

MOHAWK INSTITUTE SUMMARY

Immediately below is the list on the National Centre For Truth and Reconciliation website of the names of 48 children allegedly ‘missing’ from the Mohawk Institute.

Below the NCTR list is an entry for each child containing documentary evidence establishing that these children are **not** ‘missing’.

<https://nctr.ca/residential-schools/ontario/mohawk-institute-mechanics-institute/>

**Mohawk Institute (Mechanic’s Institute)
Brantford, ON - 1885 -1970
Religious Entity: Anglican**

The Mohawk Institute opened in 1828 in Brantford, in what is now Ontario. The school relocated in 1840 and was destroyed by fire in 1858. The rebuilt building and barns were destroyed in a fire set by students in 1903. A new school was built and later expanded. The federal government took responsibility for the school in 1945. The federal government closed the school in 1970, although some students remained in residence until 1971. The Woodlands Cultural Centre operates out of the former school.

Remembering the Following Students:

Name	Date of Death (Year/Month/Day)
Albert Davey	1897-11-02
Andrew Silver	1893-12-27
Arthur Staats	1924-03-31
Augustus Jacket	1852-01-04
Bernard Iveran Beaver	Not known
Caroline Burnam	1902-09-08
Charlie Staats	1923
Dorothy Herkimer	1931-04-21
Edgar Smith	1916-03-29
Edith Clause	1910-09-17
Effie Smith	1936-05-11
Emily Hill	1871-12-09
Emma Martin	1871-03-01
Eva Jane Lickers (Herkimer)	1929-01-25
Francis Waddilove	1876-06-03
Gladys Staats	1927-01-21
Gordon Tobias	1918-10-28
Hilda Wilson	1918-10-27

Name	Date of Death (Year/Month/Day)
Ida Curley	1880-06-10
Inez Wilson	1918-04
Jenny Maracle	1901-06-16
Jesse Cusick	1907-02-10
John Moses	1897-10-13
Joseph William Commanda	1968-09-03
Julia Turkey	1871-01-21
Kitchener Jamieson	1927-03-07
Lillian VanEvery	1918-10-24
Loretta Sero	1864
Louisa Leween	1902-04-30
Mabel Walker	1902-08-09
Margaret Lickers	1912-02
Margaret Maracle	1901-06-16
Margaret Williams	1870-06
Mary Ann Suzan Clara Ottereyes	1965-09-05
Morley Snake	1965-01-22
Pauline Johnson	1932-04-11
Peter Doctor	Not known
Raymond Jacobs	1941-11-17
Reuben Fox	1925-02-17
Robert Gibson	1917-06-05
Russell Bennett	1918-10-21
Sarah Hill	1872-04-29
Solomon Ashkewe	1902-06-14
Stanley Herkimer	1918-11-01
Susannah Hill	1851-12-15
Susannah Maracle	1871-08-23
Theresa Lacour	1891-08-09
Walter Henry	1918-10-28

1. Solomon Ashkewe

Solomon Ashkewe was born Mar 6, 1890 (1891, according to the 1901 census), likely on the Cape Croker Reserve, to George Ashkewe, a farmer, and his wife Carrie. At the time of the 1891 census he had two brothers, Wesly and Ainsley, and a sister, Thine.

Solomon died of pneumonia at the age of 12 on June 14, 1902 in Brantford Township while under the care of Dr. R.A. Palmer. He was likely a student at the Mohawk Institute at the time of his death as he was buried in the Mohawk Chapel Cemetery.

2. Bernard Iveran Beaver

Bernard Iveran Beaver was born July 4, 1910 on the Alnwick Reserve near Alderville, Ontario, to Isaac Beaver, a labourer, and Mary Martha Henry, a domestic servant. The 1911 census shows Bernard living on the reserve at Concession 2, Lot 15, with his parents and his brother, Chester, and sister, Edna. In the 1911 census his father's occupations are given as labourer and trapper.

Bernard's father enlisted in late 1915 after having already served 6 years in the 40th Regiment, and served as a private in England in the 139th Overseas Battalion. He was discharged in February of 1918 as medically unfit as a result of an old fracture in his left foot which made it difficult for him to walk. He was awarded the British War Medal in December, 1927 and died in 1949.

According to the 1921 census taken in Barton Township, Bernard Beaver, now aged 11, was living with his mother in the house of John Hudson, a farmer in the Hamilton area. His mother is listed as a housekeeper and Bernard as a student for the previous four months.

There is no evidence that Bernard attended the Mohawk Institute, or died there.

3. Russell Bennett

Russell Bennett of the Mohawk Institute is named in the October 26, 1918 edition of the Brantford *Expositor* in an article reporting members of the community who had recently died of the Spanish flu:

“From all reports received there is not much change in the Spanish influenza situation to-day, but many of the doctors, including the M.O.H., Dr. Bragg, are optimistic of a considerable let-down in the course of the next few days. Many serious cases have been fought all week, and some remarkable recoveries have been recorded. It is believed that the crest has not only been reached, but passed, and from now on there should be a decline. Both in the number of cases at the emergency hospital and the number of discharges, an improvement is being shown, although a gradual one, every day. . . .”

“Those who have passed away are William Symes, 98 Grant street, at the Emergency hospital, 28 years of age; Wm. James Sinden, 15 months, son of Mr. Wm. Sinden, 9 Mary St., at the Emergency hospital; Effie Wilkinson, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wilkinson, 114 Pearl street, this morning at the Emergency hospital; Russell Bennett, an Indian lad at the Mohawk Institute. . . .”

The Mohawk Institute was severely impacted by the Spanish flu. On October 24, 1918 the acting principal, Alice Boyce, wrote to the Secretary of the Department of Indian Affairs describing the situation at that time:

“Dear Sir, The school has suffered severely with the influenza epidemic – we had seventy-six cases last Sunday – been allowing up a few each day. Most of the staff have been laid up – for days all we could do was to attend to the sick – the farm help have been off duty – and one day only four boys were down – we have only been able to do the chores.”

“I regret to state that this morning Lillian Vanevery died from the influenza.”

4. Caroline Burnam

Caroline Burnam died in Brantford Township of typhoid fever at the age of 11 on September 8, 1902. She had contracted the disease seven weeks earlier, and was under the care of Dr. R.A. Palmer.

Caroline’s death record gives her occupation as “student”. Her birthplace is merely listed as ‘Canada’.

In the Department of Indian Affairs Annual Report for the year ended June 30, 1903 the school principal, the Reverend Robert Ashton, mentions two deaths, neither from typhoid:

“The health of the pupils was very good - two deaths occurred - that of a girl from consumption, and a boy from intestinal obstruction, through depraved appetite.”

The girl who died of consumption was Mabel Walker (see below).

5. Edith Clause

Edith Anne Claus was born June 11, 1894 on the Mohawk Reserve to Samuel Claus, a farmer, and Ellen Loft (“Elenor” in the 1901 census), both of the Tyendinaga Reserve. At the time of the 1901 census taken on the Tyendinaga Reserve, Edith had two brothers, Trien(?) and Hubert, and a sister, Imelda.

Edith Anne Claus died on the Mohawk Reserve at the age of 16 of tuberculosis of the bowels on September 17, 1910. She had been ill for about a year, and was under the care of Dr. Elgin D. Vandervoort of Deseronto. Her death certificate lists her occupation as ‘student’. However it seems clear her medical condition had required to leave school, and that she died at home.

6. Joseph William Commanda

Joseph William Commanda was hit by a CNR passenger train on September 3, 1968 near the Sunnyside station, Toronto, after he and his brother, Rocky Commanda, had run away from the Mohawk institute, described in a newspaper account as “a juvenile detention home”. He is said to have been either 12 or 13 years of age at the time. A coroner’s inquest was held. No fault was attributed to the train engineer, and no recommendations were made.

In the newspaper account his mother's name is given as Mrs Dorothy Commanda of the Golden Lake Reserve.

7. Ida Curley

Ida Curley (or Curly) was born in January, 1866 in Tuscarora Township to Samuel Curley, a farmer, and Sarah Ann, a German woman whose maiden name is said to have been Anger. At the time the 1871 census was taken, Ida had two brothers, John and George, and five sisters, Alice, Sarah, Mary Ann, Charlotte and Matilda.

Ida died at the age of 13 on June 10, 1880 of an "effusion of the brain". For two weeks prior to her death she had been under the care of Dr Griffin. The informant on her death certificate was a teacher, John Farlie, perhaps the Reverend John H. Fairlie, later principal of the Mohawk Institute in 1896.

Ida's death certificate lists her religion as Church of England. However in the 1871 census the Curley family were said to be Baptists. Ida's brother, John Curley, was buried at the Medina Baptist Cemetery in 1940. There are numerous unmarked burial sites in that cemetery, and Ida may have been buried there or in another of the five Baptist cemeteries in Tuscarora Township.

In the Department of Indian Affairs Annual Report for 1887, the school principal, the Reverend Robert Ashton, states that no student deaths had occurred at the school since Ida Curley's death in June 1880:

"There has been no death here since June 1880, and only two deaths during the past fifteen years."

The subject of this entry should not be confused with an Ida Curley who, together with her two sisters, graduated from the Mohawk Institute in 1917, and went on to attend a business college.

8. Jesse Cusick

Jesse Cusick, a student at the Mohawk Institute, was born on the Tuscarora Reserve in July 1896. He died at the age of 10 in Brantford Township on February 10, 1907 of bronchial pneumonia, contracted two weeks earlier. During his illness he was under the care of Dr. Palmer.

