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TRANSCRIBER: HEATHER YAWORSKI
SOURCE: DR. D.G. MANDELBAUM
DEPT. OF ANTHROPOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
BERKELEY
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NOTE: This document lists various Cree bands and includes
excerpts from annual reports for the period 1886-1917 and 1924.

Onion Lake

P. 254 - 1886 These Indians all absent since the
rebellion. Those who can support themselves by fishing and
hunting in the forests do not return to the agency. The bands
listed are 118 - 123 inclusive.

P. 128 - 1886 Agent writes that at the end of July 1885, all the Indians surrendering at Ft. Pitt were taken to Onion Lake and urged to begin farming. Those who wished were allowed to make their own living by hunting. Bands No. 123, 122, 120 decide to live by hunting. Before the winter was over many of them returned.

P. 93 - 1887 Clothing issued. Many away hunting.

P. 86 - 1888 Band No. 119 comprises several bands of Cree. Previous to the rebellion occupied each a reserve of its own, but now consolidated in one band. Each family given a separate plot. Some addition to the band during the winter. Now remain on their reserve to undertake farming and cattle raising.

P. 70 - 1889 Cattle and pigs doing well. Crops fail.

P. 51 - 1890 Many old customs given up, but a Thirst Dance was held nearby by some hunting Indians. No Indian from this reserve attended. Housing improved. Good crops this year. Annuity payment resumed. School fairly attended. Children bashful and do not like to speak English.

P. 72 - 1891 Lists bands 119 - 123 - good progress during the year. Non-treaty Indians hold a Thirst Dance; not attended by these Indians. Women good housekeepers. 248 cattle. Raise barley. One shingled roof. Schools fairly attended.

P. 1709 - 1892 Pagan ceremonies rare although the hunting Indians held a Sundance nearby. Every house furnished with beds, tables and chairs. European dress now universal. No white settlers in the vicinity. Indians make butter, straw hats and willow baskets for their own use. Many church members.

P. 75 - 1893 Crops fail. Sheep doing well. Number 105. 57 horses; 14 pigs. 2 schools; attendance good.

P. 83 - 1895 Cut 1,200 tons of hay. Women sew and knit. Some poultry. Log houses and open fire place; well furnished. First cattle marketed last year. School attendance good. The

hunting Indians held a Sundance at Frog Lake. These Indians now hard up and anxious for government assistance.

P. 166 - 1897 Population 522. Manufacture sleighs, ox yokes, tool handles and furniture. No drinking.

P. 157 - 1898 50 children in school. 1st of July celebrated horse races and sports.

P. 173 - 1903	Band No. 119	Population 276
	" " 120	" " 96
	" " 121	" " 92

"	"	122	"	31
"	"	123	"	122

Cattle raising and farming the chief occupation of many. Many young children die. Some new houses built.

P. 164 - 1904 Women employed in tanning skins; some women work at the hay fields. Houses not occupied in summer. Tables are used by some; but most Indians prefer the floor.

P. 135 - 1905 The most industrious Indians in these bands have been living on the reserve No. 119. As a result all of the Indians congregated here. Now as individuals become self-supporting they return to their former reserves. The agent hopes that in the future he can deal with these bands separately. Eye diseases common. Many blind.

P. 133 - 1906 No. 119 and 120 - Reserves on the north side of the Saskatchewan 6 miles from Ft. Pitt. Population No. 119 - 311; No. 120 - 87. Health good, but many young children die. Live in tipis during the summer, when they are healthier and happier. Cattle raising an important industry though farming, freighting and trapping are followed. Log houses with sod roofs. 2 boarding schools nearby; some children attend. The tom-tom is not so often heard at night as it used to be. Women sew and make their own clothing, but moccasins are worn.

No. 121 and 122 - Population 105 and 29. Use tents in summer. Receive little assistance from the government. Hunting, fishing and cattle raising. No shingled covered houses. No schools. Most of the Indians pagan; not interested in education.

No. 123 - Population 135. Cattle raising, hunting and fishing. No school on the reservation, but some children attend elsewhere.

