

## **Oblates of Mary Immaculate - Cluny**

Mission of the Holy Trinity

Codex (volume II), 1912 to 1940

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**June 9, 1912** - page 2

Corpus Christi Sunday: Five students from the school, George, Girard, Augustin, Maxim and Peter, made their first communion today after a three-day retreat attended equally by all communicants. This little celebration throws a little light on the village and makes it forget a little the sad emotions mentioned in the last pages of volume 1.

**August 1, 1912** - page 4

Clarissa Drunken Chief, a student of the school and sick for over two years, died at home and was buried on the 31st.

**September 19, 1912** - page 5

Visit of Mr. Scott, Superintendent of Indian Education, from Ottawa. He dined at the school and renewed his formal promise of August 25, 1910 to build a new school for us immediately.

**September 23, 1912** - page 6

That same day, James Run Wolf of the school, who had been misbehaving for a long time, tried to set fire to the school. He had four boys, James Dr. Chief, Gerard, David and Peter, light a fire under the kitchen in the afternoon about 3 o'clock. Fortunately, Mr. McDonald, the Sisters' servant, went down into the cellar and discovered the fire already blazing in the beams: another two minutes and it would have been too late! If we see today the cause of the fire of the night of June 24: God watches over us. These poor children have caused a lot of trouble for the past year by their desertions and their ill will, and also thanks, perhaps, to the unfortunate circumstances to which the 5th of July is alluded. And yet, this is the time or never when everything should work out well in view of the activity with which the Protestants are working to fill their new school house.

**October 22, 1912** - page 7

Payment of the treaty to the Indians: a great celebration for them and for the school children.

**November 6, 1912** - pages 7-8

[Competition with the Protestant school].

**November 23, 1912** - page 9

Trip to Calf Bull mine to see this Chief and some Indians to try to stop the desertions from the school.

**December 11, 1913** - page 9

Return from camp from above: After having visited the various camps at this end of the reserve, Fr. Levern was able to realize the tremendous pressure that continues to be exerted in order to fill the Protestant school...

**December 25, 1913** - page 10

Christmas: The church is filled with white people who, almost all of them, have approached the sacraments at Midnight Mass. Only six Indians: Paul Black & his wife, Judith, wife of Mike Bear Hat, the deaf-mute, Joe Little Chief and Louise, wife of Jean Awatsinaw. The others preferred to go to the feast and dance at the mine camp in Bassano.

**January 30, 1914** - page 11

[Difficulty in recruiting students].

**March 3 to 6, 1914** - page 14

Father Vantighem preached a retreat to our children.

**March 11, 1914** - page 15

Jos Antonio Blackfaced Chief enters the school.

**April 20, 1914** - page 15

The Agent comes to visit the school. He is drunk. "To us Indians, it costs \$50.00" says Jim Sorkapiniw whose sense of smell immediately sensed the state of poor Mr. Gooderham.

**May 24, 1914** - page 17

Chief Calf Bull informs us that yesterday the Principal and Supervisor of the Protestant school had one of their big pupils arrested and fined nine dollars for insubordination. The Grand Chief Yellow Horse and Co. are furious about this and take advantage of it to praise the Catholic school.

**July 28, 1914** - pages 19-20

Towards the end of the month, the children of the school gave us some trouble: they all want to go home on vacation and we let them go on the 31st. Three are discharged: Simon Big Snake, Paul Weasel Calf and Paulus Good Eagle. Their predecessors did not give us much consolation after they left school: will these ones do better?

**August 18, 1914** - page 21

Marriage of Julia Poor Eagle with Cyrill Old Woman At War and of Jane Eagle Rib with Joe Little Chief: may our Lord have mercy on these poor children!

**November 18, 1913** - page 23

Here, the annual payment of the treaty. Fr. Levern who, at the express request of some of the Chiefs and Catholic Indians and to the great joy of a host of others, organized for them the lottery of a horse donated for this purpose by Mr. Fr Courtney, a saddle, blanket and bridle, tried to sell a few tickets and sold only 33.

**December 9, 1913** - page 25

In the evening, twelve children of the school deserted together; whereas, however, everything seemed to be going well!

**December 25, 1913** - page 26

Christmas. Joe Little Chief and his wife, Laura, and the deaf-mute, were the only Indians who came - yet a little dinner had been prepared for them according to the ancient custom. But there were more interesting attractions elsewhere: at the Calf Bull mine there was a dance and supper for \$116.00 (exact figure: the Indians had contributed for this purpose). Tonight, there will be at the upper camp a dance and supper for \$128.00. Yesterday, it was at the southwestern mine of Bassano. Besides, all this winter, the Indians have not yet worked, so to speak, at their mines: they have only danced and drank!

**January 31, 1914** - page 28

There are many sick people on the reserve since Christmas and seven have died of which only one has been baptized. On the other hand, the Indians can no longer get drunk as easily as in recent times: their great supplier of whiskey from Gleichen has finally been arrested and sentenced by Mr. Markle, Inspector, to a heavy fine!

**April 13, 1914** - page 32

Visit to the top of the Reserve to see also the parents of our students and those who have promised us children; ...

