable improvements have recently been made.

Stock.—They have a number of saddle and pack horses, but very few cattle. They are unable to provide winter feed for stock, and winter most of their horses in the Nicola country.

Farm Implements.—They have enough for their needs.

Education.—Some have been educated in the industrial school at Kamloops; otherwise they have no means of education.

Religion.—They are about evenly divided between Roman Catholics and Anglicans. The latter have a good church at North Bend and all evince considerable interest in church matters.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are steady, good-working Indians, but are unable to make much progress in the direction of acquiring wealth. Chief George, of North Bend, appears to lead in this respect.

Temperance and Morality.—In these respects they compare well with other bands.

COOK'S FERRY BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band, numbering fifteen, are located on both banks of the Thompson river, around Cook's Ferry and Spatsum, and in Tuile and Highland valleys. They consist of bench-lands along the river, containing farming and grazing lands, with sparsely timbered land higher up and some meadow-land in the valleys. The aggregate area is 9,110 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 204. There have been 10 births and 11 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—No epidemic has visited the band and the general health has been good. The Indians have been vaccinated, and sanitation is good.

Occupations.—These Indians carry on mixed farming and stock-raising, fish and hunt a little, and work as labouring hands on farms and on the railway, and as cowboys. In the immediate vicinity of Cook's Ferry the soil is too dry for successful crop-growing. Further up the river, on the Pemynoos reserve, conditions are better, and considerable produce is grown.

Buildings.—Their buildings are mostly of logs, and while fairly comfortable, cannot be classed as good.

Stock.—They possess a fairly good lot of horses for farming and saddle purposes, and some of the Indians have nice herds of cattle and some pigs and sheep.

Farm Implements.—They are well provided with farm implements.

Education.—There is no system of education among them.

Religion.—They all belong to the Anglican Church. They have two church buildings—one at Cook's Ferry and one at Pemynoos—and they take an active interest in church matters.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious. Around Cook's Ferry they do not make much progress. On Pemynoos some of them are well-to-do. Kyume and Johnny Pasco have more stock and are in advance of the others in farming. The Indians are law-abiding.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are temperate and moral.

DEADMAN'S CREEK OR STICHISTAN BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on Deadman's creek. It contains an area of 20,134 acres, composed of farming, fine grazing and timber lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 118. There have been 4 births and 2 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of the Indians has been good, and no infectious disease has appeared among them. They have been vaccinated. Their houses are too small, and being mud-roofed for the most part, do not admit of good ventilation. During the heat of summer they are not much occupied and their sanitary conditions are good.

Occupations.—These Indians farm a little, and raise some stock, chiefly horses, fish and hunt, and work as day labourers. The chief occupation of the younger men is that of cowboys, and they are good at the work.

Buildings.—Their buildings are of logs, and all the older ones are mud-roofed. A number of them might be classed as huts. They are warm in winter, but do not admit of good ventilation. Lately a few substantial, shingled houses have been built.

Stock.—They have a fair number of horses, a few being suitable for farming and teaming, but the majority are good saddle horses. They also raise cattle.

Farm Implements.—They have sufficient farm implements.

Education.—They have no schools. Several children have attended the Kamloops industrial school, and some can write shorthand Chinook.

Religion.—They all belong to the Roman Catholic Church. They have one fairly good church-building, and attend service regularly.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians have not enjoyed the reputation of being industrious, though they have been considered good cowboys, as nearly all Indians are. During the past two or three years they have shown a disposition to devote themselves more to farming, and there has become a very marked improvement in the appearance of their reserve. An irrigation ditch of nearly three miles has been built, and the land cleared and cropped and a large extent of fencing done.

Temperance and Morality.—In the matter of abstaining from intoxicants, these Indians are a long way in advance of a few years ago. For the past year there has been nothing serious in this respect to complain of.

KAMLOOPS BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band, numbering five, are situated mainly at the confluence of the North and South Thompson rivers, immediately opposite the city of Kamloops. They contain an area of 33,379 acres, comprising good agricultural, grazing, meadow and timber lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 244. There have been 12 births and 11 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of these Indians has been usually good. No epidemic has prevailed. They have been vaccinated, and sanitary conditions are favourable. Care is taken in spring to remove and burn any accumulation of garbage which may have collected about the village during the winter season. They are building larger houses, better ventilated and divided into compartments. Cleanliness in houses and persons is receiving more attention. The sources of water-supply are running streams which are free from impurities.

Occupations.—These Indians grow considerable hay and vegetables, raise stock, chiefly horses, fish and hunt, and work as farm labourers and cowboys, in the latter occupation employing their horses.

Buildings.—The older class of their buildings was of a rather poor order. More recent ones are of better design and more up-to-date, being shingle-roofed, larger in every respect, and better lighted and ventilated. A good deal of attention is now being given to improvement in this direction.

Stock.—They have large herds of horses, which are becoming much improved; and some cattle. The demand for horses of all classes here has been good, and the Indians have taken the opportunity to dispose of a good many of their smaller stock.

Farm Implements.—They have a good supply of wagons, democrats, buggies, ploughs, mowers, horse-rakes, harness and saddles.

Education.—A good many children have attended, and are attending the industrial school on the reserve.

Religion.—They all belong to the Roman Catholic Church; they have one fine church-building, and are faithful adherents.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are fairly industrious, but travel about a good deal and spend as they go; consequently they have never much in store for a rainy day. They succeed in making a comfortable living.

Temperance and Morality.—Too many of these Indians have acquired a fondness for intoxicants, and whenever possible they will procure such. I am, however, pleased to report that the nuisance has been kept pretty well under control by the authorities, assisted by the better class of Indians themselves; and that in the great majority of cases where liquor has been supplied, the offenders have been brought to speedy trial and conviction; old Chief Louie has rendered valuable assistance. These Indians are fairly moral in other respects.

KANAKA BAR BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band, four in number, are located on both banks of the Fraser, ten miles below Lytton. Their area is 500 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 56. There have been 2 births and 2 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health has been good ; no epidemics have appeared among them. Their houses are small and not well ventilated, nor are they as well kept as many Indian houses.

Occupations.—These Indians can produce very little from the soil. Fishing and mining are their chief occupations.

Buildings.—They have a comparatively poor class of log buildings.

Stock.—They have a few horses for saddle and packing purposes, and a few cattle.

Farm Implements.—They are supplied with implements for their requirements.

Education.—They have no means of education.

Religion.—They all belong to the Anglican Church. They have no church-building. When they can, they attend at Lytton.

Characteristics and Progress.—A number of them are hard workers in those pursuits which they follow, but they are unable to make much progress. They are inoffensive and law-abiding.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

LYTTON BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves, twenty-seven, of this band, which is composed of several small bands, are dotted along both banks of the Fraser from Lytton to Nesikeep, twenty-five miles above. The combined area is 10,292 acres, composed of table-land and mountain slopes, where fruits, cereals and vegetables grow well with irrigation. Further up from Lytton there is a fair amount of pasturage.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 463. There have been 18 births and 20 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—No epidemic has visited these Indians. They have been vaccinated. Their houses for the most part are roomy, well ventilated and lighted and clean. Sanitary conditions are pretty well observed and water is pure.

Occupations.—These Indians are able to produce a good deal of grain, hay, vegetables and fruit. They raise considerable stock, fish and hunt, mine, and work as labourers, freighters and section-hands in various ways.

Buildings.—They have a very fair class of buildings, among them a number of frame ones.

Stock.—They have horses—some good work horses—but mostly of lighter build, for pack and saddle horses, and some cattle.

Farm Implements.—They have a good supply of such.

Education.—They have no means of education, except that afforded by an attendance at All Harrows, Yale, and St. George's school, the latter started over a year ago, near Lytton.

Religion.—They all belong to the Anglican Church. Their chief building is at Lytton. They are very attentive.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are mostly very industrious Indians, and they are making good progress in the cultivation of their land and improving their dwellings.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

NICOMEN BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves, five in number, of this band are situated on both banks of the Thompson river between Lytton and Cook's Ferry. They contain an area of 2,976 acres, consisting of bench and mountain lands of poor quality.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 48. There have been 2 births and 2 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—No epidemic has visited these Indians, and their health has been good. They have been vaccinated, and sanitary conditions are favourable.

Occupations.—These Indians raise small quantities of grain, hay and vegetables; fish and hunt, and raise a little stock. One of their chief means of living is mining for gold.

Buildings.—Their buildings are of logs, and only of fair quality.

Stock.—They have a limited number of pack and saddle ponies, and a few cattle.

Education.—They have no means of education.

Religion.—They all belong to the Anglican Church, but have no building.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious in their way, but little progress is apparent.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

NICOLA (LOWER) BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band, to the number of thirteen, are located along the Nicola river from near its mouth to Nicola lake. Hamilton Creek reserve is also included. The total area is 3,191 acres, containing a good percentage of agricultural and grazing lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 366. There have been 16 births and 15 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of these Indians has been good. No contagious diseases have appeared among them. They have been vaccinated ; their houses are well kept, and sanitary conditions generally are good.

Occupations.—These Indians farm and raise stock extensively. They fish and hunt but little, and engage as labourers and cowboys. Their chief occupation, apart from tilling their farms, is freight-hauling, for which they are well equipped with horses and wagons. They do most of the freighting carried on between Cook's Ferry and Similkameen.

Buildings.—They have a good class of buildings.

Stock.—They have good herds of superior horses. Some of them can turn out as fine a four-horse freight team as can be found anywhere. They have also a number of good cattle. They have some fine stallions and mares for breeding purposes.

Farm Implements.—They are well supplied with all kinds of farm implements usually required.

Education.—No means of education exists among them.

Religion.—The majority of them—three hundred and thirty—are Anglicans ; the remainder are Roman Catholics. The former have a good church at Mammet reserve, and a small one at Zoht. The Roman Catholics have no building. All manifest considerable interest in religious matters.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are very industrious. Those occupying the Mammet reserve are among the most advanced in the agency in the cultivation of their land. They are making substantial progress, and are improving their condition. They are law-abiding.

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

NICOLA (UPPER) OR SPAHAMIN BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves, eight in number, of this band are located near the head of Nicola lake and around Douglas lake. They have an area of 30,888 acres, comprising good farming land and some of the best grazing lands in the province.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 192. There have been 10 births and 10 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—No epidemic has visited these Indians, and their general health has been good. Sanitary conditions are most favourable. They have been vaccinated.

Occupations.—These Indians carry on mixed farming, and quite extensive stock-raising; they fish and hunt to some extent, and engage in freighting, and as labourers and cowboys.

Buildings.—They have a good class of buildings, and are improving the same.

Stock.—They have large herds of superior horses, and good herds of well-bred cattle; as good animals can be procured from these Indians as can be found anywhere in the country.

Farm Implements.—They are well supplied with all necessary farm implements.

Education.—There are no schools among them. Some of them have been educated in the Kamloops industrial school.

Religion.—They all belong to the Roman Catholic Church; they have two good churches, and they show a great interest in religious matters.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are very industrious and up-to-date. Many of them are in consequence well-off. Johnny Chilliheetsa, the chief, a model Indian in every respect, has upwards of a thousand head of as good horses and cattle as can be found on the majority of stock ranches. Jimmy Michell is also a well-to-do Indian, and others in a lesser way could be mentioned.

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

NESKAINLITH OR HALANT BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band, numbering three, are located on the Thompson river near Shuswap lake. They have an area of 6,996 acres, composed of good agricultural, grazing and timber-lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 152. There have been 8 births and 10 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health has been good. No epidemic has appeared, and sanitary conditions are good.

Occupations.—These Indians now farm extensively, and raise considerable stock. They fish and hunt to some extent, and are employed as labourers in various ways. Farming is their chief means of living.

Buildings.—They have a fair class of buildings, and are improving the same.

Farm Implements.—They are well supplied with all modern farm implements and machinery.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are very industrious, up-to-date, peaceable and law-abiding. They have made very marked advancement in farming since the completion of the irrigation ditches.

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

NORTH THOMPSON OR CHUCHUQUALK BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band are situated on the North Thompson river, about fifty miles from Kamloops. The total area is 3,239 acres, comprising good farming and timber lands.

Health and Sanitation.—There has been no epidemic among these Indians. Their houses are not so roomy nor well ventilated and kept as the majority of other bands. The Indians do not occupy them much during the warm season.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 130. There have been 5 births and 5 deaths during the year.

Occupations.—These Indians farm to some extent, mostly hay and vegetables. They have no convenient market for produce. They raise some stock. Fishing and hunting, chiefly the latter, occupy much of their time as compared with other Indians. They are employed as packers, labourers and cowboys.

Buildings.—They have a comparatively poor class of buildings. Some little improvement is apparent lately. Lumber is scarce with them.

Stock.—They possess a number of fairly good horses and cattle.

Farm Implements.—They have sufficient farm implements.

Education.—They have no schools. Some have received instruction at the Kamloops industrial school.

Religion.—They all belong to the Roman Catholic Church ; have one comparatively good building, and are among the most faithful adherents.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious in their way, but somewhat nomadic, roaming a good deal through the wilds of this country. They are making some progress in farming. They are a very peaceable and law-abiding people.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a highly temperate and moral band.

OKANAGAN OR NKAMAPLIX BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves, ten in number, of this band are located around the head and both sides of Okanagan lake. They have an area of 29,790 acres, good farming and grazing land.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 238. There have been 12 births and 13 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health has been very good. No epidemic has prevailed. Sanitary conditions about their houses and villages are fair.

Occupations.—These Indians farm very extensively ; fish a little, work as farm-hands and cowboys, and derive quite a revenue yearly from hop-picking in the vicinity ; they also raise considerable stock. They are the largest grain-producers in the agency.

Buildings.—They have a very fair class of buildings, a good number of them frame.

Stock.—They have numerous horses, adapted for all purposes, and some cattle.

Farm Implements.—They are well supplied with all kinds of farm implements, including self-binders and a steam thresher.

Education.—There are no schools among them. Some attend the Kamloops industrial school.

Religion.—All but one, the chief, Louis Jim, are considered Roman Catholics. The chief appears to have a form of religion of his own—semi-pagan and Christian. They have two churches at the head of the lake, and one at Duck lake. Those of one section of them are strict adherents ; those of another pay little attention to church matters.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are very industrious, and they farm very well. Some of them are inclined to be wild, and infractions of the law have been frequent. They have improved considerably in this respect, and have a wholesome dread of the consequences of disregarding the law. The profits from grain-growing are not large, and consequently they do not do much beyond making a good living.

Temperance and Morality.—Some of them have become addicted to the use of intoxicants when such can be procured. Infractions of the law in this respect are, however, pretty well looked after, and such offences kept at a minimum. The standard of morality among them is probably not much above the average of Indians.

OREGON JACK CREEK (PASCO NEPA) BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band, numbering seven, are situated on both sides of the Thompson river, a short distance below Ashcroft, and on Oregon Jack creek. The area is 2,380 acres, mostly inferior in quality.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 20. There has been 1 birth and 1 death during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of these Indians has been good, and sanitation is also good.

Occupations.—These Indians raise some farm produce. They fish and hunt, and work as labourers.

Buildings.—They have a fair class of log buildings.

Stock.—They have a fair proportion of stock, chiefly horses.

Farm Implements.—They have sufficient implements.

Education.—These Indians have no means of education.

Religion.—They all belong to the Anglican Church. They have no building.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious, but are unable to produce much from their land. They make a comfortable living.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

OSOYOOS OR NKAMIP BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band, two in number, are located at the head of Osoyoos lake and at the foot of Dog lake. They contain an area of 32,168 acres; there are some fair farming and fruit-growing lands, but the greater portion is grazing.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 70. There have been 5 births and no deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—No contagious disease has visited this band. The death-rate has been unusually low. Their houses are fairly clean, and other sanitary conditions are good. The Indians have recently been vaccinated.

Occupations.—These Indians produce cereals, vegetables, and fruit, and raise stock; they fish and hunt, and work in various capacities.

Buildings.—The older style of buildings are poor log structures. More recent ones show a decided improvement.

Stock.—These Indians have a good number of fair horses, and some cattle.

Farm Implements.—They are well supplied with farm implements.

Education.—They have no schools.

Religion.—They all belong to the Roman Catholic Church, have one old-time building, and are strict observers of religious duties.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are fairly industrious. Some of them have nice fruit orchards, and raise considerable fruit, which commands a high market. Within the year considerable planting has been done. Baptise and John Stilkiah are the best examples in this respect. They are law-abiding.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

PENTICTON BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band, numbering three, are located at the foot of Okanagan lake, No. 3 being on the west side of the lake twelve miles from No. 1; they contain good natural meadows, excellent farming and fruit-growing lands, and fine grazing lands. The total area is 48,694 acres.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 152. There have been 9 births and 4 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—No epidemic has visited these Indians, and there has not been much sickness among them. Their houses are well kept, and sanitation is good. They have been vaccinated.

Occupations.—These Indians engage in general farming, stock-raising and fruit-growing; fish and hunt, freight and pack and work as labourers and cowboys.

Buildings.—Their dwellings of the older class are but medium. More recently some very neat and comfortable houses have been built.

Stock.—They possess a goodly number of fair-class horses for different purposes, and cattle of good quality.

Farm Implements.—They are well supplied with farm implements.

Education.—They have no schools.

Religion.—They all belong to the Roman Catholic Church. They have one respectable church-building, and show much interest in church matters.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and many of them are well-to-do. They are located in the garden of the country. They are devoting considerable attention to fruit-growing. Their condition has very much improved within the last year or two, and better progress is being made.

Temperance and Morality.—Their habits of temperance have become decidedly better, and they are a fairly moral people.

SHUSWAP (LITTLE LAKE) OR KUANT BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves, five in number, of this band are located at the head of Little Shuswap lake and on Salmon Arm. Their total area is 7,840 acres, the larger proportion of which is timbered ; some open country and grazing lands exist around the head of Little lake.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 83. There has been 1 birth and 1 death during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—There has been no contagious disease among them, and their health has been unusually good. Sanitary conditions are good, and the Indians have been vaccinated.

Occupations.—These Indians farm a little, chiefly on land which they have cleared, raise some stock, hunt and fish ; sell wood from land which they are clearing, or hold under permit, and work as labourers in various ways.

Buildings.—They have a good class of log and frame buildings.

Stock.—They have a limited number of suitable horses, and a few cattle.

Farm Implements.—They have a fair supply of farm implements.

Education.—There are no schools among them.

Religion.—They all belong to the Roman Catholic Church ; have one excellent church-building, and are good attendants.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are very industrious and law-abiding. They are making good progress in the clearing of farms for themselves, but they have not the advantages in this respect of many Indians.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a very temperate and moral band.

SIMILKAMEEN, LOWER AND UPPER BANDS (CHUCHUWAYHA, ASHNOLA AND SHENNOSQUANKIN).

Reserves.—The reserves of these bands, numbering seventeen, are located along the Similkameen river, from the boundary line to Princeton. The area of the lower reserves is 19,472 acres ; and that of the upper reserves is 6,438, containing generally good bottom, bench and grazing lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the Lower Similkameen band is 133. There have been 5 births and 3 deaths during the year. The population of the Upper Similkameen band is 49. There has been 1 birth and 2 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these bands has been good; no epidemic has visited them. They have been vaccinated, and sanitation is good.

Occupations.—These Indians farm and raise stock quite extensively, fish and hunt, freight and pack and work as labourers and cowboys.

Buildings.—They have a moderately fair class of buildings, mostly of logs. Lumber is now coming more into use in the construction of their dwellings.

Stock.—They possess a number of good horses and cattle.

Farm Implements.—They are supplied with all necessary farm implements.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics; they have two churches, one at Chuchuwayha, and one at Shennosquankin, and they are religiously inclined.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding; they are making good progress in farming and stock-raising. In the latter occupation, the brothers, William and Paul Terrobaskett, and Ashnola John take the lead.

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

SISKA BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves, seven in number, are located on the Fraser river, a short distance below Lytton. The area is 559 acres, mostly unproductive.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 32; there has been 1 birth and 1 death during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—No epidemic has prevailed. Their houses are small and not well ventilated. They are not much occupied during the warm season.

Occupations.—These Indians produce little from their lands; their chief occupations are fishing and mining.

Buildings.—They have not a good class of buildings.

Stock.—They have not much stock. The horses they have are for riding and packing.

Farm Implements.—They have use for few.

Religion.—They all belong to the Anglican Church, and they attend the church at Lytton, some six miles distant.

Characteristics and Progress.—There are a few able-bodied Indians among them, and they do little more than get a living. They are law-abiding.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

SKUPPA BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band are on the left bank of the Fraser river, between Lytton and Siska. They have an area of 268 acres, and are capable of producing little.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 17. Other statistics have been included in the Lytton band, with which they are identified.

SPALLUMCHEEN BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band, three in number, are located on the Spallumcheen and Salmon rivers. They contain an area of 679 acres, mostly agricultural and timbered lands. There are some good pasture-lands on Salmon river.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 144. There have been 8 births and 4 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—No epidemic has visited these Indians, their houses are well kept, and sanitation is good. They have been vaccinated.

Occupations.—These Indians farm extensively, and raise some stock, fish and hunt, and work as labourers in various ways. Their chief means of living is by farming.

Buildings.—They have a good class of houses.

Stock.—They have a good class of horses, suitable for farm work, and a few good cattle.

Farm Implements.—They are well supplied with modern farm implements and machinery.

Education.—They have no schools.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics; have a good church-building, and are good-living people.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are a very industrious band, and most of them are comfortably well-off. They have adopted a civilized mode of life to a greater extent than any of the other bands in this agency. They are peaceable and law-abiding, associate and mingle more with the white population, and take an interest in sport and matters generally affecting the community.

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

SPUZZUM BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves, numbering six, of this band are on the Fraser river, some distance above Yale. They have an area of 456 acres, containing small patches of tillable land.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 158. There have been 5 births and 7 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—No epidemic has visited them and generally their health has been good. They have been vaccinated. Their houses are clean, and sanitation is good.

Occupations.—These Indians produce small quantities of hay, fruit and vegetables. Their chief occupations are fishing, mining and working on the railroad.

Buildings.—They have a fair class of dwelling-houses.

Stock.—Their stock consists of a few small horses, for riding and packing, and a few cattle.

Farm Implements.—They have sufficient farm implements for their requirements.

Education.—They have no schools on the reserve. Some have attended the public school established at Spuzzum station, and at All Hallows, Yale. They have made good progress, and are well-behaved and cleanly.

Religion.—They are about equally divided between Roman Catholics and Anglicans; they have two church-buildings, and are a good-living people.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious and law-abiding. Their means of acquiring a living are limited, and progress is consequently slow.

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

COLDWATER BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band, three in number, are located on the Coldwater river, in the Nicola valley. They have an area of 6,276 acres, containing farming, grazing and timber lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 110. There have been 7 births and 7 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—No epidemic has appeared among them, and the general health has been good. The Indians have been vaccinated, and sanitation about their houses and village is good.

Occupations.—These Indians farm and raise stock, fish and hunt, freight and pack, and work in various ways as labourers.

Buildings.—They have a good class of buildings.

Stock.—They have a number of good horses and cattle.

Farm Implements.—They are well furnished with farm implements.

Education.—They have no schools. Some have attended the Kamloops industrial school.

Religion.—They all belong to the Roman Catholic Church; have a good church-building, and are a very religious people.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are very industrious, steady and law-abiding Indians. Violation of the law is almost unknown among them. They are making good progress in farming and improvements.

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

GENERAL REMARKS.

The Indians throughout this agency are making steady progress in farming and stock-raising. They have as good a class of stock generally as the average settler, and take pride in having a good equipment. The Indian women as a rule are very industrious and assist materially towards the maintenance of the household by gathering and preserving, in season, wild berries, which grow abundantly in all sections; by the manufacture of buckskin, and especially among the Fraser Indians of a very high grade of cedar-root basket, and by working as domestic servants for white settlers.

The industrial school at Kamloops has been kept fully supplied with pupils, and has been conducted very efficiently by the Rev. A. M. Carion, principal, and the various departmental teachers and instructors under him. More particularly would I note the care and attention given to the girls attending this institution. I do not think an institution of this kind could be conducted under better management or kept in better order than this has been.

The St. George's school for Indian boys, opened over a year ago, is an up-to-date institution in every respect, and is well conducted. The attendance during the year has considerably increased.

The Lytton Indian hospital has received and cared for more than the usual number of patients. Indians who have occasion to go to this institution receive the best of skilled treatment and nursing. Dr. Wade, of Kamloops, is the monthly attending physician. The assistant missionary, Mr. Peigh, is a medical student, and renders much assistance to the Indians in districts where the services of a physician are not available ; nor must I omit to mention the unvarying effort of the Venerable Archdeacon Small, for the benefit, comfort and uplifting of the Indians.

I have, &c.,

A. IRWIN,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.
KOOTENAY AGENCY,
FORT STEELE, July 20, 1904.

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, 1904.

Location of Agency.—This agency is situated in the southeast portion of British Columbia, and is bounded by the Rocky mountains on the north and east, by United States territory on the south, and by the Okanagan agency on the west.

There are six reserves in the agency ; in addition, there is a reserve at the Kootenay industrial school, and one at the agency office at Fort Steele.

ST. MARY'S BAND, NO. 1.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the right bank of the Kootenay river at the mouth of the St. Mary's river, and has an area of 17,425 acres. Isidore's ranch, south of Fort Steele, contains 680 acres ; Cassimayook's, south of Fort Steele Junction, on the Crow's Nest Pass railway, 160 acres, mostly meadowland ; Bummer's Flat hay reserve contains 190 acres ; the Kootenay industrial school reserve 33 acres ; and the agency office reserve, at Fort Steele, 11½ acres.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are Kootenays.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the band is 216. There were 7 births and 4 deaths, making an increase of 3 since my last report.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians has been good, and they have been free from epidemics. The St. Eugene village, where the several bands usually gather to attend the festivals of the Roman Catholic Church, was kept clean and free from refuse, and vaccination was carefully looked after.

Occupations.—The Indians follow farming, stock-raising, packing, trapping, hunting and fishing, and the majority make a good living.

Buildings.—The buildings on the reserve are mostly of logs, some hewn very neatly, and at the St. Eugene village new frame dwellings are yearly taking the place of the unsightly and unsanitary shacks formerly occupied.

Stock.—Of late years these Indians improved their stock a good deal by the introduction of a better class of stallions. They have a fairly large herd of cattle.

Farm Implements.—They are well supplied with farm implements, consisting of ploughs, harrows, wagons, sleighs, mowers and rakes.

Education.—The Kootenay industrial school continues to do excellent work under the care of the Rev. N. Coccola, O.M.I., as principal, with the Sisters of Charity as co-workers. The pupils are taught reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling, geography grammar, history and singing. The boys learn useful trades,—carpentry, shoemaking, farming and the care of stock; the girls, housekeeping, dairying, the use of the sewing-machine, knitting and sewing. When at the village, the parents visit the school regularly and appear to take an interest in the progress made by their children. The principal finds no difficulty in keeping up the attendance, as there are usually a number of applicants seeking admission when a vacancy occurs.

Religion.—The Indians of this band are Roman Catholics, are most attentive to their religious duties. At the village church of St. Eugene there is generally found every Sunday a large and attentive congregation.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are industrious, and they are devoting more attention to their farms and stock.

Temperance and Morality.—They are very temperate, moral and law-abiding.

TOBACCO PLAINS BAND, NO. 2.

Reserve.—The reserve is at the international boundary, adjoining the State of Montana. It has an area of 10,560 acres. It is mostly prairie-land that requires irrigation.

Tribe.—The Indians of this band are Kootenays.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 61. There were no births and 1 death, which makes a decrease of 1 during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians has been good, there having been very little sickness amongst them. They kept their houses and the village very clean, which in a great measure accounts for there being so few deaths.

Resources and Occupations.—They follow farming and stock-raising. A few trap, hunt and fish.

Buildings.—The dwellings are of logs, and are warm and comfortable. They have barns and sheds for their horses and cattle.

Stock.—They have a fairly good band of horses and cattle, which they are adding to and improving from year to year.

Farm Implements.—They own ploughs, harrows, wagons, mowers and rakes, which they carefully put under cover when not in use.

Religion.—These Indians are Roman Catholics, and are zealous adherents to their religion and attentive to their religious duties. They have a neat frame church in their village, in which services are regularly held.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are good farmers, keep their fences renewed, and look carefully after the irrigation of their crops.

Temperance and Morality.—With the exception of one or two of the younger men, these Indians are very temperate, and are a good moral living people.

LOWER COLUMBIA LAKE BAND, NO. 3.

Reserve.—The reserve is located in the Columbia valley, between Lakes Fairmont and Windermere and the Rocky mountains, and has an area of 8,456 acres. The land slopes towards the lakes, and is easily irrigated, and is well watered by several creeks running through it.

Tribe.—These Indians are Kootenays.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 80. There were 4 births and 2 deaths, making an increase of 2 during the year. The deaths that occurred were from old age.

Health and Sanitation.—There was very little sickness in the band. The sanitary condition of their houses is very good. During the summer months many of them live in tents, which they move frequently, which accounts for their general good health.

Occupations.—They depend chiefly on farming for a livelihood. A few of the older Indians follow trapping and hunting. During the harvest and threshing season a number are employed to assist the white settlers.

Buildings.—Owing to the scarcity of lumber and the price asked for it, the houses are principally of hewn logs, and they are very comfortable and convenient.

Farm Implements.—These Indians are well supplied with ploughs, harrows, mowers, rakes and wagons, which are put away and protected when not in use.

Stock.—They have a nice band of cattle and horses and have several well-bred stallions and bulls amongst their stock.

Religion.—They are Roman Catholics, and are most attentive to their religious duties. They have a nice frame church on the reserve, where services are held regularly every Sunday.

Temperance and Morality.—They are not given to intoxicants and are a moral and law-observing band.

LOWER KOOTENAY BAND, NO. 4.

Reserve.—This reserve is in the West Kootenay district, on the right bank of the Kootenay river, three miles north of the international boundary line, at Port Hill, Idaho. It has an area of 1,831½ acres.

Tribe.—These Indians are Kootenays, and speak the same language as those on the reserves in East Kootenay.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 172, an increase of 4. There were 14 births and 10 deaths.

Health and Sanitation.—During the spring, grippe and pneumonia were prevalent, which proved very fatal, especially amongst the children of the band. There is less consumption than formerly, owing to the location of the new village, which is on a high dry bench, and the better class of houses which have recently been built there.

Occupations.—They do some farming, but their principal industry is stock-raising. They hunt, trap and fish, and during the berry season they visit the different towns around the Kootenay Lake camp and pick berries, which are readily disposed of. In the neighbourhood of Creston, a town a short distance from the reserve, many get employment clearing land. The Kootenay Reclamation Company employs a number cattle-herding and haying.

Buildings.—During the year these Indians put up several new dwellings, a great improvement compared with those they formerly lived in. They have a number of fairly good sheds for their cattle.

Stock.—They have a nice herd of cattle, which they provide well for by putting up hay to feed them during the winter. They have a good local market for all the beef they can raise.

Their ponies are not very valuable, and they are making but little effort to improve them.

Farm Implements.—These consist of a number of mowers and rakes, a few ploughs, wagons and sleighs.

Religion.—They are Roman Catholics and are most devout and attentive to their religion. They have now a nice new church at the village, where they assemble regularly for worship.

Temperance and Morality.—As a rule they are a temperate and moral people,

SHUSWAP OR KINBASKET'S BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the right bank of the Columbia river opposite Toby creek, in the Windermere district, and has an area of 2,759 acres.

Tribe.—These Indians are Shuswaps who came from the Shuswap lake country in the Okanagan agency many years ago. They speak the Shuswap language, and many understand English.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 56. There were 2 births and 2 deaths.

Health and Sanitation.—These Indians have enjoyed good health. They have very comfortable dwellings, which are well kept, and they wear suitable clothing for the different seasons, which is the means of preventing chest and lung diseases, which lead to consumption.

Occupations.—Their principal industries are farming, stock-raising, freighting, hauling and packing ore. A few still trap and hunt during the winter and spring.

Buildings.—Their dwellings, barns and sheds are the best in the agency, and compare favourably with those of their white neighbours.

Stock.—They have a good herd of cattle, and they take a great interest in their horses, which they have much improved by the purchase of several good stallions.

Farm Implements.—They have the latest improved farm implements, such as threshers, mowers, rakes, wagons, sleighs, ploughs and harrows, which are put under sheds when not in use.

Religion.—They are Roman Catholics and attend strictly to their religion. At the church on the reserve services are held regularly and are well attended.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians continue to keep the lead as the best farmers in the agency. They understand routine cropping, and keep their fences renewed from time to time.

Temperance and Morality.—They are very temperate and lead moral lives.

ARROW LAKE BAND, NO. 6.

Reserve.—The reserve is located on the west side of Arrow lake in the West Kootenay district, and has an area of 255 acres.

Tribe.—These Indians are Shuswaps and have lived and hunted for years along the Columbia. They formerly made Fort Shepherd their camping-ground. They speak the Shuswap and Okanagan languages, and understand English fairly well.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the band is 24. There were no births. Two deaths from consumption occurred during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—With the exception of the two deaths mentioned, these Indians enjoyed good health, and were free from sickness.

Occupations.—They follow hunting, trapping, fishing and berry-picking. They occasionally get work on the steamers that run on the river. Recently they have been given several contracts for clearing and grubbing land, by an Englishman of means, who purchased a farm adjoining the reserve. He expressed himself well satisfied with their work, and they are likely to be employed by him from time to time.

Buildings.—Their dwellings are very comfortable. They have no sheds or stables.

Stock.—They have no stock of any kind.

Farm Implements.—These consist of shovels, rakes and hoes.

Religion.—They are Roman Catholics, and when at Trail, Revelstoke or Nelson, they attend church and strictly observe their religious duties.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are very industrious, and work when they can get anything to do. They only cultivate small gardens.

Temperance and Morality.—They are strictly temperate, and are moral and law-abiding.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The Indians, as a rule, are in a better condition than they have been for many years. They live well, and are clothed better than formerly, and there has been a marked decrease in the deaths from consumption. They are steadily improving, and are depending upon their own efforts to make a living.

The ex-pupils of the Kootenay industrial school have proved a great help to the different bands to which they belong. They are good farmers, and handy with tools, and find plenty of employment among their people.

I cannot close the report without bearing testimony to the support I have had at all times from the Rev. N. Coccola, O.M.I., and his assistants at the St. Eugene's mission, and also to the valued services rendered to the Indians by the medical officer of the agency, Dr. Hugh Watt.

I have, &c.,

R. L. T. GALBRAITH,

Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
KWAWKEWLTH AGENCY,
ALERT BAY, July 12, 1904.

The Honourable,
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report on the affairs of this agency for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904.

Location of Agency.—This agency extends from Cape Mudge on the south, to Smith's inlet on the north; including all the islands between these two points; the mainland from Bute inlet to Smith's inlet; the east side of Vancouver island from the 50th parallel of latitude to Cape Scott, the extreme northwest point of the island.

Reserves.—The total area of the reserves in this agency is 17,052 acres. Although nearly all the reserves are heavily timbered, the soil for the most part is rocky and worthless for agricultural purposes.

Tribe or Nation.—All these Indians belong to and are branches of the Kwawkewlth nation.

Vital Statistics.—The combined population of all the bands in this agency is 1,317 including men, women, and children; showing a decrease of 28 for the past year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians during the past year has been very poor. There has been no epidemic of any kind, the principal ailments being pneumonia, bronchitis and consumption. It will be noticed in the statistics that, al-

though there has been quite a large number of births, there has been a still greater number of deaths, resulting in a decrease in population throughout the agency of twenty-eight. Every effort has been made to inculcate habits of cleanliness, and I am pleased to be able to report considerable improvement in that direction during the past year. The water-supply has been carefully looked after, and is now as good as one could wish; the absence of typhoid fever and similar diseases is pretty good evidence that there is little or no sickness resulting from that source. Vaccination has been attended to, but the effects of it on these Indians is so severe that it is most difficult to carry out a thorough system in that direction. The principal cause of so much sickness and the decrease in the population can be largely attributed to the habit of the Indians of congregating in large numbers during the winter months; the insufficient shelter, and, at times, scarcity of food leaves them in the spring, after a long siege, in a more or less debilitated condition. An effort was made last April to break up this practice and get the Indians back to their several homes, but the result was not altogether successful.

Resources and Occupations.—The principal occupation of these Indians is fishing. During the salmon-run they fish for the canneries; the men handle the boats and nets while the women and children work inside the canneries. They also do a little hand-logging, cutting cord-wood, making canoes, and drying halibut and sea-weed, the latter being one of their staple articles of food during the winter months. There is little or nothing done in the way of farming as yet, although the Indians are beginning to plant more garden stuff; being away from their homes during most of the summer precludes the possibility of doing much in this line.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—Most of the houses of these Indians are nothing more than shacks, being built of split cedar boards. The buildings are very large, and are sometimes occupied by ten or a dozen families. There are several small frame houses in almost every village, and they are, I am pleased to be able to say, increasing in number; it is noticeable that those Indians living in small houses are much more cleanly in their habits. These Indians have no farming implements and very little stock. There are a few pigs, chickens, and ducks, owned by some of the Indians in almost every band; but the Indians of this agency depend almost entirely on hunting, fishing and day-labour for a livelihood.

Education.—There are three day schools in this agency, besides a girls' home and an industrial school for boys. The industrial school is situated at Alert Bay, Cormorant island, on a reserve which has been set apart by the department specially for school purposes, and is under the superintendency of Mr. A. W. Corker, Anglican missionary, who is also school teacher and trade-instructor. This school for some reason did not do as well during the year just closed as formerly, there being less than one-half the number of boys in attendance that there was during the preceding year. Mrs. Corker most efficiently fills the position of matron, the premises being kept scrupulously clean. The Alert Bay Girl's Home is situated within a quarter of a mile from the industrial school, on mission property, and is also under the same superintendent, Mr. A. W. Corker, with Miss L. Humphreys in the capacity of matron. The day school, situated on the Nimkish reserve at Alert Bay, is under the able management of Mrs. E. J. Hall. This school has had a very good attendance during the past year, and, although the attendance has been somewhat irregular, the effects of the teaching are quite manifest. The children from the girls' home attend this school. During the first half of the past year the Quaee day school has been presided over by Miss L. Edwards, Anglican missionary; during the latter half, Mr. D. Wilson has been in charge. Mr. R. J. Walker, Methodist missionary, has, until within the last few months, presided over the Cape Mudge day school. He retired about May 1, and was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Rendle. There has been anything but a good attendance during the year.

