

[1946]

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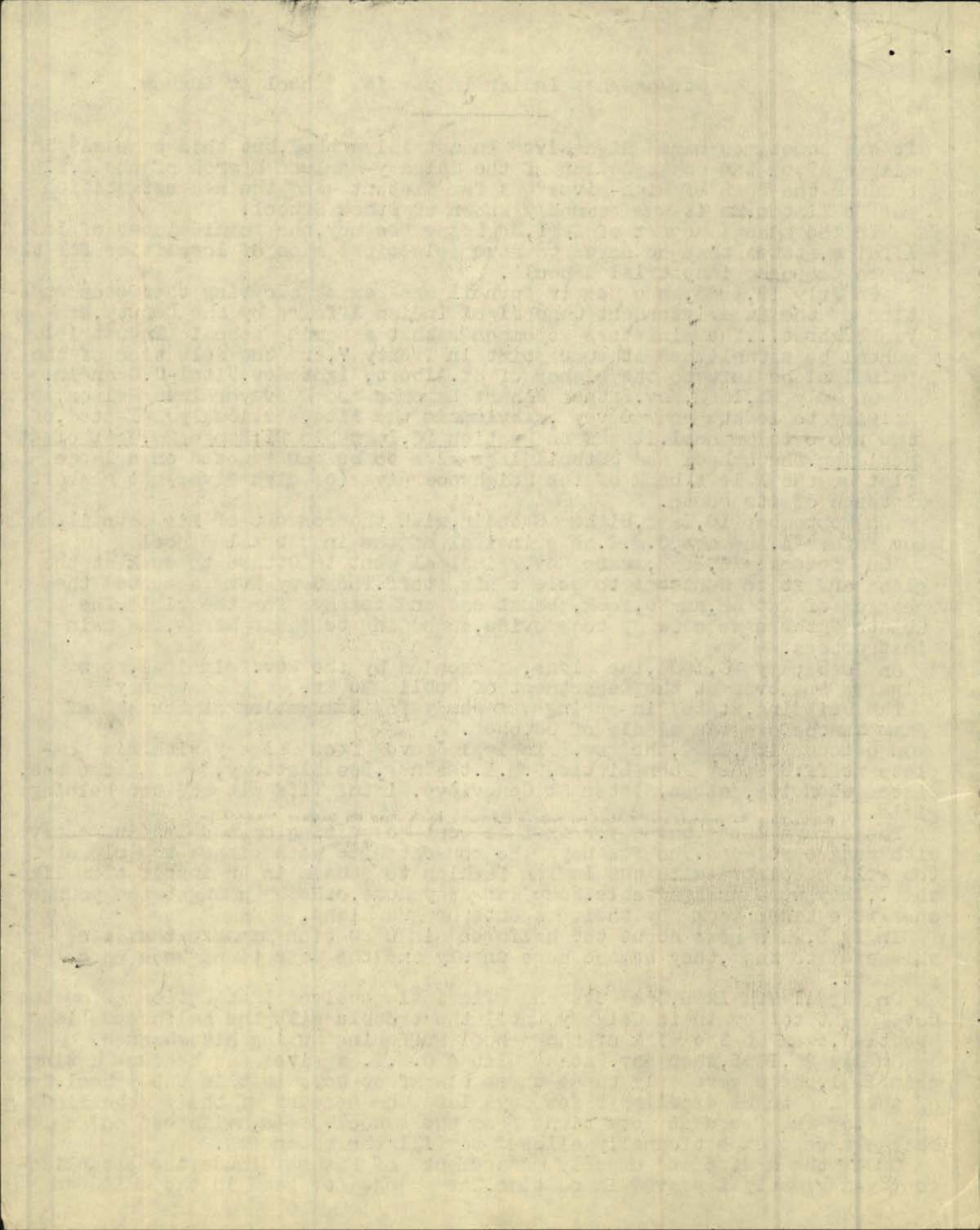
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On November 27, 1888, Commissioner Hayther Reed from Regina wrote these few lines of praises: "One cannot but be more than pleased at what one had seen; and it is hoped the Blackfeet are awakening to the benefits of this institution so ably managed by Rev. Father Claude". Indeed, since that time, the blackfoot boys came more willingly to the industrial school and were more interested to the school work and discipline.

On September 22, 1890, Rev. Father Claude set out for France on a leave of absence. A month later, Rev. Father Albert Naessens O.M.I. arrived as acting principal. He found the school in a state of prosperity, although farming was done on a very small scale. On January 11, 1891, Inspector McGibbons was able to testify of ~~it~~ it. "This is my fifth annual inspection", he wrote "and I noticed great progress each year. The work so efficiently carried on by Rev. Father Claude, seems to be continued with equal energy and zeal by Rev. Father Naessens, the acting principal. The Rev. Sister Superior continues her great work in looking after the pupils and Mr Dennehy seems to have good control over the boys". In February the Department approved the promotion of Father Naessens to the charge of principal, charge which he shall retain for sixteen years.

