

Indian Affairs  
School Files

(RG 10, Volume 6207)

File 468-5, part 6

Caradoc Agency - Mount Elgin Industrial  
School - Building maintenance - Supplies  
- Accounts. 1927 - 1930.

File 468-5, part 7

Caradoc Agency - Mount Elgin Industrial  
School - Building maintenance - Accounts  
- Plans. 1934 - 1937.

File 468-5, part 8

Caradoc Agency - Mount Elgin Industrial  
School - Buildings maintenance - Supplies  
- Accounts - General Administration.  
1938 - 1941.

File 468-5, part 9

Caradoc Agency - Mount Elgin Industrial  
School - Buildings maintenance - Supplies  
- Accounts - General Administration -  
Plans. 1941 - 1945.

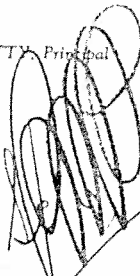
Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6207, file 468-5, part 6)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES  
CANADA

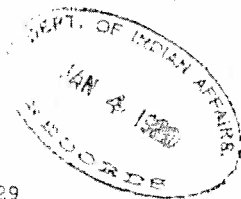
7-0-5  
Mount Elgin Indian Residential School

MUNCEY, ONTARIO

S. R. McVITT, Principal



R



January 3rd 1929

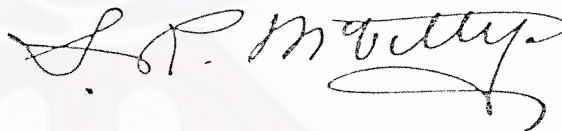
The Secretary,  
Department of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Sir;

It is my duty to inform you that the mangle at present in use in the laundry at the Mount Elgin Institute, is entirely out of date and very dangerous. It was discarded as dangerous by the New Method Laundry of St. Thomas, nineteen years ago, was purchased for a trifle and installed here about that time. There is nothing in the way of modern protection against children getting their hands caught in the rollers. Notwithstanding the greatest precaution we have had several instances of girls getting caught in the roller. Yesterday, a girl got caught and had it not been for the alertness of the man in charge her hand would undoubtedly have been destroyed. Apart from the loss and suffering of the child, it would undoubtedly mean a law suit against the Department or School, or both.

We respectfully request therefore, that a mangle equipped with modern protection be installed at the earliest possible moment. It should be approximately six feet wide. No doubt the Department has been installing laundry machinery in other Schools, and would know a suitable size better than I would.

Hoping for immediate action,  
I am, Dear Sir,  
Yours respectfully,



Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6207, file 468-5, part 6)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES  
CANADA

7-0-5.

Ottawa, January 7, 1929.

Rev. Sir:

I have your letter of the 3rd instant, with reference to the mangle in the laundry at the Mount Elgin Institute.

In reply I have to state that the Department does not regularly supply mangles to Indian residential schools. You might comment on the need of this equipment and indicate how the old one was operated.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLean,  
Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

*S. R. McVitty*  
*J. D. McLean*

Rev. S. R. McVitty,  
Principal,  
Mount Elgin Institute,  
Huncey, Ont.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6207, file 468-5, part 6)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES  
CANADA

5-0-5

# Mount Elgin Indian Residential School

MUNCEY, ONTARIO

S. H. VITTY, Principal

RECEIVED  
JAN 11 1929

January 8th 1929

RECORDS  
JAN 10 1929

The Secretary,  
Department of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Sir;

In reply to yours of the 7th inst, No. 7-0-5, re mangle for laundry at the Mount Elgin Institute, would say that a mangle is absolutely necessary for carrying on the work of the laundry. About 200 sheets, besides towels, pillow cases, girls dresses and other things go through it every week. This is necessary, not only for appearance sake, but in order to get them perfectly dry before putting them to use.

The mangle at present in use is heated and operated by steam, and as stated in my former letter is a very old and dangerous one. Notwithstanding very great care exercised, there have been several cases where pupils have had their fingers caught in the rollers. One girl came near losing her hand some years ago.

The Department has already recognized its responsibility for laundry equipment by supplying all other machinery in use, except this mangle which was here prior to the Departments taking over the school buildings some years ago. Apart from the very great injury which might come to a pupil through the use of this defective machinery, the Department is taking a very great risk of a suit for damages, should a serious accident occur. I assure you that we will continue to use every possible precaution as we have done in the past, but I cannot accept responsibility for the further use of this machine.

I am, Dear Sir,  
Yours respectfully,

Indian Affairs. (RC 10, Volume 6207, file 468-5, part 6)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
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Indian Affairs  
School Files

(RG 10, Volume 6207)

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Plans. 1941 - 1945.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6207, file 468-5, part 6)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES  
CANADA

7-0-5

February 14, 1929.

