

Oblates of Mary Immaculate - Hobbema
Hobbema School and Mission
Codex (volume III), 1950 to 1951

[A school notebook was used - not paginated]

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May 28, 1950

Ball game. Our boys win against the reserve cowboys, 14-5.

June 5, 1950

Picnic: all is well. Big rain during dinner - rushed home. Films in the afternoon, etc. All happy. \$35.00 as prize.

June 11, 1950

Big girls and boys go to Wetaskiwin in afternoon. Ball game.

June 22, 1950

At 10:30, phone call that children can go out tomorrow instead of the 30th. The boys are notified. Joy for all.

July 7, 1950

Our children play at Hobbema against Wetaskiwin: result, 7-2 for our Indians.

July 31, 1950

Fathers Latour and Allard visit again the Indians of the Montana reserve. They bring back Lilian Buffalo and Elizabeth Lightning who are to enter S. Joseph's Convent in Red Deer.

August 1, 1950

Father Latour, a Sister and Lilian Buffalo and Elizabeth Lightning go to Red Deer. Both girls will be accepted for September.

August 3, 1950

Marcelle Lightning comes to see Father Latour. This 20 year old girl wants to continue her studies.

August 24, 1950

Father Edward Rhéaume, chaplain of the Camsell Indian Hospital in Edmonton, arrives to record a few discs to be used for his radio program broadcast every Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. on C H F A and dedicated to the Indian language patients. He also records, in company with Fr. Levert, messages in Cree, Montagnais, Stoney and Blackfoot and Sarcee which will be used for this program and others for the religious program irradiated from the same C H F A radio station every Sunday for the benefit of the Indians.

August 30, 1950

Funeral of Mrs. Melanie Pipistew at 4:30, the five children will remain at the school.

September 4, 1950

Children begin to arrive: 76 on 1st day.

September 6, 1950

Fr. Latour to see Mr. Gooderham about repairs to the school and day school at Samson.

September 7, 1950

Fr. Latour goes to see the children in Red Deer. The nuns like them. They are a credit to the school.

September 29, 1950

Mr. A. Doucet comes to inspect the school. A good word of encouragement.

October 4, 1950

Mr. Woodsworth came to visit the school. He seems to be satisfied with the administration and the teachers.

October 5, 1950

Mr. Gooderham visits about the new school.

October 18, 1950

Constable Smith came to speak to the children. He was impressed with the work and craftsmanship of the children and the look of the school.

October 20, 1950

Visit of Mr. Ian Eisenhardt, federal organizer of games and recreational science in Indian schools. Mr. Battle accompanied him and Woodsworth. He notices the flag and what we are doing to help the Indian even as an adult.

November 7, 1950

Clinic arrives. Mr. Woodsworth comes to make his rounds!

November 15, 1950

Lilly runs away again. Poor child. Her mother takes her back to 1:30.

November 22, 1950

Evening broom hockey game: boys and girls.

November 23, 1950

Inspector Ross visits two classes.

November 25, 1950

Father Levert and Father Allard with eight girls to Edmonton for Cree program. Very successful; returned about 7 p.m. Moving pictures for children staying here.

December 14, 1950

Inspector Ross visited and dined here.

December 19, 1950

Children's concert: very successful. Mr. Woodsworth appreciates what the school is doing for the children. Each child receives a nice gift. Chief Minde speaks to the children about the benefit of the school.

December 20, 1950

Fathers Latour, G. M. & L. C., and Mr. Woodsworth go to Red Deer concert. The children are very cheerful. Mr. Woodsworth is very pleased with the training given the children by the Sisters.

January 3, 1951

Anniversary mass for Father Moulin; it is snowing hard. The Indians cannot come. However, everyone has very fond memories of this missionary with such a charitable heart.

January 8, 1951

The children arrive all minus three only. It is a very nice entrance. The children are very joyful, happy to be back at school.

January 30, 1951

Fr. Levert receives a phone call from the Indian Agent asking him to isolate the children from all contact with Indians and outsiders because of the danger of contagion due to some cases of chicken pox on the reserves and at the school itself.

January 31, 1951

[Fr. Levert] finds signs on the doors of the school announcing that the school is under quarantine - chicken pox. The students of the day school have been ordered to stay home until further notice.

February 6, 1951

Father Allard visited his parishioners in the Camsell Hospital in Edmonton.

Rosie Brown runs away from school tonight, on foot, 4 miles from the school.

February 7, 1951

Rosie's Father comes to tell us that his daughter arrived home without accident and that he will bring her to school himself.

We remove the quarantine.

February 9, 1951

Rosie Brown returns to the school led by her sister.

February 15, 1951

Fr. Armand Paradis preaches the children's retreat. Sermon at 3:30. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The retreat is in full swing; the children are very attentive and follow the exercises well. Confessions.

