

Indian Affairs  
School Files

(RG 10, Volume 6197)

File 465-1, part 1

Kenora Agency - St. Mary's R.C. Residential School and others - General Administration - School Land - School Establishment - Supplies - Accounts - Plans. 1894 - 1927.

File 465-2, part 1

Kenora Agency - St. Mary's R.C. Residential School and others - Quarterly Returns. 1941 - 1952.

File 465-5, part 1

Kenora Agency - St. Mary's R.C. Residential School and others - Building Maintenance - Accounts - Supplies - General Administration - Plans. 1897 - 1907.

File 465-5, part 2

Kenora Agency - St. Mary's R.C. Residential School and others - Building Maintenance - Accounts - Supplies - Plans - Photos. 1926 - 1929.

File 465-5, part 3

Kenora Agency - St. Mary's R.C. Residential School and others - Building Maintenance - Accounts - Supplies. 1929 - 1930.

129992

THIS LETTER WAS RECD BY THE DEPT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA <sup>25th</sup> April, 1896

Your Grace,

In connection with previous correspondence relative to the proposal to establish a Boarding School at Rat Portage, to be conducted under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church, I have the honor to state that the Reverend Father McGill, missionary at Fort Frances, informs the Department that "the Mission can dispose of 25 acres of land, near the town of Rat Portage, for the purpose of a school for the Indians" and that "the place has been specially selected as suitable for the Institution in contemplation."

I beg to say that when the Department acceded to Your Grace's request to insert an item in the Estimates for the establishment of a Boarding School at Rat Portage it did not contemplate being called upon to provide a site for the school, and therefore no appropriation for this purpose was asked for.

I have the honor to be,  
Your obedient servant

Deputy Supt: Genl:  
of Indian Affairs:-

His Grace

The Archbishop of St Boniface

129992-3

122  
57

*Schools*

190796

--Copy--



Rat Portage, Ont.

18 Oct. 1899.

*Ref. Bepda letter*  
*No. 129992*  
*Date August 22<sup>nd</sup> 1899*

Hon. D. Laird,  
Indian Commissioner.

**SCHOOLS**  
OCT 27 1899

Dear Sir,

*D. Laird*  
INDIAN COMMISSIONER

I have just received from the Department at Ottawa my cheque for the September Quarter and pay is given for only 20 children instead of 30 which was on the Returns. I am aware that through an error the Vote was only made for 20 children, but a letter from your Secretary, (No. 122/53, Aug 25th) informed me that the Department had agreed to pay for 30 children instead of 20 as provided in Estimates. I presume the matter can be rectified by your calling the attention of the Department to their agreement on this point. The cheque to hand reads \$360.00, while the Returns call for something over \$540.00.

Trusting you will give the matter your earliest attention

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Sgd) Rev. C. Cahill.

Principal Rat Portage

Boarding School.

*To Minister*

*Approved*

Department of Indian Affairs,  
OTTAWA, 11th November, 1902

The Secretary:-

With reference to the application hereunder dated the 6th instant from His Grace, Archbishop Langevin for the establishment of a boarding school at Fort Frances, Ontario, I beg to say:

1. That I do not consider that another boarding school in this neighborhood is required. The Roman Catholics have schools of this class at Rat Portage and Fort William and the Indians of the five reserves who have asked for a boarding school, as stated by His Grace, are not likely to be benefited to any great extent by sending their children to a boarding school, as hunting, fishing, and working in the lumber camps is what they have to look forward to as means to obtaining a livelihood, the land on their reserves being unfit for farming. Life in a boarding school will not fit them for the hardships they will have to endure in following these avocations.

2. His Grace states that two day schools could be closed to help the new boarding school. The schools to which he refers are Coucheeching and Stangecoming. These schools are doing well the former having enrolled all the children of school age (27) with an average attendance of 16; while the latter has an enrollment of 16 out of a school population of 19, with an average of 10 for last year. It would, I think, be unwise to close schools doing such good work and at least teaching the Indians "the three R's" which is all they will require for some

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6197, file 465-1, part 1)

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CANADA

time to come with their present surroundings.

3. His Grace asks for a grant for 20 children at \$72 per head and as I take he will not make further demands for five years for an increase. The present arrangement provides an education for 46 children at the two day schools he proposes to close at \$600.00 a year, while if the boarding school were established, only 20 would be taken at a cost of \$1440.00 a year and the remaining 26 would be cut off from all chance of receiving an education.

If the local Agent and Indian Commissioner are in favor of this school, as stated by His Grace, this is the first intimation the Department has had of it.

The question of establishing a boarding school at Fort Frances has been before the Department on two previous occasions. The first time was in May 1900 when the Deputy Minister made a note on the memorandum prepared by me saying that the Department "cannot authorize any grant for school at Port Arthur (Pt William) at Fort Frances with one at ~~Rat Portage~~ and Rat Portage so near". In December of the same year, Rev. Father Allard renewed this application when he was informed ~~that~~ in accordance with the memorandum of the Deputy Minister above quoted.

On a late memorandum prepared by me the Deputy Minister makes the following note to the Supt. General:—"I think this demand for boarding schools is growing too fast and it would be well to call a halt for a few years until the whole question can be gone into". This was approved of by the Minister.

*Wm. J. ...*

83,343.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6197, file 465-1, part 1)

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9992

129-1-1

# Rat Portage Boarding School

see Annual  
Rept. for 1900  
Page 320

Situation: This school is situated south of the town of Rat Portage, Ont. on the shore of the Lake of the Woods and is two miles distant from the town.

Agency: It is in the Rat Portage Agency and in the Manitoba Superintendency.

Land: There are 51 acres of land in connection with the school. the Property of the Catholic Mission.

