

January 8, 1953

Reverend Leo Burns, S.J.
Garnier School
Spanish, Ontario

Dear Father Burns,

P.C. Thank you for your letter of December 17. I was on retreat at the Novitiate when it arrived. The next time that you are here it might be well for you to speak to Father MacGuigan personally about getting scholastics to help out in the Christmas holidays. Often the objection from the Seminary is to the choice of individuals suggested.

I am not surprised that Father Costello is becoming restless at Spanish. He has still a good way to come before he is re-established again. We can feel content as long as he is making progress. I shall have him come here to see me before he returns to Spanish.

I am grateful for your Christmas greetings. Best wishes for the New Year. Please remember me in your Masses.

Sincerely in Christ,

Indian Residential School
Spanish, Ontario

January 29, 1953.

Very Reverend Father Provincial, S.J.
2 Dale Avenue,
Toronto 5, Ontario.

Reverend and dear Father Provincial, P.C.

Things go quite well in spite of considerable sickness in the house. Several of the boys returned after the Christmas Holidays with the Chicken Pox and now our teacher, John Healy, is down with it. I have a grade twelve student taking his class for the time being. The Scholastics are working very hard and Mr. Joncas appears quite tired. We do need another Scholastics and if there is one available he would be a Godsend.

We are having our own Missionaries and about six of the Parish Priests in this district for dinner on February the 2nd. Father McHugh has just finished his Triduum and we expect Father Maurice back tomorrow. I will be replacing Father Hynes at Garden River for this weekend. Father Barry is coaching both of our Hockey teams and is doing a good job. Father Richard is naturally slowing up a great deal and Brother Laflamme has considerable difficulty getting him up and down stairs for Mass and meals. We do not plan on having any outside guests on the occasion of his birthday as it is too much of an ordeal for him.

The extension to the recreation hall is completed with the exception of the heating and the toilet facilities. The Government is very slow in paying the labor grant which they promised. However, I expect to get about \$3,300 for this work in the near future. The cost to us to date has been around \$500.00.

There is a great deal of work here with regard to the spiritual direction of both schools. Father Maurice cannot hear the boys confession and I believe I am not supposed to either. However, I find it necessary to do so. It would have been a great help if Father Tanier, I am not sure of the spelling, now at Wikwemikong could have been sent here. No doubt there are reasons why he was not, but I know that he does help out with confessions and sermons where he is.

The Brothers are all well. I was expecting an Indian lad by the name of Michano to come here the first of the Year. Since he did not turn up, I had to hire a man to help Brother Vosian with the farm work. He has a very large stock this year and was not getting his work done till late after supper.

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with the man he has how he has the required time for his Spirituals. Since we have the Hydro Power, Brother Vandermoor is not quite so busy. He has taken on another class and is now teaching Motor Mechanics and Woodwork. Miss Strain will make quite a difference in the direction of the Girl's school. Miss McIntyre did not have the health for such a strenuous job.

I am

Asking a remembrance in the Holy Sacrifices of your Masses for our needs,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

C. N. Rushman S.J.
C.N. Rushman, S.J.

February 5. 1953

Reverend C. N. Rushman, S.J.
Garnier School
Spanish, Ontario

Dear Father Superior,

P.C. Thank you for your letter of January 29
and the news about the community and school.

In regard to the confessions of the boys - it
is only the Superior who is forbidden to hear the confessions
of resident students unless the students themselves, for grave
and urgent reasons and in particular cases, ask it (Egit. 389).
Of course, discretion suggests that the Prefect of Discipline
should not do so either, but I do not know that it is forbidden
by canon law.

I will ask Father Reisz, the Hungarian Provincial,
about Father Tanyi. Perhaps he may let you have him to help
at Spanish.

I trust that Last Vows were occasion of great
happiness for the two vow-men and for the community.

Please give my heartiest congratulations to
Father Richard on his birthday. I am saying Mass for him
tomorrow.

Please remember me in your Masses.

Sincerely in Christ,

G. E. Nunan, S.H.

G. E. Nunan, S.H.

Garnier Residential School

Spanish, Ontario

February 26, 1953.

Very Rev. Father Provincial, S.J.
Loyola College,
Montreal, Que.

Reverend and dear Father Provincial, P.C.

The past few years the Brothers have been making their annual retreat during Holy Week. If we are to follow the same custom this year, they would begin their retreat March 27th and end on Easter Sunday. As yet, I have not asked for a retreat master.

