

Ghemburgh Res. School
Delmas. Task
cc

Le 7 Janv. 37

mon Revisions Père.

Pouillyz trouver inclus le rapport
financier de l'école pour 1935-1936.
Quant à celui de cette année, il
faudra attendre le 31 mars 1937 pour
l'avoir. L'année financière pour le
Gouvernement finit le 31 mars de
chaque année.

Pouillyz agréer, mon Re. Père,
mes meilleurs Saluts

H. W. R. M.

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71220

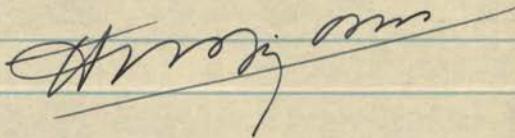
Ghansorehild Res. School
Delmas, Sask

Le 5 Juin 1937

Mon Rév. Père,

Mme Wilfrid Caplette de Delmas voulait acheter l'automobile du P. Allard pour 75 dollars comptant. J'ai écrit au P. Larose il y a une douzaine de jours à ce sujet, mais je n'ai eu aucun réponse. Le monsieur en question est pressé de se servir de cette vieille brouette. Qu'en pensez-vous ?
Une réponse immédiate serait bienvenue.

Pouvez agréer, mon Rév. Père, mes saluts



PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71.220

Thunderchild Res. School,
Delmas, Sask Nov. 20, 1937.

Rev. Father Langlois,
Provincial of the Oblate Fathers.
Edmonton.

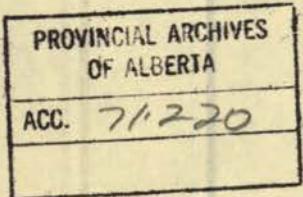
Rev Father,

We are mailing to you today, a sample of our School Journal. We think that you will approve it, as you are so greatly interested in what concerns the Indian Missions. The drawings are all done by the pupils (free hand) and so are the compositions. Our teachers helped us in giving directions and suggestions only.

It will appear every two months. Thinking it will please you, dear Father, we shall always mail you a copy.

Most sincerely yours,
Mary Pojoldr.

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PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71220

Thunderchild Ind. Res. School,
Delmas. Sask.

Le 22 Février 1958

Mon Révérend Père,

J'ai reçu votre lettre au sujet des Frères Convers Polonais à placer dans les écoles indiennes pour remplacer les laïques.

Je dois dire que ces Frères devraient loger à l'école et conséquemment n'auraient pas de vie commune religieuse ou en auraient très peu. De plus, ils seraient en contact continual avec les Soeurs et avec les filles de l'école et le Principal ne pourrait pas les surveiller, ce qui serait un danger pour eux.

J'ai déjà eu assez de trouble l'an dernier avec 2 Pères d'ici au sujet de fréquentations avec les filles de l'école, et avec un Père sympathisant trop fortement avec une Soeur. J'ai même dû employer des menaces. Cette année, cela va mieux, bien que je sois obligé de temps en temps de lancer quelque pointe en public pour arrêter de nouvelles fréquentations. Il n'y a pas plus de 3 mois, la Soeur Supérieure a dû changer d'emploi une de ses Soeurs, pour ne point donner occasion à cette Soeur de rencontrer un Père. Si ces Frères Convers étaient témoins de ces petites sympathies, n'en seraient-ils point inclinés à faire la même chose?

De plus, les Soeurs ne seraient point rassurées de voir des Frères loger à l'école. Certaines d'entre elles connaissent le cas du Frère Germain qui, au Lac d'Oignon, a failli débaucher une Soeur en Novembre dernier. Cette Soeur est ici maintenant, ayant été amenée par l'Assistante Générale.

Pour ces diverses raisons, je ne pense pas qu'il soit prudent d'avoir des Frères Convers à l'école de Delmas. En tout cas, pour ma part, je ne pourrais ni ne voudrais prendre aucune responsabilité de ces Frères.

Veuillez agréer, mon Révérend Père, mes saluts,

Amis m

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71.220

L.J.C. et M.I.

Delmas, Sask.
Ier Avril. 1938.

Révérend Père U. Langlois, Prov. O.M.I.
Maison Provinciale
Edmonton, Alta.

Mon Révérend Père,

Je me décide enfin à vous donner signe de vie. Ici tout le monde va bien, et la bonne humeur est la règle générale . Doncien à signaler de ce coté-la.

Quant aux Missions? La Mission de Sweet-Grass va tres bien; les gens viennent bien aux offices,et se sont montré vaillants pendant les grands froids de l'hiver. La Mission de Poundmaker va moins bien; non pas que les gens ne vinssent moins aux offices,car eux aussi ne manquent guère de venir à l'Eglise; mais il y a une si pauvre Eglise; eux aussi voudraient prier sur de la beauté, et avoir comme à Sweet-Brass une petite Eglise qui l'inviterait à prier.

C'est donc de cette Eglise que je voudrais vous parler. Avec la permission du Pere Supérieur j'ai fait faire l'estimé de la nouvelle église par Mons. Dupont et l'ai ensuite fait donné le prix entier de la batisse par une Compagnie de bois de Paynton. Il s'agit d'une Maisén-chapelle sur le même plan que celle de Sweet-Grass;elle sera sans doite plus petite et coutera par conséquent moins.

Je vous envoie les dimensions ainsi que l'estimé tel que j'elps ai reçus de la Compagnie.

I) Dimensions: longueur de l'église: 40 pieds.
largeur " " : 22 "
hauteur(les cotés) : 12 "
longueur de l'annexe: ~~16~~-pieds-de-large: 20 ~~pieds~~
larheur : 16 pieds.

N.B. L'annexe sera divisé en trois parties: office,
chamgre et cuisine.

II) l'estimé: pour le matériel de construction: 1300 piastres.
; pour le salaire du constructeur: 480 piastres.

Je crois que Mons. Dupont ferait très bien cela; ~~s'as~~ d'-
ailleurs lui qui charge le moins.

Espérant recevoir une réponse d'ailleurs favorable, et vous
renouvelant le souvenir toujours reconnaissant, je me dis
votre petit missionnaire cris,

P. Mercier
J.M.

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71.220

Edmonton, Alta., ce 6 avril 1938

R.P.P. Mercredi, O.M.I.,
Delmas, Sask.

Cher P. Mercredi,

J'accuse réception de votre lettre du 1er courant qui plaide avec tant de ferveur pour la construction d'une nouvelle chapelle à Poundmaker. Je reconnais que cette construction s'impose et que vos chers Indiens prierait mieux, fréquenteraient plus volontiers l'église si vous aviez un temple plus convenable où les réunir pour le saint Sacrifice de la messe.

Reste à savoir comment dans la pratique ce projet pourra être réalisé. Je commencerai par le soumettre au Conseil Provincial de qui la chose relève, et je vous promets de l'appuyer. Mais je doute que la Caisse Provinciale puisse payer tout ce montant à elle toute seule; il faudra bien l'aider de quelque façon et trouver des ressources ailleurs. Nous serons heureux de faire notre part, mais il nous serait impossible de tout faire. J'espère que vous me comprenez et que votre zèle vous suggérera des industries, comme cela vient d'arriver au P. Charron de Cardston qui a prélevé quelques centaines de dollars par des rafles etc. pour l'érection d'une chapelle sur la réserve. Pensez-y et voyez ce que vous pouvez faire dans l'ordre des possibles.

En tout premier lieu vous allez intéresser Mgr. Duprat à ce projet. Par son entremise, vous pourriez obtenir une allocation de la Church Extension ou de quelque autre bienfaiteur. Il vous faudra lui écrire une bonne lettre dans laquelle vous ferez valoir toutes vos raisons; il la fera parvenir à qui de droit et recommandera votre requête. Il va sans dire que je plaiderai moi aussi en votre faveur.

Les dimensions de l'église me semblent convenables et le prix de la construction très raisonnable; mais il faut trouver les fonds d'abord, et je compte bien que vous vous y emploierez de votre mieux.

Avec l'assurance de mes fraternels sentiments en Jésus et Marie,

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71.220

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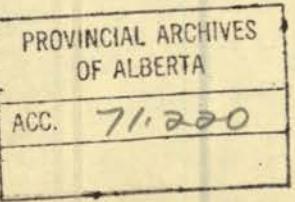
Delmas le 14 Octobre 38.

Réseves de Sweet Grass, Pows Malas, Little Pine.

Le Peie Mercredi devait faire le rapport et le remette à la maison provinciale en passant.

- I. Sweetgrass 66 milles carres ; Pows Malas 35 ; Little Pine 25.
- II. 1) 2 .. 2 . 3) 13 .. 13. 4) Lyallia 7.) 10^{er} canada 3 semis de
III. 2) 2. mulier.
- IV. ? ? Beaucoup se catholiques peu de protestants. } mentalité
Little Pine : majorité protestante. } physique.
- V. 1) ? 2) 12 baptêmes. 4) 5 morts 6?
- VI. 1) Schola. 2.
- VII - 2) 2
- VIII - 1) 59 pueri
69 puellae
2) ? ?
- IX. 2) Ecole: 80. Réserve ??
3) 13300 (Ecole) - Réserve 10 depuis Juin 38.
4. 23 (école)
- XI. Le prêtre ne réussit pas à faire les gens, ou le regarder en face avec confiance. Unobstine et difficile de leur donner une vie eucharistique. Il ya 2 mille ans que le Christ est mort. Ce n'est pas facile. Maintenant il est sans f. eucharistie.
.. La Philosophie, on dit que le rien n'est voulu qui ne soit aimé, rien n'aime qui ne soit connu. Donc, tant que les indiens (il ne saurait être) ne connaîtront pas le Christ de f. Evangelie, ils resteront ce qu'ils sont. Pour se remettre à elle, ils reconnaissent pas le Christ de f. Evangelie.
- XII. ??

ff. M. Metcalf
omi



Thunderchild Ind.Res.School,
Delmas.Sask.

Le 7 Janvier 1939.

Mon révérend Père,

Lors de votre récente visite, vous me demandiez, en voyant notre plan électrique, si j'en étais satisfait et je répondis par l'affirmative. J'étais en droit en effet d'attendre un bon service de ce plan vu qu'il avait été complètement mis en ordre l'été dernier.

Quelques jours avant Noël, il a fait défaut complètement et nous n'avons pas eu de lumière pour 4 ou 5 jours. J'ai envoyé un ingénieur à Saskatoon pour savoir ce que signifiaient ces déficiences si nombreuses. On répondit que le plan était bien trop petit pour les besoins. En fait, nous avons à l'école 170 lampes usant 8730 watts par heure et notre pauvre Delco peut n'en fournir que 2500 par heure. De plus, il est obligé de travailler 18 heures par jour, ce qui le ruine. Il faut donc chercher autre chose qui puisse nous donner satisfaction; je n'ai pas envie de dépenser toujours 150 dollars à chaque fois que ce moteur manque.

J'ai pris information auprès de la Lister Diesel generating plants à Winnipeg et on m'offre un Diesel de 4.5 kilowatt-hour, nouveau, complet pour 1284 dollars. J'ai essayé d'abord des réductions mais pas moyen d'obtenir; c'est d'ailleurs un prix bien raisonnable puisque la Delco Co demande 2000,00 dollars pour le même plan.

L'école peut faire cet achat sans nuire à sa bonne marche et je vous demande la permission de faire cette dépense. Cependant j'ai écrit à Ottawa pour avoir une allocation de 500 dollars. Je ne sais si on me l'accordera à ce moment de l'année. D'un autre côté, c'est le seul moment pour moi d'avoir de l'argent et de faire cette dépense. Je m'attends aussi à ce que notre Delco nous manque encore bien vite; il a été réparé, mais sans garantie.

J'espère recevoir votre réponse affirmative dans le plus bref délai.
Veuillez agréer, mon Rév. Père, mes salutations filiales,

Ami.

Je vous serai au bon,
Richard

Archie M

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71220

Thunderchild Residential School,
Delmas, Sask. Dec. 6, 1939.

