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Re the Educational work for the Indian Children under the care of the Methodist Church in the Province of Alberta:

The attitude of the people on the reserves that constitute the constituency of the Red Deer Institute must be dealt with by the Indian Department. Two years ago, when the Department decided to keep this school as a policy instead of building a Boarding School at Hobema and one at Saddle Lake, the people showed their disapproval at a public meeting held at Sampson's Reserve at which representatives were present from Saddle Lake, Whitefish Lake, and Wabamum. The spirit of the meeting was to boycott the Red Deer Institute. In harmony with this Chief Sampson has declared in public meetings that no new pupil shall be allowed to go from his reserve. These facts made it necessary that the Department take steps to break this boycott or change the policy.

The problem might be solved for the present by testing the improved type of day school on the Reserve. This could be carried out by the following plan:

The Department select four sites consisting of about four hundred acres of land, suitable for building a boarding school upon, one at each of the following: Morley, Hobema, Wabamum, and Saddle Lake, and upon these sites build an improved type of day school which could be part of a larger plant, if found necessary in the future to adopt the policy of Boarding Schools on these reserves. Provide transportation and if necessary compulsion that these day schools shall be an educational force on the reserves, and from these schools assume the responsibility of keeping Red Deer Institute supplied with pupils.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 3921, file 116,818-1B)

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