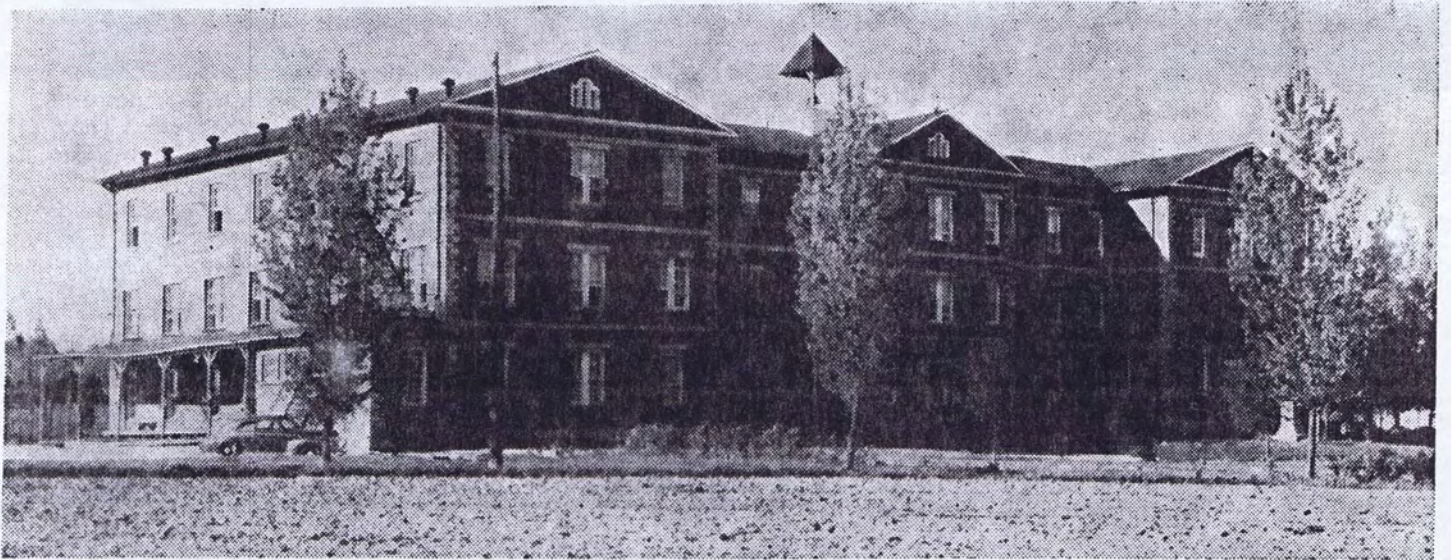


*The*

# GARNIER

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL *for* INDIAN BOYS

SPANISH • ONTARIO

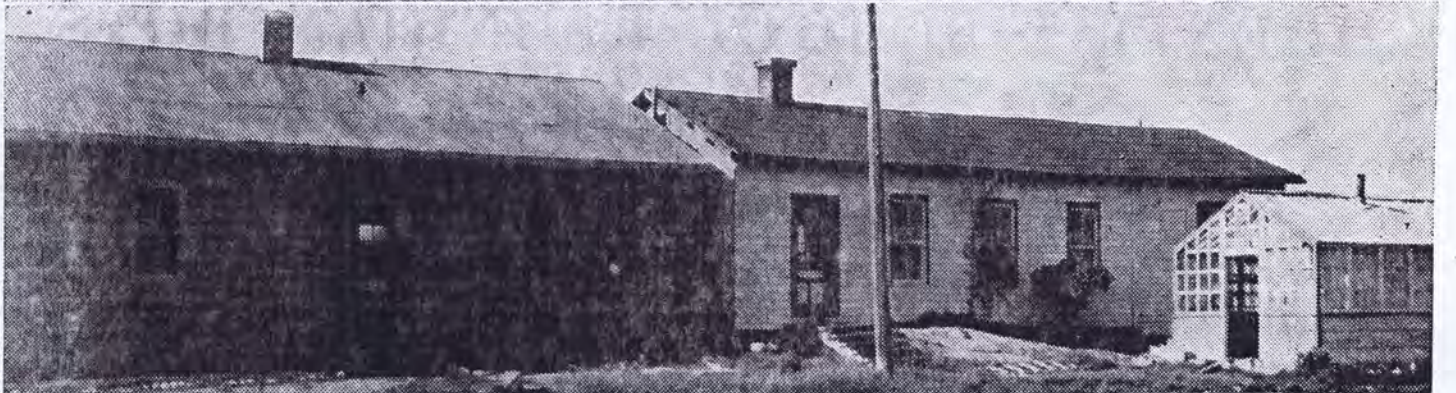
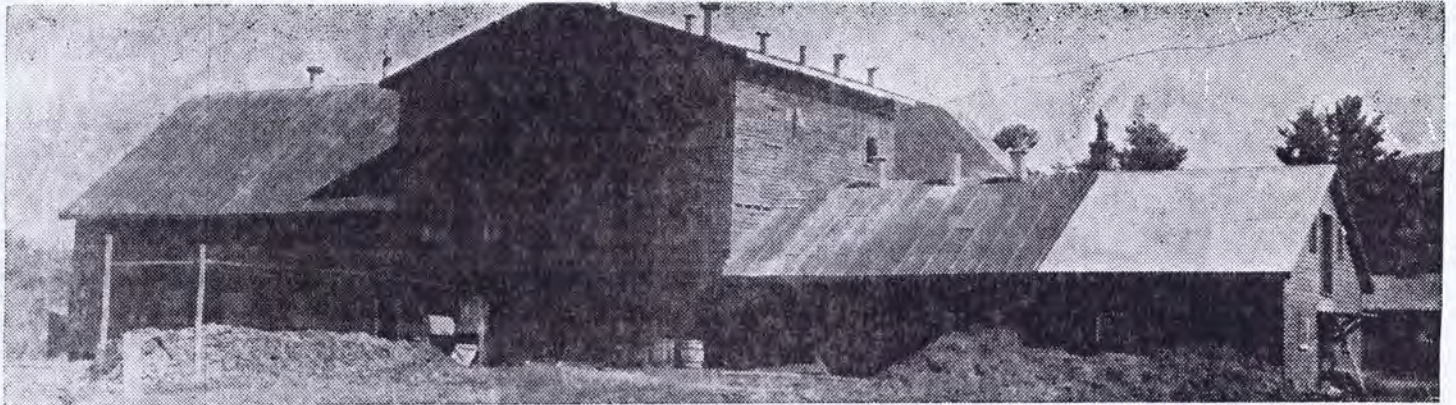