Religion.—There is quite a commodious church at Alert Bay under the care and management of the Rev. Mr. Hall, where quite a few Indians attend divine worship.

Mr. D. Wilson, Anglican school teacher at Quaee, and Mr. K. I. Walker, Methodist teacher at Cape Mudge, regularly conduct divine worship in their respective villages.

Temperance and Morality.—In respect to temperance, it is a pleasure to be able to report a most decided improvement among the Indians. Vigorous action has largely put a stop to the liquor traffic, and it is particularly gratifying to know that the Indians or, at least, quite a number of them, take a strong interest in trying to protect their people from unprincipled white men engaged in this nefarious traffic. The same may be said with regard to morality; owing to the large number of logging camps and licensed saloons scattered throughout the agency and the inefficiency of the police protection, it is almost impossible to keep liquor from them.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians of this agency have been quite peaceable and quiet during the past year, except on one occasion, when an attempt was made to break up their potlach at Fort Rupert; otherwise they have been doing very well. As long as the different bands are kept separate and confined to their reserves, there is no trouble; but when they all congregate in one village, as they are in the habit of doing in the winter months, they are rather difficult to manage. It is pleasing, however, to note that the grip of their old heathenish customs is gradually weakening, and that especially among the younger people there seems to be a growing disposition to become more like white men.

General Remarks.—These Indians always have been, and are yet, for that matter, most antagonistic to the white race. The reason is probably because they have come more in contact with the undesirable class of whites than any other of our Indians. However, the effects of education, although very limited as yet, seem to be having an influence on their minds, and will, no doubt, eventually solve the problem of civilizing these Indians. In physique and intelligence these Indians are inferior to none on the coast. The Indians of the Wewaiaikum and Wewaiaikai bands, located in the most southern position in the agency, and who have probably suffered more from the proximity of logging camps and saloons than any others, seem to be the first to attempt reform; and I am pleased to be able to say that during the past year they made most praiseworthy efforts in that direction. Although none of the others have done as well, I look confidently forward to a general advance during the ensuing year.

I have, &c.,

G. W. DEBECK,
Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
NORTHWEST COAST AGENCY,
METLAKATLA, July 25, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report respecting the affairs of this agency for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—This agency extends from the head of Rivers inlet in the south to the head of Nass river in the north, including all the islands and inlets on the coast and extending up the Skeena river as far as the Kitsilas canyon ; it also includes Dolphin island and the Queen Charlotte islands.

The total area of the reserves in this agency is 101,756 acres.

SKIDEGATE BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band are situated on the Queen Charlotte islands, and in close proximity to Skidegate inlet and have a total acreage of 1,551 acres. The land generally is rough and unsuitable for agricultural purposes. The greater number of the small reserves are laid off for fishing stations.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Haida nation.

Vital Statistics.—The total population of this band is 233, the number of births being 13 and deaths 7, showing a natural increase of 6 during the past year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the people in this tribe has been fairly good during the past year, and no epidemic of a serious nature has appeared among them and as usual most of the deaths have been from tuberculosis. During the latter portion of the year a great many of them have been vaccinated and sanitary precautions have been taken at all times, and in general, their houses and surroundings are kept fairly clean.

Occupations.—The principal occupations of these people are fishing, during the spring and summer months, and hunting the rest of the year. They are particularly fortunate in regard to employment, as at present two dog-fish oileries, one of which is owned and controlled by themselves, are in operation, and a halibut saltery has been established by some Nanaimo people this season ; besides this, a great many of the people come to the Skeena river every season for the salmon fisheries; the men readily obtain employment fishing and the women are employed in the canneries filling cans, &c., &c.

Buildings.— Considering that the Indians of this place are obliged to purchase all their lumber from the mainland, and pay heavy freights for carrying it to the island, they are to be commended for the substantial, warm and comfortable houses they have, for, while it is true that abundance of timber is to be found on the Queen Charlotte islands, no mill of any description has so far been built there.

Stock.—These Indians have very few cattle.

Farm Implements.—These people take little or no interest in agricultural pursuits, therefore there is nothing to enumerate under this head.

Education.—On this reserve one Indian day school, under the direction of the Methodist Church, is carried on. I regret to say that the parents in general do not take the interest they should in education and that consequently the teachers encounter more or less discouragement in this branch of the work; however, the children of this reserve are as bright and intelligent as other tribes in this agency, and, speaking generally, they are learning to speak English fairly well, and those that attend school are making fair progress. Like all other day schools, the great drawback to advancement is, that the parents are away so much of the year, hunting and fishing, &c., and that therefore the children do not have a fair chance, many forgetting during the time they are away the greater part of what they had learned, and to a large extent, particularly with the younger children, the work has to be done over again, thereby giving the teacher a great deal of unsatisfactory work.

Religion.—These Indians belong to the Methodist Church and have a good church nicely situated on the Skidegate reserve. At present the pulpit is occupied by the Rev. A. E. Watson, B.A., who acts as minister, doctor, and teacher, at this place.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Skidegate Indians in general may be classed as fairly industrious, and are self-supporting, with the exception of a few old and sick people. They are law-abiding and get along among themselves with but few domestic troubles, which are common to all Indians.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are temperate and very little or no trouble has arisen during the past year through immorality, and I am pleased to say marked progress under this head has been made in recent years.

MASSETT BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band are all situated on Graham island, one of the Queen Charlotte group, and have a total acreage of 1,871½ acres. The principal reserve is Massett, at the mouth of Massett inlet, on which the village of Massett stands and where the people of all the reserves reside. The land in general is of a level nature and in many cases well adapted for agriculture. Small reserves are laid off at the mouths of the rivers for fishing purposes. Abundance of choice timber of all kinds is to be found in close proximity to Massett.

Vital Statistics.—The total population of this band is 354, the number of births being 26 and deaths 10, showing a natural increase of 16. This band shows the largest percentage of increase of population in the agency during the fiscal year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the people among this tribe has been exceptionally good during the past year, and no epidemic has visited them, outside of grippe, mumps and children's diseases, common to Indians and whites alike, and most of the deaths have been from old age and a case or two of tuberculosis. The natural sanitary conditions are favourable. The Rev. W. E. Collison, the resident clergyman, also gives this important matter his attention and the houses and suroundings are therefore kept clean.

Occupations.—Like the Skidegate people the principal occupations of the Massett Indians consist of hunting and fishing, but they are less fortunate, I regret to say, than their southern neighbours, as no fishing industries of any description have up to the present time been started in the vicinity of their homes, consequently they are obliged to seek employment in other places during the entire fishing season. A number of them go to Southern Alaska, Nass and Skeena rivers for the salmon fisheries. As there are excellent halibut banks in the vicinity of Massett, and good dog-fish fishing grounds, I trust in the near future some enterprising parties may turn their attention to this district, where they will find a people most willing to afford them ample help, and encouragement to start in different enterprises. Besides this the finest quality of timber of all kinds is to be found there, and before long the timber industry will open up on the island, and that will give other employment to these people. Many of these people are also engaged fur-hunting and in the early spring fur-seal and sea-otter hunting. The present year has been a failure as far as seal-hunting is concerned, but some six or seven sea-otters have been taken and, the skins now being worth about $500 each, this has greatly assisted them. Canoe-building, at one time a great industry among these people and from which they derived a large source of income, has gradually decreased, and is now largely a thing of the past, as the Columbia fishing boat, universally used, has taken its place; therefore this source of revenue or income cannot be counted upon in the future. More or less wood, silver, and gold carving, and fancy baskets are made by the older people during the winter months and sold to traders and curio-seekers at fairly good prices.

Buildings.—Many good comfortable buildings are to be found on this reserve.

Stock.—A few of the Indians have taken advantage of the good grass-lands and have quite a few horses and cattle, but up to the present they are of little or no market value.

Farm Implements.—Under this head there is nothing of interest to state.

Education.—Here is to be found one of the largest Indian day schools in the agency under the direction of Rev. W. E. Collison, who is ably assisted by Henry Edenshaw, a native teacher of Massett. The interest taken by the parents in the education of their children is more apparent than in most places and the children are making fair progress. The building used for a school at present is totally inadequate, but application has been made to the department for assistance in this direction this year.

Religion.—The people of Massett all belong to the Church of England and a splendid church stands on this reserve. The Rev. Mr. Collison, a native of British

Columbia, who was born at Metlakatla, is the resident clergyman, physician and teacher. This gentleman is esteemed by his people, as he speaks the Haida, Nishgar, and Tsimpshean languages fluently, and has a thorough knowledge of medicine and understands the Indian traits and characteristics, as only a man born and raised among them can; his work is very successful.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians are fairly industrious and are progressing rapidly along the lines of civilization. They are a law-abiding, peaceful people.

Temperance and Morality.—They are in general temperate, and very little trouble is experienced among them from whisky. More or less immorality is to be found among the Massett people, but they are improving greatly in this respect.

KINCOLITH BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band are situated on the lower Nass river, Portland canal, and Observatory inlet, and contain a total acreage of 5,135 acres, combining a limited quantity of agricultural, grazing and timber lands, but largely mountainous and rugged and of little or no use except for hunting. The smaller reserves are laid off principally for fishing purposes.

Tribe.—These people are all of the Nishgar nation.

Vital Statistics.—The total population is 251, and during the year there were 10 births and 10 deaths.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians during the past year has been good, no epidemic of any kind appearing among them. Sanitary precautions under the direction of the Ven. Archdeacon Collison are well observed; Kincolith compares in this respect favourably with any of the villages in this agency. Their houses and surroundings are kept clean and in cases of sickness the Archdeacon, who is their trusted physician, exercises every care in having destroyed all putrid or offensive matter that would have a tendency to impair the health of others.

Occupations.—The principal occupations of these people are, fishing, hunting and logging. During the cannery season the women are all employed in the several salmon-canneries washing fish, filling cans, &c., &c.

Buildings.—The Indians on this reserve own many fine dwellings, and they are quite modern in appearance and construction, and in many cases well finished both as regards the exterior and the interior, and are warm and comfortable.

Stock.—Under this head nothing can be said, as such a thing as stock is unknown on this reserve.

Farm Implements.—Outside of hoes, rakes, and garden tools, no implements are owned by this band.

Education.—One Indian day school conducted under the direction of the Church of England is situated on this reserve. As in most cases, the parents do not take the interest they should in the education of their children, but a fair average attendance is shown from the quarterly returns, considering that the people are away so much from home. The children of this reserve compare favourably with the children of other reserves in the agency and make as good progress as most of the pupils in other day schools.

Religion.—The members of this band are all Church of England people, and have one of the finest churches on the coast. The interior of the building is finished throughout, a great portion of the work having been done by the Indians themselves, and it certainly is a most creditable edifice. The Ven. Archdeacon Collison, who has been associated with Indian work for over thirty years and who is beloved by his people, and so highly respected on this coast by all classes and creeds, is their pastor, doctor and teacher; having a thorough knowledge of the language, speaking it the same as a native, and having spent his lifetime among the Indians, he has great influence among them for good.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Kincolith Indians are on the whole a fairly industrious people, and, with the exception of a few old, blind or sick, are self-supporting, and are making good progress along the line of civilization. While it is true that they are not accumulating any great amount of wealth, nevertheless they are surrounding themselves with more of the comforts enjoyed by the white man, wearing good warm clothing and using the best of food and to a large extent enjoying many luxuries. Although they have no serious trouble among themselves, their nature is to use any authority vested in them to the limit, and on this account more or less jealousy often exists among them and domestic troubles of a trivial nature cause them unnecessary anxiety.

Temperance and Morality.—Very little drunkenness has occurred among these people during the past year, the principal reason being that special attention has been given to guard closely and shut off any possible sources or means of supply ; if they could easily obtain liquor, I have no doubt there would be more trouble than there has been. Morally this band, with one or two exceptions, stands high, and under this head I must class them among the best in the agency.

LACHKALTSAP BAND.

Reserves.—The principal reserve of this band is the Lachkaltsap reserve, having a total acreage of 3,955 acres, on which the village of Lachkaltsap stands, as well as the villages of Andegulay and Kittex. Besides these large reserves several smaller ones have been set aside for the people of the three villages mentioned, which are used principally for fishing purposes. More or less of this land would be suitable for mixed farming if cleared and cultivated, and some fair-sized timber is to be found on portions of it.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Nishgar nation.

Vital Statistics.—The total population of this band is 145, the number of births being 7 and deaths 9, showing a decrease of 2 during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the people in this tribe has been only fair during the year and some sickness during the spring was reported, particularly among the children. Unfortunately during the past year they have had no clergyman, as the Methodist Church has been unable to obtain a suitable man for this place ; therefore the Indians had no one to advise them and dispense medicines at their villages, but the Ven. Archdeacon Collison, of Kincolith, has always been ready and willing to supply them with anything required when they come to him for treatment. No epidemic of a serious nature has visited them during the year. Necessary sanitary regulations are enforced by the council, and on my visits to the reserve, I found the houses and surroundings fully up to the average.

Occupations.—In common with other Nass Indians, the principal occupation of this band is fishing. During the early spring they are engaged in the oulachon fishing, and extracting the grease from this fish, for which they find a ready market among the traders and the interior Indians. The summer season they spend at the salmon canneries, principally on the Nass river, where the men are engaged fishing, and the women assisting to put the fish up. The rest of the year is spent in hunting and a few are engaged attending to their gardens and they have some very good ones.

Buildings.—The dwelling-houses on this reserve are fully equal to those of any of their civilized neighbours, one or two exceptionally fine dwellings being built on this reserve.

Farm Implements.—Some little farm work is done on a very small scale by a few of these people, but farming is still in its infancy, therefore no farm implements of any account are owned by them.

Stock.—One or two enterprising Indians have started raising cattle on this reserve ; their success may induce others to make a start.

Education.—On this reserve during the past year education has not received much attention, owing to the fact that they have no resident missionary. The Indian day school on the reserve has been kept open, however, during a portion of the year, under the direction of a native teacher.

Religion.—These Indians belong to the Methodist Church, and have a church and manse on the reserve, which were built by the society; but having no resident missionary, they conduct their own services.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are a fairly industrious people and are self-supporting. They are law-abiding, possibly a little over-anxious to exercise the authority vested in them, and at times would like to exceed even that, but on informing them how far their authority goes, I have had no further trouble with them on that score; however like most Indians, they require watching in that respect and at times need a little sharp checking.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a very temperate band and little or no trouble arose through intemperance last year among them. Morally there is no fault to find with them.

ANDEGULAY, KITTEX AND KITWILLUCHSHILT BANDS.

Reserves.—Andegulay and Kittex are both situated on the Lachkaltsap reserve, and Kitwilluchshilt on the reserve of the same name, all being on the Nass.

Besides these reserves they have allotted to them a number of fishing stations. The land in some places or patches is suitable for gardens, but speaking generally of it, outside of the Lachkaltsap reserve, it is not suited to any extent for agriculture, and no timber of any size is to be found except cottonwood.

Tribe.—The Indians on these reserves are all of the Nishgar nation.

Vital Statistics.—The total population of the three small villages and the number of births and deaths during the past year are about equal.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians during the year has been good. no epidemic of any kind visiting them.

In these villages sanitary conditions are fairly satisfactory, as the buildings are situated close to the edge of the Nass river, and the Indians themselves take more interest in having their homes clean than in former years.

Occupations.—Like all other Nass river Indans, the principal occupations are hunting and fishing, and the cannery managers have always given me to understand that the Indians from these villages are exceptionally good workers and fishermen. During the spring season they are also engaged in the oulachon fishing, and a large amount of grease is prepared for sale by them.

Stock.—No stock of any kind is raised by these Indians.

Education.—No school or teachers are located in the villages of these reserves, and apparently there is no desire by the Indians that there should be, as they are quite satisfied with the old state of affairs as far as education is concerned.

Religion.—These Indians make no profession of any religion. They have no clergyman living with them, neither do they attend services while away from their homes, persistently sticking to their old ideas and customs; nevertheless they are just as honest and honourable as their Christian friends, but lack the advancement and civilization of the Indians that have been taught under the direction and teaching of the missionary and schools.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and absolutely self-supporting, but during the winter months they at times congregate and hold the old-time festivities. They are law-abiding, harmless people and are ruled over at Andegulay and Kittex by Chief Clather, a very fine old Indian, and at Kitwilluchshilt by Chief We-ha, a man very much respected by his people; but, generally speaking, they are making little or no progress.

Temperance and Morality.—These Indians are reputed to be exceedingly fond of liquor or substitutes made by themselves when they can obtain the necessary ingredients, but I must say that very few cases of drunkenness have been brought to my notice among them, and no trouble of a serious nature. They are a fairly moral people.

AIYANSH BAND.

Reserves.—This band is located on the lower portion of the Kitlacdamax reserve, which has a total area of almost 4,000 acres. Here we find one of the finest reserves in this agency from an agricultural standpoint, the land being level and easily cleared and the soil possessing all the qualities for mixed farming. Besides this they have several small fishing stations that they use for taking salmon for food.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this village I have not yet recevied, but the Rev. Mr. McCullagh informed me recently that they had a good increase from births this year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band during the year has been exceptionally good, no serious illness of any kind being among them. The sanitary arrangements of this village are on modern lines and are as nearly perfect as can be made among Indians. Their houses are well located, all having nice gardens, and the surroundings present a healthy appearance.

Occupations.—In common with other Nass river Indians, the members of this band depend largely on fishing for a livelihood, and every spring take advantage of the oulachon fishing, and during the summer months go to the canneries. During the last few years the Rev. J. B. McCullagh has induced many of them to leave their wives and children at home, to attend to the gardens or small farms which they are slowly but surely getting under cultivation. After they return from the fishing, mostly all of them are engaged clearing up their allotments, and I look for good results from an agricultural standpoint on this reserve in the near future.

Buildings.—On this reserve, through the energy and enterprise of Mr. McCullagh the Indians have a small saw-mill, and on all sides can be seen the wisdom of the outlay, for, removed from the mouth of the Nass river some sixty miles, it would be an expensive and labourious work to get lumber up the river. The dwellings on this reserve compare very favourably with the other villages; they are well built, warm and comfortable.

Stock.—These Indians have quite a few horses, cattle and sheep, and are making a good start along the lines adapted to mixed farming.

Farm Implements.—The Indians of this reserve have some few farm implements.

Education.—On this reserve under the direction of the Church of England, one day school is carried on, which is taught by a native teacher, and superintended by Rev. J. B. McCullagh. The children are bright and intelligent and compare favourably with other Indian day school pupils, but, as in the case of most pupils taught by native teachers, they learn to speak very little English through the medium of the schools.

Religion.—These Indians belong to the Church of England, and on this reserve one of the finest churches in Northern British Columbia has been erected. The Rev. J. B. McCullagh, who hase been pastor, physician and teacher for the last twenty years, ministers to these people, and there is no question of doubt that his work among the Indians from all standpoints has been a marked success. On the opening of the Aiyansh church the sum of $1,389 in cash was taken up at the opening services, every dollar being subscribed by the Indians of this place.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians of Aiyansh are among the most industrious in the agency, and no demands for relief have come from them during the year. They are advancing step by step and in many instances have accumulated some money, and, as before stated, have good comfortable homes.

Temperance and Morality.—Little or no intemperance was reported among them during the year, and morally they have an excellent record, all of which is largely due to the strict regulations enforced by the Rev. Mr. McCullagh, J.P.

KITLACDAMAX BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band are all situated at the head of the Nass river, the principal reserve being the northern portion of the Kitlacdamax reserve, a division having been made on this reserve last season between these Indians and the Aiyansh band. Like the Aiyansh portion of this reserve, the land is superior agriculturally to any other reserve in the agency.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Nishgar nation.

Vital Statistics.—The total population of this band is 126 souls, 2 births and 3 deaths taking place during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band during the past year has been good. The village being situated on high ground close to the river bank, the natural sanitary conditions are favourable, and though these Indians have not yet come under the influence of any religious denomination, they keep their houses clean and the surroundings present a favourable appearance.

Occupations.—Fishing during the spring and summer season and hunting the rest of the year comprise the actual employments of the Kitlacdamax Indians. A few of them have gardens and raise small quantities of potatoes of the finest quality for their own use, but up to the present they have paid very little attention to farming.

Buildings.—Little advancement has been made under this head towards the erection of modern dwellings, but the old style Indian houses substantially built, airy and comfortable apparently satisfy the Kitlacdamax Indians.

Stock.—A few horses and cattle are owned by them.

Farm Implements.—They own no farm implements.

Education.—There are no schools or teachers on this reserve and no desire is expressed by the Indians for them.

Reilgion.—No churches or missionaries are to be found here and the Indians take no interest in religion of any kind, and seldom, if ever, visit the church presided over by Rev. J. B. McCullagh, at Aiyansh, although they respect and fear him, and in many cases come to him for medical treatment and to transact business for them.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians, although termed heathens by their Christian neighbours, are a fairly industrious people and are self-supporting, and to my knowledge have never asked for relief. While it is true that they are less progressive than many of the Christian Indians, nevertheless they are above the average heathen Indian. They at times show a disposition to be unfriendly with the Christian Indians, but in some cases, possibly, the over-anxious Indian constable, desirous to exercise his authority, may provoke them. I have found a tendency among some Indian councils to try and carry their authority beyond their own reserves. I have always dealt sharply with intruders.

Temperance and Morality.—Under the heading of temperance, I cannot report as favourably on this band as I should wish, as they have been represented to me as exceedingly fond of liquors, and as the sources of supply have been shut off from them effectively, I am informed they make wine from the native berries and at times indulge very freely in it. I have done my best on my visit to this distant reserve to locate the supply, but without success.

Morally, they are, I consider, very good, as little or no domestic troubles of any kind have been brought before me by them.

PORT SIMPSON BAND.

Reserves.—The principal Indian reserve in this agency from the standpoint of size is the Tsimpsean reserve, which contains a total acreage of 57,742 acres, the

northern half having been laid off for the Port Simpson band. Besides this large reserve, they have had many fishing stations laid off and surveyed for them on the Skeena river and other points. While it is true that these Indians have a large stretch of country, the land in general is unfit for cultivation and contains little or no marketable timber. Portions of it, however, would be suitable for raising cattle, but the long winters would not permit of its being profitably turned to this account.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Tsimpsean nation.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band during the year has been exceptionally good, and although small-pox suspects on two different occasions were landed within the borders of the reserve, and many of the Indians came in direct contact with it, not a single case developed, largely due to the strict quarantine regulations enforced and the thorough fumigation of all clothing. Many of these people were also vaccinated during the scare.

Occupations.—In common with all Coast Indians, the Tsimpseans depend largely for a living on fishing. During the spring many of them go to the Nass for the oulachon fishing, and about June 1, commence to prepare for the salmon operations on the Skeena. The men are good fishermen and the women earn good wages in the canneries; consequently they are much sought after and the demand for them is always in excess of the supply. They also to some extent are engaged in logging for the local mills and many of them follow hunting during the winter. Outside of a few gardens these people take no interest in agriculture.

Buildings.—Under this head the band stands pre-eminent among the Indians of this agency, and I believe in the province, having in the vicinity of two hundred modern, substantial, and in numerous cases handsome dwellings. The workmanship on many of the buildings is most creditable.

Stock.—This is an unknown quantity in this band.

Farm Implements.—They have no farm implements.

Education.—This reserve may be termed the home of the schools in this agency under the direction of the Methodist Church, at Port Simpson, for here are the Crosby Girls' boarding school, the Indian Boys' boarding school and a large Indian day school. The work of the Crosby Girls' Home among the Indian girls of this agency is second to none, as under the direction of Miss Paul, the principal, and a capable staff of assistants, this excellent and well-appointed institution is doing a grand work among them, in preparing them and advancing them in all branches of learning and industrial work, more particularly in training and fitting them for the duty of wives and mothers. At the present time forty-five Indian girls are domiciled in this home.

The Port Simpson Indian Boys' boarding school, with some twenty odd pupils, under the direction of Principal Richards, is also situated here and is doing good work among the boys.

The Indian day school is at present under the direction of Miss Stevenson, a most capable teacher. The building now used for this work is not suitable, being very old and not adapted for this work.

Religion.—On this reserve the Methodist denomination has for many years carried on religious work among the people, and has a fine church on the reserve. The Salvation Army also has a large following here and a good building in which services are held. This year religious work has also been started among these Indians by the Seventh Day Adventist society of British Columbia. Besides this the Indians themselves conduct a Church Army, Epworth League, Band of Workers, and other religious services. In connection with the Methodist Church work here it will be in order to state that the Port Simpson Indian hospital, situated close to the reserve, under the direction of W. T. Kergin, Esq., M.D., Medical Superintendent, and a most efficient staff of nurses, is doing a good work among the Indians of the northern portion of this agency. At all seasons of the year Indian invalids can be found receiving treatment at this modern and well-equipped institution.

Characteristics and Progress.—These Indians, as is well known, are among the most enlightened and advanced Indians in the west, and are self-supporting and live in a condition of comfort and independence. They are good workers, and, if they had an opportunity of working the year round, would accumulate property and money; but the great drawback to them is the short season and the lack of employment after the fishing season ends. With the prospect of a railway coming to this vicinity, I look for many of them to turn their attention to railway work, and they will be found capable and reliable workmen once they become acquainted with the work.

Some few of them own and operate a small salmon cannery on the Skeena river, and another company owns a small saw-mill on Works canal.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a sober people and my impression is would not be addicted to the use of liquor to excess if they had the privilege of obtaining it the same as whites. Morally they are fully equal to any Indians in the agency and have a good record for the past year.

METLAKATLA BAND.

Reserves.—Occupying the southern half of Tsimpsean reserve and situated on Metlakatla bay is the old historic village of Metlakatla, the home of the Metlakatla Indians. This reserve being the southern half of the Tsimpsean reserve including Digby, and Tugwell islands, has an acreage of something over 25,000 acres. The land to a great extent might be called worthless, a great portion of it being of a swampy muskeg nature; but on the small islands in Venn passage and on Digby island some excellent soil is to be found and on these many good vegetable gardens are located. Some fair-sized timber can also be found in patches on this reserve.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Tsimpsean nation.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band has been good during the year and no serious sickness, outside of the ordinary children's diseases and one or two cases of tuberculosis, has prevailed here. The sanitary conditions here are equal to if not in advance of those of most Indian villages. The Rev. J. H. Keen and Principal John R. Scott of the Metlakatla industrial school attend to the requirements of the sick from a medical standpoint, with much success. Many of this band have been vaccinated this year.

Occupations.—Fishing forms the principal occupation; a few of them are engaged logging and working in the mills and most of them have potato gardens. This with the time spent in securing food is about the extent of the work they do. Possibly a little boat-building and carpenter work may be added, but this is carried on to no great extent.

Buildings.—The buildings of the people on this reserve are in most cases modern, warm and comfortable, but in appearance they do not compare with the homes of their Port Simpson friends.

Stock.—No stock is now owned by the Indians on this reserve.

Farm Implements.—Outside of garden tools, no farm implements are owned by them.

Education.—This reserve may well be described as the seat of learning in Northern British Columbia, for the government industrial school for boys and girls is located here, under the direction of Mr. Scott, principal, who has ruled the destinies of this school for a number of years and has laid the foundation of learning for so many Indian youths. Miss Davies, the matron, a lady who gives her services without any pecuniary reward, and several lady assistants, attend to the girls' branch of this institution. They are taught by Miss Jackson at the Indian day school, a most competent teacher. Besides these schools, the White Home for the education of white and half-breed children is located here, and during the school term, from all the schools about 150 children can be seen daily.

Vital Statistics.—The total population is 194. There were during the year 5 births and 6 deaths.

Religion.—True to their first love, the Indians of this band remain faithful to the Church of England. The Rev. J. H. Keen, their pastor, who formerly was associated with Indian religious work at Massett, who has mastered both the Haida and Tsimpsean languages and who has devoted his life to this work, takes a deep interest in the welfare of the Indians.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians on this reserve are not as energetic and enterprising a body as many other bands in the agency; being naturally of a contented and happy frame of mind, and many of them being descendants of parents of rank, they do not take to hard work, in many cases, with any degree of friendship. They are making little progress in the way of accumulating weath or improving their property, but there are individual cases of enterprise among them. Two small clam-canning canneries are owned by them and operated during the winter months. They have also two fairly well-stocked stores in this village.

Temperance and Morality.—No trouble of any description has arisen in this band this year through intemperance; morally they are practically without fault.

KITKATLA BAND.

Reserves.—The principal reserve of this band is situated on Dolphin island, surrounded by the waters of Hecate strait and Ogden channel, and with eighteen smaller fishing reserves, makes a total area of 4,640 acres allotted to this band. The land comprising these reserves is suitable only for hunting, and fishing operations at the mouths of the streams. No timber of any size or value is to be found on them.

Vital Statistics.—The total population is 208, the number of births and deaths during the year being equal.

Tribe.—This band belongs to the Tsimpsean nation.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band has been fully up to the average, and while there is still room for sanitary improvements, they keep their houses fairly clean.

Occupations.—These Indians may be called hunters, although they follow fishing during the salmon season, and their women are engaged in common with other Indian women working in the canneries during that period. Nevertheless, the principal earnings of the Kitkatla Indians are derived from hunting fur-seal and other animals. A few of them engage in hand-logging at certain seasons.

Buildings.—In this respect the Indians of this band are deserving of credit. They have some very good comfortable houses of modern build and one or two good public buildings.

Stock.—No stock is owned by these people.

Farm Implements.—They have no farm implements.

Education.—One day school, under the direction of the Church of England, is located on this reserve. The parents take little or no interest in education; the principal reason for this is that they are away the greater portion of the year. Therefore the teacher receives many set-backs in trying to teach the children under these circumstances.

Religion.—The Church of England, under the direction of Rev. R. W. Gurd, who acts in the capacity of pastor, physician and teacher to this band, flourishes here, and is the sole religion of these people. A fine church, well appointed, is situated on this reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians of this reserve are a very industrious class of people. They are proud and haughty and often desire to exceed the authority granted them. Their disposition is not particularly amiable; while they have advanced in many ways, the Indian nature and traits largely dominate them.

Temperance and Morality.—They are not given to the use of alcohol to any great extent. Morally they are quite up to the average.

PORT ESSINGTON, KITSUMKELUM AND KITSELAS BANDS.

Reserves.—The reserves of these Indians are all situated on the Skeena river. The Port Essington special reserve adjoins the town of Port Essington, and in time may become valuable property, as this point is looked upon as the gateway to the interior of Northern British Columbia. Kitsumkelum reserve is situated up the Skeena river some seventy miles, and at Kitselas canyon is the reserve of the same name. Some good agricultural land as well as timber of fairly good size is to be found on these reserves; more especially is this the case with the Kitselas reserve.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these bands has been good during the year. Sanitary conditions have not been as satisfactory at Port Essington as I should wish, but during the coming year I purpose forming a council at this place and in this manner will improve existing conditions.

Occupations.—These Indians depend on fishing and hunting, working at the canneries, saw-mills and on river steamboats. Some of them are engaged at hand-logging and other work.

Buildings.—They have very good comfortable dwellings.

Stock.—They have no cattle or horses.

Farm Implements.—They have no farm implements.

Education.—On the Port Essington reserve one of the best Indian day schools in this agency is conducted under the direction of Miss Tranter. The children attending this school remain home the greater portion of the year and the advancement they have made under Miss Tranter's teaching is absolute proof that with a good teacher and good attendance Indian children are capable of learning rapidly and thoroughly.

Religion.—The Methodist Church under Rev. D. Jennings, and the Salvation Army carry on religious work here.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians in this band residing at Port Essington are not disposed to be troublesome, and are a fairly liberal-minded lot, and are making slow progress. The Indians of Kitsumkelum and Kitselas are only average, and easily disturbed over their own religious and domestic troubles. They are making slow progress.

HARTLEY BAY AND CHINA HAT BANDS, OR KITKAHTA AND KITASOO BANDS.

Reserves.—The reserves of these bands are situated in the Coast district, and are not adapted for agriculture. Some good timber is scattered over some of them and they are all good hunting-grounds.

Health and Sanitation.—The Indians living in these villages have been healthy, and sanitary arrangements satisfactory. No epidemic or serious illness has been among them during the year.

Buildings.—They have good comfortable modern and well-built dwellings in both villages, mostly of the cottage type, which are well adapted for Indian houses.

Occupations.—The Indians living on these reserves are occupied almost constantly, fishing in season, at other times logging and hunting. All have small gardens, from which they produce potatoes enough for their own use.

Education.—Indian day schools conducted by Rev. George Reid at Hartley Bay, and Rev. George Edgar at China Hat, are kept open a greater portion of the year. The parents take some little interest in the education of their children, and they are making fair progress. These schools, having no government assistance, are at a disadvantage, but under the circumstances are making a good start.

Religion.—The Methodist Church Society has a nice church on each of these reserves and at China Hat the Rev. George Edgar, a native clergyman, resides, acting as teacher, physician and pastor to this band. At Hartley Bay, Rev. George Reid, who has been actively engaged for some years in Indian work, acts in the same capacity.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians on these reserves are industrious, and self-supporting. They are a quiet, inoffensive people and are making some progress.

Temperance and Morality.—Little or no trouble is caused by these people through intemperance. Morally they are equal to any of the other Christian Indians.

KITLOPE BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this small band are situated on Gardner channel, Coast district, and are of little or no value from an agricultural standpoint. Small quantities of timber are scattered through them, but it has no commercial value.

Vital Statistics.—No births took place during the year in this band and three deaths occurred.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these Indians has been fair and no epidemic appeared among them. The sanitary conditions do not receive the consideration they should. They are a heathen band and careless in this respect.

Buildings.—Their dwellings are of an inferior class, and are not inviting in their appearance, either from the exterior or interior view.

Religion.—No missionary is stationed here. The Rev. George Raley, of Kitamaat, pays them periodical visits, but they take little interest in religion.

Education.—They have no school.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are inclined to be of an indolent nature and might be termed a happy-go-lucky lot, are fair hunters and are self-supporting. They are making little or no progress.

Temperance and Morality.—These people are fond of intoxicants and have even resorted to the manufacture of a kind of 'hootch.' During the year I seized and destroyed a small still of their own manufacture. Morally they are not to be found very much fault with.

KITIMAAT BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band are all situated in Douglas channel and are the poorest reserves and of smaller dimensions according to the size of the band than any other in the agency. They contain no farming land and no timber of any value.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band has been good. Sanitary conditions, however, might be improved. The general appearance of their homes is satisfactory from the outside, but the interior lacks the cleanliness and attention desired.

Buildings.—Many good modern dwellings have been built on this reserve, and the workmanship on some of the newer ones reflects credit on the owners.

Stock.—The Indians of this reserve have no stock.

Occupations.—Although somewhat removed from the principal salmon rivers on this coast, these Indians derive a large part of their incomes from fishing. They are employed every season at the salmon fisheries by the Rivers Inlet canneries. Besides this, they engage in hand-logging for the Port Essington saw-mills, and do considerable hunting during the winter months. They raise a few potatoes for their own use.

Education.—One day school under the direction of the Methodist Church and the superintendence of the Rev. George Raley, is kept open during the greater part of the year. The parents are no exception to other Indians in respect to the interest they take in the education of the children. The pupils are fully equal to the other children in the southern parts of the agency, but like all other day schools, the parents being away so much, it is difficult for the teachers to make a good showing for the amount of

labour spent. On this reserve is located the Kitimaat Indian girls' home, the property of the Methodist Missionary Society, which under the direction of Miss Long, matron, is doing good work among the Indian children of this part of the agency.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians of this reserve are fairly industrious, requiring but little assistance except in the case of the old and deformed. They are considered very good workers, and are peaceable and law-abiding. They are of an independent nature and inclined to look upon whites with distrust as regards their dealings with them. They are making some progress and may be counted among the advanced Indians of the coast.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a temperate people, and morally give little trouble.

Religion.—The Methodist Church for many years, under the direction of Rev. George Raley, has successfully battled with the religious problem among this tribe. On this reserve is a fine church finished throughout. Mr. Raley may be mentioned among the men who have given a number of years of their life, for the advancement of Indians on this coast, having suffered many privations and hardships, while he might have enjoyed for himself and family the comforts and pleasures of civilization, being a man of ability and advanced ideas.

BELLA BELLA BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this important band are situated in the Coast district and comprise a total acreage of 3,372 acres, the principal reserve being the Bella Bella. The land, generally speaking, is not adapted for agriculture, but the small reserves contain many patches of suitable soil for the production of good vegetables. Some fair-sized timber patches are scattered throughout the reserves, but to no great extent. The small reserves are valuable as fishing stations, and many of them are used for this purpose.

Vital Statistics.—The total population of this reserve is 322, the number of births during the year having been 16, and deaths 21.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the Indians in this band the past year has been good, and there was not any contagious disease of a serious nature prevalent. Sanitary precautions are always taken by Dr. R. W. Large, and any infringements of the by-laws are dealt with by the council. The premises of these Indians present a respectable and healthy appearance. A number of them have been vaccinated during the year.

Under this head may be mentioned the Bella Bella Rivers Inlet hospital, under the medical direction of Dr. Large and his staff of trained nurses. This institution is pleasantly situated in the centre of the village, facing the bay, with a southern aspect, and is a most modern, well-equipped hospital. Indians from the southern part of this agency, and the Kwawkewlth agency, can at any time of the year be found receiving treatment at this institution.

Occupations.—Fishing, hunting, logging and boat-building are the principal occupations of this band. The spring and early summer is spent in fur-seal hunting, principally at Goose islands and the surrounding waters. During the summer season they are engaged in fishing and assisting in canning work at Rivers Inlet and Namon. In the fall and early winter many of them are engaged logging for the Rivers Inlet mills, and the remainder of the year is taken up in hunting, boat-building, &c., &c.

