

## EFFICIENCY REPORT.

Name of employee ..... Benjamin Caswell .....

Name of school ..... Leech Lake - Agency ..... Date ..... Nov. 1, 1913 .....

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Native ability ..... 80 .....	Position ..... Overseer .....
Acquired ability ..... 85 .....	Salary ..... \$900, year .....
Initiative ..... 80 .....	Race ..... Indian .....
Openness to suggestion ..... 85 .....	Sex ..... Male .....
Adaptability ..... 85 .....	Age ..... 44 .....
Habits as to—	Years in service ..... 17 1/2 .....
Appearance ..... 85 .....	Married or single ..... Married .....
Courtesy to others ..... 90 .....	Physical condition ..... Good .....
Manners and speech ..... 90 .....	Musical ability:
Kindness to pupils ..... ----- .....	Vocal ..... Sings a little .....
Industry ..... 85 .....	Instrumental ..... None .....
Loyalty ..... 85 .....	Interest in work ..... 85 .....
General efficiency ..... 85 .....	

## COMMENT.

Has improved very much in his line of work from the experience he obtained while here. He is of a quiet, unassuming disposition, of good habits and morals, and uses neither intoxicants nor tobacco. He has been transferred to the Department of Justice, with Mr/ J. H. Hinton, Inspector, at Detroit, Minnesota.

## INSTRUCTIONS.

On the first of May and November of each year, officers in charge of employees will prepare and submit reports in duplicate, on this form, as to the efficiency of employees under their direction—a separate report being made for each employee.

Efficiency reports are not required on temporary employees, or employees occupying the position of Indian judge, Indian police, laborer, or any position paying \$300 a year or less.

In filling out this blank, the following system should be observed:

Excellent indicates 90 to 95; excellent plus 95 to 100.

Good indicates 80 to 85; good plus 85 to 90.

Fair indicates 70 to 75; fair plus 75 to 80.

Poor indicates below 70.

Under the heading "Comment," officers will make a comprehensive statement regarding the qualifications of an employee rated "good" or "excellent." When a rating of "fair" or "poor" is given, a detailed statement will be made showing in what respect the employee is deficient, and if he or she is better fitted for the duties of some other position.

6-2000

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Books read during past twelve months:

Periodicals for which employee is a regular subscriber:

## EFFICIENCY REPORT.

Name of employee Benjamin Caswell

Name of school Leech Lake- Agency Date May 1, 1913

---

Native ability	<u>80</u>	Position	<u>Overseer</u>
Acquired ability	<u>80</u>	Salary	<u>\$900. year</u>
Initiative	<u>75</u>	Race	<u>Indina</u>
Openness to suggestion	<u>85</u>	Sex	<u>Male</u>
Adaptability	<u>80</u>	Age	<u>44</u>
Habits as to—		Years in service	<u>17</u>
Appearance	<u>85</u>	Married or single	<u>Married</u>
Courtesy to others	<u>85</u>	Physical condition	<u>Good</u>
Manners and speech	<u>85</u>	Musical ability:	
Kindness to pupils	<u>-----</u>	Vocal	<u>Yes</u>
Industry	<u>85</u>	Instrumental	<u>No</u>
Loyalty	<u>85</u>	Interest in work	<u>85</u>
		General efficiency	<u>85</u>

## COMMENT.

Mr. Caswell appears to be getting along with his work all right, but of course has not had the experience in the woods that some others have had and therefore is not enabled to do some of the work as quickly as others might do it.

*J. G. G. G.*  
Superintendent.

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6-2000

Books read during past twelve months:

Periodicals for which employee is a regular subscriber:

1-42869

Field-  
Forestry  
4080-1913  
A X C

Application for  
Position.

JAN 16 1913

FOR FILE

Honorable Knute Nelson,  
United States Senate.

FILED BY C. P. F.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of January 10, 1913, inclosing a letter from Mr. Benjamin Caswell, of Cass Lake, Minnesota, making application for the position of Superintendent of Logging for the Ceded Chippewa Pine Lands, of Minnesota. This is a position which has been filled for a number of years by an employee of the General Land Office and this Office can take no action in the matter.

Mr. Caswell's letter to you is returned herewith.

Respectfully,  
~~(Signed) C. F. Hauke.~~  
~~(Signed) E. H. Millott.~~  
Acting Commissioner.

1-JMM-14

HUNTER NELSON, CHAIRMAN.  
GEORGE PERKINS. THOMAS S. MARTIN.  
WILLIAM ALDEN SMITH. F. M. SIMMONS.  
JONATHAN BOURNE, JR. FRANCIS G. NEWLANDS.  
THEODORE E. BURTON. JOHN H. BANKHEAD.  
HENRY E. BURNHAM. DUNCAN U. FLETCHER.  
ISAAC STEPHENSON. LE ROY PERCY.  
COE I. CRAWFORD. JAMES A. REED.  
GEORGE T. OLIVER.  
W. MURRAY CRANE.

CLEVELAND H. HICKS, CLERK.  
PETER M. RIGG, ASST. CLERK.

# United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE.

Jan. 10, 1913.



Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I respectfully beg leave to refer to you for consideration and attention the enclosed letter which speaks for itself.

Yours truly,

*Hunter Nelson*

FILED BY E. F. B.