*Founded and Directed by*

**THE SOCIETY *of* JESUS**

*for more than One Hundred Years*

# STABILITY PLUS ORDERED PROGRESS



All buildings at the Garnier Residential School for Indian Boys have been built by members of the Jesuit Order. These include nine fine structures, two of which are seen here. In the top is the huge barn operated by

the school. Below can be seen the cement block power house, the shoe factory and part of the greenhouse. The school Fathers say they could not operate if they did not grow so much of what they consume.



Outdoor life is enjoyed to the full by the boys. One of the highlights of the day for the boys is the evening meal down by the shore of Georgian Bay. Here, during the fine days in the spring and fall, the boys have a picnic meal after having enjoyed an hour of play and swimming in the water. Baked beans, stewed tomatoes,

meat and vegetables, bread and butter and big pots of cold milk are loaded on the school farm wagon and hauled to the water's edge, there to be eaten ravenously by these healthy young lads who are securing such a good foundation training in citizenship from the Jesuit Fathers.

# *The Children of the Forest Become Children of God...*

Founded on the principles of Christian service, unstinting sacrifice and the rich, black acres of an old lake bottom, two residential schools for Indian children at Spanish are paying handsome dividends in spiritual development, citizenship, self reliance and independence.

Operated by priests of the Jesuit Order, along with lay brethren, Garnier Residential School for Indian Boys and St. Joseph's Residential School for Indian Girls are supplying educational facilities for Indian children from many parts of Eastern Canada and especially Northern Ontario.

Established at Wikwemikong in 1825 by secular priests of the Roman Catholic Church as part of an extensive missionary effort to convert the Indians of Manitoulin Island, the school was operated there for almost 100 years before being transferred to a site on the north shore of the Spanish River where it empties into Georgian Bay.

The first school was founded by Father Proulx, Priests of the Jesuit Order were barred from Canada at that time but after the uprising of 1837 they were permitted to return and assumed charge of the Wikwemikong mission and school.

Operated during that century as a day school, the Wikwemikong effort never seemed to meet the great need for education of the Indian children, it is revealed by Rev. R. Oliver, principal of Garnier School.

"It was found almost impossible to maintain attendance at the school," Father Oliver told The Sudbury Daily Star in recalling the early days of the institution. "The children were too near their homes. They received a certain amount of education which was hoped would establish new horizons in their lives. But the return to the squalor of the Indian homes each night counteracted what had been achieved during the daytime.

"The parents were not anxious for their children to receive an education or learn new ways of life," Father Oliver continued. "This resulted in a high percentage of absenteeism.

Then, too, there was too much emphasis on teaching of trades and too many poorly-directed periods of manual labor."

Then the Jesuit Fathers finally decided that if the school was to achieve what it had set out to accomplish it must be removed from the Reserve and from the parents. A tract of 1,000 acres was purchased in 1913 at the mouth of the Spanish River.

"The Jesuits decided that in order to change the outlook of the Indians, all efforts must be concentrated on the children in an environment where there wouldn't be any interference from the parents," the principal continued. "In order to accomplish this, it was decided the new venture would be a residential school, with all students living in the school throughout the entire term."

Under the driving force of Rev. Joseph Sauve, of Wikwemikong, and ably assisted by Father Paquin, the Garnier School was launched. Father Paquin, a builder of note, designed the building, drew all the plans and supervised the construction.

The first students were selected by Indian agents throughout the province from those who had shown the greatest talent and were the most deserving. They were taken in at the age of six, with the understanding they must stay until 16 years of age. This graduating age has now been raised to permit students to complete their high school training. Many of the students were orphans or those who had been abandoned by their parents.

The same rules of selection still hold and students come from reserves at Cape Croker, Pickerel River, Cutler, North Bay, Birch Island, Garden River, Wikwemikong, West Bay, Pembroke and even in Quebec and Manitoba.

