



# CANADIAN PACIFIC TELEGRAPHS

*World Wide Communications*

W.D. NEIL, GENERAL MANAGER, MONTREAL

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RFDE 50 NL NL

May 1953

MASSEY ONT MAY 4

VERY REVEREND GEORGE NUNAN SJ  
2 DALE AVE  
TORONTO 5 ONT

FATHER SWAIN ADVISED THAT BROTHER TO RETURN MAY TENTH WITHOUT REPLACEMENT  
IMPOSSIBLE TO TAKE CARE OF FATHER WE ARE OF THE OPINION THAT HE WOULD  
BE MUCH BETTER AT GUELPH IF YOU AGREE WE COULD TAKE HIM BY AMBULANCE AND  
DRIVE STRAIGHT TO GUELPH BROTHERS MARA AND OCHANLEY WITH HIM

C N RUSHMAN SJ

737PM

May 16, 1953

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

Dear Father Rushman,

P.C. I was attending the Provincials' Meeting at New Orleans when your telegram arrived. If I have not written to you since then it is because I did not know what was best for Father Richard.

Father Rector at the Novitiate would be glad to receive Father Richard but he says that there is this difficulty at present. The second-year Novices are at the Shrine and only eight first-year Novices are at home. The work of looking after Father Richard would fall upon them; then their villa season begins about the middle of June. It would be very difficult for them, therefore, to handle the situation.

These difficulties, however, are only a secondary consideration, but Father Johnston wondered whether it would not be possible to find some other solution until they were better able to look after Father Richard. Would it be possible to find a place for him until the end of June at the hospital or home for the aged at Blind River or elsewhere in the Diocese? Please let me know as soon as possible whether this could be done.

We would not want to fall short of anything that charity and gratitude would suggest for the care of the dear old man, and we want to put the burdens that it involves where they can be most easily borne. Brother Laflamme has been wonderfully good to Father Richard and he must be more than overtaxed now with his care, but I would like to find out the best solution for the present situation. Is it possible for you to get some extern who could help out? In the event that none of these solutions are possible the Novitiate is ready to receive Father Richard.

I shall await your answer. Please remember me in your Masses.

Sincerely in Christ,

Wikwemikong, Ontario  
June 2, 1953

Reverend Clifford Rushman, S.J.  
Garnier School  
Spanish, Ontario

Dear Father Superior,

P.C. I am enclosing the Memorials which I had not time to finish before leaving Spanish.

Another point that should be mentioned is that of absences from the house without the Provincial's permission. As is customary in other houses the Superior may permit an overnight trip to one of our houses in the vicinity - in the case of Spanish these would be Garden River, Sudbury and Wikwemikong. But for longer absences the permission of the Provincial is required. This ruling does not refer to calls from parishes within the diocese for ministry, which may be accepted by the Superior.

Care should be taken that there is no abuse in the use of automobiles. This refers both to the house car and to the parish car. These should be used for legitimate needs and not for recreation.

I am sorry to say that I missed seeing Brother McLaren when I was there. I thought he had been in to see me but it was only after my departure that I realized that he had not.

Thanking you for your kindness and that of the community during my visit to Spanish and wishing every blessing from God upon your house, I remain,

Sincerely in Christ,

June 11, 1953

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

Dear Father Rushman,

P.C. I trust that things have been going well since my visit to Spanish and that you are coping with your difficulties. I repeat the order of complete abstinence that I gave you then. It is the only solution together with fidelity to prayer for your problem.

When classes are dismissed you are to come to the Novitiate to make your retreat. You need the force of spiritual motives and a renewal of religious life to give you the graces and strength necessary.

Father L. Desjardins is at present stationed at the College at Sudbury without a special status but to answer calls for help. I told him that I would inform our Missionaries so that they might call on him when they needed a priest for help with their work.

I will keep you in mind in my Masses and I ask you to remember me in yours.

Sincerely in Christ,

June 16, 1953

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

Dear Father Rushman,

P.C. I had a letter today from Nicholas Battista, a brother of Joe. Joe has been under treatment by Dr. Samson, S.J. and later by Dr. Stern. The latter has recommended that Joe work on a farm under someone who would show him sympathy and charity. Mr. Battista asks that we take Joe for a three month's trial this summer. He would work for his room and board. Would you be interested in having him at Spanish?