*Imp*

Benjamin F Caswell

55419/12

White Earth - 150

detail as interpreter

Original

INSTRUCTIONS.—Each employee who receives more than \$300 per annum must fill out one of these blanks in his or her own handwriting. The agent or superintendent must promptly forward the blank to the Indian Office without a letter of transmittal.

RECORD of Benjamin Caswell  
(First name in full.)  
 Employed as Overseer, Timber Leech Lake School, Sept 21, 1912  
(Entered on duty.)  
 Salary \$900 Race Indian Married or single Married Born 1869, Minn.,  
(Year and State.)  
 Legal residence Minn Cass 6th  
(State.) (County.) (Cong. Dist.)  
 If you have children, give ages 3-7-10-12 Quarters need for—No. 2 No. 4  
(Adults.) (Children.)

When, where, and in what position did you originally enter the Indian Service? Sept 23  
1895, Fort Belknap Boarding School, Harlem Mont. Asst Teacher

When, where, and in what other positions have you served in the Indian Service? 1901  
during July, Aug + Sept, <sup>helped</sup> Tresspass sealing under Wm O'Neal at White  
Earth Reservation; Oct. 12 to Dec 31, 1907. Principal Teacher in Charge and  
Jan 1, 1908 to July 2, 1912 supt. at Cass Lake School, Minn

If you were ever separated from the Service give reasons briefly Dec 21, 1900, resigned  
tribal affairs, Washington, D.C.; July 2, 1912, resigned, declined transfer

Have you any chronic disease, defect of speech, sight, hearing, hand, foot, or limb? None

Give your exact height and weight 5 ft 7 in - 196 pounds

Give your U. S. military or naval service Never have the honor

What civil service examinations have you passed? Never took any

Give the names and locations of the schools or colleges you have attended and the course of study pursued in each, naming any degree received and the institution which conferred it

White Earth Boarding School - Carlisle Indian School  
Class 1892 - Dickinson Prep. School, Carlisle, Pa. - Latin  
Scientific - Class 1895.

Have you any musical ability? vocal To what extent has it been cultivated? no  
special course - member of Carlisle School Choir  
four years



Have you had any experience as a disciplinarian in the Indian Service or elsewhere? If so, where and when? If not, do you feel qualified to perform the duties of such position? *Yes, as cadet senior capt at Carlisle two years and as required by various positions in school service.*

If you have practical knowledge of any mechanical trade, or have ever served an apprenticeship, give the length of time you have worked at such trade *3 years as carpenter apprentice at Carlisle - used it in connection of my school work.*

Give in detail all the practical experience you have had in any profession, business, or other occupation; where and by whom employed, the dates, and the salary received. *Management and care of Indian pupils. Since I was eight years old, my life has been spent almost of it in Indian schools as a pupil and teacher and with proper equipment can do good service. Salary from 540 to 900 per annum.*

Name any profession, trade, or other occupation in which you regard yourself as expert \_\_\_\_\_

*Management and teaching of Indian youth*

Give any additional facts which may tend to show your fitness for a position in the Indian Service calling for special knowledge or experience. *The Indian Office has my record - complaints or otherwise from my superior officers at various times; - complaints or otherwise from the Indians served is cordially referred to. No other to offer.*

Are you a competent stenographer and typewriter? *No sir*

*Original*

PERSONAL RECORD OF

Name *Caswell Benjamin*  
(Write surname first.)

*Teach Lake School*  
(School or Agency.)

Date *Sept 21*, 191*2*.

Approved and forwarded by

*J. J. Sigould*  
Superintendent.

Fi.

# THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

25,000 OFFICES IN AMERICA. INCORPORATED CABLE SERVICE TO ALL THE WORLD

This Company TRANSMITS and DELIVERS messages only on conditions limiting its liability, which have been assented to by the sender of the following message. Errors can be guarded against only by repeating a message back to the sending station for comparison, and the Company will not hold itself liable for errors or delays in transmission or delivery of Unrepeated Messages, beyond the amount of tolls paid thereon, nor in any case beyond the sum of Fifty Dollars, at which, unless otherwise stated below, this message has been valued by the sender thereof, nor in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission. This is an UNREPEATED MESSAGE, and is delivered by request of the sender, under the conditions named above.

THEO. N. VAIL, PRESIDENT

BELVIDERE BROOKS, GENERAL MANAGER

## RECEIVED AT

30WJQ 38 COLLECT.GR.

COR. 7TH & F. N. W.  
TELEPHONE MAIN 3288

AUG 24 1912



CASB LAKE MINN, AUG-24-12

CMR INDIAN AFFAIRS, WASHN, DC.

TELEGRAM AUGUST TWENTY SECOND HAVE FORWARDED FIRST SECOND THIRD QUARTERS  
FOURTH QUARTER MONDAY THE TWENTY SIXTH INSTANT FRACTIONAL QUARTER  
COVERING JULY FIRST AND SECOND ON THE TWENTY EIGHT OR EARLIER.

BENJ CASWELL.

1153  
Fae 1200

1137RM

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR TELEGRAM

Domestic and Foreign Money Orders by Telegraph and Cable

# THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

INCORPORATED

**THE LARGEST TELEGRAPHIC SYSTEM IN THE WORLD.**  
**OVER ONE MILLION MILES OF WIRE IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.**

It has over 25,000 Telegraph Offices, including Branch Offices.

