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Hierarchical level:	Niveau hiérarchique :	File | Dossier
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School Files

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File 103-5-1, part 1	Blood Agency - Bull Shield's School - General Administration. 1894-1895
File 104-5-1, part 1	Blackfoot Agency - Many Shot At's School - General Administration. 1894-1895
File 104-6-1, part 1	Blackfoot Agency - Eagle Ribs School - General Administration. 1890
File 105-7-1, part 1	Battleford - Stoney (Eagle Hills) School - General Administration. 1879, 1901, 1909-1912
File 105-13-1, part 1	Battleford - Murray Lake School - General Administration. 1909-1918
File 106-2-1, part 1	Birtle - Bird Tail Sioux School - General Administration. 1883-1884
File 106-4-1, part 1	Birtle - Okanase (Riding Mountain) School - General Administration. 1909-1913, 1947

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No. 106-4-1

Department of Indian Affairs.

19.....

Birtle

General Correspondence
Okanase (Rising Mtn) School.

117334 -1

REF. No. 248.

OFFICE OF THE

INSPECTOR OF INDIAN AGENCIES,

LAKE MANITOBA INSPECTORATE,

STONEWALL, MAN., November 10th. 1909.

Exd 353176

Sir,

At a band meeting held on the Keeseekoowenan reserve on the 10th. of June last, the Chief and band brought up the question of the day-school, and the poor attendance. They blame the teacher for not taking an interest in the school, and expressed their desire for a male teacher, if one could be obtained. They claim that there would be better control and a better attendance. There are about 60 children on this reserve, nearly half of them of school age, and it does appear to me that the average for the past year is very small, only 4.56 as shewn by my report on schools, which will reach you shortly.

Yours truly,

S. J. Jackson

Inspector of Indian Agencies.

J.D.McLean, Esq. Secretary.
Dept. of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa, Ontario.

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS NOV 1909

SCHOOLS NOV 15 1909

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117334/1

Ex'd

Ottawa, November 18, 1909.

Sir,-

The Department would be pleased to have from you at your earliest convenience a full report on the day school on the Keeseekoowenin reserve, dealing with the qualifications of the teacher, attendance, etc. The Department would also like to have any suggestions that you may have to offer with a view to improving conditions at this school. The attendance has been very poor and the Department wishes to have your candid opinion as to the cause. Your report should also deal with the condition of the building, equipment, etc.

Your obedient Servant,

[illegible] McLEAN

Secretary.

G.H. Wheatley, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Birtle, Man.

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117334/1 BIRTLE AGENCY.

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE,

Birtle, Man. December, 14th. 1909. 190

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS DEC 18 1909

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO No. F/14 AND TO DATE OF THIS LETTER.

35-1206

Ex'd

Sir,—

Referring to your letter of November, 18th. 1909. *No.* 117334/1 with reference to the Day school (Okanase) on the Keeseekoowenein's reserve, I beg to report as follows:-

As to the teacher Miss Maggie E Murray. She has not a Certificate, qualifying her to teach, and as far as I can judge, has not her heart in the work, although she attends the school regularly, and goes through the usual routine. She does not seem to get the sympathy of the parents or confidence ofthe children. This I beleive, is one ofthe causes for such poor attendance, as the majority of the members of the Band, are very sensitive, and do not appreciate a teacher, who draws the social line, between them, so that they cannot fail, but be touched by it. This of course has an effect on the attendance, as the parents who may feel that they have a greivance against the teacher, keep their children at home until the little matter has been forgotten. The teacher may offend in this way, and not know she has done so. Another cause for the poor attendance is the distance from the homes; most of the p upils having to travel two miles andover, and as the majority are under 9 years of age, their parents are not very enthusiastic about their their

To

The Secretary,

Departmentof Indian Affairs,

Ottawa.

SCHOOLS D.520 1909

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355206

their attending, the excuse being the distance, and they think that there is plenty of time for them to go to school, when they are older.

The building is a frame one, 18 x 36 with a Porch attached and is suitable for the purpose and in good repair. The windows might be improved, by putting in larger glass, the present ones are 10 x 12. The desks are very old ones, but answer the purpose very well. Might be replaced by more improved ones, if the attendance was better. There are several large maps of Canada and one of the World, showing the British Possessions, also the usual equipment, in Reading cards, slates &c.

In connection with this school I wish to state, that ex-pupils who have received training in this Day school, in previous years- I refer to girl pupils- and who have not attended any Industrial or Boarding schools, have been a great credit to their their teachers. A number of these girls pupils are now living on the reserve and are quite able to read and write plainly and are very good housekeepers. I might mention the daughters of Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Geo. Flett and Solomon Burns. Nearly all these young women have been and are now employed as domestic servants and give excellent satisfaction to their employers.

With reference to improving this school I would suggest that a properly qualified teacher be appointed, onewho would take an interest in the Indian pupils, and who would visit their homes regularly, and in this way gain the confidence of the parents. A light mid-day meal might be provided, consisting of tea, bread and butter and rice, during the winter months. The biscuit ration would do for the summer.

summer.

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summer. The Band should be advised if any changes are to be undertaken and made to understand, that if the attendance was not satisfactory to the Department, that the school would be closed and their children would have to be sent to the Boarding schools to be educated. I understand that a new Missionary has been appointed by the Presbyterian Church to this reserve, and that it is his intention to teach the Day school, next year. The previous Missionary who taught the Day school, was not a success. The Missionaries as a rule dislike combining teaching and Mission work, and the result, in my experience is that the school does not get the supervision it should.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,

D. M. McNeatly

Indian Agent.

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117334/1

Ex'd

Ottawa, January 8th, 1910.

Rev. Sir,

Sometime ago a complaint was made to the Department that the teacher of the school on the Keeseekoowenin reserve (Okanase school) is inefficient, and the very poor attendance, which shows an aver age of 4.56 for last year, although there are about thirty children of school age, would appear to bear out the contention of the Indians, that the teacher takes little interest in the work.

The Department is informed that the Presbyterian Church has appointed a new Missionary to this reserve, and that he will also teach the school. This is not thought to be the best arrangement possible for the work.

There is a field for an energetic and efficient teacher, who can devote his or her whole time to the school work. If your Church can secure the services of such a person the Department will be prepared to pay an initial salary of $400.00 per annum. The necessary supplies to provide a mid-day meal will also be furnished.

The Department would like to see an improvement in the conditions as they exist at present and trusts that you will concur in the recommendation made to appoint a teacher whose whole time will be given to educational work.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLEAN

Secretary.

Rev. R. P. MacKay,
Secretary,
Foreign Mission Committee of the
Presbyterian Church in Canada,
Toronto, Ont.

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Convener:
REV. W. A. J. MARTIN
Brantford.
Cable Address: BUTBROS.

Presbyterian Church in Canada

FOREIGN MISSION COMMITTEE
(WESTERN DIVISION)

REV. R. P. MACKAY, D.D.
Secretary.
REV. A. E. ARMSTRONG, M.A.
Ass't Secretary.
430 Confederation Life Building
Toronto.
Phone Main 3783.

117334-1

356346

Toronto January 11th.,1910.

Mr. S. Stewart,

Department of Indian Affairs,

O T T A W A, Ont.

