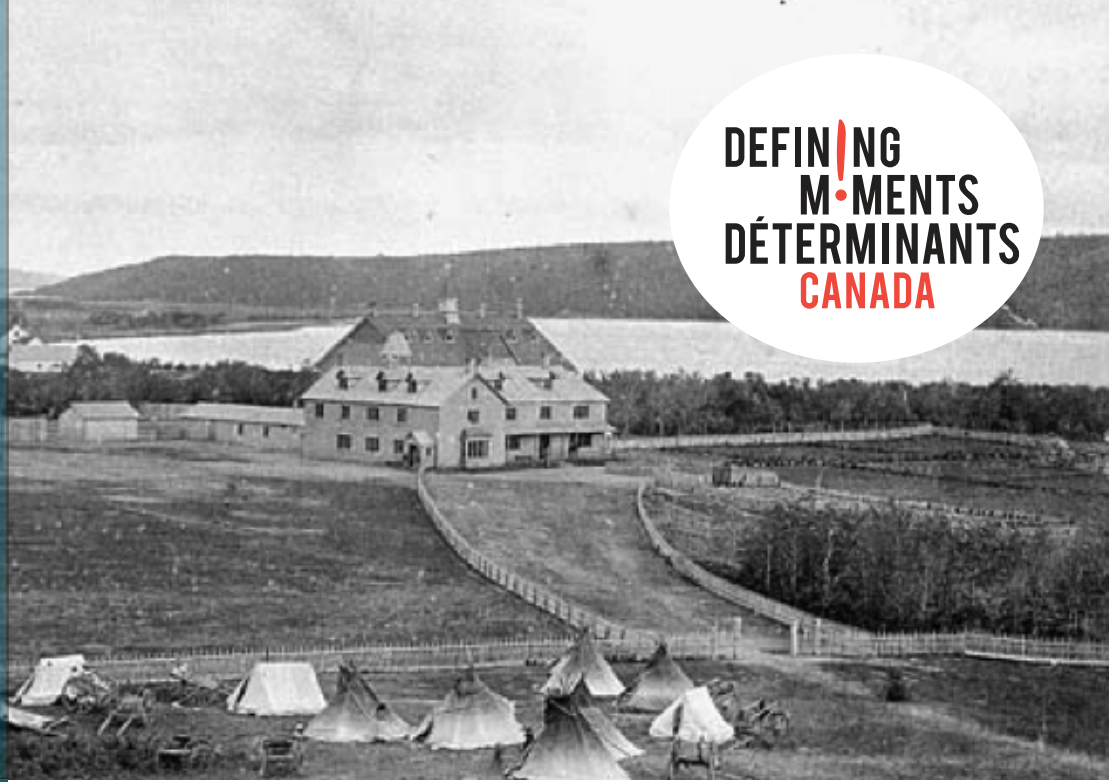


# Dr. P.H. Bryce's *The Story of a National Crime* (1922): A Glossary

DEFINING  
MOMENTS  
DÉTERMINANTS  
CANADA



## Peter Henderson Bryce

**Peter Henderson Bryce** (1853-1932) was a Canadian doctor and public health official who held important roles with the Provincial Health Board of Ontario and the federal Department of Indian Affairs. In 1904, Bryce was appointed chief medical officer of the latter department, where his role involved studying and reporting on the health conditions in **residential schools**. His initial report, written in 1907, made it clear that the federal government was responsible for unsanitary conditions and high death rates; this report was not published by the Department of Indian Affairs. Bryce retired from the public service in 1921. In 1922, he self-published a pamphlet based on his earlier report, titled *The Story of a National Crime: An Appeal for Justice to the Indians of Canada* (1922).

## Department of the Interior and Indian Affairs

**Department of the Interior and Indian Affairs** (formed 1873) was the federal ministry responsible for the development of western Canada, the negotiation of treaties with Indigenous communities, and the management of reserve lands. In 1880, the portfolios of "Interior" and "Indian Affairs" each became their own ministry, but they remained closely tied until restructuring in 1936, when Indian Affairs became a branch of the Department of Mines and Resources.