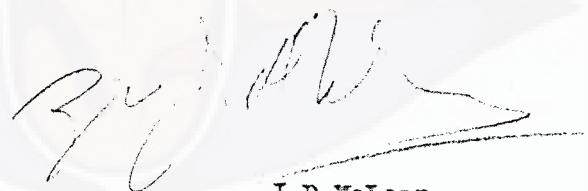
Gentlemen:-

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, and have to advise you that your price of \$656.80 is accepted for One-66" #3111 Single Roll Flatwork Ironer, F.O.B. Munccey, Ontario.

Please ship this ironer addressed to the Rev. S.R. McVitty, Principal, Mount Elgin Institute, Munccey, Ontario.

The accounts, in duplicate, should also be sent to Mr. McVitty.

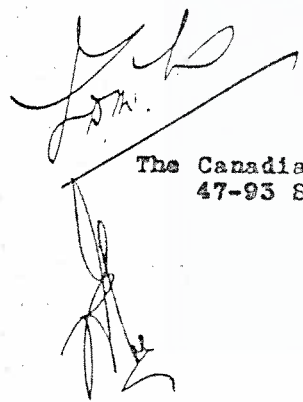
Your obedient servant,



J.D. McLean.

Assistant Deputy and Secretary.

The Canadian Laundry Machinery Co., Ltd.,  
47-93 Sterling Road,  
Toronto 3, Ontario.




Indian Affairs  
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Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6207, file 468-5, part 7)

**PUBLIC ARCHIVES**  
**ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES**  
**CANADA**

Respecting the Mount Elgin Indian Residential School

For the month of December 19 34

ROUTINE

At the time of my visit there were:—

100 pupils in the classrooms.

Are the classroom registers kept up to date? yes

51 pupils in vocational training departments.

2 pupils sick.

11 pupils absent. Reasons.....

153 Total number on roll.

Are there any pupils in residence whose admission has not been approved by the Department?

none

HEALTH, SANITATION, Etc.

Appearance of pupils..... good

Cleanliness of school..... good

Appearance of school grounds..... good

Care of the sick..... good, under a registered nurse.

The children's meals..... Fairly good (dinner, potatoes, beets, milk, bread and chocolate bisu-monge)

Fire drill, escapes and protection..... Drill at irregular periods; drill instructions given twice monthly.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Domestic instruction..... 5 lectures perions a week, also practical work under graduate dietition.

Instruction in farming and gardening..... practical work for all grades 5 to 8.

Training in the care of live stock..... practical work for grades from 5 to 8.

Manual training..... practical experience doing repairs at school only

Care of agricultural machinery and other equipment..... boys from grades 5 to 8.

GENERAL

Discipline at the school..... good

Efficiency of the staff..... Young and effecient.

General management..... good.

Suggestions..... Painting of barn roofs; painting exterior woodwork of main school; general over-hauling of all toilets inside main building in boys part.

*[Signature]*  
Indian Agent

Form No. 217



# AGENTS REPORT

Respecting the Mount Elgin Indian Residential School  
For the month of June 19 35,

## ROUTINE

At the time of my visit there were:—

105 pupils in the classrooms.

Are the classroom registers kept up to date? yes

45 pupils in vocational training departments.

2 pupils sick.

1 pupils absent. Reasons In Victoria Hospital, London.

154 Total number on roll.

Are there any pupils in residence whose admission has not been approved by the Department?

no

## HEALTH, SANITATION, Etc.

Appearance of pupils good, all pupils looking well nourished and clean.

Cleanliness of school very good.

Appearance of school grounds very clean and orderly.

Care of the sick confined to their beds under the care of the Med. Supt and a registered nurse.

The children's meals Dinner, roast beef and gravy, buttered carrots, potatoes, rhubarb pudding, bread, butter and milk.

Fire drill, escapes and protection instructions twice a month, school is now well equipped with escapes.

## VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Domestic instruction lectures and practical work under a graduate dietitian.

Instruction in farming and gardening practical work for all grades 5 to 8.

Training in the care of live stock ditto.

Manual training repairs around the school and six manual training benches recently installed for this work.

Care of agricultural machinery and other equipment good, being stored in proper covered buildings.

## GENERAL

Discipline at the school very good.

Efficiency of the staff young, efficient and doing excellent work.

General management very good.

Suggestions I would again report the need of painting steel roofs of the barns, additional toilet facilities in the dormitories, refrigerator badly needed, completion of the 3rd class-room and re-building boys out-house.