Jesse's death is mentioned by the school principal, the Reverend Robert Ashton, in the Department of Indian Affairs Annual Report for the year ended June 30, 1907:

"The health of the pupils was excellent to the close of 1906. In January and February we had an epidemic of measles and grippe, - over forty cases - one boy died from bronchial pneumonia."

Jesse Cusick was buried in the Mohawk Chapel cemetery.

9. Albert Davey

Albert Davey was born in Tuscarora Township about 1884. He died at the age of 13 on November 2, 1897 of typhoid fever complicated by peritonitis. During an illness of 3 weeks he was under the care of Dr. R.A. Palmer. In his death record, his religion is given as 'Pagan'.

His death was reported in the November 2, 1897 issue of the Brantford *Expositor*:

“DIED OF TYPHOID. Pupil of Mohawk Institute Passed Away Yesterday – Complications Set In”

“Albert Davey, one of the pupils at the Mohawk Institute, died Monday of typhoid fever, complicated with peritonitis. The lad was taken ill some time ago, when typhoid made its appearance at the Institute, but was progressing nicely. On Friday he was considered out of danger, but at this stage peritonitis set in and he sank rapidly. Dr. Palmer states that the balance of the cases are convalescing satisfactorily.”

Two student deaths from typhoid were noted by the principal of the Mohawk Institute, the Reverend Robert Ashton, in the Department of Indian Affairs Annual Report for the year ended June 30, 1898:

“The year has been marked by a very serious outbreak of typhoid fever in August [1897] and continuing for several months, the last case commencing 31st December.”

“There were nineteen cases in all, two of which proved fatal. There was also one death from acute tuberculosis. In the preceding twenty-five years there were but five deaths, none of which were from fever. At the present time the health of the pupils is excellent.”

“No cause could be assigned for the fever, but a complete system of sewers and drains connecting with the main sewer of the city of Brantford has been put in and water-closets have taken the place of dry earth in the girls' department.”

One of the unnamed typhoid victims referred to by the Reverend Ashton may have been John Moses (see below).

10. Peter Doctor

No reference to a Peter Doctor who attended the Mohawk Institute at any time has been found.

The Peter Doctor Memorial Indian Scholarship Foundation Inc. is mentioned in the April 16, 1963 and July 2, 1964 issues of the Brantford *Expositor*. The Foundation appears to be based in the United States and has no apparent connection to the Mohawk Institute. See: (<https://accessscholarships.com/scholarship/peter-doctor-memorial-indian-scholarship-foundation-inc>)

11. Reuben Fox

Reuben Fox, Register Number 861 at the Mohawk Institute, was born about 1912 in Muncey, Ontario, the son of James Fox of Middlemiss. His mother's name is unknown. He had one known sibling, a brother named Frank Fox.

Reuben died at the age of 13 in Brantford General Hospital of septic meningitis on February 17, 1925. The contributing cause of death was otitis media, from which he had suffered for 3 years.

The events leading up to Reuben's death are well documented, and indicate close contact at every step between the school, local Indian Agents, and the Department of Indian Affairs in Ottawa.

In his December 1924 report to Ottawa, the principal of the Mohawk Institute, Sydney Rogers, noted that Reuben's long-standing problem with earache had taken a serious turn requiring an operation:

"December 21st: Reuben Fox sent to hospital. This boy has complained of earache for some time and we have had him under to (sic) Doctor practically all the time he has been in the school. Finally he took a serious turn for the worse and an operation was ordered. Fortunately, we were in time for it was discovered that the trouble was deep seated and long-standing and had it gone much further nothing could have saved him."

A note on a phone bill dated December 22, 1924 explains that the operation was authorized in Ottawa by J.L. Sutherland:

"This message was from Mr. Rogers, the Principal of the Mohawk Institute, Brantford, requesting authority of Department to have an urgent operation for mastoid performed on Ruben Fox, a pupil of the school. In the absence of the Superintendent of Indian Education, I answered the call, authorizing operation and reversal of phone charges to the Department."

On January 10, 1925 Rogers telegraphed Ottawa noting that Reuben was in grave danger, and asking for instructions:

Ruben Fox eight six one operation case grave danger STOP Please wire instructions in case of death. Rogers Mohawk Institute.

J.D. McLean, Assistant Deputy and Secretary of the Department of Indian Affairs, telegraphed back the same day instructing Rogers to telegraph the Indian Agent at the Caradoc Agency, Thomas McGookin, so that he could arrange for Reuben Fox's parents to visit their son in hospital:

"Telegraph Agent McGookin to arrange for presence of Ruben Fox's parents at boy's bedside."

In a letter to J.D. McLean on January 16, 1925 the Superintendent of the Six Nations at Brantford, Lieutenant Colonel C.E. Morgan, reported that he had inspected the school on that date. He noted that Reuben was in hospital, but was expected to recover:

"One boy, Ruben Fox, is in the Hospital suffering from Mastoids but is better and is expected to come out in about six weeks."

On January 30, 1925, Rogers wrote to Ottawa advising that Reuben Fox had now been diagnosed with tubercular meningitis, an incurable condition at the time, and that he was arranging to send word to Reuben's father. As this was the first such case during Rogers' tenure as principal, he requested instructions as to what should be done if Reuben should die:

"Sir, With further reference to 861 Reuben Fox who underwent an operation for Mastoid infection the latest reports from the Doctor is that although this operation was successful there is little hope for the boys (sic) recovery as it has been discovered that the lad is suffering from Tubercular Meningitis."

"You will remember that some weeks ago I wired to the effect that Reuben was in very grave condition. Following your reply wire the father arrived and stayed for two days. So much did the boy improve that the Doctor thought a complete recovery would result but for about ten days Reuben has been puzzling everyone as although the mastoid healed well he made no improvement physically. A septic condition was indicated and I asked Dr. Morrison to join in consultation with Drs Bragg and Palmer. After a complete examination it was decided to draw some fluid from Reuben's spine and the tests show him to be subject to the above malady. In this case, there is nothing can be done to result in recovery. I am sending a copy of this letter to Agent McGookin in order that he may inform the father and should any emergency arise pending your instructions I will wire him to arrange for father's presence at bedside."

"As this is the first case of its kind that has occurred during my time at the Mohawk would you be good enough to give me your instructions as to procedure in case of death."

"Nothing that could have been done for Reuben has been left undone and I am very grateful to the nurses at the hospital who have been extremely kind."

Rogers' letter was acknowledged on January 31, 1925 by J.D. McLean, who expressed the Department's regret at learning of Reuben's serious illness. McLean noted that arrangements had been made to inform Reuben's father, and advised that should Reuben die, his remains could be sent home:

"Sir, In reply to your letter of the 30th instant, I may say the Department regrets to learn of the serious illness of Reuben Fox, a pupil from the Caradoc Agency. I observe you state you are sending a copy of your letter to Mr McGookin in order that he may inform the boy's father in the matter. In the event of Reuben Fox's death, his remains may be sent to his home, in which case you should communicate immediately with Mr McGookin."

McLean sent a similar letter on the same date to Agent McGookin, authorizing the transportation home at the Department's expense of Reuben's body if he should die, but cautioning against unnecessary funeral expense and advising that Reuben's father should bear the cost of the funeral if able to do so:

“Sir, Inclosed herewith you will find copy of a letter of to-day’s date which the Department has written to Mr Rogers, Principal of the Mohawk Institute, as the result of his report that Reuben Fox, an Indian boy from your Agency, who is ill is not likely to recover. If the boy dies and action such as arranged for is taken, you may submit a voucher in due course to the Department for payment.”

“I may add that no unnecessary expense should be incurred in connection with the funeral, and if the father is in a position to bear such expense he should be required to do so.”

Reuben died on February 17, 1925, and on the following his obituary was printed in the *Brantford Expositor*:

“Reuben Fox, 13 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. James Fox, Middlemiss, died at the Brantford General Hospital yesterday afternoon after an illness of about two months. The lad was a student at the Mohawk Institute. The funeral will take place at Middlemiss.”

In his March 1925 report to Ottawa, Rogers summarized some of the events in connection with Reuben’s illness and death, noting that his brother Frank had visited him, that his father had arrived and been boarded at the school, and that a staff member had accompanied Reuben’s body back home to Middlemiss for the funeral.

“Reuben Fox, who was taken to hospital last quarter to be operated upon for mastoid, after recovery, developed tubercular meningitis with fatal results on 17th February. The Principal wishes to place on record his appreciation of the kindness of both the hospital staff and the Doctors of this town. On one occasion when Reuben's condition was puzzling our Doctor no less than four other Doctors came and held free consultation.”

“January 8th. Frank Fox visited his brother at hospital who had taken a sudden turn for the worse. We also telegraphed Mr. McGookin to inform father. The father arrived and pleaded poverty so we boarded him for several days for which we got little but abuse.”

“February 19th: Mr. Thurlow took Reuben Fox's body to Middlemiss.”

The funeral was reported to have taken place on February 19, 1925 in Muncey/Middlemiss.

On February 23, 1925, H.B. Beckett & Son, Undertakers, submitted a bill for professional services in connection with Reuben’s death:

“Feb. 17. To Embalming, \$15.00. Casket, Outside box, Registration, Notices, Trip to hospital, Trip to station, Professional Services \$35.00. [Total] \$50.00”

On February 24, 1925 Agent McGookin signed a voucher authorizing payment to H.B. Beckett & Son for the above-noted expenses, forwarding the voucher to Ottawa the same day:

“Feby. 24. To Casket and services in burial of late Reuben Fox, a Chippewa Indian boy, as per attached statement. \$50.00.”