It has also Direct Connection by Telegraph or Telephone with many more remote and smaller stations, making a total list of 60,000 in the United States, Canada and Mexico, and this number is rapidly increasing.

## SEVEN ATLANTIC CABLES

Connecting North America with all points in Europe and beyond, including Two Cables of the American Telegraph and Cable Company, Four Cables of the Anglo-American Telegraph Company, and One Cable of the Direct United States Cable Co.

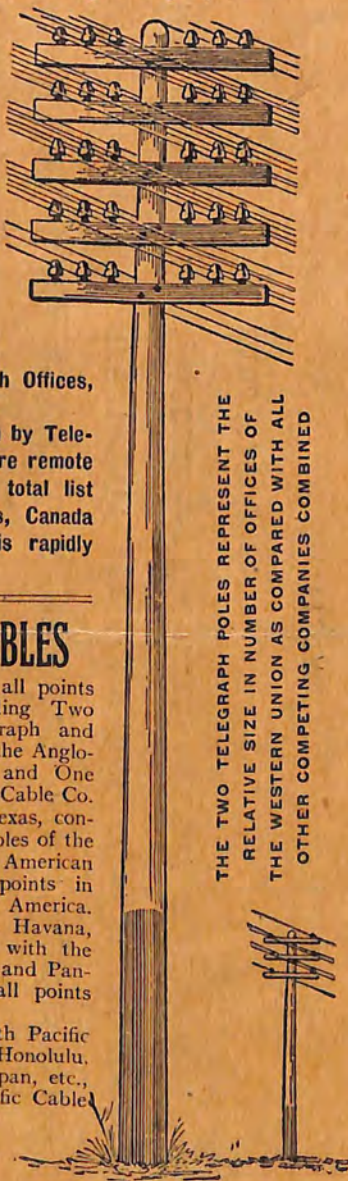
Direct Wires to Galveston, Texas, connecting at that place with the Cables of the Mexican, the Central and South American Telegraph Companies for all points in Mexico and Central and South America.

Direct Wires and Cables to Havana, Cuba, connecting at that place with the Cuba Submarine and West India and Panama Telegraph Companies for all points in the West Indies.

Connects at San Francisco with Pacific Cables to the Sandwich Islands, Honolulu, Guam, the Philippines, China, Japan, etc., and at Victoria, B. C., with Pacific Cable to Australia and New Zealand.

Connects at Seattle, Wash., with U. S. Government Lines and Cables to and in Alaska.

Exclusive connection with the Great North-Western Telegraph Co. of Canada.



THE TWO TELEGRAPH POLES REPRESENT THE RELATIVE SIZE IN NUMBER OF OFFICES OF THE WESTERN UNION AS COMPARED WITH ALL OTHER COMPETING COMPANIES COMBINED

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

ALL COMPETING COMPANIES

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR TELEGRAM

Domestic and Foreign Money Orders by Telegraph and Cable

Education-Employees  
68834-1912  
C A B

Superintendent.

JUL 12 1912

The Secretary  
of the Treasury.

**FOR FILE.**

Sir:

By direction of the Secretary of the Interior  
I have the honor to inform you that the last day of service  
of Benjamin Caswell as Superintendent of the Cass Lake Ind-  
ian School, Minnesota, under bond dated December 16, 1908,  
in the amount of \$8,000, was July 2, 1912.

Respectfully,

*(Signed) R. G. Valentine.*  
Commissioner.

7-LK-9

*(Faint, illegible text)*

Education-Employees  
68834-1912  
C A B

Superintendent.

JUL 12 1912

Mr. Henry J. Hunter,  
General Agent, The Empire State Surety Co.,  
Southern Building,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

**FOR FILE.**

You are informed that the Empire State Surety Co., will not be held liable for any acts or defaults committed by Benjamin Caswell as Superintendent of the Cass Lake Indian School, Minn., after July 2, 1912, under his bond of \$8,000, executed by your company on December 16, 1908.

Respectfully,

**(Signed) R. G. Valentine.**

7-LK-9

Commissioner.

Education-  
Employees  
C A B

2  
TELEGRAM  
Cass Lake

Benjamin Caswell,

~~Indian School,~~

Cass Lake, Minn.

AUG 22 1912

**FOR FILE**

Office letter July eleventh. When will you  
forward property accounts? Wire.

8-EBH-22.

Government  
Night Rate

*C. P. Harbo*

Second Assistant Commissioner.

Education-Employees  
50214-1912  
64520-1912  
65640-1912  
C A B  
Property accounts.

JUL 11 1912

Mr. Benjamin Caswell,  
Ex-Supt. Cass Lake Indian School,  
Cass Lake, Minnesota,

Sir:

FOR FILE.

The Office is in receipt of your letter of June 23, 1912, giving your explanation as to why your property accounts for the first, second and third quarters of the fiscal year 1912 have not been rendered to the Office.

You are advised that it is absolutely essential that these accounts and also your property account for the fourth quarter be submitted immediately to this Office, and no further action will be taken relative to your transfer to the Leech Lake Agency until such accounts have reached the Office.