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
JAN 13 1910

My Dear Sir:-

I have received yours No. 117334/1 expressing the preference of the Department for the appointment of a teacher at the Okanase Reserve instead of having the missionary on the Reserve do the teaching also, and also stating the willingness of the Department to pay an initial salary of $400.00 per annum as well as necessary supplies for a mid day meal. I shall write to-day to Dr. Farquharson intimating this proposal and asking their consideration. I know that the Reserve has been disappointing. The Indians have not shown the interest in the school that might be reasonably expected and they have been repeatedly warned that unless they took more interest in the securing of the attendance of their children the school might be entirely closed. The thought has come from the West that possibly a colony on the Lizard Point Reserve might secure ultimately the consolidation of the work so as to make an expenditure at both Okanase and Sheal Lake unnecessary for public school work. That, however, is a remote possibility. In the meantime I shall ask the Western Committee to report and shall let you know their mind in the matter.

Thanking the Department for this kind proposal in the name of our Committee,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

R. P. MacKay

RPM/MBA.

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117334/1

Ottawa, January 17th, 1910.

Sir,

F/14 I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th ultimo reporting very fully upon the day school work on the Keeseekoowenein Indian reserve, and in reply I beg to say that the Department on the 8th instant wrote to the Rev. Dr. MacKay, Secretary of the Foreign Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church, asking him is possible to obtain for this school a teacher who could devote his whole time to the work and offering to pay an initial salary of $400.00 per annum for a suitable person.

A reply has now been received from him and he is taking the matter up with the Western Committee. The Department hopes, therefore, that before long the Church may be able to recommend a qualified teacher for this school.

Your obedient servant,

Asst. Secretary.

G. H. Wheatley, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Birtle, Man.

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117334/1

Ottawa, January 17th, 1910.

Rev. Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant in reply to the Department's proposal to place a qualified teacher in charge of the Okanase day school, and in reply I beg to say that the Department will await a report from the Western Committee of your Church.

Your obedient servant,

Asst. Secretary.

Rev. R. P. MacKay,
Secretary,
Foreign Mission Committee of the
Presbyterian Church in Canada,
Toronto, Ont.

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Convener:
REV. W. A. J. MARTIN
Brantford.
Cable Address: BUTEROS.

Presbyterian Church in Canada

FOREIGN MISSION COMMITTEE
(WESTERN DIVISION)

REV. R. P. MACKAY, D.D.
Secretary.
REV. A. E. ARMSTRONG, M.A.
Ass't Secretary.
430 Confederation Life Building
Toronto.
Phone Main 3783.

ACCOUNTANTS
FEB 24 1910
BRANCH

358808

February 9th., 1910.

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN
FEB 23 1910

Mr. Duncan C. Scott,
Department of Indian Affairs,
O T T A W A, Ont.

Dear Mr. Scott:-

I have a letter from Dr. Farquharson in reply to inquiries made by me as to Miss Murray's work in the Okanase school,- in which you state that the average attendance is so low, whereas there were 30 pupils on the Reserve. From replies received from Rev. W.W.McLaren, Mr. Dongahy, as well as from Mr. Wheatley, the Indian agent and Mr. Boyer the interpreter, the number at present on the reserve is 13. They think probably in the Department's reckoning that the Indians on the Reserve round Clearwater Lake were included, which is altogether beyond the reach of the Okanase school and where there is a school by the Roman Catholic Church. Besides the thirteen children there are nine children from the Okanase reserve at the Birtle school, which added to the nine around Clearwater Lake and the 13 on the Reserve, make about the number you reported. Of the 13 children on the Reserve they also say that some of them live as much as three miles from the school, and that during the winter it would be impossible for the children to attend in safety because the roads are then very bad.

As to Miss Murray's qualifications Mr. McLaren writes that in character and ability she is satisfactory, but that he has some doubts as to her powers of discipline. Mr. Dongahy also writes in high terms of Miss Murray's work, but says, however, that Miss Murray is not a regularly certified teacher, has had no normal training, and this may tell against her work. Dr. Farquharson adds that if the appointment of Miss Murray is not approved it may be very difficult to secure a teacher holding a regular certificate as the difficulty of getting teachers of any kind is increasingly great.

In view of these circumstances I would like to know what your judgment would be as to the continuation of her services.

Yours sincerely,

R. P. Mackay

RPM/MBA.

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117334/1

Ottawa, February 25th, 1910.

Sir,

The Department would like to know by return mail the number of children of school age on the Okanase reserve and the denomination or denominations to which they belong.

At the same time you should also state the number of Indian families and children of school age on the Clear Water Lake reserve and the denomination to which they also belong.

The census return from the Birtle Agency does not show the population of the two branches of the Keesee-koowenin's Band, but, as a number of the Indians now reside permanently at the Clear Water Lake Reserve, it might be practicable for you in future returns to show the population on each reserve.

Your obedient servant,

Secretary.

G. H. Wheatley, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Birtle, Man.

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117334-1

BIRTLE AGENCY.

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE,

Birtle, Man.

February, 28th. 1910 19..

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
No. F/27
ALSO
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER.

359170

Sir,-

Referring to your letter of February, 25th. 1910

No. 117334/1 re the number of children of school age on the Okanase reserve, I beg to report as follows:-

No. of children of school age 27
made up as follows:- Presbyterian 25 Roman Catholic 2. Out of the 25 Presbyterians, 2 attend the Regina Industrial School and 9 the Birtle Boarding school, leaving 14 to attend the Day school on the reserve.

The number of families living on the Clear Water Lake Fishing Station is as follows:-

No. 1.	Baptiste Bone	3 in family
No. 15	Gexorge Bone,	5 " "
No.63.	Baptiste Mecas,	7 " "
No.72.	Gaywis.	5 " "
No.73.	Mrs. Neshotah.	3 " "
No.76.	Andrew McKay.	1 " "
	Old Gambler	2 " "

Old Gambler is a member of the Pine Creek Band, but has permission from the Department to remain with this Band, has been a rover and as he is an old man, no regular transfer was made. The above seven families are all

To
The Secretary,
Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

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359170

all Roman Catholics. The number of school children Clear Water Lake is as follows:-

George McKay	2	
Baptiste Mecas	3	
Gaywis	2	
Mrs. Neshotah	2	All Roman Catholics.

I Have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

D. H. Wheatley

Indian Agent.

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117334/1

Ex'd

Ottawa, March 8th, 1910.

Rev. Sir,

Referring to your letter of the 9th ultimo in regard to the Okanase day school I beg to say that further inquiry has elicited the information that there are only fourteen children of school age on the reserve.

In view of the small number it is not proposed to press for the resignation of Miss Murray at present, but an opportunity will be given her to effect an improvement in the school.

Miss Murray will be written to direct.

Your obedient servant,

[redacted]

Secretary.

Rev. R. P. MacKay, D.D.,
Secretary,
Foreign Mission Committee of the
Presbyterian Church in Canada,
Toronto, Ont.

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117334/1

Ex'd

Ottawa, March 8th, 1910.

Madam,

It is desired to effect some improvement in the Okanase Indian day school, of which you are at present in charge.

Experience shows that it is only when teachers are thoroughly interested in their work that a large enrolment and regular attendance can be secured, and from these points of view results at the Okanase school have of late been disappointing. At the same time the difficulties encountered by teachers are fully appreciated and the Department is prepared to lend assistance to overcome them.

In the first place it is essential to obtain the confidence and good-will of the parents and to this end the teacher should visit the homes and by every means in her power impress upon them the necessity for a regular attendance of their children. The officers of the Department will also be asked to co-operate in this work.

The studies in the class-room should be made as varied and interesting as possible, and the teacher should devote a portion of her spare time to self-improvement in the latest methods and devices of her profession. The Department would be prepared to supply you with an educational publication, if desired, for this purpose.