When I was at Spanish we spoke of getting rid of Spike when the boys left. I think that this should be done as he is a constant danger to outsiders.

Please remember me in your Masses,

Sincerely in Christ,

*G. E. Huron, S.J.*

*Indian Residential School*  
*Spanish, Ontario*

June 17, 1953.

Very <sup>Reverend</sup> ~~Father~~ Provincial, S.J.  
2 Dale Avenue,  
Toronto 5, Ontario.

Rev, and Dear Father Provincial, P.C.

I am happy to say that things have been going very well since your visitation. There has been a more vigorous spirit, spiritually and also with regards to the temporal works. We had a very fine graduation class and the Graduation Exercises were commented on most favourably.

I am in receipt of your Memoriale and I will endeavour to carry out the recommendations to the best of my ability.

I give you my assurance that I will carry out total abstinence as you ordered. I am also convinced that the task will not be too difficult, I am carrying out my spiritual duties, I believe, in a creditable manner.

I am asking you if I could possibly put off my retreat for the present and make it at Guleph so that I would finish on the Feast of the Assumption. This is not very far off and I will outline the reasons why I ask this permission.

It takes till about the fifth of each month to complete the the forms for Tuition Grants, Manual Training reports and the reports for the High School. In addition there are the Family Allowance reports to make out for all the children who leave here for summer placement. I would say that about 70% of the requisitions coming from Ottawa for Admission to the two schools are made during July. This means a great deal of correspondence with Ottawa during this time. Also, when Mr. Paige. of the Indian Affairs Branch was here for Graduation, He told me that Mr. Phelan is planning a visit here about the middle of July. As nearly as I can see, it is the one month that the Principal should be here.

*Indian Residential School*

*Spanish, Ontario*

If you can see your way clear to grant this extension for my retreat I will feel greatly relieved that the work so important to the school during July will not be neglected. I assure you that I will do everything on my part to make this month of July equally valuable for my own personal life.

I was informed that the drafts for the work in the kitchen and scullery would be here this week. I will forward them on to you for your approval as soon as they come.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

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

Spanish, Ont.  
June 19, 1953.

Very reverend and dear Father Provincial,  
Pax Christi.

I wrote the letter of congratulations to Mr McFadden which you suggested. Thank you for your interest in this matter. I do not think there has been any ill-feeling over my not cashing that cheque, if indeed, it were noticed at all. I did at the time write a letter of thanks for the gift without indicating how I might make use of it. Mr Fitzgerald has been, if anything, more affable when I have met him of late.

Father Dowling wrote suggesting that I might have work for Father Brown for a while. Several of my missions undoubtedly do need more Masses and sermons and instructions, yet I discover that they do not turn out very well for an extra Mass on a Sunday or holyday which is not on their schedule. While I was considering the advisability of having some extra Masses in spite of that, I asked Father Rushman about it. He is strenuously opposed to having Father Brown here at the school for the summer, but has no objections if I could find a room for him some place else. So I think I had better not ask for Father Brown, though, as far as he is concerned, I am sure that he would do good work. I have already told Father Oliver that I did not think I would have work for Father Brown for the summer. Please keep us in your prayers and Holy Sacrifices.

In Our Lord,

John McHugh P.J.



*Garnier Residential School*  
*Spanish, Ontario*

June 21, 1953.

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

Dear Father Provincial, P.C.

I am willing to accept Joe Baptista for July and August. If all goes well with him during these months and he wishes to remain, he could do so. However, I would not like to make any arrangements beyond the summer months as he might not be acceptable when the students are here.

Father Barry has left for Toronto to see a Doctor about his skin condition. Father Oliver passed through last night on his way to the East.

All goes well here. The Indians are here every day wanting to get their children home. It is difficult to keep classes going till the 26th.

Sincerely in Christ,

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

Approved 8/7/53.

Indian Residential School  
Spanish, Ontario

July 6, 1953.

Rev. and dear Father Provincial, P.C.

I had a Contractor from Sault Ste. Marie and one from Sudbury bid on a quarry tile floor for the kitchen and scullery and a seven foot glazed wall for these two rooms. The Sudbury contractor asked \$5100, and the Sault asked \$3773.00. The Sault man is reliable and would be the one to get. I can get \$3,000 from the Government for this job. If you approve of this would you kindly reply as soon as possible as I wish to get this job finished before I leave for my retreat.

