



CANADA

32-0-1

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO FILE No.

DEPARTMENT OF
NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

Ottawa, June 2, 1948.

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MEMORANDUM:

Mr. B.F. Neary -
Welfare and Training

Mohawk Institute - Health Conditions

Last week Dr. Palmer phoned me from Montreal. He had intended to visit Ottawa to discuss various points concerning the Mohawk Institute with officials here, but his wife took sick which changed his plans and he decided to return directly home. He, therefore, called me before leaving Montreal.

He stated that in the past few months they have had three epidemics; chickenpox - 21 patients; mumps - 80 and measles - 20. Concerning facilities at the school, he does not like the way the milk is handled. There is no means of cooling milk and the Brant County Inspector of Health has done bacterial counts on the milk and has found them high and there is apparently a threat that the health authorities may make a definite move on discontinuing this milk service until improvements in the handling of it are made. He further states that the children get the skim milk and that the butter fat, 200 lbs. a month, is sold, and he feels that the children should have the benefit of this.

He also states that the ice for use at the school is obtained from the canal which has been condemned for use as drinking water.

The third complaint is with reference to the dishes that are used in the dining room. They were originally white enamel but apparently are so chipped and deteriorated that he feels it is somewhat of a health menace.

I advised Dr. Palmer that this school was administered by the Welfare and Training Division of Indian Affairs and that we had no financial responsibility in making any alterations in the school. Dr. Palmer impresses this office as a very efficient medical man. He is very conscientious in his work and I am sure that it was for no other motive than to improve health conditions of the school that he has made these complaints. I told him that I would let you know about this and I think we have previously discussed the same items. If you feel this should be discussed further, please give me a call.

W.L. Falconer

W.L. Falconer, M.D.,
Asst. Director, Indian Health Services.

N.H. & W. 1 100M--11-47 P-1140

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