*[Signature]* Indian Agent

Form No. 217

Indian Affairs. (RC 10, Volume 6207, file 468-5, part 7)

LONDON November 30th., 1936

In Account with  
HARVEY M DAVIS  
LAMBETH ONTARIO

TO: *C. P. Murray, Indian Affairs*  
The Mount Elgin Indian Residential School  
Munton, Ontario

Gentlemen:

I thank you for the pleasure of submitting the following prices, as per your inquiry

UPPER Boys' Dormitory.

ONE only	High Cast Enamel Closet Outfit .....	\$ 25.00
ONE "	Urinal with Tank, Stall Type .....	85.00
	Enclosed with necessary Doors	
	7 ft. high 10" above old Floor .....	25.00
	LABOR Three Plumbers 34 hours .....	34.00
	TWO Workmen 34 hours .....	8.50
<i>deleted</i> →	Material for Drainage, Elbows,	
	Tees, Lead, Etc., .....	37.50
	4 inch Cement Floor Plus Labor .....	10.00
		<u>\$225.00</u>

LOWER Boys' Dormitory.

ONE only	C. Enamel High Closet Outfit .....	25.00
TWO "	Urinals with Tank, Stall Type .....	170.00
	Enclosed with necessary Door 7 ft.	
	High, 10" above old Floor .....	32.00
	LABOR Three Plumbers 50 hours .....	50.00
	TWO Workmen 50 hours .....	12.50
<i>deleted</i> →	Material for Drainage, Elbows,	
	Tees, Lead Etc. .....	48.00
	4 inch Cement Floor Plus Labor .....	11.00
		<u>\$348.50</u>

SUPERINTENDANT's Bath Room.

ONE only	Cast Enamel Closet, Low Down .....	25.00
ONE "	1 1/2" Cent. S. Trap .....	3.96
	Drainage Material .....	14.50
	TWO plumbers, Labor 7 hours .....	14.00
	TWO Workmen 7 hours .....	1.75
		<u>\$ 59.21</u>

Carried Forward \$632.71

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6207, file 468-5, part 7)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES  
CANADA

HARVEY M DAVIS  
LAMBETH ONTARIO

TO: #  
The Mount Elgin Indian Residential School,  
Muncey, Ontario

	Carried Forward	\$632.71
<u>GIRLS' Dormitory South Wing.</u>		
ONE only Cast Enamel High Closet Outfit .....	\$25.00	<i>what stack</i>
Material and Fittings for Stack .....	55.00	
<i>Enclosed with Necessary Door</i> Hardware 7 ft. High 10" above Old Floor .....	20.00	
THREE plumbers 24 Hours .....	72.00	
TWO Workmen 24 Hours .....	6.00	
Repairing Sewer Lower Floor .....	40.00	<i>what material?</i>
LABOR, Plus Material .....	40.00	
		\$218.00
<u>GIRLS' Dormitory Third Floor</u>		
ONE only C. Enamel High Closet Outfit .....	25.00	<i>what material?</i>
Repairing Stack, Material Plus Fittings & Lead .....	51.00	
<i>Enclosed with necessary Door and</i> Hardware 7 ft. High 10" above Old Floor .....	20.00	
THREE Plumbers 20 Hours .....	60.00	
TWO Workmen 20 Hours .....	5.00	
		\$161.00
<u>GIRLS' Dormitory Second Floor</u>		
ONE only Cast Enamel Outfit High .....	25.00	<i>what material?</i>
Repairs to Stack plus Material .....	24.00	
<i>Enclosed with necessary Doors, plus</i> Hardware, 7 ft. High 10" Above old Floor .....	20.00	
LABOR - THREE plumbers 20 Hours .....	60.00	
TWO Workmen 20 Hours .....	5.00	
		\$134.00
<u>STAFF Kitchen Sink</u>		
ONE only 20" x 52" R.H. Drainboard C. Enamel Sink .....	52.00	<i>what repairs?</i>
TWO only 1/2" L. Pl. Sink Faucets .....	2.50	
ONE only 1 1/2" Boosey Trap .....	1.99	
LABOR - TWO Plumbers 8 Hours .....	16.00	
TWO Workmen 8 Hours .....	2.00	
DRAINAGE Repairs .....	7.00	
	Carried Forward	\$1,227.20

Indian Affairs. (RC 10, Volume 6207, file 468-5, part 7)