Respectfully,

(Signed) C. F. Hauke.

Second Assistant Commissioner.

7-LK-10

"Finance  
JNR  
Property  
Accounts"

DEPART  
UNITE

Ca

The Commissioner of  
Washington

Sir:

I beg leave to s...  
second, and third qu...  
Office. In the f...  
quarter, 1912 were congested...  
per help and  
aggravated by needless friction among the employees, resulting  
in some instances more trouble than help. I endeavored to in-  
form the Office thru my efficiency reports under the remarks  
the advisability of a certain change, this change has not taken  
place and there I can lay the source of my troubles which have  
prevented me from rendering the full measure of what I am capable.

It will be impossible for me to complete my property accounts  
by the end of this month, but I will have the cash accounts in  
shape so that I can turn over the business of the school to my  
successor when he assumes charge of the school, July 1, 1912.  
If it is agreeable to the Office and my successor, I will put all  
of my time to the property account accounts after I am relieved  
of the administrative duties and I sure it will not take very  
much of a time to complete them if one is not disturbed from any  
one kind of work he may be engaged. If the Office have no place

*Mulla...  
When transferring  
Casswell, gave his  
the less requested in  
the second page and  
assist that he  
immediately prepare  
his property accounts  
C/S*

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
RECEIVED  
JUN 27 1912  
65640

*for*



"Finance  
JNR  
Property  
Accounts"

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE

Cass Lake, Minnesota,  
June 23, 1912.



The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,  
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I beg leave to state why my property accounts for the first, second, and third quarter, 1912 have not been rendered to the Office. In the first place, my property accounts for the first quarter, 1912 were congested due to lack of proper help and aggravated by needless friction among the employees, resulting in some instances more trouble than help. I endeavored to inform the Office thru my efficiency reports under the remarks the advisability of a certain change, this change has not taken place and there I can lay the source of my troubles which have prevented me from rendering the full measure of what I am capable.

It will be impossible for me to complete my property accounts by the end of this month, but I will have the cash accounts in shape so that I can turn over the business of the school to my successor when he assumes charge of the school, July 1, 1912. If it is agreeable to the Office and my successor, I will put all of my time to the property account accounts after I am relieved of the administrative duties and I sure it will not take very much of a time to complete them if one is not disturbed from any one kind of work he may be engaged. If the Office have no place

C.I.A. June 23, 1912. (2)

for me or is unable to secure one of the positions in the several agencies in Minnesota to which I may be capable to fill, I prefer not to serve the Indian Service outside of the State of Minn. I wish to call the attention of the Indian Office under existing treaty between the United States Government and the Chippewas of Minn. I am entitled to some consideration to a position which I may be capable of filling among the said Chippewas. The position of Chief Clerk at White Earth Agency was made vacant by promotion of Mr. West and I think the nature of my work have been the last four years would qualify me to a favorable consideration for the vacancy. My place is most trying in that it consists of so many little duties having only one male employee to aid me in care of the school.

If I am assigned in one of the positions in this State and after qualifying in my new position, if there be one, I would like to take my annual leave immediately thereafter and return to Cass Lake School to complete my property papers.

This may be the last time I may address the Indian Office officially and direct, I wish to make a statement to the effect that it is my belief that a chronic should be immediately dismissed from the school service instead of suffering his or her associates in the hope of reforming him or her. He or she is very apt to create more trouble than the good can be derived from his or her doubtful reform.

Very respectfully,

*Benjamin Caswell* Supt.

REFER IN REPLY TO THE FOLLOWING:

Education-Employees

50214-1912

64520-1912

C A B

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Reinstatement.

WASHINGTON

Mr. Benjamin Caswell,

Supt. Cass Lake School.

Sir:

You are hereby reinstated in the Indian Field Service and appointed to the position of Overseer at a compensation of \$900 a year, in connection with the timber operations under the jurisdiction of the Superintendent of the Leech Lake Indian School, Minnesota, effective when you subscribe to the oath of office and enter on duty, which you are requested to do at the <sup>the earliest practicable</sup> opening of business July 1, <sup>date</sup> 1912.

Respectfully,

6-WJ-26

Commissioner.

Carbon to Leech Lake.

Form No. 298.

# NIGHT MESSAGE. THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

INCORPORATED  
23,000 OFFICES IN AMERICA. CABLE SERVICE TO ALL THE WORLD.

This Company TRANSMITS and DELIVERS messages only on conditions limiting its liability, which have been assented to by the sender of the following message. Errors can be guarded against only by repeating a message back to the sending station for comparison, and the Company will not hold itself liable for errors or delays in transmission or delivery of Unrepeated Night Messages, sent at reduced rates, beyond a sum equal to ten times the amount paid for transmission; nor in any case when the claim is not presented in writing within thirty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission.  
This is an UNREPEATED NIGHT MESSAGE, and is delivered by request of the sender, under the conditions named above.

ROBERT C. CLOWRY, President and General Manager.

**RECEIVED** at Wyatt Building, Cor. 14th and F Streets, Washington, D. C.

TELEPHONES: M 4106, M 2114 AND M 1707.