Rev. Father Henry Routhier,
Provincial of the Oblate Fathers,
9916-10th Street,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Rev. and Dear Father,

Here I am Rev. Father to wish
you in the name of all my companions a
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
We hope that God will bestow upon you
millions of graces and benedictions, so that
you may succeed in all your hard work.

You may be sure Dear Father
that our prayers to the Infant Jesus will
be fervent at the Midnight mass, because
we know you are very interested in Indian
Schools and that our little sacrifices
might help you.

Hoping our wishes come true.
I remain,

Your Grateful,
Delmas Indian Children,
Maggie Footosis.

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71.220

COPY.

Department of Mines and Resources,
Indian Affairs Branch,
Ottawa.

Ottawa, July 10, 1940.

Thunderchild
Reverend Sir,

It is true that Indian Agents have been advised that children residing on a reserve where a day school is in operation and whose parents are able to support them should not be admitted to a residential school. However, it has been our practice to allow children to go to residential schools from a reserve where a day school is in operation, if the religious denomination under which the day school is conducted is different from that of the children concerned. In view of the above, the admission of the four children mentioned in the first part of this letter to the Thunderchild Residential School is approved.

A copy of this letter is being forwarded to Indian Agent Ostrander.

Yours truly,

Philip Phelan,
Chief, Training Division.

Reverend Joseph Angin, O.M.I.
Principal,
Thunderchild Residential School,
Delmas. Sask.

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71.220

Thunderchild Res. & School,
Delmas Sask.,
Dec. 13, 1940.

Rev. Father Henry Routhier, O.M.I
Provincial of the Oblate Fathers,
9916 - 110th Street,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Rev. Father

Do you remember I wrote to you last Christmas? Well here I come again to wish you, in the name of all the Delmas Indian School a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We hope that the Infant Child will bestow upon you and your numerous enterprises, all the blessings and graces you need.

As ever

I remain,
Gratefully Yours,
Maggie Tootoosis.

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71-220

OFFICE OF THE
INDIAN AGENT



CANADA

DEPARTMENT
OF
MINES AND RESOURCES
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

PLEASE QUOTE
FILE _____

Delmas

Battleford. Sask.
October 19th. 1942.

Dear Father Routhier,

I was wrong when I stated Father Angin was at Onion Lake. The investigation was held when he was at Blue Quill School, Saddle Lake Agency.

For your information the following is taken from Indian Act:-

"Such school shall be the nearest available school of the kind required, and no Protestant child shall be assigned to a Roman Catholic School or a school conducted under Roman Catholic auspices, and no Roman Catholic child shall be assigned to a Protestant school or a school conducted under Protestant auspices."

This ruling all Agents are governed by, and no amendment has been made officially by the department.

I am afraid if the Frank boy is admitted into Delmas School, the matter will not end there, as Mr. Ostrander is quite prepared to lay the whole case before the Church of England authorities. This I would not like to happen, as I have already mentioned to you Mr. Ostrander has always played the game in the past as regards our schools.

Yours truly,

C.S. Bell
C.S.Bell.

Rev. Father H. Routhier, O.M.I.
9916-110e rue,
Edmonton. Alta.

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71.220

Thunderchild Residential School
Delmas, Sask.
Dec. 14, 1942.

Rev. Father Henri Routhier, O.M.S.
Provincial of the Oblate Fathers.
9916 - 110th Street
Edmonton, Alberta.

Rev. Father.

In the name of the Staff,^I
and the Children are very glad to
have the privilege of wishing you our
heartiest wishes for a Merry Xmas and a
Prosperous New Year.

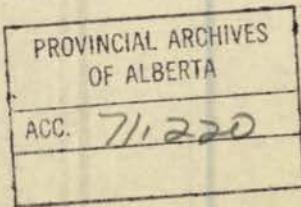
May the Infant Jesus reward
your keen interest in the progress of our
Indian Schools. In return may He
show upon you, his millions of precious
graces.

We remain
Gratefully yours
The Indian Children
Lillian Albert.

Bonnes fêtes de Noël
et de Nouvel an
Ann-J. Albert

MADE IN CANADA

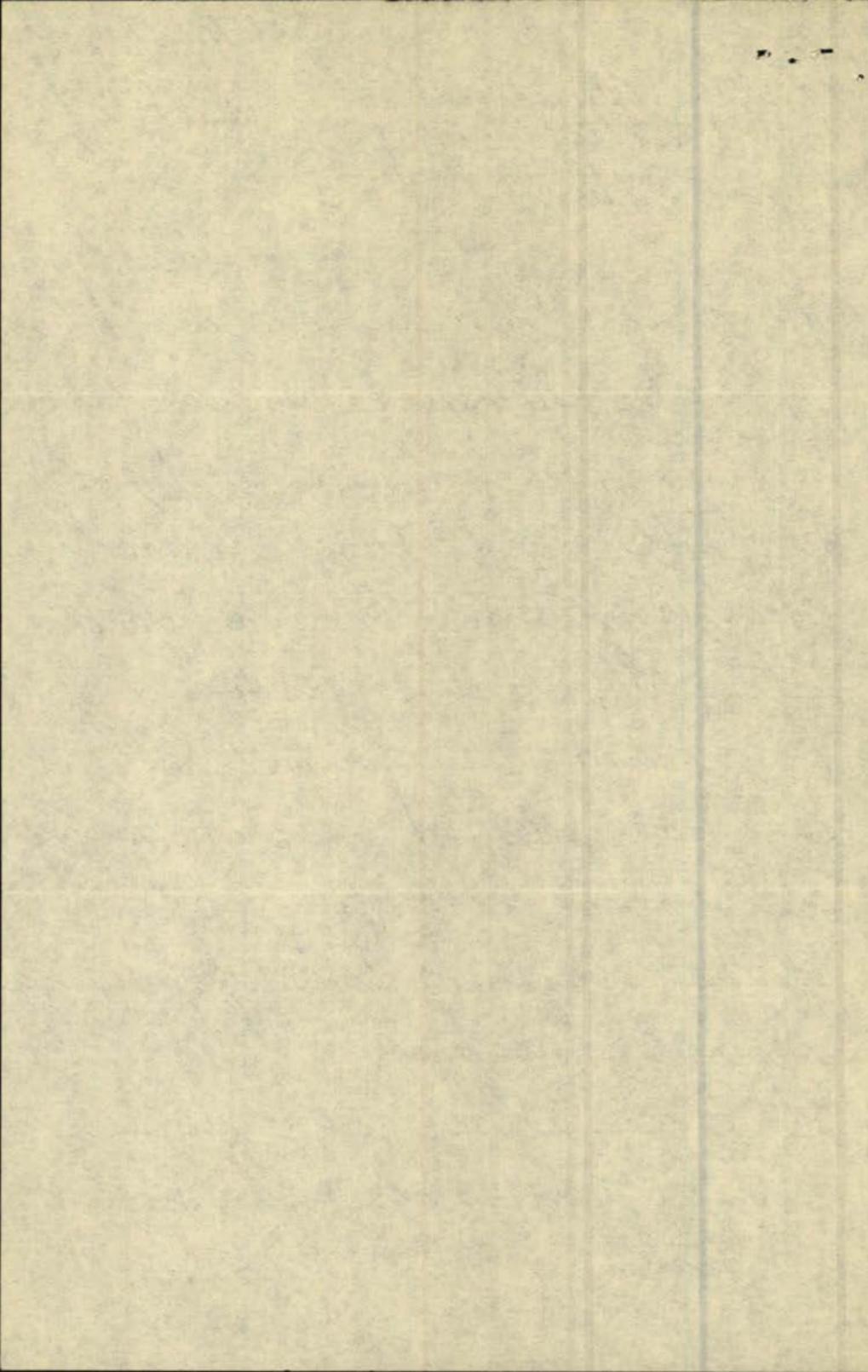
BOND



Rev Father H Routhier
N Battleford Dask.
Dear Father:

Cut knife PQ
Dask.
Sept 23/43.

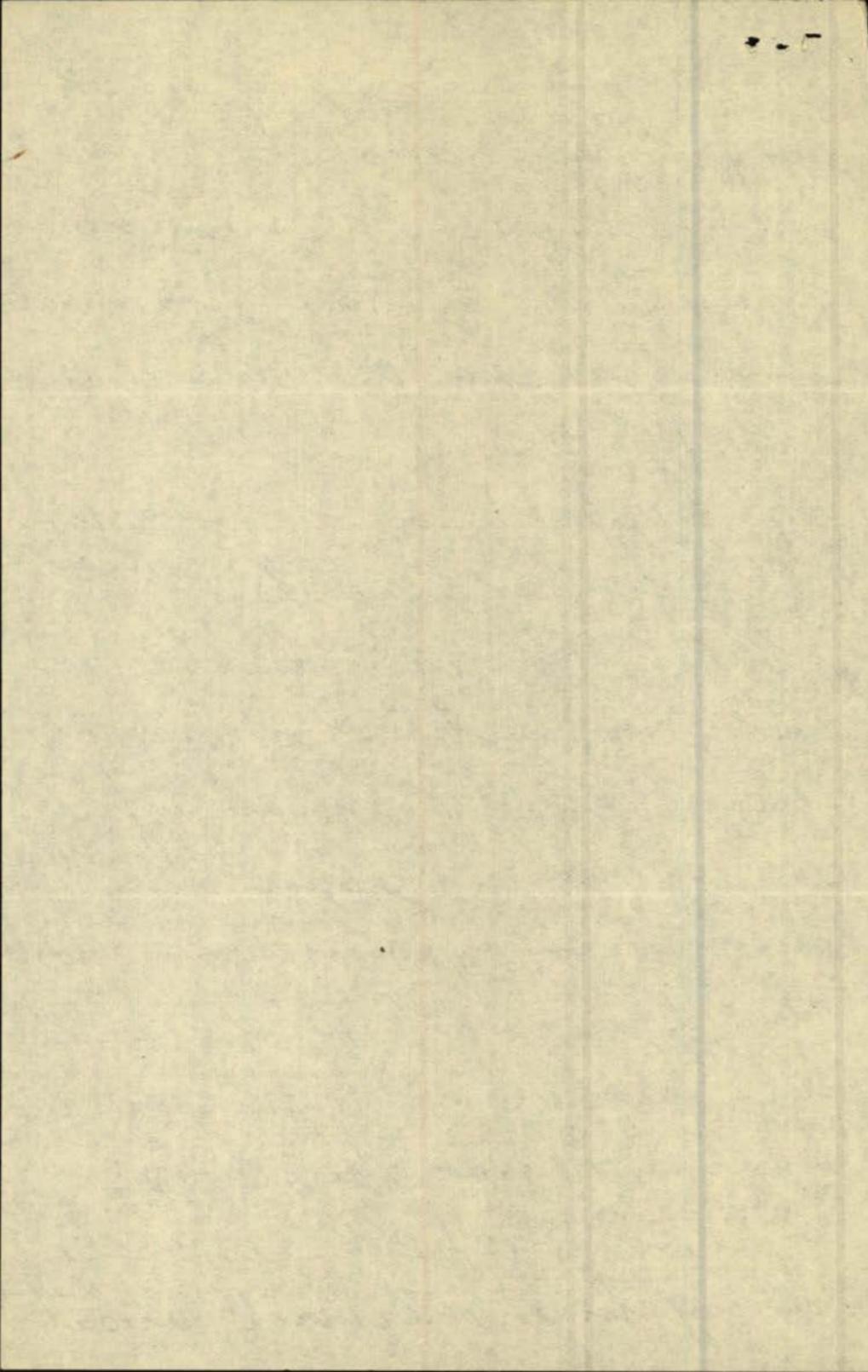
I am writing to you few lines with a great pleasure and for the welfare of the Indian Parents of Delmas School children, and the school it self, I am asking you to change the principal of Delmas school right away as soon as possible. I am saying this for many good reasons, I have let the matter go on long enough without writing to you.