**April 15, 1914** - page 32

Dinner for the inauguration of the school for the Indians: parents of the students and the Chiefs: meeting, then general visit of all the apartments. All say they are delighted. Cut Mane, Spring Chief and Mike Bear Hat put their children in the school the same day and some others promised us theirs for the very near future.

**April 23, 1914** - page 32

Chief Pitawpiw puts his son Benedict in school today, which he promised on the 15th.

**August 26, 1914** - page 36

The boys of the school are gradually returning from vacation, but not without difficulty.

**August 28, 1914** - page 36

Thomas Broad Scalp Lock entered the school, led by "The Calf".

**September 6, 1914** - page 36

Alphonse Sleigh enters the school.

**September 21, 1914** - page 37

Jack Medicine Traveller enters the school.

**November 3, 1914** - page 38

Ann Cutter enters the school.

**November 4, 1914** - page 38

Mike Rabbit Carrier enters the school: this is how the children who have been promised to us for so long finally come.

**December 4 to 8, 1914** - page 40

From December 4 to 8, a small retreat was preached to the children of the school and on the 8th, six children made their first communion: James Dr Chief, Joseph Cat Face, Anthony Pretty Young Man, Mary Jane Dried Limb and Geneviève Sleigh and Richard Brass.

**December 1914** - page 40

Nothing special happened during the month. On the 7th, the wild farmers received their wheat money: several of them received a large sum, \$2,000 and more, but a few days later they had already squandered it all on trips and trivia and presents to their friends from other reserves who were visiting here.

**December 24, 1914** - pages 40-41

A girl at the school, Sophia Yellow Old Woman, who has been somewhat ill for several years, has had to go to bed for the past fortnight. She has been quite ill this week and is receiving extreme unction today.

**January 23, 1915** - page 43

On the 23rd, Big Snake put his two daughters in school.

**February 1, 1915** - page 44

Sophie, from school, died this morning.

**February 2, 1915** - page 44

Burial of Sophie in our new cemetery. The old cemetery is too far from here and it was necessary to make another one in the vicinity: but where? The Chiefs, consulted for a long time and several times on this subject, did not want to answer. They simply did not want to have a cemetery here because of the proximity of the houses. We finally decided to put it in our field; still, it had to be put at a certain distance from the road: they are so afraid of the dead.

**February 2, 1915** - page 44

Mr. Markle, Inspector of Indian Agencies and Schools, spent the day here inspecting the school and publicly expressed his great satisfaction.

**February 28, 1915** - page 45

The younger of the two girls whom Big Snake put in school last month and whom he had taken home a few days ago because she was ill, died this morning. Yesterday, another pupil of the School, Vital Red Morning, who had been sick since the fall, received the extreme unction and indulgence of the good death at the camp up on the reserve where his father had taken him for some weeks.

**March 1, 1915** - page 46

Death of Vital Red Morning, of our School, at his parents' home up the reserve.

**April 17, 1915** - page 48

Henry Black Eagle, a former student of the school, who was sick all winter and who is going to die from consumption, is receiving communion today as a viaticum: he is camped near Cluny.

**April 25, 1915** - page 49

Henry died last night and his parents brought his body to us early in the morning; we made the coffin and buried him before high mass. Henry died invoking the Blessed Virgin "O my mother, help me". Such a beautiful death is a great consolation for the missionary; it is false to say that our schools do not give any results from the religious point of view.

**April 1915** - page 50

The school continues to go on in its usual way; sometimes everything is calm, then one day there is the desertion of two or three children and the unwillingness of all; then comes another period of calm. The poor Sisters sometimes find the task very hard.

**May 31, 1915** - page 51

During the last fortnight of the month, the Indians are assembled at the sandy mounds for their great sun dance; they are still there today and are still busy with the preparatory dances for this great ceremony. It is the whole tribe which is gathered there and which displays its Indian and pagan instincts in broad daylight.

**June 4, 1915** - pages 51-52

One of the pupils of the school, Gerard Many Turning Robes, who was only deserting under the pretext that he wanted to go to Dunbow at all costs, leaves this morning for that institution with Fr. Nordmann, omi, who arrived on the 1st of the month for that purpose. The boy's father, who stubbornly refused to give his consent, finally complied with his wishes.

**July 13, 1915** - page 53

Visits to the Indian camps where there are several sick people: the women of Mahertoenaw, OSakoyetsikin, David Many Bears, then catechism to young Makaw who is to be married to Cecilia Big Snake of the school. This girl is still young, but at the time of her admission, a promise had been made and signed by Fr. Riou. The promise must be fulfilled.

**August 3, 1915** - page 54

Marriage of Cecilia Big Snake and Makaw, after three publications of banns.

**August 8, 1915** - page 54

School boys leave for their vacation.

**September 13, 1915** - page 54

Spencer Owl Child puts son Simon, age 3, in school today.

**November 23, 1915** - page 56

Rejoicing among the Blackfoot folks: today is the payment of the treaty. The boys of the school go on leave to their parents.

**December 1915** - page 58

During the month, Fr. Levern tried again to get a few new recruits for the school, but all those who had promised their children found a host of more or less ridiculous pretexts for turning back. May Our Lord have mercy on them and inspire them to better feelings.