From a small beginning of 40 boys, Garnier School has grown until today it provides education for 172 boys and 150 girls. A few years after Garnier School was launched for the boys, St. Joseph's School opened for the girls under the direction of the Sisters of Mary.

# THE MAKING of MEN . . .

## *Self-reliant, self-sustaining citizens product of constructive tuition*

A new horizon has emerged for Indian children in the vicinity of Spanish in Northern Ontario, and probably paved the way for a modernized conception of what Canada's Indian population requires to make it self-sustaining, self-reliant and eventually full citizens of the Dominion.

The occasion was the graduation last June of the first class of high school students from the Garnier Residential School for Indian Boys here. The eight graduates from Grade 12 are believed to constitute the first full graduating class of its kind from any Indian school in Canada.

The ceremonies were held in the large auditorium at the school which was crowded with proud parents, members of the department of Indian affairs, residents of nearby communities and the clergy.

Speaking with emotional sincerity, Basil Johnston, of Cape Croker, delivered the valedictory address for the class of eight graduates. He made an impassioned plea to all Indian parents to realize the urgent need for greater education among Indian children in order that they can take their true place in Canadian life.

### Encouraged by Teachers

"We have been encouraged by our teachers who always had our interests at heart," said Johnston, in thanking the staff for the assistance given over the course of the years. "What our high school certificate will mean to us is hard to express. Indians need education; they need their own teachers, lawyers, doctors and politicians.

"We have talked of our rights as the first citizens of the coun-

try, but few of us are prepared to safeguard those rights," the valedictorian emphasized. "We must be alert to take advantage of our opportunities and extend Christian influences among our own people. Only through having the courage to continue our studies and determination to use the talents we have for advancement can our Indian people become true citizens of Canada."

In opening the evening ceremonies, Rev. R. Oliver, principal of the school, first congratulated the graduates and then traced the history of the introduction of the high school course at Garnier.

"After many years of discouraging rebuffs when we proposed the introduction of a full high school course of training for the Indian boys and girls here, we finally succeeded in securing approval four years ago," he explained. "It was started with the firm conviction that only through raising the educational level of the Indian children could they ever hope to better themselves and improve their standard of living and status in Canadian society.

"The first Grade 9 classes were started four years ago," he continued. "Tonight we see the first graduates from Grade 12 in that course. There are today 45 boys in the high school classes and 38 girls. Soon we will have our own teachers, nurses, doctors and lawyers from our own people."

The principal reported the most successful year in the history of the school.

In congratulating the eight Grade 12 graduates and the four Grade 11 graduates, R. P. G. Laurence, of Sault Ste. Marie, Indian agent for the Soo district, pointed to how the fine qualities of the Indian race could be developed through greater education.

"The department of Indian affairs is attempting to lay new

stress on education," he declared. "Through this they hope to teach the Indians to help themselves by learning self-reliance. In order to attain this among the younger generation, the parents must lend their wholehearted co-operation and support."

Presentation of the special awards to members of the boys in Grade 12 was made by Rev. D. Hannin, school prefect and sports director.

Members of the Grade 12 graduating class were Basil Johnston, of Cape Croker; Dominic McComber, of Montreal; Alphonse Trudeau, of Wikwemikong; Francis Commanda, of North Bay; David Jacko, of Golden Lake; Julius Neganigijig, of Sheguiandah; Alfred Cooper, of Wikwemikong; and Ernest Nadjiwan, of Cape Croker.

The four graduates of Grade 11 are Maurice Peltier, of Cutler; Adam Roy, of West Bay; Russell Jocko, of Golden Lake; and Clement Trudeau, of Wikwemikong.

The graduation ceremonies were attended by W. H. Bulger, of North Bay, high school inspector; Indian Agent Laurence, of the Soo; Rev. J. Dwyer, of Cape Croker; W. J. McGuire, acting supervisor of Indian agencies, of Cape Croker; and the chiefs from a number of surrounding reservations.

The evening was concluded with a dance with music supplied by the school orchestra comprised of Howard Peltier, director; Lawrence Lewis, piano; Henry Lewis and Howard Peltier, saxophones; Peter Day, Maurice Peltier and Emile Hughes, violins; Victor Peltier and Alex Day, drums; and Wilfred Commanda, trombone.

Lunch was later served by the senior girls of St. Joseph's School, under the direction of Miss Annie Berrigan, sport director.

# HELPING THEMSELVES

## *Students "Work for a Living"— Learn their Responsibilities to Society*

From the lush black soil that once formed part of Lake Huron, the lay brethren and students of Garnier Residential School for Indian Boys harvest almost every known type of vegetable. Last fall at harvest time, the canning factory put up 10,000 one-half gallon tins of corn, tomatoes, peas, carrots, rhubarb, beets and other vegetables.

"Meals are not fancy, but they are substantial and follow a balanced diet," said Father Oliver, as he passed the writer a heaping dish of the most appetizing stew ever consumed.

It was dinner hour at the school, and there was certainly nothing lacking in the way of food.

The huge slabs of butter in the bowls along the table came from the cream provided by the school's 65 pure bred milch cows. All are Holsteins and during the summer months when the school is virtually closed, every ounce of cream is converted into butter for the coming months.