2

I have had a long talk
with him and he told
me, himself, he has no
interest in being a principal
would rather do missionary
work, that's the trouble
and lack of co-operation
with the parents.

So the Indian Parents are
not so interested with
the School. and also
so many children that
run away from that school
this year, and what will
it happen when the winter
settles I have three boys
at that school, myself,
am getting nervous about



it, and so is the rest
of the Parents.

I am through with
this Principal.

We sincerely want this
change at once please.

May I hear from
you at early state.

I remain Yours

John Tootoosis

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71-220

Rev Father H Routhier
9916 - 110 th St
Edmonton Alta

Cut Knife, P.O.
Sask.
Nov 25/43.

Dear Father:

I wrote to you in Sept. and am more than anxious to hear from you, about my request. The change of the Principal at Delmas School.

May I hear from you soon will close with best regards to you

I remain Yours

John Tootoosis

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71-220

December 18, 1943

Mr. John Tootoosis,
Cut Knife, Sask.

Dear Mr. Tootoosis:

I received your last letter of Nov. 25 and likewise the preceding of Sept. 27th. If I failed to answer, it was because I see in your letter no reason stated why the principal of the Delmas school should be changed if not one of personal discontent~~ment~~ and I cannot take this in consideration. You state that you are asking his dismissal "for many good reasons" and then give none of these~~s~~ reasons. I conclude that you have a grudge against him, but no personal grudge can suffice to have a man removed. If you went to Father Angin, and reasonably exposed your grievances or ironed out your personal difficulties with him in a man to man talk, you would understand that he is a very conscientious priest in the exercise of his authority as principal. Adopting an attitude of assistance in the work of the school, would do far more good to the children, than destructive criticism, such as has frequently been carried on. Cooperation rather than opposition is so much more constructive.

With best wishes for Xmas season and New Year.

Yours devotedly,

H. Routhier O.M.I., Provincial.

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES	
ALBERTA	
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PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71.220

Thunderchild School,
Delmas.Sask.

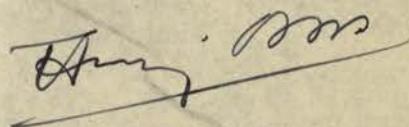
Le 18 Juin 1946

Mon Révérend Père,

J'ai votre carte d'hier et je suis affligé de vous dire que nous n'avons aucune maîtresse diplômée dans notre école; je pense même que la Soeur la plus haute graduée n'a que le grade X.

J'ai demandé bien des fois à Nicolet de fournir au moins une Soeur diplômée, mais sans succès. Il est clair que de ce côté, nos écoles sont bien inférieures aux écoles protestantes.

Veuillez agréer, mon Révérend Père, mes saluts respectueux,



PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71.220

Mémoandaem -

L'école résidentielle
de Delmas. a été détruite
par le feu le 13 Janvier
1948.

~~300 Tons of coal~~

~~100 bushels of oats~~

~~1 barrel of flour~~

~~1 barrel of sugar~~

8221

[c Jan. 1948]

Honorable J. A. Glen,
Department of Mines and Resources,
OTTAWA, Ontario.

Honorable Sir,

You are, I am sure, already acquainted with the destruction by fire of the Indian School situated in Delmas, Saskatchewan. As this institution was within the limits of my diocese, you will readily understand why I take it upon myself to write to you to urge its immediate reconstruction.

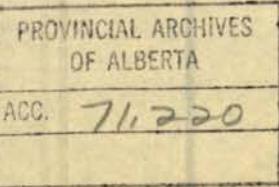
The Indian population which this school has been serving cannot be accommodated in any other kind of institution but that of a residential school, and I would be distressed to the utmost if steps were not taken immediately to replace it with as substantial a building as the resources of your Department will enable you to erect.

I, therefore, hope, dear Sir, that you will instruct your officials to prepare plans immediately for this project, and that I shall have the satisfaction next September or at the latest next November to see all those dear Indian Children in attendance at a new school.

Thanking you in anticipation, I have the honour to be, Honorable Sir,

Yours very truly,

Reginald Duprat, O.P.,
Bishop of Prince Albert.



January the 24th 48

Honorable J. A. Glen,
Department of Mines and Resources,
Ottawa Ontario

Honorable Sir,

The sad news must have reached you by now of the burning to ground of the Thunderchild Residential School at Delmas, on Jan. the 13th last. The Oblate Fathers have been in charge of this school from the start, and, as the Superior Provincial of said order, I am writing you to day to request that you do every thing possible to have this Residential School rebuilt at the earliest convenience.

I was in the vicinity when this total destruction occurred. The Principal and the good Sisters in charge of the upkeep and instruction in this school are not only in favor, but insist that the missionary work performed by them for so many years now, be continued. They are very anxious that a new school be rebuilt, in order that they may continue their missionary work amongst the Indians.

The Indian Chiefs, speaking in the name of the majority of the Indian population on their reserves, have come to me in order that I may ask the Indian Department for a boarding school. In fact, there is no doubt in anybody's mind around here, that only a Residential School can accomodate and give the necessary education to the widely scattered children of the Indian Reserves of Red Pheasant, Pundmaker, Sweet Grass, Meadow Lake and Waterhen.

I am therefore confident that the Department will decide and start shortly, as every body expect, the construction of a fire proof residential school, Where priest and sisters will continue their important work of education and instruction of this Indian youth.

I am writing you, Honorable Sir, with the hope that you will use your influence, which is strong, to the effect of obtaining a favorable decision in this matter, at the coming session. All of us hope to see a new school built for our Indian children by next Fall.

Thanking you very kindly for the interest you will be taking in this important and vital matter for our Indians, I remain

Yours very truly

A. Boucher O.M.I. Provincial

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71-220

Mr. R. A. Hoey,
Director,
Indian Affairs Branch,
Ottawa, Canada.

Jan. 24-1948

My dear Mr. Hoey,

You have already received the sad news of the destruction by fire of the Thunderchild Indian residential school at Delmas, Saskatchewan. Fortunately the children had been well drilled and, although the smallest ones were already in the dormitory, they were all able to leave the building without any one being burnt or hurt in the process.

The problem of rebuilding is one which I am sure you will take to heart without any loss of time as we have no building of any kind where we can house those children and provide for their education.

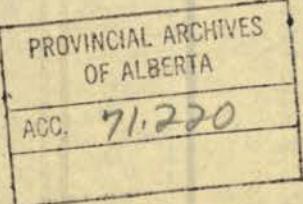
You know that this school was already too small and that a large number of children were asking for admittance and we could not provide room for them. The crowded situation of the school will enable you to press for the building of an institution large enough to house from 150 to 175 pupils.

I, therefore, leave this whole matter in your hands knowing that you will do your very best to provide a new school with the least possible delay.

I wish to thank you for anything that you may be able to do to expedite this building project.

Yours very truly,

Armand Boucher
Provincial



Jan. the 24th 48

Mr Bernard F. Neary
Supt od Welfare and Training
Indian Affairs
Ottawa Canada

Dear Mr Neary,

No doubt that you understand my feelings in writing you about the destruction by fire of the Thunderchild Indian Residential School at Delmas. I was in the vicinity when the accident occurred and I could see by myself that everything has been done to save the building and to put all the children in safety. We have succeeded with the aid of the agent Mr Bell to place about 25 orphans in the Schools od Duck Lake, Onion Lake and Lestock. But we are at loss to find a suitable place to continue our work. So I have already sent letters to the Minister and to Mr Hoey pressing them to take measures without delay as to rebuild that Residential School.

I am sure that you are going to do your best to support our demand. The Indian Chiefs have come to me the next day and they ask for a boarding School. I told them to send their request in due form to Mr Hoey.

The principal will send you his report of the whole thing. It is a fact that this school was too small. We could not accomodate every children of age to go to school. So we should have room in the new building for 150 or 175 children. I know that the rumour is strong in favor of day schools; but I am sure that the Indians around here are not in favor. They prefer their boarding schools..

I wish to thank you for the interest that you will take in that important and vital matter. All we want is the good of our Indians, and we are absolutely convinced that the Residential School is the only way to give them education and instruction.

Yours truly

A. Boucher o.m.i. Provincial

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71.220



Ottawa, January 30, 1948.

Dear Father Boucher:

I have for answer your letter of January 24th dealing with the destruction by fire of the Thunderchild Residential School.

The Inspector of Indian Agencies for Saskatchewan has recently been advised to carry out a survey of the educational needs of the Indians formerly served by this school and to advise the Indian Affairs Branch as to a suitable site for another school.

It is difficult to advise you as to when this school can be rebuilt. It will, of course, take some time to prepare plans and specifications. Then there will be difficulties with regard to the supply of materials and labour. As you are probably aware, we have as yet been unable to replace the former Residential School at Lac la Ronge, Saskatchewan.

However, we are fully aware of the need for this school and will make every effort to have it rebuilt.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Allanson Henry".

Very Reverend A. Boucher, O.M.I.,
Provincial,
Missionnaires Oblats de Marie Immaculee,
9916 - 110th Street,
Edmonton, Alberta.



REIGN OF QUEEN

ELIZABETH II

POSTMASTER GENERAL

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71-220

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR



105-1-5 (E).

INDIAN AFFAIRS
BRANCH

DEPARTMENT
OF
MINES AND RESOURCES

Ottawa, January 31, 1948.

Dear Father Boucher:

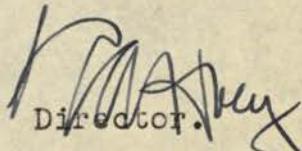
I have for answer your letter of January 24th with regard to the destruction by fire of the Thunderchild Residential School.

This loss came as a severe blow to us, as we are having so many difficulties with regard to new construction. As you are probably aware, we have yet to replace the Lac la Ronge Residential School and also the Norway House Residential School, both of which were destroyed by fire.

It is difficult to tell when this school can be rebuilt. We will do everything possible to have the plans and specifications rushed but there are already four residential schools whose plans and specifications are now in the process of preparation.

You may rest assured that we are fully aware of the need for rebuilding this school and will make every effort to do so.

Yours sincerely,


Director.

Very Reverend A. Boucher, O.M.I.,
Provincial,
Missionnaires Oblats de Marie Immaculee,
9916-110th Street,
Edmonton, Alberta.

RECORDED
AT 10:30 A.M.
FEB 1 1948

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71-220



105-1-5 (E.1)

DEPARTMENT
OF
MINES AND RESOURCES
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

OTTAWA February 5, 1948.

Dear Father Boucher:-

Mr. Neary is absent from the office this week on business, but on his return I will bring to his attention your letter of January 24th.

You can understand that I regret very much the destruction of the Thunderchild school by fire and I am sure Colonel Neary will be only too pleased to keep in mind the request made in your letter.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Phelan
Chief, Training Division.

Very Rev. A. Boucher, O.M.I.,
Provincial,
Missionnaires Oblats de Marie Immaculee,
9916 - 110th Street,
Edmonton, Alberta.



ALBERTA

DEPARTMENT OF

MINISTER OF FINANCE
TAXES AND REVENUE

ESTATE TAXES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA HAS DETERMINED TO EXEMPT FROM THE TAX ON ESTATE ASSESSED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE TAX ACT, THE AMOUNT OF FORTY DOLLARS (\$40.00) FROM THE ASSESSMENT OF THE ESTATE OF MARY JANE HARRIS, DECEASED, AS PROVIDED IN THE PROVISIONS OF THE TAX ACT.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA HAS DETERMINED TO EXEMPT FROM THE TAX ON ESTATE ASSESSED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE TAX ACT, THE AMOUNT OF FORTY DOLLARS (\$40.00) FROM THE ASSESSMENT OF THE ESTATE OF MARY JANE HARRIS, DECEASED, AS PROVIDED IN THE PROVISIONS OF THE TAX ACT.

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF ALBERTA
ACC. 71220

February 24,

48.

The Secretary,
Indian Affairs Branch,
O T T A W A .