**December 1915** - page 59

The work of the school has been going on in its usual way. The Department of Indian Affairs has built a lean-to for the laundry this year and has installed useful machines which considerably lighten the work of the Sisters, but in spite of all the exterior luxury of this establishment, the work of God is very ungrateful, the students and their parents suspect nothing of the devotion which is being deployed for their good. It is a case of saying: "euntes ibant et flebant...".

**January 9, 1916** - page 60

Sunday: almost nobody at Mass. It is cold and moreover there is an epidemic of influenza in the vicinity: 28 pupils of the school are in bed.

**January 16, 1916** - page 61

Today, Sunday, the attendance is still quite mediocre. The children of the school are slowly recovering and show their gratitude to the Sisters by their bad behavior.

**19 January 1916** - page 61

Visit to the Bassano mines; there, as elsewhere on the reserve, it is impossible to recruit children for the school. As soon as the slightest word is spoken on the subject, the answer is the same everywhere: "No, the Sisters treat the children too badly!" Who was it that circulated this song and gave the order? Euntes ibant!

**February 14, 1916** - page 62

Mr. Markle, Inspector of Indian Schools and Agencies in Alberta, made his annual inspection today and found that the pupils are not as bright as in the past: the boys are, in fact, only deserting.

**March 31, 1916** - page

A young man of 17, Tom, son of Bear Robe, who has been ill since November, died today after receiving the last rites.

**March 31, 1916** - pages 62-63

Dances upon dances at Calf Bull mine, at the upper camp, and then at the mines southwest of Bassano. Every week, such is the occupation of the Blackfoot. They are mining very little coal this winter. Their harvests have been so good, they have had so much money that they don't know what to do with it. So why bother! Our students find that the life of their parents in the midst of these continual parties must be quite pleasant, and afterwards Fr. Levern spends a great deal of his time bringing the deserters back to school.

**April 4, 1916** - page 63

The desertions continue without respite; among the four who escaped today, there is Emile who just made his First Communion the day before yesterday.

**17 April 1916** - page 64

This week Fr. Levern lithographed a little Blackfoot pamphlet in syllabics which he had been working on all winter.

Last Sunday, twelve boys deserted together. Father Levern finally wrote to the agent who had all the deserters brought in by the police and who at the same time summoned the parents to his office and threatened them: inde irae!

**June 24, 1916** - page 66

The sun dance with all the ceremonies that preceded it is finally over and the Indians are leaving the sandy knolls today and returning to their respective camps. Some are plowing on their farms; others are leaving for the Calgary celebrations. All claim that the Sunshine Festival went very well: yet the fact is that an epidemic has broken out there, and they are forced to confess it, among the children five of whom are already dead and several dangerously ill.

**July 15, 1916** - page 66

Here is the fourteenth child to die today on the reserve within a month; this is one of the benefits of the Sun Dance.

**July 26, 1916** - pages 66-67

Leontine Run. Rabbit, one of our older pupils, 16 years of age, who fell suddenly quite ill eight days ago and who seemed already out of danger, has just relapsed last night: it is a case of peritonitis.

The doctor, to whom we telephoned, is slow in coming and the parents do not want to wait any longer: they introduce the Protestant witchdoctor Wolf Collar so that he examines this poor child and they ask loudly to take her to their home. Impossible to resist: they took her to Chief Duck's house where Dr. Rose soon arrived, who was very unhappy and claimed that her case was not serious, but in the hands of a witch doctor, what would become of her? Leontine has already received the Holy Viaticum, extreme unction and the Indulgence of the good death.

**July 27, 1916** - page 67

Leontine was taken to Spring Chief's hay camp at the Sandy Hills. We hear her crying as she is being taken away.

**July 28, 1916** - page 67

Fr. Levern visits Leontine who today is able to speak a little, but quickly drops: "Father, I did not want to come here, but they did not mind me and took me away just the same."

**July 30, 1916** - page 67

Fr. Levern and three Sisters went to see Leontine, but her parents consented only with difficulty to let them in; the Protestant minister Stocken himself came to see her in the evening at Wolf

Collar's invitation and when she knew it was him, she showed so much indignation that her parents were amazed.

**August 1, 1916** - page 67

Léontine seemed to be a little better for a few days, to the great triumph of the Indians who shouted from the rooftops that we were killing her by our ignorance of the art of healing; in reality, however, it was the illness that was taking its course. That night, she lost her voice again. Levern who gave her a last absolution, despite her mother's resistance: "Don't pray for my daughter anymore, I don't want her to die, I want her to live!"

**August 2, 1916** - pages 67-68

Léontine died last night at 8 o'clock: she did not stop praying before breathing her last, say her parents. Fr. Levern dug the grave with the help of two young Indians and then went with Fr. Sylla, OMI, who had just arrived for a few hours, to visit the Poles of Crowfoot.

**August 3, 1916** - page 68

Leontine's burial: While we are finishing covering the grave, her mother speaks: "Arsawpiw (Fr. Levern), you have caused me a lot of pain, you kept my daughter in school for a long time, if you had let her go earlier, she would not have died, but now I will not put a single child in your school, etc." Spring Chief, himself, the child's grandfather, accuses us of killing her by treating her with ice, etc. May Our Lord have mercy on the Blackfoot.