## Clifford Sifton

**Clifford Sifton** (1861-1929) was a Canadian politician who served as **Minister of the Interior** from 1896-1905. He is well known for being a champion of massive immigration and settlement of the West. He retired from politics in 1911.



Photo: public domain



Photo: LAC



## Residential schools

**Residential schools** were funded by the federal government and run by Christian churches. The purpose of the residential school system was to assimilate Indigenous children into white Canadian society. From 1883 to 1996, over 130 of these institutions operated in Canada, and over 150,000 First Nations, Inuit, and Métis youth were forcibly separated from their homes and forced to attend them. Thousands of Indigenous children died at these institutions due to poor health conditions and abuse, and many of those who survived were traumatised by their experience. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission report published in 2015 recognizes the residential school system as an act of cultural genocide perpetrated by the Canadian federal government and Christian churches.

## File Hills Farm Residential School and Colony

**File Hills Farm Residential School and Colony** (1889-1949) was a residential school on Treaty 4 land, on Little Black Bear Reserve. The **File Hills Farm Colony** was a scheme of involuntary relocation of graduates from this school to lands on the Peepeekisis Reserve, without consent of or compensation for either the graduates or the reserve. The Indian agent of the colony also forcibly arranged marriages to European settlers in order to further assimilate Indigenous peoples, both socially and genetically. The federal government officially apologised for this scheme in August 2022.



Photo: LAC

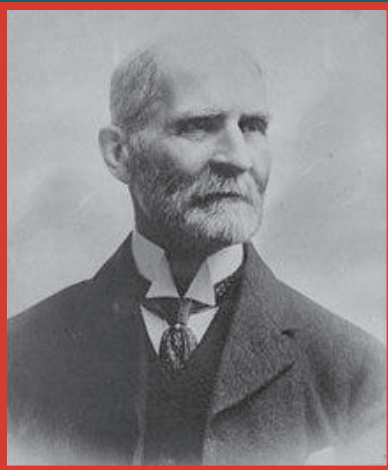


Photo: Wikipedia

## Tuberculosis

**Tuberculosis** is an infectious pulmonary disease spread through coughing and sneezing. It is caused by mycobacterium tuberculosis bacteria and can kill roughly 50% of those affected. Although present since antiquity, tuberculosis caused public concern in the 19th and 20th century because of its presence among the poor living in crowded and unsanitary conditions, often in cities, resulting in large outbreaks. **Peter Henderson Bryce's** report shows tuberculosis rates for Indigenous children in **residential schools** as being much higher than among other groups in Canada.

## James Delamere (J.D.) Lafferty

**James Delamere (J.D.) Lafferty** (1949-1920) was a Canadian doctor and politician who served as Registrar for the Northwest Territories Medical Ordinance Regulator and as chair for the Alberta Provincial Board of Health.

## Duncan Campbell Scott

**Duncan Campbell Scott** (1862-1947) was a civil servant and writer who worked in the federal **Department of Indian Affairs** from 1879 to 1932, serving as Deputy Superintendent as of 1913. Scott had a major role in expanding **residential schools**, namely in changing the **Indian Act** in 1920 to force Indigenous children aged 7 to 15 to attend these schools. This change came after the report by **Peter Henderson Bryce** outlining criminal health conditions within these institutions; a report upon which Scott did not act. Famously, Scott perpetuated intense assimilationist policies towards Indigenous peoples, and openly stated that his goal was to “get rid of the Indian problem.”



Photo: LAC



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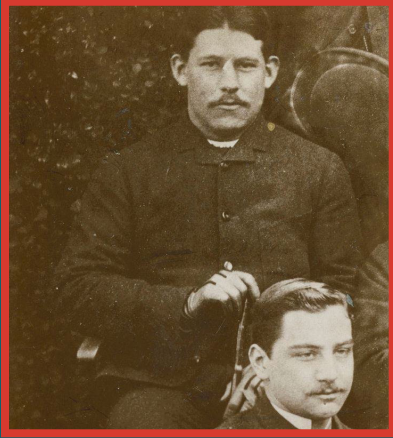


Photo: Royal Society of London

## Professor John George Adami

**Professor John George Adami** was a professor of pathology at McGill University who served as Medical Historical Recorder during the First World War, responsible for writing an account of the Canadian Medical Service. He was a member of the Royal Societies of Edinburgh and London and was awarded the Order of the British Empire.