Buildings: The school buildings are of frame construction with brick veneer on a stone foundation. The interior is plaster finish except the ceilings which are of wood. The main building is 36 x 30 ft. 3 stories high with an extension at the south end, 36 x 26 ft. 2 stories high: also attached to the rear of the main building is a lean-to kitchen 16 x 14 ft.

The other buildings are: Principals residence 20 x 16 ft. with lean-to 14 x 12 ft.; Workshop 22 x 16 ft. Stable and carriage shed 46 x 18 ft.; Woodshed 20 x 12 ft. and log house for visiting Indians 18 x 14 ft.

Accommodation There is suitable accommodation for the pupils and staff.

History of School

File No.  
129.992

On the 25<sup>th</sup> June 1895: Archbishop Langevin in a letter to the Deputy Minister of Interior. Mr Burgess requested that a grant of 20 acres of land at Fort Francis be allotted to him for missionary purposes. (see File no 129.992 also files of Interior Dept no. 383.754 and 82.840)

File no 129.992  
Letter Dated. Sept  
18<sup>th</sup>/95. Jan 13  
/86.

The Dept. instructed Agent Cornish to report as to the rights of the Dept. over the 20 acres in question <sup>and in reply that it would</sup> was advised by the agent, not ~~to~~ be possible to <sup>be</sup> accede to the Archbishop's request. His right for building the school was then abandoned.

File 129.992  
Letter Dated Feby  
20. 1896.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> Feby. 1896. Mr Hayter Reid the Deputy Supt. Genl. of Indian Affairs. wrote the Rev C. Cahill of Rat Portage stating that it was the intention to ask for a grant in that year's estimates to establish a Boarding school at Rat Portage and would like to be informed as to what amount of land at his mission could be utilized for the purpose.

April 7<sup>th</sup> 1896

In his reply <sup>The Rev</sup> Mr. Cahill stated that 25 acres had been specially selected as suitable for the institution in contemplation <sup>at Rat Portage was attempted as an alternative for</sup> The Estimates for 1896-97 provided the sum of \$2500<sup>00</sup> towards building a Boarding school at Rat Portage, &

(that at Fort Francis)

was understood <sup>that</sup> the Roman Catholic Church would assume all cost, if any over the amount appropriated.

File 129.992 <sup>5</sup> The Indian Commrs (Mr. Forget) forwarded a communication from the Rev. J. U. Poitras dated 26<sup>th</sup> June 1897

asking that this grant be paid over to the Bishop of St. Boniface and stating that the work on the building was being rapidly pushed forward and would be completed early in the summer.

File 129.992 <sup>5</sup>

On August 16<sup>th</sup> 1897 the Indian Commrs forwarded to the Dep<sup>t</sup> accounts in connection with work and materials supplied for the building amounting to \$2976.<sup>00</sup> and recommended their payment up to the amount appropriated viz \$2500.<sup>00</sup>

On August 27<sup>th</sup> /97 the Dep<sup>t</sup> forwarded to the Indian Commrs Cheques for the various accounts to the amount of \$2500.<sup>00</sup>

129.992 <sup>2</sup> This school was first opened to pupils on 15<sup>th</sup> May 1897 with 5 girls in attendance. Boys were not received till June. 97.

Per Capita Grant

1896. 97

The first Grant to this school was voted in the Estimates for 1896. 97 and was for 20 pupils @ 72<sup>00</sup> per cap. The grant this year was the same as that made this school in 1896. 97.

1897. 98



1898.99

<sup>Main</sup>  
The estimates provided for 20 pupils @ 72<sup>00</sup> per capita.

File  
129.992

In a letter to the Madras Commr. Dabid June 17<sup>th</sup> 1898. Mr. M. Sen authorized a grant for 10 extra pupils. The school was therefore paid during the fiscal year 1898.99 for 30 pupils @ 72<sup>00</sup> per capita.

1899.00

By over-sight provision was only made in the estimates for 20 pupils but the Dept consented to pay for 30 @ 72<sup>00</sup> (see Dept's letter of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug 1899 on File 129.992)

1900-01

The Estimates for this year provide for 30 pupils @ 72<sup>00</sup> per capita.

1901-02

The Estimates for this year provide for pupils @ 72<sup>00</sup> per capita

Religion This is a Roman Catholic school. The Rev C. Cahill O. M. I. has been principal since the opening of the school in May/97

File 129.992<sup>s</sup>  
see letter of  
Aug 11<sup>th</sup> /99

Three day schools were closed for the purpose of increasing the number of boarders at Rat Pottage by Grassy Narrows Whitefish Bay and Stangecoming.  
Heating. The building is heated by

5

two furnaces, which give satisfaction.  
There is also a box stove in the boys  
hall

Water Supply: The water is obtained  
from the Lake, being hauled to the  
school by horse cart. During the  
hot weather it is not very good

Garden: There is about 2 acres  
fit for cultivation and this supplies  
work for the boys during the summer.

# Canadian Pacific Railway Company's Telegraph



READ THE NOTICE AND AGREEMENT ON THE BACK

B. S. JENKINS, Gen. Supt., Winnipeg, Man.  
 J. FLETCHER, Supt., Vancouver, B.C.  
 J. McMILLAN, Supt., Calgary, Alta.  
 R. N. YOUNG, Supt., Moose Jaw, Sask.  
 J. TAIT, Supt., Winnipeg, Man.

W. J. CAMP, Elect. Engr., Montreal, Que.  
 F. T. JENNINGS, Supt., North Bay, Ont.  
 W. MARSHALL, Supt., Toronto, Ont.  
 J. O. F. RICHARDSON, Supt., Montreal, Que.  
 F. J. MAHON, Supt., St. John, N.B.