**October 13, 1916** - page 70

The boys are not all back from their vacations yet. Several do not return until very late. There are constantly deserters during the fall and winter, especially among the older ones.

**November 4, 1916** - page 71

The desertions of the boys from the school continue this fall and all winter. They are generally misbehaving at the school.

**December 27, 1916** - page 71

Big feast and dance at Wolf Collar's, a kind of Protestant deacon. Eight of the older boys from the school deserted to attend. Desertions are becoming more and more frequent.

**January 8, 1917** - page 72

Many boys from our school are deserting. This is what they do all winter. Desertions are becoming more and more numerous.

**March 1917** - page 73

The big boys of the school finally come back... The Agent comes here. He says that if there are reasons (which must be given to the Department) they can be discharged at 16. If the children desert, they, or rather their parents, will be punished with prison or a fine.

Almost continuous theft by the boys of the school. They steal, among other things, communion wine... they tear off the door hinges, etc.

**April 5, 1917** - page 73

The boys are still stealing altar wine from the school.

**April 6, 1917** - page 73

During the night of the 4th and 5th and 5th and 6th, Good Friday, some former pupils of our school broke into our cellar and stole altar wine. Augustin Little Bull, James Running Wolf, etc.

The officer judges them and dismisses them as having no convincing evidence! Maxime Good Eagle, insolent, seizes Sister Jean by the throat. He was sent to jail in Lethbridge for two months.

**December 1917** - page 78

At the beginning of December, the Indians go to the Agency with our school boys to receive their harvest money and keep them almost all until Christmas.

This fall, almost continual desertions - as usual of a number of our students.

**January 1918** - page 78

Our Indians are especially noted for their stealing. They steal two or three hundred barrels of grain from the school's granary. They also steal from each other.

Two of our former students, Frank and Maxime, were sent to jail in Lethbridge for stealing horses and horned cattle. Desertions continue as usual at our school.

**September 3, 1918** - page 81

The boys of our school, on holiday with their parents since the end of August, have not yet returned. They are supposed to help with the threshing and haying. They were supposed to be back, but the Indians are holding them back indefinitely. It is becoming more and more difficult to get them back after the vacations.

**October 1918** - page 81

In October, the Boys have not yet arrived from their vacation, except for a half dozen. The Spanish Flu having invaded the reserve, the doctor had the school closed (but we kept the girls).

**January 1, 1920** - page 85

Another year has just begun, what does it hold for us; little consolation no doubt in the ministry of the Indians. It seems to me that the Blackfoot, far from becoming better, are on the contrary going backwards, they are really pitiful!

**April 11, 1920** - page 86

Funeral of Maurice Cut Mane, child of the school.

**January 1, 1921** - page 90

Another year in the past; we are nearing the end. The world thinks little of it, especially our poor Indians who spend their time drinking and eating, sleeping and satisfying their passions. We have very little consolation among the Blackfoot; when will the hour of grace ring for them?

**March 16, 1922** - page 95

On the 16th, little Anna Drunken Chief, a child of the school, died at home. On the 18th, Anna Drunken Chief was buried.

**July 3, 1922** - page 99

Marriage of three girls from the school: Maggie Cat Face, Josephine Eating in the Middle and Lioba Drunken Chief. Several girls from the school left for Calgary with their parents; the school children went on vacation.

**July 27, 1922** - page 99

Visit of the Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Mr. Duncan Scott; he was accompanied by Mr. Graham, Commissioner and Mr. Geo Gooderham, our Agent. Repairs on the school will soon begin.

**August 3, 1922** - page 100

Some of the students are returning from vacation, but the parents are in no hurry to bring them back.

**August 6, 1922** - page 100

About fifteen boys have arrived from vacation, but there are still a good number to return.

**October 30, 1922**, page 102

Father Riou received the official news of the closing of Dunbow. The Indian Commissioner asked him to go and meet with Inspector Murisson for the division of certain objects belonging to the Industrial School which the Department was willing to concede to the Crowfoot School. He leaves the next morning with two Sisters and will be back by All Saints' Day.

**January 21, 1923** - page 106

In the afternoon, I do catechism at the village school; few children, the parents do not supervise them and let them do their will.

**February 5, 1923** - page 107

The nurse Ramage has announced her visit to the school. How foolish of the Indian Department to pay people who are of no use to the Indians.

**April 2, 1923** - page 110

Inspector Christianson, the Agent and Mr. Smith visited the school. The children have the day off.

**April 16, 1923** - page 111

The Indians have had their pay for the land they rented across the river. 10 dollars per head.

**August 2, 1923** - page 116

The children are to return today from their vacation, but the Indians are in too much of a hurry with their Sun Dance and the children are anxious to attend.

**August 8, 1923** - page 116

The nurse left this afternoon without being able to finish her visit. The children are not all back yet. Visit from the Agent.

**September 21, 1923** - page 118

School Fair in Gleichen. The weather is cold, it is snowing a little; in spite of this, the children of the school went to Gleichen.