Buildings.—The buildings of this band, considering that they have only been about three or four years in their new village, are most creditable and will in time compare very favourably with any of the dwellings owned by Indians in the agency. They are modern in construction and appearance, and as they get the interior of them completed, will be warm and comfortable.

Stock and Farm Implements.—They have no stock nor farm implements.

Education.—This band has one day school under the direction of Miss Beatty. The building is a new one, and well suited for this work. The parents take some little interest in the education of their children, but, like all other Indians, do not consider it absolutely necessary for them to be educated. The children are making the average progress of day school pupils.

Religion.—This band are all of the Methodist faith, Dr. Large is their pastor, and they compare very favourably from a religious point of view with any other Christian bands in the agency.

Characteristics and Progress.—This tribe may be classed as industrious. They are law-abiding and fairly intelligent. They are making good progress, have a good wharf on the reserve, at which all the steamers desiring to do so can berth, own a steam saw-mill, for which they paid some $3,000 cash, and are deserving of praise for their energy and perseverance in carrying out anything they undertake.

Temperance and Morality.—They are very little addicted to the use of intoxicants; morally they compare favourably with other bands.

KEMSQUIT, TALOMEY AND BELLA COOLA BANDS.

Reserves.—The Kemsquit reserves are located at the head of Dean channel and contain a total area of 930 acres. The Talomey and Bella Coola reserves are located on the southern, and northern arms, respectively, of Bentic arm, and contain a total area of 4,007 acres. The Kemsquit reserves contain some agricultural land and fair-sized timber, but the soil is not well adapted for farming, being of a gravelly nature. Much good soil is distributed through the Talomey reserves, and some excellent timber. The Bella Coola reserve is beyond doubt the most valuable reserve, according to its acreage in this agency. The finest soil, and excellent timber, with good tidal flats, producing excellent grass, describes as nearly as possible the natural features of this reserve.

Tribe.—These bands are all of the Talomey tribe.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the Kemsquit band is 69 ; no births and 1 death occurred during the year.

The population of Talomey is 26, 1 birth and no deaths taking place during the year.

The population of Bella Colla is 198, with 5 births and 10 deaths taking place.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these bands has been fair, no epidemics or serious outbreaks taking place during the year. Sanitary arrangements are far from being astisfactory. Although Dr. Spencer, who acts as medical missionary, does all he can to instruct and advise them with regard to the necessity of keeping their houses and surroundings clean, still they cling to their old habits and customs and appear to have no desire to get rid of filth. Fortunately, however, the old village is built close to the river bank, and the rise and fall of the river greatly assists to remove garbage, &c., &c.

Occupations.—These tribes are all engaged during the summer season, fishing at the salmon canneries and also do considerable logging for local mills. They all have potato gardens and raise, besides what they require for their own use, a few potatoes for sale, but hundreds of acres of the finest land remains untouched. The Bella Coola Indians, however, in a few individual cases, are being brought to realize the value of their reserve, and more interest in manifested. They do considerable hunting in the winter season.

Buildings.—At Kemsquit there are individual cases of improvement in this line, but the majority of them are content with the old Indian home.

At Talomey and Bella Coola the same remark would apply ; Bella Coola possibly showing a little advancement.

Stock.—They have some cattle and horses at Bella Coola.

Farm Implements.—Very few farm implements are owned by them.

Religion.—At Talomey and Kemsquit they have no missionary or churches and show no desire to accept any religion. At Bella Coola, Rev. Dr. Spencer is meeting

with a small degree of success, but these tribes are exceedingly slow in their desire to change or forget their old ideas and customs, and it certainly is discouraging work to the missionary to labour with them, but if perseverance and pluck will accomplish the object in view, Dr. Spencer will yet be successful in bringing them to realize that it is in their interest to adopt and accept religious teaching.

Characteristics and Progress.—I can class these Indians as neither industrious nor indolent. They are law-abiding, peaceable and friendly towards the whites, and have some good qualities, they are generous and lack to a large extent jealousy among themselves, which is so common to Indians elsewhere. They are making little progress, but are self-supporting.

Temperance and Morality.—They are exceedingly fond of liquor, and they give much trouble through the manufacture and use of wines made from the native berries. Morally the standard is not high.

OWEEKANO BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves of this band are located at the head of Rivers' inlet and contain a total acreage of 1,761 acres. The land, with the exception of a few patches, may be classed as worthless, except for hunting and fishing purposes.

Tribes.—This band belongs to the Oweekano tribe.

Health and Sanitation.—They are a fairly healthy people. Sanitary conditions prevailing among them are not as they should be, and no matter what pressure is brought to bear on them, they take little or no interest in this matter.

Occupations.—Fishing, hunting, and occasionally a little logging are their principal employments.

Buildings.—Their buildings are mostly all of the old Indian style, which may be considered a good thing for them, as this tribe has shown no improvement in other directions, and the old style house is roomy and admits of pure air in all directions.

Stock and Farm Implements.—They have no stock nor farm implements.

Education.—They have had no school, but at the present time the Methodist Missionary Society contemplates again trying to do something for them.

Religion.—Rev. Mr. Bromwick, formerly of Skidegate, has within the last two months started religious work among them.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are indolent and, I am informed, are poor workers, and yet are self-supporting and make a good living. They make no attempt at advancement, being apparently contented to remain Indians in every sense of the word.

Temperance and Morality.—They are fond of liquor and at every possible chance obtain it. They have given some trouble through the manufacture of a kind of 'hootch' which intoxicates them.

GENERAL REMARKS.

During the year we had the pleasure of an official visit from Mr. A. W. Vowell, Indian Superintendent for the province, and Mr. Ashdown H. Green, Surveyor, who in company with myself attended to survey work on the Nass and Skeena rivers.

Dr. T. A. Wilson, of Port Essington, is kept busy with medical work among the Skeena river Indians, and during the fishing season with Indians from other parts of the coast coming to him for treatment.

The year just closed has not been an exceedingly prosperous one for the Indians generally. Salmon fishing on the northern rivers has on the whole been below the average. The decline in the price of furs this year has also been a serious drawback to them. Nevertheless, I am pleased to report that comparatively little relief was required throughout the agency.

I have, &c.,

GEO. W. MORROW,

Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
WEST COAST AGENCY,
ALBERNI, July 30, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report on the affairs of this agency, for the year ended June 30, 1904, as follows :—

Location of the Agency.—This agency extends from Otter point to Cape Cook, a distance of two hundred miles along the west coast of Vancouver island.

Tribe or Nation.—The Indians of this agency belong to the Aht nation, and consist of eighteen tribes.

Reserves.—The eighteen tribes have one hundred and fifty reserves and fishing stations, aggregating 12,390 acres, or about five acres per head of population. There are two large reserves in Barclay sound; one at Alberni, belonging to the Tsesaht tribe, containing 1,030 acres ; and the other at Numukamis Sarita valley, belonging to the Ohiat tribe, containing 1,700 acres. The acreage of the other reserves ranges from two acres to 250 acres each ; the majority of these reserves are rocky, timbered, or tidal lands given for village sites and fishing stations, with only patches of land suitable for cultivation.

TSESAHT BAND.

Reserves.—The principal reserve of this band, and where the Indians reside, is named Tsahaheh (No. 1) and is situated on the west bank of the Somas river at Alberni, and comprises an area of 1,030 acres. The total area of all their reserves is 1,458 acres.

OPITCHESAHT BAND.

Reserves.—The principal reserve of this band, and where the Indians reside, is named Ahahswinnis (No. 1), and is situated on the east bank of the Somas river, at Alberni, and comprises an area of 96 acres. The total area of all their reserves is 422 acres.

HOWCHUKLISAHT BAND.

Reserves.—The principal reserve of this band, and where the Indians reside, is named Elhlateese (No. 3) and is situated at the head of Howchuklisaht harbour, Alberni canal, and comprises an area of 400 acres. The total area of all their reserves is 575 acres.

OHIAT BAND.

Reserves.—The principal reserves of this band, and where the Indians reside, are Ahadzooas (No. 7) and Haines island (No. 8) and are situated at the eastern entrance of Barclay sound, and comprise an area of 145 acres. The total area of all their reserves is 2,671 acres.

TOQUAHT BAND.

Reserve.—The principal reserve of this band, and where the Indians reside, is named Mahcoah (No. 1) and is situated at Village passage, Barclay sound, and comprises an area of 124 acres. The total area of all their reserves is 421 acres.

EWLHUILHLAHT BAND.

Reserves.—The principal reserve of this band, and where the Indians reside, is named Ittatso (No. 1) situated on Ucluelet arm, Barclay sound, and comprises an area of 180 acres. The total area of all their reserves is 649 acres.

CLAYOQUOT BAND.

Reserves.—The principal reserve of this band, and where the Indians reside, is named Opitsat (No. 1) is situated on Clayoquot sound and comprises an area of 180 acres. The total area of all their reserves is 540 acres.

KELSEMAHT BAND.

Reserves.—The principal reserve of this band, and where the Indians reside, is named Yahksis (No. 11) and is situated on Flores island, Clayoquot sound, and comprises an area of 180 acres. The total area of all their reserves is 223 acres.

AHOUSAHT BAND.

Reserves.—The principal reserve of this band, and where the Indians reside, is named Mahktosis (No. 15) and is situated at Matilda creek, Clayoquot sound, and comprises 250 acres. The total area of all their reserves is 826 acres.

HESHQUIAT BAND.

Reserves.—The principal reserve of this band, and where the Indians reside, is named Heshque (No. 1) and is situated at Heshquiaht harbour about twenty miles north of Clayoquot sound, and comprises an area of 222 acres. The total area of all their reserves is 577 acres.

MOACHAHT BAND.

Reserves.—The principal reserve of this band, and where the Indians reside, is named Yuquot (No. 1) and is situated at Friendly cove, Nootka sound, and comprises an area of 210 acres. The total area of all their reserves is 527 acres.

MATCHITLAHT BAND.

Reserves.—The principal reserve of this band, and where the Indians reside, is named Cheshish (No. 15) and is situated in the rear of Bligh island, Nootka sound, and comprises an area of 29 acres. The total area of all their reserves is 127 acres.

NOOCHAHTLAHT BAND.

Reserves.—The principal reserve of this band, and where the Indians reside, is named Noochatl, (No. 1), and is situated on Esperanza inlet, and comprises an area of sixteen acres. The total area of all their reserves is 188 acres.

EHATTISAHT BAND.

Reserves.—The principal reserve of this band, and where the Indians reside, is named Oke, (No. 10), and is situated on Esperanza inlet and comprises an area of 32 acres. The total area of all their reserves is 123 acres.

KYUKAHT BAND.

Reserves.—The principal reserves of this band, and where the Indians reside, are named, Aktese (No. 1), Village island, and Kukamukamees (No. 2), Mission island, comprising an area of 193 acres. These islands are part of the Barrier Island group. The total area of all their reserves is 611 acres.

CHAICCLESAHT BAND.

Reserves.—The principal reserve of this band, and where the Indians reside, is named Acous, (No. 1), and is situated in Battle bay, Ououkinsh inlet, and comprises an area of 100 acres. The total area of all their reserves is 258 acres.

NITINAHT BAND.

Reserves.—The principal reserves of this band, and where the Indians reside, are named Tsooquanah (No. 2), Wyah (No. 3) Clo-oose (No. 4), and Carmanah (No. 6), all of which are situated at the entrance of the straits of Juan de Fuca and comprise an area of 773 acres. The total area of all their reserves is 1,790 acres.

PACHEENAHT BAND.

Reserves.—The principal reserve of this band, and where the Indians reside, is named Pacheena (No. 1), and is situated at the mouth of the San Juan river, at Port Renfrew, and comprises an area of 153 acres. The total area of all their reserves is 404 acres.

REMARKS APPLYING TO FOREGOING BANDS.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the various bands hereinbefore enumerated is as follows: Tseshaht, 130; Opitchesaht, 59; Howchuklisaht, 38; Oiaht, 149; Toquaht, 26; Ewlhuilhlaht, 150; Clayoquot, 241; Kelsemaht, 76; Ahoussaht, 262; Heshquiaht, 150; Mooachaht, 172; Matchitlaht, 66; Noochahtlaht, 62; Ehattisaht, 95; Kyukaht, 281; Chaicclesaht, 86; Nitinaht, 202; Pacheenaht, 58; being a total of 2,303, made up as follows: 770 men, and 823 women, over the age of fifteen years, and 366 boys, and 344 girls, under the age of fifteen years.

Health and Sanitation.—During the past year, while there has been no outbreak of any infectious or contagious disease, yet there have been a large number of deaths and the vital statistics show a decrease in the total population of eighty-four. There were a few accidental deaths; two were drowned near shore, two men were lost from a sealing schooner, and one man got lost in the woods and perished from cold and exposure. A number of the deaths were those of old people, but the majority of the deaths must be ascribed to the ravages of consumption and scrofula, two diseases to which these Indians are very susceptible. Considerable attention has been paid during the year to the water-supply of the different villages, with, I am pleased to state, satisfactory results.

At Clayoquot on the Opitsat reserve the department supplied a quantity of galvanized iron piping, which was used to tap a small stream behind the village and bring into the centre of the village a constant supply of pure water.

At first the idea was regarded with apathy, and in a few cases with hostility, by the Indians, but once the system was installed they soon recognized the benefit and

are now glad to avail themselves of it. A practical demonstration of this kind, accompanied with some help to carry it out, is of much value in instilling into their minds a better idea of sanitary principles. Assistance along the same line has also been furnished to two other bands with good results.

Resources and Occupations.—The principal means by which these Indians derive a livelihood are sealing, salmon-fishing for the canneries, and, on a small scale, hunting small wild animals, such as black bear, land otter, and mink, for their fur. A few get a little work as packers or guides for prospectors, sportsmen and timber cruisers. Still fewer add to their living by doing a little farming, but in most instances the rough and barren, or heavily timbered character of their reserves forbids much being done in that way. The women work in the canneries, cleaning the salmon, and preparing them for canning. They also earn a little money by making mats and baskets out of the inner bark of the cedar-tree, which they sell, as curios, to tourists and others.

The sealing industry, from which so large a part of the total revenue of these Indians is derived, is not in a very prosperous condition. Formerly it afforded very lucrative employment to the Indians who engaged in it. For example, in 1900 the revenue from this source alone, over the whole agency, was, in round figures, $150,000, while now, it is only about one-third of that sum. This decline is due principally to the scarcity of seals, resulting in small catches, and to a fall in the price of seal-skins which prevents the owers of the schooners offering as much per skin to the Indian hunters as formerly.

The cannery started last year at Uchucklisaht has been of much benefit to the Indians of Barclay sound, affording them good remunerative employment in the vicinity of their homes, instead of having to travel to the mainland or elsewhere in search of work. Those who went to the Fraser river fishing last summer did very badly, the price per fish not being large and the run smaller than was anticipated.

Buildings.—Although the buying power of these Indians has decreased of late years, yet rather more new buildings have been erected during the past year than usual. This is due, in a large measure, to the fact that during last winter several ships laden with lumber were wrecked on this coast, and, as it seldom pays the owners or underwriters to endeavour to recover the cargo, the Indians were enabled to pick up considerable quantities of lumber, which was, or will be, used in the erection of new dwelling-houses. In building, nowadays, the Indians have, I may say, almost entirely adopted the white man's style of a frame building, and generally prefer it to be of reasonably small dimensions, eschewing the old-fashioned edifice, capable of accommodating an entire band.

Stock and Farm Implements.—The two bands resident at Alberni possess a few horses and own two or three buggies. They also have a plough and a set of harrows, but do very little farming. Only one other band possesses any stock to speak of, and they do not have any farm implements, but sometimes cut a few tons of natural hay for their cattle in case of severe storm, letting them run in the bush for the rest of the year, which tends to make them wild. For the most part the reserves are not suitable for encouraging the Indians to essay farming, being more or less heavily timbered and not first-class land when expensively cleared.

Education.—There are, in this agency, one industrial, two boarding, and four day schools, receiving aid from the department.

Industrial School.—This is situated at Clayoquot, on Meares island, and is conducted under Roman Catholic auspices by the Rev. Father Maurus, O.S.B., ably assisted by Sister Placide and a competent staff. This school has only been conducted for one year as an industrial school and for three years previously as a boarding school, and the success achieved in that time is highly creditable to all concerned. The management, discipline, and the behaviour of the pupils leave but little to be desired. The pupils have made great progress in their studies, in which they take much interest, and seem to be happy and contented. The girls, under the direction of a seamstress, have learned to cut out, make and mend all the clothes required by either themselves

or the boys. This practical instruction must be of the greatest possible benefit when these children return to their own homes. This summer the management has added two wings, now nearly completed, to the building; each wing measuring, according to the plans, which the principal kindly placed at my disposal, 32 x 46 feet, with a basement with concrete walls and floor. When completed the whole will form a most imposing edifice, the largest of its class on the west coast. The grant from the department provides for fifty pupils, but more are kept in the school, there having been fifty-eight actually present on the occasion of my last visit.

Boarding Schools.—These are situated at Alberni and at Ahoussaht. That at Alberni is under the charge of Mr. J. R. Motion, principal; Mrs. Motion, matron, and Mrs. Cameron, teacher. During the year an addition of some size has been added to the building, giving increased accommodation. Much of the work on the new building and about the garden and orchard was performed by the older boys. The teaching is carried on along the lines laid down by the department, and, in addition, the pupils receive careful instruction in religious knowledge. Both this school and that of Ahoussaht, are under the control of the Presbyterian Church.

The boarding school at Ahoussaht has only been recognized by the department as such for the last year, but had been conducted, in an informal manner, as a boarding school for some months previously by the management.

The staff consists of : Mr. J. C. Butchart, B.A., principal; Mrs. Butchart, matron, and Miss J. McNeill, assistant teacher. The present principal and matron took charge in October last, and since then, I am glad to be able to state, I have observed a marked improvement in the pupils both in the knowledge displayed in school and in the discipline both in school and boarding-house.

During the year the Church, aided by a grant from the department, has erected a large building to serve as school and boarding-house. The plans, which were submitted to the department for approval, provide for a commodious and handsome building, and the work has been faithfully carried out. It is situated on a fine site facing the water, close to, but not on, the Marktosis reserve, on one hundred and sixty acres purchased for the purpose.

The grant from the department to these two boarding schools provides for thirty at the Alberni, and for twenty-five at the Ahoussaht school, but more pupils are kept than are paid for by the department, there being thirty-six present on my last visit to the Alberni school.

Day Schools.—The four day schools are located as follows :—One at Cla-oose, conducted by the Rev. W. J. Stone of the Methodist Church, one at Ucluelet taught by Miss E. McKay, a Presbyterian; one at Clayoquot under the charge of Rev. Father Moser, and one at Kyuquot conducted by Rev. Father Sobry, the two latter being Roman Catholics. All are doing their best in their respective spheres, but all are somewhat handicapped by the nomadic habits of the Indians, which cause an irregular attendance at times. In this respect the school at Ucluelet shows up well, the average attendance being generally a high percentage of the number of pupils on the roll. In my last visit to this school I was well pleased with the progress made by the pupils since my previous visit, and consider that the teacher, who has not been a year there yet, is doing good work.

As regards the interest taken by the Indian parents in the education of their children, it varies very much. Except a few of the older people, most of the Indians would like to see their children obtain the advantage of an education, but many feelings operate to prevent this. Many of them object to the separation involved by sending them to a boarding school, others would send them for a certain period, say five years, but think it too long to part with them until they are eighteen years of age ; others again would send them to a day school willingly enough, but strongly object to a boarding school.

Religion.—Those Indians that can be classed as adhering to any particular form of religious belief are divided among the Methodists, Presbyterians and Roman Catholics, the last named predominating. Among the many remaining, classed as pagan, are probably some who might be more properly described under the heading of 'no religion,' having from the instruction of the priests and missionaries lost faith in their own old superstitions, but yet hardly sufficiently advanced to embrace any other creed in its entirety.

Rev. Mr. Stone at Nitinat, Mr. Swartout in Barclay sound, Father Moser at Clayoquot, Father Brabant at Hesquiat, and Father Sobry at Kyuquot, are all, each according to his own creed, faithful and earnest labourers in the work of imparting Christianity to the Indians of this coast. And here I may be permitted to express my hearty appreciation of the kindness and courtesy shown me by the teachers and missionaries during the past year, the first of my occupancy of the position of agent: almost without exception they have shown a readiness to make their own dignity and importance subordinate to the furtherance of the cause they have at heart and a cheerful alacrity to co-operate with me in any work for the benefit of our common charges.

Characteristics and Progress.—The Indians of this agency are of a quiet and peaceable character and crime is unfrequent among them. In a scattered community of the same number of white people there is no doubt there would be far more crime in the course of a year. Really serious crime has not occurred during the past year. Their greatest temptations are towards drinking and gambling, and, when under the influence of the former, they are very apt to become violent. Many of them, who would not voluntarily seek to obtain whisky, seem unable to resist the temptation of drinking it when brought within their reach. The cases of drunkenness during the past year show, however, a decrease from previous years and it is to be hoped that this improvement may be permanent.

The Indians of this agency are all practically wage-earners in some way or other and their prosperity from year to year is to a great extent governed by causes over which they have no control. A poor run of fish on the Fraser, a surplus of labour in the hop-fields, or a small catch of seals in the Behring sea, will all operate to produce distress among some portion of the various bands.

As to their morality, considering their traditions and habits, most of the bands can be called fairly moral and would compare favourably with their white neighbours; in one or two bands where they are more exposed to temptation, there is a certain amount of immorality.

On the whole these Indians are making progress towards civilization; contact with white men and observation of their methods induces a desire to imitate them and emulation among themselves also helps. It is quite common to see good sewing-machines in the more advanced women's houses; bicycles also can be seen, and one enterprising Indian is the possessor of a typewriting-machine, which he can use.

General Remarks.—At the close of the first year of my occupancy of the position of agent and after becoming acquainted with all parts and peoples of this extensive agency, it affords me pleasure to record my experience of the work of the late agent, Mr. H. Guillod. Throughout the agency I everywhere found evidences of his faithful work, and his good judgment and tactful kindness, and all classes, both of the white people with whom he came in contact, and of the Indians, united in expressing the respect and esteem in which they held him.

It is my sad story to record the death, under most melancholy circumstances, of the Rev. M. Swartout, which took place on July 11. On that date he left Howchuklisat, intending to proceed to his home at Ucluelet, and was never seen again. Pieces of his boat were afterwards picked up by some of the search party which went out to look for him. At the time, he was alone in his sailing boat, in which he had great confidence and in the management of which he was an expert. It is supposed that he encountered one of the sudden and unexpected squalls for which this coast is notorious, and was either killed outright or swam until exhausted; what actually happen-

ed will never be known, but it is only too certain that he is another victim to the treacherous waters of this coast. It was only a few months ago that a Roman Catholic bishop and friend were capsized in the canal, not very far from where this last accident occurred, and were only rescued from certain death by the chance arrival of another boat. It is indeed true that they take their lives into their hands who travel by small boats or canoes on the west coast of this island, which is known even among shipping men as 'the graveyard of the Pacific.'

The Rev. Mr. Swartout had charge of the whole of Barkley sound and acted as preacher, counsellor and friend to the Ucluelet, Ohiat and Howchuklisaht bands. After spending ten years in such work, he had acquired a good knowledge of the Aht tongue and could converse or preach to them in their own language. An untiring worker, no labour was too arduous, no sacrifice too great in the carrying on of his Master's work. He will be greatly missed by the Indians, whose entire confidence he possessed. Had he been willing to accept it, he could have obtained preferment in the Presbyterian Church, of which body he was an ordained minister, but he elected to remain among the people he knew and loved, and he died as he had lived, a true servant of his God and in the service of the poor people to whose cause he had devoted his life.

I have, &c.,

ALAN W. NEIL,

Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
WILLIAMS LAKE AGENCY,
CLINTON, September 5, 1904.

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, 1904, together with a tabulated statement of statistics and a list of government property in my charge.

Location.—The Williams Lake agency is situated north and partly west of the Kamloops Okanagan agency, south of the Babine agency, having the Rocky mountains as a portion of its eastern boundary, and the Fraser agency for its western boundary.

This agency contains an aggregate of 90,080 acres.

Tribe.—These Indians belong to the Salish and Tinneh peoples. The younger portion of the population speak the English language fairly well.

Vital Statistics.—The population consists of 542 men, 507 women and 909 young people under twenty-one years of age, making a total of 1,958, a decrease during the year of 45, there being 71 births and 116 deaths to record.

ALEXANDRIA BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on both sides of the Fraser river about four hundred miles from its mouth. It contains an area of 1,858½ acres. Its natural features are good grazing bench-lands, all requiring irrigation when cultivated. There are also excellent hay meadows on the reserve.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 54, being a decrease of 9 during the year, there having been 2 births and 11 deaths.

Health and Sanitation.—With the exception of an epidemic of whooping-cough amongst this band, the health of the Indians was good. They have very comfortable houses, which are kept in good condition.

Resources and Occupations.—The chief occupations of these Indians are farming, hunting fur-bearing animals, and working as farm-hands with white settlers. The women also earn considerable from the sale of gloves, moccasins and other articles, which they make up from the tanned deer-skins.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have very good dwellings and horse stables. They have good horses, some cattle, and are well supplied with farm implements.

Education.—A few of the children of this band have attended the Williams Lake industrial school, the rest have received no education.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics. They have a small church on the reserve, and they take a great interest in religion.

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

Temperance and Morality.—With the exception of one or two who are given to the use of intoxicants, they are moral and temperate.

ALKALI LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on a bench a few miles east of the Fraser river, and about three hundred and twenty miles from its mouth. It contains 8,347½ acres. There is excellent land for farming on this reserve, but unfortunately the water-supply for irrigation is not available, and only a small portion is cultivated. A good portion is under fence and is used for pasture. There are also good hay meadows on this reserve, from which large quantities of hay are cut yearly. The natural features are bench-lands, excellent hay meadows and fair timber.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 162, an increase of 3 during the year, there having been 9 births and 6 deaths.

Health and Sanitation.—Most of the deaths at this reserve were from whooping-cough; otherwise the health of this band was good. Their dwellings and surroundings are kept in good order.

Occupations.—A number of the men find employment with white settlers as farm-hands and cattle-drovers, and the women are kept busy making gloves, moccasins and other articles from deer-skins, and during fruit season they gather and sell large quantities of wild berries, besides putting up some for their own consumption.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have good dwellings and good horse-stables. They have good horses, cattle and pigs, and are well supplied with farm implements of all kinds.

Education.—Quite a number of children from this band are being educated at the Williams Lake industrial school.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics. They have a good church on the reserve and take a great deal of interest in religion.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are excellent workers, industrious and law-abiding, and are steadily improving.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

ANAHAM BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated in a valley near the Chilcoten river and about fifty miles from its mouth. It has an area of 9,922 acres. The natural features are open bench-lands, excellent hay meadows, and fair timber.

Vital Statistics.—The population of this band is 223, there having been 10 births and 10 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—Most of the deaths at this reserve resulted from whooping-cough; otherwise the health of this band was good.

Occupations.—These Indians farm a good deal, have good teams and wagons, and do a great deal of freighting for merchants from the nearest railway station, a distance of two hundred miles. They also earn considerable as cowboys in the employ of cattle-drovers, being expert riders.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have good dwellings and horse-stables, good horses, cattle and pigs. They are well supplied with farm implements of all kinds.

Education.—None of the children of this band have received any education.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics. They have a small church on the reserve, where a missionary holds occasional services.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are good workers and are steadily improving their reserve.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

ANDERSON LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated at the upper end of Anderson lake, being the most southerly portion of this agency. It has an area of 504 acres. The natural features are good bottom-lands, good hay meadows, excellent timber and good grazing lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 66, there having been 1 death and 1 birth during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band has been good. Dwellings and surroundings are kept in a good sanitary condition.

Occupations.—They farm a little; have good vegetable gardens, raise quite a quantity of apples and small fruit, do some gold-mining, and during the salmon-run quite a number go to the coast and engage in catching these fish. Quite a revenue is obtained from cutting saw-logs on Crown lands, a ready market for which is obtained at the saw-mills. The women contribute also from the sale of baskets, which are sought after by tourists.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—These Indians have good dwellings and horse-stables, quite a number of horses, cattle and pigs, and are well supplied with farm implements.

Education.—None of the children of this band have ever received any education.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. They have a small church on the reserve and a missionary pays them regular visits.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding and most of them make a good living.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

BRIDGE RIVER BAND.

Reserves.—The reserves laid out for this band are along the left banks of the Fraser and Bridge rivers. The lands fit for cultivation are in small patches, but the Indians raise good crops of grain and vegetables. There are 9,761 acres reserved for this band. The natural features are bench-lands following the rivers and when cultivated all require irrigation. There is good grazing land on the mountain slopes.

Vital Statistics.—This band has a population of 105, a decrease of 4, there having been 4 deaths and no births.

Health and Sanitation.—The deaths occurring at this reserve were mostly amongst young children from whooping-cough; otherwise the general health was good. Their dwellings are kept clean and their suroundings in a good sanitary condition.

Occupations.—The occupations of these Indians are farming, working with white settlers and freighters and as guides and packers to tourists, hunters and gold-miners.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have very comfortable dwellings, good horse-stables, some good horses, a few cattle and pigs, and are well supplied with farm implements.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics and have a small church on the reserve.

Education.—None of the children of this band have received any education.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are very industrious and law-abiding and making good progress.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

CANOE CREEK BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on a small stream which empties into the Fraser river three hundred miles from its mouth. They have good agricultural lands; but, owing to the scarcity of water for irrigation, only a small portion is cultivated. They have an area of 16,129 acres. Portions of this are hay meadows, from which they cut considerable hay for their stock. The natural features are open bench-lands, good grazing lands and fair timber.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 158, a decrease of 3 during the year; there having been 2 births and 5 deaths.

Health and Sanitation.—There was no serious sickness amongst these Indians, most of the deaths being among old people. Their houses are kept clean, and sanitary regulations are observed.

Occupations.—Farming, and working as farm-hands and cowboys with settlers, and hunting and fishing are their chief occupations.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have fairly good dwellings and horse-stables, a large number of horses, a few cattle and pigs, and a good supply of farm implements.

Education.—A number of children from this band are being educated at the Williams Lake industrial school.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics. These Indians are very religious. They have a fine church on the reserve.

Temperance and Morality.—They are moral, but a few during the past year got intoxicated, the persons furnishing the intoxicant receiving the full penalty for this offence.

CAYOOSH CREEK BAND NO. 1.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated at the mouth of Cayoosh creek, where it joins the Fraser river, two hundred and twenty miles from its mouth. It contains 367 acres. The natural features are bench-lands following the river and good grazing lands along the mountain sides.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 33. There were no births and 1 death during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—Particular attention is given to keeping their houses and surroundings in a sanitary condition. There was no sickness amongst them.

Occupations.—Farming, fishing, hunting, gold-mining and freighting with their own teams are the principal occupations.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have good comfortable dwellings and good horse-stables. They have a few horses and cattle, wagons, sleighs, and a fair supply of farm implements.

Education.—A few of the children belonging to this band have attended the public school.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding and are making good progress.

Temperance and Morality.—They are moral and temperate.

CAYOOSH CREEK BAND NO. 2.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated about four miles from Cayoosh Creek No. 1 reserve on a bench above the Fraser river. It contains 785 acres. The natural features are open bench-lands and good grazing lands along the mountain sides.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 13, there having been 2 deaths and no births during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of these Indians has been good. They have comfortable dwellings, which they keep clean.

Occupations.—Farming, hunting, fishing and gold-mining are the principal occupations. The women earn considerable from sale of gloves, moccasins and berries.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have good dwellings, good horse-stables, a few horses, cattle and pigs, and a fair supply of farm implements.

Education.—A few children from this band attend the public school.

Religion.—They all belong to the Anglican Church. They have no church on the reserve. A missionary of the church pays them occasional visits.

Temperance and Morality.—They are moral and temperate.

CLINTON BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated in the Clinton valley and contains 1,073 acres. The natural features are small flats and meadow-lands along the banks of a small stream running through the reserve, and timbered mountain slopes afford good grazing.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 45, a decrease of 1 during the year, there having been 1 birth and 2 deaths.

Health and Sanitation.—These Indians have enjoyed good health. There was no sickness amongst them. Their houses and surroundings are kept clean.

Occupations.—These Indians engage in farming, working as labourers with white settlers, hunting, fishing; and in winter supply the village of Clinton with fire-wood. The women make and sell moccasins and gloves, and in season sell berries of all kinds, which are plentiful in the vicinity.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have good dwellings and horse-stables, good horses, a few head of cattle and a good supply of farm implements.

Education.—None of the children of this band have received any education.

Religion.—They all belong to the Roman Catholic Church. They have a small church on the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding, and make a comfortable living.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

DOG CREEK BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on a stream of that name which flows into the Fraser river three miles from the village; it contains 1,371½ acres. The natural features are open bench-lands requiring irrigation and good grazing lands on the hills and mountain slopes.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 14, a decrease of 3 during the year, there having been 3 deaths and no births.

Health and Sanitation.—One of the deaths at this reserve was from accident, the two others from whooping-cough. Their dwellings are kept clean and are comfortable.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have good dwellings and horse-stables, a few horses, cattle and pigs, and a fair supply of farm implements.

Occupations.—Farming, fishing and hunting are their chief occupations.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics.

Education.—A few children belonging to this band attended the Williams Lake industrial school.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding, making fair progress.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

FOUNTAIN BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the east bank of the Fraser river 250 miles from its mouth. It contains an area of 1,864 acres. The natural features are open bench-lands and good grazing lands on the surrounding hills and mountain slopes.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 205, an increase of 5, there having been 7 births and 2 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band has been good. Their houses and surroundings are kept in good order.

Occupations.—They are employed by white settlers during haying and harvesting seasons, and in spring and fall when the streams are low, take out considerable gold; they also hunt and fish.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have a good class of dwellings, good horse-stables, a few good horses, cattle and pigs, and are well supplied with all kinds of farm implements.

Education.—None of the children of this band have received any education.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics. They have one of the best churches in the agency on the reserve, and a well trained brass band.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are law-abiding and industrious, and making fair progress.

Temperance and Morality.—There is a decided improvement in this respect, as no case of intemperance has been reported during the year.

HIGH BAR BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the east and west sides of the Fraser river, and contains 2,924 acres. The natural features are open bench-lands and good grazing lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 54, an increase of 2, there having been 3 births and 1 death during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band has been good. Dwellings and surroundings are kept in good order.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have a fair class of dwellings, good horse-stables, horses, cattle, and enough farm implements for their wants.

Occupations.—These Indians engage in farming, gardening, fishing and hunting, while quite a number find employment with white settlers as farm-hands. They also do some gold-mining in spring and fall.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics. They have a small church on the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are fairly prosperous and very industrious and law-abiding.

Education.—None of the children of this band have ever received any education.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

KANIM LAKE.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated in the Bridge Creek valley, twenty miles to the east of the Cariboo wagon road, and contains 4,560 acres. The natural features are bench and meadow-lands along the river bottom, good grazing and also good hay-lands. The rest of the reserve is covered with good timber.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 69, a decrease of 14 during the year, there having been 20 deaths and 6 births.

Health and Sanitation.—The greater number of deaths occurring at this reserve were from whooping-cough ; the rest were mostly from pulmonary troubles. Most of their dwellings are of a good class and the sanitary conditions good.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.— They have good dwellings and horse-stables, a good class of horses, cattle, pigs, and a few sheep ; and are well supplied with all kinds of farm implements.

Occupations.—Farming, stock-raising, working as farm-hands with white settlers, trapping, fishing and hunting are the chief occupations of this band.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics. They have a very neat church on the reserve and are very religious.

Education.—Most of the children of this band have attended the Williams Lake industrial school.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are very industrious and law-abiding and making fair progress.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

LILLOOET BAND NO. 1.

Reserve.—A portion of this reserve is situated on the west bank of the Fraser river and the remainder six miles below on the east side, and contains 1,418½ acres.

The natural features are good bench-lands, suitable for cultivation, but all requiring irrigation, water for which cannot be got without great expense.

There is good grazing and fair timber land.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 57, a decrease of 5, there having been 2 births and 7 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—Most of the deaths at this reserve were from whooping-cough. The Indians have very comfortable dwellings, which are always in a good sanitary condition.

Occupations.—The occupations of these Indians are : farming, gold-mining, hunting, fishing, working as labourers, freighting, cutting fire-wood and acting as guides and packers to miners, tourists and hunters in search of big game, such as bears, mountain sheep and goats. The women contribute from the sale of berries and the manufacture of gloves, moccasins and baskets.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have a good class of dwellings, good horse-stables, horses, cattle and pigs, and a good supply of farm implements.

Education.—A few of the children have attended the public school at Lillooet.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding, and most of them earn a good living.

Temperance and Morality.—As a rule they are temperate and moral.

LILLOOET BAND NO. 2.

This band consists of only six persons. Their reserve is situated on the west bank of the Fraser river about twelve miles from the village of Lillooet, and contains 544 acres. The natural features are open bench-lands suitable for cultivation, and some fair timber-lands.

These people make a living by farming and gardening ; and in spring and fall they do some gold-mining.

They have good dwellings and horse-stables, a few horses, and a sufficient supply of farm implements.

PAVILION BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated both on the east and west sides of Fraser river, and contains 4,136 acres. Its natural features are good bench-lands, good grazing and fair timber lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 67, there having been 1 birth and 2 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band has been good. Sanitary regulations are well observed.

Occupations.—Farming, hunting, fishing, gold-mining and working as farm-hands with white settlers are their principal occupations.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have some good horses, cattle and pigs, and a good supply of farm implements. They have good dwellings and horse-stables.

Education.—None of the children of this band have received any education.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics. They have a small church on the reserve on the east side of the Fraser river, and one being built on the west side.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are excellent workers, law-abiding, and progressing favourably.

Temperance and Morality.—They are a moral people and strictly temperate.

QUESNEL BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the east and west sides of the Fraser river and 450 miles from its mouth and 3 miles from the village of Quesnel. It contains 1,687½ acres. Its natural features are flats along the Fraser river, the upper benches being covered with heavy timber.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 64, a decrease of 7, there having been 5 births and 12 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—Several of the deaths were owing to whooping-cough. The Indians were well attended to by a medical man. Sanitation is not very well observed either about their buildings or persons.

