

the educational work, is the attention given to the pupils after graduation to enable them to put to practical use the instruction received while at school. Marriage between ex-pupils is encouraged, and to boys desirous of taking up farming a grant, partly by way of a free gift and partly a loan to be repaid in instalments, is given to purchase stock and implements and erect homes. Assistance is in some cases given to the girls to furnish their homes. To the credit of the recipients it may be said that their obligations are, as a general thing, fairly met and returns promptly made. A record is kept by the Department of assistance granted, and Indian Agents are required to furnish annually detailed reports upon the condition and progress of the ex-pupils on vision. At File Hills, in Saskatchewan, a colony of ex-pupils was established in 1901 and assistance given the boys to commence farming. The results have been eminently satisfactory. There are some twenty-five families in the colony. Last year 57,276 bushels of grain were harvested. The first Indian to enter the colony had, himself, 7,272 bushels, while a number of others had also large yields. They have a large steam threshing outfit. The majority of the homes compare favourably with those of the white settlers and are comfortably furnished. Next summer a day school for the children of this colony will be established and a teacher and a nurse engaged. A combined residence and hospital building was erected this year.

A new agreement between the Department and the churches, or societies, for the future maintenance and management of boarding schools was entered into on April 1, 1911. By this agreement a substantial increase in the per capita grant was made and in return these schools are to be brought up to a

specified standard in respect to buildings and general equipment. During the past summer, as many schools as possible were visited and the necessary plans and specifications for repairs and improvements prepared by officers of the Department.

A number of new buildings, both day and residential, were erected during the year. Many of the schools are the finest of their kind in the country and are visited yearly by numbers of our own people and visitors from Great Britain and other countries interested in the work of uplifting the Indian.

The policy to be followed in all the branches of this work is directed by the Department. The courses of study are prescribed by it, repairs to government-owned buildings and the erection of new ones are directed by the staff. All teachers are appointed by the Department. All salaries and per capita grants are paid direct from headquarters upon receipt of returns. The school supplies, stationery, etc., required, are furnished to all schools and are ordered by the Department through the Department of Public Printing and Stationery. Regular and systematic reports are received from principals, Indian agents and Inspectors. The details of work on the reserves are looked after by the Indian agents, but some of the bands have regularly constituted Boards of Trustees.

The present position of the Indians in Canada is no doubt owing to the educational facilities afforded them and, if they are ever to be completely absorbed in the white community, it will be by means of an enlightened and liberal educational policy.