**November 26, 1923** - page 123

Mr. Graham, the Indian Commissioner, arrived to visit the school after an hour's notice. He dined at the school with his lady and Mr. Gooderham, then visited the house and the children and returned to Gleichen about 3 p.m.

**November 27, 1923** - page 123

The children and Sisters. went for a picnic at the river.  
Visit of an Inspector of the public schools of the Province.

**December 5, 1923** - page 123

The Inspector of Schools returned to take the exam in the classes. He saw the older children's class that afternoon, but they neglected to inform the Principal. The next morning, 6, he sees the little ones' class, but it is only when the Inspector is about finished that I am told. I judged it useless to bother.

**February 5, 1924** - page 127

Two other children run away.

**February 12, 1924** - page 127

Visit of the Agent with an Inspector of the Indian Department, Mr. Taylor, auditor of accounts. He has nothing to do with the school.

**February 20, 1924** - page 128

It seems the Sisters are doing their best to keep the big boys from attending Sunday school. There is always something to be done. The Indians are quite right to complain that their children do not have classes regularly enough.

**February 21, 1924** - page 128

Catechism class as usual; some children were missing. The Sisters find all sorts of excuses to make these children miss class. Today, Sam was sent to the Post Office during class, as if the thing could not be done as well after class.

**March 22, 1924** - page 130

Funeral of Marie Dolorosa The Storm, this child died in the hospital yesterday.

**March 25, 1924** - page 131

Visit of Mr. Smith, Government Works Inspector. The Agent also came to visit the school and tells me that Mekanaw has decided to give his land to the school in return for a fee.

**March 29, 1924** - page 131

Visit from Commissioner Graham who has just made a tour of the Province. The Bloods will have their school this year, the location has already been chosen by the Commissioner and the Father of the Mission.

**April 7, 1924** - page 131

It was payment day, so almost all the reserve went to the Agency.

**April 21, 1924** - page 133

The school children have their day off today and the Indians arrive early to pick them up.

**May 15, 1924** - page 134

Jim Running Wolf tells me that the Indian dance hall was burned down Tuesday night, it was not yet finished and had already cost 900 dollars. That is one less place of debauchery.

**May 22, 1924** - page 135

The Indians are paid today for their rented land across the river. Big party for the children of the school who are going to Cluny in the afternoon with their parents.

**June 12, 1924** - page 136

The nurse from the Department arrived again for her inspection of the children of the school.

**June 26, 1924** - page 137

The boys and girls of the school are going on vacation. The reason for leaving before July 1 was that the retreat for secular priests was to begin on the 30th of the month and this gave the Sisters a few days to make the necessary preparations. But the retreat was postponed to July 21 and the date of the children's departure was kept. Confession of the young girls in the afternoon.

**July 1, 1924** - page 138

It is very hot. The girls are going to Gleichen to see the races.

**July 4, 1924** - page 138

Unexpected visit from Mr. Graham, Commissioner of the Indians.

**July 28, 1924** - page 139

The Indians have their treaty today and the Agent with his suite is at school. After dinner he came to see me. There was a big storm for an hour which will do some good. The roads are soggy; the Sisters from Midnapore who left to go back are obliged to return.

**August 25, 1924** - page 141

Jim Running Wolf and Peter White Dog broke into the Mission cellar during the night and wreaked havoc on the communion wine. Jim got two months in jail and Peter got one month. This is not much and I fear that when they return to the reserve they will be ready to do it again.

**August 27 and 28, 1924** - page 141

On the 27th and 28th, Father Riou took part in the Convention of the Principals of the Catholic Indian Schools of the West which was held at Lebret. Will anything good come of it? It is to be desired, for the Indian Department is becoming more and more demanding and it is time to show our teeth.

**September 1, 1924** - page 141

Labor Day. The children go home and the older girls go on a picnic. Father Riou took them to White Eagle Camp and picked them up in the evening.

**September 26, 1924** - page 142

School exhibition at Cluny. A great day for the children. The weather was fine this afternoon and all had a good time. 4 schools: Crowfoot School, Old Sun School, Cluny and a country school.

**October 22, 1924** - page 144

Long session this morning with Mother General. It is still doubtful whether we can reach a perfect agreement. What misery! They would like the missionary to be the humble servant of the Sisters and the director to be told what to do; it's the world turned upside down. Is it any wonder that we have had so little success in evangelizing the Blackfoot? The good Lord cannot bless such independence.

**November 10, 1924** - page 147

Thanksgiving Day. The children are going home today. It is still cold, but that does not prevent them from going out.

**January 26, 1925** - page 152

Day off for the school children who are going home for the day, at least the boys and little girls.

**January 30, 1925** - page 152

Some of the older boys who did not go home on Monday are going today; as always, we are consulted when the thing is done.

**February 20, 1925** - page 153

Visit to the school of the nurse sent by the Indian Department. I saw her as soon as she arrived and told her what I thought of her visit. It would be good to have everything to their liking in the Catholic Institutions. It seems to me that we have something to say about this report. She tried to get Joseph Many Shots back to the school who had gone home with my consent, but the Indians resisted and was left alone.

