

C. A. [unclear]

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Report on Larimer Kindergarten School.

Brief outline of events leading up to present situation.

I. The Financial Problem:

The Officials at Spanish are convinced that higher grants are necessary if a properly staffed & equipped school is to be run at Spanish. Data & facts are continuing to be collected and analysed & it is our hope that a Brief will be presented to the proper authorities within the coming year. It is planned to submit this to the Rev. Provincial & his Councilors as soon as it can be properly prepared.

II. The Academic Problem.

Several factors contribute to the problem.
(a) at Elementary level: The govt. has

in many places made arrangements with the Children's Aid Society to put ^{country} ~~city~~ before cases in private homes. (Spanish ^{was} 59% before at the elementary level)

(ii) The govt. has made a strong effort to send as many children as possible to day schools - by using buses for a wide area. Also has tried to send many of white schools. eg. Garden River (which ~~was~~ ^{was} not paid).
Culler - which did not succeed.
Spanish - ~~teachers were put out by~~ ^{govt. officials to the school board.}

(over) The question arises - what are govt. plans for Spanish? we felt we should know ^{enough}

(b) At Secondary Level -

Dept. ^{of Education} stated & repeatedly it plans to do all in its power to educate Indian children by means of White High Schools (integration) and it will spend much money to educate Indian children in Vocational & Technical Schools wherever possible.

Regional officials were first interviewed and then ~~with~~ ^{with} Sr. Provincial approval, the Director of Indian Affairs & his assistant in Education - Mr. Darcy were interviewed ^{2 1/2 hrs meeting & much talk} & a few promises.

a full report on the

meeting was given to Sr. Provincial & the Superior at Spokane & a letter, confirming the Dept. promises was sent to Ottawa

① Cf. letter - to Col Jones - Feb. 22nd, 57

② - Complete Silence even though a careful report was prepared & sent, explaining the present situation - especially ^{concerning the complaint} to J. L. ...

③ Aug. 14th - [Letter acknowledge by an assistant in Mr. Darcy's office (under)]

Letter requesting an interview - accepted and held on Aug 27th.

Cf. letter report - to Sr. Provincial (read this)

④ Report by Mr Darcy - buy us tips to present (discussion?) rec'd Sept. 6th/57 moment.

1.
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1 original
3 carbon
3 letters
1 plan

Report on Garnier Residential School by Province Paper

I. General Situation

Dec, 7th 1957

I am pleased to report a distinct improvement in the morale of Garnier School even though the future of this institution is quite uncertain due to the Indian Department's present policy. There is a feeling of confidence in the efficiency and purposeful government of the present Rector. A very real effort has been made to clean up, brighten and improve the quite crudely appointed building. Both Inspectors in their latest reports have commented favourably on the improved classrooms, the better equipment etc. The organization of classes (especially in High School), the more carefully worked out time-table etc were also praised. The contented spirit among the boys is due in great part to the paternal & devoted interest of P. Maurice. I would like to see a little more strictness in both discipline & studies, while retaining the valuable positive characteristics of his regime. The Staff feels much the same way. It was evident that the Joint teachers in the H. School ~~were~~ ^{are} striving to improve the oral expression of the Indian pupils by making them stand & answer in clear, complete sentences. This is most commendable since Indian reticence makes it difficult & even frustrating work. I was pleased to see how ably the Senior Club students, under the moderatorship of Mr. McArdle, conducted a club meeting - a most valuable training in self-expression.

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and correct business procedure. The participation of all classes in Domestic work and the production of a musical (The Vegetables) for Xmas indicates an improved attitude toward the cultural training of the students. The improved dining room conditions and the much more careful supervision of the Junior students at meals are worthy of mention.

II. Appraisal of Teachers.— of the Enclosed School Report.

III. Recommendations:

1. I have asked Pr. Maurice to instruct his inexperienced Study Hall supervisors more carefully and to check up at least once a week. Despite definite improvement over last year, there is still unnecessary talking and some reading of novels or comics during study periods.
2. Pr. Maurice must make greater efforts to visit the classrooms of the elementary school teachers and also those of our Scholastics.
3. A minor change in the Monday time-table will ~~help~~ improve the homework situation for Grades IX & X on Monday nights.
4. The continuance of staff meetings, especially of subject teacher groups, is highly recommended. It greatly helps integration of the courses and stimulates interest. Progress in this is quite noticeable.

Recommendations: (cont'd)

5. It is recommended that students who despite a fair warning continue to loaf & shirk their study duties be temporarily removed from the College teams.

Note: Such action would be based, not only on marks, but on the general report of the teachers and would punish lack of application & industry, not lack of talent.