Attention: Mr. B. F. Neary.

Re: Thunderchild Indian Residential School

Dear Mr. Neary,

It is our intention to continue to operate the above school and we have for this purpose the following buildings, all situated on the school ground or south boundary:

- 1) A brick house 30' x 30', two storeys and full basement. The attic, although not in use at the present time, can, with very little expense, be made into a dormitory. The building is hot air heated.
- 2) A frame house 20' x 24', two storeys and basement.
- 3) Garage 30' x 35', two storeys. This building will require a few windows and the walls must be winterized. This can be done with rough lumber and Ten Test.
- 4) Two very well built large granaries which may be used as sleeping quarters for some of the staff.
- 5) The house garage 20' x 20' can be converted into a laundry.

To enable our Church authorities to carry on these plans, the following articles of furniture, bedding and laundry will be required:

- 1) 30 Complete beds including mattresses, pillows, blankets, sheets, pillow cases, towels.
- 2) 30 Desks, with class material.
- 3) Kitchen stove and utensils with refectory outfit.
- 4) Laundry equipment, which should include steam boiler, washing machine, dryer and wringer, and one small ironer.

(over)

- 5) Furthermore, the principal will need about 10,000' of building lumber and Ten Test, and ordinary building material such as nails, paper, etc.

It is our purpose to provide at the present for 30 girls, and, if we find it possible later on, we shall add between 20 to 30 boys to the above number of children.

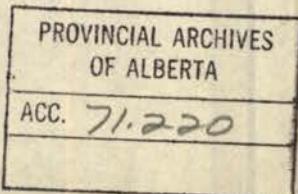
I hope that you will be able to issue the necessary authority to proceed with the above plan.

Thanking you in anticipation, I remain,

Yours very truly,

cc. Father Boucher.

J. O. Flourde, O.M.I.



Delmas 8 juillet 1948

M.R.P. Boucher MM. Proc.
Edmonton Alta.

Reverend Père.

Votre lettre fort laconique mais fort claire m'a un peu bouleversé. N'importe, c'est vous le Provincial -

Primo. Je n'ai rien en de nouveau à Ottawa, ni du P. Bloude, ni de la gent gouvernementale. J'avais envoyé au P. Bloude en mai le plan projeté d'une bâtiisse temporaire sur les fondations actuelles de l'école brûlée. J'avais donné plan et détails, lui laissant le plaisir de faire évaluer le coût de cette bâtiisse par des experts. Et il ne m'a jamais répondu à ce sujet.

Voici ce que je croisais bon - bâtiisse

de 40 x 80 pieds, sur fondation actuelle. J'ajoute une page spéciale pour détails.

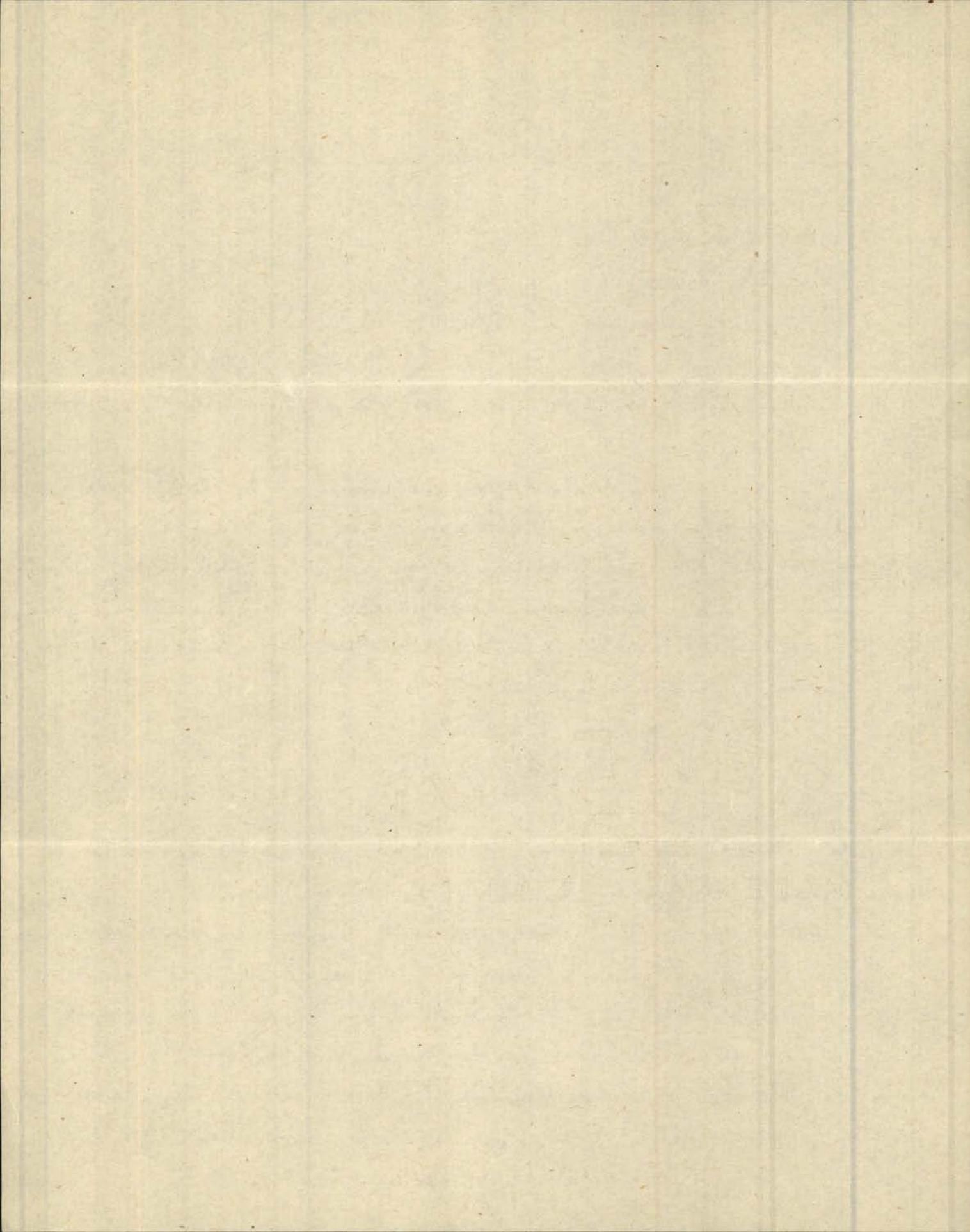
Secondo: Quant aux animaux, je ne puis les vendre avant la retraite, à mon retour de la retraite, je les vendrai tous.

Tertio: Quant aux employés: je payais M. Delorme #100 par mois l'ingénier M. Castagnier #120 par mois.

Je fisai circuler ce matin. Il faut à la loi un mois de notice si ils me l'ont demandé. Donc ils partiront le 8 du mois d'août.

Ils ont eu du travail continuellement si ils en auront jusqu'au 8 août.

Quarto. Quant aux religieuses - je n'ai aucun arrangement définitif - après le feu, j'avais un entente avec les Provinciales comme ceci:



je fournisais le logement, eau, lumière artificielle, chauffage & nourriture aux 2 biens assignantes du village et à au moins 2 autres qui s'occuperaient du ménage. les biens assignantes devaient payer \$200 chaque de pension par année comme au temps de l'école ordinaire en marche. Quant au salaire des autres biens, je devais arranger la chose avec la Provinciale qui ne viendrait que le 14 juillet.

L'avis: Au terme de l'année de l'école, il y aura le 8 avril 1948 encore inscrit un peu plus de \$ 3000.

Supt. La récolte a assez bonne apparence. j'ai fait peser 50 minutes de patates et des légumes de toutes sortes en outre.

- Détails -

Le logement des biens, maison seulement coûte \$10.00 par mois, payé pour l'école. j'aurais laissé entendre que je donnerais \$20.00 par mois à chacun des 2 biens qui nous feraienr la cuisine à la ménage. Or, il y a 4 biens tout le temps.

Esperant que ces notes aussi lacunaires et séches comme toute chiffre seront cependant assez satisfaisantes. j'ajoute un plan de la brièvre.

Bien nôtre. J.B. Cabana vini.

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC.

- Plan d'école temporaire -

Sur fondation en ciment de l'école incendiée.

40 x 80 pieds.

Dans la cave, il y aura cuisine, réfectoire des enfants, cours, salles.
Et salle récréation des filles. Il faudra un moins deux séparatoires en bois
de 20 x 40 pieds.

A l'étage supérieur - il y aura :

2 classes de 20 x 20 pieds

2 antechambres de 20 x 20 pieds.

Et la bibliothèque pourrait être divisée en deux appartements pour les cours.

Quant à la salle de récréation des garçons, nous utiliserions le hangar rouge
que vous connaissez.

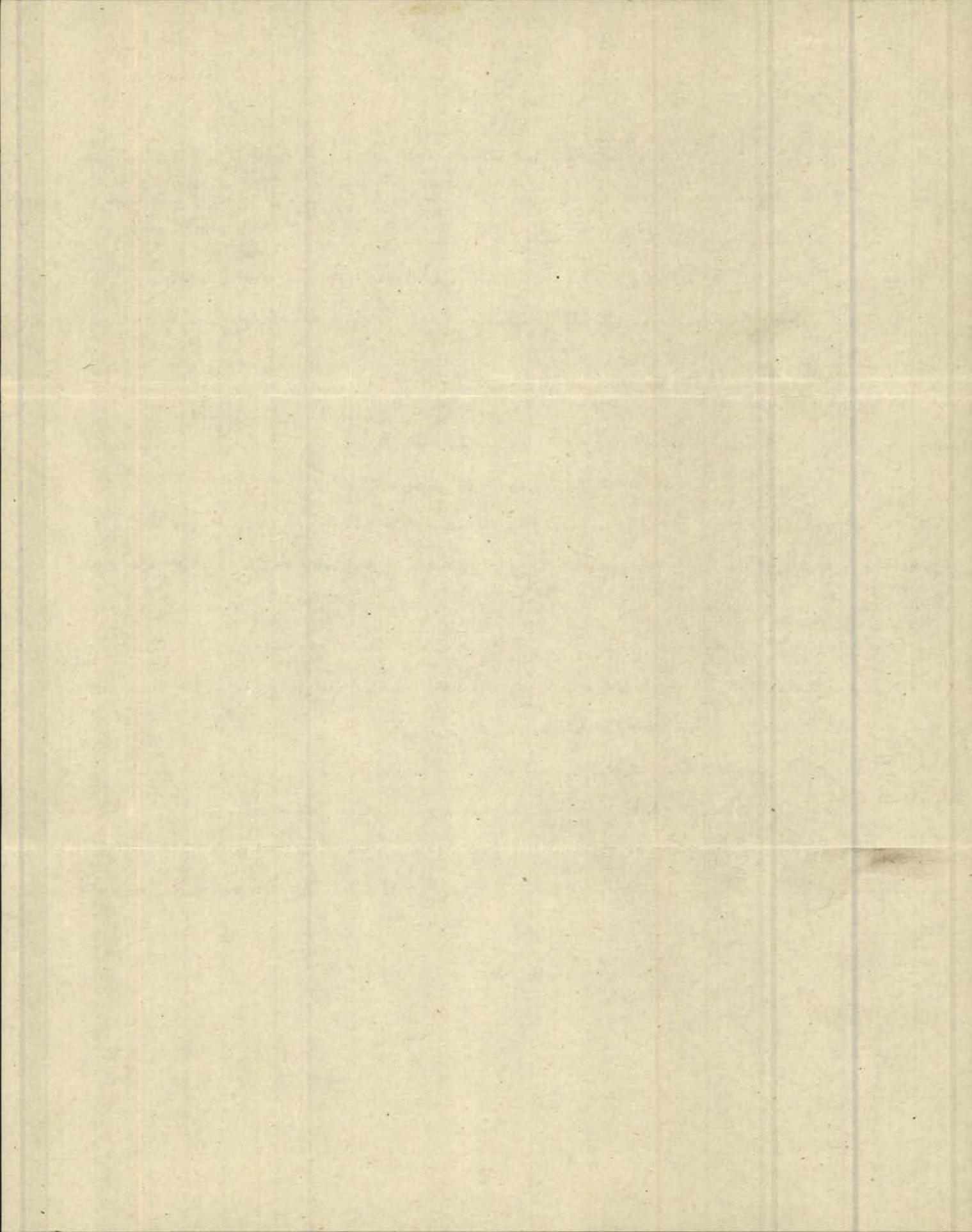
Je vous que nous pourrions ainsi garder de 50 à 60 enfants.