**JAS. KENT,**  
 Manager Telegraphs, Montreal.

SENT NO.	SENT BY	REC'D BY	TIME SENT	TIME FILED	CHECK
----------	---------	----------	-----------	------------	-------

Send the following Message, subject to the terms printed on the back hereof, which are hereby agreed to:

Ottawa, December 19th, 1913.

Dr. A. B. Ferguson,

Kenora, Ont.

Snail-pox reported to be in Indian school, Kenora. Please investigate and wire report tomorrow. Meantime take all necessary precautions to prevent spread.

(Charge Dep't I.A.)

Edmond C. Scott.

129992-1

T. D. FORM 1 B

# Canadian Pacific Railway Company's Telegraph

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS



All messages are received by this Company for transmission, subject to the terms and conditions printed on their Blank Form No. 2, which terms and conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following message. This is an unrepeatable message, and is delivered by request of the sender under these conditions.

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J. F. RICHARDSON, Supt., Vancouver, B.C.	F. T. JENNINGS, Supt., Sudbury, Ont.
H. COONS, Supt., Calgary, Alta.	W. M. HALL, Supt., Toronto, Ont.
R. N. YOUNG, Supt., Moose Jaw, Sask.	F. J. MATHON, Supt., Montreal, Que.
J. McMILLAN, Supt., Vancouver, Man.	W. M. GILLESPIE, Supt., St. John, N.S.

**JAS. KENT,**  
Manager Telegraphs, Montreal.

A117 RA W 25 Collect

Kenora Ont Dec 20-13.

Duncan I Scott,

Care Dept Indian Affairs,

Ottawa:Ont.

Report re smallpox at Indian school correct. Have been in attendance mostly mild types one severe case have isolated cases and vaccinated the others

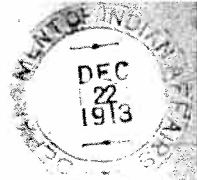
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129992-1

No. 175  
*Amundson*  
*Johns*

INDIAN AGENTS OFFICE. KENORA. ONT:-

December. 18th. 1913:-

451664

Sir:-

On tuesday the 16th. Dr. Ferguson. reported to me that there was several cases of Chicken-pox at the Kenora. Boarding School. I requested him to keep a good look-out and see that all possible should be done to brake it up, and that all Pupils who were effected should be isolated. which was done, but yesterday the Dr got suspicious. and again reported to me that he was very much afraid that it was Small-pox. and that he would like to have a consultation with one of the other Doctors.

I at once advised him to do so, and this morning Doctor Chapman and himself, visited the School. and pronounced it small-pox. and they placed the whole institution in quarantine, as ~~there~~ quite a number of the children are effected,

The Doctor will do every thing in his power to keep the check. disease in ~~check~~, and not allow it to spred. I thought it my duty to report this matter, and will be glad to have any advice you may wish to give me in regards to this case.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your obedient servant.

*W. S. McLaughlin*

The Secretary:-  
Dept of Indian Affairs:-  
Ottawa. Ont:-

Indian Agent.

129992-7

*S. J. ...*

*pp 8/13*

EXTRACT  
ORIGINAL ON FILE....129992-6.

DEPT. OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
OCT 31 1918  
RECORDS

REPORT OF INSPECTOR SEMMENS ON THE KENORA BOARDING SCHOOL.  
ACCOMODATION, -

516380

There is reasonable room for 45 to 50 pupils.

The Principal finds that in order to give the children sufficient air space he must needs limit the accomodation of the Staff.

Indeed he has a proposal to sell the present building for a soldiers convalescent home and move school to one of the reserves out on the Lake. The reasons he gives for the proposed change are as follows, -

1. Parents complain that the school is too far away from them and they do not care to let the children go, for that reason.

2. The land on the Lake is much better and a far greater amount of self help could be secured.

3. It would make the Principal's owrk lighter and keep him at home more if it were not for the incessant long trips made necessary by the duty of distributing and collecting pupils as well as visiting people on reserves, who require the ministerial supervision.

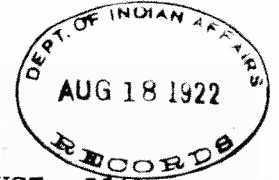
These reasons for the desired change of location are worthy of consideration from a church standpoint, it may be more difficult for the Department to see their interest in the proposed change. To be plain what is aimed at is likely to put one school at McIntosh for the accomodation of the Savanne Agency and one at Big Island for the benefit of the Kenora Agency. This would extend and consolidate ecclesiatic control of the educational institutions of western Ohtario and add to the prestige and honor of the Catholic Church. One cannot but admire the breadth of view these people have and who after all is so well qualified to boost these schools as the Catholic sisterhood.

Date of Inspectuon, -October 4th, 1918.

Stamp: DEPT. OF INDIAN AFFAIRS



129-1-1  
**Oblate Missionaries of Mary Immaculate**  
*Provincial Administration*



*Saint-Boniface, Man.*

AUGUST 15th 1922

*1*  
*2*  
*Scott*  
*Albert*

570777

The Honourable Duncan Scott.  
Deputy Minister of Indian Affairs  
Ottawa.

Honourable Sir:

Pressing motives oblige me to change  
the Principal of our Kenora Boarding School.

I therefore present for your approval as Prin-  
cipal of the said Boarding School Rev. Father Herve Ker-  
brat O.M.I. to replace Rev. Father DeGranpré, who has been  
of the late Principal of that institution.

Rev. Father Kerbrat we hope shall be able to run  
that school to the feel satisfaction of the Department.

Hoping this change shall not cause any inconve-  
nients.

I remain:

Honourable Sir

Your humble servant.

