

17th Dec. 1908.

Bishop of Algoma, -4-

When I heard of the return of the Superintendent-General I telegraphed the Archbishop and he has kindly consented to be present on the 15th of next January at a meeting of the Indian and the Apportionment Committees. I do not know what more could have been done, nor have I received from you or the Bishop of Calgary any suggestion of what it was considered should be done.

It will be well to have a name prepared to submit to the Committee when it meets as an expert to represent the Church of England, if such a person has been discovered, and if it is thought that it will be useful to proceed with such enquiry and the Department will act on such suggestion.

(4) You complain that I state - "that our death-rate for the last five or six years has been from 6 to 7%, whereas only in the two years - 1905 and 1906 - did it approach that rate"; but you surely will not quarrel with the report of the Principal of the School. In his report, dated 13th of August, 1908, and found in the Blue Book, he states that in that year - "I have to report the death of three boys from tuberculosis". The average attendance for that year was 56, so that you see you were in error when you make the statement "that only in the two years - 1905 and 1906 - did it approach that rate" (6 to 7%).

(5) You further say that "I omitted to mention that the rate in those two years appalled us and that we at once enlisted the Government's aid", &c. I did not think it well to go into this matter, for it is clear that the fouling of the water from which the supply is derived had been going on for years and should have been perceived and remedied long before the appalling death-rate arose if there had been a due inspection of the buildings and the surroundings.

(6) You complain because I allege that there is "lack of proper farm land", and "that there is not an opportunity for teaching farming"; and you say - "Yet farming as a matter of fact is taught"; and you refer to my statement as a "one-sided and inaccurate representation made in support of the movement referred to". My representation is neither "one-sided or inaccurate". I was dealing with the question of the advisability of having a first-class industrial school without proper farm land where the appropriate education is supposed to be given to a class of people owning hundreds of thousands of acres of land. I based my statement on various reports of your Principal dealing with the 93 acres of land in which he says:-
"A large part of it is useless for farming purposes; and again: the site is to a great extent hampered by a rocky and light soil."