The mid-day meal is proving in many instances a

Miss Maggie E. Murray,
Teacher,
Elphinstone, Man.

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great incentive to regular attendance and the necessary supplies to ~~them~~ Sing a simple meal would be furnished, if you would undertake with the assistance of the older pupils to prepare it.

The Department is convinced that better results in your school can be obtained and would be glad to hear from you in reference to the suggestions above outlined, and also to have any opinions you may care to offer as to means of attaining the desired end.

Your obedient servant,

Secretary.

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117334

E. Johnston [illegible]
March 14th 1910

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
MAR 21 1910

360222

Dear Sir.

Your letter dated March 8th to hand, (and no. 117334/1) and in reply will say that I agree with you in the suggestions you have made and intend to do all in my power to get the children to attend, this summer, of course I know the attendance will be much better in the summer as some are moving closer to the school. They keep moving all the time and in the winter some of them go too far away for the children to come to school, so makes the attendance very small.

I think it would be a very good idea to give the children lunch in the school and I am sure they would attend better. I will be only too willing to get it ready for them.

I would also be very pleased to have the educational publication, which would be a great help to me.

I am Sincerely Yours.

Maggie E. Murray.

Okanase school teacher

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117334/1

Ex'd

Ottawa, March 24th, 1910.

Madam,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, and in reply I beg to say that the Department is pleased to learn that you have determined to take hold of the work at the Okanase day school with renewed vigour and trusts that your success during the coming summer will be most marked.

There will be ordered to be sent to you for the balance of this year one copy of "The Canadian Teacher", and, should you be in charge of the school when it re-opens after the summer holidays, you will be good enough to renew your application for this publication, provided you find it interesting and of use to you.

Mr. Agent Wheatley will be instructed to supply you with the necessary provisions to give a mid-day meal to the children. This of course must be of a very simple kind, the object not being to give a full meal, but rather to supplement the lunches brought by the children themselves from their homes. You will be good enough to let the Department have a report at the end of a month showing the result of the giving of this meal.

Your obedient servant,

Secretary.

Miss Maggie E. Murray,
Teacher,
Elphinstone, Man.

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117334/1

Ex'd

Ottawa, March 24th, 1910.

Gentlemen,

I have to ask you to be good enough to forward till the end of June, next, one copy of "The Canadian Teacher" to Miss Maggie E. Murray, Teacher of the Indian School, Elphinstone, Man., and forward the account, in duplicate, to the Department for payment.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLEAN

Secretary.

The Educational Publishing Co.,
Toronto, Ont.

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117334/1

3 letters

Ex'd

Ottawa, March 24th, 1910.

Sir,

The Department has decided to furnish Miss Murray, teacher of the Okanase Indian school, with some simple supplies to provide a mid-day meal. You will be good enough, therefore, to purchase for her some sopp meat, rice, salt, tea, sugar and beans. This meal should not cost the Department more than about 2 cents per meal or perhaps a little less. Before a second order is given Miss Murray she should send you a report for transmission to the Department showing the number of meals served and the cost per meal per pupil.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLEAN

Secretary.

G. H. Wheatley, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Birtle, Man.

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117334-1

BIRTLE AGENCY.

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE,

Birtle, Man.

May, 3rd. 1910. 19

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
No. F.14
ALSO
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER.

363784

MAY 7 1910

Sir,—

Referring to your letter of

No.

I beg to inform you with reference to the mid-day meal, authorized for the Okanase Day school, that the same has been started, and is proving a drawing card, as the attendance has increased to 7 and will undoubtedly be up to 14 this summer. Owing to the difficulty in getting fresh meat, none being obtainable in Elphinstone, just at present, the meals served have been without soup. The day I visited the school the meal consisted of beans, biscuits and tea.

The teacher is considerably handicapped in the way of preparing the meal, owing to there being no proper accommodation for cooking same; as the stove in the school is a box one and only suitable for heating purposes during the winter months, and during the summer weather it will not do, for it to be used for cooking the mid-day meal. It will be necessary to purchase a small cooking stove, which can be placed in the porch attached to the school building. This porch I have looked over and it can be extended three feet, at very little expense and will answer the purpose of a cook-house for the present. The Mission house is too far away from the school and the teacher

teacher

To
The Secretary,
Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

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363784

teacher could not properly look after the cooking of the meal and teach at the same time. The cost of the stove will be about $13.00 and for enlaging the perch about $6.00. I have arranged with the Band to put up a fence around the school, so as a small garden could be started for the teaching of gardening to the pupils. A hoe , rake and some garden seeds have been supplied the teacher for this purpose also some flannette, needles and thread to start sewing class for the girls I will be glad if the above expense can be incurred with reference to the preparation of the mid-day meal for the pupils of the school.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

D. H. Wheatley
Indian Agent.

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B 117334/1

Ottawa, May 9, 1910.

Sir,

F/14 I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant reporting upon the work being performed at the Okanase day school and asking authority to purchase a cook stove and also to enlarge the porch to provide accommodation for giving the mid-day meal.

In reply I beg to say that, in view of the satisfactory report received and of your recommendation, you are hereby authorized to expend the sum of $13.00 in the purchase of the stove and $6.00 in enlarging the porch.

The Department will be glad to have from you towards the end of the current term a further report on the work of the school.

Your obedient servant,

Secretary.

G. H. Wheatley, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Birtle, Man.

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BIRTLE AGENCY.
365880

Elphinstone, Ill.
June 4th, 1910.

Dear Sir.

The following is report of mid-day meal, sewing class and gardening for the Chanase Day School for Month ending May 31st.

Provisions used up from April 19th to May 31st.

Sugar 8 lbs, 50¢, Beans 11 lbs 50¢
Rice 6 " 50¢ Salt 5 " 10¢
Tea 1 " 35¢ Beef 50¢

Making a total of $2.45 meals given 198, cost per meal 1¼ cts.

I received $1.00 worth of beef from the butcher but only half has been used.

Report of gardening and sewing class on next page.

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2.

365880 BIRTLE AGENCY.

There are five girls in the sewing class they are doing plain sewing, making underwear for themselves they are getting on very well for a start and seem to take quite an interest in it.

We have one plot of vegetables and two plots of flowers in our garden. We had the garden ploughed for us, then the boys cultivated it and made it ready for the seeds, they take an interest in it, as it is a change for them from school work.

Trusting this report will be satisfactory

I am Your Obedient Servant

Maggie E. Murray.

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117334 - 1

BIRTLE AGENCY.

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE,

Birtle, Man.

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
No. F/14
ALSO
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER.

365880 June, 6th. 1910. 19

Sir,—

Referring to your letter of March, 24th. 1910
*No.*117334/1 re mid-day meal to the pupils of the Okanase Day school, I now have the pleasure of forwarding the teacher's report as requested on the cost which is under 2¢ per meal. The report also deals with the sewing class and gardening.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
R. D. Wheatley
Indian Agent.

To
The Secretary,
Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

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117334/1

D.Y.E.

Ottawa, June 18, 1910.

Sir,

F/14

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant forwarding a report from the teacher of the Okanase day school on the sewing and gardening operations conducted by her and also on the providing of a mid-day meal.

In reply I beg to say that the Department is pleased to learn that the efforts of the teacher in this respect are meeting with success and would like to know whether it has had any pronounced effect upon the attendance. Be good enough to convey to Miss Murray the Department's appreciation of her efforts.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLEAN

Secretary.