Resources and Occupations.—Their chief occupations are hunting, fishing, boating, trapping, and a few as farm-hands with white settlers. They have fairly good gardens.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have a good class of dwellings and horse-stables, a few horses and a fair supply of farm implements.

Education.—None of the children of this band received any education.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are law-abiding, but too lazy to do much towards cultivating their lands, relying mostly on hunting and fishing.

Temperance and Morality.—As a rule there are no complaints in this respect.

SETON LAKE OR MISSION BAND NO. 1.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on the west side of Seton lake, and contains 2,085 acres. Its natural features are open bench-lands, timbered mountain slopes, and poor grazing lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 76, an increase of 4 during the year, there having been 5 births and 1 death.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of these people has been good. Dwellings and surroundings are kept in good order.

Occupations.—Farming, gardening, packing, hunting, fishing and gold-mining are their chief occupations.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have fair dwellings and horse-stables, a few horses and cattle, and farm implements sufficient for their wants.

Education.—None of the children of this band have received any education.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics. They have a small church on the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding. Unfortunately the scarcity of water for irrigation purposes prevents them from putting in more crops; consequently they are not making much progress.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

SETON LAKE OR ENIAS BAND NO. 2.

This reserve is situated on the east and west sides of Seton lake, and contains 188 acres. Its natural features are bench-lands and fair timber on the mountain sides.

There is only one man on this reserve and he makes his living by gardening, hunting and fishing.

SETON LAKE OR SLOSH BAND NO. 5.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated at the head of Seton lake, and contains eighty acres. Its natural features are bench-lands, surrounded by high mountains, heavily timbered.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 35, there having been 1 death and 1 birth during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of this band has been good. The dwellings and surroundings are kept in good order.

Occupations.—These Indians engage in farming, gardening, boating, hunting, fishing and packing, with horses to the Bridge river gold mines. Their women are expert basket-makers and receive quite a revenue from their sale.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have fair dwellings and horse-stables, good horses, a few cattle and pigs, and a good supply of farm implements.

Education.—None of the children of this band ever received any education.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics. They have a small church on the reserve, and they are very religious.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are good workers and law-abiding.

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 84 acres. Its natural features are bench-lands, surrounded by high mountains heavily timbered.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 49, a decrease of 4, there having been 5 deaths and 1 birth during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—Most of the deaths at this reserve were of children with whooping-cough. There is a decided improvement in their habits of cleanliness about their dwellings and surroundings.

Occupations.—Farming, gardening, freighting in boats and canoes, hunting, fishing, trapping, and as labourers with white settlers, are the chief occupations of these Indians.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have a good class of dwellings and horse-stables, a few horses, and a good supply of farm implements.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and law-abiding, and making fair progress.

Education.—None of the children of this band have ever received any education.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics. During the year they have been building a very nice church on the reserve, all the work being done by Indians.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

SODA CREEK BAND.

Reserve.—A portion of this reserve is situated on the east side of the Fraser river, and the remainder along the Cariboo wagon road, about fourteen miles from the former. It contains 5,210 acres. Its natural features in the portion along the Fraser river are bench-lands, while the portion along the Cariboo wagon road is meadow land. There is good grazing at both places and good timber.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 81, no increase or decrease, there having been 4 births and 4 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—With the exception of a few cases of whooping-cough, the health of this band has been good. Their dwellings are kept in good condition and surroundings carefully looked after.

Occupations.—Farming, teaming, working as farm-hands with white settlers, hunting, fishing and trapping are the principal occupations of the men; while the women earn considerable from the sale of gloves, moccasins and berries.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have good dwellings and horse-stables, good horses, cattle and pigs, and are well supplied with all kinds of farm implements.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are industrious and hard-working and are making good progress on their reserve.

Education.—Some of the children of the band have been educated at the Williams Lake industrial school.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics. They have a small but comfortable church on the reserve.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

STONE BAND.

Reserve.—The reserve of this band is situated on the west bank of the Chilcoten river, and has an area of 4,225 acres. Its natural features are bench-lands, good grazing lands and hay meadows.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 104, a decrease of 4, there having been 6 deaths and 2 births during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The deaths occurring at this reserve were from whooping-cough and old age. Their dwellings and surroundings are in a fair sanitary condition.

Occupations.—Farming, hunting, fishing, trapping and working as farm-hands and cowboys with white settlers, are the chief occupations of these Indians.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have good dwellings and horse-stables, good horses, a few cattle, and a fair supply of farm implements.

Education.—None of the children of this band have ever received any education.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics. They have a small church on the reserve.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

TOOSEY BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated on Riskie creek, a small straem that flows into the Chilcoten river. It contains 6,352¼ acres. Its natural features are bench-lands, good grazing lands and hay meadows.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 62, a decrease of 1, there having been 2 births and 3 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of these Indians was good. Their dwellings and surroundings are kept in good order.

Occupations.—Farming, trapping, hunting, fishing, working as farm-hands and cowboys with white settlers are their principal occupations.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have good dwellings and horse-stables, good horses, cattle and pigs, and are well supplied with all kinds of farm implements.

Education.—None of the Indians of this band have ever received any education.

Religion.—They are all Roman Catholics. They have a small church on the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are very industrious and law-abiding, and steadily improving their reserve.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

WILLIAMS LAKE BAND.

Reserve.—This reserve is situated in the Williams Lake valley. It contains 4,613¼ acres. Its natural features are good bottom-lands and excellent hay meadows surrounded by good grazing lands.

Vital Statistics.—The population is 155, an increase of 2, there having been 8 births and 6 deaths during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—There was no sickness at this reserve except whooping-cough, which in many cases proved fatal. Their dwellings are kept clean and their premises in a good sanitary condition.

Occupations.—They raise large quantities of grain and vegetables; they team, hunt and fish, and some find employment as labourers with white settlers at various occupations.

Buildings, Stock and Farm Implements.—They have good dwellings and horse-stables, horses, cattle and pigs, and are well supplied with all kinds of farm implements.

Education.—Most of the children of this band have from time to time been receiving education at the Williams Lake industrial school.

Religion.—These Indians are all Roman Catholics. They have a very nice church on the reserve.

Characteristics and Progress.—They are very industrious and law-abiding and are making steady progress.

Temperance and Morality.—They are temperate and moral.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The Indians throughout this agency are steadily progressing in farming and are gettings rid of their bands of wild horses and replacing them with cattle, as a market for the latter can always be got at fair prices.

The industrial school at Williams lake, under the careful management of the Rev. H. Boening, principal, and the various teachers under him, continues to do excellent work, and it would be difficult to find a school of this kind kept in better order than this has been.

I have, &c.,

E. BELL,

Indian Agent.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,
INDIAN SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE,
VICTORIA, October 15, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my annual report upon Indian affairs in the province of British Columbia for the year ended June 30, 1904.

The annual reports and statistical statements received respectively from the different Indian agents (9) throughout this important superintendency have been without delay forwarded to Ottawa, and it affords me pleasure to be able to state that these returns were, in accordance with the instructions of the department governing such matters, received at an early date and as nearly as possible in the prescribed form.

Following the different headings as arranged by the department for our guidance, will be found a brief summary furnishing such particulars in reference to the progress and advancement of the natives of this country, as, I trust, will be of pleasing interest.

Population.—From the returns under this head, received from the different agencies, it will be seen that there has been an increase in the population throughout five of the agencies, whilst there has been a decrease noticeable in the other four. The mortality in the latter resulted chiefly from an epidemic of whooping-cough ; from the natural passing away of old people, and from the ravages of consumption and hereditary scrofulous affections.

Health and Sanitation.—With the exception of the epidemic and diseases mentioned, the general health during the year of the native people throughout British Columbia was never better, in fact has been unusually good. This satisfactory condition may in part be accounted for by the excellent weather prevailing during the period reported upon and also, in a great measure, to the advance being made amongst the majority of the Indians in improved sanitary measures, which is mostly the result of the continued and effective persuasion and supervision of the agents and missionaries and in a degree to the example set by white families who are each year settling in their neighbourhood. The Indians are also improving in intelligence and realizing how necessary it is for the welfare of themselves and families to profit by the lessons taught them in connection with a matter of such vital importance.

Most satisfactory results are as usual reported from the hospitals assisted by the department ; these charitable and much required institutions being regarded by the whites and Indians alike as a blessed refuge to those who may be afflicted with ill health and, especially so, to such as may be in indigent circumstances. Every praise is due to those under whose kindly management the charitable and healing aid afforded is administered in these establishments.

Vaccination, where necessary, has been generally attended to in the different agencies and, happily, the opposition met with in earlier years, when attempting the operation, is gradually dying out, the Indians, having experienced the beneficial effects, now bear the very often painful results, owing to the impurity of their blood in many instances, with fortitude.

Resources and Occupations.—The following embraces the different occupations and pursuits followed by the British Columbia Indians in their struggles for existence and advancement ; canning clams and salmon, on a small scale ; as fishermen and at

other employments around the canneries during the fishing season ; fur-sealing on their own account, and as hunters on schooners owned by white men ; curing salmon, halibut and other fish products, for sale and for home consumption ; catching fish and hunting game in season, which they sell profitably at different cities and towns ; building fishing-boats and other craft as well as canoes for their own use and for sale; manufacturing dog-fish and oulachon oil ; farming, gardening and working as farm-hands on the ranches of their white neighbours ; stock-raising and employment as cowboys on many of the cattle ranges ; logging on their own account and working in saw-mills ; employment as trimmers on ships loading coal, for which they are paid from $3 to $5 a day; loading lumber on ships for export, at whch they earn equally high wages ; as sectionmen on railways and labourers on provincial roads ; as guides to hunters, miners and others; mining on their own account and for hire; hop-picking ; dairying on their own reserves ; fruit-culture ; poultry-raising ; making curios (mostly during the winter season), copied from ancient native models, for which they find a ready sale to tourists ; working as carpenters, and in various capacities, chiefly in new towns springing up all over the province ; cutting cord-wood for sale to canneries and to steamboat-owners on Crown lands ; acting as interpreters ; as lighthouse keepers, and engaging from time to time in all such desultory occupations wherefrom they expect to derive sufficient remuneration to recompense them for their labour. The Indian women, it may be remarked, are also money-earners to no inconsiderable extent; during the canning season and at the hop-fields they find profitable employment; they engage extensively in the manufacture of baskets, which they dispose of profitably to tourists and others ; they cure and dress deer and cariboo skins, out of which are made gloves and moccasins; and they frequently find a market for dressed skins intact, they being useful for many purposes ; mats from the inner bark of the cedar and of rags are also made, some of which are of an attractive and superior quality ; they make their own and their children's clothing, being much assisted in the latter by sewing and knitting machines ; they also gather large quantities of berries, which in some cases they sell among the white people, a major portion is, however, dried for winter use ; in doing chores and laundry work for their white neighbours they also find considerable employment.

Buildings.—Throughout, the majority of the agencies each year shows a great improvement in the class of residences as well as farm-buildings, outhouses, &c., being constructed. Quite a number of their dwelling-houses are large and commodious two-stroy edifices, while in addition to these are to be seen many cottages substantially constructed and of more or less ornate design. In some instances these residences are nicely painted and comfortably furnished, very frequently flower gardens tastefully fenced are attached and where there are no gardens, potted flowers in the windows or on the verandas are often seen. The Indians are each year, to an encouraging extent, becoming less childish in their estimate of money and instead of throwing it away in useless and unprofitable purchases, they now, in many instances exercise care in selecting what may add to the comfort of themselves and families.

Stock.—Where the land within the reserves is suitable, stock-raising is successfully carried on. The breed of cattle and horses is being each year improved, and, owing to a demand in the Northwest for such animals, the cayuse or native pony, which is very serviceable for packing purposes, is gradually being got rid of, hundreds having been disposed of and a better class of animal obtained instead. As the Indians become more settled in their habits, they acquire sheep and pigs, which on account of their being easily kept, prove profitable and are being kindly taken to by the Indians. Poultry are also extensively reared, &c.

Farm Implements.—The Indians meeting so many competitors in the labour market, owing to the influx of whites and others into the country during late years, find that they can no longer make money easily when disposed to work and consequently give more attention to the resources within their reach, such as farming and stock-raising. They in very many instances prove most industrious and as they realize

the benefits derived therefrom endeavour, when within their means, to obtain farm implements of the best and most improved kind; their efforts in this direction have to a pleasing extent been realized, as now, on many of the reserves where the land is favourable to profitable agricultural pursuits, may be seen improved farm implements of every description, including reapers and binders, mowers and threshing-machines, worked, some by steam, but mostly by horse-power. In addition to saving and harvesting their own crops, their enterprise, the fruits of their own labour, enables them to do considerable work at a fair profit for their white neighbours.

Education.—The industrial and boarding schools, of which interesting and full reports have been duly forwarded to the department, are doing good work and afford encouraging and satisfactory evidence of results most favourable to the efficiency of such establishments as a means of leading the Indians, young and old, to a more advanced civilization which, in addition to the advancement at present enjoyed, points to a more improved condition each year and to a consequent fallng off, especially among the young and middle-aged natives, in their barbarous and superstitious beliefs and customs, which so retard the work of their well-wishers in all efforts towards the amelioration of their condition generally. It may be of interest to state that the suspicion and dread which filled the hearts of many of the parents, when these schools were not so well established, is dying out and is being replaced by a wholesome realization of the benefits conferred by a course of careful education and training upon the young people; this feeling is fully shown by the number of applications for admission into these comfortable homes where the pupils are treated with the greatest kindness and every care is taken of them physically, mentally and morally; the older Indians now take much pride in their offspring when they see them growing up under such promising auspices and being thus raised to a position not only enabling them to improve their own individual position, but also help their fellow tribesmen and women, to whom they are a sort of providence and amongst whom they find profitable employment. The number of native stores conducted on the reserves by Indians, educated at these schools, is increasing and not only that, but in some cases the confidence and ambition created by such enlightenment has induced a few to go into higher mercantile pursuits, on a small scale, with a fair chance of success. The female ex-pupils find employment in respectable families as nurse girls and general maid servants, &c., and give very good satisfaction. While upon this subject, I cannot very well close my remarks without according to the members of the different denominations, under whose care and guidance these seats of learning are conducted, every praise for their devotion to the work in hand. It is also satisfactory to know that the pupils, as a general thing, prove intelligent and become amenable to the discipline necessary to proper order and good management, thereby showing a desire to profit by the instruction afforded them and an appreciation of the great care bestowed upon them, with a view to their ultimate welfare, by their teachers and by the department.

Religion.—Religious services and observances are practised by the christianized natives throughout the superintendency with commendable zeal and piety. Many of the pagan Indians from time to time join one or another of the Christian denominations, and although some still firmly adhere to the superstitious beliefs and customs prevailing in the olden times, there is every reason to believe that in a few years, as the older Indians pass away, all will be gathered into the ranks of Christianity. The number of churches and chapels is increasing, many of these places of worship being beautifully fitted up at a great expense, to the delight and pride of the worshippers.

Characteristics and Progress.—The British Columbia Indians, being self-supporting, are naturally to a great extent energetic and industrious, keeping their families in comfort and in some cases accumulating valuable property in stock and expensive farm machinery, &c. In many places they turn out voluntarily with teams and wagons, pick and shovel, and do extensive and valuable work on the public roads in the vicinity of their reserves. They are nearly all good handicraftsmen and have in places constructed substantial often and extensive bridges, in a manner creditable to skilled

workmen. Of late, incited by the growing knowledge of the value of the land on their reserves, as a matter of future support, they have erected miles of good fencing, and have devoted more attention to the working of the ground at their disposal. Some hundreds of tons of wheat are raised annually and delivered at the flour-mills. There are also striking instances of the capabilities of the natives as farmers and stock-raisers.. In some instances individual Indians have large herds of as fine cattle and horses as can be seen on the majority of ranches owned by white men; others, though not so well off, are heading in that direction, and the cry for more land is not of infrequent occurrence. Efforts have been made on behalf of some of these to obtain leases of grazing mountain-land from the provincial government, but all such applications have been invariably refused. There are instances of individual Indians of a more independent turn than others, having branched out for themselves, leaving their reserves and, with the permission of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, pre-empting homesteads under the British Columbia Land Act; as a rule they do very well and afford a wholesome object lesson to their less energetic and ambitious tribesmen. They are in many settlements rapidly getting into the ways of the white man, taking a hearty interest in all such matters as tend to the welfare of the community generally.

Of course there are yet numbers whose situation and environments are less favourable to progress, and who, consequently, seem slow in their advance towards civilization and steady prosperity. It is, however, but a matter of time when these people, as a whole, will have settled down and adopted one or other of the many industrial occupations followed by their more enlightened white neighbours in their general battle for the means of maintaining a comfortable existence. At the present time they are, to a highly commendable degree, law-abiding and friendly, not only towards their own people, but to all others coming in contact with them. Crime is very rare in their communities and notwithstanding the many temptations that beset them through the machinations of worthless and evilly-disposed white men, &c., they pass through the ordeal creditably, much more so, it is generally thought, than would their tempters, with their boasted civilization and superior enlightenment, were they similarly exposed.

Temperance and Morality.—The majority of the Indians in these respects are worthy of admiration, the manner of their lives exhibiting a higher standard of sobriety and morals than is to be observed in the conduct of many of the white people moving amongst them, whose bad example cannot but be deplored by every right-thinking person, acting as it must as a serious impediment to the efforts of the missionaries and others who are striving for the betterment of the mostly unsophisticated native. Unfortunately, as are to be found in all communities, there are some whose lives are far from being exemplary, such as those who have been freely exposed to temptation in earlier days and have acquired habits of dissipation and idleness difficult to overcome; while others, owing to unfavourable environments, cannot resist the temptation afforded to indulge their appetites.

Much good has resulted from the efforts of the detective constables employed by the department in prosecuting and bringing to punishment unscrupulous persons caught selling or supplying intoxicants to the Indians, and there is a notable falling off in that nefarious traffic observable in the localities in which these officers have been acting.

General Remarks.—The desire of the department regarding the inspection of the Indians committed to their care by the Indian agents is constantly kept in view, the latter being urged to visit their charges as frequently as possible and to impart on such occasions that counsel and advice which their circumstances most require. As may be expected, the increasing spread of the white settlements produces at times a certain amount of friction between the settlers and the Indians. Where it is possible, these differences are promptly attended to by the agents in the interests of all concerned. The trouble arising from the indulgence in intoxicants by the natives is becoming less

frequent, although unfortunately owing to the increasing demand for sensational reports, such happenings come more prominently, and in an exaggerated form, before the public, than was formerly the case.

The appointment of salaried medical officers throughout the superintendency, wherever practicable, has given very general satisfaction, and while affording more regular and effective treatment to the indigent sick Indians is, I consider, less expensive than has been the practice under the old sysem of fees, &c.

At remote places where there are no resident physicians such medicine as may be absolutely necessary continues to be supplied for dispensation by the agents and the missionaries amongst the Indians who are too poor to help themselves. To those of the natives who through sickness, old age, or from other causes, are in need of such assistance food and clothing is at times given, care being taken to see that none but the needy be so relieved.

Seed and Implements.—Those requiring assistance under this head are, owing to improved conditions, decreasing in number; there will, however, always be some applicants entitled to such aid.

The benefits arising from the assistance given by the department in the construction of dykes and irrigation ditches on some of the reserves have proved substantially satisfactory. To a considerable extent the bands thus aided are able to obtain fair crops from land that previously was quite unfit for cultivation and consequently unproductive. Such consideration towards the natives creates a healthy stimulus in the direction of increased labour upon and attention to their farms and is thus beneficial not only to those directly profiting by the expenditure, but to others who from example are induced to make more active efforts on their own behalf.

In conclusion I am happy in being able to add that during my visitations throughout the superintendency a steady advance was generally noticeable, the Indians as each year advances falling more and more into the ways of their white neighbours, whom it is their ambition, in many encouraging instances, to imitate; no cases of destitution were apparent, while many evidences of advancement were to be seen in the direction of improved dwellings and more comfortable homes. Men, women and children were observed who were better clad and better fed than many whites of the poorer class; substantial fences were seen on some reserves for miles in extent; in some places productive kitchen gardens had been laid out, fruit and flowers being also successfully cultivated. Sheep, pigs and poultry, give an air of comfort and prosperity to many of the native settlements, and, to a pleasing extent, children were to be seen clean, well cared for, healthy and happy. In nearly every village church bells are to be heard at fitting intervals during each day, evidencing a peaceful, contented and devotional spirit amongst these simple and primitive people.

I have, &c.,

A. W. VOWELL,
Indian Superintendent.

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,
REPORT OF INDIAN RESERVE COMMISSIONER,
VICTORIA, January 4, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to embody herein for the information of the department the following report in connection with the work undertaken by the Indian Reserve

Commissioner and by the respective surveyors whose services have been engaged for the purpose of surveying Indian reserves, &c., in the province of British Columbia, during the past year, ended December 31, 1903.

On May 11, last, Surveyor Skinner, under instructions, proceeded to Douglas, situated at the head of Harrison lake, in the Fraser agency, where he surveyed the following small reserves, viz.:—No. 2A, Sachteen; No. 5A, Sklah-hesten; No. 9, Morteen; No. 10, Franks, and No. 11, Perrets; the above work was done satisfactorily and his return to Victoria reported on June 11.

These reserves, it may be mentioned, were defined by the late Indian Reserve Commissioner in 1897, since which date a favourable opportunity for their survey did not occur till the time mentioned.

Subsequently, on June 14, Mr. Skinner was dispatched to the west coast of Vancouver island for the purpose of surveying reserve No. 4, a fishing station, for the Pecheena Indians (defined by the late Indian Reserve Commissioner on October 30, 1894); Mr. Skinner having completed this work reported at Victoria on June 22, when he and his party were paid off.

In accordance with the desire of the department, Surveyor Williams, of Quesnel, was instructed on May 2 to survey the reserves allotted by me in 1901 for the Indians of Ulkatcho and Kluskus lake, respectively. In the prosecution of this work he left Quesnel on May 19, and, having finished the surveys, returned to Quesnel on July 19, where he was engaged until August 15, copying his field-notes and making plans, &c.

For some time past it has been considered desirable to have a resurvey made of reserves No. 4, 4 A, 10, 11, 11 A, 12, 13, 14 and 15, Cook's Ferry, and reserve No. 1 A, Bonaparte, all of which are situated within the Railway Belt; owing, however, to the difficulty experienced in the way of obtaining the services of a Dominion land surveyor, the work has, unavoidably, remained in abeyance.

After much inquiry last spring, I was, through the kindness of Mr. McKenzie, Dominion Land Agent, New Westminster, enabled to secure the services of Mr. Peter Burnet, D.L.S., who was instructed on May 16 to complete the work referred to. In consequence of previous engagements, Mr. Burnet was prevented from commencing the surveys till June 18, from which time till August 10, he was so occupied; he then proceeded to Lytton and, in accordance with instructions contained in the department's letter of June 9, 1903, No. 100,340, surveyed the small addition to the Klickkum-cheen reserve at that place, returning to Vancouver on August 12.

Inclosed herewith will be found Messrs. Skinner's, Williams' and Burnet's reports, which give evidence of due diligence having been observed while in the field.

On September 10, accompanied by Surveyor Green, I left Victoria on the steamer *Tees* for Port Essington, en route to the Nass and Skeena rivers, where we arrived on the 16th of the same month. Indian Agent Morrow was there to meet us, having provided a canoe and crew of Indians for our trip up the Lakelse river. The next day we started on the steamer *Hazelton* for the mouth of the Lakelse, some forty-five miles up the Skeena, where we arrived at 8 a.m. the following morning; very heavy rain was falling, but, having canoe and Indians engaged, no time was lost in pushing up stream.

The Lakelse river is very rapid and in many places shallow, which renders it impossible to take up a heavy-laden canoe, on account of which we had to engage the services of two extra Indians with another canoe to take part of the load up stream; this we were able to do with but little delay, there being an Indian reserve close by where we procured the needed help. Poles had to be used nearly the whole time and occasionally tow-lines, which made our progress slow and particularly unpleasant, the downpour of rain never ceasing. Early on the 19th, we arrived near the head of the river, when the Indians pointed out the fishing camp they required. We immediately camped and subsequently, after a careful examination of the ground, which was most difficult on account of fallen timber, dense growth of underbrush, prickly plants, &c., &c., I allotted as a camping-ground and fishing-station for the Indians twenty-one

acres, part of which, having been used for generations as a camping ground, was rich, open, fern-land, upon which the rude houses they had constructed for temporary use were placed.

The reserve contains sufficient timber for the Indians' requirements, the latter expressing themselves as highly pleased with the allotment. While on the ground the survey of the reserve was completed by Mr. Green, assisted by the Indian crew.

On the morning of the 23rd we broke camp and returned down stream to the Skeena river, where we camped the same day close to the mouth of the Lakelse for the purpose of having the Killutsal reserve, No. 1, surveyed by Mr. Green, This reserve was laid off by the late Indian Reserve Commissioner in 1892, and upon examination it was found that it did not include the burial-ground, to cover which, at the special request of the Indians and to avoid future trouble, I thought it most advisable to take in an additional five acres contiguous to the northwest corner, which not only included the grave-yard, but an Indian house as well.

Before arriving at the mouth of the Lakelse, I was met by Mr. Morrow, who, having returned from an Indian village near Kitselas canyon, to whcih place he had proceeded on the steamer to attend to some important Indian matters, joined our party and accompanied Mr. Green part of the time while engaged in the survey of the Killutsal reserve.

On the 26th, Mr. Morrow and I returned to Port Essington on the steamer *Hazelton*, which was going down river on her return from the Forks of Skeena.

Mr. Green completed the survey and returned to Essington on the afternoon of October 2, when the Indians were paid off, and we held ourselves in readiness to proceed to the Nass at the first opportunity.

On October 3, we were able to secure a passage on the steamer *Chieftain* to Port Simpson. We left at 7.30 p.m., and the steamer having to touch at Kitkahtla, we did not arrive at Port Simpson till next forenoon, having picked up Agent Morrow en route at Metlakatla. I may mention that, there being no accommodation for passengers on the *Chieftain*, Mr. Green and I had to sit up all night and suffer other inconveniences incidental thereto.

From Port Simpson we secured a passage to Port Nelson, at the mouth of Nass river, on a little steamer (equally uncomfortable) leaving for that place on the day following ; having secured a canoe and Indian crew, we started up the river, camping out two nights and arriving at Aiyansh village on the Kitlacdamax reserve, No. 1. As reported on July 11 last, No. 256-7, the Indians resident on this reserve petitioned that it should be divided between the people living in the village of Aiyansh, who have embraced Christianity, and those dwelling in the old village of Kitlacdamax, who still adhere to the old belief and customs, as there was considerable friction between them arising from disputes in connection with the land, &c. After several meetings with the Indians, who were not unreasonable in their demands, I was able to make a division that I consider equitable and whcih I am pleased to say was apparently satisfactory to both parties. While there, Mr. Green, in addition to running the dividing line, was able to retrace part of the boundaries of the original reserve and to reset some of the posts which had disappeared through decay or from other causes.

On October 14, we left Aiyansh, proceeding down river about eight miles to the new Indian village of Kwinaha; the old village situated near the head of the canyon on Kitwilluckilt reserve No. 7, was destroyed by fire about two years ago and the site abandoned on account of the bad water in its immediate vicinity, where, the Indians report, many women and children had been drowned in the past. The site selected for the new village is about a mile below that of the old one and closely approaches the northern boundary of the Zaulzap reserve, No. 29. There they have erected some eleven substantial and, mostly, modern houses. The point upon which they stand, although of small dimensions, and having natural boundaries, was not included in the reserve last named ; at the earnest request of the Indians the point above mentioned, consisting of about seven acres, was added to Zaulzap reserve and surveyed before

leaving. The natives were very grateful to the department for securing this piece of land to them and their children, &c.

Continuing down the river, I arrived at Lackaltsap reserve No. 9, on October 15, where the Indians complained of the unsanitary condition of the water-supply of the village owing to the proximity of their old burial-ground, which they asserted drained into the spring. On that account they said they had been obliged to abandon the old grave-yard and establish a new one. On examination it was found that the latter was not on the reserve, that it contained several graves upon which were erected expensive headstones. Under the circumstances narrated, I considered it advisable to reserve five acres for the purpose named, subject to the approval of the department and provincial government. This piece of land was also surveyed while on the ground. I may say that the Indians, when asked why they started a new grave-yard on land not included in their reserve without first having gained permission to do so, stated as their excuse that they had no one to apply to, the late agent not having visited them for years. This I do not believe to be altogether correct, and so informed them with a caution not under any circumstances to go outside their reserve in future.

Having completed the above described work and held a large meeting at Kincolith, I arrived at Port Essington on October 21, having called at Port Simpson and Metlakatla en route. During nearly every day from the time we first landed at Essington till our return, the rain was incessant and unprecedented even in that notoriously damp country, making the work very disagreeable and at times most difficult to accomplish.

The minutes of decision and plans of the several allotments referred to are being prepared and will be forwarded to the department as soon as Mr. Green can complete that work and the approval of the provinical government is obtained.

The survey of all such Indian reserves as have been laid off up to the present date has now been completed with the exception of those in Nemiah valley and a small one at Sechelt. The survey of the former, owing to the nomadic habits of the Indians for whose use they were allotted, it is considered advisable to leave in abeyance for the present, while the latter can be attended to by Surveyor Green in the near future.

I have, &c.,

A. W. VOWELL,
Indian Reserve Commissioner, B.C.

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,
SURVEY REPORT OF E. M. SKINNER,
VICTORIA, June 23, 1903.

A. W. Vowell, Esq.,
Indian Reserve Commissioner,
Victoria, B.C.

SIR,—I have the honour to present the following report upon the survey of reserves Nos. 10, 11, 9, 5A and 2A for the Douglas tribe of Indians, and the survey of reserve No. 4 for the Pacheena tribe on the west coast.

Acting under your instructions, I left Victoria on May 11 by the steamer *Charmer* and arrived at Agassiz station on the 12th. After a delay of one day at Agassiz to secure provisions and labour, I left on the 14th and arrived at Douglas at the head of Harrison lake the same day.

Having secured pack animals, I moved to the reserve on the 11th and commenced work the next day. Having completed reserves Nos. 10 and 11 with the connection on

the 20th, I moved the camp to reserve No. 5A on the 21st and commenced work the next day, completing the survey with the connections to reserves Nos. 10 and 9 on the 28th.

Having made the survey of reserve No. 9, I moved to reserve No. 2A on June 3 and commenced work the next day, finishing it the day after, thus completing all the work entrusted to me.

Moving down the road on the 6th, I arrived at Douglas on the 7th, where I was delayed for two days before being able to secure a passage down the lake. Leaving Douglas in the evening of the 9th, I arrived at Agassiz on the 10th, where I paid off the men hired there. Leaving Agassiz on the 10th, I arrived at Victoria the same day, and paid off the men the following day.

Receiving instructions to proceed to San Juan on the West Coast to survey one reserve for the Pacheena tribe, I left Victoria in the evening of June 14 by the steamer *Queen City* arriving at San Juan in the morning of the next day. Securing a canoe and two men, I proceeded up the river the same day. Commencing the survey of the reserve on the 16th, I completed it and moved down to Port Renfrew on the 17th, unfortunately too late to catch the steamer.

I was delayed at Port Renfrew until the 21st, when taking passage by canoe in the morning, I arrived in Victoria in the evening of the same day, and paid off the men taken from Victoria on the day following.

I inclose a schedule of the reserves surveyed and distance run, which will, I trust, prove satisfactory.

I have, &c.,

E. M. SKINNER.

SCHEDULE of Reserves surveyed by E. M. Skinner, 1903.

Date.	Reserve.	Acres.	Chains.	Miles.	Chains.	Remarks.
May..	No. 11 Douglas Indians	.....	86.96	.....	.....	
" .	Connection No. 11 to No. 10	.....	39.13	.....	.....	
" .	Reserve No. 10	.....	154.41	.....	.....	
" .	" No. 5	.....	227.19	.....	.....	
" .	Connection No. 10–No. 5	.....	144.33	.....	.....	
" .	" No. 5 to No. 9	.....	124.49	9	56.51	
June..	Reserve No. 9	.....	122.20	.....	.....	
" .	" No. 2 A	.....	114.39	.....	.....	
" .	" No. Pacheena	.....	93.41	3	5.90	
				12	62.41	

E. M. SKINNER,
Surveyor.

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,
SURVEY REPORT OF PETER BURNET, D.L.S.,
VANCOUVER, December 1, 1903.

A. W. Vowell, Esq.,
Indian Reserve Commissioner,
Victoria, B.C.

SIR,—I beg leave to report that I have completed the survey of the undermentioned reserves according to instructions received from you, dated respectively May 16 and June 17, 1903.

I first commenced operations on the Bonaparte reserve No. 1A, where I had some difficulty in ascertaining starting points, &c., as many mounds were obliterated and others were so evidently out of place as to be valueless.

The land of this reserve is of very little value either for agricultural or pastural purposes, portions of it are much broken by steep ravines and deep gulches. The timber on sections 2 and 3, township 22, is very scattered and inferior in quality; but on sections 33 and 34, fairly good timber is to be found.

From Bonaparte, I transported camp equipage as far as Ashcroft by wagon. From there to Highland Valley pack horses can only be used, there being only a trail. Ascertaining that no pack horses could be obtained after leaving Ashcroft, and knowing it would be necessary to move our camp frequently, I thought it best to take the horses through to Spence's Bridge. Those known as the Highland Valley reserves are No. 12 (Chilthnux), No. 13 (Quillonton), No. 14 (Enquotco), No. 15 (Squetankilhats). No one is residing within miles of any of these reserves. I had difficulty in finding the different starting points, but those being ascertained, the survey was comparatively easy. The lines as defined, I presume by D.L.S. Fletcher, I found approximately correct, and in most cases well defined.

Each of these reserves contains a large percentage of meadow-lands and is evidently used only as hay-lands and occupied only for a few days during the haying season. Were the meadows properly cared for, I believe them capable of giving large returns. Outside of the meadows the land is of little value, and what timber there is is of a very poor quality. I made traverse connecting the different reserves and also from eastern boundary of reserve No. 15 to the nearest available recognized Dominion survey (N.E. corner section No. 5, tp. 18, range 21, west of the 6th meridian).

From Highland Valley I proceeded to Spatsum and made correction survey of boundaries of reserves No. 11 and 11A; the land of these reserves is of little or no value for agricultural purposes. From Spatsum, I moved camp to No. 10 (Pokheitsk) and made correction survey. From there I proceeded to Spence's Bridge and made survey of reserves 4 and 4A. As will be seen from plan accompanying field notes of survey a large portion of No. 4 (as shown on original plan thereof) has been washed away by the Thompson river, thereby very materially lessening its acreage, as also the area intended to be given in No. 4A.

From Spence's Bridge, I proceeded by train to Lytton, and made survey of addition to reserve No. 18 (Klickkumcheen). This latter survey was made on August 11, and on August 12 myself and chainbearers returned to Vancouver.

I sincerely regret the long delay in completing returns, but it has in a great degree been unavoidable, as owing to two attacks of illness, I have virtually been incapacitated from work for many weeks, and am now only able to do a little office work occasionally.

I have, &c.,
PETER BURNET, *D.L.S.*

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,
SURVEY REPORT OF SIDNEY WILLIAMS,
QUESNEL, August 15, 1903.

A. W. Vowell, Esq.,
Indian Reserve Commissioner,
Victoria, B.C.

SIR,—I have the honour to report that in accordance with the instructions contained in your letter of May 2 last, I left Quesnel on May 19, travelling with Telegraph trail and Blackwater river, and reached Kluskus reserve No. 4 on Euchiniko lake on

the 26th. This journey was very trying on horses, as feed was very poor, practically no new grass having commenced to grow for this season; the distance travelled each day was consequently very irregular, and the horses wandered considerably, although very little actual delay was caused on this account.

In order to save time and give the horses as much rest between long journeys as possible, I made the surveys in the following order :—

First, Kluskus reserve No. 4.
Second, Kluskus reserve No. 1.
Third, Uhlcatcho reserve.
Fourth, Kluskus reserve No. 2.
Fifth, Kluskus reserve No. 3.

By reference to the map, you will notice that by this method it was unnecessary to travel over the same ground twice, excepting the journey to and from Uhlcatcho. Upon completing Kluskus reserve No. 3, I came direct to Quesnel, via the Nasko river, which journey was accomplished in four and a half days, as against seven days via Blackwater river.

Upon arriving at each of the four different locations, the weather was wet and sky overcast, and I was unable to take observations the first day. Fortunately in each case at Kluskus, I was able to commence traverses with a presumed meridian, so that no time was lost; at Uhlcatcho I employed the spare time in laying out a long base for triangulation of the lake.

I found everywhere a great deal of local magnetic attraction, the needle continually changing between N 23° 30 W and N 30° W. For this reason it was difficult to determine the precise magnetic variation.

A good deal of rain fell during the trip, especially at Uhlcatcho, although only two days were lost on this account ; it was, however, often difficult to keep the transit in working order on account of heavy rain.

KLUSKUS RESERVE NO. 1.

The south boundary from the lake to the southwest corner did not include a small grassy flat adjoining the lake and south of the creek. The Indians were anxious to have this flat included in the reserve, but as your plan clearly shows the boundary being near the creek, I did not feel that I was justified in making any change.

CHANGE IN UHLCATCHO RESERVE.

I found it necessary to extend this reserve forty chains further north in order to take in cabins at the north side of Avalka lake ; this increased the area by six hundred and forty acres in this direction. In order to retain the original area as nearly as possible, I extended the northern part of the west boundary south eighty chains and by so doing discarded six hundred and forty acres, this latter was mostly composed of small rocky peaks and was even more worthless than the rest of the reserve. These changes were only made after much deliberation, and will, I hope, meet with your approval. In other respects I found the sketch plans remarkably accurate.

As you will see by my diary, the party was engaged at Quesnel on May 18, and returned there on July 18 ; this period included sixty-two days, or deducting eight Sundays and two statutory holidays, fifty-two working days. As we made two short drives on Sunday and Monday, May 24 and 25, on account of horse feed, adding another day, this will bring up the total working days to fifty-three.