24 February 1951

The children went to play at St. John's College, Edmonton; 6-3 for the college. Purchased leggings and hockey sticks for the sport club.

March 3, 1951

The students at St. Jean College come to play hockey at Hobbema, accompanied by Fathers H. Bujold and J. Régnier. They win 3-1.

March 22, 1951

After dinner, we dismissed the children for the Easter vacations. Fr. Allard will drive four students whose parents are at Pigeon Lake.

April 8, 1951

Fr. Principal explains the M. A. M. I. by comparing the two gospels Good Shepherd and Annunciation - after Mass.

1st degree of M. A. M. I.

At 4:00 am, Reception to the 2nd degree - 56 children. The coat of arms is explained and the reception is done according to custom.

April 12, 1951

Mr. Woodsworth comes to visit the school; he seems very satisfied.

April 14, 1951

Mrs. Mary Cutknife's service. Several children go to the Bull Church. 84 people in all including 12 from the school.

April 24, 1951

X-ray at the agency.

April 26, 1951

The new School Inspector, Mr. Waller, comes to visit the Fathers.

April 27, 1951

Meeting of the Chiefs and their group from the M A M I. Very successful.

May 2, 1951

Visit from Mr. Waller and Woodsworth.

May 13, 1951

53 children receive communion for the first time. 60 parents also receive communion. It is very beautiful. High mass. 1:30 p.m.: imposition of the scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

16 May 1951

Fr Levert and Fr. Latour go to Edmonton. Fr. Allard also goes. The children play against the college: 7-0. Fr. Allard anoints Agnes Louis at Camsell at her own request.

May 19, 1951

The girls go to sing on the radio. Lilly Saddleback stays in Edmonton. She is picked up by the police. Slept at the Good Shepherd. Four girls run away because they are jealous.

May 24, 1951

Annual picnic. The children have a good time. Beautiful day. In the evening, ball game here at the school: North Hobbema vs Hobbema.

June 7, 1951

Father G. M. Latour and L. C. Latour went to Red Deer to attend the graduation of Therese Minde, former student of Ermineskin.

June 24, 1951

Many children and parents here. The Rotary Club of Edmonton comes to play: 6-4 for our children. At 5 pm, another game: 13-7 for the Edmonton players. Many people come to visit.

August 15, 1951

Day under the auspices of the M.A.M.I. 60 communions. High mass sung by Fr. Lyonnais assisted by Fathers G. Labonté and C. Tourigny. Fr. Levert gave the Cree sermon. He hopes to see this feast return on the same date. Speaks about Christian education and the role of Mary in the life of the Indian. Dinner given to the Indians after the mass in open air: 250 Indians present. Games for the children afterwards. At 4 pm, Rosary for all.

Meeting of the members of the M. A. M. I. 12 boys and 40 girls. Wonderful meeting. Great success. The parents are very interested. Supper for all!

August 21, 1951

Thérèse Mende goes to Wetaskiwin to take the supplementary exams. She returns in the evening.

August 25, 1951

Fathers Levert and G. M. Latour go to Edmonton to visit some Indians at Camsell.

September 4, 1951

The children are returning to school quite well; in the morning, 77 boarders and 32 day students. Woodsworth, who has not yet left, comes to make a final critical inspection. In the evening, we have 120 boarders.

September 11, 1951

P. Latour goes to Edmonton to make Thérèse Minde's entrance to the Normal School.

September 25, 1951

Fr. Levert receives his publication. The Indians express their satisfaction and note that the Cree newspaper is much better than before.

September 30, 1951

The children went home Friday night for the weekend. They come back to us this evening. We give them some moving pictures.

October 7, 1951

P. Levert goes to Pigeon Lake. Philip Lightning and Peter Roan expressed their desire to put their children in Hobbema. They were previously attending the Edmonton Protestant School.

October 8, 1951

Father Levert goes to Pigeon Lake and brings back five new students mentioned yesterday.

October 18, 1951

The children sing Cree hymns. Father Levert records them for his program.

November 12, 1951

Fathers G. M. Latour and Baril pick up the children at Pigeon Lake. 12 including 2 new ones: Wallace and S. Roasting.

November 19, 1951

Millie Crier is operated on this morning. Fr. Allard visits her.

November 29, 1951

Visit of Mr. Waller, Inspector. He also comes to decide about the school in Samson. The Catholics want the school here in Ermineskin. Mr. and Mrs. J. Wild have dinner here. Mr. Waller leaves at 11 a.m.

December 10, 1951

Mr. Ross, Inspector, arrives in a hurry to visit the classes.

December 14, 1951

Children leave for their families; about 60 remains.

December 17, 1951

Mr. Ross, Provincial Inspector, comes to classes.

December 21, 1951

Fathers G. M. Latour and Allard go to Pigeon Lake to take some children.

♦ Translated by Eloi DeGrâce with www.DeepL.com/Translator (free version) --December 2021