Brother O'keefe would like to make his retreat during the summer. He claims that he would find it next to impossible to make his retreat during Holy Week as he is sacristan. It would be very difficult for Brother Mara to make his while the boys are here. Not many of the students leave during the Easter Vacation. I believe that you promised Brother Voisin that he could make his retreat at some suitable time during the early summer. Hence this would leave only Brother Vandermoor, Brother McLaren and Brother Laflamme available for the Easter Week.

I would like to suggest, Rev. Father, that these three Brothers be given permission to go to Guelph to make a private retreat during Holy Week. We can spare all three, or at least can get along, without grave inconvenience during this period. It is my opinion that the change would be good for them. Furthermore there is a tendency among the Brothers to feel that the 'old Spanish' is good enough and that any change or improvement is useless and a waste of money. It would be good for them to see the improvements at Guelph and, perhaps, at Toronto. I feel sure that Brother Vandermoor and Brother McLaren would welcome the opportunity to go to Guelph. Brother Laflamme certainly needs a change and his health is equal to the trip. I assure you that Father Richard would not suffer in his absence. I have consulted on this question and all feel that it would be a good thing for the three Brothers to have this change during their retreat.

We are tearing down the old mill. Father Oliver had intended doing so last year but never got around to it. The pillars in which the foundation rests are nearly toppled over. I doubt if the mill would have withstood the Spring breakup. I have a man from Spanish tearing it down for half the lumber.

All are well in the house. There has been very little sickness among the students this Winter.

Very sincerely yours,

C. N. Rushman S.J.
C. N. Rushman S. J.

Garnier Residential School

Spanish, Ontario

Mar. 2, 1953.

Dear Father Provincial:

P.C.

Thank you very much for your letter and the permission to go home. However, I think I shall not go home right now. I shall phone mother this evening and see how everything is. I may make use of your permission at a little later date if that would be of any help to mother.

At present, I am quite busy; I would like to get my next issue of the Club Star under way. Also, Father Conlon is to put on a play for the high school, if at all possible, for St. Patrick's Day, and if I went, that might have to be cancelled. Another thing in the way is that Father ~~W~~ushman wrenched his back a little yesterday helping someone out of the ditch on his way to Sagamok. It is not serious and the doctor was just in to tape him up a bit, but it ~~would~~ keep him from helping out if I were to leave just now.

We have a few cases of Chicken-pox, about ten. I hope it doesn't grow into an epidemic. All has been going very well with the boys' health up to now.

I hope you are ^{not} kept too busy. Please remember us in your Masses and prayers.

Yours in Xto,

William Maurice S.J.

P.S. I have received a letter from Father McQuaid about my brother, but they do not know for certain the extent of his injuries. It seems that he is doing not too badly.

Garnier Residential School

Spanish, Ontario

1953?

Rev. and Dear Father:

I am adding another few words. I had intended to write to you in connection with studies sometime ago, but had never gotten around to it.

Mr. Lemay, the Vocational Director from the Indian Department, asked me if it would be possible to obtain permission to take the summer course in Toronto this summer from July 6-August 7, in Vocational Guidance. There are several reasons for this. First, I have Vocational Guidance here and it is a fairly big job lining up matter for this subject. Secondly, if there is any prospect of my being here for a few years, it would be of weight when inspectors come around. Thirdly, it seems as if the time is coming when the teachers in schools like ours will be paid by the department according to their qualifications and they will demand qualifications from the teachers.

It makes no difference to me except that I think you should know of these reasons and the recommendation of the Vocational Inspector who is a Catholic and wants to have qualifications in our teachers which will be recognized by educational authorities. He gave me a fairly good report but added that I should have some formal training in this matter, or words to that effect.

I was talking to Father Kierans about this course and he said that it was considered a very good course. However, I leave the matter entirely in your hands. I would have plenty to keep me busy here during the summer in studying courses, text-books, lining up the next year's programme, putting the library in shape and arranging classrooms and equipment to suit me. Should you decide that it would be better to take the course, I would still have three weeks to do the work I have in mind.

I hope I have presented this clearly. I would like to hear from you soon on this as applications should be sent in in the near future.

Yours in Xto,

Wm. P. Maurice S.J.

Loyola College
Montreal
March 9, 1954

Reverend Leo Burns, S.J.
Garnier School
Spanish, Ontario

Dear Father Burns,

P.C. Pardon my delay in answering your letter of February 17. You will have received my telegram approving the change to the Saturday holiday. It seemed to be the most urgent matter in your letter and I got the telegram away as soon as possible in order that you might put the change into effect for the weekend. I trust that you have had no further difficulty with Mr. Sammon.

