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than to say that the Department of Public Works published towards the end of February last, a notice calling for tenders for the construction of the Industrial School building, and I am given to understand that the contract has been awarded. The said building will, of course, not be ready for occupation until the Autumn at the earliest.

I do not know why Mr. Reed has not communicated with Mr. Semmens in the matter, but probably Mr. Reed has not heard that Mr. Semmens was to be recommended for the position of Principal. I, however, anticipate no difficulty, so far as the Department is concerned, in connection with the appointment of Mr. Semmens if recommended by the Methodist Church, under whose auspices the Institution is to be conducted.

As regards the matters in connection with the building, to which you refer as being such as the person who is to be in charge of the same should be responsible for, namely, ^{drainage, light,} conveniences, &c., I beg to inform your Honour that this Department has nothing to do with the construc-