G. H. Wheatley, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Birtle, Man.

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1173344

BIRTLE AGENCY.

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE,

Birtle, Man. June, 23rd. 1910. 19

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
B/14
ALSO
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER.

367015

Sir,-

Referring to your letter of

No.

I have the honour to inform you, that the teacher, Miss Maggie E Murray, of the Okanase Day school, Keesekoowenein's reserve, has written to say that the Rev. Jas. A.Denaghy, the Missionary on the reserve, will take charge ofthe school, after the summer holidays, Miss Murray leaving at the end of the present month.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
R. D. Wheatley
Indian Agent.

To
The Secretary,
Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

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O

117334/1

Ottawa, July 2, 1910.

Sir,

F/14

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd ultimo informing the Department that Miss Maggie E. Murray, teacher of the Okanase day school on the Keesekoowenein's reserve, is leaving at the end of June and that the school will be taken over by the Rev. James A. Donaghy, Missionary on the Reserve.

In reply I beg to say that the Department is sorry to lose the services of Miss Murray and would like to know if she could be persuaded to remain on if better inducements were offered her. If she would stay on the Department would be willing to pay her at the rate of $400.00 per year. It is preferred to have a teacher at this school who could devote his or her whole time to the school work, as it is thought that if the Missionary were teacher his other duties might interfere with the work in the school-room.

Be good enough to communicate with Miss Murray and let the Department know the result as soon as possible.

Your obedient servant,

Secretary.

G. H. Wheatley, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Birtle, Man.

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117334/1

EXD

Ottawa, July 13, 1910.

Rev. Sir,

Referring to previous correspondence in connection with the appointment of a teacher for the Okanase day school on the Keeseekoowenein's Reserve I beg to say that the Department is advised of Miss Murray's resignation and informed by the local Agent that the Rev. James A. Donaghy, the Missionary, will take charge of the school after the summer holidays. Be good enough to state whether this is the arrangement that the Church authorities have made.

Your obedient servant,

Secretary.

Rev. R. P. MacKay,
Secretary,
Foreign Mission Committee of the
Presbyterian Church in Canada,
Toronto, Ont.

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Elphinstone P.O.
June 30th 1910.

BIBLE AGENCY.

68859

Dear Sir.

The following is report of meals at the Okanagan Day school for month ending June 30th 1910.

Provisions on hand at beginning of month are as follows.

Beef — 50 lbs.

Provisions received during month.

Sugar 8 lbs 50 lbs
Tea 1 lb 35 lbs
Beans 10 lbs 50 lbs

making a total of $1.85 all together.

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2.

168859

Number of meals given, 127
Cost of 127 meals amounting
to $1.85 ¢, thereon cost per
meal is 1.2 cts.

I remain
Your Most Obedient Servant
Maggie E. Murray.

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117334-1

BIRTLE AGENCY.

JUL 29 1910

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE,

Birtle, Man.

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
No. F/14
ALSO
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER.

July, 25th. 1910. 19

368859

3100

5/4

Sir,—

Referring to your letter of

No.

I have the honor to enclose herewith, Miss Maggie E Murray's report, re cost of mid-day meal, for month of June, 1910. Okanase Day school.

Do we pay for the supplies?

SCHOOLS BRANCH
JUL 30 1910

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient servant
J. H. Wheatley
Indian Agent.

To
The Secretary
Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

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117334-1

BIRTLE AGENCY.

AUG 4 1910

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE,

Birtle, Man.

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
No. F/14
ALSO
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER.

369173

July, 30th. 1910. 19.

Sir,—

Referring to your letter of July, 2nd. 1910.

No. 117334/1 with reference to Miss Maggie E. Murray continuing her services as teacher of the Okanase Day School, I have the honour to inform you, that according to your instructions in your letter of the above date, I wrote to Miss Murray, and I am pleased to state, that she has decided to again take charge of the school, on the new terms offered by the Department.

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

R. S. Wheatley
Indian Agent.

To
The Secretary,
Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

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117334/1

Ottawa, August 6, 1910.

Sir,

F/14 I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo advising the Department that Miss Murray has decided to remain in charge of the Okanase day school.

In reply I beg to say that this is satisfactory to the Department and it is hoped that you will give her every encouragement possible.

Your obedient servant,

D. STEWART

Asst. Secretary.

G. H. Wheatley, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Birtle, Man.

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BIRTLE AGENCY. Elphinstone P.O.

Sir: 11/334-1 Aug 31st 1910.

371318

Report of Meals given at the Okanase school for month ending Aug. 31st 1910.

Sch

Provisions purchased

Beef	35
Tea	35
Sugar	50¢
Beans	$1.00
Salt	05¢
Total	$2.25

Provisions used up.

Beef	35¢
Tea	10
Sugar	25
Beans	75
Salt	03
	$1.48

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS SEP 10 1910

SCHOOLS BRANCH SEP 12 1910

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BIRTLE AGENCY.
371318

Number of meals given 108
cost per meal 1 2/3 cts.

Some of the children who are not attending at present are kept at home to help, while harvest is on.

The others who are attending are doing very well.

They enjoy the Calisthenics, which are taught for fifteen minutes each day.

Your most Obedient Servant.
Maggie E. Murray.

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BIRTLE AGENCY
373152

Eph[illegible] P.O.
Sep 30 10

Dear Sir.

The average attendance for the month ending Sep. 30th 1910 was eight.

The pupils are all clean and comfortably clothed, a number of them are troubled with a bad cough at present.

The following is account of the mid day meal here for this month.

Provisions received during quarter.

Beans	—	$1.50
Sugar		50
Meat		25
	Total	$2.25

On hand from last month.

Sugar	—	25
Tea		25
Beans		25
		$.75

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BIRTLE AGENCY.

373152

Provisions used up.

Beans	75 ¢
Tea	10
Meat	25
Sugar	50
Total	$1.60

No of meals given — 160

Cost per meal 1 ¢.

Calisthenics is being taught daily now and the children enjoy it after so much seat work

The sewing class is making good progress.

The children are busy at present making the picture frames for the King and Queen pictures.

Maggie E. Murray.
Teacher.

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BIRTLE AGENCY.

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE,

Birtle, Man. October, 5th. 1910. 19

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
No. F/14
ALSO
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER

373152

Sir,—

Referring to your letter of

No.

I have the honour to enclose, herewith, Miss Maggie E Murray's report, for the month of September, 1910, giving the cost of the mid-day meal , Okanase Day school.

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

R. A. Wheatley
Indian Agent.

To
The Secretary,
Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

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EXD.

117334/1

Ottawa, October 13, 1910.

Sir,

F/14 I have to acknowledge the receipt, of your letter of the 5th instant enclosing a report from Miss Murray, teacher of the Okanase day school, on the mid-day meal supplied by her during the month of September.

The Department is pleased to notice that this meal is supplied by Miss Murray at a very moderate cost and also that the children are showing an interest in the calisthenics and sewing class. You will be good enough to convey to Miss Murray the Department's appreciation of her work.

Your obedient servant,

Secretary.

G. H. Wheatley, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Birtle, Man.

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117334-1

BIRTLE AGENCY.

377020

EX

Account of Mid-day Meal for month ending Nov 30th 1910 at Okanase Day School.

Provisions on hand at beginning of month.

Sugar	25¢
Tea	05¢

Provisions received during month.