Acres of hay, Alfalfa, root crops and corn tax the huge barn each fall, all raised on the school land. Potatoes by the hundreds of bushels are harvested each fall. Cabbage, squash and turnips are stored in a great root house for winter consumption, while hundreds of chickens provide fresh eggs daily for the 300 hungry children. Fresh meat comes from the large herds of beef cattle and pigs that are raised on the property.

Every building on the property was built through the combined efforts of the priests, lay brethren and students. The school boasts its own sawmill, planer and finishing machines, while 8 kw. of electrical power is supplied from the school's



Indian children are taught to be skillful with their hands, and both boys and girls alike contribute work toward the upkeep of the school. At the same time they master the rudiments of trades which teach them self-reliance and independence. All the shoes for the 153 boys in the school are made in the boot factory under the supervision of Brother E. McLaren.

own power house. Hydro is expected to reach the school by next year.

Every member of the student body is expected to contribute so many hours daily toward the maintenance and expansion of the school. Upon arising at seven o'clock, all attend prayers, eat breakfast and then break off for an hour of work. Each has his tasks to do.

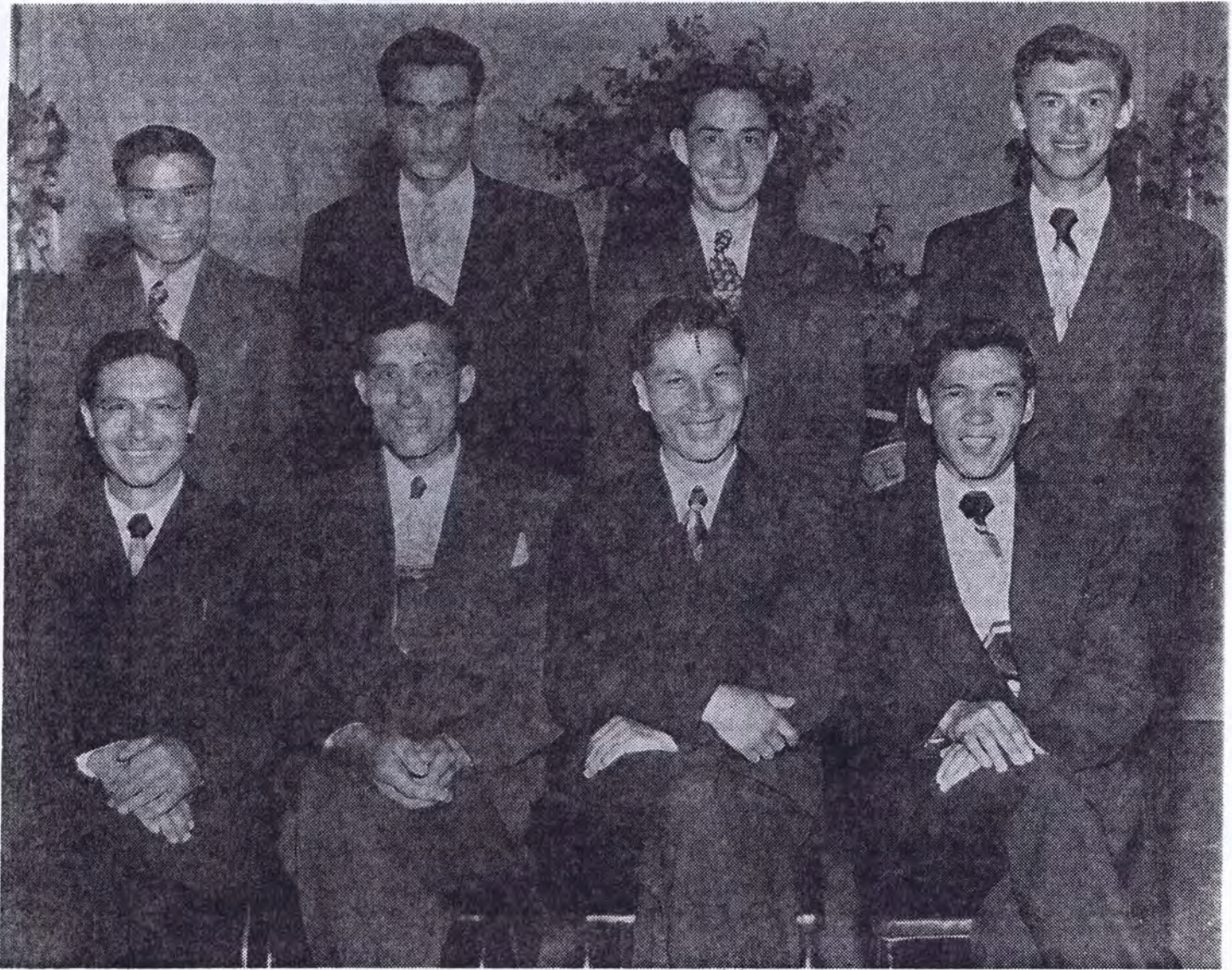
At 11.30 classes are broken off for another hour of work, then dinner and back to classes. The school day ends at 3.30 o'clock when each again goes to his or her appointed work. Some of the boys may work in the school shoe factory where all shoes worn by the pupils are made. In season, others will

be despatched to the cannery. In the afternoons supervised play periods are provided, with sports emphasized.

In whatever line of endeavor it is, expert supervision is provided and the class of instruction is much higher than under the old system where the pupils were virtually turned loose to perform the most menial tasks of manual labor.