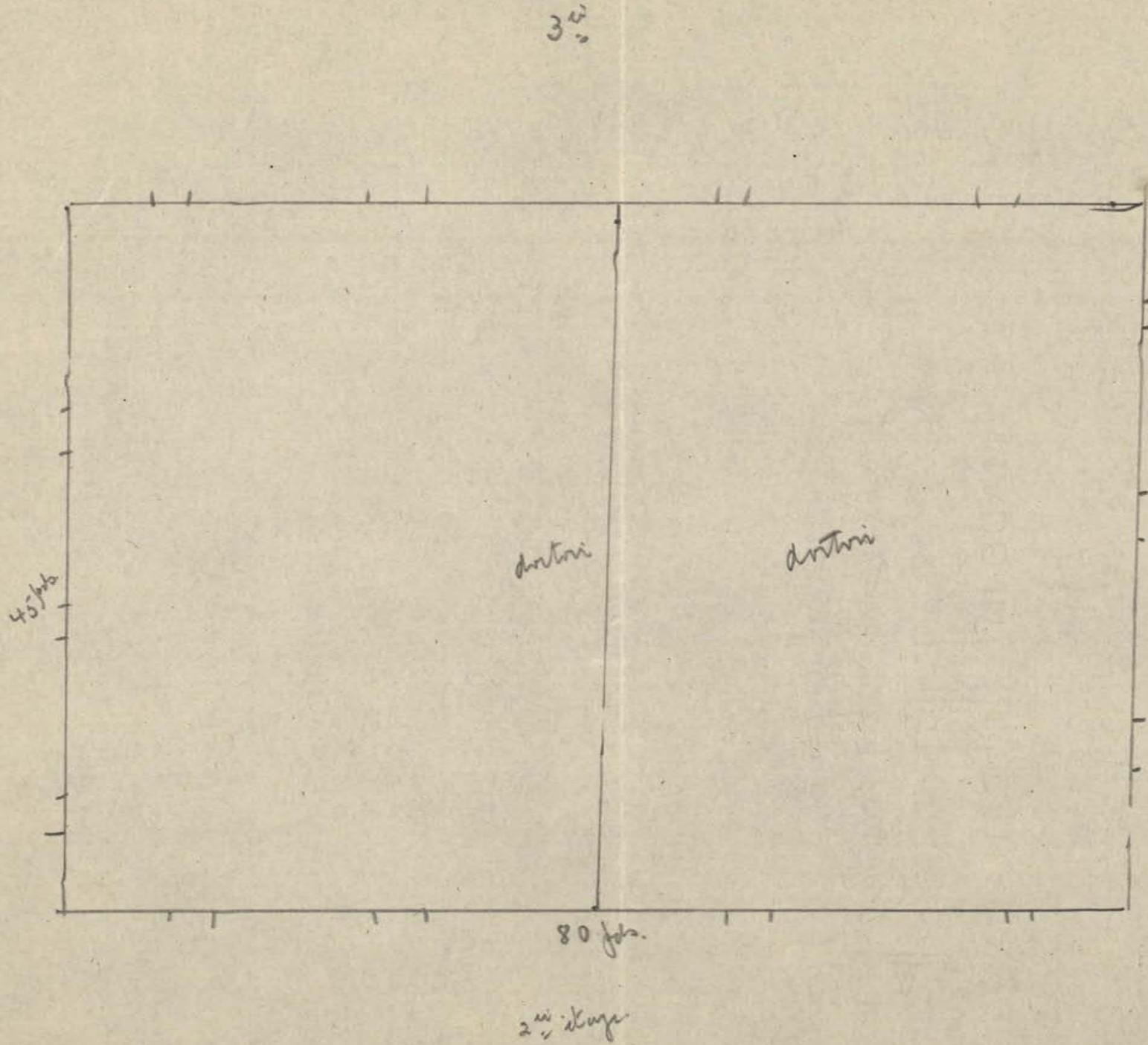
D'après, j'ai un moins un certain montant de bois dont je vous
donne une copie de la cour à bois.

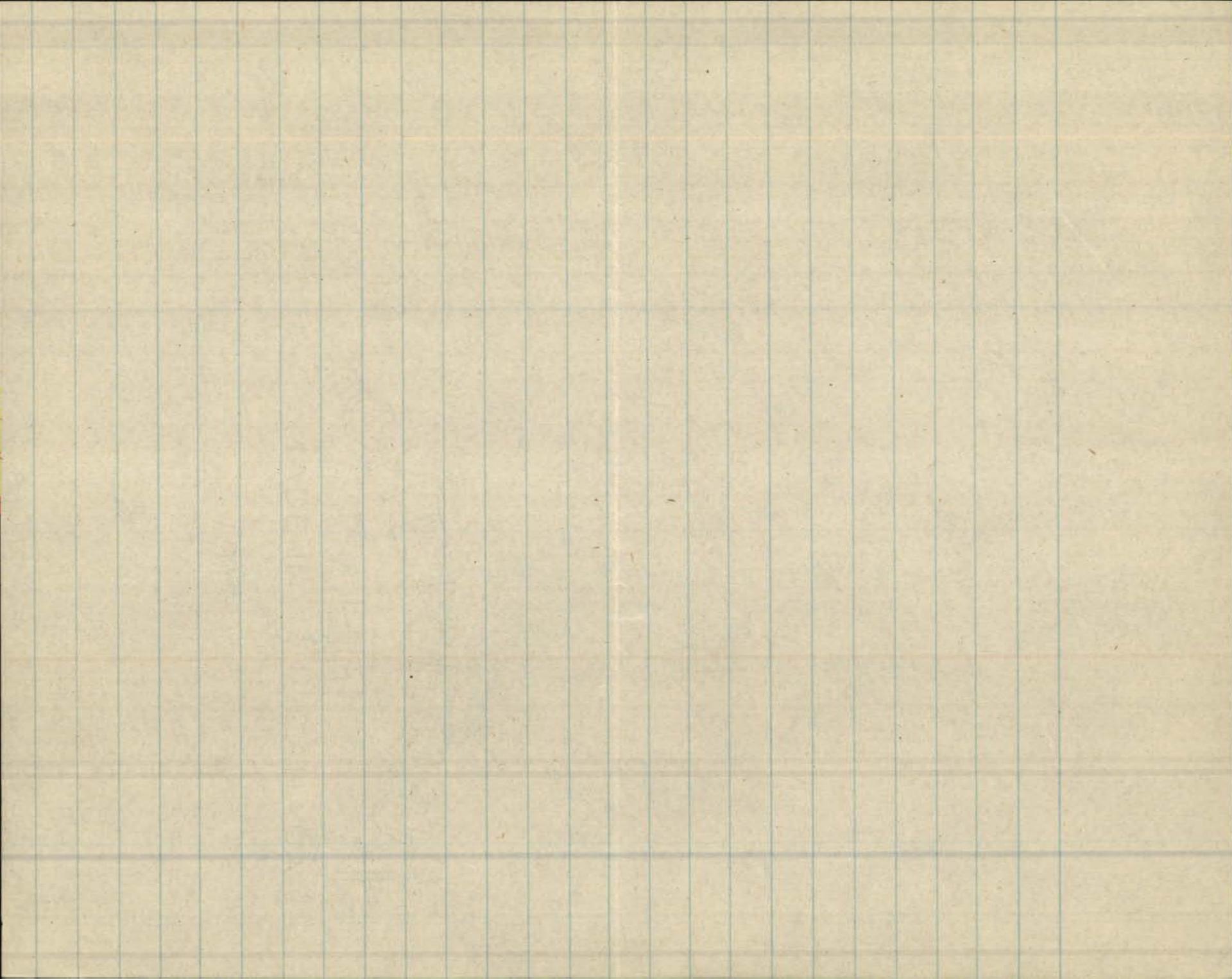
Des moins aussi, la pente de cuisine.

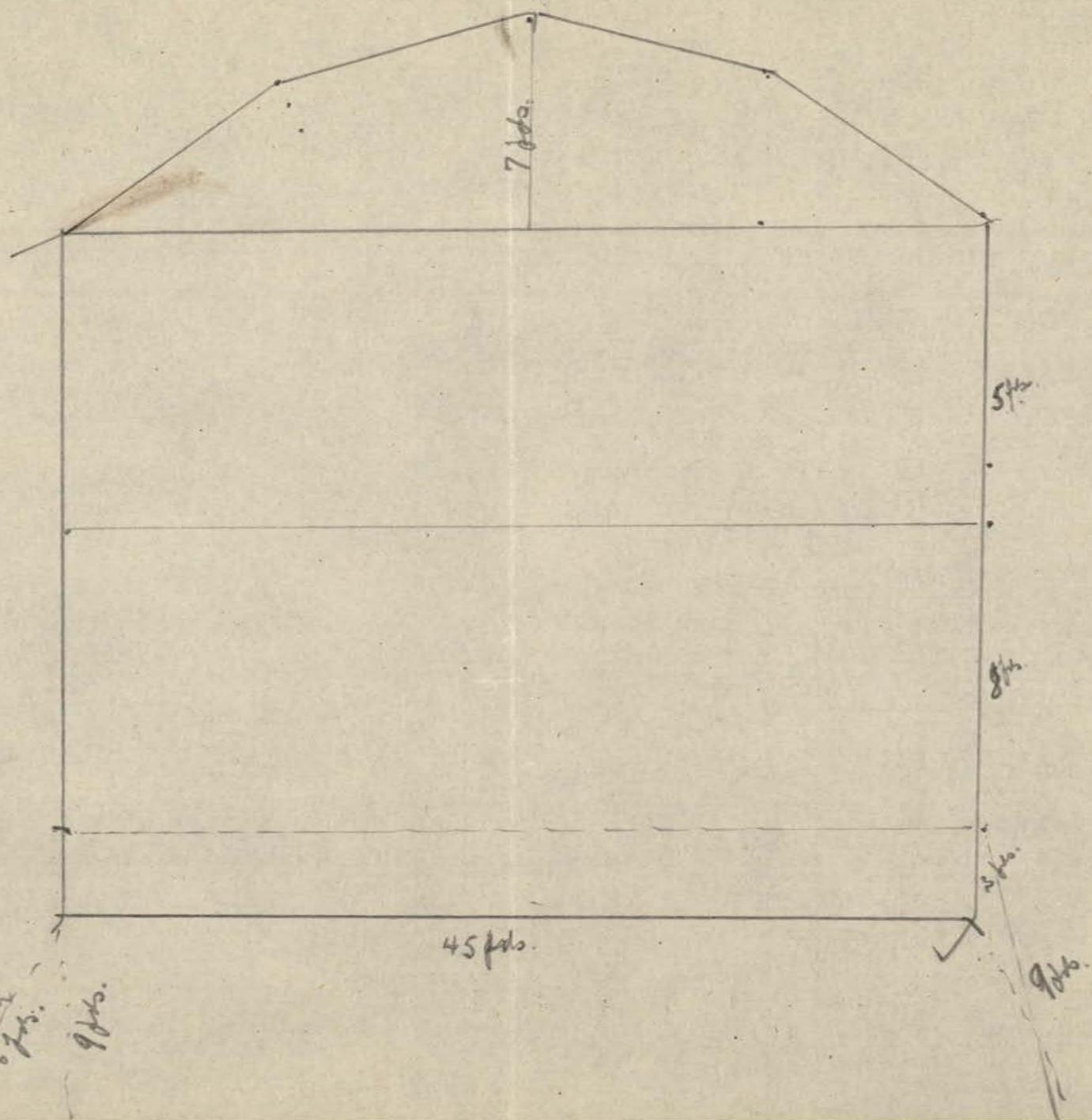
35 lits, matelas, couvertures et matressibus.