On 10 December 1925 Rogers wrote to the Secretary of the J.D. McLean enclosing a bill dated November 24, 1925 from Brantford General Hospital for \$104.50 itemizing expenses for Reuben's admission to hospital, his stay there for 57 days, as well as operating room and X-ray expenses.

12. Robert Gibson

Robert Gibson was born in December 1907 on the Tuscarora Reserve. In the 1911 census taken in Tuscarora Township, Robert, his brother Emeil and sister Gertie are listed as living with their father, Joseph Gibson, a farmer, and their grandmother, Margaret Gibson, also a farmer. Robert's mother is said to have been Lillie Jamieson. It appears she died before 1911.

While a student at the Mohawk Institute, Robert Gibson drowned at the age of 10 on June 5, 1917 at a reservoir on the premises of the nearby Canada Starch Company. S. Alfred Jones, Acting Crown Attorney, directed that an inquest be held. The outcome was reported in the June 19, 1917 edition of the *Brantford Expositor*:

*“SAFEGUARDS FOR TANK ARE NEEDED
VERDICT OF ACCIDENTAL DEATH BROUGHT IN OVER REMAINS OF ROBERT GIBSON”*

“The inquest into the death of Robert Gibson, the Indian boy at the Mohawk Institute, which acting Crown Attorney S. Alfred Jones directed to be held, was concluded at the police station last evening. The jury viewed the reservoir at the starch works where the drowning occurred, and brought in their verdict at 7.30 last evening. The evidence disclosed the fact that the tanks are surrounding (sic) by sloping brick sides, with smooth surface, rendering them extremely dangerous for children playing in that vicinity. The verdict of the jury is as follows:”

“Brantford, June 18, 1917. H.J. Cole, M.D., Coroner, County of Brant.”

“We the jury empanelled to enquire into the cause of the death of Robert Gibson, a pupil of the Mohawk Institute, who met his death by drowning on June 5, 1917, in a reservoir on the premises and at the rear of the building of the Canada Starch Company, after viewing the place where the drowning occurred, the jury are of the opinion that the cause of death was purely accidental. The jury consider these open tanks very dangerous and would recommend that a suitable four-foot fence be constructed enclosing these tanks as a protection against any future accidents. (Sgd.) F.J. CALBECK, Foreman.”

Robert Gibson was buried at the Mohawk Chapel cemetery.

13. Walter Henry

There is no evidence that Walter Henry attended the Mohawk Institute, or that he died there in 1918.

14. Dorothy Herkimer

Dorothy Herkimer, register number 958 at the Mohawk Institute, was born December 29, 1920 to David Herkimer and Ellen Hess.

The death registration for Dorothy's father states that he was the son of Laurence Herkimer. He enlisted in 1916 and served as a Private in 1916-17 in the #2 Casualty Unit of the 114th Battalion at West Sandling in Kent, England, during WW1. He was discharged in Toronto on November 27, 1917 at the age of 46 on compassionate grounds. His conduct during his service was described as "very good". At the time of discharge his intended place of residence was Hagersville, Ontario.

Dorothy died at the age of 10 of tubercular meningitis on April 21, 1931 at the Lady Willingdon Hospital in Ohsweken on the Six Nations Reserve. She had been placed under the care of Dr W. Davis on March 16, 1931, and on the morning of April 13, 1931 the Reverend Horace W. Snell, principal of the Mohawk Institute, telegraphed the Secretary of the Department of Indian Affairs advising that Dorothy had been ordered to hospital:

"Number 0958 Dorothy Herkimer attentative (sic) diagnosis is tubercular meningitis Ordered to hospital Room at Lady Willingdon Will await instructions."

Dorothy's mother, Ellen Herkimer of Newport, Ontario, is listed as the informant on Dorothy's death certificate, which states that she was buried April 24, 1931 in Tuscarora Township, with J.S. Johnson of Ohsweken serving as undertaker.

Dorothy was likely buried on the reserve in the New Credit Cemetery, also known as the Townline Cemetery. There is a headstone in that cemetery marking the grave of her father, Private David Herkimer (1870-1944). Other persons with the surname Herkimer are buried there as well.

15. Stanley Herkimer

There is no evidence that Stanley Herkimer attended the Mohawk Institute, or that he died there in 1918.

16. Emily Hill

Emily Hill was born in 1854 in Tuscarora, Ontario. She died at the age of 17 of consumption on December 9, 1871 in Brant County. During an illness of 6 months she was attended by Dr Dee, presumably Dr Robert Hill Dee.

There is no evidence that Emily attended the Mohawk Institute. Her death certificate does not describe her as a student; her profession is listed as "Indian".

17. Sarah Hill

Although a Sarah Hill who would have been 14 years of age on her next birthday is listed among students at the Mohawk Institute in the 1851 census, there is no evidence of a Sarah Hill who attended the Mohawk Institute in 1872 and died there in that year.

18. Susannah Hill

A Susanah Hill who would have been [illegible] years of age on her next birthday is listed among students at the Mohawk Institute in the 1851 census. She died at 13 years of age of consumption on December 15, 1851 at George Montour's house, and thus did not die at the school.

19. Augustus Jacket

Augustus Jacket, who would have been [illegible] years of age on his next birthday is listed as a student at the Mohawk Institute in the 1851 census. He died of croup at the age of 9 at his father's house on January 4, 1852, and thus did not die at the Mohawk Institute.

20. Raymond Jacobs

Raymond Jacobs is named as one of the students at the Mohawk Institute in a group photograph published in the Brantford *Expositor* on July 15, 1936. He can perhaps be identified with the Raymond Jacobs who is said to have died at the Mohawk Institute on November 17, 1941.

21. Kitchener Jamieson

Kitchener Jamieson was born September 9, 1914 in Muncey, Ontario to Levi Jamieson, a farm labourer, and Dolly Nicholas. According to the 1911 census taken on the Oneida Indian Reserve he had four older brothers, Herbert, John, William and Barney, and two older sisters, Sarah and Dolly. In the 1921 census, William Jamieson, aged 16, Dolly Jamieson, aged 14, and Rose Jamieson, aged 11, are listed as students at the Mohawk Institute. Kitchener is not listed, and it appears he had not yet been admitted to the school.

On July 30, 1926 Kitchener was admitted to the Queen Alexandra Sanatorium, where he was under the care of Dr. G.S. Jeffrey. He died at the Sanatorium 7 months later on March 7, 1927 at the age of 12 of pulmonary tuberculosis, and was buried March 9, 1927 in Muncey. George E. Logan is named as undertaker. The information on the death certificate was supplied by his sister, Dolly Jamieson.

On July 17, 1926 the school closed for the summer holidays and a number of children left. 42 girls and 28 boys remained at the school during the vacation, which lasted until the school reopened on August 28, 1926. In his report for the period ending September 1926 the principal, Sydney Rogers, makes no mention of sending Kitchener Jamieson to hospital although the report mentions the illness of another student:

“On July 25th. James Montour was suddenly taken very ill and on the following day Drs Palmer and Morrison rushed him to hospital after a consultation and operated for appendicitis. He did very well and returned home at the end of two weeks.”

It thus seems likely that Kitchener Jamieson had returned home for the holidays before he was admitted to the Queen Alexandria Sanatorium at the end of July, 1926, and that he was thus not admitted to hospital through the school.

22. Pauline Johnson

Pauline Johnson was apparently born out of wedlock on November 9, 1916 to Margaret F Johnson (born 1 April 1891). Pauline’s mother was the daughter of Jacob S. Johnson (born 3 March 1853) and his wife, Margaret (born 12 July 1855). In the 1901 census, Pauline’s aunts and uncles are listed as:

Johnson, Elizabeth, born 3 February 1880
 Johnson, William Charles, born 27 February 1882
 Johnson, Fredrick L, born 29 March 1884
 Johnson, Onslow R, born 19 February 1896
 Johnson, Elsia(?) F, born 20 January 1889

The death certificate for Pauline’s grandfather, Jacob S. Johnson, records that he was born 3 March 1852 (sic?) and died 3 March 1932, and was the son of Jacob Johnson of the Six Nations Reserve and Margaret Barnes (sic?), born in Quebec, and that by profession he was a general store merchant and a funeral director in Ohsweken. His obituary, published in the Brantford *Expositor* on March 2, 1932 states that he was a “one-time chief of the Six Nations Council, before the change to the elective system”, that he was survived by “two daughters, Miss Florence and Mrs. Elizabeth Clinch, and three sons, Charles, Fred and Onslow”, and that his funeral would be held in St Peter’s Anglican church, with interment on the reserve.

A death certificate which appears to be that of Pauline’s mother states that her name was Floretta M Johnson and that she was born April 4, 1891, the daughter of Jacob S. Johnson and Maggie Barnes, and died October 28, 1933. The informant is named as her brother, F. L. Johnson.

The foregoing details concerning Pauline’s birth family contradict several internet sources which erroneously claim that her parents were Allen Wawanosh Johnson (youngest son of Chief George Henry Martin Johnson (1816-1884) and brother of the poet, E. Pauline Johnson), and Floretta Katherine Maracle.

Pauline Johnson died at the age of 15 at the Lady Willingdon Hospital in Ohsweken on April 11, 1932 of tubercular peritonitis from which she had been suffering for 4 months. She was operated on by Dr. W. Davis on March 27, 1932 for perforation of the bowel, which was listed as a contributory cause of death.

Her obituary in the Brantford *Expositor* on April 12, 1932 states that she was “a granddaughter of the late J.S. Johnson, who died only a few weeks ago”, and that she was to be buried in St. Peter’s (Anglican) cemetery in Ohsweken:

“Pauline Johnson passed away on Monday morning at the Lady Willingdon hospital at Ohsweken. A granddaughter of the late J.S. Johnson, who died only a few weeks ago, she was about 13 [sic?] years of age, and was a pupil at the Brantford Collegiate Institute. The funeral will be held on Wednesday afternoon with interment in St. Peter’s cemetery at Ohsweken.”