Brother Mara will be leaving for Guelph tomorrow night. All goes well here.

Sincerely in Christ,

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

P.S. We sent Spike to his Happy Hunting Ground.

July 8, 1953

Dear Father Rushman,

P.C. Thank you for your letter of July 6.

You have my permission to let the contract for the renovations in the kitchen to the Sault Ste. Marie contractor.

I am glad to learn of Spike's demise.

Please remember me in your Masses.

Sincerely in Christ,

*G. E. Weaver, S.J.*

July 21, 1953

Dear Father Rushman,

P.C. I have a change to announce in the Status issued on July 10.

Instead of sending Mr. P. Granville to Spanish I have decided to keep him at Loyola. Mr. Joseph Murray will go to Spanish in his place and Mr. Conlon will go to Regiopolis.

I will notify these scholastics of the changes in their assignments.

Please remember me in your Masses.

Sincerely in Christ,

*B. E. Brennan, S.J.*

*Indian Residential School*

*Spanish, Ontario*

July 23, 1953.

Rev. and dear Father Provincial, P.C.

We have been approached by a Mining Company to sell an option on the mineral rights belonging to our property. They are offering Five Thousand dollars for the option with a thousand down and the balance at the end of the year if they are satisfied that it is worthwhile.

The option means this: with the down payment of \$1,000 and the balance paid up at the end of the year, they will have the right to buy the mineral rights at a price set by a Government Assessor. I understand that the minimum price for land that has mining value is \$35,000 for 160 acres and it increases according to the value placed by a Government Assessor.

If we sell the option the land would be open to prospecting. However, any damage done, such as the cutting down of any trees will be paid for. It seems to me that we have nothing to lose and at least \$1,000 to gain. We will never know whether there is any valuable ore on the place unless it is open to prospecting.

If I have your permission to let the option, may I use the \$1,000 for kitchen equipment, such as stainless sinks?

The last few days here have been terrifically hot, and I can imagine what it is like in Toronto.

We are all pleased with the Status and feel that we should have a very good year.

Asking to be remembered in the Holy Sacrifice of your Masses, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

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

July 24, 1953

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

Dear Father Rushman,

P.C. Your letter concerning the option on the mineral rights of your property was received this morning.

Since I did not know what such options involved I asked Father Brennan to get in touch with Tom Day who has done a great deal of work for mining companies. His advice was that you ask the people who are interested to apply to him and he will act for us. He thought that a great deal might be involved since there is much interest in minerals in the vicinity of Spanish at the present time.

This seems to me the best course. We would have the experience of one whose law firm has largely dealt with mining properties. Moreover, he is a very good friend of the Society.

His address is: T. J. Day, O.C.  
85 Richmond Street W.  
Toronto, Ontario

Please remember me in your Masses.

Sincerely in Christ,

August 11, 1953.

Dear Father Rushman:

P.C. This letter will bring unexpected news. It concerns a change in your status. You are to be transferred from Spanish to Regina where you will be Prefect of Discipline at Campion. I received word from Father General on Thursday of last week approving the appointment of Father Leo Burns to succeed you as Superior at Spanish. When I visited the Novitiate on Friday I intended to convey the news to you, but unfortunately I did not find you there.

I hardly need to say that I am most reluctant to announce this change. Since our conversation during my visitation of Spanish I have felt quite confident that the difficulties of last year would be overcome and I have been pleased with the way that you have gone about setting things right. The change, however, has been judged necessary.

It will take place after you have finished your retreat; August 22 would seem to be a good day for the announcement. I shall be at the Novitiate on the Feast of the Assumption to receive Brother Mara's Last Vows, and the details can be arranged at that time.

This is certainly an occasion when one is called upon to accept the decisions of superiors with a deep spirit of loyal obedience and with the assurance that "everything helps to secure the good of those who love God". I am sure that you will receive the change in this spirit.

Wishing you every blessing, I remain,

Sincerely in Christ,

August 20, 1953

Reverend Leo Burns, S.J.  
"Raydor"  
Oakville, Ontario

Dear Father Burns,

P.C. This letter will inform you that you have been appointed Superior of Garnier Residential School, Spanish, Ontario, as successor to Father Clifford Rushman.