*B. B. B.*

Indian Agents Office. OCT 9 1922

Kenora, Ontario.

4th October, 1922.

572930

Sir,

In reference to my letter of the 23rd ult re Kenora Industrial School.

On 2nd instant after the payments, I had a long conference with the Indians and asked their complaints against this School. The main points were that the New Principal was too rough with the Children and would not listen to the Indians when they came to the School. he went to the Indian houses with a gun, and frightened them, that he carries a knotted bootlace with him for the purpose of hitting the pupils.

I visited the School next day and discussed these points with the Principal and he informed me that he was not too rough with the children, but that the discipline was so bad he had to be very strict, he did not take the gun to frighten the Indians, and he did not often use the bootlace.

The staff at the School did not seem to think the Principal was too strict, and said that more discipline was needed. The last Principal was too lenient.

There have been 7 children ran away from this School during the last few days they have all been brought back by Constable Hansen with the exception of one, who has not yet been located. these children are from close to the School and we were lucky enough to get them when the Indians came to be paid.

The Principal explained to me that the late Principal used to go round and get the children back himself, but he could not do so as it cost too much, I explained he should do his share and not expect the Department to pay everything, but he seemed to think that was entirely the Agents duty and also that it was only the Agents duty to get new children and not the Church or School.

On questioning the Children it appears they all ran away because they were afraid of being punished for something wrong they had done.

In conclusion I may say that the Principal was overseas and is very nervous and excitable and this may be the cause of the trouble. In my opinion another Principal in his place might help matters as the Indians here are very indignant and do not like this man, although I believe he is doing what he conscientiously considers is the best.

The other Indians used to come round at all hours, now he has specified hours, and he has also stopped the Indians from camping on the School property, this is alright but I do not think he has enough tact in his dealings with the Indians, and is making the changes too suddenly.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

*Frank Edwards*

Indian Agent.



Assistant Deputy and Secretary,

Department of Indian Affairs.

Ottawa.

P.S. The Principal and myself are very friendly, but I do not approve of the way he making these radical changes.

One of the runaway children informed me that the teacher had told him if he reported anything to me he would be thrashed. I do not believe this.



129-1-1.

Ottawa, Oct. 11, 1922.

Dear Father Beys:-

I wish to acquaint you with a situation that has arisen at the Kenora Boarding School. Rev. Father Kerbrat has as yet failed to win the confidence of the Indian band. Several children have run away and have been located by the Indian agent, after some difficulty and considerable expense. The discipline at the school has not been very good, and the present principal has adopted rather severe measures, in an effort to better conditions.

I am convinced that a letter from you to the Rev. Principal, urging him to move slowly and bend every effort to gain the sympathy of the Indian band, would assist at this time. I am directing our agent to cooperate in every way possible with Father Kerbrat. The principal should be informed that it is his duty to assist in the return of run-aways and to undertake active recruiting. Disciplines must be maintained, but methods should be carefully considered.

I am sure that you will cooperate with this Department, in an effort to improve conditions at the Kenora Boarding School.

Yours very truly,

Deputy Superintendent General.

*R. J. B.*  
*BCI*

Very Rev. F. B. Beys, O.M.I.,  
Provincial of the Oblate Order  
of Mary Immaculate,  
222 Provencher Ave.,  
St. Boniface, Man.

129-1-1

INDIAN AGENTS' OFFICE

573466

*Rob R.J.J.* Kenora, Ontario.

12th October, 1922.

Assistant Deputy and Secretary,  
Department of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa, Ont.

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO  
No. 108-12.  
ALSO  
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER

Sir,—

The Principal of the Kenora School telephoned me at 9 a.m. this morning that five of the boys had run away #78, 104, 116, 131, and 101.

Two of the boys #78 and 131 came to my office at three o'clock this afternoon, and said they had run away because they were afraid of being punished by the Principal, and he was always blaming them for things.

I went to the School and saw the Principal who informed me that the only boys he would take back were #116 and 104. and he would not take the others back at all, he said he had applied to someone for permission to send some of the boys to LeBret Industrial School as he could not manage them,

Under the circumstances I have sent them to my Inter-preters house to be kept until I hear from the Department what is to be done with them.

The boys ages are 17, 17, 16, 15, and 17. They are almost old enough to be discharged, and one of them had been working on the Government Road at Redditt, and getting big wages during his summer holidays, he is old enough to fend for himself.

I shall be glad to receive instructions as to whether they should be sent to another School or discharged, it seems better to me, if we send them to some other School for a few months before discharge, so as to show other boys they cannot run away with impunity.

I may say whilst at the School, I met a Mr Bennett an Ontario Catholic School Inspector, and discussed the matter with him, he thinks the boys should be sent to another School before discharge.

This School is causing us much trouble and I do not think we can remedy matters until we have a new principal.

We cannot get Indians to send their children to the School, whilst under the control of this man.

I may say I do not interfere in any way with the running of the School,

I have the honour to be,

Sir, Your obedient servant,

*Frank Edwards*  
Indian Agent

Buildings and Land.

Kenora Boarding School.