LONDON , November 30th. 1936

HARVEY M DAVIS

LAMBETH ONTARIO

TO -  
The Mount Elgin Indian Residential School  
Muncey, Ontario

Carried Forward \$1,227.20

STAFF Bathroom South Side  
Second Floor

ONE	only Cast Enamel Closet Outfit Low Down	.....\$	25.00
ONE	" 1 1/4" Cent. S. Trap	.....	3.96
TWO	" Faucets	.....	3.12
	Material for Drainage Under Floor	.....	20.00
	LABOR - THREE Plumbers 18 hours	.....	54.00
	TWO Workmen 18 Hours	.....	4.50

*Drawn in  
below material*

110.58

STAFF Bathroom South Side  
Third Floor

ONE	only Cast Enamel Closet Outfit Low Down	.....	25.00
ONE	" 1 1/4" Cent. S. Trap	.....	3.96
TWO	" Faucets	.....	3.12
	Material for Drainage under Floor	.....	32.00
	LABOR - THREE Plumbers 23 Hours	.....	69.00
	TWO Workmen 20 Hours	.....	5.00

*Draw in  
material below*

*What  
material?*

138.08

STAFF Bathroom North Side  
Third Floor

ONE	only Cast Enamel Outfit, Low Down	.....	25.00
ONE	" 1 1/4" Cent. S. Trap	.....	3.96
TWO	" Faucets	.....	3.12
	DRAINAGE under Floor, Material	.....	27.00
	LABOR - THREE Plumbers 12 Hours	.....	36.00
	TWO Workmen 12 Hours	.....	3.00

*Draw in  
material  
below  
P.S.W.*

*What Material*

98.08

Carried Forward \$1,573.94

LONDON, November 30th., 1936

HARVEY M DAVIS

LAMBETH ONTARIO

TO;-  
The Mount Elgin Indian Residential School,  
Muncey, Ontario

Carried Forward \$1,573.94

PUPILS' Kitchen

ONE	only Grease Trap .....	\$ 17.75	-
ONE	" 22 x 48" Sink .....	20.25	-
ONE	" 48" Back .....	9.65	-
FOUR	" 1/2" Loose Flange Sink Faucets .....	5.50	-
TWO	" Extra Holes in Sink Back .....	1.50	-
LABOR	- THREE Plumbers 16 Hours .....	48.00	
	TWO Workmen 8 Hours .....	2.00	
	Removing Old Sinks, Old Grease Trap, Repairing Drainage .....	15.00	119.65

*OK  
over*

BOYS' Washroom.

TWO	only Lgths. 1 1/2" Galv. Pipe .....	7.20	
FOUR	" 1 1/2" Elbows .....	1.80	
FOUR	" 1 1/2" F.F. .....	1.60	
TWO	" Lgths. 2" Galv. Pipe .....	9.60	
TWELVE	" 2 x 1 1/2" Tees .....	9.36	
TWELVE	" 1 1/4 x 1 1/4 Vent Nuts .....	3.00	
TWELVE	" 1 1/2" Short Galv. Nipples .....	1.20	
ONE	" 2" Double TY Drainage Galv. ....	3.00	-
FOUR	" 2" Galv. Dr. Elbows .....	3.60	
FOUR	" 2" Galv. Plugs .....	.60	
ONE	" 2" Galv. Trap .....	3.50	
ONE	" Drinking Fountain .....	34.45	✓
LABOR	- THREE Plumbers 16 Hours ....	48.00	
	TWO Workmen 16 Hours ....	4.00	
	Repairing Drainage Under Floor, Plus Material & Labor .....	20.00	150.31

*OK  
over*

*delish*

PUMP

ONE	only B.T. Pump - 2000 Gal. per Hour 3 H.P. Motor Installed .....	453.95	
	Plus Building 6 ft. Pier of Cement for Stand for Same plus LABOR .....	25.00	478.95

*add  
2" check  
1" relief*

*delish*

Carried Forward \$2,322.73

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6207, file 468-5, part 7)

LONDON, November 30th., 1936

HARVEY M DAVIS

LAMBETH? ONTARIO

TO:-  
The Mount Elgin Indian Residential Schhol,  
Muncney, Ontario

Carried Forward

\$2,322.75

OUTSIDE Drainage

660 ft. 6" Sewer Tile 40¢ per ft. ....	\$264.00	
384 ft. 4" Sewer Tile 24¢ per ft. ....	92.16	
Elbows, Tees, TY's, Cement .....	117.00	
LABOR - EIGHT Workmen 10 days .....	160.00	
Repairing Outside Sewers plus		
Material, plus LABOR .....	37.00	670.16

*OK*

*Adel*

REPAIRS Basin North Main Floor.