"There was too much emphasis on this in the past," declared Father Oliver. "We try to avoid drudgery and emphasize, rather, the independence and self reliance they can learn from the tasks assigned to them. As a result there has been a great improvement in morale in recent years."

# THE REWARD *of* FAIT



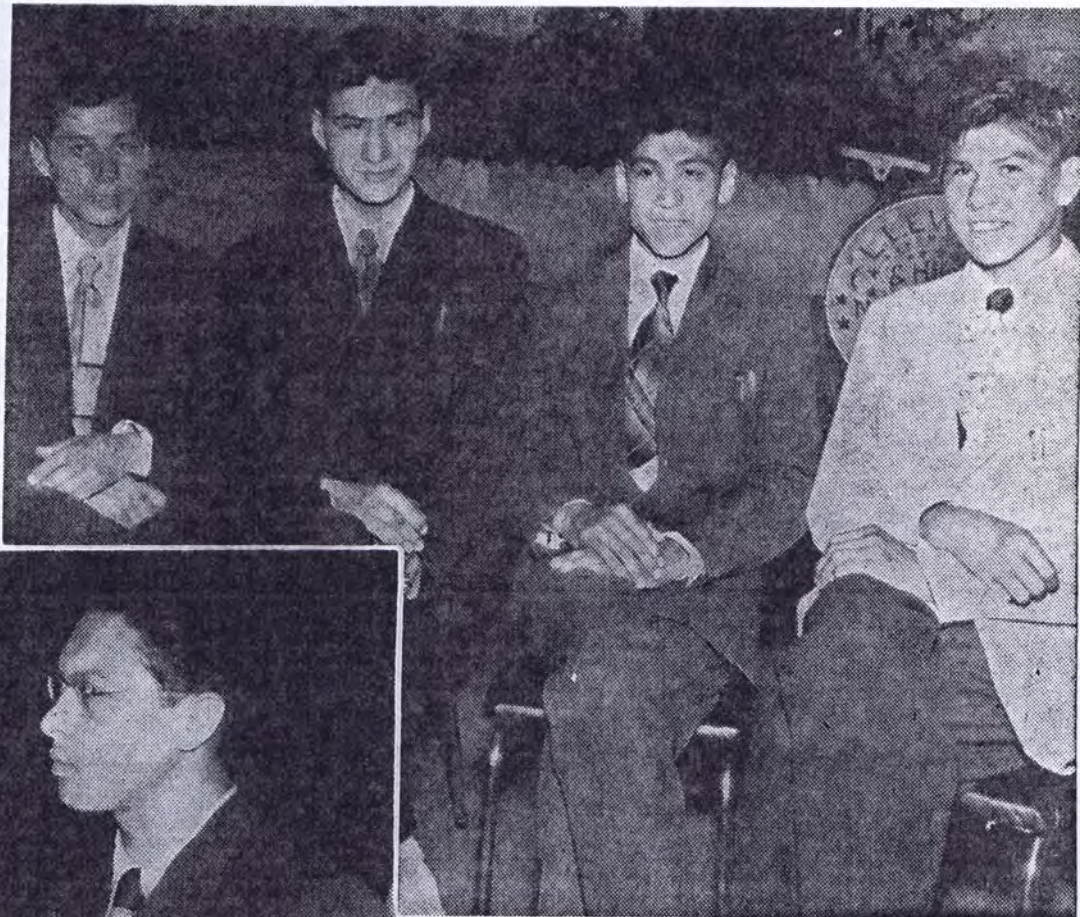
Above are members of the first graduating class of Grade 12 at the Garnier Residential School for Indian Boys at Spanish, who were honored at graduation ceremonies at the school in June. The boys are believed to be the first graduates from such a regulation high school course in a recognized Indian school anywhere in Canada. The school is conducted by the Jesuit Order, with some assistance from the department of Indian affairs. Seen here, in the front row, from left to right, are Basil Johnston, of Cape Croker, valedictorian, and winner of the graduating prize in history; Dominic McComber, of Mont-

real, winner of first prize in religion; Alphonse Trudeau, of Wikwemikong, winner of the French prize; Francis Commanda, of North Bay, winner of the school athletic award and for outstanding school spirit and leadership. In the back row, left to right, are David Jocko, of Golden Lake, first prize for art; Julius Neganigijig, of Sheguindah, first prize for science; Alfred Cooper, of Wikwemikong, adjudged best all-round student in the school; and Ernest Nadjiwan, first prize for English composition. Two graduates are now attending university, while others are preparing themselves for admission to college.

# DILIGENCE, STUDY

For an Indian boy or girl to further his or her education beyond Grade VIII was regarded as quite a feat, until lately. The opportunity was not theirs too often. However through the untiring efforts of Father Oliver, an opportunity was given to the boys of Garnier. Now that Garnier has produced its first High School graduates, we sincerely hope that there will be a steady flow of graduates who will go forth from here and carry on their education in more advanced fields.

The Jesuit Fathers and Brothers at Spanish, and the Jesuit Missionaries of Northern Ontario are proud of these first graduates. We wish them courage and perseverance in their chosen vocations . . . and the very best of success.



The four boys who graduated from Grade XI at Garnier Residential School are seen here. All are returning to complete their Grade XII. Left to right are, Maurice Peltier, of Cutler; Adam Roy, of West Bay; Russell Jocko, of Golden Lake; and Clement Trudeau, of Wikwemikong.



