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Indian Industrial School

DEPT. OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
NOV 30 1918
RECORDS

at Red Deer Alta.

November 25th 1918.

The Secretary,

Department of Indian Affairs;

Ottawa.

517145

Dear Sir:-

During the past three weeks the Spanish Influenza has swept through this institution. I regret to report that as a result five of our pupils are dead. They are as follows:

Pupil No.0113 Georgina House,
" " .0121 Jane Baptiste.
" " .0137 Sarah Soosay.
" " .205 David Lightning.
" " .206 William Cardinal.

SCHOOLS BRANCH
DEC 3 1918

The first four named died in the dormitories at the school, The last named William Cardinal died as a runiway from the school. His body was taken to his home at Saddle Lake.

We have had a most distressing experience at the school. All the children and many of the whites have been down. At times we hardly knew which way to move. For a week or more all that we could do was to exist as best we were able. If it had not been for volunteer help from Red Deer I do not think we should have come through without some break-down. The members of the staff who were able to be around did splendid and heroic work. Iwould like to particularly mention the names of Mrs. E.J.Ralston, the Matron; and Rev. T.Smith, the Assistant Principal. Both these employees were very faithful in our hour of trouble. Among the helpers from town were two Salvation Army officers who threw themselves into the work when things were darkest. Everyone is now up and around and things are looking brighter. The deaths occured 14-16 of the month. For sickness,conditions at this school are nothing less than criminal. We have no isolation ward and no hospital equiptment of any kind. The dead, the dying, the sick and the convalescent, were all together.I think that

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