Sugar	50¢
Beef	35¢
Beans	$1.00

Provisions used up during month

Sugar	50¢
Tea	05¢
Beef	35¢
Beans	50¢
Total	$1.40

[illegible] 1.32

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Cost of Meals for Jan[illegible] BIRTLE AGENCY.

Provisions on hand to begin month.

Salt — 3.

received during month

Sugar — 80 ℔

Tea — 35 ℔

Salt — 05

90

Used up during month.

Sugar — 25 ℔

Tea — 15

Salt — 02.

42

Number of meals given 42.

Cost of meals 42 ℔

Cost per meal 1 ℔

On hand to begin February.

Sugar 25 ℔

Tea — 20

Salt — 06 ℔

Maggie E. Murray,
Teacher
Ottawa Day School.

381229

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BIRTLE AGENCY.

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE,

Birtle, Man. February, 14th. 1911.

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS FEB 18 1911

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO No. I/14 ALSO TO DATE OF THIS LETTER.

381229

Sir,—

Referring to my report, for the month of January, on the Okanase Day school, I wish to state, that this school was opened seven days from the 23rd. to 31st. and the average attendance for the week was 6. I enclose the teacher's report on the cost of the mid-day meal provided for the pupils, for the week the school was opened during January.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
J. A. Wheatley
Indan Agent.

To
The Secretary,
Decartment of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

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117334/1

Ottawa, April 4, 1911.

Rev. Sir,

Referring to that portion of your communication of the 7th ultimo in which you deal with the Okanase day school I beg to say that the reports on Miss Murray's work at this school have been fairly satisfactory. The Agent will be communicated with in regard to the renovation of the building.

Your remarks also with regard to compulsory attendance and the funding of treaty money are noted. I may say that the Department has at present under consideration the latter question.

Your obedient servant,

Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

Rev. S. McL. Fee,
Convenor of Foreign Mission Committee
of Minnedosa Presbytery,
Newdale, Man.

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Extract from letter from S. McL. Fee, Convenor of Foreign Mission Committee of the Minnedosa Presbytery, Newdale, Man., dated March 7th, 1911, in reference to the Birtle Boarding School, Original on File 116624/1.

In connection with the Presbyterian day school upon the Keeseekoowennis Reserve we would recommend that with a view to appointing a qualified certificated teacher for the school (its chief need at present) that the school be thoroughly renovated with a view to making it habitable for the teacher and more up-to-date for efficient work. We would recommend a measure of compulsory attendance throughout the whole Agency. Parents of able bodied children over, say, ten years of age being required in the presence of the inspector at the treaty payments to give adequate reasons why their children should not be sent to some school. Practically no Indians in this Agency are opposed to education. They simply do not care to decide to surrender their children particularly if they are delicate. In this connection, particularly if the parent be a widow, old or delicate, the treaty money of the school children should not be funded. The funding of treaty money is one of the chief objections to letting the children go away.

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117334-1

BIRTLE AGENCY.

387496

Okanasa Sch

(Cost of Mid-day meal for the month of April.)

Provisions received during month.

Sugar	—	50¢.
Tea	—	35
Beans	—	50
Total		$1.35

Provisions used up during month.

Sugar	—	50¢
Tea	—	35
Beans	—	50
		$1.35

Number of meals given 120

Cost per meal 1¢-15

Maggie E. Murray.
Teacher.

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Cost of Mid-day meals for June.

Provisions on hand to begin month as follows.

Tea 15 ¢
Sugar 50 ¢
65 ¢

Received during Month:

Beans - 50 ¢
Salt - 05 ¢
Sugar - 50 ¢
$1.05

Used up during month

Tea - 15
Sugar - 1.00
Beans - 50
$1.65

No. of meals given 160

Cost per meal 1¢ 5

Maggie E Murray
Teacher.

117334
BIRTLE AGENCY.
P.X.
300984
SCHOOLS BRANCH
JUL 10 1911
Okanese School

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117334 1

BIRTLE AGENCY.

OCT 7 1911

Cost of Meals for Month of Sep. 1911.

Prov received during ~~[illegible]~~ month

Schools

Beans	-	$1.00
Sugar	-	$1.00
Tea	-	.35
		$2.35

Prov. used up. $2.35.

No. of meals given 189

Cost per meal 1¢.24.

Okanase Day school

396310

Maggie E. Murray.
Teacher.

Indian Affairs. School Files.
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 106-4-1, part 1)

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BIRTLE AGENCY.

Cost of Meals for Month of October. 1911.

Provisions received.

Beef	25	
Sugar	1.00	
Beans	1.00	
Tea	35	
	$2.60	38508

Provisions as. amounts to $2.60

No. of meals given 154 = 260/154 - 1.68/128

Cost per meal 1.68/128.

Maggie E. Murray.
Onanase School Teacher

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BIRTLE INDIAN AGENCY. NOV 10 1911

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE,

Birtle, Man.

November, 6th. 1911. 19

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
No. F/14
ALSO
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER.

336508

Sir,—

I beg to enclose, herewith, re port on the cost of the mid-day meal, for the month of October, Okanase Day School.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
G. H. Wheatley
Ind an Agent

To
The Secretary,
Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

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Cost of Meals for Month of March.

BIRTLE 1912 AGENCY

Okanase Day School.

17334-

Prov on hand March 1st 1912

Beans	50¢
Sugar	1.00
Tea	20.
Total	1.70

Prov rec. during month

Beans	$1.00
Tea	35
Total	$1.35

Prov. used up during month

Beans	$1.50
Sugar	60
Tea	20
Total	$2.30

Number of meals given 130.

Cost per meal 176¢.

Prov on hand.

Sugar 40¢ Tea 35¢.

Maggie E. Murray.
Teacher

408885

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Cost of Mid day meal for February
117334/1912. BIRTLE AGENCY.

Prov. on hand to begin month.

Sugar	50¢
Tea	15c
Total	65¢

Prov. rec. during month.

Beans	$2.00
Salt	10
Sugar	1.00
Tea	25
Total	$3.35

Prov. used up during Month.

Beans	$1.50
Sugar	50
Tea	20
Salt	03
Total	2.23

Number of meals given 184

Cost per meal 1¢ 39.

Maggie E. Murray.
Teacher.

Okanase Day School.

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
95613
MAR 8 1912

SCHOOLS BRANCH
MAR 8 1912

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117334 1/

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
MAY 3 1912

Extract from the Report of Mr. S.J.Jackson, Inspector of Indian Agencies and Reserves, on the Schools in the Lake Manitoba Inspectorate, for the year ended March 31, 1912.

OKANASE DAY SCHOOL (Presbyterian)

412625

X X X

The showing made by the pupils present was only fair, and no pregress can be reported from last year. This school is in very poor shape, and a chabge should be made at a very early date. Miss Murray has been taaching for five years at this school, but had no previous experience whatever, has no certificate and no normal training. The band complain that Miss Murray has no contrôl of the children and never visits their homes. The condition of the school building is the same as at the date of my last report. The books and school material are in good order and appear to be well looked after.

Miss Murray informed me that she had to close the school on the afternoon of the 15th, for want of wood, but a load had been delivered by the time of my visit on the 16th. I brought this matter to the attention of the band at the band meeting and they promised it would not occur again.

Your obedient servant

Sgd. S.J.Jackson,

Inspector of Indian Agencies.

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117334/1

Ottawa, June 6, 1912.

Sir,-

Mr. Inspector Jackson in his annual report on the schools in his inspectorate recommends a change of teacher at the Okanase Day School. Mr. Jackson states that the Indians complain that Miss Murray has no control of the children and never visits their homes.