F175CH EM 23COLLECT N M GVT

CASS LAKE MINN JUNE 24 12

COMMISSIONER INDIAN AFFAIRS,

WASHN DC

LETTER JUNE TWENTY FIRST NINETEEN TWELVE RECEIVED. YES I

BE CONSIDERED AND WILL ACCEPT.

CASWELL,

SUPT. 209A

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
RECEIVED  
JUN 25 1912  
64520  
774

RECORDED  
INDEXED

*sent 10/25*

ALWAYS OPEN.

MONEY TRANSFERRED BY TELEGRAPH.

CABLE OFFICE.

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR TELEGRAM

## The Western Union Telegraph Company

THE LARGEST TELEGRAPHIC SYSTEM IN THE WORLD.  
OVER ONE MILLION MILES OF WIRE IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

It has over 24,000 Telegraph Offices, including Branch Offices.

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Connecting North America with all points in Europe and beyond, including Two Cables of the American Telegraph and Cable Company, Four Cables of the Anglo-American Telegraph Company, and One Cable of the Direct United States Cable Co.

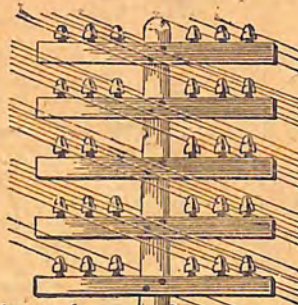
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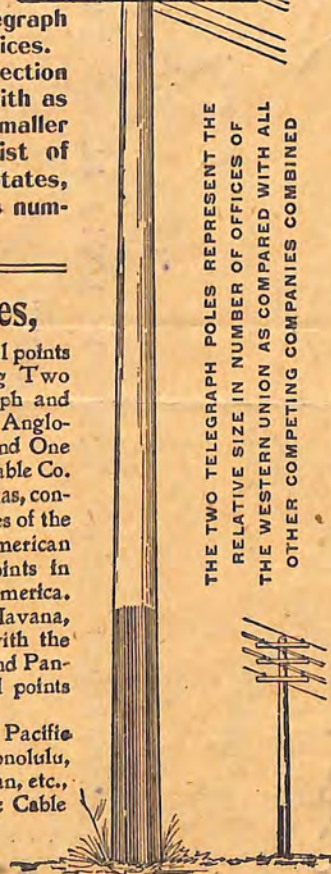
Connects at San Francisco with Pacific Cables to the Sandwich Islands, Honolulu, Guam, the Philippines, China, Japan, etc., and at Victoria, B. C., with Pacific Cable to Australia and New Zealand.

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W. U. T. CO.  
24,634  
OFFICES.

OTHER COS.  
4,868  
OFFICES.

Domestic and Foreign Money Orders by Telegraph and Cable

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR TELEGRAM

Education-Employees.  
50214-1912  
H V B

Resignation.

JUN 21 1912

Mr. Benjamin Caswell,  
Sup't Cass Lake School.

Sir:

Your resignation, dated May 16, 1912, as Superintendent of the Cass Lake Indian School, Minnesota, at a salary of \$900 a year, is hereby accepted to take effect upon your relief by your successor, which will be July 1, 1912.

As you were informed in Office letter of May 8, 1912, steps are being taken to establish a position of overseer at \$900 a year in connection with timber matters under the supervision of the Superintendent of the Leech Lake Reservation, and you are requested to inform the Office immediately by wire if you care to be considered for reinstatement to that position.

Respectfully,

*(Signed) F. H. Abbott.*

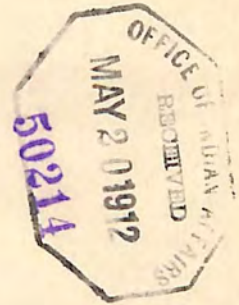
Acting Commissioner.

6-AAC-20.

(Carbon to Supervisor Peairs).

"Education-  
Employees.  
42150-1912  
H V B

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE



Relief."

Cass Lake, Minnesota,  
May 16, 1912.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,  
Washington.

Sir:

Pursuant to Office letter above quoted, I hereby tender my resignation as superintendent of Cass Lake School, Minnesota the same to take effect July 1, 1912.

Very respectfully,

*Benjamin Caswell*  
Supt.

*Emps*

Dr RW Calkins

See 77604/12

Navajo Spgs - Phys -

VACANCY



Education-  
Employees.  
42150-1912  
H V B

Relief.

MAY -8 1912  
FOR FILE

Mr. Benjamin Caswell,  
Sup't. Cass Lake School.

Sir:

The Office has received your letter of April 23, 1912, relative to your relief as Superintendent of the Cass Lake Indian School, Minnesota, and declining transfer to the position of additional farmer, at \$900 a year, at the Lower Brule Agency, South Dakota.

Concerning your wish to be allowed to remain in your present position until June 30, 1912, and requesting the privilege of resigning at the end of that time, rather than being summarily transferred, you are informed that your successor will be instructed to relieve you about July 1, 1912.

Note has been made of your statement that you would be glad to accept transfer as scaler at Cass Lake under the jurisdiction of William O'Neil, Superintendent of Logging, and you are informed that the Office contemplates establishing a position in connection with timber matters under the supervision of the Superintendent of the

CARBON FOR STATUS FILE

E-42150-2.

Leech Lake Reservation, and if the position is established, the question of transferring you thereto will be given prompt consideration; otherwise, your resignation will be accepted.

