

Chief "Blackfoot Old Woman" has, in my opinion, the choicest land for farming on the whole reserve. His crop consisted of five acres of oats, ten acres of potatoes and three acres of turnips.

"Bull Back Fat" had three acres of turnips and five of potatoes.

"Button Chief." This is a large camp, and aggregates a large crop, which consists of three acres of wheat, forty-nine acres of potatoes and three acres of turnips and carrots.

"Wolf Child" and head chief "Red Crow" had forty-six and a half acres of potatoes and twelve acres of grain and seeds.

"Mules" had thirteen acres of potatoes, three acres of wheat, two acres of onions and five acres of barley. This is the first year they had any crop worth counting.

In addition to the above, there are other small patches of gardens.

The death rate upon this reserve has been high during the past year, eighty-two adults, and forty-four children up to the age of fourteen years having died. Only eight births were recorded, viz., six girls and two boys.

#### *Indian Office, Fort MacLeod.*

I audited the books, took an inventory of the supplies, agricultural implements, tools, &c., on hand, and examined into their quality and condition. I found everything generally satisfactory, and the books have been well and regularly kept since Mr. Lash was appointed clerk, in December last.

Daybook and ledger contain copies of every voucher issued.

Register of letters received and properly written up to date.

Letter book, with index, was duly written up.

Order book, containing entries of all issues as well as receipts.

Triplicates of school returns were regularly filed.

And all quadruplicates of vouchers, and all letters were properly backed and filed.

I found the issue of flour here somewhat less per head than at the Blood Reserve, and there was some discontent regarding it. The chief, Crowfoot, wished also that those of his men who assisted in issuing rations should be paid the same wages (\$13 per month) as those who perform similar duty upon the Blood Reserve.

The quality of flour and other provisions was excellent. The Indians had taken a prejudice against bacon, and as its issue was but a very slight saving to the Department, I recommended that it should be temporarily discontinued, pending your action in the premises. The beef being a home production, it will give great satisfaction to the ranchers if the Department continues its issue solely.

In other respects, the Indians appeared contented. I took a close inventory of the provisions, other supplies and live stock, upon this reserve. I found all supplies stored here; even those intended for the general use of the district were in charge of the farm storekeeper and issuer of rations, Mr. Wilson. I directed Mr. Sub-Agent Begg to resume charge of all district stores, making his issues to the Blackfoot Crossing Reserve precisely the same and with as much formality as to those reserves at a distance. The Department suffered considerable loss from provisions being damaged by a freshet in the Bow River, shortly before my visit. The water rose four feet above previous high water mark. A very suitable place for new buildings will be on the next bench, about a mile west of the present location. These are very much needed, as the present buildings are those hurriedly run up for temporary accommodation.

#### *Farm Work.*

My remarks upon the farm work of the Blood Reserve are also applicable here. Crowfoot camp had forty-one acres in crop.

#### *School.*

The Roman Catholics have a mission here, and purpose to conduct a day school at an early day.