I should be glad to have your opinion as to the advisibility of asking the Presbyterian Church to nominate another teacher for this position.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLEAN,

Assistant Deputy and Secretary.

G. H. Wheatley, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Birtle, Man.

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BIRTLE AGENCY.

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE,

Birtle, Man. June, 13th. 1912. 191

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
No. F/14
ALSO
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER.

413940

In reply to your letter, dated June, 6th. 1912, No.117334/1 re the teacher of the Okanase Day school, I have the honour to report as follows:-

Miss Murray the teacher referred to, has no Professional Certificate to teach, and has been employed by the Presbyterian Church Authorities, for the reason I understand, that it could not secure the services of a competent teacher, with a Certificate, owing to the small salary attached. The Department has however, increased the grant to $400.00 per annumn, which is supplemented by $150.00 by the Church, making the annual salary $550.00. This salary should call for a teacher with a certificate.

With reference to Miss Murray not visiting the homes of the pupils. I might state, that the Chief George Bone, on behalf of the band, mentioned this matter to me, also that she had no control of the children during the recesses. I brought this matter to her attention, and she informed me, that she did visit some of the pupils homes, but as she could not speak in their tongue, she considered it of very little use for her to visit them. I advised her to keep on making regular visits, as it was a sure way of ~~gaining~~ gaining the confidence of the parents, and a better attendance would be the result.

As Miss Murray receives part of her salary

To
The Seretary,
Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

salary

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salary from the Church, she should consider it her duty to visit the homes of the people.

In my opinion, a competent teacher, with a Professional Certificate should be engaged, and should be one who would take an interest in the work, visit the homes of the parents, and make them feel that the education of their children, was a duty and pleasure.

The salary, at least should be $600.00 per annum, made up as follows:- Department $450.00, Church, $150.00, or the Church to increase its grant to $200.00.

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

E. N. Wheatley
Indian Agent.

413940

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117334/1

Ottawa, June 19, 1912.

Rev. Sir,-

It has been suggested to the Department that there should be a change of teacher at the Okanase Day School and the appointment of a qualified teacher to succeed Miss Murray has been recommended.

The Department considers that a qualified teacher should, if at all possible, be obtained for this school. It would appear that Miss Murray is not meeting with the success that might be expected and it is thought that a change of teacher would have good results. I should be glad to have you look into this matter.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLEAN

Assistant Deputy and Secretary.

Rev. R. P. MacKay, D.D.,
Secretary,
Foreign Mission Committee of the
Presbyterian Church in Canada,
Toronto, Ont.

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114334 1

BIRTLE AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS JUN 20 1912

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE,

Birtle, Man.

June, 15th. 1912. 191

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
No. F/14
ALSO
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER.

474747

Sir,—

I have the honour to report for your information, that I have received a letter from Miss Maggie E Murray, the teacher of the Okanase Day school, Keeseekoowen in's reserve, informing me, that she had closed the school on the 12th. instant, and had gone to the hospital Neepawa, and will have to undergo an operation, and will in all probability will be there perhaps a month. She desires to know if some one will be appointed in her place, or else she could count the time she will be absent as holidays. Kindly advise me what action to take in the matter.

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

G. H. Wheatley
Indian Agent.

To
The Secretary,
Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

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117334/1

noted D.I.A.

Ottawa, June 22, 1912.

Sir,-

F/14 I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, and in reply I beg to say that the Department regrets to learn of the illness of Miss Murray, teacher of the Okanase Day School.

In view of the fact that Miss Murray has been for a considerable time teaching at this school, the Department will allow her the balance of the month of June from the 12th as sick leave and no deduction will be made from her salary. It is not necessary to appoint any substitute for the month of June.

Your obedient servant,

[redacted]

Assistant Deputy and Secretary.

G. H. Wheatley, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Birtle, Man.

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117334-1

ACTING CONVENER
REV. ALFRED GANDIER, D.D.
TORONTO.

Presbyterian Church in Canada

FOREIGN MISSION COMMITTEE
(WESTERN DIVISION)

CABLE ADDRESS: BUTEROS.

REV. R. P. MACKAY, D.D.
SECRETARY
REV. A. E. ARMSTRONG, B.A.
ASSISTANT-SECRETARY
439 CONFEDERATION LIFE CHAMBERS
TORONTO
PHONE MAIN 7283.

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
JUN 12 1912

Toronto June 3, 1912.

Mr. Frank Pedley, 415138
Deputy Minister of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa, Ont. RECD.

Dear Mr. Pedley:-

Yours of the 19th of June received recommending that a new teacher be appointed to the Okanse Day School inasmuch as Miss Murray does not seem to meet the requirements. I am writing to Dr. Farquharson about this matter and it will receive attention.

Yours sincerely,

R P MacKay

RPM
MC

SCHOOLS BRANCH

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117334 1

Euphrasia P.O.
Man.
Sep 23rd 12.

The Dep. of Indian Affairs
Ottawa,

420483

Dear Sirs

I beg to inform you of my resignation as teacher of the Okanase Indian Day School by the end of October 1912. as I intend to be married in the near future.

I hope you will be successful in procuring the services of another teacher by the above mentioned date and thanking you for all courtesies shown me while I have been here in your employ I remain

Gentlemen.

Your most Obedient Servant.

Maggie E Murray.

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117334/1

Ottawa, September 28, 1912.

Madam,-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd instant resigning your position as teacher of the Okanase Day School.

In reply I beg to say that this resignation is accepted.

Your obedient servant,

Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

Miss Maggie E. Murray,
Elphinstone P.O., Man.

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117334/1

7 letters

C.S.

Ottawa, September 28, 1912.

Rev. Sir,-

Referring to your letter of June 3rd, last, regarding the appointment of a new teacher for the Okanse Day School, I beg to say that Miss Murray, who has been in charge of this school for sometime, writes the Department tendering her resignation to take effect at the end of October. She states that she intends to be married and that it will be necessary for a successor to be placed in charge of this school by the first of November.

I have, therefore, to request that you will be good enough to take the necessary steps to secure a new teacher, so that the school will not have to be closed.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLean

Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

Rev. R. P. MacKay, D.D.,
Secretary,
Foreign Mission Committee of the
Presbyterian Church in Canada,
Toronto, Ont.

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17334

BIRTLE AGENCY. OCT 4 1912

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE,

Birtle, Man.

September, 30th.1912. 191

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
No. F/14
ALSO
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER.

420855

Sir,—

I have the honour to inform you, that I have received a communication from Miss Maggie E Murray, the teacher of the Okanase Day school, Keeseekoowenin's reserve, informing me, that she had forwarded her resignation, as teacher, to the Department, Ottawa, and that she was to stop teaching at the end of October next. Kindly advise me, as to what action I should take in the matter.

SCHOOLS BRANCH OCT 5 1912

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

G H Wheatley
Indian Agent

To
The Secretary,
Departmentof Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

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117334/1

ACCOUNTANT'S BRANCH OCT 9 1912

Ottawa, October 5, 1912.

Sir,-

F/14 In reply to your letter of the 30th ultimo I beg to inform you that the Department has received the resignation of Miss Maggie E. Murray, teacher of the Okanase Day School, and the Secretary of the Foreign Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church in Canada has been informed of her resignation and requested to take the necessary steps to secure a successor to continue the school after the 31st of the current month. Any applicants for the position should, therefore, communicate with the church authorities.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLEAN

Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

G. H. Wheatley, Esq.,
Indian Agent.
Birtle, Man.

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Cost Of Meals for Month of Oct

117334-1

BIRTLE AGENCY.