TWO only Faucets .....	3.12	
ONE " 1 1/2" Cent. S. Trap .....	3.96	
LABOR - TWO Plumbers 6 hours .....	12.00	
Drainage Lower Floor for Same .....	7.50	
TWO Workmen 6 Hours .....	3.00	29.58

*eliminate*

*eliminate*

*What Drainage*

HAND Basin South Side  
Main Floor

ONE only Cast Enamel 17 x 19 Basin .....	8.07	
ONE " 1 1/2" cent. S. Trap .....	3.96	
TWO " Basin Faucets .....	3.12	
TWO " 3/8" Supplies .....	2.90	
LABOR - TWO plumbers 6 Hours .....	12.00	
ONE Workmen 6 Hours .....	1.50	31.55

*Reel basin*

*iron*

*labour*

*OK*

*ADU*

ONE only 20 x 24 Rubber Mat for Sinks .....	2.00	\$3,054.14
ONE " 18 x 30" P.6980 for Sink .....	7.50	
TEN " 1 1/2" Galv. Tin Clips .3¢ each .....	.30	9.80

TOTAL

\$3,063.94

Indian Affairs. (RC 10, Volume 6207, file 468-5, part 7)

Indian Affairs  
School Files


(RG 10, Volume 6207)

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Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6207, file 468-5, part 8)

**PUBLIC ARCHIVES**  
**ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES**  
**CANADA**

DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND RESOURCES  
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

PAY TO..... Mount Elgin Indian Residential School.

ADDRESS..... DUNDOY.

Ont.

DATE.....			
VOTE		AGENCY	
ALLOT.	E. R.	AMOUNT	
TOTAL			
EXAMINED AND FOUND CORRECT			
DATE.....			

DATE	SERVICE	AMOUNT
July 26-30	To extra food supplies provided for 13 pupils for months of March to June inclusive, on order of Caridos Medical Supt. and as per attached accounts.	\$299.00
	"Special Tuberculosis"	
<div data-bbox="308 945 1185 1428" data-label="Text"> <p>ACCOUNT TRANSFERRED JUL 27 1938</p> <p>AGENCY..... E.R.....</p> <p>Goods received or services performed. Prices fair and just. Approved for payment.</p> <p>Director of Medical Services.</p> </div>		
TOTAL		\$299.00

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this Voucher is correct, that the material has been supplied, the work performed and that the charges are fair and just, also that the expenditure has been incurred legitimately and that each item of the same is a fair and just charge against the Government of Canada.

FORM No. I.A. 506  
R 7747

VOUCHER No. 157

..... [Signature] Agent

DATE July 26-30.

Indian Affairs. (RC 10, Volume 6207, file 468-5, part 8)



THE MOUNT ELGIN INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL  
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

MUNCEY - ONTARIO

REV. O. B. STRAPP, PRINCIPAL

Indian Affairs Branch,  
Dept. of Mines & Resources,  
Ottawa,  
Ont

Re. to Mt. Elgin Indian Residential School  
Muncey, Ont.

Re supplying extra nourishment to 13 pupils 52 days each  
at 25¢ per pupil per day:-

March 13<sup>th</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1938, inclusive \$289.00  
Extra food provided in consultation with Medical Superintendent  
as follows:-

Bread & Butter.  
Fanned butter  
Milk.  
Cocoa.  
Egg nog.

Certified correct.

July 20th. 1938.

*O. B. Strapp*  
Principal.

Certified correct.

*J. R. McLeod*  
J. R. McLeod, M.D.,  
Medical Superintendent,  
Canada Agency.

SPECIAL TUBERCULOSIS.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6207, file 468-5, part 8)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES  
CANADA

AGENTS REPORT

Respecting the Mount Elgin Indian Residential School

For the month of February 1939.

ROUTINE

At the time of my visit there were:-

124 pupils in the classrooms.

Are the classroom registers kept up to date? Yes

30 pupils in vocational training departments.

2 pupils sick.

1 pupils absent. Reasons: Truant whom police cannot locate.

157 Total number on roll.

Are there any pupils in residence whose admission has not been approved by the Department?

Nil

HEALTH, SANITATION, Etc.

Appearance of pupils: Pupils appear well dressed.

Cleanliness of school: all buildings kept clean and tidy

Appearance of school grounds: well kept

Care of the sick: well cared for by the Agency Med. Supt. and School graduate nurse.

The children's meals: Potato soup, peanut butter, fruit cake, bread & milk.