The information on her death certificate supplied by her mother, Floretta Johnson, states that she was buried on April 13, 1932 at Ohsweken, with C. Johnson listed as undertaker.

23. Theresa Lacour

According to *Mohawk Chapel History: Marriages 1827-1877, Burials 1829-1947*, Publication #303 of the Brant County Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society, 2008, Theresa Lacour was from the Caughnawaga Reserve south of Montreal. She died August 9, 1891 at the age of 10, and was buried in the Mohawk Chapel cemetery.

In the Department of Indian Affairs Annual Report for 1891, the Reverend Robert Ashton, principal of the Mohawk Institute, mentions only one death that year, “a pagan Indian” who contracted influenza and had to be sent home because she refused to take the medicine prescribed for her:

"An epidemic of influenza visited the school early in the year and caused interruption to the usual routine, as few pupils or officers escaped its attack. Though in some cases the sickness was severe, no fatality occurred. One girl (a pagan Indian) positively refused to take the medicine prescribed for her, on the ground that "white medicine no good for Indian." I was obliged to ask her friends to remove her. I regret to say she did not recover.

Beyond this the general health of the inmates has been good and no death has occurred in the institution during the last ten years."

It seems unlikely the child mentioned in the foregoing report was Theresa, as a “pagan Indian” would not have been buried in the Mohawk Chapel.

24. Louisa Leween

Louisa Leween was born February 24, 1892 to John Leween, a farm labourer, and his wife Annie, whose maiden name is said to have been Brant. According to the 1901 census, Louisa was still living with her parents and younger sister Ethal on the Tyendinaga Reserve (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte) near Belleville at the end of May of that year. It seems she was admitted to the Mohawk Institute that fall.

Louisa died on April 30, 1902. Her death was reported in the Brantford *Expositor* three days later on May 2, 1902:

“Louis (sic) Lewwen, one of the students at Mohawk Institute, died yesterday morning after a short illness. The deceased was 10 years old. She was a Bay of Quinte Indian girl, and it is not certain whether the remains are to be taken there for interment or whether they will be buried here.”

Louisa was buried at the Mohawk Chapel Cemetery.

In the Department of Indian Affairs Annual Report for the year ended June 30, 1902 Reverend Robert Ashton, principal of the Mohawk Institute, wrote:

“We suffered an extremely heavy attack of measles, and owing to the unfavourable weather during the spring months, there were many cases of grippe. Three deaths occurred during the year, one from acute Bright's disease, one from pneumonia and one from congestion of the lungs.”

Solomon Ashkewe died of pneumonia on June 14, 1902 (see above). It thus seems Louisa Leween died either of Bright's disease or congestion of the lungs.

25. Eva Jane Lickers (Herkimer)

Eva Jane Lickers, register #877 at the Mohawk Institute, was born in 1917 to David K. Herkimer and Rachel Young. She was a member of the Mississauga New Credit Band (now the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation), a Mississauga Ojibwa First Nation located south of Brantford.

On May 3, 1926 the principal of the Mohawk Institute, Sydney Rogers, wrote to the Superintendent of Indian Education in Ottawa requesting that Eva and two other girls be allowed \$25 apiece from their savings funds with the Department to pay for music lessons:

“Sir, Could the following girls who have Savings with the Department for safe keeping be allowed \$25 each?”

“They are taking music lessons and as they are extras they need a little funds to make their payments. This money would be placed to their credit in the pupils accounts here and would be spent under the supervision of Mrs Rogers.”

The request was acceded to by J.D. McLean, Assistant Deputy and Secretary, on May 8, 1926:

“Sir, In reply to your letter of the 3rd instant, asking that \$25.00 be given to each of the Maracle children and Eva. J. Lickers to enable them to take music lessons, I beg to enclose cheques Nos. 1374 and 1375 for \$50.00 and \$25.00 respectively.”

In his report for the quarter ended December 31, 1927 Rogers reported that Eva was in hospital:

"With the exception of Eva Lickers, who is in hospital suffering from diabetes, we have had no sickness at all. We feel quite proud of this fact since the town of Brantford has suffered from epedemics (sic) of scarlet fever, diphtheria and smallpox."

On February 2, 1928 Rogers advised Ottawa that Eva was to be transferred to the Lady Willingdon Hospital, and enclosed a bill for \$124.50 for her 83-day stay at the Brantford General Hospital:

"Sir, Enclosed please find certified account of the Hospital charges in the case of 0877, Eva Jane Lickers."

"Eva has proved a very stubborn case for the Doctor and on two occassions (sic) when we were about to transfer her condition became such that it would have been unwise to move her. She will be placed in the Lady Willingdon Hospital at Ohsweken for further treatments this afternoon."

In a report dated April 14, 1928 Rogers noted that he and his wife had visited Eva at the Brantford Hospital on January 4, 1928, and that she had been transferred to the Lady Willingdon Hospital on February 2, 1928:

"January 4th. Mr and Mrs Rogers motored to the Reserve delivering Christmas gifts and on the 12th we visited Eva Lickers in the Brantford Hospital."

"February 2nd. We transferred Eva Lickers to the Lady Willingdon Hospital where she is still a patient. We found the Hospital sadly in need of help as there had been an unexpected rush of patients and so we left Marjorie Hill, who has passed the Entrance and is taking special domestic training, to help. During the period she stayed there she became quite usueful (sic) in caring for the small baby and taking temperatures and making dressings. We also brought home the sheeting and pillow cases that were not made and our girls volunteered to work during play hours to make these and wash them ready for use."

It appears that at some time after mid-April 1928 Eva Lickers' condition improved, and she returned to the Mohawk Institute. However on the morning of January 25, 1929 Rogers telegraphed Ottawa:

"Eva Lickers seriously ill Doctors order her to Brantford hospital impossible to send to Ohsweken."

J.D. McLean immediately wired back:

"Send Eva Lickers to Brantford Hospital."

Later that day Rogers wrote to McLean with further details:

"Sir, With further reference to my wire to-day relative to Eva Jane Lickers 0877 a pupil of this school. I have to report that this pupil was admitted to the Brantford General Hospital and I

have just had a message that she has recovered from the state of coma in which she had been for several hours prior to her admission."

"This girl has been under treatment and observation for diabetes for eighteen months and yesterday was brought to me apparently suffering from a slight attack of pleurisy. She was immediately given medicine and sent to bed. Last evening she was again treated but this morning she was found to be in a serious condition. The Doctor was summoned and was here immediately, insulin was administered and her removal to hospital arranged."

"Owing to the fact that Mrs Rogers is in bed again it was impossible to provide the necessary care and attention that Eva needed, hence my wire for approval for her admission to the local hospital. Ice storms and bad roads and the girls condition made it impossible to take her to the Lady Willingdon Hospital."

On January 26, 1929 Rogers wrote to McLean reporting Eva's death:

"Sir, Eva Jane Lickers (0877) passed away at the Brantford Hospital at 5 o'clock last evening. Through the assistance of Mr. Winger of Hagersville we were able to get in touch with her uncle John Herkimer who was able to reach the Hospital in time to see her. Owing to the storm all telephone communications in this district were out of commission and the uncle proceeded to make his own funeral arrangements."

"I am taking a party of the girl's friends to the funeral on Sunday at 2 p.m."

On April 1, 1929 Rogers provided further details of Eva's death and funeral:

"Eva Lickers, a diabetic case, complained of a cold and was ordered to bed on January 24th. She was found in a state of coma the following morning and stimulants were administered pending the arrival of the Doctor. On his instructions she was removed to the hospital and died there."

"The Principal, Miss Hardie and Mr. R. Howarth attended Eva Lickers funeral. Ten pupils were in attendance as pall bearers."

Eva was buried in the New Credit (Townline) Cemetery in Brant County, Row 4, Stone 1. Her headstone is shown below.



26. Margaret Lickers

Margaret Lickers died on or about July 18, 1912 at the Brantford General Hospital. Her death, at age 14, was reported in the July 18, 1912 edition of the *Brantford Expositor*:

“The death occurred at the hospital of Margaret Lickers in her 15th year. The late Miss Lickers was a pupil at the Mohawk Institute. The funeral will take place to-morrow from the residence of her uncle, John R. Lickers, Tuskorora.”

The only death reported by the school principal, A. Nelles Ashton, in the Department of Indian Affairs Annual Report for the year ending March 31, 1913 was that of a “little girl” who died of “heart trouble”:

“The general health of the pupils has been exceptionally good. We were unfortunate in losing a little girl, who died at the Brantford General Hospital of heart trouble. Two pupils were discharged medically unfit (scrofulous). No epidemic of any kind marred the year.”

It appears Margaret was the “little girl” referred to, despite the fact that she was 14 years old.

The same DIA Annual Report for 1913 refers to Margaret’s uncle, John R. Lickers, as a local teacher.

27. Jenny Maracle

Jenny Maracle’s death from heart disease was mentioned by the school principal, the Reverend Robert Ashton, in the Department of Indian Affairs Annual Report for the year ended June 30, 1901:

“The health of the pupils has been exceptionally good, though unfortunately two deaths occurred, one from heart disease, the other from meningitis; there were also two cases of typhoid fever, one contracted through a visit to the city with friends, the second was a newly admitted pupil who had not been here a week - both recovered.”

Jenny was buried in the Mohawk Chapel cemetery.

