Informant - Mr. Frank Booth

This agency had four reserves, Pipat [Piapot] -- Muscowpetung -- Pasqua and one Sioux Reserve. The agent is a fine type of Englishman who came out to homestead near Onion Lake, landed in the Indian Department, was agent there for some years, was transferred to Sintaluta and recently came here.

Interesting was his explanation of why he, a green young schoolboy doing well at his studies, came out to Canada. It was the idea of getting 160 acres of land for nothing -- of being a landed proprietor. To a landless lower class Englishman, land is all. An interesting contrast to this would be the Indian's concept of land tenure. Time after time when I ask for the old band affiliations, the Cree tell me that the
land was free and open, everybody roamed where he pleased. War was for glory and horses -- not for land.

One of Mr. Booth's pet notions which may have something to it is that the Indian is so lazy and won't work now is simply because he never had to work. The country was teeming with game and when game was scarce the Indian did not exert himself to get out and get food but simply starved.