

14th Dec. 1908.

Archbishop of Rupert's Land, -5-

schools have in the past been vehicles for the conveyance of the tubercle bacilli from pupil to pupil, I have ordered all use of these instruments suspended till measures can be taken to prevent the further operation of this medium of evil."

Dr. Hrdlicka, of the National Museum, whose investigation is referred to in the preceding paragraph, visited five reservations and examined a group of typical families on each. From twelve to twenty-five per cent of all the Indians examined were found to be infected with tuberculosis..

"For the younger generation, and for such members of the older generations as may, here and there, be disposed to take advantage of them, I have established, and am continually authorizing the establishment of sanitarium camps, where the inmates can fairly live in the open air constantly under the eye of the physician, have their diet, clothing, &c., carefully regulated and be subject to the most stringent regulations as to those matters which make for cleanliness of the person and surroundings and affect the spread of the infection."

"These are only a few of the projects under way or under consideration looking to the same general end."

It is strange that as I write this letter to you one is sent to me from Manitoba which thus speaks of consumption:-

"I never knew what a fearful disease it was until I began work among the Indians. It is practically the only disease, save old age, that carries them off. I have buried ten per cent of the population of one Reserve this year, all under twenty-five years of age -- all lung trouble save one."

"You can imagine the menace these sick Indians are, not only to their own, but also to the White settlers around them. It is criminal for our Government to allow bright young Indians --- many of them well educated, lost by the score ---- simply because they will not use compulsion if necessary to make the older Indians conform to proper modes of nursing, isolation and sanitation. Most of these who die do so because of Indian prejudice against white methods, to pure pigheadedness, and to gross negligence. A few sharp squatters upon each Reserve would mean the salvation of many of the race."

I have just glanced again at the Report of the year 1904 - 5 as to the Old Sun School in order to see if all