These days were employed as follows :—

	Days.
Preparing for trip	1
Travelling	19
Surveying	31
Lost through rain	2
	53

The total distance travelled as nearly as could be estimated was 379 miles as follows :—

	Miles.
Quesnel to Kluskus reserve No. 4	118
Reserve No. 4 to reserve No. 1	9
Kluskus to Uhlcatcho and return	140
Moving camp at Uhlcatcho	10
Kluskus to reserves Nos. 2 and 3	6
Reserve No. 2 to Quesnel	96
	379

This makes an average of twenty miles per day. I may say that the trails on our outward journey were in much better condition than on our return ; on the other hand, horses were in better order, and packs lighter returning. We were most fortunate in being able to ford the Blackwater at the crossing two days out from Kluskus to Uhlcatcho both going and returning, as during our stay at Uhlcatcho, this river rose several feet owing to the heavy rains and there was plenty of evidence to show that all the low country adjacent to the river had been inundated. Had this occurred while we were en route, we should probably have been delayed for several days. The time surveying was taken up as follows :—

	Days.	Chains.
Kluskus reserve No. 4	2½	170·00
Kluskus reserve No. 1	8	467·17
Uhlcatcho reserve	14	1,200·00
Kluskus reserve No. 2	4	322·23
Kluskus reserve No. 3	1½	120·00
Connection of two latter	1	90·70
	31	2,370·10

Making an average of 76.46 chains per day. This does not include extra lines run to tie in villages and 30 chains run at Uhlcatcho and abandoned.

From July 18 till to-day, my time was occupied in making up my accounts, paying off men, copying my field books and drawing the necessary plans.

I have, &c.,

SIDNEY WILLIAMS.

REPORTS OF PRINCIPALS

OF

BOARDING AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
ST. JOSEPH'S INDIAN HOME,
FORT WILLIAM, July 1, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—We have the honour to submit our annual report of the St. Joseph's Home, for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The St. Joseph's Home on the Fort William reserve, is situated on the couth bank of the Kaministiquia river, midway between East and West Fort William and about four miles from the picturesque Mount McKay.

Land.—In connection with the Home there is only one acre of land. It is divided into playgrounds, one for boys and the other for the girls, vegetable garden and flower garden. The land, when attended to properly, produces very good vegetables. During the season, though short, every thing in the garden has grown very rapidly.

Buildings.—The Home is frame on a foundation of stone. There has been during the past year, an addition built on the rear, making the Home 95 x 45 feet instead of 70 x 45 feet, as formerly. The attic in the main building has been opened up and made into a very nice room and is now used as a dormitory for the girls. The basement includes the kitchen, three furnace-rooms, play-room, refectories and laundry. On the first floor is the reception-room, boys' dormitory, lavatory, boys' infirmary, bath-rooms and chapel. The second floor comprises the girls' play-room, lavatory, bath-rooms, infirmary, work-room, clothes closets and private rooms, while on the third floor are the dormitories and a water-tank.

Accommodation.—There is ample accommodation for about seventy-five pupils.

Attendance.—The attendance at this institution during the year was 68 pupils; 43 girls and 25 boys.

Class-room Work.—The pupils attend school twice each day, with the exception of some of the larger girls who assist in the laundry once a week. They also have their regular time for study. The progress of the pupils has been very satisfactory. The inspector's report last week was favourable.

Farm and Garden.—Our garden, though small, is well filled with the different kinds of vegetables. The boys are busily employed keeping down the weeds. The soil though sandy, with a little care, produces excellent vegetables.

Industries Taught.—Cooking, sewing, darning, knitting, laundry and general housekeeping are taught the girls. The boys are taught to be neat and clean in their own apartments, and to work in the vegetable garden and also attend to the flowers and lawn.

Moral and Religious Training.—Careful attention is paid to the morals and the religious training of the pupils; every effort being made to instil into their minds their duty towards God and man. The conduct of the pupils on the whole has been very good.

Health and Sanitation.—In March an epidemic of fever and pneumonia broke out among the children not only in the Home but in most of the families on the reserve, from which a great may deaths resulted; it lasted for about a month. We lost two of our staff from its effects combined with the overwork and anxiety with the children. Two girls and two boys were victims also. A great many of the other children were very sick, but have recovered through the aid of the best medical assistance. All are now well again and the Home has been thoroughly disinfected.

Water Supply.—We have an abundant supply of water distributed to the different apartments by means of pipes attached to a windmill.

Fire Protection.—There is kept in readiness seventy feet of hose, two fireman's axes and three Star glass-lined fire-extinguishers.

Heating and Lighting.—The institution is heated by means of three large hot-air furnaces, wood being the fuel used. The only means at present of lighting the Home are coal oil lamps.

Recreation.—When the weather permits, the children enjoy outdoor games in their respective playgrounds. The games enjoyed most are, baseball, football, hide and seek, croquet, fishing and boating in season.

General Remarks.—The department has very kindly granted $1,000, for which we are indeed most grateful, as we found it a great help towards lightening our heavy debt on the new addition. We have suffered a double loss to our little staff, by those two deaths. The Superior, Mother Francis, was the right one in the right place here, so kind and self-sacrificing under the greatest difficulties. The other sister too, we thought indispensable, but God's holy will be done. Many thanks are due the pastor of the mission for the great generosity in supplying the Home with all the milk and vegetables used and many other things, free of charge, which is no small item.

I have, &c.,

SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH,

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
MOHAWK INSTITUTE,
BRANTFORD, August 11, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit herewith a report on the Mohawk Institute for the year ended June 30, 1904.

This institute was established by 'The Corporation for Popagating the Gospel in New England,' briefly 'The New England Company,' in the year 1831.

Land.—The land comprises three hundred and ninety acres, as follows : Lot No. 5 Eagles Nest, township of Brantford, ten acres; Crown grant (on this are the buildings) and one hundred and ninety-four acres by license of occupation; Mohawk Glebe lot, city, one hundred and eighty-six acres, rented.

Buildings.—The main building, 152 x 60 feet, is nearing completion. The boys' play-house, 74 x 20 feet, laundry, 30 x 20·3 feet, dairy, 18 x 13 feet, have been rebuilt, the former is a two and a half story building, basement of brick, at present occupied by the boys as a temporary home. The Mohawk parsonage, some distance from the institution proper, has temporary additions made to it for the accommodation of the girls.

New Buildings.—Barn, 97 x 35, but with brick basement containing stabling for thirty-five cows ; root-house and milk separating room ; cement silo, 30 x 16 feet; hog-pen, 72 x 30 feet; cement walls, metal roof and an ice-house, 18 x 14 feet.

Accommodation.—Accommodation has been provided in the new gymnasium for forty boys and in temporary buildings attached to the Mohawk parsonage for forty-three girls.

Attendance.—The returns for the quarter ended June 30, 1904, show an attendance of thirty-nine boys and forty girls, classified as follows :—

	Pupils.
Standard II	5
" III	22
" IV	13
" V	23
" VI	16
Total	79

The average attendance for the year was eighty-one. No new pupils have been admitted since April 19, 1903, when the institution was destroyed by fire.

Class-room Work.—The class-room work covers the full course of the public schools of Ontario. The progress has been satisfactory under the circumstances. One pupil passed the 'entrance' examination last month, another has been attending the business college in the city for eight months, taking a stenographer's course. She has not yet tried for her diploma.

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 from 1.30 to 4 p.m., and from 7 to 8 p.m.

All pupils in standards IV, V and VI have private study from 8.30 to 9.30 p.m.

Pupils form two divisions 'A' and 'B.' One week 'A' division attends school in the morning, and 'B' division in the afternoon; the next week the order is reversed.

The pupils in standards I and II are in school full time throughout the year.

Farm and Garden.—This department though suffering a great loss in produce, live stock and implements, shows a favourable balance of $583.82 besides doing work of clearing up the ruins and re-building to the extent of $1,000 or more. Products supplied to the Mohawk Institution, $1,270.23; cash sales, $3,271.18.

Industries Taught.—*Carpentry and Painting.*—Under instructions the boys do all the work for the institution and farm. The carpenter and his boys were employed in the erection of temporary and permanent buildings. The farm supplied gravel and sand and the boys mixed all the cement in the construction of the new barn, silo, and pig-pen, besides assisting in all the carpentry work.

Farming, &c.—Farming, gardening and the care of greenhouses form the principal occupation of the boys and include the management of a dairy of over thirty cows and the raising of pigs, also the cultivation of plants and flowers for market.

Girls' Work.—The girls are trained for domestic work, including sewing, knitting, dressmaking, cooking, baking, laundrying and butter-making. They make all their own clothing, also that of the boys with the exception of the best tweed uniform, an issue of which is purchased every other year.

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 Sanitation.—The sanitary condition of the boys' department is excellent; that at the girls' home is the best that can be arranged in temporary quarters.

The health of the pupils throughout the year has been very good, no serious illness or death has occurred.

Water Supply.—For the boys' department, water is pumped by means of a windmill from a well into tanks.

The girls in their temporary quarters, pump the water required from a well.

Fire Protection.—Both departments are furnished with fire-extinguishers.

Heating and Lighting.—The boys have a coal furnace in their play-house. The Mohawk parsonage was heated by coal-stoves and both departments are lighted with electricity.

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 teachers take their vacation, each pupil has half a day holiday, and the industrial work of the institution goes on as usual.

The boys are furnished in their playground 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.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
MOUNT ELGIN INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE,
MUNCEY, August 26, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit herewith a report on the Mount Elgin industrial institute for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The Mount Elgin industrial institute is very picturesquely situated on the west bank of the Thames river in the township of Caradoc and county of Middlesex, Ontario. The farm connected therewith consists of two hundred and twenty-five acres. Falling gently to the river it is therefore easily drained. The soil is rich and well adapted for agricultural purposes. Originally designed for forty pupils, it is found to be quite inadequate for the one hundred pupils now in attendance. To correct this, lands are leased from the Chippewa and Oneida bands.

Buildings.—The buildings are as follows :—Main building four stories, erected in 1895, the old building erected in 1847, refitted in 1897, and known at present as the annex, boys' recreation hall, laundry, barns, stables, carpenter and shoe-shops. The work of repairs to pig-pens, stock and straw barns referred to in our last report has been of great advantage during the year.

Grounds.—Extensive playgrounds lie to the south, north and west of the main building and overlook the winding Thames northward, presenting one of the most beautiful pastoral scenes in the province.

Accommodation.—Ample accommodation is provided for from one hundred and fifteen to one hundred and twenty pupils, together with a staff of twelve officers.

Attendance.—The number of pupils authorized by the department for this institute is one hundred. The attendance last year averaged one hundred and three.

Class-room Work.—Each pupil receives four days' instruction in the class-room and two days' in the industrial departments each week. Care is had to give the pupils the advantage of a graded school. Three pupils successfully passed the high school entrance and one the public school leaving at the examinations held in June and

July last. School-rooms, lavatories, dormitories, playgrounds, &c., are under the continued oversight and inspection of the teachers and matron.

Farm and Garden.—The farm is composed as stated above of two hundred and twenty-five acres. The soil is rich, well drained, and furnishes from year to year, except in special cases, supplies of flour, meats, vegetables and dairy products for use of pupils and staff. Being limited to two hundred and twenty-five acres, it fails to afford but a meagre quantity of pasturage. Dependence upon rental of adjoining lands alone meets this serious defect.

Industrial Work.—The boys are taught all branches of agricultural work, such as ploughing, harrowing, tile draining, planting and management of roots and corn, harvesting, &c., the rearing, training, &c., of horses and the management of stock in general. The girls are trained in domestic work, including baking, cooking, sewing, knitting, darning, dressmaking and laundry work.

Moral and Religious Training.—The moral and religious training of the pupils is kept constantly before the classes by the teachers in charge. Daily study of the Bible at morning and evening prayers is conducted by the principal. In charge of an officer all pupils attend public service each Sabbath morning. Sabbath school is held in the chapel each Sabbath afternoon, and a Bible study and a song service in the same place at 7.30 each Sabbath evening.

Health of Pupils.—The general health of the pupils during the year has been good. One pupil was dismissed suffering from that dread disease consumption. One boy died of spinal menengitis after a sickness of eight days.

Water Supply.—The water-supply, while abundant, is not of good quality, and is one of the problems demanding serious attention.

Fire Protection.—Chemical extinguishers and buckets filled with water are kept in the corridors of the main building. Though two small tanks are situated in the garret of the main building, they are not infrequently empty, depending, as they are, upon the continued workings of the windmill furnishing the pumping power. An effort is being made to remedy this by way of installing an hydraulic ram. The annex, laundry and extensive barns are entirely without protection.

Heating.—The heating of the main building and the annex is furnished by three coal-burning furnaces. In the annex recourse is had to wood stoves in extremely cold weather, the furnace not having sufficient power.

General Remarks.—Ready employment is found by pupils (both boys and girls) going out from this institute, the eagerness with which they are sought for bearing testimony to the efficiency of their training.

I have, &c.,

T. T. GEORGE,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
THE SHINGWAUK AND WAWANOSH HOMES,
SAULT STE. MARIE, July 22, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the annual report of the Shingwauk and Wawanosh Homes for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The Shingwauk and Wawanosh Homes are situated on the bank of the St. Mary's river, one and one-half miles east of, and within, the town limits of Sault Ste. Marie, in the province of Ontario.

Land.—The area of land in connection therewith is ninety-three acres, comprising park lots 1 and 2, in the Tarentorus township, which was acquired by purchase, and is held in trust by His Lordship the Bishop of Algoma. Originally forest, the land is now, with the exception of a few acres, cleared.

The soil is extremely light and rocky, and is best adapted for grazing purposes. A large portion of it is quite useless for farming purposes.

Buildings.—The buildings are admirably situated, fronting the river, and consist of:—

1. The Shingwauk and Wawanosh Homes, main block, 160 x 37 feet, with various wings and principal's residence adjoining, in which are the offices of the institution, main dining-hall, kitchens, visitors' entrance, staff-rooms, furnace-rooms, lavatories and dormitories.

2. A litle to the east, and almost in line with the main block, stands a large two-story frame building, 60 x 30 feet, the ground floor of which is used as a drill-hall and play-room for the boys. On the upper floor the senior school is held.

3. Some sixty yards from this building, standing due east and west, is the Bishop Fauquier memorial chapel, erected in 1883, with funds subscribed anonymously in England and Canada, as a tangible, enduring and useful memorial to Algoma's first revered bishop.

4. Hospital, with attendant's cottage adjoining.

5. Farmer's cottage and laundry, 20 x 40 feet.

6. Carpenter's cottage.

7. Factory.

8. Shoe-shop, barns, stables and various minor buildings.

Since my last report the following repairs and improvements have been effected, namely: repairs to roof of main building; new floor in laundry; painting part of the interior of the main building; connecting girls' lavatories with hot water; making bob-sleighs for farm; six fire ladders; wagon box; setting up new pump and engine in factory; laying new roof and floors and stalls in horse-stable and same in cow-stables; fencing girls' yard; glazing and general minor repairs.

Accommodation.—There is accommodation for one hundred pupils—sixty boys and forty girls—and twelve members of staff.

Attendance.—The number of pupils enrolled at the beginning of the year was fifty-seven—forty-one boys and sixteen girls. Seven girls and two boys were admitted, five boys and two girls were discharged, and two boys died of comsumption, thus leaving in residence at this date thirty-six boys and twenty-one girls, of whom nineteen are motherless, nine fatherless and seventeen have neither father nor mother. The average attendance for the year was fifty-six.

Class-room Work.—The school is divided into senior and junior divisions under the tuition of two teachers in separate buildings.

The curriculum followed is similar to that of the public schools of Ontario.

Both schools are equipped with automatic desks, large wall maps, globes and necessary school material, including kindergarten material for the juniors.

The hours of attendance are from 8.30 to 12 a.m. and from 1.30 to 5 p.m, Wednesdays and Saturdays excepted. Getting through the junior school is always a tedious and lengthy process, due largely to the pupils' lack of English. Once through, however, progress is much more rapid, and compares favourably with the public schools. Writing and drawing especially are natural talents with our boys and girls, and are always much commended by our inspectors.

Good progress has been made during the year. Twenty boys and six girls qualified for promotion into higher classes.

Industries Taught.—The boys are taught carpentry and farming. The girls sewing, laundry and general domestic work.

The carpenter-shop, or factory, is a detached building, 24 x 40 feet, situated some two hundred yards from the main building. Every branch of carpentry work is taught by an experienced foreman in charge. Our boys take readily to the work and soon become adept. Five boys were apprenticed during the year, to whom, and their instructor much credit is due for the efficient manner in which the repairs and improvements previously referred to in this report were carried out.

In connection with this branch of the work I desire to place on record my gratitude to the department for a much needed supply of carpenter's tools, together with a 12 horse-power gasoline engine, which latter, recently installed, supplies an economical and satisfactory motive power for the operation of our machinery and for pumping.

The farm, consisting of 40 acres, is worked by a practical farmer in charge, assisted by a number of boys.

The stock consists of three horses, one bull, four cows, four yearlings, four calves and four pigs.

The principal crops raised are hay, roots and vegetables. The soil is light and rocky and rarely yields sufficient produce for institution requirements.

An additional fifty acres of good first-class farming land adjacent to the schools would be an invaluable boon.

In the winter, the farmer and his boys are fully occupied in teaming, chopping and sawing wood and the care and feeding of the stock.

A great drawback is the lack of wood for fuel on the Shingwauk property, a want increasingly felt each year in view of the difficulty experienced in buying permits to cut on other lands at a reasonable figure and in the vicinity of the institution.

Moral and Religious Training.—The religious training is that of the Church of England. Pupils and staff attend the Shingwauk memorial chapel or St. Luke's pro-cathedral in town, morning and evening prayers are held in the school-room every day, and Sunday school on Sunday afternoons.

Methods of punishment are fines, impositions and keeping the pupil in to work on half holidays. Corporal punishment is administered in cases of gross disobedience only, and as a last resort.

Health and Sanitation.—While I have to report the death of two boys at Shingwauk from tuberculosis, the health of the pupils generally was satisfactory. We have been freer from minor sicknesses than for many years past, especially was this the case during the past winter notwithstanding its severity.

Drains are kept clean, lime and other disinfectants are used and all large refuse is placed in barrels and carted to the farm daily.

Water Supply.—An inexhaustible supply is obtained from the St. Mary's river by pumping into large tanks placed in the roofs of the main buildings and laundry.

Fire Protection.—Hydrants are placed at convenient distances outside of the main buildings and on each flat of the interior, to which one hundred feet of hose kept ready for use in case of fire, can be readily attached.

The main buildings are also supplied with chemical fire-engines and fireman's axes.

Heat and Lighting.—The main building is heated throughout by a hot-water system. The system works well and is satisfactory. Wood stoves are used for heating all detached buildings, including the chapel.

Coal oil lamps are used throughout the buildings for lighting.

Recreation.—Both schools have playgrounds; suitable games and gymnastic appliances are provided.

Indoor games, books and magazines are provided for the winter.

General Remarks.—The fifty-seven children at present enrolled are representatives of the Ojibway and Delaware tribes. They range from six to nineteen years in age; some are but beginning their career in the homes, while others well on in the 4th book are rapidly nearing the termination of their training, and will soon be qualified to earn their own living.

They are bright, teachable children, painstaking and plodding in their work, and speaking generally, have of late years shown an increasing appreciation of the advantages offered them, especially is this noticeable on the part of those who rely on the homes to eventually place them out in the world.

I have, &c.,

G. LEY KING,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
WIKWEMIKONG INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,
WIKWEMIKONG, July 1, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the annual report of the Wikwemikong industrial school for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—This institution is situated on the unceded portion of Manitoulin island, ten miles north of the Manitowaning agency, in the village of Wikwemikong, on the west shore of Smith bay. This location is quite undesirable, our grounds being surrounded and cut up by streets and Indians houses, we have no privacy, and are unable to enlarge our too narrow playgrounds.

Land.—About two hundred acres of land were granted by the Indians for the use of the missionaries, and are held in trust by them, for the combined purposes of the mission and the school. It is stony but otherwise fertile land, half of which is under cultivation ; the other half being used as pasture.

Buildings.—The boys and girls are accommodated in two separate institutions about two hundred yards apart, which are managed by two separate staffs, under the supervision of the principal.

The boys have their study and class-rooms, dining-room, wardrobe and play-hall in a two-story frame building, 50 x 100 feet. The rooms for the sick, the kitchen, and the dormitory are in the missionaries' residence, a three-story stone building, 110 x 60 feet, where also the staff have their quarters. The dormitory is particularly healthy, being 108 x 40 feet, with a ceiling 17 feet high, and is well lighted and ventilated. There are in connection with it, baths and water-closets fitted up according to the most approved method.

The girls and their staff are housed in two, three-story frame buildings connected by a passage-way, which are 108 x 50 feet, and 50 x 35 feet, respectively, and situated further up the hill. Their class-rooms, recreation-hall, and dormitories are now spacious and airy, since the completion of the addition mentioned in my last report. A few yards to the south stand a two-story frame structure, 40 x 50 feet, used for a wash-room and its various appurtenances, also for a store-room, bakery, &c.

Towards the shore of the bay is located the blacksmith, paint and carpenter-shops, combined in one building. The latter is provided with a gasoline engine, and the most necessary wood-working machinery. Closer to the shore is a little saw and planing mill. The shoemaker-shop and the bakery for the boys' school are located in an old mission stone building, where also is a music-room, set apart especially for the use of the brass band, composed of former pupils of the school.

There are yet to be mentioned in connection with the farm, three barns, each with a spacious stable in its basement, piggeries, henneries, sheds for agricultural implements and various carriages, wood-sheds, and ice-house.

Accommodation.—There is ample room to accommodate eighty boys, and as many girls with their respective staffs. However, with some remodelling of the boys' school, accommodation could be provided for one hundred boys.

Attendance.—The number of pupils enrolled during the year has been one hundred and thirty-six, of which seventy-seven were boys and fifty-nine girls, and the average attendance has been one hundred and twenty-six, the difference between the figures being accounted for by arrivals and departures during the year. The attendance of day pupils from the village has much improved with regard to the girls, but the boys have not been so regular.

Class-room Work.—This is governed by the official programme of studies for Indian schools. The time appointed for it, is from 9 to 11.45 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 4, with a short recess in the middle of each session. There is also another half hour of study at 7.30 p.m. for private reading, letter-writing, vocal music, &c. All the pupils were present in class the full time, except some of the older girls who spent a part of the time allotted to class-work in sewing. The pupils are about equally divided into four sections, two for the boys and two for the girls, and are under the tuition of four different teachers ; pupils of the lower grades being taught in the same room in connection with the day pupils.

The pupils are graded as follows :—

	Pupils.
Standard I	25
" II	41
" III	23
" IV	23
" V	12

The pupils generally, especially the more advanced boys, have made very good progress in the English language, and in arithmetic, and many would do credit to any public school in the country.

Farm and Garden.—The farm described above, is managed with a view of supplying the institution with meat, milk and butter. It is well stocked with cattle, sheep, horses, hogs, and chickens. The work is done partly by the boys, with the help of Indian workmen, under the guidance of an experienced farmer. About one acre is laid out as a kitchen garden. This department is quite profitable, and enables us partly to supplement the annual grant, which hardly covers two-thirds of our expenses.

Industries Taught.—The main industry taught to the boys is farming, because it is the best and almost the only means they will have of earning their living when out of school; but attention is also given to woodworking, blacksmithing, and shoemaking. Twelve of the older boys were especially applied to farming, four to woodworking, and two to shoemaking. Besides this special training, all the pupils are employed about two hours daily each, according to sex and ability, at various kinds of labour, such as sweeping, scrubbing, sawing and splitting fire-wood, dairying, gardening, feeding stock, helping in the kitchen, and on the farm. The laundrying is done at the girls' school, with the help of Indian women. The more advanced girls receive special training in sewing, knitting and dressmaking. The pupils generally take well to these kinds of labour.

Moral and Religious Training.—Particular care is given to this most important part of education. Special religious instruction is given the pupils almost daily, and whenever there is an opportunity they are reminded by advice, exhortation or reproof, to manifest in their behaviour the religious and moral principles they have learned. A weekly report on each pupil from all the officers of the institution, made public and sanctioned by rewards or reprimands, is an effective means of maintaining good morals and order. The pupils attend all the religious services of the parish church.

Health and Sanitation.—The sanitary condition of the school is all that can be desired. With the exception of a few occasional ailments, the general health of the pupils has been very good throughout the year.

Water Supply.—A windmill, and a tank holding fifteen thousand gallons, supply excellent water from the Georgian bay, for all purposes; galvanized iron pipes conducting it to all parts of the institution.

Fire Protection.—Hydrants in connection with the tank and supplied with two inch hose on every floor of the main buildings, constitute our principal protection against fire, besides some fire-extinguishers and fireman's axes.

Heating and Lighting.—Both schools are heated by box stoves and are kept comfortable. The boys' dormitory, however, and the staff's quarters, are heated by hot water in connection with the missionaries' residence. Light is furnished by kerosene lamps, except in the girls' school, where an acetylene plant has been installed.

Recreation.—Two hours daily besides Saturday afternoons, are given exclusively to recreation. The first Tuesday of each month is a free day for every pupil who has given satisfaction throughout the month. Both schools have playgrounds, although rather small, furnished with suitable games and gymnastic appliances, and play-halls for bad weather and evening recreations in winter.

General Remarks.—I may say confidently that the school is contributing largely to the elevation of the moral tone, the development of habits of thrift and industry, the enlightenment of mind generally, and the improvement of physique among our Indians. Our present pupils appreciate more their training and rise to a higher level than our former ones. They take more interest in reading, both books and newspapers, and develop to a certain extent an intellectual life.

I have, &c.,

J. PAQUIN, S.J.,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
CECILIA JEFFREY BOARDING SCHOOL,
RAT PORTAGE P.O., September 14, 1904.

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, 1904.

Location.—The Cecilia Jeffrey school is situated on the west side of Shoal lake, an arm of the Lake of the Woods, in Ontario, near the boundary of Manitoba, and just east of Shoal Lake reserve, No. 40. This school is reached by water from Rat Portage or Keewatin, being about forty-five miles from either in a southwest direction.

Land.—A peninsula, containing two hundred and ten acres, registered as D 492, between Rice bay and Shoal lake, was secured by the Presbyterian Foreign Mission Committee from the Ontario government. Several rocky ridges run across the land; but a large portion of it, though timbered, is excellent soil, and will be very suitable for farming or gardening. About seven and one-quarter acres have been cleared.

Buildings.—There is a building, 39 x 66 feet, of which two stories frames and the basement of stone. The latter contains two furnace-rooms, laundry, boys' and girls' bath-rooms, four store-rooms, and boys' and girls' recreation-rooms. The main floor has the school-room, book-room, boys' entrance and hat-room, children's dining-room, office, hall, parlour, staff dining-room and kitchen. The second floor has two boys' dormitories, four staff bed-rooms, staff bath-room and two girls' dormitories. There

is a clothes closet off each, staff bed-room and dormitory. The large attic is used for a store-room and for water-supply tank. There are two stables, one 12 x 20 feet, and the other 24 x 36 feet, in course of erection.

Accommodation.—There are four staff bed-rooms, and beds for twenty-five scholars although room for forty.

Attendance.—There are twenty-two children on the roll, thirteen boys and nine girls. The average attendance for the year was sixteen and four-tenths. This is an increase of five over last year. The attendance was better towards the end of the year.

Class-room Work.—The smaller children are in the school-room full time ; the large ones at least half of each day, but often more. The subjects taught are : reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, drawing, music, calisthenics and general knowledge. The progress made has been fair. The conduct is good.

Farm and Garden.—There are two acres under cultivation in four vegetable gardens. Two small islands, formerly cleared, are utilized for potatoes. Two and a half acres are seeded down with clover and timothy. The windmill is used with hose to water the garden, which is beside the school. About seven and one-quarter acres are cleared and one and three-quarter acres are fenced. The live stock consists of two horses, two cows, two yearlings, two calves and some hens.

Industries Taught.—The larger boys work out half days with the principal or farm-helper, building, clearing land, fencing, hauling wood or hay and doing other farm work. The girls are taught housework, washing, ironing, mending, cooking and baking.

Moral and Religious Training.—The scholars are taught to be obedient, truthful, honest and industrious. Their moral training is carefully looked after. They commit to memory Scripture verses. There is daily Scripture reading, singing of hymns and prayers ; and on Sunday, Sabbath school and church services.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the pupils has been good. The sanitary arrangements are very good. The sewer empties into Rice bay, west of the building, while the intake of the water-pipes is on the east side from Shoal lake. The water is good. All the rooms are well ventilated and have high ceilings. The plumbing connections from baths, closet, basins and laundry-tubs, have all been properly made at much expense.

Water Supply.—A windmill pumps the lake water into a tank in the attic, from which it gravitates in pipes to all parts of the building where needed. Hot water also is supplied through the range boiler. A large tank in the laundry holds the rain water, which can be drawn off in any part of the basement.

Fire Protection.—The windmill pump, the two tanks with iron pipe connections and one hundred and seventy feet of hose, with hydrants on each floor, give excellent fire-protection. Ladders, axes, water in pails and other empty pails, are kept in convenient places in case of fire. The scholars are drilled in getting out of the dormitories quickly, and in an orderly manner. They are also taught how to use the hose.

Heating and Lighting.—Two hot-air furnaces, cook stove and laundry stove, heat every part of the building comfortably. Light is supplied by coal-oil lamps.

Recreation.—In summer, much time is devoted to football, baseball, boating, swimming and other games. In winter there is coasting, skating and sliding, with indoor games in the evenings.

General Remarks.—There have been several changes in the staff. The missionary has been appointed principal, and the former assistant matron is now matron, in place of the principal and matron leaving. A female teacher and assistant matron have arrived and commenced work. A graduate of the Regina industrial school is farmer for the summer months.

I have, &c.,

AUSTIN G. McKITRICK,

Principal.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
KEEWATIN TERRITORY,
NORWAY HOUSE BOARDING SCHOOL,
NORWAY HOUSE, *via* WEST SELKIRK, MAN., August 20, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the fourth annual report of the Norway House boarding school for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The school is situated on the Norway House reserve at Rossville village. It contains a nice view of the Little Playgreen lake. We are about twenty-five miles down the Nelson river from the foot of Lake Winnipeg in the Territory of Keewatin.

Land.—The school does not own any land at present, but the Indian council proposed to set apart 640 acres for school purposes. Part of this—about one acre and a half—is being used as a garden at present. It still belongs to the Indians. There is only a very small part of the contemplated grant that can be farmed. The rest is rocks and muskegs.

Buildings.—There are nine buildings in connection with the school.

(a) The main building is frame, built on a stone foundation. It has sheeting, building-paper and siding on outside of studding, and sheeting, building-paper and ceiling on inside. It is painted inside and out. It contains the office, principal's rooms, two play-rooms, a dining-room, kitchen, store-room, sewing-room, two dormitories and four private rooms. This building is to be enlarged this fall, the addition to include three isolation-rooms and other rooms for the use of the school.

(b) School-house. A new building, used as school-room only. Its dimension are 32:6 x 22:6.

(c) One log storehouse. During the year this building has been sheeted with ship-lap.

(d) One small log stable, not in use.

(e) One large and one small closet.

(f) One root-house, which has been roofed during the year.

(g) A new log barn, containing stable, hay-mow, and loft, which was mentioned as in course of erection in last year's report, has been completed. There is room for twelve head of cattle. Its dimensions are 28 x 30 feet.

(h) A new wood-shed, 16 x 48 feet.

(i) A skating rink, 32 x 140 feet. This was built last winter and taken down in the spring. It is our intention to rebuild it again this winter.

A sidewalk extends in one direction towards the barn, and in the other direction past the reserve day school to our new school-house. It also is built around the main building. We have also a strong picket fence surrounding the school and the girls' playground and a small vegetable garden, one fence inclosing all. There is a substantial wharf for the use of the steam-tug in landing supplies. A large boat-house is in course of erection.

Accommodation.—There is ample room for sixty children and five of a staff.

Attendance.—Throughout the year the number of pupils in attendance at the school has averaged forty-six, four below the number for which a grant is allowed by the government. Detention of pupils by parents caused some trouble. Several pupils were allowed out on sick leave. Truancy is on the decrease.

Class-room Work.—The regular course prescribed by the department has been followed and steady progress has marked the work of the year in all the branches taken up. During the year the matron, who is a trained nurse, has given lectures to the girls on the subjects of health and cleanliness.

Farm and Garden.—By referring to the second heading of this report it will be seen that for some time at least farming is out of the question. We have a small garden in which the ordinary vegetables can be grown quite easily. We have this year potatoes, pease, turnips, carrots, beets, celery, cabbages, beans, and an abundance of fine lettuce and radishes.

Industries Taught.—Cooking, sewing, laundry, and general housekeeping are taught the girls. The boys are, on a small scale, taught gardening, the care of cattle, and carpentering.

Moral and Religious Training.—This is supplied by the personal efforts of all the staff. We also have morning and evening prayers, at which we read the Bible and explain and enforce it as well as we can ; sing suitable hymns and engage in prayer. Every Sunday evening we conduct a Sunday school at which the regular International lessons are studied.

Our school is within two hundred yards of the Methodist Mission church, in which divine service is conducted twice and occasionally three times every Sunday. The children are taken regularly to these services.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of the pupils has been a great improvement on that of last year. No virulent epidemics have swept through the reserve. The Great White Plague still lays his grim hand heavily upon the people, and we have lost five children through his untimely ravages.

As regards sanitation, everything that circumstances will admit is being done to keep the place in a healthy condition, including a drain, force pump to remove water from the cellars, and the securing of a supply of good water from the outer end of the wharf.

Water Supply.—We have abundance of good water in Little Playgreen lake, about one hundred yards from the school.

Fire Protection.—We have received one fire-extinguisher from the department. There are no fire-escapes. We have one barrel of water in each dormitory, with a pail and a number of pitchers on hand. Then in the kitchen are three barrels, all of which are filled twice a day, and from eight to a dozen pails standing close at hand. Axes are always on hand in the school.

Heating and Lighting.—The heating is done by means of two wood furnaces and quite a number of stoves. Some of the rooms are not connected with the furnaces and others do not receive sufficient heat from the present arrangement of pipes, so we supplement with stoves. The furnace pipes were not properly proportioned to the amount of work required when they were put in.

The lighting is done entirely by lamps burning kerosene oil.

Recreation.—The children all do some manual work in the way of chores for about one hour before school. They have the regular recess from work and one and a half hours at noon, during which they play out of doors at football, tag, skipping, swinging and many other games. From 4 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. they all, except the little girls, work. Then after supper they amuse themselves for about one hour before being called to prayers. In the winter very beneficial exercise is dervied from the skating rink, where hockey and tag are enjoyed by all.

I have, &c.,

J. A. G. LOUSLEY,

Principal.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,
PINE CREEK BOARDING SCHOOL,
WINNIPEGOSIS P.O., July 2, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my annual report for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—This school is situated on the west side of Lake Winnipegosis, at the mouth of Pine creek.

Land.—There is one hundred and sixty acres of land in connection with the school, which belongs to the Roman Catholic mission.

Buildings.—These consist of a large stone building, which is divided into the kitchen, refectory, store-room, dairy, cellar, class-room, sewing-room, recreation-halls, infirmaries, dormitories and rooms for the staff. There are also stables, carpenter-shop, ice-house and a shed for storing implements.

Attendance.—The attendance during the year has been very good.

Class-room Work.—As a general rule the children are doing well.

Farm and Garden.—About eight acres are under cultivation. The crop has been very good.

Industries Taught.—The boys are taught light housework, the care of cattle and horses and farming. The girls are instructed in sewing, knitting, cooking, dairying and the care of poultry.

Moral and Religious Training.—Each day one hour is devoted to moral and religious training.

Health and Sanitation.—The children are all in a good state of health.

Water Supply.—A pump run by a gasolene engine draws the water required for school purposes from the river.

Fire Protection.—The only fire-protection in the buildings is two water tanks situated in the attic and connected by hose with the different floors, and in addition to this there are two fire-extinguishers on hand.

Heating and Lighting.—The school is heated by steam and coal oil is used for lighting purposes.

Recreation.—The girls indulge in various games. The boys enjoy playing football and baseball.

I have, &c.,
W. CHAUMONT,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE BOARDING SCHOOL,
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, July 1, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my annual report for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—This school, which is not situated on a reserve, is about a quarter of a mile east of the town of Portage la Prairie. The post office address is Portage la Prairie.

Land.—There are two acres of land in connection with the school. This land is within the corporation of the town of Portage la Prairie, and is owned by the Presbyterian Church. It is very suitable for garden purposes.

Buildings.—The building is of frame, on a stone foundation, with a school-room adjoining. The three kitchen floors were oiled twice during the year and the remaining floors were painted. The dormitories were kalsomined and the kitchen walls were painted.

Accommodation.—The school can easily accommodate forty children with a staff of three.

Attendance.—The attendance has been very satisfactory in every way. We had an average of twenty-four pupils during the year.

Class-room Work.—As nearly all the children are under twelve years of age, they are not in advanced standards, but they have made good progress.

The pupils are graded as follows :—

	Pupils.
Standard I	5
" II	0
" III	12
" IV	4
" V	3

The children speak English only at school, and all express themselves much better in English than in Sioux. The older children read the daily papers and are quite as fond of reading books as white children of the same age.

Farm and Garden.—One acre is used for garden; the other acre is divided into two playgrounds, one for the boys and one for the girls. Each child is given some vegetable such as carrots, beets, pease, cabbage, &c., for which he is held responsible. They take a very keen interest in their work, and enjoy it better than any amusement the school can afford them. Each tries to surpass the other in growing the best vegetables. This year we have twenty different kinds of vegetables, besides potatoes.

Industries Taught.—In the house the girls have been carefully trained in habits of neatness and industry in the kitchen and laundry ; also in sewing and general housework. The boys are employed in cutting wood, gardening, carpentry and any other work which they are able to do.