Sources differ as to the date of her death. According to the August 23, 1900 issue of the *Brantford Expositor*, she died on August 22, 1900:

“Jennie Maracle, an inmate of the Mohawk Institute, passed away yesterday afternoon. She had long been a sufferer from a disease of the heart.”

According to the records of the Mohawk Chapel, however, she died August 16, 1900:

“Jenny MARACLE died Aug 16, 1900 aged 16 yrs, Mohawk Institute; taken from the church register in 1964 by Alma Luard”

The child the Reverend Ashton mentions who died of meningitis was Margaret Maracle (see next).

28. Margaret Maracle

Margaret (“Maggie”) Maracle was born about 1887 in South Brant to Nicholas Maracle (“Nickles Maricle” in the 1891 census), a farmer, and his wife, Sarah. Her mother’s maiden name is said to have been Newhouse. At the time of the 1891 census, Margaret had a sister, Allas, and a brother, Alexander, who is said to have died in 1965.

Margaret Maracle died of meningitis (see immediately above) on June 16, 1901 at the age of 14 after an illness of 2 weeks during which she had been under the care of Dr. Ralph H. Palmer.

Margaret was buried in the Mohawk Chapel Cemetery.

29. Susannah Maracle

Susannah Maracle was born about 1858 in the Township of Tyendinaga in Hastings County near Belleville to William C. Maracle (“Maricle” in the 1861 census), yeoman, and his wife, Lydia. When the census was taken in 1861, Susannah had four older sisters, Ellen, Charlotte, Jemima and Elizabeth.

There is no evidence that Susannah Maracle attended the Mohawk Institute, or that she died there in 1871.

30. Emma Martin

The 1871 census taken on the Tuscarora Indian Reserve states that Emma Martin, aged 14, died in March of that year of consumption. Her death certificate states she was born in Onondaga, Ontario, and died of consumption on March 1, 1871 under the care of Dr Dee of Tuscarora, presumably Dr Robert Hill Dee.

There is no evidence that Emma Martin attended the Mohawk Institute, or that she died there. Her death certificate does not describe her as a student; her profession is listed as “Indian”.

31. John Moses

John Moses died of peritonitis at the age of 18 in the John H. Stratford Memorial Hospital on October 13, 1897. At the time of his death he was under the care of Dr. John A. Marquis.

His death was reported in the October 13, 1897 edition of the Brantford *Expositor*:

“John Moses, a pupil of the Mohawk Institute died to-day at the hospital after a lingering illness. The deceased young man, who was 18 years of age, was a bright and intelligent young fellow who had gained the esteem of the officials of the Institute for many sterling qualities. He was a qualified corporal in ‘D’ company, Dufferin Rifles.”

It appears John Moses was one of the students at the Mohawk Institute whose deaths are mentioned by the Reverend Robert Ashton in the Department of Indian Affairs Annual Report for the year ended June 30, 1898:

“The year has been marked by a very serious outbreak of typhoid fever in August [1897] and continuing for several months, the last case commencing 31st December.”

“There were nineteen cases in all, two of which proved fatal.”

One of the typhoid victims referred to was Albert Davey (see above); the other may have been John Moses, as peritonitis is a complication associated with typhoid fever.

32. Mary Ann Suzan Clara Ottereyes

There is no evidence that Mary Ann Suzan Clara Ottereyes attended the Mohawk Institute, or that she died there in 1965.

33. Loretta Sero

There is no evidence that Loretta Sero attended the Mohawk Institute, or that she died there in 1864.

34. Andrew Silver

Andrew Silver was born about 1880 to Mark Silver, a farmer, and his wife Elizabeth. The 1891 census taken in South Brant states that Andrew was 10 years old and was living with his parents and three brothers, Jackson, Thomas and Arthur, and a sister, Delilah.

Andrew died at the Mohawk Institute at the age of 14 (sic?) on December 27, 1893. His accidental death was reported in the December 27, 1893 issue of the Brantford *Expositor*:

“DROWNING ACCIDENT – At the Mohawk Institute – He Fell Through the ice While Skating – Body Not Recovered.”

“A number of the students at the Mohawk institute were skating there this morning on ice that was either unsafe or with several air-holes in it, when one boy named Andrew B. Silver, aged 14 years, fell through the ice. His mates tried to rescue him, but could not, and immediately gave the alarm at the institute.”

“All efforts were made to get the boy out of the water, but his body could not be found, and about 1 o’clock the police were telephoned regarding the matter. As the place is outside the city, however, the men on duty were not supposed to leave, but Constable Donnelly volunteered to go during his dinner hour, and, after getting the grappling irons and other necessary things, several gentlemen left for the institute, but up to a late hour this afternoon the body had not been found.”

“The sudden death of one of their numbers has cast a gloom over the other students of the institute, as the drowned boy was a favorite with his fellow-boys and was a particularly bright young fellow.”

On the following day the *Expositor* reported that Andrew’s body had been found:

“The body of Andrew Silver, the Indian boy who drowned yesterday, was found about 4.30 o’clock yesterday afternoon, and taken out of the water. An inquest will be held by coroner Kerr.”

Andrew’s accidental death was also reported in the December 28, 1893 issue of the St. Catharine’s *Standard*, and in the *Sherbrook Examiner* on January 5, 1894.

Andrew’s death was mentioned by the school principal, the Reverend Robert Ashton, in the Department of Indian Affairs Annual Report for the year ended June 30, 1894:

“With the exception of an epidemic of measles, the health of the pupils has been very good throughout the year, though we have to regret the loss of one bright boy by drowning whilst skating.”

Regrettably, falling through the ice while skating appears to have been accepted as commonplace at the time, as indicated by this comment in the December 28, 1893 issue of the Brantford *Expositor*:

“The boys and young men of the city were having a good time skating on the flats and canal all day yesterday. The ice was in a very good condition, and although several of the skaters went through into the water and were compelled to leave their fun, the majority of them fully enjoyed the afternoon sport.”

35. Edgar Smith

Edgar Smith was born September 10, 1902 to William Smith (1867-1931), a farmer, and Sarah Cecilia Russell (1869-1929). Edgar was the grandson of Six Nations Chief William Smith.

When the 1911 census was taken, Edgar’s family resided on Concession 3 in Tuscarora Township on the Six Nations Reserve southeast of Brantford. In 1911 Edgar had four brothers, Wilfred, Norman, William and Oliver, and four sisters, Wilma, Charlotte, Eva and Hazel.

On the morning of March 29, 1916 without the consent of the school principal, the Reverend Cyril Turnell, Edgar and a friend, Aubrey Wilson, went out in a canoe with Thomas Grant, the gardener of the Mohawk Institute, to shoot muskrats. The canoe overturned, and Edgar was drowned.

Charles McGibbon, Acting Superintendent and Inspector at Brantford, immediately reported the death to J.D. McLean in Ottawa:

“Sir, I beg to advise you that a drowning accident happened at the Mohawk Institute early this morning. It appears that the man in charge of the green house took two boys out, without the knowledge and consent of Mr. Turnell, to hunt musk rats in the river back of the Mohawk Church in an old canoe. The canoe upset. Edgar Smith, son of William Smith, Jr., went under the ice, and and (sic) has not been found up to the time of writing. Mr. Turnell has the firemen of the City dragging the river for the body. The gardener and the other boy were pulled out of the river.”

The circumstances of the accident were described more fully in the March 30, 1916 issue of the Brantford *Expositor*:

“Another victim was claimed by the turbulent waters of the Grand River early this morning when Edgar Smith, aged 10 years, was drowned at the rear of Mohawk church. The accident occurred about 7 o’clock this morning, when Thos. Grant, a gardener employed at the Mohawk Institute, took out two young lads, inmates of the Institute, named Edgar Smith and Aubrey Wilson, in a canoe to hunt muskrats. In some unaccountable manner the canoe was overturned and young Smith was sucked under the floating ice.”

“Capt. Kingswell and Fireman Coulback from the Central station were out with the life-boat searching for the body since early this morning, but it was not recovered until about 10.30, when it was found in about 18 feet of water, fastened to a wire fence.”

“The accident occurred on the farm of W.H. Henry. Mr. Henry, seeing the plight the men were in tried to aid them. When he first saw young Smith, the lad who was drowned, he was standing on a cake of ice, but before he could do anything to assist him the lad fell off and disappeared. The

place where the drowning took place was not in the main current of the river, but on a portion of the farm of Mr. Henry that was flooded by the high water. In the area flooded were many willow shrubs, wire fences and rubbish. Young Wilson, who was about 16 years old, managed to grasp some over-hanging shrubs and pull himself to safety. Mr. Grant, when the accident occurred, clung to the overturned canoe until help arrived. Only for the quick action of Harry Joseph, another inmate, who hurried to the scene and went to his rescue in an old scow that was handy, he, too, would have perished, as he was almost exhausted when Joseph arrived. The authorities state that Grant took the boys out without their knowledge or permission.”

Edgar’s death was also reported in other newspapers, including the March 31, 1916 issue of the *Kingston Daily Standard* and the April 3, 1916 issue of the *Sault Ste. Marie Sault Star*.

Edgar’s funeral at St Paul’s Anglican Church on Sour Springs Road and burial in the adjoining cemetery on March 31, 1916 were reported in the April 3, 1916 issue of the *Brantford Expositor*:

“The funeral of Edgar Smith, of the Mohawk Institute, who was drowned last week in the Grand River, took place on Friday afternoon from the residence of his grandfather, Chief William Smith, Sour Springs Road, to Sour Springs Church, interment taking place in the cemetery adjoining. Rev. J.L. Strong officiated. The floral tributes were as follows: Rev. C.M. Turnell, Miss S. Hardie, Hilton Mabel and the girls, Uncle George and Aunt Floss, Aunt Sophia, Tilly and Ethel, Mohawk Institute girls, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Smith, Miss Charlotte, Froman, Mrs. Smith, Mohawk Institute, brother Wilfred, Uncle Fred and family, S.S. Niblock, W.A. Graham, H. Betchel, Uncle John and Aunt Harriett, Mohawk Institute boys, members of the family.”