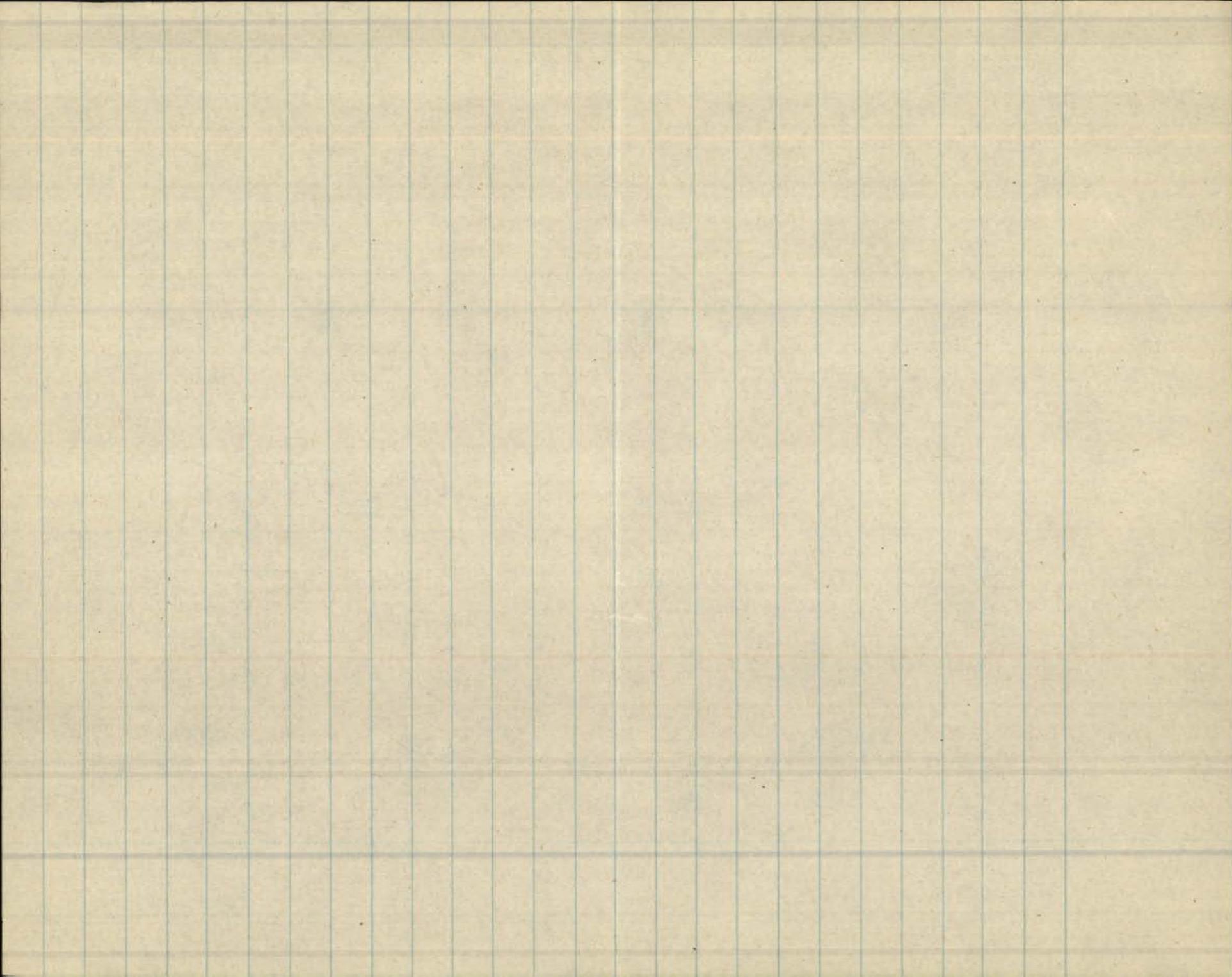
Étendez ce plan fait à la courre. M. Morris pourrait calculer avec une convention
ou un tel fait en tout ou autrement. En tout cas je vous mènerai à la réunion.