Moral and Religious Training.—Thirty minutes in the morning and the same in the evening is devoted to religious instruction. They attend the services and Sunday school of Knox church. The conduct of the children has been good and corporal punishment is not necessary.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the children, on the whole, has been good. We were quarantined for thirty days, owing to an outbreak of measles, but only one case developed. One child took typhoid fever and was removed to the general hospital of this town, where he received excellent treatment. The ventilation of the school is good.

Water Supply.—There is a good well, which is amply sufficient for the needs of the school. There is also a soft-water tank in the basement, which will hold twenty barrels. From this tank water is forced into the attic by means of a force pump.

Fire Protection.—There are a number of exits should fire occur. We have two chemical engines, one axe and six fire-buckets. Our proximity to the town, with a telephone in the building, strengthens our fire-protection, as we could make use of the town fire-brigade.

Heating and Lighting.—The school is heated by hot air, except the school-room, which is heated by a stove. The building is lighted throughout by electricity.

Recreation.—The girls have many games in summer and skating in winter. The boys have football, baseball, skating and other athletic sports. The larger girls and boys spend much of their spare time, playing lawn tennis, which they enjoy greatly.

I have, &c.,

W. A. HENDRY,
Principal.

MANITOBA SUPERINTENDENCY,
RAT PORTAGE BOARDING SCHOOL,
RAT PORTAGE, ONT., July 1, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith a report of the Rat Portage boarding school for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The school is situated south of the town of Rat Portage on the shores of the Lake of the Woods

Land.—There are fifty acres of land in connection with this school, the property of the Roman Catholic mission, much of the land is rock.

Buildings.—The school-buildings are of frame construction, with brick veneer. The main building is 36 x 30 feet, three stories high with an extension at the south end, 36 x 26 feet, two stories high. Besides there is a lean-to kitchen attached to the rear of the main building, 16 x 14 feet. The other buildings are: cottage, 20 x 16 feet, with lean-to, 14 x 12 feet, resting on stone foundation; it contains a hall and three rooms, and is the principal's residence; workshop, 22 x 16 feet, resting on stone foundation, storehouse and laundry (under one roof) 48 x 18 feet; stable and carriage shed (under one roof) 46 x 18 feet; wood-shed, 20 x 12 feet; and log house, 18 x 14 feet, for the use of visiting Indians.

Accommodation.—The buildings contain accommodation for forty children.

Attendance.—The number on the roll is thirty; during part of the year we had thirty-four children in attendance.

Class-room Work.—The course prescribed by the department is followed. The children are making rapid progress.

Farm and Garden.—Five acres of land are at present under cultivation and furnish ample vegetables for the supply of the whole school.

Industries Taught.—The boys are taught the art of preparing the soil, of planting and attending to plants; while the girls are taught knitting, sewing, cooking, and housework in general.

Moral and Religious Training.—To this part of their education particular attention is paid. A certain time every day is devoted to Christian doctrine, and morning and evening prayers are said in the chapel.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health of the school has been good during the year. The sanitary conditions are good.

Water Supply.—The water is supplied from the lake.

Fire Protection.—Three fire-extinguishers are kept always ready for use. Ladders are at hand around the premises.

Heating.—The building is heated throughout by hot-air furnaces. There is a box-stove in the boys' hall.

Recreation.—One hour is allowed for recreation at noon, and the same in the evening. Skating and sleighing are the winter amusements ; boating is their favourite pastime during the summer season.

I have, &c.,

CHS. CAHILL, O.M.I.,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,
BRANDON INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,
BRANDON, July 1, 1904.

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, 1904.

Location.—The Brandon industrial school is a non-reservation school, situated three miles northwest of the city of Brandon, about the centre of a beautiful hill that once formed the bank of the Assiniboine river. The view looking over the Experimental farm to the city of Brandon is hard to surpass in Manitoba.

Land.—The land consists of the east half of section 28, township 10, range 19, a total of 320 acres, which belongs to the school. About 220 acres lies in the beautiful valley of the Assiniboine, most of which is suitable for agricultural purposes.

Buildings.—The main building is three-story, brick veneered, with a frontage of 102 feet. The other buildings consist of the principal's residence, farmer's residence, gardener's residence, barn and stables, piggery, hennery, ice-house, and two root-houses.

Accommodation.—There is ample accommodation for 125 pupils and all the members of the staff.

Attendance.—The average attendance has been 108, and the attendance in the school-room and on duty has been good.

Class-room Work.—The half-day system is followed with quite a few exceptions, among the smaller pupils, who attend school all day, especially during the winter months. During the year excellent progress has been made under the programme authorized by the department. On Saturday mornings all the pupils are at work, while the afternoon is regarded as a half holiday, used as a preparation for the Sabbath.

The pupils are graded at present as follows:—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Standard I.	16	19	35
" II.	9	5	14
" III.	8	18	26
" IV.	8	4	12
" V.	9	9	18
Totals	50	55	105

Farm and Garden.—We give special attention to these two departments, believing that the red man must obtain his livelihood from the soil and stock-raising. We have a garden of 4½ acres, including small fruits. We endeavour to teach in a practical way that the fruits, for which they roam the country, can be had in better quality with less labour at their own doors.

We have under cultivation 145 acres, with the following acreage : wheat, 26 acres; oats, 33 acres; barley, 6½ acres; corn, 5 acres; potatoes, 8¼ acres; roots, 5¼

acres; garden and small fruits, 4½ acres; summer fallow, 28 acres; meadow (native grass) 15 acres; brome grass, 13 acres. The remainder of 175 acres is uncultivated, and most of it is suitable for pasture.

Industries Taught.—The boys are taught farming, gardening, care of stock, carpenter-work, and such other work as will help them in their endeavour to solve the practical problems of after-life. The girls are taught cooking, laundry work, sewing and general housework. Thoroughness is insisted on in every department, quality always being worth more than quantity.

Moral and Religious Training.—Sabbath morning all the boys, and as many of the girls as can be taken, attend divine service in the city.

Sabbath school is held every Sunday afternoon, where all the members of the staff have each a class, and preaching service is conducted in the Institute every Sunday evening.

All the departments are closed on Saturday afternoons, and preparation is made for a proper observance of the Sabbath. On Sunday morning a clean child puts on clean clothes and clean boots (an object lesson—a clean day), and such lessons tend to help the children to lead clean lives.

Health and Sanitation.—Dr. Fraser, the school physician, has been faithful in his attendance, and special attention has been given to the physical well-being of the pupils. During the year one boy and two girls have died. Five pupils have been sent home on account of ill health.

Water Supply.—There is an abundant supply of good spring water, pumped by a windmill from a well on the hillside into two large tanks at the top of the building, and from there by means of pipes it is conveyed to all parts of the main building and to the principal's residence. The system gives good satisfaction, except in very calm weather. Hot water is supplied from a hot-water heater in the basement.

Fire Protection.—Some small chemical extinguishers are kept on hand. Fire-buckets are kept full of water at all important points. Hose is attached to our water supply. Our main protection is a large McRobie engine in the cellar, with a drum on each flat, with sufficient hose to reach to all parts of the same. There is a fire-escape from each of the four dormitories. But while our main building is well protected, and the principal's home has the advantage of being connected with the water system, we have no other protection for all the other buildings.

Heating and Lighting.—The building is heated by hot air. Three large wood and two coal furnaces are kept going during the cold weather, and they give good satisfaction, except one wood furnace, which is not strong enough to do the work assigned it. With care, frost seldom finds its way into any part of the building.

The main building, principal's residence and the barn are lighted by electricity supplied from Brandon. This is very convenient and safe.

Recreation.—The favourite outdoor sports are: football, baseball, croquet, marbles, skating and sleighing. We have a large play-room for the girls, where checkers, forte, crokinole, Indian clubs, dumb-bells and reading are greatly enjoyed.

General Remarks.—During the year eighteen pupils have been discharged and twenty-four admitted. The work in the class-rooms and throughout the industrial departments has been satisfactory. The farm and garden have been valuable for training and of great help to the institute.

The year has been one of advancement. The pupils have been healthy, cheerful, contented and obedient.

Many improvements have been made to the farm, garden and buildings, and by the aid of an excellent staff the whole institution is made as homelike as possible, and we trust something has been done, both by precept and example, toward the great and difficult task 'character-building.'

I have, &c.,

T. FERRIER,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,
ELKHORN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,
ELKHORN, July 1, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith my annual report for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The new home, which we have now occupied since September 7, 1899, 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, bounded on the north by the Canadian Pacific Railway main line, on the south by a fence running along the public road allowance. West of this and immediately adjoining it lies our farm of three hundred acres, being the southwest quarter of section four, and southeast quarter of section five, township twelve, range twenty-eight, which contains excellent pasturage and wheat-land. In addition, the department purchased twenty acres of good hay-land adjacent to the 'Gore,' all of which is owned by the Dominion government.

Buildings.—These comprise the main building, the principal's residence, the laundry and the gymnasium, which latter contains the carpenter, paint and shoe-shops, having been fitted up in the month of August, 1900, horse and cow stables, root-house, coal-shed, boys' and girls' outhouses, and implement-shed. There is also a small frame building covering the pump and sewage tank, with which is connected a windmill used in emptying the tank.

Accommodation.—There is accommodation in the school for one hundred pupils and fifteen of a staff.

Attendance.—The full complement of pupils has not yet been reached, but I have reason to hope that this will be accomplished during the ensuing year.

Class-room Work.—The results of the school work have been most satisfactory, no less than five pupils attaining standard VI at the final examination ; while the pupils in all standards have made really excellent progress. I gave a silver medal for competition in standard V, which was won by No. 206, Arthur Edward Smith, while two good conduct prizes, also presented by myself, were awarded to Nos. 191, Ambrose Pruden, and O 110, Sarah Cook.

Farm and Garden.—The promise of the early part of the season was fulfilled in the quantity of grains harvested, though owing to the unprecedentedly wet fall, the grade did not reach the highest standard. The returns were : eight hundred bushels of wheat, seven hundred bushels of oats, three hundred bushels of barley, six hundred bushels of potatoes, fifty bushels of onions, and large quantities of turnips, mangolds, carrots, beets and all the usual garden vegetables. This year again in spite of much delayed seeding the prospects are even better than last year, the wheat being splendid in quantity so far, as well as quality. For this year there are sixty-five acres in wheat, twenty acres in oats, five acres in barley, six acres of garden, and forty-five acres of summer fallow.

Industries Taught.—The boys are instructed in carpentry, shoemaking, painting, blacksmithing, harnessmaking, farming, gardening, and baking, while those not otherwise employed attend to the necessary work about the school including the lawns, drives, flower garden, and the smaller vegetable garden. The principal's grounds have been laid out with paths and flower beds, and trees have been set out around the

house, while some two thousand trees have been planted mostly to the north side which are nearly all doing splendidly. Along the eastern side the grounds have been fenced in and the principal's residence has also been inclosed with a picket fence. The girls perform all the necessary household duties very efficiently and in addition are instructed in sewing. knitting, cooking, washing and housework generally.

Religious and Moral Training.—Particular attention is paid to this, everything being done with a view to elevating the moral tone of the pupils. Prayers are held both morning and evening with occasional addresses, and on Sunday all the pupils attend Saint Mark's church for divine service twice, while Sunday school is held on Sunday afternoon in the institution for the smaller children, the larger ones attending Saint Mark's Sunday school.

I am very happy to say that many of my pupils show that our efforts in this direction are having due effect. I can also say with pleasure that the general conduct of the pupils during the year has given me the greatest satisfaction, punishment having been inflicted in but few instances.

Health and Sanitation.—One death only occurred during the year, No. O 109, Rachel Henderson, having died of tuberculosis on July 16. No. O 111, Agnes Cook, has recovered from a severe attack of typhoid fever which kept her in bed for over two months ; while another pupil with pneumonia was taken home when nearly convalescent. Other than this, there has been no sickness beyond the usual minor ailments, and but few of these.

The drainage system is working satisfactorily. There is a large tank at a considerable distance from the main building into which the sewage is carried from the bath-rooms, kitchen and laundry, and this is pumped by a windmill well out on the open prairie.

The outhouses for boys and girls are erected at a safe distance from the school building so that any danger of defective sanitation from this source is obviated.

Water Supply.—The general water-supply for the school is from a well in the centre of the building; while for drinking purposes, a subsidiary well has been dug, a short distance from the school.

The water is pumped to a tank at the top of the school by means of a 'Rider-Ericsson' hot-air engine and each floor has its service therefrom. An attachment has also been added on the basement floor whereby the main drains can be thoroughly flushed, either from the pump or from the tank.

Fire Protection.—The school is furnished with the McRobie fire-extinguisher in the basement, with connections and hose on all floors, also two Babcock and six Stempel extinguishers, the latter conveniently placed throughout the building, while each dormitory has a fire-axe.

Fire-drill is held at regular intervals during each month.

Heating and Lighting.—The lighting is done for the present by ordinary coal-oil lamps, but it is hoped that at no distant date the town will adopt a lighting system which will no doubt be extended to the school and so do away with the obvious dangers and disadvantages of the present arrangement.

The heating is done by hot water, supplied by two furnaces, a system which has been found inadequate, but I understand that the department is making arrangements to have this remedied before winter.

Recreation.—Football is always the principal game. There is a good football ground, which is also used for baseball and other games, which are all encouraged as much as possible, so long as the general work is not interfered with.

For the boys in winter, there is a gymnasium, fitted with the usual apparatus and warmed by a wood stove, which makes an excellent playground, while the girls have their own play-room in the main building.

Both boys and girls avail themselves of the excellent tennis court, while the girls have their football, swings and other amusements. During the summer evenings,

after the work is done, the girls are frequently taken for walks by one or other of the lady members of the staff.

Though there is at present no regular band instructor, the band maintains its efficiency and has on several occasions made a satisfactory appearance in public.

General Remarks.—In March the Assistant Commissioner visited the school on a brief tour of inspection, together with Principal Sinclair of the Regina industrial school, the Rev. Dr. McKay of Toronto and Mr. Menzies of Winnipeg.

On April 25, the Lord Bishop Coadjutor of the diocese visited the school and addressed the pupils.

On June 13, I went away to visit the Pas, Lake St. Martin and Fairford reserves, returning in September. I brought several new pupils with me and found the prospects to be very encouraging as regards the future.

On December 11, I left again for a few days visit to St. Peters and Brokenhead reserves, securing more pupils.

On June 29, the matron, Miss Dickin, who has been connected with the school for over eight years, severed her connection here to be married. Her departure was regretted alike by pupils and staff. She was always efficient in all branches of her work and her duties were performed with a zeal and thoroughness which left nothing to be desired.

There has been no further incident during the twelve months to disturb the even tenor of the work. Everything has gone smoothly forward. The pupils are all cheerful and happy, performing contentedly the duties assigned to them, while my efforts for their benefit are ably seconded by the members of the staff, and I cannot but feel deeply thankful for all the blessings which, I feel, are attending the work here.

I have, &c.,

A. E. WILSON,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,
RUPERT'S LAND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,
MIDDLECHURCH, August 15, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report on the affairs of the Rupert's Land industrial school for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The school is located in the parish of St. Paul on the west bank of the Red river, about seven miles by the main highway, north from the city of Winnipeg.

Land.—The farm comprises all of lot eighteen in the aforesaid parish and contains about three hundred and seventy-five acres; the same was purchased from the authorities of the Church of England. One-half the land is only fit for hay and grazing purposes; the most of the balance could be cultivated in ordinary years.

Buildings.—The buildings consist of the main building of solid brick, on stone foundation. In this building are the dormitories, the staff's quarters, offices, dining-room, kitchen, wash-rooms and water-closets. A large frame building, the upper story of which is used as class-rooms and the lower as a recreation hall; a printing office; a frame addition to the main building used as a laundry and sewing-room; adjoining this is the engine-house; in the same yard is the horse-stable, granary and store-

house, carpenter-shop, coal-shed, blacksmith-shop and ice-house. In the front and to the left of the main building is the principal's residence, a two story building on a stone foundation, having all modern conveniences. In another yard is the piggery, cattle stable and implement-shed, adjoining which is a new root-house built last summer, size 14 feet 6 inches by 64 feet, with solid stone wall 8 feet high and 2 feet thick, with frame above, with a capacity of five thousand bushels of grain and roots.

Accommodation.—The school will accommodate sixty boys and fifty girls without crowding, in all one hundred and ten besides ten of a staff.

Attendance.—During the year sixteen pupils were admitted and twenty-one struck off the roll, having been absent for a length of time, and one died. On June 30, there were eighty-nine pupils enrolled, and eighty-three in attendance from the following districts :—

	Pupils.
St. Peter's reserve	27
Fisher River reserve	12
Lac Seul reserve	7
The Pas reserve	9
Rainy River reserve	7
Moose Factory reserve	13
Rat Portage reserve	1
Fort Alexander reserve	1
Split Lake reserve	3
Grand Rapids reserve	3

Class-room Work.—This work is in charge of two competent teachers, a male teacher in the senior room and a female in the junior. The prescribed programme of studies is being followed as nearly as possible. The half-day system is being followed and good progress is being made, in some instances most remarkable. The grading of the pupils in attendance for the June quarter was as follows :—

	Boys.	Girls.
Standard 1	18	16
Standard 2	4	10
Standard 3	5	5
Standard 4	11	8
Standard 5	3	3

Farm and Garden.—There is about seventy acres in crop : sixty-five acres in oats and barley and five acres in potatoes and other field and garden vegetables, also five acres in feed, pease, oats, rape and millet, and about forty acres summer fallow.

Last year there was over one hundred acres under crop which was looking well, when on July 15, we had a very heavy hail-storm, which destroyed everything, leaving us about 350 bushels of poor potatoes and a few dozen cabbage, and not a bushel of grain. This year we have broken ten acres.

Live Stock.—The live stock consists of six horses, one yoke of oxen, nineteen cows, one bull, two steers and fifteen young stock, from two to eighteen months, also fifty-four pigs, all ages.

Industries Taught.—The boys are taught farming, gardening and the care of stock, special attention being given to the same, also carpentering, plastering, kalsomining and blacksmithing ; all the work around the institution in the above lines being done by the pupils.

The girls are taught housework in all its branches, sewing, knitting and fancy-work, samples of which were shown at the Dominion Exhibition in Winnipeg in July, for which the school was awarded first prize and a diploma.

Moral and Religious Training.—The parish church being only one hundred yards away, the services are attended morning and evening by the pupils and staff. Sabbath school is held on Sunday afternoons, in the institution, also morning and evening prayers, as well as a mid-week service by the pastor of the parish. The work of the class-room during the week is also opened with Bible-reading.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the pupils during the year, as a whole, has been very good, there being nothing more than what is to be expected where there are so many children. During the year one child died, one was allowed to go home and three others are to be sent home ; all consumptives. During the winter about half the children had mumps ; in June there were seven cases of diphtheria of a mild type.

Water Supply.—The water for the use of the institution is taken from two wells. That for drinking and making tea, from a well in the middle of the main yard. That for the general use, is taken from a well near the buildings and is pumped into tanks in the attic by a gasoline engine and is conveyed through the building by pipes.

Fire Protection.—The fire-appliances consist of a large McRobie chemical extinguisher placed in the basement, with connection on each flat, a number of small extinguishers (chemical) located throughout the buildings, besides a number of grenades. In addition there are two tanks on the third floor, holding about one thousand gallons of water, having hose connection on each flat. These tanks cannot always be depended upon owing to the unreliable means in use to keep them supplied, viz., a gasoline engine.

Heating and Lighting.—The building is heated by three hot-air and one hot-water furnace ; the school-room and other buildings, with stoves ; the principal's residence, by hot water. The system is expensive, with a large element of risk from fire, and can be improved upon. The buildings are lighted by electricity, the power being derived from a ten horse-power gasoline engine, and is not to be relied upon, and is also expensive.

Recreation.—Outdoor games of all kinds are encouraged, football being the most popular with both boys and girls. The greater portion of their play-time is devoted thereto, and I find it has a most beneficial effect. I find, the more play, the more work and the harder study.

General Remarks.—The military feature of the institution has been done away with, at least for the present, also the band practice, the latter principally owing to the lack of instruments and a leader ; the former because there is no drill instructor, and we think the time given to both can be devoted to those things which will be more beneficial to those having to make their way in the world when they leave the institution.

In conclusion I am pleased to say that there has been considerable progress made during the year by the pupils, and while there are many things to discourage the principal of an Indian industrial school in the discharge of his duties, he finds many things to brighten the way. It is not possible for those who do not take an interest in the work and visit the institutions and see for themselves, to understand what there is to be contended with and the good that is being accomplished. The institution was represented at the provinical exhibition in July, 1903, by an exhibit of the work of the pupils, for which the first prize was awarded. This year there was another exhibit at the Dominion exhibition, for which a first prize and a diploma has been received. The work exhibited was all done by the pupils and was examined by hundreds of visitors, and I can assure you it was most gratifying to listen to the comments passed by many as they made a critical examination of the work, each piece having the name and the age of the pupil who did the work written thereon. We also sent pupils to represent the school at a field day of all the schools in the county of Selkirk, held in the town of Selkirk. Over two hundred from the two thousand competed in penmanship and one of the Indian pupils carried off second prize, so that the work is not without its encouragements. For all this, I have to thank, for earnest efforts put forth, the members of my staff.

I have, &c.,

J. THOMPSON,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,
ST. BONIFACE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,
ST. BONIFACE, June 30, 1904.

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, 1904.

Location.—The St. Boniface industrial school is situated on Meuron avenue within the city limits of St. Boniface, one mile from the city hall and two miles from Winnipeg.

Land.—Forty-four acres are in connection with the school. This land is divided into two lots, one is situated east of Meuron avenue extending to the Seine river, it is eighteen chains long and said to contain 30 acres more or less. The other lot is west of Meuron avenue and has an area of about of 14 acres. This land is a portion of lot eighty, of the parish of St. Boniface, according to the Dominion government survey of said parish. It was selected by the late Archbishop of St. Boniface and offered to the department for the purpose for which it is now used, in August, 1896, and for the purchase of which a cheque for $2,000 was issued by the department. The lot east of Meuron avenue is to a certain extent the remains of an old brick-yard, and is of very little use for anything but pasture, as weeds are very plentiful.

Buildings.—The main building is in a fair state of repair. No new buildings have been erected this year.

Accommodation.—There is room in the dormitories for 110 children; 55 boys and 55 girls; if we could recruit to that number. There is also accommodation for a staff of 16 persons.

Attendance.—The recruiting of children is becoming more and more difficult. Still, this year fifteen pupils have been secured. Three were discharged, two died. The last annual report showed 70 pupils, this year it shows 80. Five girls and three boys deserted, but were brought back to the school the same day.

Class-room Work.—The programme of studies provided by the department is followed. Progress is fair. Singing lessons are given daily. The children are very fond of music. Visitors are always delighted with the singing, band music, fancy drills and dumb-bell exercises.

Farm and Garden.—Last fall, 750 bushels of potatoes were harvested. From the garden, we had onions, cabbages, carrots, turnips and other vegetables. Hay could only be obtained at a very high price, so we had to slaughter the stock, which consisted of fourteen animals (cows). Four horses only were wintered. Since spring, two horses were sold and four cows bought.

Industries Taught.—Besides carpentering, which consists only of repairs, no other trade is taught. The proximity to the city, where even skilled mechanics do not find steady work, prevents us from keeping a blacksmith and shoeshop. Farming would offer good prospects of profit, if we could get land for farming and stock-raising. The bigger boys are always anxious to work on the farm whenever they have something to do. The girls have made good progress in learning all things connected with housekeeping ; cooking, washing, cleaning, making and mending clothes.

Moral and Religious Training.—Great care is taken with this part of the children's education. Religious instruction is given daily by the principal.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the children has been good. The ventilation, though not perfect, is satisfactory; disinfectants are freely used.

Water Supply.—Our well continues to supply excellent and abundant water, which is pumped up by a Bulldozer Myers power pump, worked by a two and a half horse-power gasoline engine.

The quickness in obtaining the water makes this kind of outfit a most suitable one for the institution. The average consumption of water reaches almost two thousand gallons a day, and the average cost of gasoline per day is six and a half cents for pumping the water needed in school and stables.

Fire Protection.—We have a McRobie fire-apparatus with two hundred feet of one-inch rubber hose. Six Dominion fire-extinguishers, six fire-axes and a dozen fire buckets distributed throughout the building.

Heating and Lighting.—Our system of hot-water heating continues to give good satisfaction. The acetylene gas plant gives satisfaction.

Recreation.—There is a recreation-hall on each side of the house opening to large playgrounds. The children are fond of games and enjoy the fresh air. They are most happy when they can be outside.

General Remarks.—Thanking the department for the kindness shown to us during the past year,

I have, &c.,

N. A. RUELLE,
Principal.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,
BIRTLE BOARDING SCHOOL,
BIRTLE, September 1, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the annual report of the Birtle boarding school for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The school is situated on the north banks of the Birdtail river within the limits of the town of Birtle and twelve miles from the nearest reserve.

Land.—There are twenty-five acres owned by the school and twenty-five acres of rented land, all situated in the municipality of Birtle in 6, 17, 26. The greater part of the land is taken up with hill and ravine, which makes it unfit for cultivation though it affords a fair pasturage for the cattle. Ten acres are under cultivation.

Buildings.—The school is a two and one-half stone structure with a good basement. The barn is a frame building with a stone stable and root-house beneath. Last fall it was accidentally burned down but was replaced before winter set in. There is also a frame hen-house and a log ice-house.

Accommodation.—The building will easily accommodate sixty pupils and a staff of five.

Attendance.—The year opened with forty-two in attendance and closed with the same number. Six new pupils were enrolled and six names were taken off the roll, two of these being transferred to the Regina industrial school. The grant-earning number is forty.

Class-room Work.—The pupils are making very good progress under Miss McGregor's efficient teaching.

Farm and Garden.—We broke four acres of new land last summer, which makes ten acres in all now under cultivation. This furnishes us with abundance of vegetables, but we can grow very little grain. The boys would like to have fields of wheat and oats, but with our small farm of hilly land this is impossible.

Industries.—The girls are taught general housework which includes cooking, laundrying and sewing. During the winter they did considerable bead-work, making belts and chains. These supplied them with pocket money. They also assist with the milking and garden work, some of them having small gardens of their own. The boys are taught the care of stock, gardening and carpenter work ; they also have their own gardens and are competing for a special prize offered by the Agricultural Society for the best collection of vegetables from the school.

Moral and Religious Training.—The children attend church services and Sabbath school in the Presbyterian church of the town of Birtle. Every Monday evening the pastor of the church has a meeting for them in their own school-room. Besides this they have daily readings and memorizing of passages.

Health and Sanitation.—We have had comparatively little sickness during the year. During the spring a number of the more delicate ones have been sleeping out in tents and it has improved them very much. On account of the favourable situation of the school the sanitary conditions are good.

Water Supply.—A good system of water-works has just been installed. A well, 900 feet away from the school, supplies the water through a two-inch pipe to a forty barrel tank in the basement. A gasoline engine and pump elevates it from this tank to a similar one in the attic. This has been a dry summer, but there has always been a fair supply on hand. The water is very good, though rather hard for washing. Another forty-barrel tank in the basement collects rain-water from the roof.

Fire Protection.—Connected with the stand pipe on each flat is a two-inch canvas hose sufficient to reach any part of the building. This is kept neatly folded on a swinging rack and ready for any emergency. With a forty-barrel tank full of water in the attic and an engine to keep it full, we should be able to fight any fire. A fire-escape which may be reached from either wing, affords a means of exit if needed.

Heating and Lighting.—The building is heated by three wood furnaces. A much more even and regular temperature could be maintained and at less expense were a hot-water heating system installed. With the present water system this could more easily be introduced. The building is lighted by acetylene gas from the Birtle generator. This gives a very safe and satisfactory light.

Recreation.—The children enjoy the usual out-of-door sports:—coasting, skating, football, tennis, skipping, &c.

I have, &c.,

E. H. CRAWFORD,
Principal.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
ST. JOHN'S HOMES—BLACKFOOT RESERVE,
GLEICHEN, ALTA., August 31, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith a report of the St. John's Homes (the Old Sun's and White Eagle's boarding schools) on this reserve, and to acknowledge the substantial government aid received by us during the fiscal year just ended.

Location.—The homes are situated—the one at the north camp and the other at the south—abtout ten miles apart, and within a few miles of the Bow river in each

case. That at the north camp is known as Old Sun's school, and the other as White Eagle's. In each case a few acres of land have been inclosed in connection with the school, portions of which are under cultivation. At the south camp nothing is being done at present, pending arrangements for permanent amalgamation of the two schools. The post office, Gleichen, is just under five miles from Old Sun's, and about ten miles from the White Eagle boarding school.

Buildings and Accommodation.—The Old Sun's boarding school comprises the boarding school proper, the school-house, laundry and coal and wood-shed. The White Eagle's school is a large and attractive-looking building, erected in 1894 at the particular request of the south camp Indians, who approached the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs in person in the matter. In the hope of effecting an amalgamation of the two schools, and with a view to considerable financial savings, the boys from White Eagle's were removed to Old Sun's school, and there should be as little delay as possible in the removal of the building also, if the amalgamation is to be maintained. The cramped condition of our present quarters and the unsanitary surroundings make it most essential that the White Eagle's school should be removed with all convenient speed. It is now three years since repairs and improvements were effected, pending the removal of the buildings.

Attendance.—The number of children on the school roll at the end of the fiscal year was twenty-four boys and sixteen girls.

Class-room Work.—The results here have been much more encouraging owing to a greater readiness to speak up and to practise newly acquired knowledge. We feel the need of a reader for the older children more adapted to the needs of their future lives than the general Canadian Reader now in use.

Industrial Work.—About three acres of farm and garden have been well looked after by the boys, and we gathered a fairly good crop of potatoes and other vegetables, but have suffered considerably from the gopher pest. The home flower garden with its trees in luxuriant foliage and its well-kept lawn reflects great credit on those in charge of it. Besides this, the children are engaged daily in the stable and housework—feeding and grooming horses, milking cows, making the butter and bread, mending and making clothes and laundry work, besides all the general routine of house duties.

Moral and Religious Training.—Special attention is given to this side of our work. Apart from the regular Sunday services—one of which is conducted altogether in their own language—the children receive definite religious instruction in the Sunday school and at morning and evening prayers each day, all of which is supplemented by simple practical ethical instruction in and out of school. The children are very happy, and many of them show a true desire to live good and useful lives.

Health and Sanitation.—Nothwithstanding the ample medical provision available the general health of the children and staff has been much below the average, and is traced to the unsanitary surroundings and the condition of the well water.

Water Supply.—Though the supply is abundant, the condition of the subsoil through which it passes is more or less contaminated.

Fire Protection.—A number of fire-extinguishers and hand-grenades are conveniently placed throughout the building, and buckets and tubs of water are kept where they can be easily got at in time of need. Axes are also kept ready for use. Fire-escapes outside the building are permanently connected with the dormitories and are easy of access.

Heating.—The boarding school is heated by stoves only and the school-house by a furnace. Asbestos safes are used.

Recreation.—Every attention is given to recreation, and the children are encouraged to be as much as possible in the open air. They are taught to amuse themselves with a variety of games, and we endeavour to oversee and guide their recreation.

I have, &c.,

H. W. GIBBON STOCKEN,
Principal.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
BLOOD (ST. PAUL'S) BOARDING SCHOOL,
FORT MACLEOD, ALTA., July 30, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I beg to submit my annual report.

Location.—The Blood (St. Paul's) Church of England boarding school, is situated fourteen miles south of Macleod, which is our post office. The school is opposite the agency headquarters on the Blood reserve and is separated from it by the Belly river. The porperty is owned by the Church Missionary Society, London, England.

Land.—The land, which is beautifully situated and well watered, comprises an area of 160 acres. Its natural features are very striking. On the north and east it is bounded by the Belly river ; on the south it is surrounded by trees with the Belly buttes forming the background, while on the west is a large plantation. The soil is of a sandy nature, and is well adapted for gardening.

Buildings.—The buildings, which with one exception are uniformly painted, present a very pleasing appearance. They are built around a square. Beginning at the northwest corner of the western side is the girls' home, a commodious building with accommodation for fifty girls. Immediately south, stands the school-chapel, a very neat structure and well-lighted. At the end of the west side is the horse-stable with harness-room, granary and coach-house under the one roof. On the south side and at the west corner is the coal-house and carpenter's shop. To the right is the general store or provision house. Next in order is the boys' home with accommodation for sixty boys. This building resembles the girls' home, but is on a less pretentious scale. At the east side of the square and at the south end corner is the meat-house, while some fifty yards to the north of the latter is the hospital ; this is a well-planned building containing two large general wards, dispensary, bath-room and kitchen. On the north side is the principal's house.

Accommodation.—There is room for eighty pupils and a staff of eight persons.

Attendance.—The pupils being in residence ensures regularity. The number on the roll is forty.

Class-room Work.—The work done in the class-room is of a high order. The pupils are interested in their studies, and every advantage is given whereby they may acquire English. Miss Wells, the teacher, is a capable and thorough person.

Farm and Garden.—The instructor in this department knows his work thoroughly. Under his supervision all boys over fourteen years of age are taught how to handle and care for horses and cows. They are further instructed in the use and care of farm machinery and implements.

Industries Taught.—The boys learn farming and gardening ; the girls are instructed in housekeeping, cooking, butter-making and dressmaking.

Moral and Religious Training.—This being a Church of England school, the pupils receive definite church teaching ; they are taught to love their Bible and prayer-book. Matins and evensong are said every day.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the pupils has been good during the year. An epidemic of mumps visited the school, but was of a mild form. Our dietary table is a good one I believe. Attention is paid to the proper cooking of meats and the baking of bread. Vegetables and milk form a valued addition to their food.

Everything is done that is possible from a sanitary standpoint. Pits are disinfected and no refuse is allowed to lie above the ground.

Water Supply.—Two wells having excellent flows provide water for use in the buildings. The garden contains a well which a windmill governs.

Fire Protection.—In an institution like this, I was surprised to see such little provision for coping with a fire. Four axes, a dozen fire-buckets, two chemical engines which have outworn their use, and one hand-grenade, constitute our apparatus in an emergency. We have one thing in our favour, for we have a water-supply at or near each dwelling, but apart from this I should say we are very badly equipped as far as material is concerned. The exits from the several buildings are sufficient to ensure perfect safety to life.

Heating and Lighting.—The dwellings are heated by hot-air furnaces and stoves; the latter are considered preferable in frame buildings. We find that the consumption of fuel is greatly lessened by having recourse to good stoves—the hot air blast stove is the one we use—instead of furnaces. It is altogether likely that stoves will provide all the heat in our boys' home this coming winter.

The common oil lamp is the means used in lighting our buildings ; it is carefully handled and as the lamps are trimmed and filled every day when in use, there is the minimum of danger from explosion.

Recreation.—Sports are encouraged. The games chiefly participated in are football, baseball, quoits and croquet. Swings, cross-bars, and tilting-boards afford amusement especially to the younger pupils. Bathing in summer and skating in winter are pastimes which not only Indian children enjoy.

General Remarks.—No prettier spot could have been selected for a school site than the one occupied by our buildings, but apart from its natural features a great improvement has been made by tree-planting. The pupils on Arbour Day learnt more about trees than they ever knew before, both from a physical and mental standpoint. I hope next year to plant two thousand saplings. I feel that the prettier one makes a place the greater is its object lesson. My advent here was too late to permit laying-out flower-beds ; however, what we lack this year we hope to have next.

I have, &c.,

GERVASE EDWARD GALE,

Principal.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
BLOOD (R.C.) BOARDING SCHOOL,
BLOOD RESERVE, STAND-OFF, ALTA., July 8, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my annual reoprt on the Blood Roman Catholic boarding school for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The school is situated about twenty-four miles south of Macleod, one mile from the Upper agency, within a few yards of the Belly river, on the Blood reserve.

Land.—The land connected with the school belongs to the reserve. A few acres have been fenced off, portions of which are under cultivation.

Buildings.—The buildings actually in use are as follows : the main building 36 x 36 feet, three stories high, with two wings, each 36 x 32 feet, and two stories high, the said building being divided at present into an office, parlour, refectory, class-room, working-room and recreation-rooms, on the ground floor ; boys' and girls' dormitories, the chapel and private apartments for the staff, on the second story.

There is also situated behind the main building and adjacent to it, a three story building, 20 x 20 feet, comprising kitchen and pantries, and two large rooms reserved for the use of the sisters; the other buildings are, a laundry, 18 x 24 feet, a storehouse and a stable.

Accommodation.—There is accommodation for seventy pupils and a staff of ten.

Attendance.—The number on the roll is thirty-six, eleven more than the grant-earning number.

Class-room Work.—The programme of studies given by the department is followed as closely as possible. The progress is good and encouraging.

Farm and Garden.—About two acres of land are cultivated as a garden, and potatoes, turnips, carrots, cabbages, &c., are successfully grown. Both boys and girls take part in the work under the supervision of a sister.

Industries Taught.—Gardening, stable-work, milking and the care of milk, making of butter, baking, glazing, sawing and splitting wood for the kitchen, form the principal manual occupations of the boys; the girls are trained in all the branches of domestic work, baking, cooking, laundrying, sewing, knitting, dressmaking, ironing, &c. All the children's clothing is made in the school.

Moral and Religious Training.—Great care and special attention are given to this part of education. A certain time each day is devoted to Christian doctrine, and morning and evening devotions are attended in the chapel. The conduct of the pupils throughout the year has been all that could be desired.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health has been very good. With the exception of a few mild cases of scrofula, there has been no serious illness during the year.

The sanitary conditions are looked after carefully; the ventilation is excellent, and everything is kept clean around the house and the outbuildings. The children get as much outdoor exercise as is practicable and frequent baths are resorted to.

Water Supply.—Plenty of good water is supplied from a well near by.

Fire Protection.—Five fire-extinguishers, four hand-grenades, twenty-four fire-pails and four fireman's axes are distributed throughout the halls and the rooms.

There is a fire-escape leading down from each dormitory.

Heating and Lighting.—The school is heated with two hot-air furnaces, and light is supplied by coal-oil lamps.

Recreation.—Recreation is taken three times a day, after each meal. Football, swimming, fishing, shooting with bows and arrows, swinging and skating, are the favourite pastimes of the boys. The girls too have different little games, besides swinging, playing ball and skipping.