6. While approving wholeheartedly of Fr. Maurice's paternal treatment of the Indian boys, I do urge that he insist on hard work, greater punctuality and greater awareness of socially acceptable behavior.

IV:

The future of Spanish. (Spanish & the Dept. Indian Affairs)

(a) Financial - Fr. Rector is studying the financial

situation carefully with a view to presenting data for a Brief later in the year if it is deemed advisable. He feels that the present status quo is but a part of the bigger problem of the school's survival.

The position of the Sisters' School will be clarified after their Provincial's visit at Xmas. My letter of April 12th sent to Mr. Dancy on their behalf has never received an answer though acknowledged by an assistant.

(b) Academic problems.

During my visitation, Mr. Lector arranged a meeting of the Superintendent & the Dean of the Girls' School with Mr. Maurice, himself and the writer. It lasted several hours and was a profitable interchange & discussion of ideas.

1. All agreed that in the Elementary school the pupils now being sent to Spanish by the Dept. were at least 50% potential delinquents and welfare cases. The more difficult cases were being sent to Spanish and the girls' school seemed to be suffering more than the boys in this matter. (Some 12-15 girls had "walked out" of Spanish in the past month. (The children aid placed ^{many} the others in Indian homes.)
2. All agreed that in the High School, the Department's policy of integration etc. had reduced both the number & quality of the students considerably. The boys' school has 35 Indian & 10 whites - spread over a 4 yr. course & the girls' school totals about the same.

The question we faced was - What seems to be the future of Spanish? A number of factors complicated the problem.

1. It seemed that if we simply ~~waited~~ ^{drifted} with the times & the Dept's policy, Spanish would revert to an Elementary school for children whom the Dept. could not or would not

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place in homes under the supervision of the Children's Aid Society. There has been assurance that by the Dept. that the need of such a school for at least 20-25 years is very great. Actually it would become a mild type of correctional & welfare institution.

appraisal: Fr. Peter & Fr. Maurice (especially) were opposed to the Society performing this type of welfare work at Elementary School level for an ungrateful & callous group of civil servants in the Indian Dept. I agree fully, ^{provided our apostolic services to Indian children are not interrupted.} The Sisters felt they could not encourage a policy in this matter since elementary education is very much their business and they are well established at Spanish. Naturally they are quite displeased with the Department's "dumping ground" policy. They will discuss this with their Provincial & give us a report on their position in January. It was of course not suggested to them that they look after all elementary students.

2. An alternative was for Spanish authorities to take the initiative. The school would advertise for white students on the hope of obtaining a sufficient number of white boarders & day-students to present to the Dept. the framework for an integrated High School. The Dept. would then be asked ① to send Indian students, ② to assist in improving the physical plant, ③ to give both financial aid & educational leadership in an effort to broaden the courses offered at their composite, integrated school.

appraisal: I questioned the possibility of obtaining such numbers of white students.

Fr. Drouin maintained that white students (both boys and girls) could be obtained in the area.

Mrs. Bengier (Dean) was equally certain that it would not be possible in the girls' section. She was also dubious of their ability to furnish the required H. School staff for such a school.

The matter was left for further study & investigation.

At a later ^{Jesuit} meeting, Fr. Drouin proposed, with Fr. Pector's approval the following suggested procedure.

Boys School only:

- 1) Get rid of the boys from Grades I - VI inclusive
 - (a) by forcing the Dept. to use the Children's Aid & welfare homes.
 - (b) by asking the Bishop to "invite" the Sisters to handle those children who can't be placed in homes. (This is a woman's job at such an early age.)

- 2) Advertise for white students & if successful put pressure on the Indian Dept. to send Indian boys of promise to share in the advantages of such an integrated school.

- 3) In the event of failure after several years' honest effort & experimentation, close Spanish & use the faculty for various Province needs. The property's value would not seem to me to be great.

Resolution: The initial step is the one which presents (over)

a number of difficulties.

(a) Are we endangering the faith & religion of many Indian children by turning them over to the mercy of the Dept. - so willing to neglect the religion of the Indians upon the least pretext?

(b) Is there a reasonable hope that the Rilles de Moine would take on these unwanted children? I find it hard to believe that some new order would set up a school & hotel for them. Religious ~~orders~~ orders

It would, of course, be a grand solution if they would do so.

to-day are completely swamped with requests. It would seem to me they would be loath to take on a duty which the apostolic Jesuit Order was abandoning.

Wrote

(c) I think before embarking on such a policy ^{H.S. integration} we should have a written guarantee from the Dept. that they would help ~~to~~ co-operate in such an integrated type of high school ~~and even trade school~~ with definite commitments, provided certain conditions were met ~~to their satisfaction~~.