Respectfully,

*(Signed) C. F. Hauke.*  
Acting Commissioner.

5-AAC-6.

"Education-  
Employees.  
44765-5-09  
55116-5-11  
85078-1-11  
16791-1-12  
Inspection  
H V B

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE

Cass Lake, Minnesota,

April 23, 1912.

Efficiency  
reports. "



The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,  
Washington.

Sir:

The above quote letter was received at this school on 21st of this month and in reply thereto I have the honor to submit the following reasons why the proposed action of the Indian Office should not be taken at this time.

1. I believe it would be an injustice to the Indian Office itself if the proposed action is taken at this time on account of the present work that is going on among the Chippewas of Minn, in which the Office has been criticised by outside parties and in which the real Indians of Minnesota uphold the Indian Office as counceled by the writer. The Indians can not afford to be without my advise until the present trouble at White Earth Agency is adjusted. If the proposed action is taken at this time, I would be placed in a position much like the "Man without a Country", unless I become a traitor and go over to the opposition.
2. I am a product of the ~~the~~ purely Government education and from the best of her many schools, and is thus held by that school and the proposed action at this time would not tend to laud its work in any degree.
3. I have had no funds with which to improve the school plant except what is pending now. I have no room in which I could keep my family ~~at~~ at the school and when I asked the Indian Office to say when I should go home, I was directed to use my own judgement and good sense, and I have been trying to do this ever since.
4. If it is agreeable to the Indian Office, I ask the privelege to be allowed to resign~~s~~. I prefer to do <sup>this</sup> since I am aware of the fact that I am wanting as an experienced educator and would

*Emp*

(2) 4/23/12

not place myself in the way of progress of my own people for any consideration.

5. During the recent Congressional hearing, I was unable to do much of my clerical work on account of the many Indians who came to me to be informed what is transpiring and I could not help but give the time which they clamored as I consider the present trouble among them of a most vital importance for their future and it should not be neglected to give them the right information what the Government is proposed to do on their behalf.
6. By the foregoing, I would be pleased the Indian Office to give *me* until the end of June, 1912 in which I can arrange, my accounts, to properly transfer the accounts of the school.
7. I can not afford to leave the State of Minnesota as I have much of non-movable property and much of it may need my personal attention. I thank the Indian Office of its willingness to give me a trial as an additional Farmer at ~~the~~ Lower Brule Reservation.

The Office is respectfully <sup>requested</sup> to informed me at an early date what decision it may make on the subject imbodyed in this letter.

I would be more than delighted if could be given a check scaler position at Cass Lake to work with Wm. O'Neal, Supt. of Logging for the Chippewa Indians of Minnesota. *O'Neil*

Very respectfully,

*Benjamin Caswell*  
Supt.

P.S. The work at the school will go on as if I were to stay here for the next twenty years.

Education-  
Employees.  
44765-5-09  
55116-5-11  
85078-1-11  
16791-1-12  
Inspection  
H V B

Efficiency  
reports.

APR 19 1912

FOR FILE

Mr. Benjamin Caswell,  
Sup't. Cass Lake School.

Sir:

A careful study of the reports of several inspecting officials shows that conditions at your school are far from satisfactory. The reports also show that a great part of your time is spent at your home in the town of Cass Lake instead of at the school, where you should be assisting in teaching the older pupils, overseeing the work of the employees and exercising supervisory control over general conditions.

It appears that the entire school plant is in a run-down condition by reason of neglect and that a general air of carelessness prevails. One of the inspecting officials reports that you are lacking in aggressiveness and determination and that the Cass Lake School will never be a successful institution for the training of Indian children until a Superintendent is appointed who has had better preparation and more experience as an educator. It also appears

E-44765-5-2.

that you have been derelict in connection with proper instructions along sanitary lines. These conditions have been called to your attention, and but little, if any, improvement has resulted.

In view of the unsatisfactory condition of affairs at Cass Lake, the Office has decided to assign you to a position of less responsibility. There is an additional farmer vacancy at \$900 a year at the Lower Brule Agency, South Dakota, and the Office is willing to give you a trial in that position. You will be allowed five days from the receipt of this letter to submit such reasons you may wish as to why the proposed action should not be taken.

Respectfully, (Signed) C. F. Hauke.

Acting Commissioner.

4-AAC-16.

Education-  
Schools  
85078-1-1911  
C H S

10/27/1911

Memorandum

FILED BY C. P. F.

Employees:

You are requested to offer Benjamin Caswell, now Superintendent at Cass Lake School, Minnesota, the position of Industrial Teacher or something similar in some boarding school, which will bring him under the direction and supervision of a live, energetic and capable superintendent.

In view of his long connection with the Service, it is thought that his salary \$900 should not be reduced.

Chief Schools Section.

10-JHC-27.

Reference 85078-1/11  
Insp -

Education-  
Employee  
77397-1911  
H V B

**FOR FILE.**

Application  
for transfer.

OCT -3 1911

Mr. Benjamin Caswell,  
Superintendent Cass Lake Indian School,  
Cass Lake, Minnesota.

Sir:

Answering your letter of September 1, 1911, making application for transfer to the position of Superintendent of the Leech Lake Agency, Minnesota, you are informed that steps have been taken to fill the place.