Boys and girls have each their own playground and are always under the supervision of an attendant.

I have, &c.,

J. L. LE VERN,
Principal.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
BLUE QUILL'S BOARDING SCHOOL,
SADDLE LAKE, ALTA., June 30, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report on the Blue Quill's boarding school, for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The school is situated on Blue Quill's reserve, about six miles southwest of Saddle lake, and one mile north of the Saskatchewan river, on the Edmonton road.

Buildings.—The school is a frame building, 60 x 30 feet, two and a half stories high, and to this is attached the kitchen and pantry. The outbuildings consist of a bakery, laundry, storehouse, stables and several small buildings.

Attendance.—The pupils being all boarders, the attendance is regular.

Class-room Work.—The programme for Indian schools is faithfully followed.

Garden.—About six acres of land is cultivated successfully with all kinds of vegetables.

Industries Taught.—The boys have the care of cattle, preparing fuel, bakery, and the care of their own rooms. They also work occasionally at gardening. The girls are taught sewing, knitting and all household duties.

Moral Training.—Careful attention is paid to moral and religious training. Punishments are rarely resorted to, and rewards are awarded for merit.

Health and Sanitation.—I regret to say that one pupil died during the year of consumption. Five cases of small-pox occurred, but they were all of a very mild nature; excepting those, the health of the pupils has been very good.

Water Supply.—A sufficient supply of water is obtained from two wells situated near the school.

Fire Protection.—Four chemical fire-extinguishers and ladders and pails are kept in readiness. There are eave-troughs round the buildings and barrels are most of the time kept full of water.

Heating and Lighting.—The buildings are all heated with wood stoves, and lighted with coal-oil lamps.

Recreation.—Recreation is taken three times a day, after meals, during which the pupils indulge in outdoor games. The boys are supplied with several large swings. They also indulge in football, baseball, toboggan sliding and skating. The girls enjoy swinging, skating and hand-ball. All the pupils frequently take long walks.

I have, &c.,

LEON BALTER,

Principal.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
CROWFOOT BOARDING SCHOOL,
BLACKFOOT CROSSING, GLEICHEN, ALTA., August 20, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward herewith, together with the financial statement, the annual report of the Crowfoot boarding school for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—This school is situated at the south camp of the reserve about ten miles from Gleichen post office, Alberta, and within a few yards of the Bow river.

Land.—There are about four acres under cultivation for the use of the school and about six acres for pasture, all of which is government land belonging to the reserve, fenced in by an agreement with the Indians.

Buildings.—The main building is 36 x 36 feet, three stories high with two wings, each 36 x 32 feet, two stories high; behind the main building and adjacent to it, a two story building 20 x 20 feet. The south wing of the building is not completed yet.

The buildings are divided at present into an office, reception-room, dining-room, kitchen, school-room and recreation-room on the ground floor, and dormitories and chapel on the second floor. There is also a log stable, with a frame roof, 16 x 48 feet, and a root-house. A well-kept picket fence surrounds the front of the buildings and an ordinary wire fence surrounds the garden, pasture and field.

Accommodation.—Under present arrangements there is accommodation for twenty-five pupils, but when the building is completed there will be accommodation for sixty pupils or more, and a staff of eight or ten.

Attendance.—The pupils attend school regularly, all being boarders at the institute. The present attendance is twenty-eight and of this number four are non-treaty Indians.

Class-room Work.—The class-room work consists of reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, geography, grammar, drawing, vocal music, &c. Progress is noticeable; examinations have been satisfactory and give the teacher much credit. The programme of the department has been followed. The pupils speak English, and seem to take an interest in it.

Farm and Garden.—Up to the present, very little farming has been done, but the garden provides enough work for the pupils during the summer and provides a full supply of potatoes and other vegetables for the use of the school.

Industries Taught.—The boys have special hours for manual work. They help in the care of the cattle and horses in the winter, and in the summer they work in the garden and make hay. The girls are taught housework, baking, cooking, sewing, knitting, &c.

Moral and Religious Training.—Instruction in the doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church is imparted to the pupils; morning and evening prayers are said and half an hour each day is devoted to religious instruction. From their behaviour I am glad to notice that they understand the beauty and the sublimity of their religion.

Health and Sanitation.—The general health has been good; no deaths occurred during the year. The sanitary conditions are looked after carefully and everything is kept clean around the place and in the outbuildings as well.

Water Supply.—The water required is supplied by means of a pump from a well dug close to the buildings.

Fire Protection.—Fire-extinguishers, hand-grenades, fire-pails and fire-axes are distributed throughout the halls and rooms; there is a pump close by the building, but there is no tank in the house as yet.

Heating and Lighting.—The school is heated partly by stoves and partly by one hot-air furnace. The school-building is lighted with petroleum lamps.

Recreation.—Football, shooting with bows and arrows, riding on horseback and fishing, form the favourite pastimes of the boys in summer. The girls amuse themselves by playing ball, dressing dolls, &c. Recreation is allowed three times each day after meals, and is taken outside in good weather, and indoor games are provided in bad weather. The recreation is always under the supervision of an attendant.

Trusting this report will be satisfactory,

I have, &c.,

J. RIOU, O.M.I.,

Principal.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
CROWSTAND BOARDING SCHOOL,
CROWSTAND, ASSA., August, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith my annual report on the Crowstand boarding school, for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The school is situated on the north bank of the Assiniboine river in Northeastern Assiniboia on Cote's reserve, and four miles from the new town of Kamsack on the Canadian Northern Railway.

Land.—The land consists of three hundred and seventy-nine acres, being the fractional south half of section 19, township 29, range 31, west of 2nd P.M. and part of the N.E. ¼ of 24, 29, 32.

It belongs to the Presbyterian Church in Canada. The soil and location are well adapted for mixed farming.

Buildings.—The main school buildings contain staff quarters, kitchen, children's dining-room, school-room, dormitories, &c. During the year many of these rooms were replastered wholly or in part. Much of the staff quarters was painted or papered and the kitchen, children's dining-room, dormitories and halls were painted. New maple floors were also put down in the kitchen, sewing-room and one of the halls. Besides the main building there are, a stone milk-house and ice-house, two frame store-rooms, log carpenter-shop, log granary, frame stable and driving-shed, and a log stable. A root cellar, 30 x 15 feet, with a double sod roof was erected during the year.

Accommodation.—The accommodation is suitable for forty-five or fifty children and the staff necessary to carry on the work.

Attendance.—A grant is given for forty pupils and during the year more than that number was always in attendance. There have been several non-treaty children also in attendance.

Class-room Work.—The latter half of the year's work was slightly disturbed by a change of teachers, but the whole year was a very successful one in the school-room. Prizes for different branches of work were given by Agent Carruthers, and members of the school staff. These were keenly contended for by the pupils.

Farm and Garden.—Last year twenty-four hundred bushels of oats and seventy-five bushels of wheat were grown, besides a large quantity of roots and vegetables. Eighteen acres more land was broken and this year we have nearly sixty acres of farm and garden, showing good promise of an abundant crop.

Live Stock.—At present we have three farm horses, one colt, and one single driver. We have nine cows milking, from which we have been making thirty-five to forty pounds of butter per week, during the summer. In addition, we have ten beef and other cattle, six calves, eighteen pigs and a large number of poultry.

Industries Taught.—The boys are taught general farming, care of stock and poultry, use of tools and farm implements. The girls are taught all lines of ordinary housework including baking, cooking, dairying, washing, ironing, sewing, knitting and dining-room work.

Moral and Religious Training.—A school, situated like this one on a reserve, presents more difficult moral and religious problems than the school removed some distance from reserve life. The work is harder, but the ultimate results are better, because it is not alone the pupils who are helped, but the older people as well.

Morning and evening worship, study of Sunday school lessons, familiar illustrated talks and last, but not least, regular church services, are all employed to build up a knowledge of religious truth and form a basis of right character.

Health and Sanitation.—There have been no deaths during the year of pupils in attendance. The situation is good from a health standpoint, and no serious illness or epidemic has occurred during the year. The drainage for all waste water has been improved by a new drain and cess pool.

Water Supply.— The Assiniboine river continues to be our source of water supply. The labour of drawing the water is very great and it is to be hoped some better source of supply will soon be found.

Fire Protection.—The means of suppressing a fire are very limited. Water, the best means of putting out a fire, is often scarce. The chief appliances are hand grenades, and a number of chemical fire-extinguishers.

General Remarks.—In modes of training either industrially, morally or intellectually, in utensils for work and ideals placed before the pupils, we aim never to lose sight of the kind of life to which the Indian boy and girl must go when they leave school. All education should aim to fit them for this. That which fits them for walks of life which they are never likely to enter is worse than useless.

I have, &c.,

W. McWHINNEY,
Principal.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
COWESSESS BOARDING SCHOOL,
CROOKED LAKE AGENCY, BROADVIEW, ASSA., June 30, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report on the Cowessess boarding school for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The Crooked Lake boarding school is situated in the Qu'Appelle valley, south of Crooked lake, on Cowessess reserve.

Land.—There are forty acres of land which have been surrendered by the band of the reserve for the use of the Roman Catholic mission.

Buildings.—The buildings at present in use are as follows:—the priest's house, 30 x 20 feet; the church, 62 x 20 feet; a house, 20 x 20, exclusively reserved for the Indians, an ice-house, 12 x 14 feet, a stable, 65 x 20 feet and a general work-shop, 30 x 20 feet. The main edifice with the institute proper is a three-story building; its dimensions are 58 x 38 feet, and the height from the ground to the top roof is 52 feet.

The basement contains a dining-room, a kitchen, pantry, a dairy-room, a lavatory with a large boiler, a rain-water tank, and root-house.

On the first floor are the entrance, the parlours, the chapel, the girls' play-room, 24 x 12 feet, the school-room, 26 x 15 feet 3 inches, and the boys' play-room, 32 x 14 feet.

On the second floor is situated the sewing-room, a pharmacy, three rooms for the accommodation of the staff, the nuns' quarters, and two sick-rooms, one for the boys and one for the girls.

On the third floor are situated two large dormitories, 35 x 23 feet, their height being 12 feet 6 inches; also a garret containing a large water tank.

There is also a general workshop, which is a two-story building, on a stone foundation, 30 x 20 feet.

The firset story comprises a carpenter's department, which is provided with all the latest wood-working tools, viz.: a buzz-planer, a circular saw table, a wood-turning lathe, a band-saw, an emery wheel for grinding tools, and an improved wood-lathe.

On the upper floor we have organized a small shoe-shop department, for the purpose of teaching our young boys all the necessary manual work. A few of the large boys repaired their own shoes quite satisfactorily.

Accommodation.—Under present arrangements there is accommodation for sixty-five pupils, and a staff of eight.

Attendance.—The pupils being all boarders, the attendance is very regular, and I am happy to state that the emolument has considerably increased during the year. We have reached the authorized number of forty pupils without any difficulty.

Class-room Work.—The programme of studies prescribed by the department is followed as closely as possible under the circumstances. The subjects taught are: religious instruction, grammar, drawing, spelling and useful knowledge in arithmetic, history and geography, but special attention is given to reading and writing. The progress is good and encouraging. English is generally spoken and I may say it is now quite familiar to almost all the pupils.

Farm and Garden.—There are about fifty acres this year under cultivation. We have also a garden in which is raised a full supply of potatoes and other vegetables for the use of the school. The garden and the farm work give the children a healthy occupation.

Industrial Work.—Our children have special hours each day for manual work. The boys are kept working according to their age; they have learned to bake their own bread, besides they help in caring for the horses, cattle, pigs and poultry. The girls are taught sewing, knitting and general housework, without neglecting, however, to keep clean their recreation-room and dormitory.

Moral and Religious Training.—Particular attention is given to this important branch of education. A short religious instruction is given daily on some practical subject, also on order, cleanliness, politeness and obedience; after which hymns are sung. The character of each pupil is cultivated with care.

Health and Sanitation.—The sanitary condition of the school, owing to the excellence of our fresh air, drains and the abundance of light, is very good and the general health of the pupils is a surprise to all our visitors. Frequent baths are taken and the premises are always kept in perfect order.

Water Supply.—Our water-supply is taken from a well in the basement. Although we have all the water necessary for ordinary purposes, still, in order always to have an unlimited supply at hand to be ready for fire, the well should be deepened. The water is of fair quality.

Fire Protection.—Fire-protection is abundantly provided for, by means of a gasoline engine and power-pump of one hundred gallons capacity per minute, connected by a two inch stand-pipe with a tank in the attic, which tank can be shut off by one pull of a lever and the water is then pumped direct into the stand-pipe, maintaining a pressure of 100 pounds on a 1½ inch hose, with ⅞ inch nozzle. These connections are placed in each dormitory and in each hall, also one in basement and one outside of building. The pump and engine are used to elevate the water required to supply the tank in the attic; from thence it flows through a stand-pipe to the plumbing system, which is consequently always ready for use.

The engine is started by an electric spark, and a stream can be playing on the fire in ten seconds. The engine is also provided with tube ignition, and should a fire start in such a place that the engine could not be operated, we should still have all the water pressure from the tank on the hose all the time, which is a pressure of twenty-three pounds in the basement. The pump is provided with a safety-valve to prevent breakage. Besides we have two Babcock extinguishers in a convenient place, and also

a dozen fire-buckets hung up throughout the diffrent rooms. I regret to say however, that we have not been able, as yet, to provide the building with fire-escapes.

Heating and Lighting.—The building is heated entirely by two hot-air 'New Idea' furnaces. An abundant supply of pure air is constantly admitted, to replace the foul air that leaves by the ventilators, which are placed in the dormitories and halls and give great satisfaction. The school is lighted throughout by acetylene gas, the machine being kept in a properly ventilated room by itself. No lighted lamps are allowed inside and matches are placed under the control of the attendants. Furthermore, a new system of generator adapted to the acetylene machine by Rev. Brother Eugene, has greatly improved its working.

Recreation.—During summer, football, swimming, fishing and shooting with bows and arrows, and in winter skating, singing, playing cards, marbles, checkers and playing the violin indoors, are the favourite pastimes of our boys. The girls amuse themselves with drawing-slates, dressing dolls, playing ball, singing and skipping.

General Remarks.—Since my last report many repairs have been made throughout the house. The walls have been primed with alabastine ; the girls' play-room transferred from the second story to the first, and now occupies 24 x 12 feet ; a water-closet has been made in this apartment and also a water basin with faucet, which makes it very convenient for our girls, who have all the necessary accommodation without leaving their play-room.

The greatest improvement appears to be in our laundry, a new style washing machine, which turns by means of a gasoline engine, has been placed in the cellar. This machine is a self-reverter and works like a marvel; the engine mentioned above is also used in turning the separator and churn. I may add that all possible efforts are made to render the school as comfortable as can be.

Furthermore, I wish to express my sentiments of deep sympathy for the loss sustained through the death of our good and devoted inspector, Mr. L. J. A. Leveque, and Mr. Magnus Begg, our agent, who were both always devoted to the interests of our school.

In closing my report, I feel it my duty to state that during the past year, there has been a marked progress among the pupils in acquiring and speaking the English language, and their general conduct was fairly good.

I have, &c.,

S. PERRAULT, O.M.I.,

Principal.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
DUCK LAKE BOARDING SCHOOL,
DUCK LAKE, SASK., July 22, 1904.

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, 1904.

Location.—The school is located about half a mile from the town of Duck Lake, and three miles from Duck Lake reserve.

Area.—The land in connection with the school comprises one hundred acres, belonging to the government. Adjoining the school land, there is one quarter section, being the northeast ¼ section 33, township 43, range 2, west of the 3rd meridian, and which belongs to the Corporation of the Oblate Fathers, but is cultivated for the

benefit of the school ; wheat, oats, barley, hay and potatoes, being the chief productions therefrom.

Buildings.—The main building consists of an entrance-hall, reception-room, principal's bed-room, offices, and dining-room. The girls' quarters are commodious and complete excepting a sewing-room. No new buildings have been erected, nor repairs made, as no money was available for these purposes during the year.

Accommodation.—There is ample accommodation for sixty girls in our new dormitory, though that number is not reached. The boys are somewhat more crowded, but we are looking forward to providing more accommodation for them in the near future.

Attendance.—The attendance has been an average of the authorized number, one hundred pupils, all of whom are boarders. The range is from forty-five to forty-nine girls, and from fifty-two to fifty-five boys.

Class-room Work.—The boys' teacher being obliged to resign his position before the close of the year, the school continued in session as usual under the direction of the sisters, who combined the work by grading the classes, placing the more advanced boys and girls, to the number of forty, in the same standards, IV, V and VI, under one teacher, and sixty boys and girls of standards I, II and III in a second class-room, two sisters being in charge of this class. The progress is quite remarkable in reading, writing and arithmetic. Semi-annual examinations and simple rewards of merit have produced a most pleasing rivalry between boys and girls. We feel confident that the mixed system under the direction of the sisters has many advantages, both from a moral and an economical point of view. The present arrangement is only provisionary, but we hope to make it permanent. The half-day system is followed for the advanced class. Lessons in singing, manual work and healthful gymnastic exercises are given regularly outside of class hours.

Farm and Garden.—Our vast garden has this year been cultivated entirely by the boys, under the supervision of the principal, and considering that no professional gardener was employed as formerly, the staff is justly proud of the success in both vegetable and floral productions. The farm products of 1903 were as follows: wheat, six hundred and fifty-nine bushels ; oats, one thousand and four bushels ; barley, one hundred and forty-six bushels; potatoes, five hundred bushels ; also a supply for the year, of carrots, turnips, onions, beets and cabbages.

The spring sowing of 1903 consisted of eighty-four barrels wheat, sixty-three barrels oats, twenty barrels barley, seventy barrels potatoes, one acre each of beets and turnips, together with all the ordinary garden vegetables. The older boys under the direction of a very intelligent and trusty farmer, took a fair part in this work, and manifested unusual interest in so doing.

Industries Taught.—All farm and garden work, care of horses, cows, calves, poultry, fence-making and the cutting and sawing of wood, have been done by the boys during the year, while the girls have made amazing progress in fine mending, also the cutting and making of all the garments for the household. A great competition has sprung up between the older ones in soap-making, of which over five hundred pounds have been manufactured in connection with the laundry this year. This being a product of refuse, bones and wood ashes, it is a very useful and economical industry for the school. Our young Indian girls bid fair to become first-class butter-makers, and receive lessons in this department from one of the sisters, an expert in the business.

Plaiting wheat straw for hats is another form of manual work which delights our Indian girls, whose deft fingers will soon enable them to make their own hats, and in time perhaps provide some for the boys as well. This will prove another source of economy for the institution, and will no doubt be gratifying to the department.

Arrangements are made to have a bakery running in connection with the school. We hope to have some boys capable of learning the trade and taking charge of the business a little later.

Moral and Religious Training.—We can safely say that it is on the side of religion and morality that we perceive the most consoling progress. The children show themselves very docile to the lessons they receive daily in these matters. It is true that they are consummate tricksters, yet, through the force of persuasion, and comparison between right and wrong, we have obtained from them fair evidences of candour and sincerity.

Health and Sanitation.—We have to report an unexceptionally healthy year for the staff and pupils. By dressing the children warmly, giving them plenty of wholesome food and daily outdoor exercise, even on the coldest days of winter, we were not annoyed by a single case of any disease during the cold season. In the spring a few cases of dysentery gave us a moment's alarm, but nothing serious resulted. A skilled infirmarian, has, with nature's remedies, so successfully combated the tendency to scrofula, so common among the Indians, that the children present a remarkably healthy appearance. With this state of improved health, we notice an amelioration in the instincts and dispositions of the children. Ventilation and cleanliness are our chief preventives against diseases.

Fire Protection.—Our appliances in case of fire are: six Stempel, four Star and one Victor fire-extinguisher, eighteen hand-grenades, eight axes, and a force pump. A great need of ladders and buckets is felt, there being none on hand.

Heating and Lighting.—Three furnaces, kept in operation night and day during cold weather, keep the house at a healthy and comfortable temperature. The lighting in the house, barn and stables is by acetylene gas, the machine being in an isolated apartment, to which none except the officer in charge is admitted.

Recreation.—Outdoor games for both boys and girls are many and varied. The grounds are so large that all have space to follow their inclinations. No games are compulsory, therefore romping, skipping-rope and ball-playing never flag; while indoors we enforce gymnastic exercises to a certain extent, followed by checkers, marbles, forfeit games, and not unfrequently singing and music make up a pleasant part of the recreations.

Admissions and Discharges.—Ten pupils were admitted during the year and ten were discharged, most of these had an honourable discharge, and returned to their homes well convinced of the advantages which the school gave them, by fitting them for the civilized world. It is with a certain regret that we saw those dear children leave us, after having spent several years in the institution, where they gave satisfaction and lent a helping hand in the work.

General Remarks.—It was with universal and genuine regret that the staff and children of our school were called upon during the past year to bid adieu to some very kind friends and benefactors. Rev. Father Paquette, founder and principal of the school, having exhausted his health in his arduous work, was obliged to take a well-merited rest. His monumental labours during nine years in connection with the school reduced him to a state of health which alarmed his friends, who unanimously insisted upon his retiring for a while from active duties. A very touching farewell ceremony was tendered to the devoted father on November 7, 1903. There was also present Agent Jones, who likewise was taking leave of the school, to which he had always been a true and interested friend. On the same occasion we had the honour to make the acquaintance of Agent Macarthur, whose kindness is already felt and highly appreciated by both staff and pupils. Inspector Chisholm accidentally dropped in for the afternoon to the great satisfaction of all present. He made a few remarks, complimenting the children on their neat and healthy appearance, and on the very pleasing manner in which they acquitted themselves in their various roles in singing, declaiming, and presentation of addresses suitable to the circumstances. Mr. Jones also expressed his sorrow on leaving the reserve, where he had made himself loved and respected by all who knew him. Needless to say that Father Paquette bade his dear Indian boys and girls a most feeling adieu, while he exhorted them through

the affection they bore him to prove themselves docile and affectionate towards their new principal. That his words sank deeply into the hearts of his interested listeners has been amply proved. To-day the conduct of the pupils towards their new principal is irreproachable. They act the part of good children towards a kind father, whom they respect, obey and love.

On Christmas the children were beside themselves with joy on receiving a very interesting visit from Santa Claus himself in person. After the midnight church offices, the children gathered in the refectory, where a most agreeable surprise awaited them, old Santa appearing in full uniform proceeded to fill rows of stockings lining the walls and really nothing could be more amusing than the scene. The children appeared most happy and grateful for the simple little presents which their teachers had worked hard to prepare for them.

I have, &c.,

O. CHARLEBOIS, O.M.I.,

Principal.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
EMMANUEL COLLEGE,
PRINCE ALBERT, October 14, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

Sir,—I have the honour to submit my annual report of this school for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location and Land.—The school is situated about two miles west of the town of Prince Albert. The land in connection therewith is a river lot, having twelve chains frontage, extending back two miles and containing about 200 acres.

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, the dining-room, kitchen and pantry. There are also in this building a clothing-room, sewing-room, girls' dressing-room, and a room for cases of sickness. In the second building is a large clothing-room, a room for drugs and medicines, an office and apartments for the principal. In the third building are dormitories, lavatory, bath-room, reading and recreation room for the senior male pupils, a room for the head teacher, and a room for the outside man. The outdoor buildings are : a large house, 40 x 16 feet, and used as a granary, storehouse, and dairy ; a coach-house, 32 x 16 feet; a stable, 44 x 22 feet; two pig pens, one 22 x 12 feet, the other 24 x 14 feet ; a hen-house, 20 x 14 feet, a feed-house, 16 x 16 feet; and an implement-shed, 28 x 19 feet.

Grounds.—The ground immediately attached to the buildings is laid out so as to afford ample playgrounds for the pupils, both boys and girls.

Accommodation.—The boys' building is very old and dilapidated. The girls' dormitory in the main building is not sufficiently spacious, but these defects with sufficient outlay could be easily remedied.

Class-room Work.—The pupils attend school twice daily, with the exception of the girls, who assist in the dining-room and kitchen by turns. The school hours are from 9.30 a.m., to 12 noon, and from 1.30 p.m. to 3 p.m. Besides the regular school hours, they have study from 8 to 8.30 a.m., and from 7 to 8 p. m. The course of study is the same as that used in the public schools of the Northwest Territories. Two of

our pupils wrote at the public examinations held lately in Prince Albert and have received third-class certificates from the Department of Education, N.W.T.

The pupils are graded as follows :—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Standard I.	8	5	13
" II.	8	12	20
" III.	8	1	9
" IV.	2	1	3
" V.	2	2	4
" VI.	0	0	0
" VII.	2	0	2
	30	21	51

The reserves from which the attendance is drawn are as follows :—

Ahtahkakoop's reserve	20
John Smith's reserve	12
James Smith's reserve	4
William Charles' reserve	3
William Twatt's reserve	5
Mistawasis reserve	2
Non-Treaty	5
	51

Farm and Garden.—Our crop last fall was as follows : 202 bushels of wheat ; 846 bushels of oats ; 460 bushels of potatoes ; 1½ tons of turnips ; 10 bushels of carrots ; 38 tons of hay, the whole of which was grown on the college farm.

Industrial Work.—All the general work required on the premises is performed by the pupils. The girls are taught all kinds of useful household work, such as sewing, knitting, making clothing, mending, darning, washing, ironing, house-cleaning and cooking. The bread used in the school is made by the girls and is baked in a portable Reid oven, which has a capacity of eighty loaves of two pounds weight.

The boys are taught the various kinds of farm work, such as ploughing, harrowing, harvesting, hay-making, carpentry, repairing of fences, attending to horses and cattle, milking cows, feeding pigs, drawing water, chopping and sawing wood, plastering, kalsomining and any ordinary work required.

Moral and Religious Training.—Morning and evening worship is regularly conducted for the whole school. On Sunday regular religious services are held in the college chapel, morning and evening. Every Sunday afternoon at three o'clock, Sunday school is held. This lasts one hour and is always a profitable hour. The children take a deep interest in the study of the Holy Scriptures, and are very fond of singing hymns. Some of the pupils play very well on the organ. A number of our pupils are communicants. The conduct of the pupils has been very satisfactory.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the pupils has been good. Last January we had a case of typhoid fever, but apart from this one case, we have had no other illness of a serious nature. The children have as much outdoor exercise as is practicable. The dormitories, class-rooms and all other rooms are kept very clean and well ventilated.

Water Supply.—We have three wells with good water.

Fire Protection.—We have eight fire-extinguishers, which were supplied by the department ; eighteen hand-grenades, twelve fire-buckets and two axes. We carry an insurance of $5,000.

Heating.—Stoves are used in two of the buildings, but a furnace is used in the main buildings, where the girls and female members of the staff live.

Attendance.—The attendance has been very regular, and during the course of the fiscal year seven pupils were honourably discharged and eight have been admitted to the school.

Recreation.—The pupils have plenty of recreation. The boys have cricket, base-ball, football, swings and physical drill. The girls take a great deal of interest in their calisthenic corps. They enjoy dumb-bell exercise, skipping, throwing and catching the ball, swinging, reading and music. They take a walk out almost daily, attended by a female member of the staff.

We try to make the children feel as comfortable and happy as possible.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Principal.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
ERMINESKIN'S BOARDING SCHOOL,
HOBBEMA, July 11, 1904.

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, 1904.

Location.—The school is situated on the Ermineskin reserve, a mile from Hobbema station, in the district of Alberta. There is no post office at Hobbema, but the mail is delivered every day.

Land.—The twenty acres of land in connection with the school are used as follows: three acres are taken up for the garden, five for the children's playgrounds, and the balance is used for pasturage.

Buildings.—There are three buildings occupied by the school. The main building 45 x 40 feet, three stories high, is occupied by the children. There is a school-room and refectory on the first floor; sewing-room, infirmary and boys' dormitory on the second floor, and girls' dormitory on the third floor. The second building adjoining the main building contains a kitchen on the first floor, and a chapel on the second. This building is attached to the first building by the sisters' residence, in which they have their respective rooms.

Accommodation.—There is accommodation for seventy-five children and ten sisters.

Attendance.—The attendance was forty-seven during the year; twenty-seven boys and twenty girls. We have fifty children in attendance at present.

Class-room Work.—The school hours, which are from 9 to 12 a.m., and from 1.30 to 4 p.m., are faithfully observed; besides this, the higher grades have one hour of study, that is a half hour at five, and another half hour at eight o'clock. This year has been one of application by the pupils and we are happy to state that they have improved wonderfully in all the branches of the programme as given by the department.

Farm and Garden.—The three acres of land under cultivation yielded last year, three hundred and fifty bushels of potatoes, sixty of turnips, ten of beets, fifteen of onions, a good quantity of cabbages, beans and other vegetables.

Industries Taught.—Every day some time is taken for manual work. The boys have the care of ten horses and thirteen head of cattle during the winter; they saw wood for the house, and do the sweeping in their own rooms. They have the care of the

garden during summer. The older girls are kept busy in making and mending their own clothes and that of the boys, in knitting stockings, mitts, in doing kitchen work and in learning how to keep house properly. The smaller girls also knit and do a little needlework.

Moral and Religious Training.—A certain time is devoted daily by the missionary or the professor to implant in their young hearts a respect for all social and moral duties, and we can say that the children have paid great attention to the instruction given them. Their conduct has been very satisfactory during the year.

Health and Sanitation.—Three pupils died from consumption last fall. We have had two cases of pneumonia and one of hemorrhage ; otherwise there was very little sickness in the school.

Water Supply.—Barrels and pails filled with water are constantly kept on hand. There is a trap in the upper story and ladders are permanently attached to the buildings and we have brick chimneys. These are our means of protection against fire.

Heating and Lighting.—The buildings are heated by stoves and lighted by means of lamps.

Recreation.—The pupils have their recreation after each meal under the supervision of the teachers. The amusements that we provide for them are varied, such as picnics, lunch on the prairie and promenades on the reserve. Football is the boys' favourite game in summer and skating during the winter. The girls like to play cards, croquet and have drills. These Indian children amuse themselves very much by games peculiar to them.

I have, &c.,

G. MOULIN,
Principal.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
FILE HILLS BOARDING SCHOOL,
BALCARRES, August 30, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report on the File Hills boarding school for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The school buildings are situated on section 33, township 22, range 11, west of the 2nd meridian. They are not on the reserve, but adjoining it.

Land.—The northeast quarter of section 32, township 22, range 11, west of the second meridian, and also all that part of section 33 which is outside the boundaries of the Okanees reserve, belongs to the school, subject to the control of the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs ; in all, about two hundred and fifteen acres. The land is mostly bluffy. It is best adapted for mixed farming.

Buildings.—The buildings are : the home, a three-storied stone structure, with mansard roof, and two-storied frame addition, a frame laundry, frame school-house, a good log stable with shingled roof, a log granary and carriage-house, and a root-house.

Accommodation.—In the home there is good accommodation for twenty-five children and a staff of four.

Attendance.—The attendance has been very regular. The number on the roll, minus non-treaty children, is fifteen. A larger number could be secured.

Class-room Work.—The class-room work has been good.

Farm and Garden.—This branch of the work has been receiving more attention than ever before. We have in crop about eight acres of oats, and four and three-quarter acres of garden, including turnips and potatoes. Two of the boys broke five acres of new land and were still working at it at the close of the fiscal year. Also the boys, with the assistance of the farm instructor, put up two hundred and seventy-five rods of two, and three strand wire fencing and thirteen rods of rail fencing.

The school now owns six milch cows, five calves, a good three-horse team, some pigs and some hens.

Apart from the training at the school, received in farming, each boy when he is sixteen or seventeen years old is allowed to choose for himself a farm in the colony that Inspector Graham has started for ex-pupils, and to put in on it, under the supervision of the government farm inspector, one or two summers' work. In this way by the time a boy leaves school he has made a very good start towards making a home for himself and also has an opportunity of getting acquainted with, and adapting himself to, the circumstances under which he will be labouring after he receives his discharge. I find this an excellent plan. The boy is aiming at something definite. The strongest inducement I can offer our boys to encourage them to do well is to promise them that when they prove themselves trustworthy, they may go out and work on their own farms.

Industries Taught.—The girls are taught to be clean, neat, economical housekeepers and home-makers. This includes bread-making, butter-making, fine baking, sewing, washing, ironing, and dainty decorating of rooms.

The boys are taught to be good practical farmers and gardeners. They are trained to handle and properly care for stock and to do general chores both outside and in.

Moral and Religious Training.—These subjects receive special attention. The Bible is carefully studied and memorized and the child is trained to base his ideas of right and wrong on its teachings. There is religious instruction daily.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the children has improved wonderfully. There have been no scrofulous cases worth mentioning all winter and spring. There are several reasons for this: improved accommodation, the dormitories heated by a furnace, less confinement in the class-room, and largely vitae ore, a medicine which I was trying as an experiment and which helped our children wonderfully. It used to be that almost fifty per cent of the children in this school had to go round with their heads bandaged on account of open scrofulous sores, now there is not one. There have been no deaths during the year.

Water Supply.—We have a good well. The water is drawn from it into the kitchen by means of a pump.

Fire Protection.—We have ladders, two Babcock extinguishers, four fire-axes, eleven fire-pails, and water always convenient. There are two ways of escape from every sleeping-room.

Heating and Lighting.—One furnace and four stoves are used for heating the buildings. Coal-oil lamps are used for lighting purposes.

Recreation.—The children enjoy the ordinary outdoor sports and games; various games in the home are introduced during the long winter evenings.

Ex-pupils.—We feel greatly encouraged with the progress of our ex-pupils. As yet only seven young people have left this school. One of these is dead. He and two others, Fred. Dieter and Ben Assineawasis, spent eighteen months at the Regina industrial school after leaving this school.

To be in a position to give the following report on the six who are living, gives me great pleasure. Fred Dieter married Mary Belle Cote, a Regina school graduate, over a year ago. Their house, their garden, and their farm are a great credit to them both.

Ben Assineawasis and Maggie Pratt, one of our own girls, were married last spring. Their home is a model of neatness. Both upstairs and downstairs are always

open for inspection. Mrs. Assineawasis deserves great praise for her home-making abilities. They, too, have a good farm.

Roy Keewatin, who was discharged last spring, will harvest this fall a good crop of wheat of about twenty-five acres. This is land which he prepared last year while still in school. He has done considerable breaking this year too. He is showing himself to be a steady industrious man. The other two ex-pupils are girls.

Fanny Ross is a member of the school staff. She occupies the position of cook. She is faithful, trustworthy and capable.

Winnie Akapew is a cripple and very delicate. She has to make her home with the older Indians ; but although unable to work, we consider Winnie as great a success as any one who has left the school. To stand by her colours in her surroundings means far more moral courage than any of the other pupils have been called upon to exercise. She is always neat and clean. We have six ex-pupils and not one of them is a failure. We do not take all the credit for this. Inspector Graham's system, in his colony, deserves a very large share of it.

I have, &c.,

KATE GILLESPIE,
Principal.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
GORDON'S BOARDING SCHOOL,
KUTAWA P.O., July 2, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my annual report of the Gordon's boarding school for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The school is located on the west side of Gordon's reserve about twelve miles from the agency headquarters.

Land.—The area of land in connection with the school is three hundred and twenty acres, and comprises the east half of section 4, township 27, west of the second principal meridian. This, I believe, has been allotted to the school by the government.

Its natural features are prairie, very hilly, with some sloughs, and about twenty-five acres of tillable land, but no wood; the above is suitable for pasture.

Buildings.—The main building is the same as last year, and is used for school purposes. A new floor has been laid in the school-room, lavatories and class-room.

All outbuildings are the same as given in last year's report.

Accommodation.—There is ample accommodation for thirty-five pupils, and four of a staff.

Attendance.—The attendance has been very good during the past year.

Class-room Work.—The pupils' course of work is that laid down by the department, and a great improvement is noticeable, especially in the speaking of English, which is our great aim with the pupils.

Farm and Garden.—We do not farm, but our garden consists of about three acres. An abundance of vegetables was raised, of every description. We have also a beautiful flower garden and this is the delight of the children.

Industries Taught.—The boys are taught the care of horses and cattle, poultry, and pigs, and milking, and gardening in summer. The girls are taught all household

duties, butter-making,and the care of same. I cannot speak too highly of their work and proficiency.

Moral and Religious Training.—Very careful attention is paid to the pupils in this respect. Their moral conduct has been excellent during the past year, and in no case had severe punishment to be administered.

Health and Sanitation.—The health on the whole has been fair. We had two or three cases of pneumonia, and a case of scrofula, the latter is now home. No deaths have occurred during the past year.

The sanitary condition is all that can be desired. The building is well ventilated and kept very clean, and I may say the children take a pride in helping to keep it so.

Water Supply.—Our water-supply is obtained from a well, about three hundred yards from the school. The new well which was put down last summer had to be put on the same water-course as the old ones. We have a good supply of water, but a long way to haul it. As a rule we always have an abundance of soft water.

Fire Protection.—This consists of one Babcock, two Carr chemical fire-engines, one pump, two lengths of hose, eleven buckets, six axes, sixteen hand-grenades, two tanks, nine fire-extinguishers, besides several barrels.

Heating and Lighting.—The building is heated with wood stoves. Lighting is done with lamps and coal oil.

Recreation.—Football and swings are the favourite pastimes during the summer months. Coasting in winter, and many games in the school-room are enjoyed by the pupils.

I have, &c.,

M. WILLIAMS,

Principal.

MACKENZIE RIVER DISTRICT,
HAY RIVER (ST. PETER'S MISSION) BOARDING SCHOOL,
Care of HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY,
HAY RIVER, *via* EDMONTON, ALBERTA, December 10, 1903.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to report that the above-named boarding school in connection with the Church of England, of which I am in charge, is located at the mouth of Hay river, on its east bank, and on the southwest shore of Great Slave lake, within the limits of Treaty No. 8.

It is not on a reserve, but in the unorganized Territory of Mackenzie river under the supervision of the Northwest Mounted Police.

Land.—We have already under cultivation about eight acres of crown lands, adjoining the Indian village of Hay River. The soil in the immediate vicinity is flat alluvial deposit on a bed of sand, and is adapted for agriculture. A varied growth of timber extends all round us.