## Robert Rodgers

**Robert Rodgers** (1864–1936) was a Canadian politician who served as **Minister of the Interior and Superintendent General of Indian Affairs** from 1911 to 1912.

## William James Roche

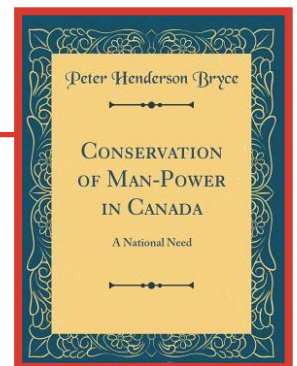
**William James Roche** (1859–1937) was a Canadian doctor and politician from Manitoba who served as **Superintendent General of Indian Affairs** from 1912 to 1917.



Photo: Wikipedia

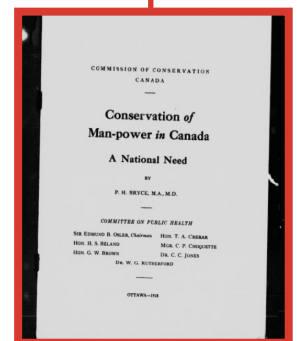
## The Conservation of Man-Power in Canada: A National Need

*The Conservation of Man-Power in Canada: A National Need* was a pamphlet written by **Peter Henderson Bryce** published in 1918. It deals with matters of public health and tuberculosis in military recruits and young Canadians.



## William M. Graham

**William M. Graham** served as the Indian agent of the **File Hills Farm Colony** from 1901 to 1917. He was responsible for selecting which graduates to displace and to force into arranged marriages with European settlers. He believed the Colony's purpose was to experiment with maintaining the assimilatory practices of residential schools so that Indigenous adults would not return to their cultural beliefs, practices, knowledges, and languages upon completing their time in the schools.



Photos: Public Domain

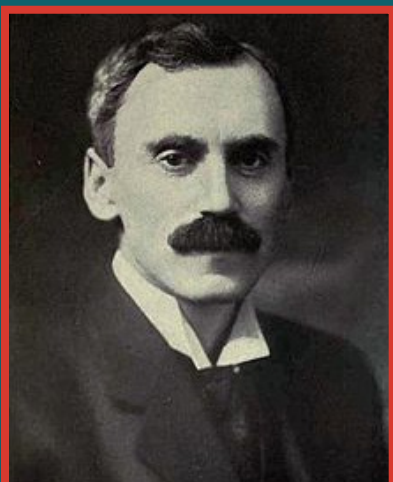


Photo: Public Domain

## Newton Wesley Rowell

**Newton Wesley Rowell** (1867–1941) was a Canadian lawyer, politician, and judge. He served as leader of the Ontario Liberal Party from 1911 to 1917, and in 1919 was named the federal minister of health. He later served as chief justice of Ontario from 1936 to 1938.