Basil Johnston, above, of Cape Croker, was valedictorian for the graduating class of eight boys at Garnier Residential School.

These graduates worked all summer and are settled in the colleges of their choice. Johnston registered at Loyola College, Montreal, in first year pre Law, Cooper in first year pre Medical at the same school. At the completion of their courses they will be the first professional men from the Chippewa Nation. David Jacko has begun his first year at Ontario College of Art. The others are enrolled at Ryerson Institute fitting themselves with an excellent trade to become good citizens of Northern Ontario. Expenses for these courses are fully paid by the Indian Affairs Branch. Such examples as these will do much to make the Indians of Canada aware how much their conditions can be improved. It urges them to further co-operation with the Department and the missionaries who realize that Canada's Indians are going to make good citizens only when they are educated to the point where they can take care of themselves.

## A LIFETIME . . . in the service of Jesus and His Society



Rev. R. Oliver, left, principal of the school, discusses the graduation ceremonies with Rev. Joseph Richard, 96, Indian missionary for almost 75 years.

### *Ministering to Canada's "First Citizens"*

Father Richard's life has been spent among the Indians of the North Shore, where his ministering care and intense interest in their welfare has been one of the great forces for good in bettering the lot of Canada's first people. He started this long lifetime of devotion as a

young missionary among the Indians at Wikwemikong on Manitoulin Island. Since then he has served in almost 60 posts. It was not unusual for him to go months without seeing another priest. Indian residents of Garden River, Cutler, Mississauga, Sagamok,

Spragge, Byng Inlet and Algoma Mills knew him well. His zealous devotion to Christ and a life of piety have left their imprint on thousands along the North Shore, where he continues to carry out his good works as spiritual adviser at Garnier.



# HOW IS IT POSSIBLE

*for the Jesuit Order*

*to Finance Such an Undertaking*

*as the . . .* **GARNIER**

**RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL** *for* **INDIAN BOYS**

?

“To feed, clothe and educate our 172 boys, we receive a grant of 68 cents a day for each primary school pupil and an extra 32 cents a day for each high school pupil from the Dominion government,” Father Oliver explained. “Up until a few years ago it was only 40 cents each.

“If we did not have the wonderfully rich soil here that grows everything in abundance, we would not be able to operate,” he emphasized.

None of the fathers receive a cent of pay for the long hours they put in teaching. The lay brothers likewise serve without pay and their days are long and arduous.

“If it wasn't for the lay brothers who are the actual technicians, farmers and trade instructors, I do not know how we would manage,” said Rev. E. J. McKenna, school prefect.

“Theirs is truly a life dedicated to Christ and service to mankind.”

# FALL GLEANINGS

## *Jesuits Attached to Garnier . . . make up a cosmopolitan group*

FR. OLIVER, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, has been the principal for 5 years.

FR. HUGH BARRY, of Hamilton, Ont., is in his first year as Fr. Oliver's assistant.

FR. ALEX MacDONALD, of Ottawa, Ont., acts as Chaplain at the Convent.

FR. JOSEPH McDONOUGH, of Dublin, Ireland, is the Student Counsellor.

FR. JOHN McKEY, of Detroit, Mich., is our travelling Indian Missionary along the North Shore of Georgian Bay.

FR. RICHARD, of Montreal, at 96 is retired.

The two young Jesuit Scholastics who take care of our 172 lads when they are not in class are Mr. Emmet McKenna, of Montreal, and Mr. Paul Belyea, of St. John, New Brunswick. What a job they have! Mr. James Schnurr, of Kitchener, teaches Grades 7 and 8.

Besides, we have 6 Jesuit Brothers who do more than their share in looking after the needs of the school and its residents. Bro. Laflamme, of Boston, Mass., is the Infirmaryman. England has sent us 3 irreplaceable men in Bro. O'Keefe the Procurator, Bro. McLaren the baker, and Bro. Westaway the cook. Holland's gift to us is Bro. Vandermeer, our machinist and chief farmer. And then there is our jovial Bro. Voisin of St. Clement's, Ont., who takes care of the barn and its inhabitants. These Brothers really have a dozen odd jobs to look after but we only name the chief one.

If it were not for the great sacrifices that these men are making, we do not hesitate to say, that Garnier would just not be.

## *The Grads*

The staff and the boys at Garnier want to give three cheers for the boys who have gone forth for further studies. Of last year's graduates, Alfred Cooper is registered at Loyola in First Arts along with Basil Johnston. Alfie has set his mind on a B.A. in pre-medical; Johnston on a B.A. in pre-law. All of us here bet that they will make it easily.

To Ryerson Institute in Toronto have gone Francis Commanda, Julius Neganigijik, Alphonse Trudeau and Dominic McComber. All have registered for the two-year course in electronics and electrical

repair. David Jacko is enrolled in the Ontario College of Art. David sacrificed much of his time here for art work and even gave up his chances in rugby and choir to follow his beloved hobby. We are proud of his murals in our dining room and club rooms. To all of you from all of us the very best of everything.

## *How Are You on Tongue-Twisters?*

We submit a few Indian family names to exercise your tongue and lips. With each family name we place its English equivalent. Very often an Indian will use the latter, probably out of pity for his white brother.