**April 27, 1925** - page 156

There has been a sort of rebellion among the boys at the school. Father Riou had the two most guilty ones put in chains.

**April 30, 1925** - page 156

Riou went to Gleichen for the trial of the culprits. They are expelled from the school. Simon Wolf Leg and Georges Many Shots.

**May 10, 1925** - page 156

Burial of Rabbit Carrier's child; he lost three children in less than a month.

**May 25, 1925** - page 157

Legal holiday. Boys go home and girls go to Gleichen.

**May 27, 1925** - page 157

Visit from the Agent. Several children have not yet returned from their leave of the 25th. The Indians do what they want and there is no way to punish them.

**June 23, 1925** - page 158

Commissioner Graham and the Agent visited.

**June 24, 1925** - page 158

Mr. Graham's day off for the children.

**June 30, 1925** - page 159

Funeral of Mary Martha, a student of the school, who died of consumption.

**July 1, 1925** - page 159

Big girls going to Gleichen to see the races.

**July 9, 1925** - page 159

The older girls of the school with two sisters went to the Calgary Exhibition.

**Late December 1925** - page 165

The Indians are becoming more and more indifferent; they have never been very fervent on this reserve, but it seems that the work is becoming more and more difficult. The enrollment of the school tends to diminish. Several of the Indians from this camp have gone to the camp at Namaka and these Indians will put their children in the minister's school which is nearer to them. May God's will be done.

**October 11, 1926** - page 174

The children are going away on holiday today. The Indians are in more of a hurry to pick up their children than to put the new ones in school; they have all sorts of excuses for always delaying.

**October 12, 1926** - page 174

Spencer wants to find a wife among the girls at the school and begins to be instructed in religion.

**Late December 1926** - page 178

The Indians seem a little better disposed this year; several are being instructed, either to receive baptism or to be married in the church. The children in the school are also more submissive and more respectful, the good is slowly being done and the retreat preached by Father Smit made the older children think and they seem to have a little more piety since then. May this improvement be accentuated in the course of the year which is about to begin.

**January 30, 1927** - page 179

Catechism all week to Spencer Owl Child and Marc Spring Chief who are to marry two girls from our school. Since the marriage of Louise Spring Chief to Anthony Pretty Young Man, the Indians do not give me any rest; they want to marry their daughters at the age of 15 and 16, which causes me a lot of trouble.

**February 14, 1927** - page 180

Marriage of Spencer Owl Child to Betsie Drunken Chief. Marc Spring Chief married Louise Black.

**February 28, 1927** - page 180

Marriage of Ernest Water Chief to Rita Little [word illegible]. Marriage of Jack Low Horn to Minnie Black Kettle.

**April 5, 1927** - page 182

Funeral of Eva Iron Head, a student of the school.

**June 27, 1927** - page 185

Marriage of Geo. Crow Chief to Dolores Sitting Eagle. Funeral of Damine Weasel Head, child of the school.

**June 30, 1927** - page 185

Rain. The Confederation celebrations at Gleichen are completely failed. The school children were to take part, but there was a counter order.

**July 19, 1927** - page 185

Visit of Mr. Gooderham, Indian Agent.

**July 29, 1927** - page 186

The girls go on a picnic to the river.

**August 15, 1927** - page 186

Payment to Indians of 25 dollars per head for land leased south of the river.

**August 18, 1927** - page 186

Some girls going to Gleichen to Indian hospital for children's exhibit.

**August 19, 1927** - page 186

Visit of Mr. Duncan Scott.

**August 20, 1927** - page 186

Visit from Mr. Graham.

**September 12, 1927** - page 187

Holiday for school children; girls go to cherry picking.

**October 6, 1927** - page 188

Exhibition for the schools of the district. Children going to Gleichen.

**November 24, 1927** - page 190

Weddings of three girls from the school.

**April 10, 1928** - page 196

Indians are paid for the land south of the river leased to the whites. 25 dollars per head, 50 for those who have reached 60 years of age.

**June 18, 1928** - page 198

Father Riou leaves for Calgary with the Solway girls. The Indian Department has decided that these little Métis be transferred to the Piegans and entered at the Sacred Heart School in Brocket.

**June 26, 1928** - page 198

It was learned today that the Protestant School at Gleichen had gone up in flames.

**15 August 1928** - page 199

Fr. Riou passed through Hobbema on his return from retreat. The children of that school were all on holiday, boys and girls.

**31 August 1928** - page 200

Visit of the Agent. The children are beginning to return from their vacation.

**September 15, 1928** - page 200

All the children capable of working are in the field, the two binders are working and the children are putting the wheat into stooks. The wheat is damaged; it was still green when the frost came.

**End of December 1928** - page 203

The Indians seem a little better disposed and some are being instructed for baptisms and marriages, but attendance at mass leaves much to be desired. The good is slowly being done; the school is going on in its ordinary way and if the students seem a little more submissive today, they are not more grateful for that. The Indian does not seem to have any notion of duty or gratitude.

**January 3, 1929** - page 204

Two funerals of children from the school. The consumption continues its ravages among the Indians.