Edgar’s headstone is in Row 3, Number 7, shown in the photograph below.



36. Effie Smith

Ada Effie Smith, register number 991 at the Mohawk Institute, was born March 12, 1922 to Wilbert Smith and Ada Charles on the Muncey Reserve southwest of London (Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, or Oneida Nation of the Thames).

Effie died May 11, 1936 in the Brantford General Hospital following a playground accident. The doctor was immediately called, and she was taken to hospital by ambulance, where she died that evening.

There are numerous publicly available newspaper articles and government documents concerning Effie's death. Several are reproduced here to indicate both the promptness of the medical care provided and the nature of the inquiry convened by the Indian Agent which the Department of Indian Affairs mandated in the case of every student death at a residential school. In Effie's case, an inquest was also held at the Brantford police station, presided over by the coroner, Dr. D.A. Morrison, and conducted by the Crown Attorney, F.E.D. Wallace. An RCMP Inspector attended the inquest and prepared a report which was forwarded to the Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police.

On May 12, 1936 Major E.P. Randle, Superintendent of the Six Nations Reserve, advised Ottawa that he was holding an inquiry into Effie's death as mandated by Departmental procedure:

"It is my duty to inform you that Effie Smith, aged about 13, an Indian girl of the Muncey Reserve and a resident pupil of the Mohawk Institute was accidentally injured by the fall of the wheel of a "Giant Stride" upon her last evening at about 6.30 p.m. and subsequently died of her injuries in the Brantford General Hospital."

"Acting upon the instructions in circular letter C1-1-23 of April 17th, 1935, I am holding an inquiry into the circumstances of the accident this afternoon."

On the same day the principal of the Mohawk Institute, the Reverend Horace W. Snell, also wrote to Ottawa:

"Sir, I very much regret to have to report to you a serious accident to Number 0991, Effie Smith which occurred last night at 6.15 p.m. and resulted in her death at the Brantford General Hospital the same evening."

"The Board of Inquiry had already sat, and Major E.P. Randle will be forwarding to you a full report."

"I may only say that it was purely accidental and so far as I can see no blame is to be attached to anyone."

J.D. Sutherland, Acting Superintendent of Indian Education, replied to Major Randle on May 14, 1936 enclosing the forms for completion in connection with an inquiry into a student death, and adding:

"You should make careful enquiry from the Principal regarding the swings in use at the school, and ascertain how often they are examined by a member of the staff and what steps are taken, or will be taken to avoid any possibility of an accident in the future."

On the Departmental form provided, the Reverend Snell described the circumstances of the accident, and included a sketch of the maypole:

“Five girls including Effie Smith were playing on the “Giant Stride” or “Maypole”. They had put a board through loops in the suspended chains and were being pushed around the pole thus throwing all the weight toward one side of the pole. This caused the axle of the wheel to split a piece out of the side of the pole at the top allowing the wheel to fall to the ground where it struck Effie Smith in abdomen causing the injuries from which she died.”

Dr R.H. Palmer, who attended Effie shortly after the accident, stated that the immediate cause of Effie’s death was “Internal injury with haemorrhage. Rupture of pancreas”, and that the contributory cause was an accident. He stated further:

“She suffered dreadful shock. I looked her over and told them to undress her so I could examine her. I found at once that there were internal injuries. The ruling in such cases, of course, is to take them to the Lady Willingdon Hospital but knowing the gravity of the case I wanted to take her up here. I called Dr. Morrison and he came down. I gave her stimulants, and sent her immediately to the Hospital. She died shortly afterwards. She died between 8 and 9 o’clock. A Post Mortem was held subsequently.”

On May 14, 1936 Major Randle reported the results of the inquiry to Ottawa:

“Sir, I beg to submit to the Department the memorandum of Inquiry into the death of Effie Smith from injuries sustained in the accident at the Mohawk Institute on Monday evening the 11th instant. This inquiry was held at the Mohawk Institute at 2 p.m. on the 12th.”

“Also attached are statements by the four pupils who were involved and witnessed the accident and one from Miss Hardie, senior Mistress of the School and one from the boys’ master, Mr. Lager.”

“Mr. Snell was absent at the time the accident occurred attending a Synod meeting in London. It was the Crown Attorney who notified me shortly after the accident occurred. I accompanied him to the school and heard first-hand, the circumstances surrounding the whole affair.”

“The final Inquest will be held in Brantford on Friday next at 8.30 p.m.”

“N.B. The Mother of Effie Smith was at the Institute during the inquiry but did not wish to attend.”

As noted above, an RCMP report was also submitted on May 16, 1936, a copy of which was forwarded to the Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police. The RCMP report included the verdict of the coroner’s inquest:

Effie’s death was reported in detail in the May 12, 1936 edition of the Brantford *Expositor*:

“Maypole Wheel Caused Fatal Injury to Girl”

“Effie Smith, 13, Pupil At Mohawk Institute, Died In Brantford General Hospital Last Night – Hemorrhage Resulted From Internal Abdominal Injuries – Inquest Will Be Opened Friday”

“Effie Smith, 13-year-old Indian girl pupil at the Mohawk Institute, was fatally injured last night on the playground at the Institute when the wheel at the top of a maypole around which she was swinging with three other children fell and knocked her to the ground. She sustained internal abdominal injuries and a hemorrhage resulted. The child is the daughter of Mrs. Ada Smith, who resides near Niagara Falls, officials at the Institute stated. Her father is living in Detroit. Mrs. Smith was communicated with shortly after the accident and this morning she was reported on her way to the Institute.”

“Death ensued at Brantford General Hospital a short time after the little girl was admitted. She was attended at the Institute by Dr. R.H. Palmer, Institute doctor, and Dr. D.A. Morrison, who ordered her to hospital after examination. Mrs. A.E. Smith, nurse at the Institute, attended the child until the doctors arrived about five minutes after the accident happened, an Institute official stated. The ambulance took her to hospital, but little hope was held out for her recovery at that time.”

“OTHERS ESCAPED

When the wheel fell as the four children were leaping and swinging around it, the three youngsters with the Smith child were thrown off their balance and they ran away from the pole, the injured girl being unable to do so before she was struck. The children who were swinging with her ran into the Institute and told an officer there what had happened. The maypole, to which is attached a number of “swings” of steel bars and chain, sometimes is known as a “giant stride.” It was located on the girls’ playground on the south side of the Institute.”

“The wheel, which did not weigh more than 15 pounds, it was estimated, was an old automobile wheel to which the swings were attached. The wheel itself did not break, the side of the upright into which the axle of the wheel was placed coming away and causing the wheel to fall off. All the children were swinging on the same side of the pole when the side broke away, it was stated, and it was their position and the weight of their bodies all on the one side that strained the upright until it gave.”

“Rev. H. W. Snell, Principal of the Institute, was in attendance at a conference of the Synod of Huron of the Anglican Church at London when the accident happened. He was notified as soon as possible and he left the conference as soon as he had received word of the girl’s fatal injury. Effie was one of the most popular pupils at the Institute, both with the teachers and her fellow pupils, it was stated this morning. She was well liked and her death cast a gloom over the school to-day.”

“The maypole, as it was before the accident, had been in use for a number of years and it was much used by the pupils who preferred it to any of the other recreational equipment on the playground. Effie had been a pupil at the Institute for more than three years and had often swung around the pole during that time. Beside her parents, a brother, on the Muncey Reserve, is left to mourn her loss.”

“Funeral arrangements will not be made until the arrival of the child’s mother.”

“Crown Attorney F. E. D. Wallace said this morning that an inquest into the death would be opened Friday night at the Police Station here at 8.30.”

The May 13, 1936 issue of the Brantford *Expositor* reported that Effie’s body had been taken to Mount Brydges, and that her funeral would be held on the Muncey Reserve:

“The funeral of Ada Effie Smith, 13-year-old Indian girl who was fatally injured when the wheel of a Maypole fell on her while she was playing on the grounds at the Mohawk Institute Monday night, will be conducted Thursday on the Muncey Reserve, near London. The body, which rested at Beckett’s Funeral Home yesterday, has been taken to Mount Brydges by C.N.R.”

“The child did not live long after the accident, passing away at the Brantford General Hospital, to where she had been taken in the ambulance. She was swinging about the Maypole with three other children when the accident occurred.”

The proceedings at the inquest were described in detail in the May 16, 1936 issue of the *Expositor*:

“RECOMMENDED INSPECTION OF ALL EQUIPMENT”

“Intra-Abdominal Hemorrhage Cause of Death of Effie Smith”

“MAYPOLE VICTIM”

“A recommendation that the playground equipment at the Mohawk Institute be inspected every three months by a competent inspector was made last night in the verdict of the jury at the inquest at the Police Station into the death of Ada Effie Smith, 13, a pupil of the Institute, who was fatally injured Monday evening, May 11, when a wheel from a maypole around which she was swinging with four other girls fell off and struck her in the abdomen.”

“Dr. Harold Palmer, who conducted an examination of the victim of the accident, stated death had been caused by an intra-abdominal hemorrhage.”

