

Besides paying the annuities to Treaty 9 Indians, I also paid 373 Indians of Treaty 5, at Sandy Lake, being ten more than paid last year. At the request of the Commissioner of the R.C.M.P. I also paid several members of the York Factory band their annuities for 1933, and arrears for 1931 and 1932.

Interpreting.

At every post we employed local interpreters whenever possible. Last year it was imperative to take an interpreter with us from Fort Hope to Lansdowne, but this was not necessary this year as Mr. William McLeod, in charge of Revillon Freres Trading post kindly consented to help us out in this work.

As no local interpreters can be secured at Cedar Lake and at Sandy Lake, it was absolutely necessary for us to take with us from Cat Lake, Joseph Wesley, whom we had to return to Cat Lake after making the payments at the above mentioned centres.

Reserves.

When the treaty was negotiated with the Indians, whose habitations are north of the Albany River, they were allotted reserves at certain points, and were informed that these reserves would be surveyed at an early date. I have been approached again by the chiefs and councillors to have this work done, but I informed them that owing to the present depression, the task could not be undertaken at the present time.

As usual there were some free-traders on hand, but they were not permitted to locate on the reserves as per the Minister's order of last year.

I am pleased to report the progress made by many Indians belonging to the Martin Falls, Fort Hope and Osnaburgh bands. These Indians have built for themselves suitable homes and have undertaken to cultivate small patches of potatoes. I commended them for their thrift, and feel confident that the seed potatoes furnished them at an apparently exorbitant price was money well spent, and has proved to be an incentive to other Indians to undertake similar steps to help themselves in future.

The Cat Lake and Lansdowne House Indians asked if they could not have a reserve at their centres, but I informed them that as reserves were already set aside for them at Osnaburgh and Fort Hope, their request could not be granted.

Homes, occupations, etc.

These Cree and Ojibeway Indians come from their hunting grounds at the close of the hunting season bringing with them their families and furs which they exchange for food and clothing. During the winter months they live in tepees, but during the summer in tents which are easily moved from one place to another. They have no gainful occupation during the summer, so in many cases I had to authorize the issue of twine to make fishing nets and wire for snares in order to assist them to aid in earning their own living.