Fire drill, escapes and protection: adequate fire escapes, fire hose and equipment

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Domestic instruction: grades 4 to 8 under direction of graduate dietitian

Instruction in farming and gardening: grade 4 to 8 under qualified farm foreman

Training in the care of live stock: grades 4 to 8 under qualified herdsman & poultryman

Manual training: wood work, brass pounding, weaving and mechanics taught to senior pupils

Care of agricultural machinery and other equipment: stored in implement sheds.

GENERAL

Discipline at the school: good

Efficiency of the staff: appear quite efficient

General management: good

Suggestions: Repairs badly needed to Valley eavestroughing and conductor pipes on main school building and wings, estimated 50 slate shingles needed to stop roof leaks. Total cost in the vicinity of \$200.00.

[Signature] Indian Agent

Form No. 217

Indian Affairs  
School Files

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Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6207, file 468-5, part 9)

**PUBLIC ARCHIVES**  
**ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES**  
**CANADA**

Muncey, Ontario,  
July 25th, 1944.

During a recent visit to the Mt. Elgin Residential School it was my pleasure to meet and talk with the Rev. Mr. Soper. Mr. Soper, as you are aware, is the new Principal recently appointed by the Home Mission Board of the United Church of Canada. The purpose of my visit was to inspect the principal's quarters and make a survey of the farm buildings. My inspection, however, owing to Mr. Soper's desire and his sincere demonstration of will to co-operate, was much more intensive than I had intended. I am, therefore, passing on, in the form of a memorandum, a survey of the school buildings used exclusively for the accommodation of staff and pupils together with a few suggestions that would brighten and add to the comfort of all in residence.

In the main building adjoining the principal's quarters there is accommodation for staff in the form of three bedrooms, bath and one sitting room. Two of these bedrooms and bathroom were decorated in 1943. I am suggesting that the remaining bedroom and sitting room be decorated this year.

In the same building the girls' dormitory, as referred to in Mr. Young's report and mentioned in your letter to the Rev. O.B. Strapp dated June 14th, needs brightening up. Paint will do this but of course it will not repair the floors, ceilings and sanitary system, all of which are major repair jobs.

My particular attention was drawn to the exits leading to the fire escapes. These exits are in the form of double sash windows and in every case, throughout the whole dormitory system, these exits were padlocked. I asked if this were the general procedure when all pupils were in residence and upon whose orders they were locked. I was told yes, upon orders of the retiring Principal; the reason being an endeavour to stop runaways. I registered strong disapproval with such a procedure and pointed out that it would be better to have runaways than have one child burned to death. I also pointed out that responsibility would rest directly with the person giving the order. I also stressed that fire exits and escapes should be unbarred by any obstruction and ready for immediate exit and escape at all times. I would suggest that I be authorized to have these padlocks immediately removed and that in the meantime consideration be given to having the windows removed and replaced with doors equipped with regular panic bars, as suggested in your letter of June 14th.

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In the basement I visited the pupils' dining hall. This is one of the most depressing rooms in the main building. The air is foul, the lighting is poor and it is badly in need of brighter decorating. For air circulation, a built-in, wall fan is suggested. Such an installation would be a great improvement and have a beneficial effect of relieving the room of the musty staleness. Owing to its location in the basement the lighting cannot be improved by natural light but it can be considerably improved artificially by using larger wattage bulbs and the installing of two more lights. The present colour scheme is both dark and dingy and could be greatly improved by a new paint job. With these suggested improvements it would add new life and could not help but react favourably on the pupils.

Adjoining this hall is the kitchen, also various store rooms, wash rooms and play rooms all in need of various repairs, so much so that only a major repair job could be entertained.

Immediately behind the main building is what is referred to as the classrooms. This is a two-story brick, 90' by 36', with exterior plastered walls. The north end of this building is bulging to the extent that, at the present time, it is being held in place by a work of art, namely, 2 by 8 planks. On the ground floor there are three classrooms all more or less in need of decorating and all in need of better lighting. Above the classrooms there are three apartments all in need of various repairs and decorating. These apartments are approached by outside, uncovered wooden stairs all in a very dangerous, rotted condition. After a final inspection of the exterior and interior of this building I might recommend minor decorating but the logical recommendation would be complete demolition and rebuild.

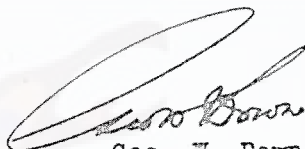
To the south of this building is the laundry, 40' by 30'. This is a two-story building in fair repair. The ground floor is equipped with regular laundry tubs and sinks and appears to be in good running condition. The second floor appears to have been used for anything one had a mind to do. It is dirty, untidy and smelly and is a glaring example of neglect.