The appointment will take effect on August 24.

Wishing you and your community every divine blessing and recommending myself to the prayers of all, I remain,

Sincerely in Christ,

*George E. Nunan, S.J.*

George E. Nunan, S.J.  
Provincial



August 22, 1954

Reverend Leo Burns, S.J.  
Garnier School  
Spanish

Dear Father Superior,

P.C. Thank you for your letter of August 15.

In view of the difficulties that you anticipate in having Father Brown as Prefect of Discipline, it would be better to give Father Maurice that office together that of studies. Father Brown will teach and he may be assigned such other duties in the school as you see fit. He will have charge again of the mission at Naughton.

You should try to deal with him as paternally as possible and aid him in correcting his defects. It is better that they be pointed out to him by the Superior than made the subject of discussion of any and every one around the house.

In regard to the administration of the parish, one thing that needs control is the use of the parish car. It should not be appropriated by the Assistant but its use should be at your discretion and the keys should be in your possession.

Evidently you are going to have a full school again this year. I trust that the kitchen will be ready for use before the school year begins.

Please remember me in your Masses.

Sincerely in Christ,

PROVINCIAL'S RESIDENCE  
2 DALE AVENUE  
TORONTO 5, CANADA

SOCIETY OF JESUS  
PROVINCE OF UPPER CANADA

August 23, 1953.

Dear Father Burns:

P.C. The meeting of the Mission Consultors will be held at Spanish a day earlier than I had intended. I have to be back in Toronto for a meeting on Thursday, and so I have asked the Consultors to meet at Spanish on Wednesday of this week, and so they will be arriving at Spanish Tuesday night.

I shall be leaving Toronto Monday night and shall Mass in Spanish. I am sorry that this meeting must be held so soon after you have taken over there, but if it were not held this week I would have to put it off too long.

Father Philip O'Neill of the New York Province wrote asking permission to make his retreat this week at Spanish. I presume that you have heard from him.

Please remember me in your Masses.

Sincerely in Christ,

*G. J. Gillman, S. J.*

I may be all wrong, but I don't think so, in saying that one must know Indian to know the Indian. I saw enough at Wikwemikong to know that most everything in English goes over their head. The level of life in the fathers house and the church was miles from the life and conversation in the Indian homes. Even the more cultured Indians and those who try exteriorly to keep up with the white ways have an entirely different approach to even the rudiments of our Faith. Since this is a question that one can write a book about and probably no two people would agree on any one solution to the problems this presents, I had better close with a request that you remember me in your masses during my retreat.

Sincerely yours in the Sacred Heart of Jesus,

*Rev. Peter J. Brown, S.J.*

Your servant, Rev. Peter J. Brown, S.J.

Reply Sept 2/53

Indian Residential School

Spanish, Ontario

August 30th 1953

Very Rev. & Dear Father,

Pax Christi!

I am leaving Spanish this evening for Guelph to make my annual retreat. During my stay here over the past week I was trying to get a line on just what my job would be next year. So far it seems to consist in minding my own business, the Dean does this work, the minister does the rest and certainly until the boys get in, I am just getting into everybody's road. Half of the trouble last year seemed to be in perfecting the kitchen and dinning room. We knocked a wall down in the dinning room and are moving it over to have all the children eat at once. The kitchen trouble seems to centre around dear Brother Mara who will this year perfect the kitchen as he wants to use it for a conference room for the many other jobs he does besides cook.

If it is not improper I would like to spend a day in Toronto after my retreat to do some shopping, to visit my family and my friends at the Seminary on Wellington St. If you do not want me to stop over I would be glad to hear from you at Guelph. I am very sorry to learn that Fr. Canisius is not at Oka, his last letter came to me from there and he did not mention his transference to New Brunswick. I wish I was entering this retreat with a little more optimism about its results. There are a few things that are bothering me and I just can't see anyone I feel I can talk it over with. Perhaps the retreat will answer some of my difficulties and then too I may make a start on the points you mentioned in the delaying of my last vows. From what I have learned about myself here, I tend to be individualistic rather than fit smoothly into community life. This may be due to pride. It may also be due to an unhealthy scepticism about the motives driving others to do their work.

Of one thing I am sure, it is impossible to keep let alone develop the bit of Indian I learned at Wikwemikong last year. Even the Indian children forget their Indian here.