As the increasing number of boarders, boys and girls, leaving under the same roof was the source of great inconvenience, the first aim of the new principal was to provide new accommodations for the male pupils and the staff. He made application for a ~~new~~ large building for that purpose. On September 5, 1892, news arrived that a new building is to be erected. In the summer the following the work was completed. Friday August 18, 1893, all the boys moved into the new building and officials also occupied their new rooms.

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In face of these facts, the Department concluded, on September 1922, to the desiderability of closing the school without delay. The Deputy Superintendent General wrote: I am convinced that the pupils now in residence should be divided among the other Roman Catholic Residential schools in Alberta with some dispatch, so that it will not be neccessary to have them and the staff in the old buildings at Dunbow during the winter months. The Department can arrange to have one of our Regina inspectors proceed to the Dunbow school for this purpose and assist in the matter of the closing. 2

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As the increasing number of boarders, boys and girls, living under the same roof was the source of great inconvenience, the first aim of the new Principal was to provide new accommodations for the male pupils and the staff. He made application for a large building for that purpose. On September 5, 1892, news arrived that a new building is to be erected. In the Summer following the work was completed. Friday, August 18, 1893, all the boys moved into the new building and officials also occupied their new rooms.

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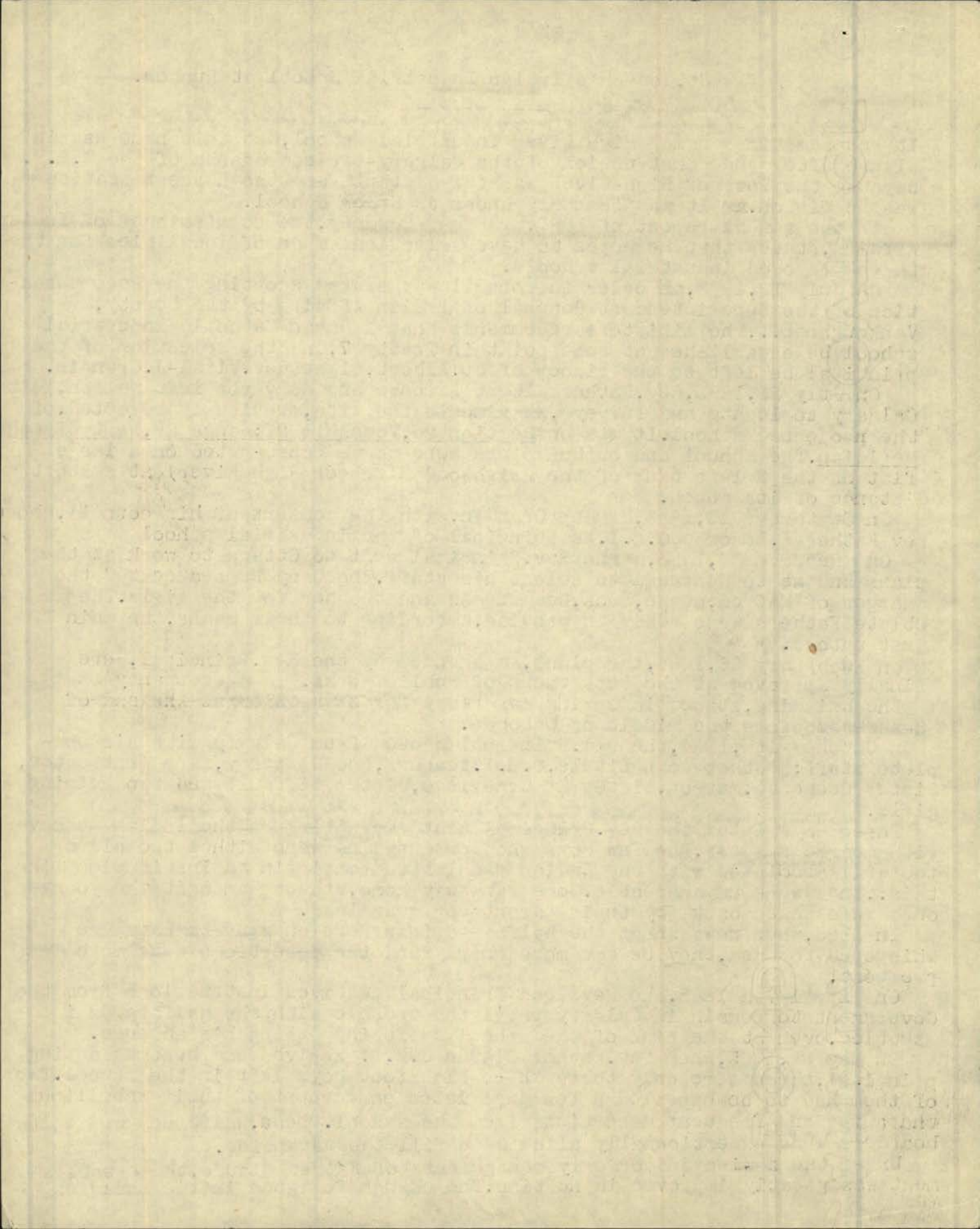
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