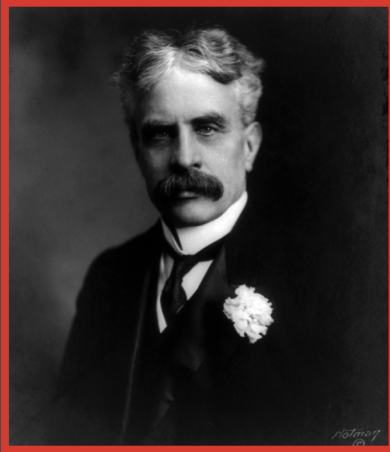


Photo: Public Access

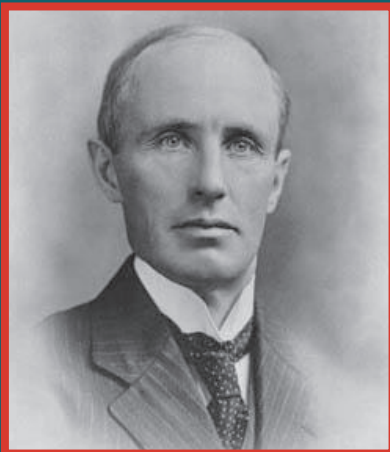


Photo: LAC



Photo: Public Access

## Blackfoot (sometimes Blackfeet in the United States)

**Blackfoot (sometimes Blackfeet in the United States)** refers to a confederacy of three Indigenous nations, the Kainai, Piikani, and Siksika, whose traditional territory is made up of parts of Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Montana.

## The Union Government

The **Union Government** was a government made up of Conservative, Liberal, and Independent ministers, formed after the 1917 general election. This government was formed to create a common front in favor of conscription during the First World War and was led by Prime Minister Robert Borden.

## The Right Honourable Arthur Meighen

**The Right Honourable Arthur Meighen** (1874–1960) was a Canadian politician who served as Prime Minister of Canada in 1920–1921 and again in 1926. He had previously been **Superintendent General of Indian Affairs** from 1917 to 1920.

## Daniel Duncan McKenzie

**Daniel Duncan McKenzie** (1859–1927) was a Canadian politician and judge who briefly served as leader of the Liberal party after the death of Wilfrid Laurier. He was a member of federal Parliament elected in 1904, 1908, 1911, 1917, and for the last time in 1921.

## Henri Sévérin Bédard

**Henri Sévérin Bédard** (1869–1935) was a Canadian politician serving in the House of Commons from 1902 to 1925, and the Senate from 1925 to his death in 1935. He served roles such as Postmaster General, Minister of Health, and Minister of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment.

## The Treaty of Shackamaxon

**The Treaty of Shackamaxon**, also called the Great Treaty or Penn's Treaty, is a legendary treaty between William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania, and Tamanend of the Lenape Nation which guaranteed both nations would live in perpetual peace. There is no physical documentation of the treaty, and there are historical debates about whether a treaty was formally agreed upon or whether Penn's sons destroyed evidence of such a treaty to renege on the promises of their father.



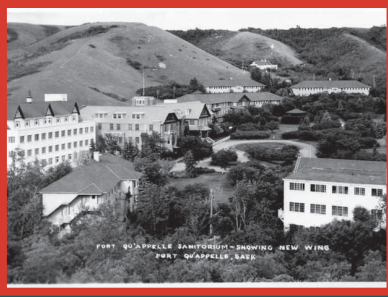


Photo: "Henry "Harry" Saville (1886-1948), Saskatchewan Bureau of Publications, 1928."

## The Qu'Appelle Sanatorium

The **Qu'Appelle Sanatorium** operated from 1912 to 1971 in Saskatchewan as a tuberculosis sanatorium. Institutions like this one were meant for long term care of patients suffering from infectious diseases. It was the primary tuberculosis treatment centre in the province housing over 350 patients at once.

## British North America Act (BNA)

**British North America Act (BNA)** refers to a series of acts of the British parliament, first passed in 1867, which establish the 'confederation' of provinces in Canada, and make up the constitution of Canada.

## The Militia Department

The **Militia Department** is the former name of what is known today as the Department of National Defense.

## James Alexander Calder

**James Alexander Calder** (1868-1956) was a Saskatchewan provincial politician and later a federal member of parliament and senator. He held multiple cabinet roles, notably as minister for Health, National Defense, Agriculture, and Immigration. In his position in cabinet, Calder forced **Peter Henderson Bryce** into retirement following the latter's repeated reporting of appalling health conditions in **residential schools**.

## Hansard

**Hansard** is the name given to the official record of the debates in the House of Commons and the Senate. The name comes from the family that printed the British debates in the 19th century. To this day, the transcription of the debates in both houses of the Parliament in Canada is nicknamed Hansard.

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