Respectfully Submitted,
D. J. Cresswell
D

- I get rid of the boys from Grades I - VI inclusive:
(a) by - ^{C. out} forcing the Dept. to put more in ^{will pay how}
~~by getting the Sisters~~
(b) by asking the Bishop to invite the Sisters
(women folk) to handle those which can't
be thus placed..

II. Adventure for white students - if successful
put possession the Dept. to send Indian
since a good congrate (integrated) school
would be possible..

III In the event of failure - after a year or two
of honest experiment - close Spanish
as school & use monies for various needs
of Province, including the Indian money
book by the
Dept.

note. If ~~the~~ I (b) were feasible I would not
see any objection to the plan. The great
hazard is that many Indian children would
receive no Catholic education, if neither
the Bishop nor the Sisters Catholic groups picked
up the slack left by our departure from
Apollonia

Meeting (cont'd)

Indian Residential School
Spanish, Ontario

2) Spanish would advertise for white students in the hope of obtaining a sufficient number of white boarders & day scholars to present to the Dept. the framework for an integrated High School. The Dept. would then be asked to 1) send Indian students; 2) to assist in improving the physical plant & 3) to give financial aid as well as educational leadership in an effort to broaden the courses offered at this Snyfont's school.

Mr. Maurice felt that he could appear the possibility of many white students.

I questioned the possibility of obtaining such numbers of white students.

Mr. Maurice maintained it was possible ^{for the boys school} on his knowledge of the people & area.

Sr. Benjamin (Dean) was equally certain it would not be possible for the girls. She felt that white girls would not come & board with Indian children if the day scholar supply was limited.

The matter was left for further study --

At a later meeting (privately) with Mr. Maurice & Mr. Keeton. (The following proposal for the Boys School was drawn up. (over)

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Report on Garnier Residential Indian School by Province Inspector

Dec. 6th / 57.

I am pleased to report a distinct improvement in the morale of Garnier Residential School, even though the future of this school is quite uncertain due to the Indian Department's present policy. There is a feeling of confidence in the efficiency & judgment of the present Rectors. A very real effort has been made to ^{clean up} brighten & improve the ~~school~~ ^{school} ~~crudely~~ appointed buildings. ^{Both} Inspectors in their recent reports have

commented favorably upon the improved classrooms, better equipment etc. The class better organization of classes (especially in the H-School) & the ^{long} table arrangement were also ^{praised}. There is in general a good spirit among the students (boys) due in good part to the devoted parental interest of Mr. Maurice. I have asked him to see a bit stricter in both general discipline & studies & the general view of the faculty. The spirit of study is definitely improved better than last year though there is still room for improvement of ^{recommendations}.

Throughout the school there was a very good effort by the ^{High} teachers to improve the oral recitation of the Indian students. This is not commendable & the Indian reticence makes it very discouraging though very necessary work. At a meeting of the Senior Club under

F. McHadden's direction - the student conducted ^{their} a meeting ^{and I don't know if they} in a ^{very} ^{praiseworthy} manner. This is ^{undoubtedly} ^{one of} ^{the} ^{best} ^{things} ^{they} ^{have} ^{done} ^{yet}.

On cultural - ^{some} play ^{denymon}

The participation of all classes in some dramatic representation & the ^{times} production of a musical (The Gaybirds) indicates the ^{an} ^{improved} ^{attitude} ^{towards} ^{the} ^{cultural} ^{work} ^{of} ^{these} ^{students}.

Finally the improved denym room indicates & the much more careful supervision especially ⁱⁿ ^{the} ^{work} ^{of} ^{the} ^{junior} ^{students} is worthy of ^a ^{mention}.

II The appraisal of teachers is contained on the Enclosed School Report.

III Recommendations: 1. 2 3. 4 - 5 -

IV The future of Spanish: - Spanish & the Dept. of Indian Affairs

- (a) financial - Fr. Rector is studying the financial situation carefully with a view to presenting data for a brief later in the year if ^{the} ^{present} ^{status} ^{is} ^{not} ^{changed}. But he feels it is ^{not} ^{yet} ^{settled}.
- (b) Academic - engulfed by the bigger problem of ^{the} ^{school's} ^{survival}.
- 1) Numbers. 2) Quality. 3) course.

meeting. In meeting to discuss of by school
Dr. Lopez & the Gen of education & inspect

Complicated

The system are ^{the} ^{best} ^{managed} ^{by} ^{the} ^{provincial} ^{authorities} & their financial position ^{is} ^{well} ^{looked} ^{after}.
Mr. Lopez has ^{been} ⁱⁿ ^{charge} ^{of} ^{the} ^{school} ^{since} ¹⁹¹⁰ & ^{has} ^{been} ^{very} ^{successful} ⁱⁿ ^{his} ^{work}.