Prov. on Land beginning of Month.

Tea 15 ¢

Sugar $1.25

Received

Beans 50 ¢

Tea 35 ¢

Total 85 ¢

Prov used up.

Beans 50 ¢

Sugar 60 ¢

Tea 15

$1.25 ¢

Number of meals given 1

Cost per meal 1¢. 4

Maggie E. Murray

Teacher.

Okanase Bay School

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS OCT 10 1912

421366

SCHOOL OCT 12 1912

SCHOOLS BRANCH. OCT 12 1912

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117334/1

Ottawa, November 8, 1912.

Rev. Sir,-

On September 28th, last, the Department wrote to Rev. R. P. MacKay in reference to the appointment of a teacher to succeed Miss Murray at the Okanase Indian Day School.

I have to ask you to be good enough to advise the Department as to what steps you have taken to secure another teacher for this school.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLEAN

Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

Rev. A. G. Grant, M.D.,
Supt. of Home Missions of the
Presbyterian Church,
Toronto, Ont.

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117334-1

BIRTLE AGENCY.

Elphinstone.

Cost of Meals for October, 1912.

Prov. hand beginning of month.

Tea 35

Sugar - 75

Prov. week ago - Tea 35, Sugar 75

Total $1.10

Meals given 110.

Cost per meal - 14.

No provisions on hand at end of month.

Maggie E. Murray

Teacher.

Okanase Day School

SCHOOLS BRANCH NOV 18 1912

423117

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117334-1

S. GRANT
Superintendent

Presbyterian Church in Canada
BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS
(Western Section)

J. H. EDMISON
Secretary

Confederation Life Building

Toronto, Nov. 13th, 1912.

Secretary of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa,
Ont.

423,763

Dear Sir:-

Yours of November the 8th, File number 117334/1, to hand. Dr. Grant is at present in the West. I have conferred with Dr. R. P. MacKay in reference to the appointment of a teacher to succeed Miss Murray at Okanase Indian Day School. He informed me that he corresponded with our Western Committee, and asked that an appointment be made. We have not yet had a reply, but will advise you later.

Yours very sincerely,

J. H. Edmison

J.H.E.-A.V.

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117334/1

Ottawa, February 28, 1913.

Rev. Sir,-

I beg to refer to your letter of November 13th, last, in reference to the appointment of a teacher to succeed Miss Murray at the Okanase School and to ask what progress is being made in this matter.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLEAN

Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

J. H. Edmison, Esq.,
Secretary,
Board of Home Missions,
Presbyterian Church in Canada,
Toronto, Ont.

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17334 1

BIRTLE AGENCY.

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS MAR 8 1913

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE,

Birtle, Man.

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
No. F/14
ALSO
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER.

March, 4th. 1913. 191

Sir,— 43209

SCHOOLS BRANCH MAR 10 1913

The Chief and members of the Keeseekoowe-nin's Band, No.61, have made the request for the re-opening of the Okanase Day School, and that the tea-cher to be appointed to be properly qualified and to have a Certificate.

They also ask that the sum of $300.00 per annumn be allowed for the purpose of providing for a conveyance to bring the children to the school, and return to their homes after the school is closed.

The Indians themselves would supply the team and rig for the above amount.

If all the children attended regularly the attendance would be 15.

I advised the band, that it would be best to send their children to the Birtle Boarding school, as when the improvements to this Institution were completed, there would be room for 75 pupils. They in-sisted, however, that I should put this plan before the Department, as they stated, that the attendance would be regular, as all the children would attend, except of course any who were ill. Kindly advise me in this matter.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
G. H. Wheatley
Indian Agent.

To
The Secretary,
Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

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117334/1

Ottawa, March 11, 1913.

Sir,-

F/14

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant in reference to the re-opening of the Okanase Day School.

In reply I beg to say that the matter of procuring the services of a teacher to succeed Miss Murray is at present under consideration by the church authorities, who were written to only on the 28th ultimo.

The attendance at this school when it was previously in operation was very fair and the Department is disposed to continue it, if a capable teacher can be had.

I am sending you herewith a blue print of the reserve and you will be good enough to indicate the homes from which there are children to attend the school and the number of children in each case. This will enable the Department to decide as to the necessity of providing means of conveyance, if any. In any event it is thought that this should be necessary only during the winter season. The Department will await this information.

Your obedient servant,

J.D. McLEAN,

Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

G. H. Wheatley, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Birtle, Man.

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117334-1

ANDREW S. GRANT
Superintendent

J. H. EDMISON

Presbyterian Church in Canada

BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS
(Western Section)

Confederation Life Building

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
MAR 11 1913

Toronto, Mar. 10th, 1913

File No. 117334/1

Secretary,

Dept. of Indian Affairs,

Ottawa, Ont.

432259

Dear Sir:-

On receipt of yours of November the 13th, I got in communication with our Winnipeg Office about this matter, which you have referred to again in your letter to me of February 28th, and I am enclosing a copy of the letter that I have just received from them. This will explain the present condition of affairs.

Yours very sincerely,

Andrew S. Grant

A.S.G.-A.V.

Indian Affairs. School Files.
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 106-4-1, part 1)

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COPY

Winnipeg, March 5th, 1913.

432259

Rev. J. H. Edmison,
Confederation Life Building,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Sir:-

Yours of March the 1st, enclosing a copy of a letter from Mr. J. D. McLean, Assistant Deputy and Secretary of the Indian Department at Ottawa, came to hand yesterday.

We have been doing nothing of late in the way of trying to get a teacher for the Okanese School, for the reason that our missionary there, Mr. Donaghy, wrote me that there are not enough of children on the Reserve to make it worth while reopening the school. We were told also that the children on the Reserve are within reasonable distance of the school at Elphinstone, and that there were no objections to them attending school there, and that in fact some of them are actually in attendance at that school. This morning I had another letter from Mr. Donaghy, in which he states that the Indians had held a meeting recently on the Reserve, which was attended by the Government Agent and also by Mr. Donaghy. At this meeting, among other things, the Indians pressed for the reopening of the school. The Government Agent asked them how many children there were of school age among them. They claimed that there were fourteen- nine boys and five girls. It turned out, however, that two of these belonged to a family that moves about so much that they could not attend school with any regularity at any point. One of the fourteen is a non-treaty Indian and therefore will not be counted by the Department. One is at present attending the Elphinstone School and another, for some reason, will not attend, so that there is a possible number of ten who might attend. The Indians admitted that unless the children were taken to and from the school there would be no hope of regular attendance, and they asked the agent to get the Department to hire a conveyance to take the children to and from school day by day. The agent promised to submit the matter to the Department, but I understand that he has no expectation that the request will be granted. Mr. McLaren of Birtle is here to-day attending the meeting of the Synodical Home Mission Committee, and he said that he believed that some of the ten children on whom they count as pupils, are not in a state of health to warrant them attending the school. We may wait it seems to me until the Department makes up its mind as to whether they will undertake to convey the children to and from the School before we look out for a teacher.

Yours truly,

Sgd. James Farquharson.

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117334/1

Ottawa, March 13, 1913.

Rev. Sir,-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10 instant with enclosure in reference to the re-opening of the Okanase Day School.

In reply I beg to say that the contents of Mr. Farquharson's letter have been noted and I may say that the Agent has beenwritten to in reference to the transport of the children to school.