Three story brick veneered School and Residence building, size approximately 100 ft. x 108 ft. with one story brick veneered addition 18 ft. x 30 ft., including Steam Heating Plant, Plumbing and Electric Lighting.	\$ 31500.00
Filtration Plant	2400.00
Septic Tank	1100.00
900 ft. 2 1/2" Piping for Water Service	2000.00
Frame Shop Building 20' x 22' with Tanks and Pumping Equipment for Water Service	4000.00
Frame Warehouse 15' x 30' and Ice House 14' x 24' with Refrigeration	1100.00
Frame Barn 28'x30' - 2 stories, Hip Roof	1200.00
1 Frame Pig House - 18'x28'	250.00
1 Frame Pig House - 15'x40'	350.00
1 Frame Hen House - 16'x40'	550.00
1 Frame Boathouse - 16'x40'	500.00
1 Frame Bathhouse - 12'x14'	100.00
1 Frame Warehouse - 20'x30'	325.00
1 hewn timber Dock or Wharf	400.00
	<u>\$45775.00</u>
118 acres Land, being what is known as East part of I.8 and part of K.16	
15 acres cleared at \$250.00	3750.00
103 " uncleared at \$ 50.00	5150.00
45 acres, more or less, of the West part of I.8 (Land on which is situate the School and Residence Building	<u>6750.00</u>
	<u>\$61425.00</u>

Certified Correct.  
A. M. Rose,  
Valuator.

Kenora, Ontario,  
December 7th, 1922.

*Recd in last page  
67,593.50*

Machinery, Implements and Miscellaneous Articles.

Kenora Boarding School.

1 Bread Mixer-----	\$ 15.00
2 Metallic Bread Ovens-----	120.00
1 Red Star Cream Separator-----	125.00
1 Coffee Mill-----	25.00
1 Globe Washer-----	125.00
1 Extractor-----	175.00
1 Gasoline Engine-----	175.00
1 Pump-----	100.00
1 Bone Cutter-----	75.00
1 Mower-----	175.00
1 Harrow-----	25.00
1 Plow-----	20.00
1 Cultivator-----	20.00
1 small Cultivator-----	10.00
1 disc Harrow-----	50.00
12 Hoes-----	6.00
1 Seeder-----	15.00
1 circular Saw-----	20.00
1 Lawn Mower-----	5.00
1 Emery Wheel-----	4.00
1 Scale-----	30.00
3 Wheelbarrows-----	9.00
2 Waggon-----	120.00
1 Bob Sleigh-----	30.00
24 Dumbells-----	6.00
2 Motors - 5 h.p.-----	350.00
1 Motor - 2 h.p.-----	75.00
1 cabin Gasoline Boat - 36'-----	1200.00
1 small Gasoline Boat - 20' (no value)	
1 Rowboat-----	25.00
2 Canoes-----	50.00
	\$3180.00

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6197, file 465-1, part 1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
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Furniture and Furnishings

Kenora Boarding School.

85 single Beds (complete)-----	\$ 850.00
4 camp Beds-----	12.00
5 Bureaus-----	75.00
8 Washstands-----	40.00
10 Basins & Jugs-----	20.00
50 common Chairs-----	25.00
6 Rocking Chairs-----	21.00
6 Arm Chairs-----	18.00
3 Folding Chairs-----	9.00
2 Tilter Chairs-----	12.00
12 Benches-----	12.00
4 Teachers' Desks-----	40.00
36 School Desks-----	180.00
19 Tables-----	76.00
1 Sideboard-----	15.00
4 Cupboards-----	16.00
Linoleum - 5 rooms-----	100.00
5 Sewing Machines-----	125.00
6 Clocks-----	24.00
1 Gramophone-----	40.00
1 Typewriter-----	40.00
35 frames Pictures-----	52.50
2 Organs-----	120.00
1 Letter Press-----	5.00
30 Window Blinds-----	15.00
1 Kitchen Range-----	150.00
3 Stoves-----	60.00
2 Boilers-----	8.00
	<u>\$2160.50</u>

Live Stock

Kenora Boarding School.

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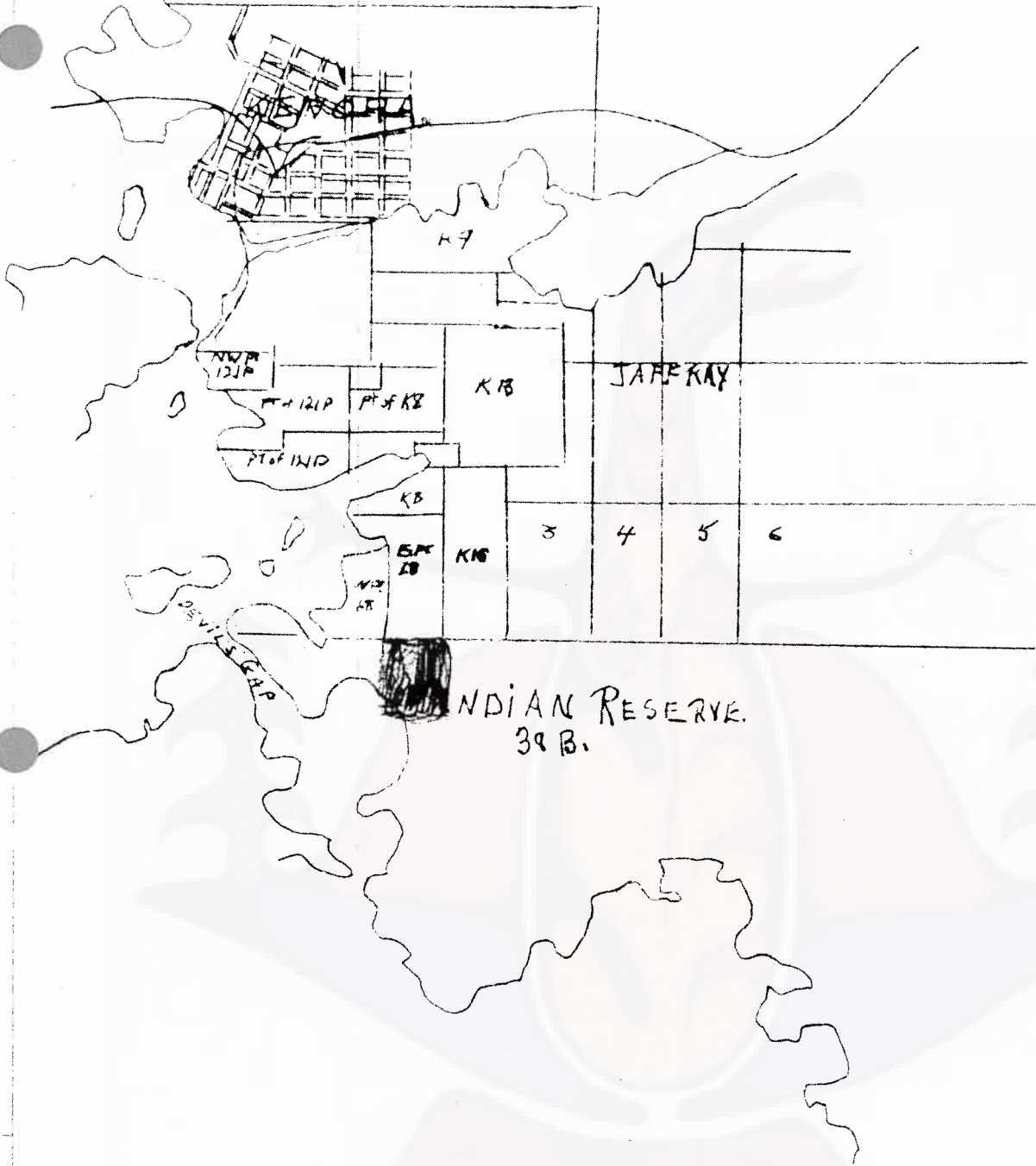
1 team Horses - (1600 lbs.)-----	\$400.00
4 Cows-----	240.00
14 Goats-----	56.00
100 Hens-----	50.00
3 Turkeys-----	6.00
4 Geese-----	4.00
3 large Pigs-----	36.00
6 small pigs-----	36.00
	<u>\$828.00</u>