“It was stated in evidence that the wheel weighed about 100 pounds and the top of the pole was between 15 and 18 feet from the ground. Molly Johnson, Velma Powless and Laura Davis, who were riding around the maypole on a beam with the Smith child and one other youngster, appeared to give evidence, the Powless girl stating that as the wheel came off they all fell to the ground and she felt something strike her on the shoulder and when she recovered her balance she saw a girl, who had been sitting next to her on the beam, lying on the ground.”

“Dr. R. H. Palmer. Rev. H. W. Snell, Principal at the Institute, and C. H. Lager, an Institute official, also gave evidence. Coroner Dr. D. A. Morrison presided and the examination was conducted by Crown Attorney F. E. D. Wallace.”

“MAYPOLE IMPROVISED”

“Rev. Mr. Snell described the playground at the Institute where the accident occurred, stating it was equipped with swings, teeter-totters and the “giant stride,” or maypole. The maypole was an improvised piece of equipment, he stated, having been constructed at the Institute. The wheel was an automobile wheel on a shaft adapted to fit into a hole at the top of the pole. It was the breaking away of the wood on one side of the pole that caused the wheel to fall.”

“The playground was not under continual supervision, Re. Mr. Snell said, but there was always someone who looked after the recreational periods of the pupils at intervals. There were a number of girls on the playground when the accident occurred.”

“How long had the pole been there?” Crown Attorney Wallace asked.”

“It was there when I came, seven years ago, and had been there two years before,” Rev. Mr. Snell replied.

“Was it in operation before you came?” the Crown questioned.

“Yes” the witness answered.”

“Pointing to what had been a deep crack several feet along the pole at the spot where it broke, Crown Attorney Wallace asked Rev. Mr. Snell:”

“Did you know anything about the crack originally?”

“I never knew it was there,” Rev. Mr. Snell said.

“I show you that one side of the pole where the piece is broken off is fresh and the other side appears to be old, does it not?” the Crown questioned.

“Yes. From the appearance of it.”

“You do not employ a regular carpenter on your staff, do you?”

“No.”

“This maypole was makeshift?”

“Yes, it was makeshift.”

“Was this wheel, or any part of it, considered dangerous by you or your staff?”

“I don’t think any of us ever thought of danger in connection with it.”

“Rev. Mr. Snell stated there were no regulations regarding the method of using the maypole and there was no special grant made by the Government for recreational equipment. The Institute

was conducted by the Dominion Government and came under the jurisdiction of the Department of Indian Affairs.”

“JUST ERECTED”

“C. H. Lager, Boys’ Master at the Institute, said the wheel had been erected by him the Friday before the accident. He estimated its weight at about 100 pounds. He saw the crack in the pole, he said.”

“Did the crack cause you any worry at all?” he was asked.

“No, I thought the two iron bands (two bands around the pole below the place where the piece broke off) were put there to strengthen the pole. I never thought of any danger.”

“The top of the pole, and the wheel, with steel chains attached to the wheel and threaded through pieces of hose at the place where the children hung on to swing, were exhibited.”

“Crown Attorney Wallace asked Mr. Lager if he had seen children riding around the maypole with a beam placed through the loops made by the rubber hose and witness replied he had not.”

“WERE RIDING BEAM”

“Molly Johnson, an Institute pupil, testified that a beam, a two-by-six, had been put through three of the loops and she, with the Smith girl, Laura Davis, Velma Powless and Hazel Vanevery were riding on it. They had hardly started when the wheel fell. She did not notice the crack in the pole before the accident. Elma Powless also stated she did not notice the crack.”

“Witnesses admitted the fact that the five girls riding the beam all on one side of the pole would cause the pressure at the top of the pole to become heavier on that side.”

“The verdict in full was as follows: “We the undersigned jury impanelled to inquire into the death of Effie Smith, a pupil of the Mohawk Institute, find she came to her death at the Brantford General Hospital, May 11, 1936, from an intra-abdominal hemorrhage caused by being struck by a wheel from a maypole which we consider was not safe at the Mohawk Institute in the Township of Brantford May 11, 1936.”

“We also recommend that the playground equipment be inspected every three months by a competent inspector.”

“The jurors were: R. W. Henry, Foreman: Elijah Smith, T. J. Black, W. J. Springle, Charles Craddock, E. Cooper and A. Young. Provincial Officer Carl W. Farrow had charge of witnesses and the jury.”

On May 25, 1936 the Reverend Snell wrote to J.D. McLean in Ottawa concerning the testimony at the coroner’s inquest, adding:

“I may say that the mother attached no blame to the management. In fact she made the request that her little boy might be admitted next term if there is room for him. I have received a very

kind letter written on her behalf, thanking us for our kindness in connection with the sad occurrence.”

37. Morley Snake

There is no evidence that Morley Snake attended the Mohawk Institute, or that he died there in 1965.

38. Arthur Staats

According to the 1911 census taken in Tuscarora Township, Arthur Staats was born in March, 1911 to Frank Staats, a farm labourer, and his wife, Christine or Christiana, whose maiden name is said to have been Clause. Arthur’s parents are listed as members of the Six Nations. At the time of the 1921 census, Arthur had three brothers, Freddie, Welby and Charlie, and four sisters, Gladys May, Ariel, Lena or Eleana, and Velma.

Arthur’s father died of pneumonia in a military hospital in Seaforth, England on March 8, 1917 shortly after being shipped overseas during World War I:

“Monday, March 12, 1917

Indian Warrior Died in England

PTE. Frank Staats of Construction Battalion Was Taken Ill Overseas”

“Taken ill at Seaforth, England, on March 3, Pte. Frank Staats, who went overseas from Brantford with the 257th construction battalion, died five days later. Death took place in the military hospital there. He was a member of Court Brantford, 503, I.O.F. Before enlisting he was a resident on the Indian reserve and followed the occupation of a farmer. A wife and seven children mourn the loss of a hero husband and father.”

The names of Arthur, his sister Ariel and brother Charlie, are included in a list of 114 children entitled “Return for year ending March 31st. 1921 showing Orphans, Destitute and those needing protection of a school”:

“79 Ariel Staats, U Mohawk 285

Admitted July 26th. 1920

Standard II

Father killed overseas.

Mother neglects children.

Placed here by Council.”

“80 Charlie, ditto

Has tubercular abscesses – serious condition”

“81 Arthur, ditto

Brother of above

Standard I”

Arthur died March 31, 1924 of mitral stenosis; at the time of his death he had been under the care of Dr. W. Davis of Ohsweken since January 18, 1924.

Arthur was buried in the St Paul's Anglican Church cemetery on the Six Nations Reserve, Row 7, Stone 3. His headstone (see photograph below) also records the death of his sisters Alma and Ella, who appear to have died at birth, and his brother Charlie.

The principal of the Mohawk Institute, Sydney Rogers, made no mention of Arthur's illness and death in his report for the month of March 1924 which he completed on April 7, 1924, nor in his report filed in June which covered the month of April, 1924. It is thus possible that Arthur was not at the school at the time of his death.



39. Charlie Staats

According to the 1911 census taken in Tuscarora Township, Charlie Staats was born in January 1906, and was thus almost 5 years older than his brother Arthur. When the 1921 census was taken, he was 15 years old, and is described as a “student”.

As noted above, Charlie was enrolled at the Mohawk Institute on July 26, 1920 at the same time as his brother and sister.

Charlie's health was poor from the very start of his stay at the school. As noted above, when he was admitted he was said to be suffering from "*tubercular abscesses - serious condition*". His continuing health problems were described in several reports by the principal of the Mohawk Institute, Alice Boyce. In a report for the months of November and December 1920, she wrote:

"Charlie Staats, a tubercular abscess case was sent to hospital on November 26th."

In her bi-monthly report for January and February 1921 she noted that Charlie required more health care than the school could realistically provide:

"Charlie Staats returned from the Hospital on January 31st. We were unable to fetch him earlier owing to the Hospital quarantine. He requires constant attention and should be in a Sanitarium."

On March 2, 1921 the Indian Agent at Brantford wrote to Ottawa advising on his inspection of the school. In his report he mentioned Charlie's debilitated condition:

"I beg to advise you that on Friday the 25th of February I made an inspection of the Mohawk Institute. There is an attendance of 120 of whom one boy young Staats who recently returned from the Hospital was in bed, as his health is so undermined that he cannot study or do any work."

In her report for May and June 1921, Alice Boyce stated that Charlie had been allowed to leave the school on the grounds of illness:

"Charlie Staats, suffering from T.B.C. abscesses was allowed sick leave on May 20th."

In her report for January and February 1922, she noted that Charlie was still convalescing at home:

"A representative from the Soldiers Aid called to see John Antone. We reported to him the cases of Charlie Staats and Evelyn Newhouse who are at home ill."

Charlie died at home on the Six Nations Reserve near Butch on August 8, 1923. His obituary appeared in the August 8, 1923 edition of the *Brantford Expositor*:

"The death took place this morning on the Six Nations Reserve, near Burtch, of Charles Staats, son of the late Frank Staats, at the age of 17. Deceased had been ailing with tuberculosis for some time past. The funeral will be held to-morrow afternoon, services being conducted in the Sour Springs church and interment taking place in the cemetery there."

There is no mention of Charlie in any of the 1923 reports. It is however noted in the principal's December report that "*we have had a period of eight months during which we have not been in need of a doctor*". This statement, taken together with the fact that the school-leaving age was 16, and Charlie died at the age of 17 on the Six Nations Reserve, suggest that he had likely been discharged from the Mohawk Institute prior to his death.

As noted above, Charlie Staats was buried in the cemetery of St Paul's Anglican Church on the Six Nations Reserve.

40. Gladys Staats

While Arthur and Charlie Staats (see above) had a sister named Gladys, this is not her.