Respectfully,

*(Signed) C.F. Hauke.*

9-WJG-27.

*Acting* Commissioner.



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,

Cass Lake, Minnesota,

Sept. 1, 1911.



The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,  
Washington.

Sir:

Having learned that there is to be a vacancy in the position of Superintendent at Leech Lake Agency, Minnesota, I hereby respectfully submit my application for the place.

Very respectfully,

*Benjamin Caswell*  
Supt. & S.D.A.

*Emps*

Name of School Cass Lake Indian School, Cass Lake, Minn.

Report of CHAS. F. PEIRCE, Supervisor.

Date May 19,

19 11

Section 4. Employees:

Efficiency report for Indian Office status file.



		AS CHECKED.
Name	Benjamin Casswell	Excellent
Position	Superintendent	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Salary	\$900. per annum	Fair
School	Cass Lake School.	Poor
Date	May 19, 1911.	Race Indian

COMMENTS.

Mr. Caswell is a man of good habits, is pleasant and agreeable to others, and well fitted for a position of this kind.

He is liked by Indians, as well as pupils, and with all of his time devoted to school affairs should make a very successful superintendent of a small school.

Respectfully submitted,

*Chas. F. Peirce*  
Supervisor of Indian Schools.

INSTRUCTIONS.—Each employee who receives more than \$300 per annum must fill out one of these blanks in his or her own handwriting. The agent or superintendent must promptly forward the blank to the Indian Office without a letter of transmittal.

RECORD of Benjamin Caswell  
(First name in full.)  
 Employed as Supt. & D. A. at Cass Lake School, Jan. 1, 1908  
(Entered on duty.)  
 Salary \$900<sup>00</sup> Race Indian Married or single Married Born 1869, Minn  
(Year and State.)  
 Legal residence Minnesota Cass Sixth  
(State.) (County.) (Cong. Dist.)  
 If you have children, give ages 10, 8, 5, 2 Quarters need for—No. 2 No. 4  
(Adults.) (Children.)

When, where, and in what position did you originally enter the Indian Service? Sept. 23  
1895, Fort Belknap, Mont., assistant teacher.

When, where, and in what other positions have you served in the Indian Service? 1896-1900  
teacher, Fort Belknap, Mont., and 1901-1907, Principal  
teacher in charge, Cass Lake School, Minn.

If you were ever separated from the Service give reasons briefly. Once, to attend  
tribal affairs at Washington 1900-1

Have you any chronic disease, defect of speech, sight, hearing, hand, foot, or limb? No

Give your exact height and weight 5 ft-7 in. 196 pounds

Give your U. S. military or naval service none

What civil service examinations have you passed? Never had any  
examination

Give the names and locations of the schools or colleges you have attended and the course of study pursued in each, naming any degree received and the institution which conferred it. Indian  
Schools at White Earth, Minn and Carlisle, Pa. graduated  
at Carlisle 1892. In Senior class at Dickinson College  
Preparatory School, Carlisle, Pa.

Have you any musical ability? vocal To what extent has it been cultivated? Was  
a member of school & Church Choirs at Carlisle  
during the last four years of school days

Have you had any experience as a disciplinarian in the Indian Service or elsewhere? If so, where and when? If not, do you feel qualified to perform the duties of such position? *Yes, at Carlisle, Fort Belknap, Mont & Cass Lake School, Minn.*

If you have practical knowledge of any mechanical trade, or have ever served an apprenticeship, give the length of time you have worked at such trade *Yes, Carpenter at White Earth School, Minn 1 year, at Carlisle 2 years.*

Give in detail all the practical experience you have had in any profession, business, or other occupation; where and by whom employed, the dates, and the salary received *Salesman Country store one year. G. A. Fairbanks salary \$41 per month, book keeper under same party at \$6.1 per month 1 year. Since 1895 to date Indian Service, assistant teacher 1 year at 540 - Teacher 6 years at 600 - Prin Teacher 6 years at \$720 also Supt & SDA 1 year at \$868, 1 year at 878, 1 year at 900.*

Name any profession, trade, or other occupation in which you regard yourself as expert

*no other*

Give any additional facts which may tend to show your fitness for a position in the Indian Service calling for special knowledge or experience *My experience as a pupil and teacher and of Indian matters in general would I believe warrant for an assignment to a larger field of service than my present field.*

Are you a competent stenographer and typewriter? *Do all my own typewriting*

PERSONAL RECORD OF

Name *Caswell, Benjamin*  
(Write surname first.)  
*Cass Lake School*  
(School or Agency)  
MAY 15 1911

Date *May 10*, 1911.

Approved and forwarded by

*Benjamin Caswell*  
Superintendent.



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,  
Cass Lake, Minnesota,  
December 12, 1910.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,  
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Please find enclosed my annual leave. This request is made for the reason that I am so far behind in my clerical work that by remaining at the school, it would be almost impossible for me to catch up. Some of my employees seem to be unable, when I am at the school, to do anything unless they come and consult me about it and take up my time unnecessarily and many a time an error is occasioned by such interruptions. I take all my ~~my~~ clerical to my home in town and that being only six miles from the school, I shall be able to render them any assistance they might require. I shall be at the village at Cass Lake at all time unless I am called away on private business and of this I do not see that it would take me away any length of time.