Kenora Boarding School

- Recapitulation -

Building and Land-----	(as per detailed list)	-	\$61,425.00
Machinery, Implements & Miscellaneous Articles-----	" " " "	-	3,180.00
Furniture and Furnishings--	" " " "	-	2,160.50
Live Stock-----	" " " "	-	<u>828.00</u>
			<u>\$67,593.50</u>

48000

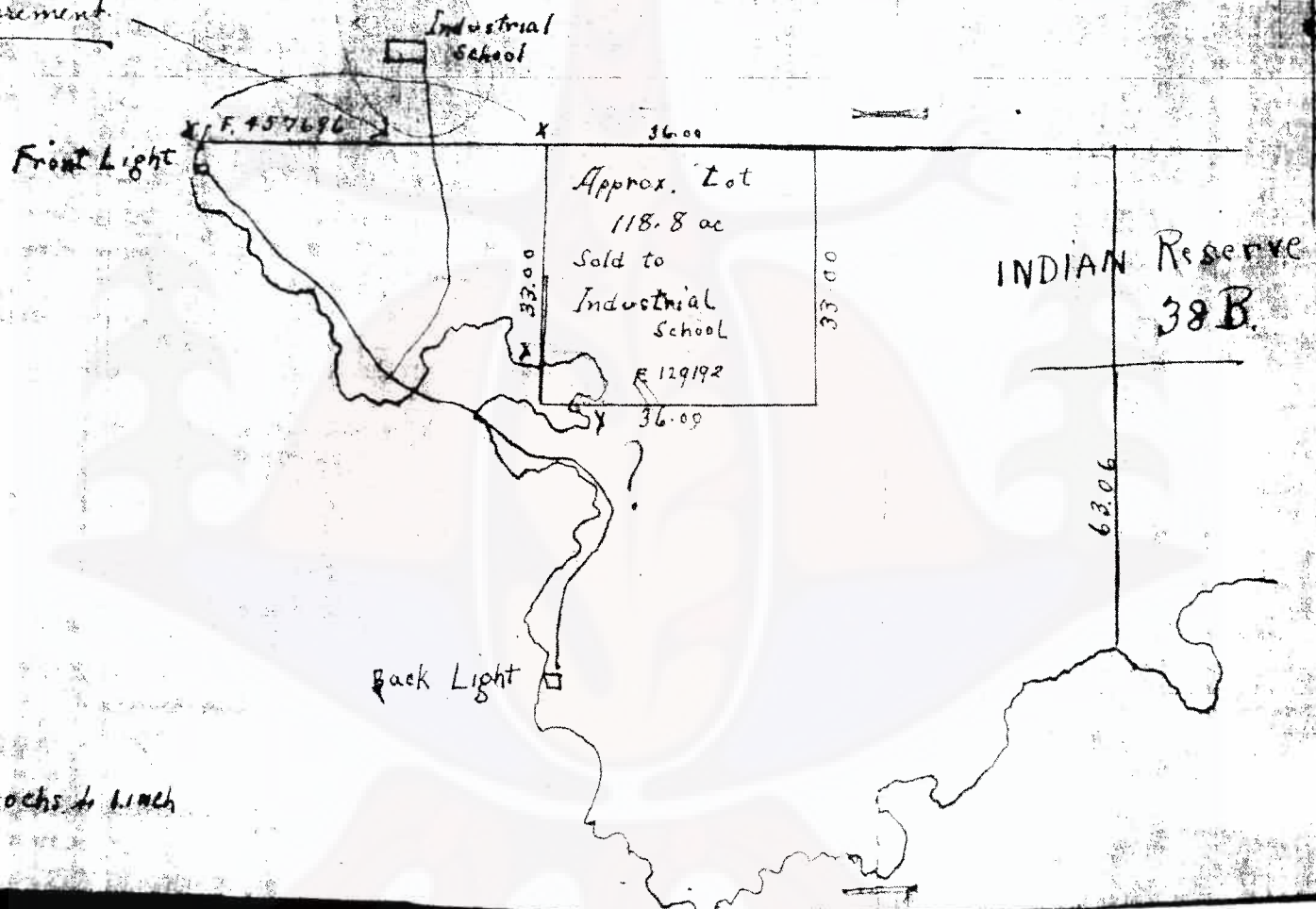


Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6197, file 465-1, part 1)

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Require measurement



Scale = 20 chs to 1 inch

129-1-1

Extract from letter of 3rd January 1923 received from Indian Agent Edwards, Kenora, Ont.