Misanaquat	-----	Rainy Eve
Mishibinijima	-----	Shining Shield
Odjick	-----	The Beaver
Neganigijik	-----	Rising Sun
Wabijib	-----	White Duck
Wasseshigens	-----	Fox
Wagosh	-----	Red Fox
Wabanang	-----	Morning Star
Nadjwan	-----	Red Feather
Chiblow	-----	Beaver
Meawassige	-----	Bright Morning
Cococo	-----	The Owl
Kitchigigik	-----	Big Day

## *New Arrivals . . .*

Chippy's brother MacBride already a major force in the rugby team and no mean hand at the declension, is fond of Latin, French and singing — mostly about dogs. Albert Boissoneau from the Garden, so far a woman-hater, no dances for him. Can't figure out why he is practising the Schottische. Maybe it's for the fall field day.

Garnet Pine also from the Garden was the man behind the scenes at last month's social. He has a gift for making the midgets play smooth rugby. William Konoshamek, alternatives with the big MacBride as snap back on the rugby team.

Gordon Corbiere another Wikemikonger, has the width for the team but not the height. Give him a year and he too will play for the Varsity squad.

Henry Dominic and Lloyd Pete from Shishigwaning, are busily engaged in learning the smarter jive steps. Poor Henry had to be rushed to the hospital for an appendix operation before he could try out the new steps at the first dance.

Robert ("I'm-always-writing-letters") Sunday has the idea that

boarding school means all study and has to be kept away from the study hall by force. Robert comes from St. Regis with a smile that is worth a million dollars. We hope for more and more of his kind.

## *Father Hannin*

Formerly a little wisp of smoke around the corner would tell of the coming of Father Hannin. With several boards in his grip and followed by five big boys, well armed with hammers, saws, an screw drivers, Fr. Hannin was on his way to fix a fence, tear down a wall, or build a stage. Fr. Hannin did a great deal for the school and could turn his hand to class in Ancient History, to the editing of the Club Star, the producing of a play, the coaching of a team, or even the producing of jam from all kinds of vegetables. He took a special course of studies at St. Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia and is now in charge of social work and adult education on Manitoulin. Here's a wish and a prayer for Fr. Hannin's success in his new venture for which he has been especially chosen.

## *The Vets . . .*

In Grade XI three vets have appeared. For several years Cecil Meawassige sailed the high seas after completing two years at Tech in Sault Ste. Marie. He yearned for further knowledge and is getting it now in History, Algebra, Physics and English. He has done a lot of research work along detective lines and is also a musician. Victor and Howard Pelletier are taking the same courses and along with Cecil got badly shaken up in the first week in their search to find the unknown. In every activity these new additions are tops. They can change places at the piano for the dances, play the violin and guitar, handle the traps, referee the basket ball, lead the cheering section for the games and wax the corridor. They pep everybody up but not till after breakfast please.

## *The Library . . .*

New shelves were installed during the summer and the study hall library section holds about one thousand books to date. The old trek to the library upstairs is over. Now that the books are within easy reach, the boys are doing a great deal more reading.

# . . . at GARNIER

## Teachers . . .

Mr. Marrin who taught grades seven and eight last year, is now Principal of Holy Family School in Spanish and looks somewhat more stern. Brother James Schnurr has replaced him here and right now his class is filled with weeds and leaves of all kinds. Bro. Schnurr whose brother is the famous hockey player, Bob Schnurr, can throw a rugby ball like a pro. He refereed the Espanola Garnier game to the satisfaction of both the teams and fans. No mean accomplishment.

## Orchestra . . .

The boys and girls voted last month's dance one of the best. The orchestra was tops. Vic Pelletier was emcee. It has been a time honored custom for the girls to trip the Schottische lightly somewhere during the party. This time Maurice Pelletier and Gordon Manitowabi surprised the girls by putting on their version of this dance. Now the girls are asking for lessons from these pros. Spot dances intermixed with Paul Joneses, and lemon dances made for a lively party. A feature that brought down the house was the singing of that talented vocalist MacBride, who as guest artist, sang his very special number about a poor little dog. Many of the girls wept quietly. One of the girls wept more than the others, but she had just finished a whirl with Robin and was limping badly. We trust she will recuperate in time for the next dance.

## Calls Highlights . . .

Messrs. Murphy and Dale Grisdale returned from Normal School brim full and flowing over with ideas on how to get their classes running smoothly. All the young fry were glad to see them and any question of a change of teachers would have meant a revolution. Right now in these classes a big October concert is in preparation. The program thus far is a big secret. However, we did hear that the one man radio show artist from South Bay, Sylvester is to star. He is not too fussy about songs like "Farmer in the Dell," under compulsion he sings them. To quote him: Darn fine song "Good Night Irene." Herbie Mitchell has trouble with tables and spelling but when it comes to using the straight arm, he in rugby is second to none.

## Orchids to the Gals

For the fine cheering section at the rugby games. Maurice and Adam say that with those gals cheering them on they could have run right past the touch line to the mill.

For their hospitality at the first dance and the snappy lunch put up by the Domestic Science Group.

For the nice hairdos and the snazzy outfits that dazzled the boys at the last dance here. A special thank you to Lillian for taking over the piano with the orchestra.