Your obedient servant,

D. McLean

Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

Rev. Andrew S. Grant,
Superintendent,
Board of Home Missions,
Presbyterian Church in Canada,
Toronto, Ont.

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PLAN OF INDIAN RESERVE No. 61

At Riding Mountain House

Tp. 18. R. 21. W. 1ST. MER.

Resurveyed by J.K. McLean D.L.S. 1905
subdivided 1907
Scale 20 Chains = one inch

Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs

Chief Surveyor Department of Indian Affairs

Riding Mountain House

Undulating, numerous ponds
Poplar Bush partially burnt
not subdivided

Area 3836 Ac.
Area Wagon roads 87 Ac.
Area C.N.R. 19.20
Area surrendered 260.00
Present area Reserve 3558.80 Acres.

Surrendered and Sold 260 Acres

TOWN OF ELPHINSTONE

PUBLIC SCHOOL

658

117334 1/

BIRTLE AGENCY.

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE,

Birtle, Man.

March, 27th. 1913

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS MAR 31 1913

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
No. F/14
ALSO
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER

433-37

Sir,—

In reply to your letter of the 11th. instant No.117334/1. enclosing a blue pring of the Keeseekoowenin's reserve, I have the honour to state that I have numbered the homes of parents who have children of school age, and the number at each home, which I have enclosed with the blue print.

With reference to therunning of the Van during the winter months I am sure that it would be satisfactory to the band, for the reason that during the summer months a number are frequently absent from their reserve, for the purpose of gathering seneca root, wild fruits &c.and always take their children with them, and the attendance is generally very small during the summer term. The Indians say however, that if the Van was running, that they would leave their children on the reserve with friends, during their absence, so as to have their regular attendance at school, and would not keep them away from school only in case of illness.

enc.2

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

H. D. Wheatley
Indian Agent

To
The Secretary,
Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

Indian Affairs. School Files.
(RG 10, Volume 6027, File 106-4-1, part 1)

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BIRTLE AGENCY.

No. of Home . Name of Parent and No. of Children, Okanase Day School, Keesaekoowenin's reserve, No.61.

No.	1	Ambrose Bone,	Band No.	41	1 Boy	
"	2	Joseph Boyer,	"	" 20	1 "	2 Girls
"	3	Herbert Keechemaymay	"	"37		2 "
"	4	John Blackbird	"	" 39	1 "	
"	5	John L.Bone	"	" 66	1 "	
"	6	Jo. Blackbird	"	" 3	1 "	1 "
"	7	John Bone	"	" 4	1 "	
"	8	Solomon Burns	"	" 35	1 "	1 "
"	9	Norbaire Bone	"	" 58	1 "	
"	10	William Bone	"	" 43	1 "	
					9 "	6½ = 15

Certified Correct

J. A. Wheatley

Indian Agent

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117334/1

Ottawa, October 10, 1913.

Sir,-

During the early part of this year the Department had correspondence with you regarding the re-opening of the Okanse Day School. At that time you submitted a statement of the number of children of school age and also their locations on the reserve. About the same time the authorities of the Presbyterian Church suggested that the children on this reserve might attend the day school at Elphinstone and that in fact some of them were doing so. No action was taken and the Department would like to hear further from you regarding the re-opening of the school.

Your obedient servant,

Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

G. H. Wheatley, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Birtle, Man.

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117334-1

BIRTLE AGENCY.

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE,

Birtle, Man.

October, 20th.1913 191

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
No. F/14
ALSO
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER.

Sch

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS OCT 1913

447713

Sir,—

In reply to your letter of the 10th. instant No.117334/1, regarding the re-opening of the Okanse Day school, I have the honour to report as follows:-

SCHOOLS

I returned from visiting the Keeseekoowenin's reserve on the 13th.instant, and at a meeting of the band, held in Chief George Bone's house, the matter of opening the school was discussed. The band was in favour of having the school opened, with the understanding, that a properly qualified teacher be employed. The attendance however would be very small, and as the Birtle Boarding school has been improved so as to accommodate 85 or 90 pupils, it would not in my opinion be in the interests of the band to open the day school at present, as there will be some difficulty in getting pupils to fill the Birtle school, and as the matter stand s at present, the Indians are willing to send their children to Birtle.

The Rev. W.W.McLaren, the late Principal has informed the band, that the Presbyterian Church does not intend to supply a teacher for the Day school, as it cannot get a qualified teacher, and wish their children to enter the Birtle Boarding school.

With reference to the reserve children attending the Public school, I wish to say, that it will not work, as the white parents object to their attending.

I have the honour to be,
Sir
Your obedient servant
G. H. Wheatley Indian Agent.

To
The Secretary
Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa

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117334/1

Ottawa, October 30, 1913.

Sir,-

F/14 I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant with reference to the proposed re-opening of the Okanase Day School.

In reply I beg to say that the Department approves of your suggestion that the children on this reserve should be sent to the Birtle School and it would like you to use your best endeavours to have this recommendation carried into effect.

Your obedient servant,

Assistant Secretary.

G. H. Wheatley, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Birtle, Man.

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106-4-1

E OF THE
AN AGENT

CANADA
DEPARTMENT
OF
MINES AND RESOURCES
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

PLEASE QUOTE
FILE 15

Dept. of Mines & Resources
Indian Affairs Branch
AUG 11 1947
REGISTERED

Birtle Manitoba
6th August 1947

Indian Affairs Branch
Department of Mines and Resources
Ottawa

On the 22nd of July this year I had a joint meeting of the Rolling River and Keeseekoowenin Bands, held on the Riding Mountain Reserve, where they were having a Sports day.

Both the Bands desire to have a day school built on thsir Reserves, so as they can have the children educated on the Reserve and have them at home at the same time. In my opinion this is a very reasonable request.

Riding Mountain Reserve adjoins the town of Elphinstone, and that would be an ideal place to have the children attend the white day school there, as none of them would be over three miles from the school, providing an agreement could be arrived at to finance it, between the local School Board and the Department, and also providing they had room in the school, which I am afraid is already crowded.

Both Bands state that they will not send their children back to Birtle Residential School after the holidays unless a new Principal is appointed, as they do not like Mr Rusaw, the present Principal.

In my opinion Mr Rusaw is very capable, though also very strict. He runs a very good school and gets on well with the children, and the children are well cared for. The Indians however do not like him. He has very little to do with them and is very strict about the parents visiting the children, except on Saturday afternoons. They also complain that there is no place for them to stay when visiting their children in winter, which is correct.

I sympathize with the parents in this respect but

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but of course the Principal has to be strict in this respect, or it would be impossible to operate the school efficiently.

A.G.Smith
Indian Agent

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106-4-1 (W T)

EXD.

Ottawa, August 25, 1947.

Mr. A. G. Smith, Indian Agent,
B i r t l e Manitoba.

We have received your letter - file 15 - of 6th August. A copy has been sent to the Women's Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church, who operate the Birtle Residential School for the Department.

At the present time we have a great many requests for the construction of day schools and due to building costs and material and labour shortages, we are having a difficult time in having them constructed.

We will arrange for our Educational Survey Officer, Major C.A.F. Clark, to visit Birtle in September, so that he can further investigate this situation. He will write you as to the exact time of his arrival.

Bernard F. Neary,
Supt. of Welfare & Training.

BFN/EM

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BIRTLE

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

OKANASE RIDING MTN SCHOOL

CLOSED
FROM Nov 7/09 TO Aug/17

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