*F. A. P.*

Had a busy time last week. Xmas day at Kenora School giving out toys and prizes. We had a Xmas tree and every child got a toy & some candies. I gave special prizes to the best boy, the best boy writer, the best girl singer and the best girls fancy work, they did not cost much and gave a lot of pleasure to the children.

*For work*

On Thursday, I got the Manager of the Y.M.C.A. to take his small moving picture out with him and we gave the children a show quite a lot of the older Indians were there and enjoyed it, many of them had never seen moving pictures before.

I am President of the Kenora Boy Scouts and on Saturday took 27 of them for a snowshoe walk to the reserve and the School, where the Principal gave them tea, and we intended to have a shooting match (22's) but the weather was too bad snowing, so we are going to take them there some other time and have a hockey match, the Boy Scouts against the Indian Children, and shooting match after, I think it makes better felling to get the white children take an interest in the Indians and it makes the Indians less shy.

*would it be possible to make*

The Priest was very pleased and wants me to get literature and he may start a troop at the school, as they have one at LeBret. He wants to know if we could get the Government to let us have some educational films occasionally for these moving picture machines as he believes different Departments supply them free, and they are of great educational value, Mr. Mercer of the Y.M.C.A. will take out his machine and show them occasionally if we get the films, The only cost I believe will be the express on the films. Do you know where we can get them. I understand some firm in Winnipeg distributes them they could come down here one day and be sent back a couple of days after.

If this could be worked, perhaps it might pay to buy a machine for the School, and it could be used by the Cecelia Jeffrey School occasionally when they get the electric light in. The machines I understand cost about \$250.00 or \$300. This is only a suggestion.

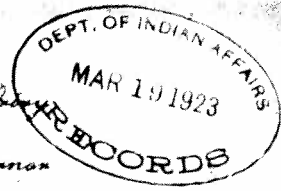
*for news*

The Principal at the School, is improving and the Indians are beginning to think more of him, he made a mess of things at the start, but after getting called down by myself and the Priest from St. Boniface, he changed his ways and at present appears to be doing good work.

*Edward*

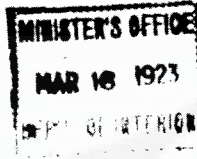
What amount was put in the Estimates for the School at Rolling Portage if any, and have the Church promised to do anything.

(Sgd) Frank Edwards



Certified copy of a Report of the Committee of the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor General on the

14TH MARCH 1923



580612

*Handwritten signatures and initials: R.F.T., J.M., etc.*

The Committee of the Privy Council have had before them a report, dated 28th February, 1923, from the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs, submitting that it is considered desirable by the Department of Indian Affairs to acquire the Kenora Indian Boarding School from the Roman Catholic Church. Arrangements for the purchase of the property, including buildings, other improvements, live stock, chattels and effects, have been completed by the Department of Justice, whose Agents have found satisfactory title to the land in question, known as parcels 22 and 8666 in the Kenora Land Titles Office.

The Kenora Boarding School is modern, well equipped and adequate for the purposes of Indian education. The property has been valued at approximately \$67,600.

Under the arrangement between the Department and the Church authorities, the purchase price for the entire school property has been fixed at \$48,000, and funds for this purpose were provided for in the Supplementary Estimates 1922-23, Vote No 546. It is proposed to apply for the Receiver General's cheque for the said sum of \$48,000 payable to the Oblate Fathers of the Immaculate Conception and the Agent of the Department of Justice jointly.

The Honourable

The

The Superintendent General of Indian Affairs

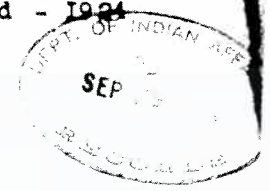
*607 21*



129-1-1

Kenora Ont. Sept 23rd - 1924

Mr. C. Scott Esq.  
Deputy Superintendent General  
of Indian Affairs, Ottawa.



R

Dear Sir

*[Handwritten signature]*

In regard to the management of this Indian Industrial School that you maintain here. I think it is time some investigation into the management of the Institution should be made. From complaints that come to me, it seems to me that the mode of punishment that is being adopted is inhumane and barbarous, and should not be tolerated in any civilized community.

Chief Pines granddaughter from Big Island and another girl Mary Robt Robinson and another whose name I have not got were first whipped and beaten by the Priest and then their hands tied together and their feet tied together. and four of them put in the cellar and kept there for 4 hours. And the one the chiefs grand child was shut up the the toilet ( an outhouse ) with her hands and feet tied together. And this kind of humiliation was continued for 4 days. This happened in May last. The Sabaskong Indians reported this to the Indian Agent Captain Frank Edwards and asked him to investigate this thing. But the Agent has never done anything.

*Minakijitok*

*# 83 at Sabaskong*

*Acknowledge this letter later of 18*



129-1-1

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE

Kenora, Ontario.