For taking on the leading of singing at Sunday Services.

For just being gals, and such nice ones.

## Gridlights . . .

Mr. Sammon bribing the team with "no home work" promises, Bro. O'Keefe peppering up the midget cheering section with that familiar walking stick.

Miss Hnatchuk praying silently for Espanola.

Mrs. May, Mrs. O'Connor and Mrs. Pilon looking over the Espanola players and making plans to get in there if it got too hard on the boys.

Spike getting ready for action when Adam Roy was downed near the goal line.

Fr. McKenna muttering to himself and putting a band aid on Adam to cure his charley horse.

## Football . . .

Last year football came to Garnier for the first time. This year from all indications it is here to stay. Everybody from Fr. Belyea's midgets to Fr. McKenna's seniors are out there tearing one another apart at the least provocation. The season officially opened with an exhibition game between the Varsity squad and the Leftovers on Sunday, October 1st. To the surprise of everyone including the cheering choruses from across the way, the Leftovers came out with a two touch-down lead. However, the Varsity Squad learned their lesson well. Three days later the Espanola team came to Garnier, and believe me the Leftovers would not have had a chance against the Big Shots. Maurice (Mr. Quarterback) Pelletier crossed the Espanola line for two touchdowns and Adam "Just-call-me-Captain-please" Roy, plunged down the field so often that finally they had to give him the last touch-down . . .

Tall lanky Joe Fox snagged two of the forward passes thrown his

way for gains of twenty yards, and twenty-five yards respectively. Old war horse Iwewe kicked the extra point after touchdown and did some very fine ball carrying in the bargain and finally to mention one more standout performer, Allan McGregor did a magnificent job of defensive line play by stopping Espanola's big plungers time and time again.

## Many Thanks . . .

A few days ago a large parcel arrived at the school. It was a present for the boys of Garnier. It contained a combination radio and phonograph. Two days later another parcel arrived. This one had in it six brand new helmets. For both these wonderful gifts the boys wish to say a sincere "thank you" to Mr. Leo McKenna, of Montreal, who is better known in these parts by the title "Chief Big Blossom."

Our thanks also to our very good friends in Cutler, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Pelletier, Mrs. Isidore Pelletier and Miss Martha Lewis, who made our picnic at Cutler such a grand success, and finally to Brother Vander-moor who dragged the whole gang down to Cutler behind his famous tractor.

## The Mighty Midgets

Every September, each of the four midget captains has to go through the woes of training new recruits, four or five at least, in the fundamentals of softball. They must teach the future Ted Williams how to hold the bat, not to swing at a pitch that is fifteen feet over his head, to run from home to first to second to third and back to home again and not to skip any bases in the process, and finally, not to tackle a runner even though he is going to make a home run. "What a sight it is to see! . . . Maple Leaf captain "Black Sambo" Lavalley . . . trying to get "Light-horse" Harry Day (thirty six pounds of fighting fury) to hold a twenty-five ounce St. Marys slugger in his hand . . . or to see Canadian Captain Jimmy King (thirty-five inches high) endeavoring to explain to huge Johnny Debossige (thirty-six inches high) that the bat is used to hit the ball and not the catcher . . . or to see Captain Jerry Meawassige driving "Tiny Tim" Boyer around the bases with a stick that is bigger than Boyer himself . . . or to see Captain Kebiosse explaining to his little brother Ronnie that he must not hit the umpire just because he calls him out.

# *An Open Letter to Our Friends*

Garnier Residential School,  
Spanish, Ont.,

Dear Reader:

Very frequently upon meeting new people, a member of the staff is asked: "What do you do, Father? Where is your Parish? When he replies—"I am stationed at a School for Indian boys," they say—"How interesting. I did not know that there was such a School, etc., etc." To enlighten such people, this little booklet has been edited.

Last June, Mr. Alan Baker, District Editor of The Sudbury Daily Star, came to Spanish, which borders on the shores of Georgian Bay, some 75 miles west of Sudbury. The occasion was the first High School Graduation exercises ever held at the Garnier Residential School. In the foregoing pages, you have read what Mr. Baker, an outsider, observed. Mr. Baker was very much impressed with what he saw, and we in turn with what he wrote in his paper. The Sudbury Star has been generous in giving us permission to reprint his impressions. We would like to thank The Sudbury Star for setting up this layout, for the write-ups, for the cuts and for the work that it entailed, all of which was done gratis. In reply to our words of thanks, Mr. Baker had to say: "We were very sincere in our effort to bring this story to the public, in the hope that your work might be better appreciated."

Why then should I send this on to you, my dear friend? Mainly, so that you will know of our work. Also, because I feel that if you knew more of the good work being carried on by the successors of our Canadian Martyrs, I am sure that you would be willing and anxious to assist us: financially, through a donation, large or small: materially, by sending us used clothing or sports equipment, and such as skates and running shoes. **THESE ARE OUR NEEDS.** Will you share what you have, with our little Indian lads who have little or nothing . . . just what we are able to give them. We are their present guardians. We would like you to be a sharer in our charitable works.

God's Blessings upon you and your Family

I Am Gratefully Yours

*Fr. Hugh Barry, sj.*

VICE-PRINCIPAL

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WITH ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY THE PRINCIPAL  
GARNIER RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL FOR INDIAN BOYS