Buildings.—We have the following buildings :—

(1.) A large dwelling-house used as a boarding school composed of three parts successively erected, the last being three stories high, the whole constructed of logs and boards, containing eighteen rooms.

(2.) A workshop, fitted up for carpentering and blacksmithing and containing a complete saw pit.

(3) and (4.) Storehouses, in which are kept clothing, provisions and supplies.
(5.) Wood-shed.
(6.) Fish-house, in which our daily supply of fish is cleaned.
(7.) Cattle byre.

A church, and new dwelling-house were begun this fall, and are in course of construction; a great part of the material, consisting of hewn logs, and metallic shingles, being already provided. We intend to push these two buildings, as they are much needed, as quickly as possible, considering all boards have to be sawn and dressed by hand.

Accommodation.—Our institution is a mission home and school, the age of the pupils ranging from three to eighteen, though we occasionally receive widows and others as mission helpers under instruction. We have accommodated as many as fifty-four souls under our roof, of whom forty-one were pupils, eight engaged mission helpers and five native workers. Our numbers have been very much reduced, owing to the sad ravages of measles, which broke out in the far north, and swept south through this whole district, in the summer of 1902, carrying away many, and leaving the survivors constitutionally weakened so that its effects are still severely felt, although the epidemic itself has long since passed.

The attendance of scholars was upon June 30, 1902, twenty-one boys and twenty girls, and on June 30, 1903, fifteen boys and eighteen girls, and is at present thirteen boys, and fifteen girls, that is a total of twenty-eight regulation boarding pupils, besides one infant, and five native workers under instruction, as well as a few occasional day scholars, who are exceedingly intermittent in their attendance.

Class-room Work.—The subjects taught from time to time in our institution have included reading, writing, arithmetic, composition, grammar, geography, dictation, literature, history, and Holy Scriptures, as well as occasional lessons in the reading of their own native language, both as written in the syllabic and Roman characters. It is interesting to note that the pupils are all making good progress in their English studies, and are disposed to be more teachable, and less troublesome than the same number of white children. The hours generally speaking are the same as in Ontario public schools, except in the very shortest days of winter, when lack of daylight necessitates shortening them a little for about a month.

Farm and Garden.—The farm produce consists chiefly of a large crop of potatoes, which yielded this year five hundred and thirty-five bushels and a little barley, estimated at about twenty bushels not yet threshed. The garden simply represents a small piece of land fenced separately, in which we grow cabbages, cauliflower, beets, carrots, parsnips, onions, radishes, lettuce, peas, and beans, chiefly for the benefit of the staff. Much of the work, both of the garden and farm, weeding, &c., is done by the school children under instruction. Our hay-supply is derived entirely from natural grass, found along the river bank. We have at present two cows, one bull, two two-year-old heifers, and a spring bull calf. We train our cows, and utilize them with the bull, for hauling purposes, thereby saving the unnecessary keep of oxen, and we find them very satisfactory. We also keep on hand for winter work such as fishing, meat hauling, and tripping, connected with our work, two or three teams of dogs, fourteen dogs being our number at present.

While out on furlough this past year, I secured at considerable expense and trouble and as a personal venture of my own, a litter of small pigs, half a dozen barn yard fowls, and three cats, from which I hope to derive profitable returns, although they are entirely new in this part, the pigs at least being the only ones north of the Peace river.

Industries Taught.—We have no stated industries taught, but it is our aim to teach each one under our care to be thorough, industrious, and practically useful. Occasional lessons are given in the use of carpentering and blacksmithing tools when the pupils are old enough for such. The general work on the farm, and about the

establishment affords ample opportunity for training both boys and girls to be industrious.

Moral and Religious Training.—We teach all the pupils to the best of our ability, obedience, diligence, straightforwardness, and frankness, and endeavour generally to develop in them the moral qualities based upon the religion of the Old and New Testaments, all our training being under the superintendence and inspection of the bishop of the diocese.

Health and Sanitation.—Prior to the epidemic of measles in 1902, spoken of above, the health of the pupils was very good, but since then there has been considerable sickness among them and eleven have died either of that disease or of lung trouble. We fill up our water-closets yearly, and make new ones, and we throw away the slops and refuse far from the house at a safe distance, so as to keep the yard clean.

Water Supply.—We derive our supply of water for household use from the river, close in front of the house, and it is always good.

Fire Protection.—We keep four barrels of water constantly in the house, and have ladders reaching to all the roofs, twelve axes and six buckets available in case of fire.

Heating and Lighting.—We heat the main building, No. 1, with seven stoves, using spruce wood, which is abundant and good, and light it with paraffin candles, and coal-oil lamps, the latter for the use of the staff.

Recreation.—We encourage the school children to play games in their hours of recreation, especially football, baseball and boating, and permit the older boys to hunt small game in the surrounding bush, and snare rabbits.

Food Supply.—We obtain the greater part of our food-supply from local sources, setting nets in the lake nearly all the year, and are never without fish on the tables, these with potatoes constituting our main diet; what little meat we eat, we get occasionally from Indian hunters, but this year rabbits have been unusually plentiful. The remainder of our provisions, consisting of flour, meal, tea, &c., is annually imported a year or eighteen months ahead, at the expense of the Bishop's Diocesan funds. None of the pupils at present pay their board.

Clothing.—The school children are clothed principally out of the mission bales voluntarily contributed by various branches of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Church of England through the eastern part of Canada; and here I beg to thankfully acknowledge the liberality of the department in assuming the (to us) very large cost of the transport of these bales.

Mail Facilities.—Our mail system is not such as to enable me to send this report by the time desired, the winter packet, which leaves here for the south by dog train, on or about December 10, being the first I have been able to avail myself of since I received the circular calling for my report. The Hudson's Bay Company carries our mail twice a year, in summer, and again in winter, to and from the farthest northern post office on the Athabasca river.

General Remarks.—It may be of interest to bear in mind that our children are chiefly drawn from remote parts, and have to remain with us throughout the entire year, so that we have to find recreation and employment for them during the holiday seasons, which adds greatly to our own labour, and ties us incessantly to our post. Our nearest neighbouring hamlet, or trading post, is eight miles distant. Owing to our exposed situation, fishing is precarious and often dangerous. Game is generally scarce, although this year rabbits abound. The nearest physician is more than 1,000 miles away by direct travel. Our only means of locomotion are by boat or canoe in summer, and dog-sled in winter. Our climate is severe, the temperature often falling for days at a time to forty degrees below zero Farenheit, while occasionally it drops to fifty-five and sixty degrees below zero. Our summers are delightful except for mosquitoes. The season is very short, but incessant daylight for nearly six weeks gives us doubly quick growth. We beautify our surroundings with flowers which grow luxuriantly, and take us back in heart and thought to the realms of our home land.

Finance.—In closing I may say that I am not in a position to present a financial statement, as the funds of our mission all pass through the hands of our bishop, our outside supplies being secured chiefly in Winnipeg.

I have, &c.,

THOS. J. MARSH,
Principal.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
HOLY ANGELS BOARDING SCHOOL,
NATIVITY MISSION, FORT CHIPEWYAN,
ATHABASKA LAKE, June 30, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I take pleasure in sending my fourth annual report on matters concerning the school and I greatly hope that it will reach the department at the appointed time, this year.

Location.—The Holy Angels boarding school is located at Nativity Mission, quite near Fort Chipewyan.

Built on the bank of Athabasca lake, our school possesses a fine view of the lake, in front, although it has on every other side the modest prospect of rocky hills partly covered with pine-trees.

This school belongs to the Roman Catholic mission and is under the direction of the Sisters of Charity, commonly called 'Grey Nuns.' There is no post office here; neither are there any reserves in this part of the north.

Land.—The soil is rocky and almost barren in some places ; however, a few acres can be found that are susceptible of being cultivated, but as a general rule, the soil has a very scanty vegetation. One of the pioneer missionaries, Right Reverend Bishop Farand, wishing to cultivate a small piece of land and finding no place to suit the purpose, set to work and drained out the lake himself. After many weeks of hard toil, he succeeded in making a field of fifteen acres. This field admits of the cultivation of barley and potatoes, which grow well enough, when the crop is not destroyed by the frost and are our great resource, for they provide us with sufficient potatoes for daily consumption, throughout the year. Our kitchen garden yields about one hundred head of cabbage, a few bushels of turnips, onions and carrots; these vegetables thrive poorly in such unfruitful soil as we have here.

Buildings.—The old building is undergoing repairs just at present, having basement renewed, &c. As a few changes are also to be made as well in the two new wings, I shall not enter into any details nor give the dimensions this year.

Accommodation.—Accommodation can be provided for sixty pupils, seven sisters and six auxiliary or lay sisters.

Attendance.—School is kept regularly except on holidays ; the children are, for the greatest part, good and quite manageable in and out of class. It is a very rare case which obliges us to inflict any kind of corporal punishment. Desertions very seldom occurs here.

Class-room Work.—The subjects taught are : reading, writing, grammar, composition, arithmetic, geography, history and ethics. Vocal music and calisthenics are also on the programme they are a great means to afford variation during work and to improve physique.

Farm and Garden.—The children weed the garden and help in whatever little work they can do on the farm.

Industries Taught.—The girls are taught domestic economy, they soon become proficient in sewing, knitting, darning and embroidery. Cooking lessons are also given, in fine all endeavours are used to teach them how to become clean and orderly housekeepers. The boys daily task is to saw and chop the wood required for fuel.

Moral and Religious Training.—The pupils assist at divine service given in our chapel every morning, and they attend the Mission church every Sunday. The reverend father in charge instructs them in their religious duties. Great care is taken to instil in those young hearts that knowledge and love of duty towards God and man which makes the practical Christian.

Health and Sanitation.—I am happy to state that our children's health is thoroughly satisfactory ; the sanitary condition of the school premises is very good.

Water Supply.—Our supply of water is drawn from the lake.

Fire Protection.—The fire-appliances on hand are a force pump with hose, ladders, buckets and axes.

Heating and Lighting.—Wood is used for fuel ; coal oil for lighting.

Recreation.—The children indulge in outdoor games every day, when the weather is fine. Little trips are taken now and then, in skiffs or on board the Mission steamboat, when the lake is calm. One of the many islands that dot the lake is our picnic resort in summer. During the cold season a long walk taken every day, proves beneficial to health, and is quite invigorating. The children delight in this healthy exercise.

I should be pleased indeed to inclose herewith a few photographs. I greatly hope that I shall have a selection on hand next year.

I have, &c.,

SISTER M. McDOUGALL.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
LESSER SLAVE LAKE C.E. BOARDING SCHOOL,
ATHABASCA, August 24, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward my annual report on the Lesser Slave Lake Church of England boarding school for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The school faces south, being situated about a mile from Buffalo lake, over which it looks. Buffalo lake is joined, by the Heart river, to Lesser Slave lake proper, the latter is about six miles from the mission. The Heart river passes within half a mile of the school, emptying into the lake.

Land.—This mission is not situated on a reserve. The land was surveyed during the summer of 1901, and contains about ninety acres, and is the property of the Church Missionary Society. It consists of bush and prairie ; the soil is a sandy loam, well adapted for all kinds of agricultural purposes.

Buildings.—The girls' home, 24 x 30 feet, the ground floor of which is divided into the children's dining-room, matron's sitting-room, and sitting-room for the teacher and his wife ; (the latter being matron for the boys) the matron's bed-room and girls' dormitory on the upper floor. There is a kitchen adjoining, 15 x 18 feet.

The boys occupy a new wing, which was added to the original building in the year 1900, its dimensions are 32 x 34 feet ; the ground floor is used as a school-room and boys' day-room ; the upped floor as boys' dormitory and teacher's bed-room.

The other buildings consist of a fish and ice-house combined, with a school store-room above ; a root-house, and implement-shed, stables, old storehouse, with clothing room above, and two closets.

Accommodation.—There is room for fifty pupils and four of a staff.

Attendance.—For the three quarters, ending December, 1903, March, June, 1904, we had a daily school average of thirty and a half, thirty and a half anr thirty-one and a quarter, respectively. During the year we had sixty pupils on the roll.

Class-room Work.—English, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, general knowledge, ethics, recitation, vocal music, cooking and religious instruction are taught in the class-room.

Farm and Garden.—The boys assist in the farm and garden work. This year we have under cultivation about twelve acres of oats, four acres of barley, and one and one-half acres of roots, consisting of potatoes, turnips and mangolds. There is also a garden of about half an acre, well stocked with vegetables of the various kinds.

Owing to the great drought this summer, the grain and root crop will be light; the best oats will be gathered from five acres which were broken and sown this spring. Considering the unfavourable season the garden is exceptionally good. Milch cows, horses, pigs and fowls are kept at the mission.

Industries Taught.—Agriculture is the only industry taught.

Moral and Religious Training.—The training imparted in this respect is carried on along Church Missionary Society lines.

Health and Sanitation.—There are two closets, one for boys and one for the girls. During last winter we were very free from sickness in the home.

Water Supply.—During the summer, water is brought from the river by means of a water cart ; ice and snow are used in winter.

Fire Protection.—This consists of two ladders ; one attached to the roof of the kitchen, and the other to the roof of the home.

Heating and Lighting.—All the buildings are heated by box stoves, wood being the fuel used. The home is lighted with coal-oil lamps.

Recreation.—The principal recreation of the pupils consists of football, baseball and indoor games.

General Remarks.—All the land owned by the mission is inclosed within a fence, about half of which is of wire. The posts are twelve feet apart, with a top rail, and four strands of wire.

I have, &c.,

C. D. WHITE,
Principal.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
LESSER SLAVE LAKE (ST. BERNARD'S) R.C. BOARDING SCHOOL,
LESSER SLAVE LAKE P.O., June 30, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the annual report of the Lesser Slave Lake (St. Bernard's) Roman Catholic boarding school for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The situation of the school on the northeastern bank of Lesser Slave lake is both pleasant and healthful. It stands on a slight elevation which slopes towards the water and the setting sun, and commands a good view of the surrounding

country. As this location necessitated levelling part of the forest, the site happens to be quite bordered by woodland, which makes a pleasant resort for the children during the warm weather.

Land.—The area of land connected with the school is about nine acres and belongs to the mission.

Buildings and Accommodation.—The main building, 72 x 28 feet and three stories high, is a large and commodiously apportioned dwelling, containing fourteen compartments, six of which serve for the girls as recreation-hall, dining-room, sewing-room and dormitories. The remaining apartments, excepting the chapel and kitchen, are occupied by the staff.

To the right and a little in the rear is the boys' house, a two story building, 60 x 25 feet, which will accommodate forty pupils. The first floor is partitioned off into recreation-hall, dining-room, and a class-room for smaller pupils. The sleeping apartments are on the second floor.

The school-house, which is 30 x 24 feet, also to the right of the main building, but extending forward, is three stories high. It comprises two cheerful well lighted class-rooms, the upper floor being used as a store-room.

Spacious and well-kept grounds surround the three buildings, and flower-beds, which add greatly to the general appearance of the place, are laid out and carefully attended to by the pupils under the direction of the teachers. A commodious building was erected this spring, to serve as a laundry, and a place for the storage of fish, and a canal was dug for drainage purposes.

Attendance.—The average attendance was from thirty to forty pupils. Some of these entered in September and left at the end of June ; a few remained during the summer months.

Class-room Work.—The school hours are from nine to eleven o'clock in the morning ; the afternoon session from one to four, being interrupted by a school recess. Three teachers were engaged with the pupils and in order to gain attention, took great pains to make their lessons interesting and instructive. Most of the pupils applied their minds arduously to their studies and visible progress was made. A marked improvement was noticed in their pronunciation last year, which was undoubtedly due to careful exercise in class recitations.

The children like to appear before strangers and several opportunities of displaying their capacity was afforded them during the term, the chief among them being their annual entertainment, which was as usual, tendered to the public at New Years.

The programme of studies laid down by the department was carefully carried out by the teachers.

The grading of the pupils is as follows :—

	Pupils.
Standard I	15
" II	11
" III	8
" IV	2

Industries Taught.—When the girls have reached a proper age, they are taught the culinary art, washing, ironing, sewing, dressmaking, in a word, all that can contribute towards making them competent housekeepers.

The larger boys are trained to work on the farm, while the younger ones are kept busy weeding the garden, carrying wood and doing other light work about the house.

Moral Training.—The moral and religious training is based on the pure and unsullied doctrine of the Holy Scripture. A half hour daily was given to religious instruction, while to make certain that the moral education was carefully attended to, the pupils were kept continually under the supervision of one of the teachers.

Health and Sanitation.—There are no deaths to be recorded this year. Although considerable sickness prevailed in the neighbourhood last winter, no disease was contracted at the school, excepting influenza.

Water Supply.—Very good water is supplied by wells dug close to the house.

Fire Protection.—These wells, ladders and a hose are our only protection against fire.

Heating.—The principal building is heated by a hot-air furnace, which gives good satisfaction. The chief advantage of this mode of heating is the even temperature produced throughout the entire building.

The other buildings are heated by stoves, in which we burn pine, spruce, poplar and birch. The surrounding forests abound in trees of this kind.

Recreation.—The boys and girls have large playgrounds leading off their respective departments, where they enjoyed themselves during the different seasons at all the games and sports common to their ages. The girls' playground was enlarged during the year and inclosed by a neat picket fence.

The Roman Catholic mission has a small steamboat for the purpose of visiting the different bands along the lakes and for conveying pupils to and from school. The children are occasionally favoured with an excursion. By attaching two large boats to the steamer, all the children may be taken at the same trip. The government grants yearly, $72 per capita for each of forty pupils.

I have, &c.,

C. FALHER, O.M.I.,
Principal.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
MUSCOWEQUAN'S BOARDING SCHOOL,
TOUCHWOOD HILLS, ASSA., June 30, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report on the school under my charge for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The Muscowequan's boarding school is situated about twelve miles from the Touchwood agency and three miles from the Touchwood post office. It is outside of the reserve.

Land.—The land connected with the school is a homestead of 160 acres, situated on the northwest quarter section 14, township 27, range 15, and belongs to the society of the Oblate Fathers. In front of the school on the slope of the hill there is a large garden surrounded with trees. This pretty site gives the best appearance possible to the buildings. On one side of the school is a nice parterre, also surrounded with trees. The soil is of the best quality, any kind of grain and vegetables growing well. Forty acres are under cultivation, besides the garden. The crop of wheat, oats and barley looks fine. Everything was put in, in due time and in good condition. I must say that when the inspector made an inspection of the reserves lately, he was highly pleased with the work done and the appearance of the crop. I hope to have the pleasure in my next report to announce a good increase of land under cultivation, as breaking has been going on for several weeks.

Buildings.—The school buildings include the old church, which now serves as a school-room, and a new stone house erected four years ago. The basement comprises a large cellar, part of which is used as a root-house and a dairy. On the first floor is a kitchen, a small room for bake oven, a pantry, refectories for sisters and pupils, two smaller rooms for visitors and a chapel where pupils assemble for morning and evening prayers. On the second floor is the girls' dormitory, sewing-room, play-room

and sisters' apartments. There is also a large and comfortable attic. The other part of the building, forming an angle with the first, contains, on the first floor, the class-room and music-room; on the upper floor is the boys' dormitory. The other buildings consist of the principal's house, the boys' play-room, the carpenter's shop, small granary and stables.

Accommodation.—The school has ample accommodation for at least forty pupils and a staff of seven persons.

Attendance.—Thirty children attended school during the year.

Class-room Work.—Classes are taught in the morning and in the afternoon. School hours are from 9 to 12 a.m. and from 2 to 4 p.m. The programme laid out by the department is strictly enforced. Much attention is paid to correct English conversation, writing, reading, arithmetic, spelling, drawing, geography, grammar, vocal music and composition. Satisfactory progress has been noticed during the past year in all the above mentioned subjects. The children seem to have a special liking for arithmetic and drawing.

Industries Taught.—The girls are trained in all branches of domestic work: baking, cooking, laundrying, sewing, knitting, dressmaking, rug-making and darning. All the children's clothing is made in the school. Gardening, farm work such as ploughing, harrowing, sowing, cutting hay and grain, fencing, stable work and cutting and carrying wood, form the principal occupations of the boys.

Moral and Religious Training.—Great care and special attention is given to this part of the education and no effort is spared to instruct our pupils thoroughly in principles of faith and religion. The greatest possible vigilance is taken over the pupils and I must say, it is a great satisfaction to the staff to notice such charitable feelings towards one another. The moral conduct has been excellent.

Health and Sanitation.—Last winter, there was an outbreak of scarlet fever. All the pupils contracted the disease and we had the misfortune to lose one. But since then they have been better and stronger than ever.

Water Supply.—Water is supplied to the school from three wells, two of which are on the premises near the school and one in the cellar, from which water is drawn by means of a force pump which conveys the water to a tank fixed near the roof of the building, from which the water-supply is distributed by means of iron pipes to the different parts of the main building.

Fire Protection.—The school has been provided by the department with two Babcocks, twelve fire-pails, which are always kept filled with water; fire-extinguishers and axes. All these are put in convenient places through the buildings. There is besides the two force pumps, a sufficient quantity of hose for proper working in case of fire.

Heating.—The building is heated by eleven stoves using fire-wood.

Recreation.—In winter the pupils are supplied with different games, music, singing and as much outdoor exercise as possible. As a rule they enjoy a good ride once a week, occasionally they have an extra ride going for the mail. In summer months the boys take great interest in ball games, gymnastic exercise, swings and in all kinds of foot races. The girls enjoy playing games of their own and music, of which they are very fond.

General Remarks.—In conclusion, I am pleased to have this opportunity to offer my most sincere thanks to our devoted inspector, Mr. W. M. Graham. His kind advice and great encouragement to the pupils will, I am sure, bear their fruits. Such a visit cannot but have a good effect on the pupils and I pray it may be often repeated. Mr. Graham will always be most welcome at the school. I am also very much indebted to our agent, Mr. H. Martineau, for his earnest co-operation in matters connected with the school.

I have, &c.,

J. A. MAGNAN,

Principal.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
McDOUGALL ORPHANAGE AND BOARDING SCHOOL,
MORLEY P.O., ALTA., June 30, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my sixth annual report on the above school for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The school, with the land attached thereto, is situated on lot eight, Belanger survey, Morleyville Settlement, near the confluence of the Bow and Ghost rivers and about four miles east of the eastern boundary of that part of the Stony reserve, north of Bow river.

Land.—The land owned by the school consists of the grant given by the government, comprising one thousand one hundred and thirty-seven acres. The quality of the land is poor, and not much adapted to cultivation, being mostly of a gravelly nature, and is almost exclusively used for grazing purposes.

Buildings.—The main buildings are frame on stone foundations, and consist of two wings, one of which, 38 x 44 feet, was erected in the fall of 1890 and the other 26 x 40, erected in the fall of 1900. The basements of these buildings are used as recreation-rooms in winter-time.

The school-room is also a frame building, 25 x 35 feet, on stone foundation, and well ventilated, situated on the hill about one hundred and twenty-five yards north of the main buildings.

Accommodation.—There is good and ample accommodation for forty pupils, and eight members of staff.

Attendance.—The attendance for the year has been very good, and more pupils than the rule of health would allow, have been present. We could secure a number of additional pupils, if we had more accommodation.

Class-room Work.—The progress in this department is most satisfactory. The children under faithful management have made great progress and too much cannot be said in favour of their discipline in the school-room.

Farm and Garden.—Owing to our nearness to the mountains, agricultural pursuits cannot be made a success, but we have about forty acres under cultivation, and succeed in raising good crops of green feed, which is used as fodder for stock.

Industries Taught.—The boys are taught in the various branches of ranching, teaming, fencing, ploughing, mowing, milking and the care of stock in general, and have performed their duties very faithfully and satisfactorily. The girls are taught efficiently in the various branches of housekeeping: sewing knitting, mending laundry and dairy work, and give good satisfaction in these various departments.

Moral and Religious Training.—We have tried in every way possible to teach these children in the faith in which we believe, and have been encouraged and had 'signs cheering.' Religious exercises as follows : morning and evening prayers together with Scripture, reading and singing ; Sunday—service at 10.30 a.m., Sunday school, 3 p.m., Sunday evening, song service, 7.30 p.m. The morals are highly commendable and cases of truancy and corporal punishment are indeed few and far between.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the children has been steadily improving for the last three years. Dr. Lafferty has answered very promptly to our calls, and prescribed in every necessary case.

The sanitary condition of the school is improving every year.

Fire Protection.—The fire-protection consists of four Babcock fire-extinguishers and twelve grenades.

Water Supply.—During the past year a water-supply has been brought from the spring on lot 7, into the building, giving us one tap in the kitchen and one in the laundry.

Heating and Lighting.—The main buildings are heated by two furnaces (one of which is out of repair) and wood-burning box stoves. The whole school is lighted with coal-oil lamps.

Recreation.—Sufficient time is allowed the boys and girls for recreation, as we find that the rule of health demands this.

General Remarks.—I am very pleased to say that the parents of the pupils have been very loyal to us in our work, and helped us in every way possible, as also the government and church representatives. Agents H. E. Sibbald, and T. J. Fleetham, have done all they could in every way to advance the interests of the school.

I have, &c.,

JOHN W. NIDDRIE,
Principal.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
ONION LAKE R.C. BOARDING SCHOOL,
ONION LAKE, SASK., July 16, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report on the Onion Lake (St. Anthony's) Roman Catholic boarding school at Onion lake, for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The school is situated on Seekaskootch reserve, about twelve miles from Fort Pitt, on the north side of the Saskatchewan river.

Land.—About seven or eight acres of land are fenced in and set apart for school purposes, buildings, gardens, playgrounds, &c. The land belongs to the Indians of the reserve.

Buildings.—The school is a frame building, 45 x 35 feet, three stories high and is used exclusively for the pupils. Another building, 25 x 20 feet, is the sisters' residence, and to this is attached the kitchen and pantries. The other surrounding buildings are a storehouse, laundry, bakery, ice-house, hen-house and stable.

Accommodation.—There is ample accommodation for sixty pupils and a staff of ten, but a class-room for the junior pupils and a boys' recreation-room are greatly needed.

Attendance.—The average attendance during the year has been fifty. There have been seven admissions and seven discharges, of the latter two were transferred to Dunbow industrial school, two died, one was married and the other two went home to help their parents.

Class-room Work.—Two teachers are in charge of the different standards, in separate rooms. The junior class occupies the dining-room, which is very inconvenient. The programme of studies laid down by the department is faithfully followed. The class work is done neatly, with application and emulation. Half an hour each day is given to singing. The pupils form the choir of the church and are considered very good; they sing Latin, English and Cree.

Health and Sanitation.—There is nothing lacking in the attention paid to the sanitary condition of the school, good ventilation, disinfectants and plenty of outdoor life. Two pupils died at home during the year; one from grippe, the other from consumption.

Water Supply.—Plenty of good water is supplied from a well a few yards from the school.

Fire Protection.—One well, ladders, galleries, pails, axes, and barrels of water are kept in readiness. Outside fire-escapes will be put up during the summer.

Heating and Lighting.—The buildings are heated with stoves and lighted with coal-oil lamps, which are suspended from the ceiling, in the pupils' apartments.

Recreation.—The pupils have an hour's recreation three times each day, during which they indulge in all kinds of amusements. The boys and girls have each a large cradle-swing, tennis, croquet, football, &c. They are very fond of reading and prefer it to any other amusement.

I have, &c.,

E. J. CUNNINGHAM. O.M.I.,

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
ONION LAKE C.E. BOARDING SCHOOL,
ONION LAKE, SASK., July 16, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

Sir,—I beg to submit the annual report of the school under my charge for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The school is situated on the northeast corner of Makaoo's reserve and about three hundred yards southwest of the agency headquarter buildings.

Land.—There are perhaps twenty acres of land connected with this school and mission; this land being part of the reserve.

Buildings.—The school-house is a new building not quite finished, 30 x 40 feet, three stories high. The lower floor of this building when finished will be divided into two class-rooms. The second floor will be partitioned into rooms for the staff, and a room for any of the boys who may be sick or suffering from any non-contagious, or non-infectious disease. The third floor will be one large dormitory without partitions. Great care has been taken in the ventilation and lighting of this building. We have been using the lower floor as a school-room since April, 1903. The building originally used for a school is now used only as dormitories, laundry and boys' bath-room. Nearby is a storehouse some 15 x 20 feet, with a garret for storing clothes. Provisions, beef, fish and game are stored on the lower floor. The buildings which form the quarters of the staff and of all the girls of the school are some six in number, put up at different times, but all connected; any one of the four outer doors gives entrance or egress to the whole building, which is about 60 feet square. On the lower floor of this building are the principal's office, Indian room, pantry, kitchen, dining-room, store-room, two bed-rooms and a dispensary. All the upper floors are used as bed-rooms for the staff and dormitories for the girls; the dormitories for the girls occupy one flat, 24 x 36 feet, without partitions, and another, 20 x 24 feet, likewise without partitions. A building, 20 x 20 feet, two stories high, has been added to the buildings occupied by the staff; this addition forms the quarters of the ladies comprising the staff, and leaves the girls' dormitories unobstructed by any partitions, and

places the rooms of the staff in such a position that they have at all times entire command of the dormitories. There is a cellar, 20 x 30 x 7 feet. Our stables have been enlarged and finished till now they are second to none in the place.

Accommodation.—Accommodation can be provided for seventy pupils and also for a staff of eight.

Attendance.—All the children being kept in the school, the attendance has been perfectly regular except in rare cases, when a child would be sick.

Class-room Work.—Very marked progress has been made in class-room work during the past half year, especially is the improvement noticeable in reading, writing, arithmetic and English-speaking.

Farm and Garden.—Our farm-land now extends a trifle over three acres. We raise vegetables and root crops enough to supply our whole household. The work is almost entirely done by staff and scholars.

Industries Taught.—The boys are taught carpentry and house-building, chiefly. They also have the care of horses and poultry, as well as the care of the cows, milking and the working of the cream separator is also part of their work or duties. We also have a few hens, and the care of these forms part of their work. Girls are taught knitting, sewing, cooking and general housework and the making of butter and cheese.

Moral and Religious Training.—To this part of their education particular care and attention is paid. Each one of the staff fully recognizes that without careful moral religious training all the other training is simply wasted or even worse. We do not aim to teach them the tenets of any particular church, preferring to teach them the simple old gospel, the old, old story—Christ first, the church afterwards.

Health and Sanitation.—On the whole, the health of the children has been very good.

Water Supply.—Our water-supply is ample, four wells being used and each of them containing a supply of good water.

Fire Protection.—Two small chemical fire-extinguishers and constant care and watchfulness as to stoves and stove-pipes are all the protection we have.

Heating.—All our premises are heated with wood-stoves. In places where there is greater danger of children playing with fire, I use top-draft stoves, so that it is almost impossible for the children to get at the fire.

Recreation.—The principal recreations are football, baseball, swings and athletics. All of which is respectfully submitted.

I have, &c.,

J. R. MATHESON,
Principal.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
PEIGAN C. E. BOARDING SCHOOL,
PEIGAN RESERVE, PINCHER CREEK P.O., ALTA., June 30, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I beg to submit my annual report on the above institution for the year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—This school is built on the banks of Pincher creek, and is situated on the northeast quarter of section 12, township 7, range 29, west of 4th meridian.

Land.—The school owns forty acres of land, being legal subdivision 9, of the section above-named.

Buildings.—The buildings consist of a boarding school proper, a carpenter-shop, stable and laundry.

The boarding school proper is 78 x 32 feet, 32 feet over all. It is built of wood, and 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 laundry has been erected during the year, 20 x 30 feet.

Accommodation.—This school has accommodation for forty pupils, boys and girls, also for a staff of six persons.

Attendance.—The attendance has been fair, but there are still a number of children of school age on the reserve, if they could be induced to attend school.

Class-room Work.—The pupils have made good progress in all their studies.

Farm and Garden.—A garden of two acres is well fenced in, and produces all the vegetables required in the school.

Industries Taught.—The boys are taught general farming; they do all the baking for the school, their own washing, and assist with their mending. The girls are taught housework, knitting, sewing and cooking.

Moral and Religious Training.—Religious instruction is given twice daily, and everything is done to improve the morals of the pupils.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the pupils has been good on the whole, with the exception of the usual scrofula and consumption. There was one death during the year from consumption.

Water Supply.—A drive well in the kitchen supplies the institution with an abundance of pure water.

Fire Protection.—There are four small engines kept ready for use, should occasion require.

Heating.—The building is heated by hot air, from two large furnaces in the basement.

Recreation.—The children have ample grounds to play in, and in the summer spend their time in all kinds of games.

I have, &c.,

W. R. HAYNES,

Principal and Missionary.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
PEIGAN R. C. BOARDING SCHOOL,
PEIGAN RESERVE, MACLEOD, ALTA., July 15, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I beg to submit the following report on the Peigan Roman Catholic (Sacred Heart) boarding school, on the Peigan reserve, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1904.

Location.—The school is situated on fine elevated ground on the north side of the Old Man's river, a very healthy location, in the centre of the Peigan reserve, in close proximity to the agency headquarters buildings.

Macleod, Alta., is the post office address of the institution.

Land.—The land on which the school is built belongs to the reserve. About half an acre is fenced for a vegetable garden, in which we raise a fair crop every year.

Buildings.—The school-building consists of a large house, 84 x 26 feet, with an addition on the north side for a kitchen, 19 x 16, and a pantry, 17 x 14.

The centre building is 30 feet square two stories high. The roof part is unfinished and consequently unoccupied. On the first story are the refectories for the pupils and for the staff, the parlour, and a corridor leading from the front door to the kitchen. On the second story are the rooms for the staff, and a chapel of a good size. On the west side, we find on the first floor the class-room, the recreation-rom for the boys, 25 x 14½ feet ; on the second floor the dormitory for the boys, 29½ x 25 feet. On the west side, we find on the first floor the class-room, the recreation-room for the girls; on the second floor the dormitory for the girls. Both wings are the same size. We have a laundry, 30 x 20 feet. On the first story is the washing-room, 20 x 20 feet, and the coal-room, 20 x 10 feet ; on the upper story is the drying-room.

With the department's grant, we have been able to build a fence around the school, to paint the laundry and put on storm windows.

Accommodation.—The building affords accommodation for forty pupils and the staff.

Attendance.—The pupils of this institution being all boarders, the attendance is regular. Last year we lost two pupils : one, No. 7, was transferred to Dunbow school ; the other, No. 11, died of consumption. We admitted seven new pupils, three boys and four girls.

Class-room Work.—We follow the programme of the department. The progress is generally fair and encouraging.

Farm and Garden.—Our boys are too young to be of much use on a farm. But at special hours they assist in the garden.

Industries Taught.—Our children have special hours every day for manual work. The boys work in the garden, keep clean their rooms and dormitory, scrub the floors, and do a little work around the house. The girls are kept busy at general housekeeping, sewing, mending and washing clothes, helping in the kitchen, &c.

Moral and Religious Training.—Special attention is given to instruct our pupils in moral and religious truths. Catechism, Bible history and prayers are taught every day by the priest.

Health and Sanitation.—The health of the pupils has been generally good. We have a few cases of scrofula and one of our boys died of consumption; the health is generally improving.

Water Supply.—The institution has two wells, containing good water, one a few feet from the kitchen, the other close to the garden. They furnish an abundant supply of water for the establishment.

Fire Protection.—We have a fire-extinguisher, axes, and buckets of water are kept at convenient places through the building.

Heating.—We use common coal stoves.

Lighting.—Coal-oil lamps are used, and proper care is taken against any danger by fire.

Recreation.—We have two recreation-rooms, large and well ventilated, one for the boys, the other for the girls. We have a good fence around the school-buildings, and have two good yards for the children: one for the boys, the other for the girls. Besides, there is behind the buildings a fine piece of prairie, where the children can play in good weather, under the supervision of some of the staff, and where the boys take a special delight in playing football.

I have, &c.,

L. DOUCET, O.M.I.,

Principal.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
ROUND LAKE BOARDING SCHOOL,
WHITEWOOD P.O., ASSA., August 4, 1904.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my twentieth annual report on the Round Lake boarding school.

Location.—The school is situated in the Qu'Appelle valley, at the east end of Round lake.

Land.—The land in connection with the school comprises about thirty acres of one-quarter section 14, township 18, range 3, also south half of section 23, township 18, range 3, west of second meridian.

Buildings.—The buildings are frame on stone basements. The main building contains the kitchen, laundry, dining-rooms, waiting-rooms, parlours, sleeping-rooms, store-rooms, sewing-room, pantries, bath-rooms, &c.

The school-house contains the school-room, boys' sleeping-room, teachers' and farmers' rooms and class-rooms.

Accommodation.—The buildings will accommodate eighty pupils.

Sanitary Conditions.—The location of the buildings is on well drained land which slopes towards the lake and river. The surroundings are kept clean and the rooms are large, with good light and ventilation. An abundant supply of good food is provided and exercise, sports, amusements and the cultivation of a cheerful disposition help to keep us all in good health.

Fire Protection.—Chemical fire-extinguishers, a good supply of water, fire-buckets, stove pipes and flues kept clean and in order, particular care taken with the fires, barrels filled with water and kept in convenient places, constitute the means employed for fire-protection at the school.

Farm and Garden.—We have about two acres of garden, in which is cultivated all the various kinds of vegetables required for the use of the school. There is also about one hundred acres under cultivation for farm purposes.

Industries Taught.—These consist of farming and gardening, the care of horses, cattle, pigs and poultry, carpentering, painting, glazing, kalsomining and baking for the boys, and dairy work, laundry work, making and mending clothing, knitting, fancy, needle-work, cooking and general housework for the girls.

Water Supply.—There is an abundant supply of water, which is pumped by a windmill from a well to a large tank in the attic, and thence to all parts of the building.

Heating and Lighting.—The buildings are heated by a furnace and lighted by coal-oil lamps.

Recreation.—Tobogganing and skating in winter, football and other games in summer, together with boating and bathing, form the chief recreations of the pupils.

Attendance.—There has been an average attendance of about twenty-four pupils during the year—about an equal number of boys and girls.

Class-room Work.—Good progress has been made, and the course of studies prescribed by the department has been followed; vocal and instrumental music are also being taught.

Religious Instruction.—Sabbath school and public services are held on the Sabbath and also morning and evening devotions. In all our teaching we aim at building up a Christian character.