**April 9, 1929** - page 207

Great celebration for the Indians. They receive 25 dollars per head for the land rented south of the river, south of Cluny.

**June 30, 1929** - page 210

The children of the school leave for their vacation; only about ten older girls will remain.

**July 4, 1929** - page 210

Two weddings of girls from the school. Emilie Black Water to Rosario Duck Chief and Albertine Turned Up Nose to Jack Low Horn.

**September 6, 1929** - page 213

Nearly all the students are [back from] vacation and classes have begun again since Monday. Everyone seems content to resume their ordinary routine.

**October 9, 1929** - page 213

Trip to the Reserve to notify the former students of the school that for 3 days there will be a sermon for them at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. A number responded to the call and there were several communions.

**November 14, 1929** - page 215

The doctor visited the school which was quarantined because of a few cases of chicken pox.

**December 15, 1929** - page 216

The school is still under quarantine.

**End of December 1929** - page 217

The Indians, without being hostile, remain quite indifferent, the attendance at mass is more and more neglected. This year there have been fewer adults to be educated. The school is going on with its usual way. The children are not giving us trouble, but it is becoming more and more difficult to recruit. A number of our Catholics have taken land close to Namaka. The minister's school is more accessible to them. That's all they ask, as long as it's easier for them to see the children in Gleichen and have them whenever they want, no matter if they are Catholic or Protestant. It is sad. May the coming year give us a little more consolation.

**March 16, 1930** - page 219

Meeting of the Indians after mass. A few laments, always the same. The Indian wants to have everything and make no sacrifice: give, give.

**April 3, 1930** - page 219

Short visit of the Indian Commissioner, Mr. Graham, from Regina.

**April 8, 1930** - page 219

The Indians are paid their 25 dollars per head for the land leased south of the river.

**May 23, 1930** - page 220

Some of the Sisters and some of the older girls are going to Midnapore for the 24th. [Victoria Day]

**23 June 1930** - page 221

The last week of June is spent in examinations. I had to attend Nicolas Black Kettle's exams and the teacher made the other students take their exams.

**August 8, 1930** - page 222

Payment of the Treaty. Great crowd around the mission; not only the Indians from the Cluny camps came, but a good number of those from Namaka came for the occasion. When it is a question of pleasure, there is no time that counts. [...] The next day was the same solemnity at Gleichen and, as is only natural, the Indians of the east of the reserve were gathered there. After the 5 dollars, it is the pleasure which will last a whole week, the work of the fields does not count.

**August 10, 1930** - page 222

Mass at 10:00 a.m., but no mass for the Indians; they have all left for the northern camp. For the rest of the month, we will hardly see them. The children are to return between the 15th and 20th, but there will be all sorts of excuses for keeping them longer.

**September 1, 1930** - page 223

The children are almost all in school; there are still a few of the older ones helping their parents pick their crops.

**September 2, 1930** - page 223

Opening of classes. I think that the grade IX student will not return. I had made arrangements for him to attend the village school, but Nicholas won't hear of it so the best thing to do is to ask the Department for his discharge.

**September 8, 1930** - page 223

I visit the classes to encourage both teachers and children.

**January 17, 1931** - page 227

The children of the school go to Gleichen for a hockey game.

**February 26, 1931** - page 228

Visit of the Agent and the Auditor of Accounts.

**May 15, 1931** - page 232  
Visit from Inspector Christianson.

**June 20, 1931** - page 233  
Boys' picnic at the river.

**June 22, 1931** - page 233  
School children begin their examinations for the year.

**September 18, 1931** - page 235  
Visit of Mr. Garland, Member of Parliament from Ottawa.

**October 4, 1931** - page 235  
Stephen Many Fingers returned to the school.

**June 26, 1932** - page 241  
The children of the school are writing their final examinations. All are well disposed and working hard.

**October 23, 1932** - page 243  
Several Indians came to see their children in the afternoon, but few attended Mass.

**November 13, 1932** - page 243  
In the afternoon, funeral of Joseph Good Eagle. This boy, a student of the school, had been in the hospital for about ten days. I had given him the last rites on my return from the Sarcee on the 10th of the month. Another student of the school who is leaving, aged 17, carried away by a cerebral fever.

**November 24, 1932** - page 244  
Baptism and marriage at the Sarcee of Dick Big Plume. I had been instructing him for a long time; he married Lucy Whitnay, a former student of the Cluny Indian Residential School.

**November 29, 1932** - page 244  
Funeral of Emile Yellow Old Woman, a student of the school. It had been 15 days since he had been anointed.

**December 3, 1932** - page 244  
Funeral of Juliana Spring Chief, student of the school, who died in the hospital of Gleichen. I had given her the last rites two days before.

**August 22, 1933** - page 249  
The big girls set fire to the school. Visit of the Bishop and his Vicar General. There is something missing in the formation of the children. I have deplored it many times, but what can we do? They don't want to understand.

**October 6, 1933** - page 249

The children who set fire to the school are sentenced to two years of detention.

**May 24, 1934** - page 253

Father Riou takes the boys on a picnic.

**July 1, 1934** - page 253

The children leave for vacation; only a few older girls will stay as usual.

**July 13, 1934** - page 254

The girls go to Calgary to see the Exhibition.