Gladys Staats, register number 795 at the Mohawk Institute, was born on the Six Nations Reserve at Brantford about 1911 to George Staats and Liddy Lickers.

In December 1924 the principal of the Mohawk Institute, Sydney Rogers, reported that Gladys' mother had died of tuberculosis:

"Christine Staats was allowed to leave for a few weeks to nurse her sick mother and Gladys, her sister was allowed home for a few hours to visit the mother. When the mother died we had both girls examined by Dr. Palmer as we were informed that Mrs. Staats had died from T.B.C."

In his report in June 1926, Rogers wrote that Gladys had been diagnosed with TB:

"On June 11th Dr. Palmer visited the school and examined a number of girls who were giving us a little concern and he pronounced Gladys Staats as tubercular."

On June 14, 1926 Rogers wrote to the Superintendent of Indian Education in Ottawa advising that Gladys was now seriously ill, and asking for instructions as to what should be done since her mother was dead and her father and grandfather were not able to care for her:

"Sir, I have to report that 0795 Gladys Staats a pupil of this school is, according to our Medical Officer, in a very serious stage of tuberculosis."

"This girl has for some time given us considerable anxiety and we have had the M.O. thoroughly examine her on several occasions. Until today he has found no cause for anxiety but now he states that there are very definite symptoms of the malady and he advises her speedy removal from the institution."

"We have made enquiries and find that this girls grandparents are in poor and needy circumstances, the mother is dead and the father worthless."

"May I please have your instructions regarding the disposal of Gladys. We are continuing to give her every opportunity to be out of doors and finding her light occupation in the garden and flower beds."

In his report in September 1926, Rogers advised that on July 1, 1926 he and his wife had accompanied Gladys to the Mountain Sanatorium in Hamilton:

"On July 1st . . . Gladys Staats went to the Sanitarium, Hamilton with Mr. and Mrs. Rogers."

In March 1927, Rogers reported that he, a staff member, and several of Gladys' friends had visited her, and that she had had other visitors as well:

"On January 12th. Mr. Rogers, Mrs. Persall and several girl chums visited Gladys Staats at the Hamilton Sanitarium. Rev. and Mrs. Ecclestone of Ohsweken visited on January 21st."

Gladys died of pulmonary tuberculosis at the age of 15 at the Mountain Sanatorium in Hamilton on January 21, 1927. From July 7, 1926 to January 21, 1927 she had been under the care of Dr W.M. McNeely.

In his report for the quarter ending March 31, 1927 Rogers wrote that a staff member and three girls had attended Gladys' funeral:

"Mrs Persall and three girls attended funeral of Gladys Staats. The school wreath was the only floral token."

Notice of Gladys' death appeared in the Brantford *Expositor* on January 22, 1927:

"At the Hamilton Sanatorium on Friday, Jan. 21, 1927, Gladys Staats, late pupil of the Mohawk Institute. Funeral arrangements later."

Gladys was buried on the Six Nations Reserve on January 25, 1927, with the undertaking firm of Reid & Brown in charge of arrangements. The informant listed on the death certificate was her father, George Staats.

41. Gordon Tobias

Gordon Elliot Tobias was born in Moraviantown, southwest of London, on June 22, 1902 to Reuben Elliott Tobias, a farmer, and Ada Charlotte Wampum. Gordon's mother died December 10, 1909 of tuberculosis, and on May 23, 1910 his father married Bessie (or Betsy) Josephine Noah.

At the time of the 1911 census, Gordon was living in Moraviantown with his father and stepmother Betsy, and his siblings Clifford and Bernice.

On January 10, 1916 Reuben's father enlisted, stating that he had already served for 18 years in the 26th Regiment. At the time he was living in Thamesville, and had three sons, Clifford Francis (15 years old), Gordon Elliott (13 years old), and Bernard Calvin (5 years old), and one daughter, Sarah Helen (3 years old). He was assigned to the 135th Overseas Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force, and embarked from Halifax for Liverpool on August 22, 1916. While overseas he was posted to various locations in England. He left Liverpool for Canada on December 17, 1917, and was discharged on March 15, 1918 as a Lieutenant Corporal in the 34th Battalion on the grounds of medical unfitness due to partial loss of function in the left knee.

About 1917, while his father was overseas, Gordon developed tuberculosis. He died at Moraviantown at the age of 16 on October 29, 1918 of tuberculosis of the lungs. The immediate

cause of death was influenza, likely the Spanish flu. At the time of his death he was under the care of Dr D.P. McPhail.

Gordon was buried in the Moraviantown cemetery. The informant on his death certificate, "Alex. Tobias", was likely a relative.

42. Julia Turkey

According to the 1871 census taken on the Tuscarora Indian Reserve, Julia Turkey died that year of typhoid fever at the age of 9. It was reported to be an isolated case. There is no evidence that she attended the Mohawk Institute, or died there.

43. Lillian Vanevery

Lillian Vanevery was born in October 1907 to Noah Vanevery, a farmer, and his wife, Mary. At the time of the 1911 census taken in Tuscarora Township, Lillian was living with her parents and her four brothers, George, Thomas, Tylus and Cecil, and three sisters, Jesse, Thersa and Hazel.

Lillian died at the age of 11 on October 24, 1918 in the midst of the Spanish flu epidemic. Notice of her death appeared in the Brantford *Expositor* on October 24, 1918:

"At the Mohawk Institute little Lillian Avery [sic], a girl of 11 years from the reserve, died last night after an attack of the "flu"."

On October 24, 1918, the acting principal of the Mohawk Institute, Alice Boyce, wrote to the Secretary of the Department of Indian Affairs in Ottawa describing the situation at the school and reporting Lillian's death:

"Sir, the school has suffered severely with the influenza epidemic – we had seventy-six cases last Sunday – been allowing up a few each day. Most of the staff have been laid up – for days all we could do was to attend to the sick – the farm help have been off duty – and one day only four boys were down - we have only been able to do the chores."

"I regret to state that this morning Lillian Vanevery died from the influenza."

On the same day the Indian Agent at Brantford also wrote to Ottawa, explaining that Lillian's father had been with her at her death:

"Sir, I regret to inform you that Lillian VanEvery the eleven year old daughter of Noah VanEvery died at the Mohawk Institute this morning of influenza."

"She had been delirious for some time but at 8 o'clock this morning appeared no worse. Her father was with her but she suddenly sank and died at 9.15."

"Mrs. Boyce is fortunately a trained nurse and is I believe giving the utmost attention to her patients under the advice and care of Dr. Palmer."

“This morning there is a reduction of the sick list, there being only 17 boys and 24 girls. Some of them appear to be only run down and amongst those recently admitted to the Institute Mrs. Boyce notices a want of vitality caused by under nourishment she thinks. They have no reserve force.”

It seems likely Lillian was buried on the Tuscarora Indian Reserve.

44. Francis Waddilove

Francis Wadilove was born about 1864, the son of William Wadilove, a farmer, and his wife, Eliza. The 1871 census states that Francis, then 7 years old, was living in the Caradoc area, west of London, with his parents and three brothers, Thomas, Elijah and Joseph, and two sisters, Nancy and Phoebe. None of the children in the Wadilove family are described as students in the 1871 census.

There is no evidence that Francis attended the Mohawk Institute, or died there in 1876.

45. Mabel Walker

Mabel Walker was born about 1891, likely on the Cape Croker Indian Reserve.

She died of phthisis (tuberculosis, consumption) at the age of 11 on August 9, 1902 while under the care of Dr R.A. Palmer. As noted by the Reverend Robert Ashton, principal of the Mohawk Institute, she had to remain in isolation at the school during her illness as her home was a considerable distance away:

“August 9. Mabel Walker died last night of tuberculosis following an attack of measles; she had been ill for over two months, but as she came from a distance she was unable to be sent home. She was kept isolated.”

“August 10. . . .P.M. 2.30. Buried Mabel Walker, all pupils attending the service.”

Mabel’s death was also mentioned by the Reverend Ashton in the Department of Indian Affairs Annual Report for the year ended June 30, 1903:

“The health of the pupils was very good - two deaths occurred - that of a girl from consumption, and a boy from intestinal obstruction, through depraved appetite.”

Mabel was buried in the Mohawk Chapel cemetery.

46. Margaret Williams

According to the 1871 census taken on the Tuscarora Indian Reserve, Margaret Williams died at the age of 12 in June, 1870 of fever and ague. There is no evidence that she attended the Mohawk Institute, or died there.

47. Hilda Wilson

Hilda Wilson died Sunday, October 27, 1918 of the Spanish flu. Notice of her death appeared in the Brantford *Expositor* on October 28, 1918:

“Hilda Wilson, whose father lives in Hamilton, passed away at the Mohawk Institute on Sunday.”

Hilda was buried in the Mohawk Chapel cemetery.

48. Inez Wilson

Inez Wilson was born about 1889, likely on the Tuscarora Indian Reserve.

She died at the Mohawk Institute at the age of 11 on April 6, 1900. Notice of her death appeared in the April 7, 1900 edition of the Brantford *Expositor*:

“A little Indian girl, whose name is Inzen (sic) Wilson, died at the Indian Institute yesterday at the age of 11 years. The deceased’s parents reside near the council house.”

Inez appears to have been the child who died of a cerebral abscess mentioned by the Reverend Robert Ashton in the Department of Indian Affairs Annual Report for the year ended June 30, 1900:

“Health and Sanitary Condition. - The health of the school has been very good. There were no serious cases of sickness, though we had many cases of measles of a mild type. One girl died from cerebral abscess.”

Inez was buried in the Mohawk Chapel cemetery.