October 8th 1924 19

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO No. 108-12 ALSO TO DATE OF THIS LETTER
--




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R

Sir,—

Referring to your letter 129-1-1 of the 30th ult, enclosing letter from #83 Assabaska Band, which letter in my opinion was written for this Indian by an educated white man.

The woman, #83 Assabaska (Sabaskong) is the mother of two children #090 and # 0123, pupils at Kenora Residential School, and she is living with a half breed Joe LaPointe or Kabestra.

Josephine the eldest child refused even to go with her mother for the holidays, but Mary, the youngest did. Owing to Mary not returning to the school after the holidays I had to send the Constable after her and bring her to the office to see why she had not returned back to school. As the mother made certain accusations against the school I allowed them to bring Col. Machin, Barrister, to my office and we went into the whole matter and decided there was nothing very serious in it.

If you will refer to my previous letters you will see that the Indians complained of the Priest hitting the children, and he promised to me not to administer corporal punishment.

On April 28th last five girls ran away from the school and at night came to my house, as it was then too late to send them back to school I allowed them to sleep at the Agency, and gave them their breakfast the next morning going back to the school afterwards that day. The children informed me they had nothing against the school but ran away because they were not allowed to play with Chief Pine's grand daughter.

The Principal informs me that he left Kenora for Winnipeg at 10 o'clock A.M. on April 29th last, and that none of the children were whipped or beaten, but he is informed as we did not want corporal punishment administered, two of the children were locked in the cellar and two others locked in other places for about 2 hours and they had their hands tied together.

Chief Pine's grand daughter used to shut herself up in the dormitory toilet at night to vex the Sister in charge, and was therefore shut up in the same toilet for about 2 hours as a punishment. This toilet is inside the building and not an outhouse. Her hands and feet were loosely tied and she got them free long before the 2 hours were up. This humiliation occurred only once, and not 4 days as stated.

I believe the Principal is doing his best, but he is too nervous (he is suffering from shell shock) for the position of Principal of this school, and I would suggest that he be given a rest and another man take his place, one who would make himself more friendly with the Indians.

The Indians here object to sending their children to this school, and the school register shows the difficulty experienced in getting the pupils back from their holidays. The Principal, owing to shell shock has not got that human touch that appeals to these people.

Your obedient servant,

*Frank Edwards*

(Frank Edwards'.  
Indian Agent.

The Assistant Deputy & Secretary,  
Department of Indian Affairs.  
Ottawa. Ont.

P.S. Mr. Briner met the  
Principal whilst he was  
inspecting the School and  
can give you his opinion  
He  
Please refer to my letter 13<sup>th</sup> Sept 19.

129-1-1

Ottawa Journal. Feb. 12/25

*Report  
file*

**R**

DEPT. OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
FEB 14 1925

### IS SUICIDE VICTIM AFTER KILLING MEN

#### Indian Boarding School Scene of Murderous Assault.

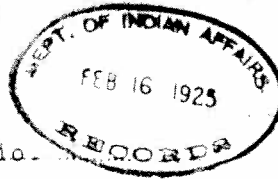
KENORA, Ont., Feb. 12.—Brother A. Pollnaire d'Amour, assistant principal of the Indian boarding school here, was shot dead, and Joe Bernicott, a hired man, was severely wounded by Francole Salou, employe of the institution, early this morning. After his murderous assault, Salou ended his own life with the same weapon.

Authorities investigating the crime are unable to assign any reason for the attack, as there had been no quarrel and no other indication of trouble. It is believed that the murderer had gone temporarily insane. Bernicott, who was wounded in the jaw, is expected to recover.

Bernicott and Salou, according to the former's account, were engaged with their duties in the stable and after milking the cows Salou left with two pails in the direction of the school. Bernicott thought he was long in returning, but on turning around, he encountered Salou pointing a gun in his direction.

The next moment Bernicott was struck on the side of the face with the full charge of the short gun. The wounded man rushed toward the school, followed by his assailant. Just before reaching the building, Salou stopped to reload the weapon, and when Brother d'Amour interceded, the latter was silenced with a shot through the left eye. He died instantly.

129-1-1  
INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE



Kenora, Ontario

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO  
No. 198-12.  
ALSO  
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER

R

12th February 1925.

R

Sir,—

I am in receipt of your letter #129-1-1 of 6th instant. approving the appointment of Rev C. Ferrault as Principal of the Kenora Residential School in place of Rev Father Kerbrat resigned.

I received word this morning that a murder had been committed at the School, so I went there with my constable and Coroner Annie, Our Medical Officer A. D. Ferguson was already there with the Provincial and Town Police.

It appears that a man named Francois Selou shot at Yves Bernicot in the Barn (these men were Frenchmen both working at the School) Bernicot was badly wounded in the left cheek, he ran away from the Barn and into the School, Brother Apolinaire D'Amour, (who has been at the School over 17 years, and is well thought of) came out of a room to see what all the shouting was about, and Bernicot ran round him, Selou seeing the Brother and apparently seeing red, shot the brother in the head, killing him immediately. Selou then appears to have disappeared for a time, and the Police were searching for him, but just about the time I appeared one of the pupils came in with the information that he had found the murdered about 100 yards in the bush, it appeared that when he found himself locked for he committed suicide by shooting himself.

The inquest will be held tomorrow, no motive as yet appears for the murder.

Your obedient servant

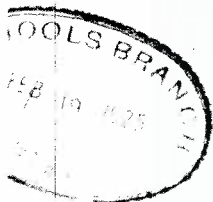
*Frank Edwards*

Indian Agent.

Assistant Deputy and Secretary.

Department of Indian Affairs

Ottawa.



Indian Affairs. (RC 10, Volume 6197, file 465-1, part 1)

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