Immediately south of this building is a frame building, 42' by 15'. This is known as the Manual Training building. It is literally packed with benches and every type of hand tool and power machinery necessary to establish an up-to-date Manual Training Class. This is in a shameful state of willful neglect and shows an utter disregard for what must have been a sizeable expenditure.

In submitting this report please be advised that it is not in the form of criticism but rather an endeavour to satisfy Mr. Soper's wish for a complete inspection. It is also not without thought that you may consider some of the minor repairs. I have not gone into

detail as to approximate cost of the repairs mentioned. There are too many little jobs, and materials would have to be purchased as one proceeded, but a rough estimate for material and labour would likely cover \$ 500.00. This, of course, would only cover minor repair jobs such as painting and papering. The major job, namely, demolition and re-build would still remain.

I have prepared a plan of these buildings which is herewith attached.



Geo. W. Down,  
INDIAN AGENT.

Indian Affairs Branch,  
Dep't of Mines & Resources,  
Ottawa.

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strong disapproval with such a procedure and pointed out that it would be better to have runaways than have one child burned to death. I also pointed out that responsibility would rest directly with the person giving the order. I also stressed that fire exits and escapes should be unbarred by any obstruction and ready for immediate exit and escape at all times. I would suggest that I be authorized to have these padlocks immediately removed and that in the meantime consideration be given to having the windows removed and replaced with doors equipped with regular panic bars, as suggested in your letter of June 14th.

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NOV 27 1944

Muncey, Ontario,  
July 25th, 1944.

*Added with  
S. C. K.*  
Re Survey:  
Mt. Elgin Residential School

Reporting on my recent survey of barns and outbuildings at the Mt. Elgin Residential School, as requested in your letter of July 3rd, I know of no better way than to take you on an imaginary tour. To enable you to readily visualize positions and approximate distances from the main School buildings, I have prepared a rough plan which is herewith attached. To further assist I have numbered the buildings in order of our travel.

Starting from a point south is Building No. 1. This is a large barn, 100' by 50', with annex attached 27' by 18'. This building is constructed of slop cement stabling, wall with hip roof, upper structure all steel storage barn with cement silo attached. It is in first class condition throughout and fully equipped to house a large number of any type of farm animal.

Travelling north a distance of approximately 200', we enter Building No. 2. This is a T-shaped barn measuring 100' by 40' and 70' by 30'. It has the same construction as No. 1 with two silos attached. It is in first class condition and especially equipped with steel stanchions and steel stalls to house approximately 100 head of cattle. It is, without doubt, on of the most up-to-date barns in Western Ontario.