On regard to the policy that the Indian Department is adopting in regard to the per capita grant for High School students in church-owned residential schools, it would seem to be a good example of bureaucratic methods. The Dept. is determining its own interpretation of the Indian Act without much regard for anyone else. It would be good to follow Father Laviolette's suggestion and draw up our reasons for maintaining our school in its present position. I will speak to Father Oliver about the matter when he comes here for the consultation on Thursday. In this matter we should keep in touch with Father Laviolette. It seems to be a case where we should ask the help of the Members of Parliament so that some influence may be brought to bear on the Department. It is not a question of some particular detail of administration that is at issue but a general policy and the interpretation of the Indian Act. Father Oliver may be able to arrange an interview with Father Laviolette on his return from Montreal.

I am somewhat uncertain as to whether Father Costello has returned to Spanish after his supply at Killarney. I wrote to him a few days ago in reference to future work. I had a letter from him a couple of weeks ago in which he said that his stay there was very helpful. The fact that he wrote the whole letter himself was a good sign. He seems to be making slow but continual progress.

Kindest regards to all. Please remember me in your Masses.

Sincerely in Christ,

Indian Residential School

Spanish, Ontario

March 13, 1953.

Rev. and Dear Father Provincial, P.C.

Just a hurried note this morning. Our house is pretty badly upset with so much sickness. I was laid up with a strained back for nearly a week. All the Fathers have had the Flu and Father McHugh and Father McElligott are still very weak. About forty boys are down and more to follow it seems. Brother O'Keefe is still running a temperature and is still in the hospital. The Sister called this morning saying that Father Richard could come home. Evidently he is as good as ever. However, it takes one person most of the time looking after him when he is here. Brother Laflamme has more than he should be doing now with the boys. I called the Sister again and she agreed to keep Father Richard in the Hospital till Monday. Father will not like this but we cannot do much about it. He told me yesterday when I saw him that keeping him in the Hospital was a big joke and that he did not think it was a very funny one and was quite upset about it.

Have you a Brother that you could send us for a couple of weeks till this epidemic is over? I really do not know just how we can handle Father Richard without some help. I hesitate to take him from the Hospital till I have some assurance that we can take care of him. On the other hand, it will not be easy to leave him there beyond this Monday. I know that the Sisters need the room for others.

I am obliged to go to Ottawa to see Mr Phelan sometime after the 20th of this month and before April the 1st.

We are ready for the Brothers retreat here and Father Cloran wrote that two would be coming from the Seminary. Father Farrell arrives on the 20th.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

C. N. Rushman S.J.
C.N. Rushman, S.J.

Garnier Residential School

Spanish, Ontario

Reply Mar 24/53 - may register for
teachers' course.

Mar. 21st, 1953

Reverend and Dear Father:

P.C.

Father Rushman asked me to write to you in connection with the summer course for which you gave your approval. It seems that for almost any course offered by the Department of Education some teaching qualification or Certificate is necessary. This is true for the one in Vocational Guidance.

Father Rushman and I agree that it would be of more benefit if I were to take the course leading to a teaching certificate. This course requires two summer courses with a full year at Normal at some later date. Even if it were not feasible or possible to take the year at Normal, the two or even one summer course would be of greater help in my position than the one on Guidance. The course for teaching could lead to the Permanent First Class Certificate. Mr. Samson advised me to apply for this if at all possible. This course runs from July

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2nd to August 12th.

Would you please let me know soon if you approve of my switching to this course, as I should have my application in by April 1st.

Father Richard is bed ridden now. His stay in the hospital where he was not allowed to walk, lost him the use of his walking powers. We are certainly glad to have Bro. Mulken as Father does require almost constant attention.

I hope you are all well. We are getting over the flu. Let's hope nothing further develops.

We all recommend ourselves to your Masses and prayers -
yours in Xto -

Wm. P. Maurice S.J.

March 21, 1953

Dear Father Rushman,

P.C. I wish to acknowledge your letters of February 26 and March 13. You have had Father Socius' answer to the first and you will therefore know the reasons for having the retreat at Spanish during Holy Week. If you think that Brothers Vandermeer, McLaren and Laflamme need to get away from Spanish for a change, you might propose some suitable time for it later on. We can discuss the matter of the retreat at the time of my visitation.