**June 30, 1935** - page 258

Mass at 10 a.m. for the whites with sermon in English and French. The children had mass in the morning and then went on vacation. The examinations took place during the week and we must admit that the students applied themselves well. There is progress on this side. The older girls are also going on vacation this year. Will they behave well there?

**December 26, 1935** - page 261

Meeting at the school and distribution of presents; then the children go home with their parents for two or three days.

[For the year 1936, there is only the month of January and the month of February in the codex].

**January 10, 1937** - page 273

Blackfoot Miners come to play hockey and beat our kids 13-5.

**January 14, 1937** - page 273

We are receiving reports from the doctor about the T. B. It is an excellent report. Out of 13 children, 6 are cured and only one new arrival is declared T. B.

**January 20, 1937** - page 274

Rosie Medicine Shield was taken to the hospital by Fr. Lessard. An infection in the knee is causing fears of T. B. of the bones.

**January 24, 1937** - page 274

Moving pictures for children and the next day, 25th, the same films for girls.

**January 27, 1937** - page 274

Fr. Lessard has just finished four Indian drums for the children and they use them for their Indian dances.

**February 1, 1937** - page 274

Another visit to the hospital to bring back Rosie Medicine Shield.

**February 10, 1937** - page 274  
Films for boys and on the 11th for girls.

**February 11, 1937** - page 274  
Anthim Wolf Child (Smoke), a former student, is sick at the mine and asks for the priest. Fr. Lessard goes down there. Anthim leaves the Horn Society and makes his confession. He receives extreme unction.

**February 14, 1937** - page 274  
Small concert at the School for Valentine's Day.

**February 21, 1937** - page 275  
Moving pictures for the boys and the next day the same films in the afternoon for the T. B. and in the evening for the girls.

**February 27, 1937** - page 275  
Father Lessard leads the hockey players to the Old Sun School to be beaten 16-5. Mr. House gave Father a tour of the house and the matrons congratulated the children on their knowledge of English.

**March 5, 1937** - page 276  
Films for boys and on the 7th for girls.

**March 21, 1937** - page 276  
Today, for the first time, the children of the school serve at the white mass. There are six for the high mass and four for the Indian mass.

**March 25, 1937** - page 277  
The doctor comes to the school to pick up Cyril Mayfield, who is ill with pneumonia.

**March 31, 1937** - page 277  
Steve Medicine Shield, age 6, is very ill with pneumonia.

**May 2, 1937** - page 279  
The girls go down to the river for their supper.

**May 12, 1937** - page 279  
Coronation Day. For some time, the children have been practicing the O Canada in Blackfoot and we are going to Gleichen to take part in the program of the feast by singing it.

**September 15, 1937** - page 282  
Visit of the Agent, Mr. Gooderham.

**September 21, 1937** - page 282  
Chief Ermine Skin, of Hobbema, visits the School with Duck Chief.

**September 22, 1937** - page 282

Anniversary of the Treaty. Great celebrations at Crow Foot Monument. Children in attendance.

**October 21, 1937** - page 283

All children in hospital for X-ray examination.

**November 9, 1937** - page 283

Rev. Fr. Langlois, Provincial, accompanied by Mr. Pan Schmidt, Inspector of Indian Affairs, visit the school in view of having a new wing built.

**November 11, 1937** - page 283

Great Picnic at the River.

**November 16, 1937** - page 283

Visit of Mr. Frame, School Inspector.

**January 6, 1938** - page 284

Three Magi Concert. Chief Yellow Fly made a magnificent speech praising the work of the missionaries.

**April 27, 1938** - page 284

Agent's visit to the school.

**October 31, 1938** - page 287

Halloween Concert.

**November 7, 1938** - page 287

X-ray examination for children at Gleichen.

**November 8, 1938** - page 287

Mr. Frame, Inspector, visits the classes.

**January 27, 1939** - page 287

Stephen Medicine Shield, child of the school, dies in the hospital.

**February 14, 1939** - page 287

Concert. St. Valentine for the Children.

**February 28, 1939** - page 287

The Agent's visit at school.

**May 26, 1939** - page 288

Visit of their Majesties King George and Queen Elizabeth to Calgary. All our children go down by train. Returned in the evening.

**September 2, 1940** - page 292

Father Lessard leaves at 8:30 am for the Sarcee to get children for the School. He returns to us at 4 o'clock without children. They promised him, however, to send them by Sept. 16 at the latest.

Some children arrive for the school year. They are not in a hurry since today is Labor Day, a holiday.

**September 27, 1940** - page 296

St-Damien, feast of the Sister Superior who bears that name. Great holiday for the children; all attend mass at 6:30 and receive communion. Afternoon, picnic at the river, Benediction at 5 o'clock. Wonderful day for all.

**September 28, 1940** - page 297

This is the second Saturday that the children have been refused to go out for a rather silly reason, the one for which we beat ourselves up, namely the language question. Speak English, they are told, and you will go out - and their language ... [sentence not completed.]

- ♦ Translated by Eloi DeGrâce with [www.DeepL.com/Translator](http://www.DeepL.com/Translator) (free version)  
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