No. 124 - is Chippewyan.

P. 129 - 1907 No. 119 and 120 - Practically one band since reservations adjoin. Tuberculosis less common, but many suffer from colds. 4 houses with shingled roofs. Increasing settlement leads to more drinking.

No. 121 - 122 - Have adjoining reserves. Hay crop not sufficient. A few children in school. Most of the Indians pagan, indolent and given to ceremonies.

No. 123 - Many sick with colds. Receive little help from the government. Hunting and cattle raising chief occupation. No school on the reserve, but a few children go elsewhere.

P. 151 - 1912 Bands No. 119 and 120 are Cree. No improvement in houses.

" " 121 and 122 are Cree. Hunting and

cattle raising produce some grain. Largely self-supporting.

Band No. 123 - Cree. 3 frame houses.

" " 161 - 161A - Island Lake band. Said to be Wood Cree. These two reserves were recently allotted. They are in separate places because the Indians desire access to the lake for fishing and hay land for their cattle. It is really one band numbering 183. Primary hunters. Houses of the most primitive kind. Some of them rough shelters; less cleanly than other Indians. Drinking whiskey whenever they can get it.

P. 137 - 1908 No. 119 and 120. All vaccinated. In the spring those who follow the hunt set out trapping and shooting muskrats. Some of the younger generation farm and raise cattle. They are changeable in their disposition towards schools. At the present they are favorable, but at other times they take their children from school. As a community they govern themselves well. Drinking on the increase.

Band No. 121-122 - Hunting the chief occupation. Not progressive, but becoming poor.

Band No. 123 - Smallpox, but no deaths. These Indians ambitious and ready to work.

P. 144 - 1909 Bands No. 119-120. Cutting hay a slow and wearisome process. Most of the Indians self-supporting. Return from hunting and fishing good. Gathering snake roots profitable. Four two story houses with shingled roofs.

Bands No. 121-122 - Same as last year. Have a small fishing reserve on little fishing lake.

Band 123 - Same as last year.

P. 136 - 1910 This is now organized as a single band. Trapping profitable. Hence less interest in farming. More drinking.

Bands No. 121-122 - Same as last year.

Band No. 123 - Too far from settlement to secure liquor. Island Lake placed under this agency. They had received no annuities since 1876, at which time they were registered at Ft. Pitt. For a long time they had resided near Island Lake and so eventually applied for a reserve and reinstatement on the roll.

P. 144 - 1911 Bands No. 119-120 - Difficult to get an Indian to see the wisdom of saving a few dollars. More drinking during the year.

Bands No. 121-122 - Rapid settlement gives more opportunity for labor. Housing poor.

Band 123 - Indians urged to select new locations for houses and construct them of lumber. Island Lake said to be Wood Cree, boundary of the reserve not yet determined. Number 187. They own a few cattle.

P. 148 - 1913 Bands No. 119-120 - A fever resembling typhoid was prevalent. Good price for snake root.

Bands No. 121-122 - Same as above. 4 arrests for drinking.

Band 123 - Less drinking than among other bands. Cattle raising chief support. Houses superior.

Bands 161-161A - Mostly pagans. Have no contact with civilization.

P. 60 - 1914 Number of cattle remains constant. Health good.

P. 64 - 1915 Island Lake band - an epidemic of typhoid. Low prices for furs put many on the rations roll. Indians taking more interest in farming.

P. 65 - 1916 All Cree. Trapping profitable. Some typhoid fever. 2 new reserves surveyed. Joseph Bighead and Loon Lake bands.

P. 22 - 1917	Band	Population	Pagan
	Frog Lake	149	
	Island Lake	118	58
	Bighead	89	68
	Keeheewin	162	
	Loon Lake	31	27
	Onion Lake	232	

P. 22 - 1924	Band	Population	Pagan
	Frog Lake	151	
	Island Lake	92	22
	Bighead	84	59
	Keeheewin	140	
	Loon Lake	27	24
	Onion Lake	236	6