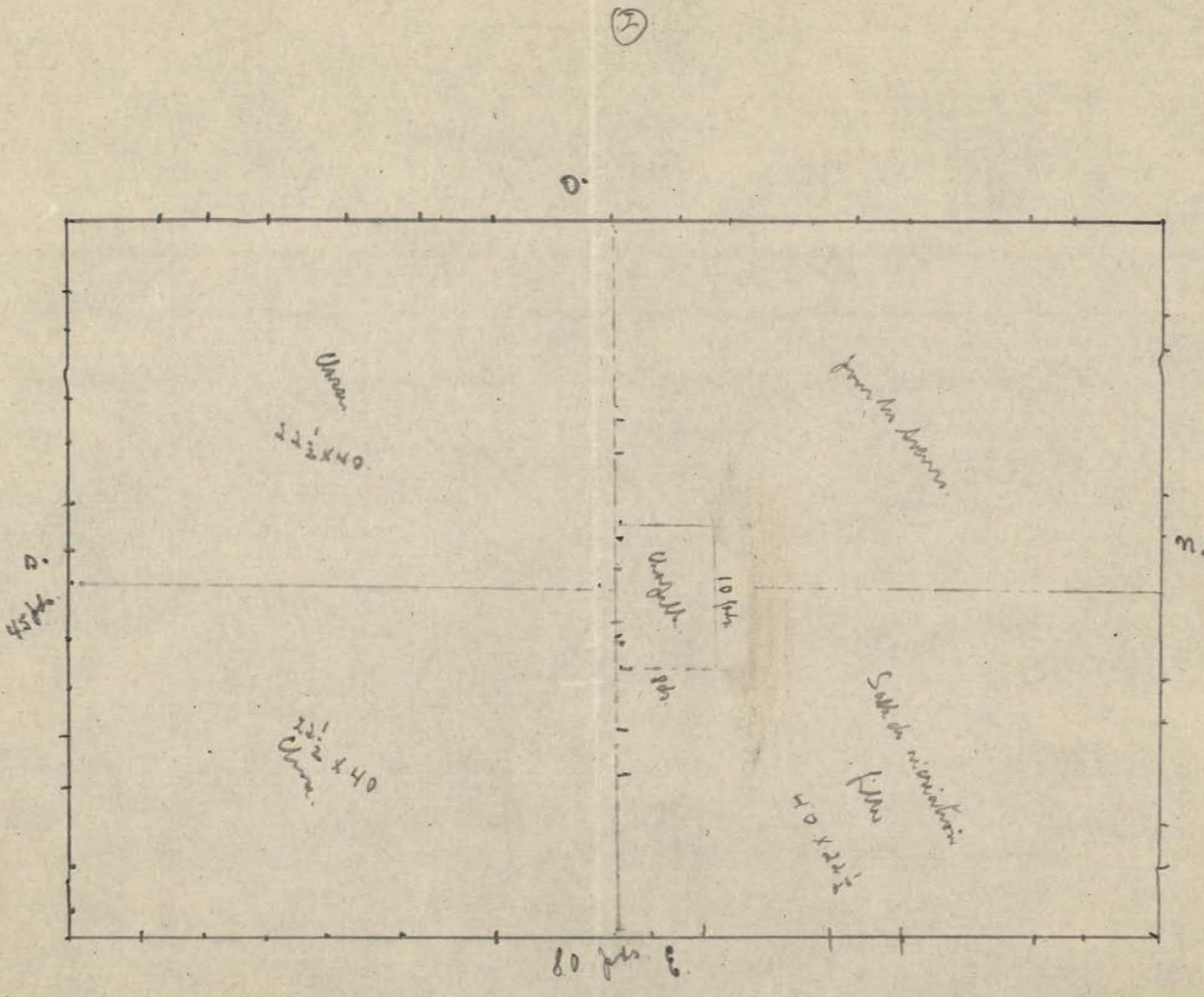




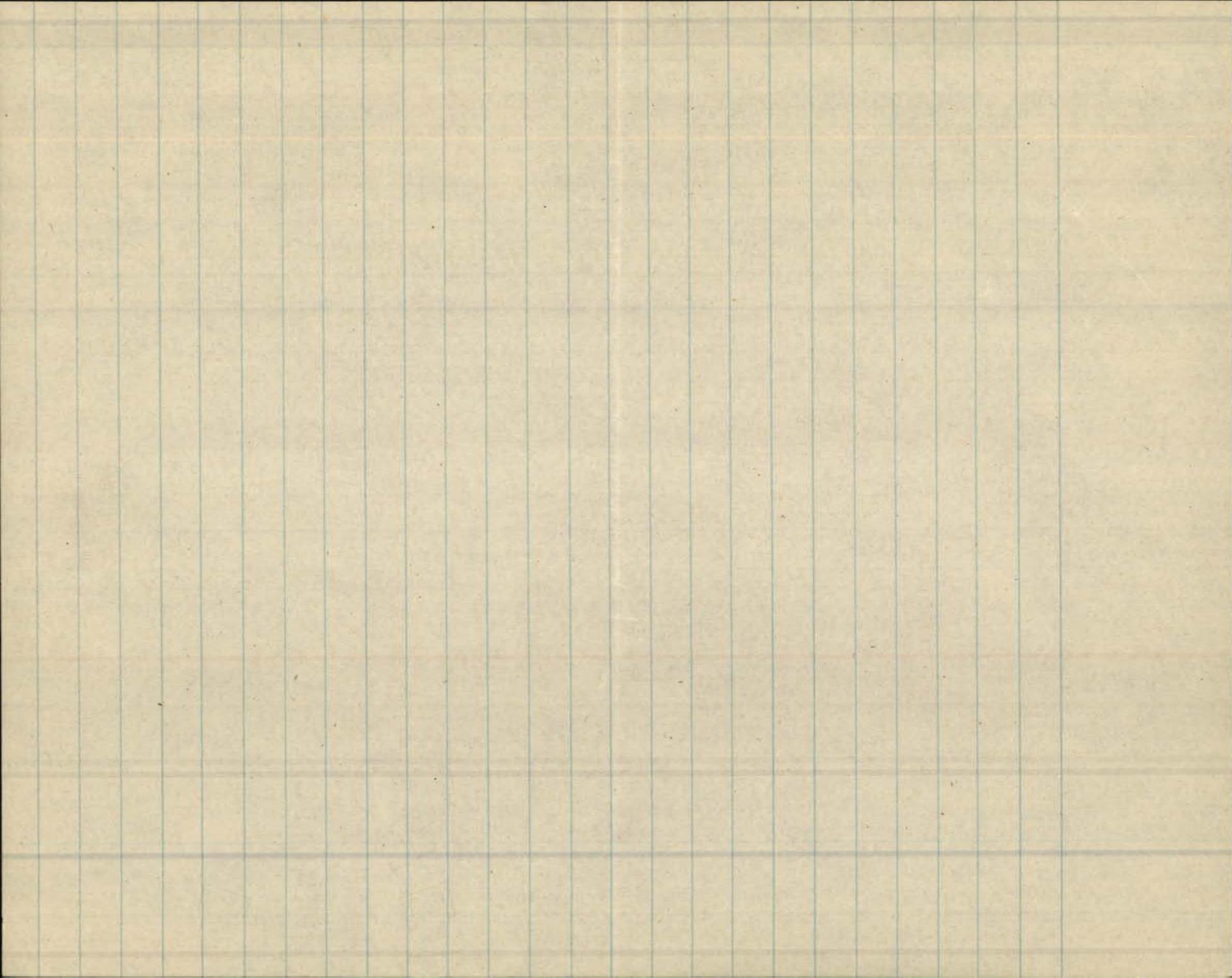






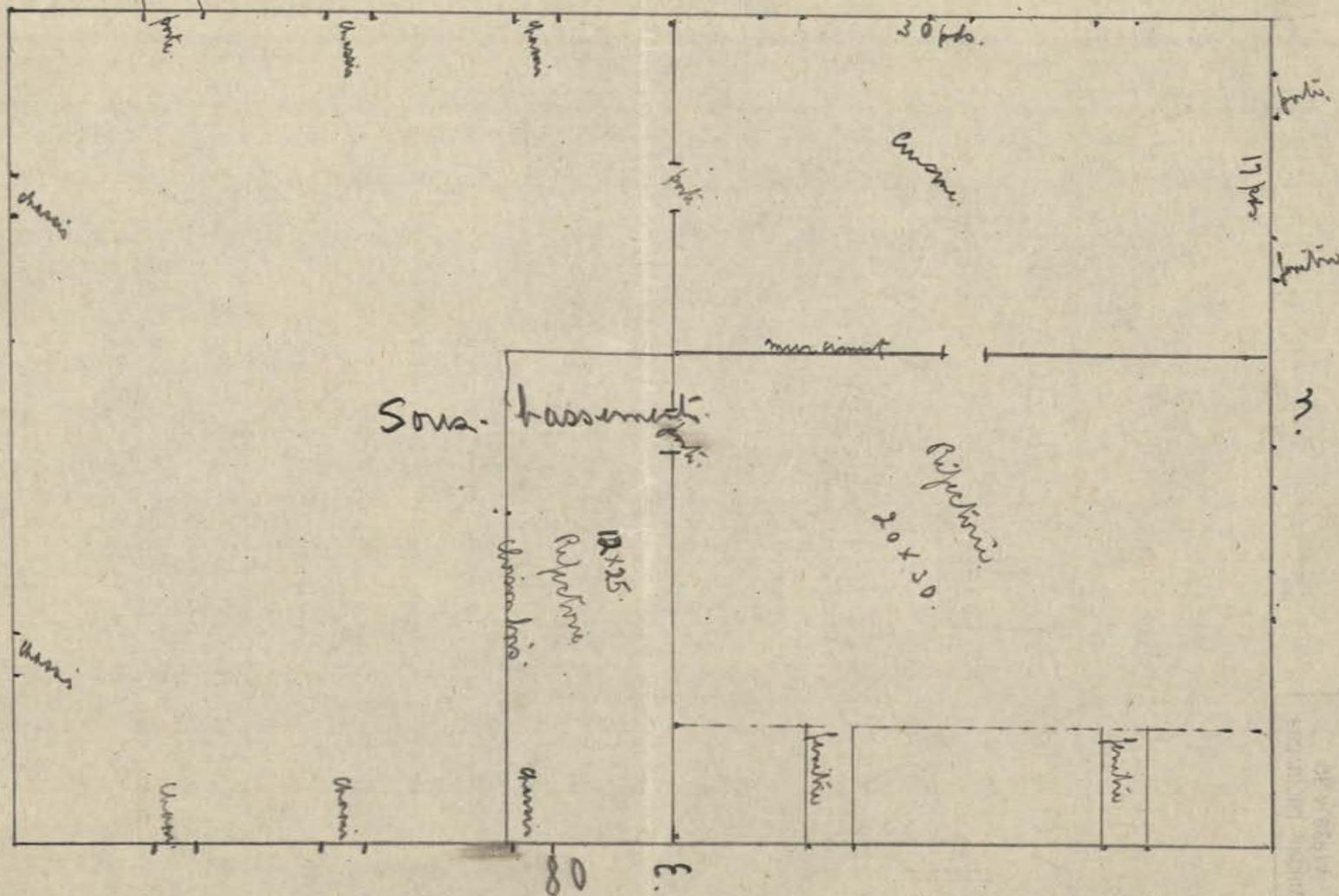


16. May.



Sono. 45X80.

45.



PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA
ACC.
71-220

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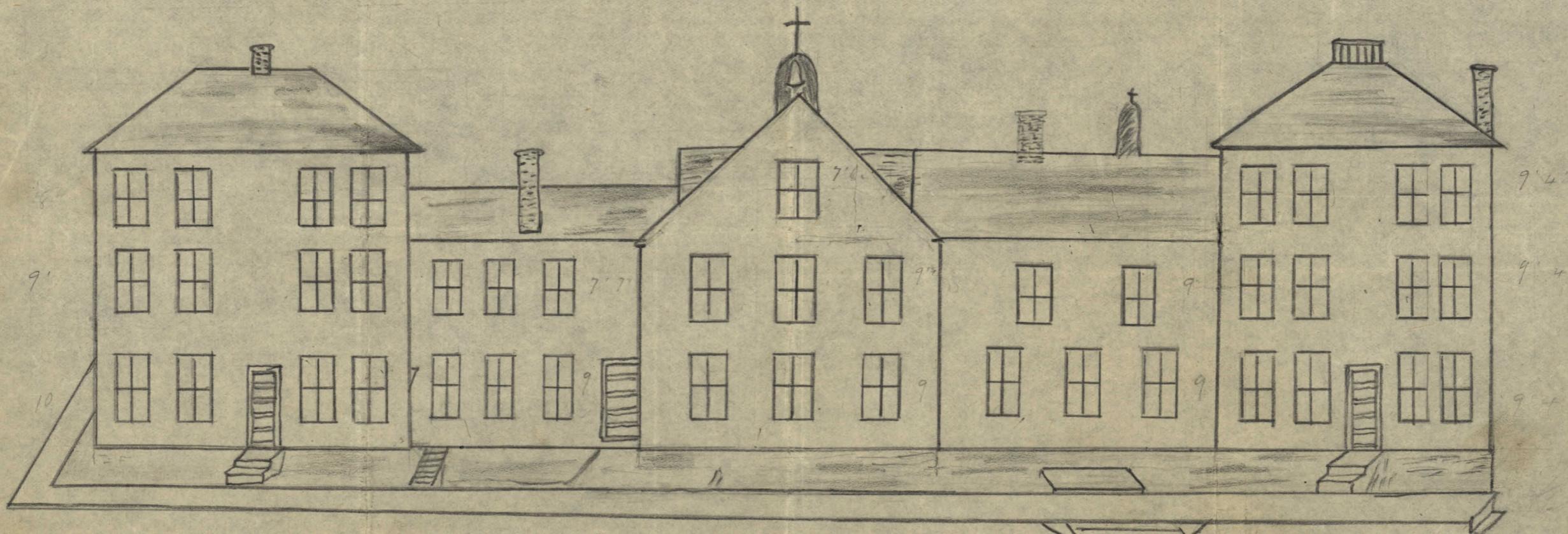
W

24' 2 story frame
Storage house.

18' 2 story
4 Bed Hospital
frame flat roof

Property of Connent

Convent



45x50
30x22
30x36

30 x 22

30 x 36

28 x 36

32 x 36

E

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71.220

Delmas
Possibilités à la vente des objets

Bas: 1 Chambre 12×12 -
2 chambre de 10×15
1 chambre pour cuisine 10×12 avec
bains & cabinets alluvial - toilette -
peut servir pour 2 classes et réfectoire

Sous bassement: très propre - Toitures
au charbon
peut coucher 15 ou 20 enfants
sur matelas --

Haut: même chose que le bas. Peut
coucher une trentaine avec
soeurs - Cabinets Bains et
toilettes

Les Petits paient loger dans le village
chez les yeux -

22

Delmas

Sur les fondations de l'école -

Bâti une grande maison par étages,
d'un étage -

Nous avons la fournaise - mais la
boulangerie est brûlée -

L'eau est là -

Bâtisses de pendances

Etabl. Tribelli : 2 étages 100×50
à faire en dedans

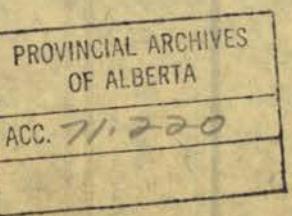
avec fléau garage de 35×30 et deux

Pauillaller : 12×30 avec chambres pour
chambres

Pourront accueillir 75 à 80 enfants.

Sur Fonctionnairies : Bâti une maison à 2 étages
plus 5 Bonnements - 30×50 — ?

WB Erster deli hif auf toll opf u pos resti di defen bennet.





Missionnaires Oblats de Marie Immaculée

Administration Provinciale

9916-110e Rue
Edmonton -- Alberta

Copy delivered

February the 22d 1949

Honorable J.A. McKinnon
Minister of Mines And Ressources
Ottawa Canada

Dear Honorable Sir,

This is the first time I have the honour of writing to you, as the Minister of Mines and Ressources. I am the actual superior Provincial of the Oblate Missionnaries working amongst the Indian population of Alta and Sask., and also one of your electors in the Edmonton constituency.

I am taking the liberty, in this letter, Honorable Sir, of bringing to your attention the Thunderchild Indian School, for the reconstruction of which, a Government grant was voted by your department. This School was destroyed by fire on jan. the 13, 1948, and could accomodate at time, 120 children. I want to insist strongly, Honorable Sir, on the reconstruction of a school of the same capacity. In the dept, of Indian affairs, some would reduce the capacity of this new building to accomodate only 100 indian children. That school would certainly be too small, and would be insufficient to provide instruction to all the catholic children of school age, on the adjacent reserves.

The missionnaries in charge of these reserves have asked me to write you in behalf of these children. Would you please, Honorable Sir, make use of your influence to have a school built according to the need of these children of school age. In the past, the Thunderchild indian school with a capacity of 120 was barely sufficient. The new school should therefore be for the same amount of children to say the least.

I am writing you with the firm belief and hope that you will give this problem your personnal attention and influence.

Receive in advance, Honorable Sir, all my thanks and best wishes for your personal health.

Yours truly

G. Boucher
A. Boucher o.m.i. Provincial

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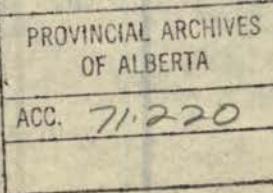
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CANADA

MINISTER

OF

MINES AND RESOURCES

OTTAWA, February 25th, 1949.

Reverend Father A. Boucher, O.M.I.,
Oblate Missionaries of Mary Immaculate,
9916 - 110th Street,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Father Boucher:

I have your letter of February 23rd making representations to me in connection with the replacement of the residential school at Delmas which was destroyed by fire.

I recently had representations from Mr. Marcel Boivin, M.P., in regard to this matter and have had a thorough discussion with the Director of my Indian Affairs Branch. It is proposed to establish a number of day schools in this area and it is thought that these day schools, together with a smaller residential school to accommodate possibly 75, will adequately take care of the children of school age in that area.

I may say that a sum of \$200,000.00 is included in our 1949-50 estimates for the reconstruction of this school.

Yours sincerely,

James A. MacKinnon



GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71-220

Delmas

Copie

Minister

of Mines and Resources

Ottawa, Ont. 26 1949

Confidential

W. A. Boucher Esq.m P.
House of Commons,
Ottawa. Canada.

Dear Mr. Boucher,

You enquired as to the steps that are being taken to rebuild the Indian School at Delmas, Sask, and I have made enquiries as to the present position.

I find that although funds were in the Estim ates for the rebuilding of the school, delay has been caused by lack of decision with regard to a site. The old school, which was situated at Delmas, has no electricity and water supply was obtained from the C.N.R. which maintained a water station at Delmas. The C.N.R. has difficulty with silt in the water pipes and they clased down the water supply.

The Department investigated a farm at Battleford and had about decided to start construction there when the former Principal of the school advised that a power plant was being built close to the old site. It has now been decided to rebuild at Delmas and to provide a school to accommodate 120 pupils, and I understand that tenders are to be called for at an early date.

Yours sincerely.

Colin Gibson.
Minister.

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACC. 71-220

Dehmas le 19 avril 1950

Mr Rev. Père O. Fournier omis Prvr.