Your letter of March 13 was awaiting me when I returned to Toronto on the morning of March 19. I first intended to send Brother Grubb to help out but he was on the second day of his retreat, so I decided to send instead Brother Mulhern, who is a postulant. He will be able to give Brother Laflamme some help until the Brothers arrive for the retreat. The experience will, I hope, do Brother Mulhern some good. There is no one at the Novitiate with time to give the Novice Brothers instruction in infirmary work.

I was pleased to learn that Father Richard had recovered so quickly from the 'flu.

You have my permission to go to Ottawa before the end of the month to see Mr. Phelan.

Please remember me in your Masses.

Sincerely in Christ,

G. E. Nunan, S.J.

G. E. Nunan, S.J.

Garnier Residential School
Spanish, Ontario

Reply - April 1.
7.

March 25, 1953.

Very Reverend Father Provincial, S.J.
2 Dale Avenue,
Toronto 5, Ontario.

Reverend and dear Father Provincial, P.C.

I am most grateful to you for sending us Brother Mulhern to take care of Father Richard. He is very efficient and takes a brotherly interest in making Father as comfortable as possible. I sincerely trust that he can remain as long as Father is living, or that someone else equally as capable takes his place.

I will try to give you, as clearly as possible, the problem we have taken care of Father Richard. He is absolutely bedridden and has no control over his actions in bed. This means that his bed has to be changed six or seven times a day. He calls for help very frequently during the day and four or five times during the night. His voice is quite strong and his call for help can be heard all through the second corridor. It seems to me that he is growing weaker and more restless. We feel that he needs constant attention and by someone who has some ability in taking care of him. Brother Grub, for instance, would not be ~~satisfactorily~~ satisfactory. I could not take the responsibility of leaving Father Richard to the sole care of Brother Laflamme. When he was taking care of him, he would leave him alone ~~from~~ after breakfast till noon and then perhaps see him ~~once~~ only in the afternoon. Even if Brother Laflamme had nothing else to do, I could not trust Father Richard to his care.

This is our problem, Reverend Father. It seems to me absolutely necessary to have someone, apart from our present staff, whose full time job would be to look after Father. I would suggest that Father be taken to Guelph, but the people in this district would be greatly disappointed and perhaps the Bishop as well. I have had no definite word as to the length of time Brother Mulhern ^{is to stay there} so I will keep him till I hear from you.

We have six Brothers coming for the retreat. Father Farrell is exceptionally well liked in the Parish.

Thank you for giving me permission to go to Ottawa. I will leave Sunday night and return the next night. There are quite a number of problems concerning the boys and girls who wish to go to Normal or in Training. One of our teachers, John Healy, is going to Guelph over the Vacations to make a retreat. He is exceptionally fine boys.

A very Happy Easter and with kindest regards from all the Community, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,
C. N. Rushman S.J.
C.N. Rushman, S.J.

Oak Park, Ill.

April 1, 1953

Dear Father Ruskman

P.C. I did not have time to write you before leaving Toronto last night, and so I am taking advantage of a stop over in Chicago at the Provincial's residence to do so.

It will not be advisable to let Brother Mulhern to stay indefinitely at Spanish. It is best for him to spend his postulancy at the Novitiate once he has begun it there. It was my intention that he should return at Easter, but because of the emergency that you ^{are} ~~are~~ perceiving in Father Richard's helpless state, he may fill out a month's stay at Spanish. Meanwhile

April 7, 1953.

Dear Father Rushman:

P.C. This letter is being written on the C.P.R. We have just left Revelstoke and are about to enter the Connaught Tunnel at Glacier. I arrived at Vancouver Holy Saturday at noon and spent Easter Sunday and Monday there. All are well; Father Riffel has improved greatly, he has put on 10 pounds under Dr. Steele's care and is doing considerable work in the parish, preaching the Lenten course of sermons.

A letter from Father Swain was awaiting me on my arrival at Vancouver. He thinks it better that Brother Mulhern should return to Guelph April 10. One of the Sisters at the Hospital is going to begin a course in home nursing for some of the Brothers about that time and Brother Mulhern is one who would profit by it. In Brother's place they will send one of the second year Novices as a hospital experiment. I will write Father Master from Regina to get in touch with you about the replacement.

Wishing all at Spanish the graces of the Easter season and asking a remembrance in your Masses, I remain,

Sincerely in Christ, *G.E. Numan, S.J.*