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Ottawa, April 13th., 1910.

Sir,-

In reply to your letter of March 24th I have to inform you that it is evident from the statements made therein that you are laboring under misinformation as to the educational efforts put forth by this Department for the Blackfoot Indians. You have probably not been informed that the delay which occurred in removing the Boarding School buildings to a sanitary site was occasioned by the inability of the Church of England to meet the promised moiety of the building expenses. Owing to the unsanitary condition of the site it was decided to close the Boarding School and to operate a day school. This change was carried out under a written agreement with the Bishop of Calgary and it has been maintained in every particular by the Department, but unfortunately the teacher who was appointed to inaugurate the Day School was most unfit for the position. The Indians strongly objected to him. He was afflicted with epileptic fits and therefore unsuited both physically and mentally for the work of a teacher. Much valuable time was therefore lost, but with this the Department is in no way chargeable. All promises made to the Bishop of Calgary with reference to Indian education have been so far fulfilled, and I trust that if you favor the Department with any further correspondence you will seek complete information before adopting the tone which you convey by your letter.

Your obedient servant,

G. F. Jay, Esq.,

J. L. ...

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Secretary

Dept. of Indian & Northern Affairs, Letterbook,  
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