Edmonton Alta.

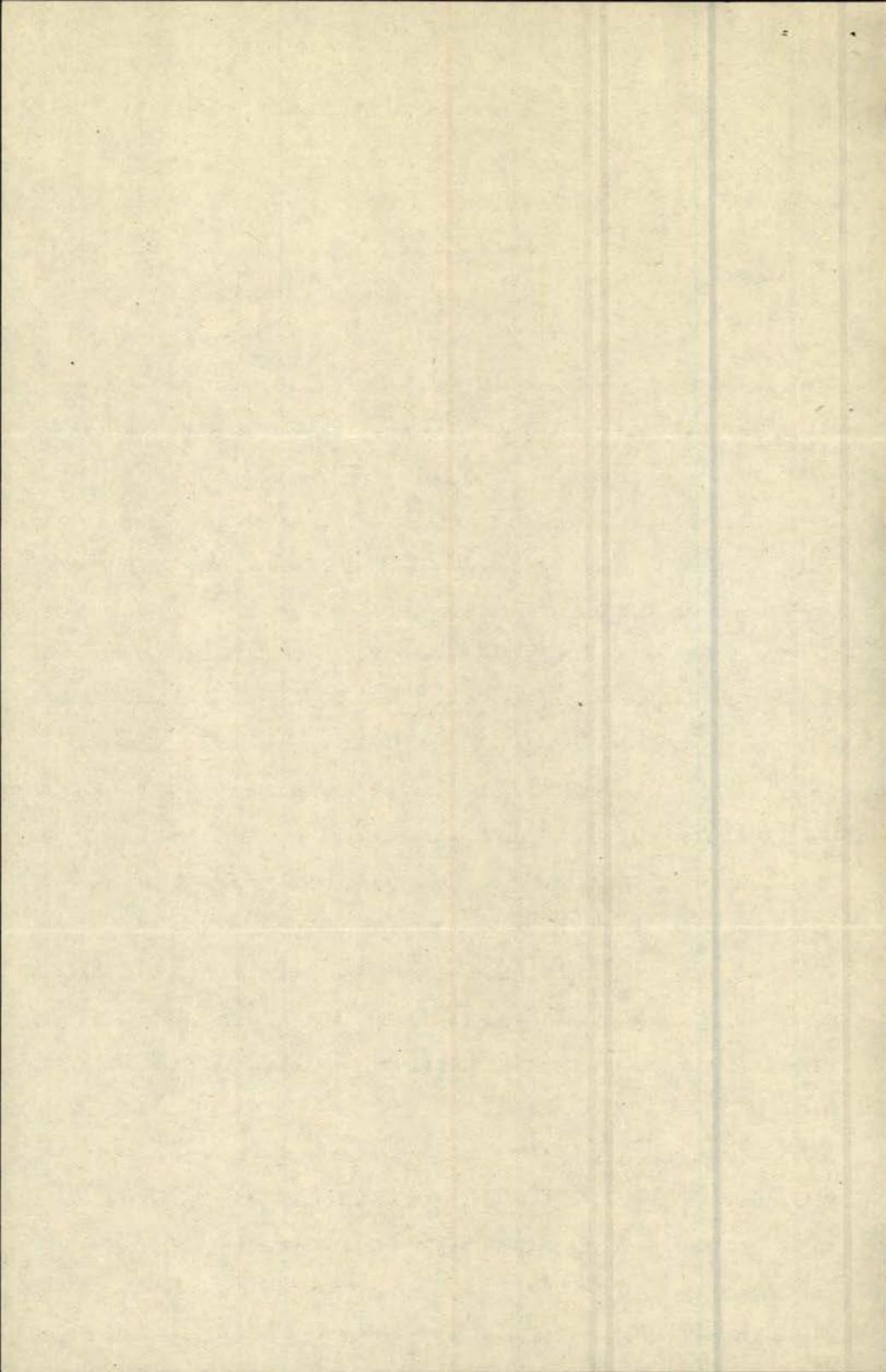
Mon Cher Père.

Il y a déjà trois semaines que je suis de retour. J'ai visité mes trois missions depuis le temps. Presque tous les fidèles ont pu ainsi faire leurs Pâques.

Dans ma dernière lettre, je vous parlais d'un autre rapport du Département Indien. Le rapport confirmant la construction de l'école de Dehmas en 1950, ne m'a pas encore été envoyé. Un rapport m'a été remis confirmant l'urgence de bâtir à Dehmas un pensionnat pour Indiens. Le fait une lutte pour obtenir l'école, car tout paraissait être renvoyé aux Rendles greuges, vu les changements qui on vont apporter aux traités. Mr. Gardiner est intervenu et a insisté pour que l'école de Dehmas soit reconstruite.

Les Indiens veulent cette école et seraient bien déçus si ça n'aboutissait pas à leur gré. En tout cas je surveillerai la chose. A Ottawa plusieurs députés s'occupent de la question.

Ce-matin une wpie d'un rapport que vous pourrez garder et un article du journal de Saskatoon à propos de l'opinion de nos Indiens sur les changements aux traités. Ce J. Tootosis ne devrait pas être dans cette question, mais l'opinion des Indiens sur-



Me bien dévoué. John Tortoosis est une "personne grata"
des C.C.F. et ne représente pas les Indiens.

Quant à mon voyage à Rome, je ne crois pas que
ce soit possible avant le mois d'octobre. Mon frère
du St. Boniface ne peut s'absenter avant cette date.
Je vous remercie bien d'avoir pensé à ce voyage et à
les permission accordée par le Supérieur Général.
Le beau temps semble revenir et bientôt nos gens se-
ront aux champs et moi aussi.

Bien votu.

J.B. Cabana vnu

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA

ACQ. 71.220

Indian Tribe Delegates To Meet Here

Representatives of almost 50 Indian tribes throughout the province are expected to flock to Saskatoon, April 26 and 27, to attend a meeting of the Union of Saskatchewan Indians.

John P. Tootoosis, president of the organization, from the Poundmaker Reserve near Cutknife, revealed that the purpose of the meeting would be to discuss possible changes in the Indian Act, now under revision by the federal government.

Delegates will also be chosen to represent Saskatchewan Indians at Ottawa when the federal government calls for Indian representation at the capital.

The government had previously indicated that Canada's Indians would be given ample opportunity to consider the amendments and to express their approval or disapproval before any new act became law.

Revision of the Indian Act has been under consideration by the government since 1946. Substance of amendments has not yet been revealed. Some indication as to their contents is expected however in the next sitting of the legislature.

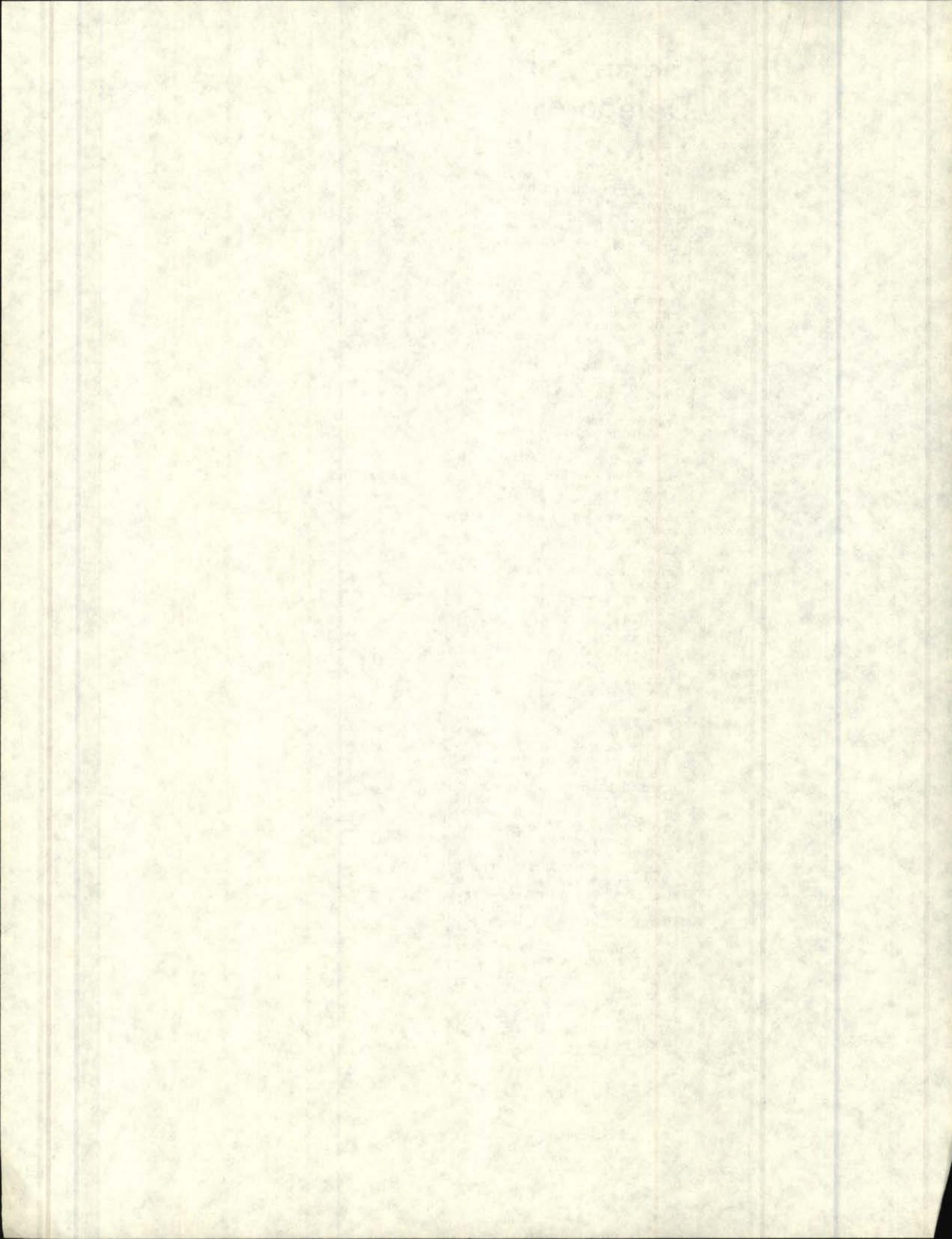
Mr. Tootoosis declared that Saskatchewan Indians were not anxious to see changes made in their present "Bill of Rights" made by proclamation in 1763. The proclamation was regarded by the Indians as their Magna Charta, he said, and all that was desired was that the "white man" live up to his obligations as outlined in the original agreement.

The proclamation embodies the broad general principle that "no Indian can be dispossessed of his lands without his consent and the consent of the crown."

Indians were afraid that if they were offered the franchise (as have been suggested several times in the federal house) their treaty rights would be jeopardized, he declared.

"We do not want the right to vote," Mr. Tootoosis said. "We wish to keep our treaty rights."

The latter permit Indians to live on reserves tax free, to fish and hunt on crown property and to possess mineral rights on their property.



To the Ones that may concerned

Delmas July 3rd 1950

The Thunderchild Residential Boarding School at Delmas was destroyed by fire, on the 13th day of January 1948. The Building was the Oblate Fathers property. There was no insurance on the Building.

The Building was rented, free of charge, to the Department of Indian Affairs, Ottawa, for the instruction and education of Indian children. The other buildings on the farm were saved. From these buildings, some were paid by the Government, such as:

The Big Barn,

Chicken-House,

Machineries Sheds.

Some mattresses, utensils, were saved from destruction; some beds, mattresses and utensils were given to the School after the fire. All the things are in the saved buildings with the machineries.

Now, if the School, for some reason, will not be rebuilt, I strongly suggest, as Principal of the School, that all buildings, materials, contained in them, be given free to the Oblate Fathers as a compensation for the loss of their school.

Sign: J. B. Cabana, o.m.i. , Principal

Delmas, Sask.

J. B. Cabana o.m.i.

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES
OF ALBERTA
ACC. 71.220