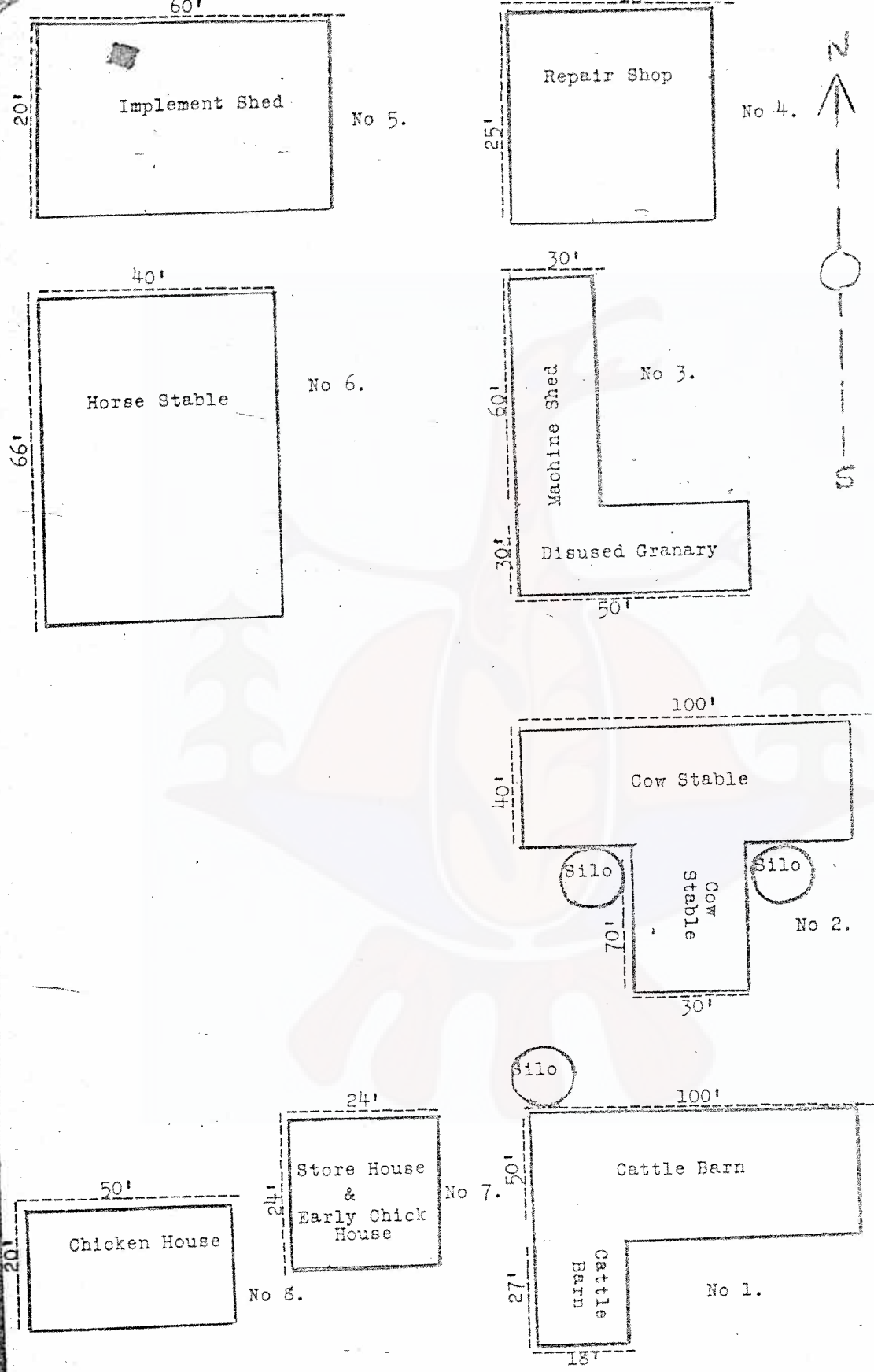
Travelling north a distance of approximately 150' we enter Building No. 3. This is an L-shaped building 30' by 50' and 30' by 60'. The 30' by 50' is in a dilapidated, unsafe condition and should be demolished. The 30' by 60' is an implement shed in a good state of repair.

Travelling north a distance of approximately 100' we enter Building No. 4. This is a brick building 25' by 16'. The order here is confusion but at some time it has been used as a general repair for farm machinery. It is in need of major repairs.

Turning west and travelling a distance of approximately 75', we enter Building No. 5, 60' by 20'. This is an all steel, dirt floor implement shed in A 1 condition throughout.

Approximate Measurements

Survey of Farm Buildings  
Mt Elgin Residential School 18'



Geo W. Down  
INDIAN AGENT

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Turning south we travel a distance of approximately 100' and enter Building No. 6, 40' by 66'. This building has a brick foundation stabling with an all steel upper structure hay barn. It is equipped exclusively for horses having fourteen individual stalls and one box-stall. It is in first class condition.

Travelling south and passing the main School buildings, a distance of approximately 500 ft., we enter Building No. 7. This is a two-story brick building, 24' by 24'. It is used as a general store house and the raising of early chickens. Some work on the outside brick is necessary to put this building in good repair.

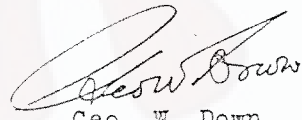
Turning west we travel a distance of approximately 250' and enter Building No. 8. This is a one-story, 20' by 50', frame henhouse in good condition.

The water system, throughout, is supplied from springs located on Indian property and is, I think, under long term lease. It is piped and pumped into pressure tanks and as far as is known, it has never failed.

Root storage facilities consist of two rooms, 14' by 24' each, both dry and suitable for any type of storage; also, one room, 15' by 40'. The smell here is very bad and the place is musty and wet. However, its location lends itself readily to drainage and I think that is all it needs to correct the condition.

This completes our tour and general survey of the farm buildings; and I would say <sup>they</sup> constitute one of the finest and most up-to-date set of farm buildings in Western Ontario. Under proper management and with the leased lands attached they could be made to serve the full requirements of the Mt. Elgin Residential School, not only in the matter of providing food for the pupils and staff but one of the most up-to-date instructional centres for all Indians in Ontario, west of Toronto. There would be, of course, changes and perhaps a few problems before realization of a plan could materialize, but nothing of a nature that co-operation could not overcome.

In submitting this report please keep in mind that it is merely a report on the barns and outbuildings in an endeavour to enable you to decide as to the advisability of renting or utilizing them in our general Welfare program as suggested in your letter of July 3rd.



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Ottawa.

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