Miss Esther A. Gunderson, teacher, will be in charge while I am absent providing my absence from the school as per request is approved.

Very respectfully,

*Benjamin Caswell*

2 Encls.

Supt.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,

I brought the wrong blank upon which I were to have made my application for a leave of absence. I took five days with pay in June and this will be consider when the application is made and it <sup>will</sup> be within the authorized limit and will not extend beyond the ~~the~~ year of 1910. The blank will be obtained the first time I go up to the school and make proper entries and forward at the next mail.

12/12/10

Caswell

1-41097

Education-  
Appointments,  
100669-1909  
H V B

Request for  
authority.

DEC 28 1909

Benjamin Caswell, Esq.,  
Superintendent Cass Lake Indian School,  
Cass Lake, Minnesota.

FOR FILE

Sir:

There is returned herewith, your request dated December 13, 1909, for authority to expend the sum of 63 cents to cover an increase in the salary of the Superintendent of the Cass Lake School, Minnesota, for 15 days from December 16, 1909.

Department letter of October 16, 1909 (83005) granted authority for an increase in your salary from \$860 to \$875 a year, effective December 16. No additional authority is necessary.

Very respectfully,  
*(Signed) J. H. Dortch,*

Chief Education Division.

RES-23  
6789

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,

Cass Lake, Minnesota,  
December 20, 1909.



The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,  
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I take my annual leave this day as per application approved and returned, said approval dated as of Dec. 15, 1909.

I will be at Cass Lake, Minn. most of the time except on a personal business for a few days may be at White Earth Agency. I will also come up to the school now and then and see if the school need any of my help which would not wait until my return for duty at the end of my leave.

Miss Esther A. Gunderson, Teacher, is designated by me to have charge of the school during my absence.

Very respectfully,

*Benjamin Caswell*  
Supt.

*Eap*

*File*



## REQUEST FOR TRANSFER.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE.

Cass Lake School,

(Name of school, agency, or project.)

Cass Lake, Minnesota, Dec. 14, 1909.

## To the Officer in Charge.

SIR: In accordance with the regulations printed on the back of this form, I respectfully request transfer from the position I now hold of Supt. & Spl. Disb. Agt. at a salary of \$ 875.00 a year, to any of the following positions for which I may be eligible and qualified:

I will accept such transfer in the following school or schools or agency or agencies, or in the following general locality: Mount Pleasant School, Mich., Oneida School, Oneida, Wis., Tomah, Wis., White Earth School, White Earth, Minn., Leech Lake school, Leech Lake Agency, Onigum, Minn. and Wild Rice River School, White Earth, Minnesota.

My race is Indian (as checked); quarters will be required for 5 dependents; I am --- married;

I have at present the following relatives in the Government service, in the positions set opposite their names: Miss Lavinia Cornelius, Nurse, Fort Mojave School, Arizona and Miss Jerusha Cornelius, Matron, Cass Lake School, Minnesot both sisters-in-law.

I originally entered the Indian Service on September 23, 1895, since which date I have been transferred none times by direction of the Indian Office, and none times at my own request. I have resigned and been reinstated one times. I have passed the following civil service examinations, with the dates and grades as nearly as I can remember them: never took any examination.

This application is made in good faith, for the following reason: my experience can be (of more value to the service in a larger field of duty being now at my prime); and, unless I shall have withdrawn my request in the meantime, I agree to accept any transfer made in accordance with the conditions expressed herein.

Very respectfully,

(Full name.)

NOTE.—Applicants for transfer must keep the Indian Office informed of their post-office and telegraphic addresses during the vacation season.

Respectfully forwarded ----- approved, with the following comments: The present location of the applicant is a good one for a beginner but if the experience of the applicant is to be utilized for the benefit of the service, a larger field of activity may be assigned him.

Supt.

Officer in Charge.

### RULES GOVERNING TRANSFER.

A transfer is never a right inherent in an employee; it must be (1) a step taken for the good of the service, or (2) a favor conferred on a faithful employee.

From and after October 1, 1909, transfers will not be permitted employees during that season of the year when their duties are active, *except under the most imperative circumstances*. Thus, a teacher or matron will not be permitted to transfer during the school year, nor a farmer during the agricultural season. Officers in charge have been instructed not to forward applications of the former class prior to May 30, or applications of the latter class prior to November 30 of each year, except where they are convinced that reasons of exceptional weight exist why the request should be considered without delay.

Requests for transfer should be made only after very careful consideration, and with the full knowledge and understanding that such applications will be accepted at their face value, and the Indian Office will be in no way bound to consult the applicant further, but will make a strong effort to comply with the expressed wish of the employee, *at the same time taking steps to fill the vacancy created by the transfer*. The applicant, therefore, can not reserve the privilege of declining the transfer made in accordance with conditions expressed by him, and a failure to accept such transfer will leave out of the service the employee so failing to accept, with the presumption against his reinstatement.

Once the duty year has begun, employees should subordinate any feeling of dissatisfaction, bear with minor discomforts, submit to unimportant inconveniences, and forego the wish for assignment to duty elsewhere until the close of the duty year.

Applications for transfer will receive consideration only when made on this form, and forwarded through the proper officer in charge.

ACTIVE