

2003.02.157

T976.02

INFORMANT: FATHER JULES BIDAULT, OMI

SUBJECT: Father Albert Lacombe & Oblate Missionaries

PERIOD: 1827 - 1916

LENGTH OF TAPE: 30 min.

INTERVIEWED BY: unknown

Tape 2 - English

- 000 - 007 Introduction.
- 008 - 018 Father Bidault's arrival in Calgary from France in 1909, where he met Father Lacombe. Description of Lacombe. Also met in Lethbridge
- 019 - 038 Abduction of his Grandmother at St. Suplice and her return to family with two children. <sup>by ojibwe tribe</sup> <sup>Quebec</sup>
- 039 - 040 Dealings with Indians. <sup>Affinity for them.</sup>
- 041-047 Birth in 1827, ordination and arrival in St. Boniface.
- 048 - 053 Meeting with Bishop Tache. Only Bishop for Central Canada
- 054 - 079 Residence in Lac Ste. Anne (1852), struggle to learn to speak Cree. Could not give sermons at first, but later learned very well.
- 080 - 098 Founding of St. Albert, (Jan. 1861) Jan 14<sup>th</sup> returned to Lac Ste Anne & planned for spring
- 099 - 109 Return to St. Albert to build chapel, (April 1861) w/ 100 Indian families
- 110 - 140 Statue of Father Lacombe in memory of night of Dec. 3, 1865; battle between Cree and Blackfoot near Hobemma when Lacombe was wounded. Shot in the shoulder (he was staying w/ the Blackfeet) when Cree realised peace was restored
- 141 - 150 Building of bridge over Sturgeon River (1862). toll bridge \$5
- 151 - 155 Building of house for Grey Nuns, their arrival - 1863 w/ 7 orphan girls
- 156 - 160 Departure from St. Albert, travel to St. Paul, Peace River, journey to Southern Alberta to work with Blackfoot.
- 161 - 184 Mediates dispute between Blackfoot and CPR near ~~Chungon~~ the reserve. <sup>Sir</sup>
- 185 - 204 Meeting with George Stephens and other CPR dignitaries in Calgary, appointed president of CPR for a few minutes, used the time to sign a lifetime rail pass
- 205 - 209 Lacombe's railway passes and use of.
- 210 - 216 Father Bidault in Lethbridge (1910), used Lacombe's passes.
- 217 - 236 Bidault's lack of English, request from women to have "kids" christened.
- 237 - 253 Other favors granted Lacombe by CPR: building of the Lacombe Home, Midnapore (1911) orphanage and old age home
- 254 - 264 Lacombe's poor English; sermon at St. Mary's (Calgary) on death of Queen Victoria.
- 265 - 273 His last years in Midnapore. surrounded by the sisters of Providence (esp. Sr. Clarice)

one of the ojibwe girls was Lacombe's mother

- 274 - 285 Lacombe's death, Dec. 12, 1916, age 89.  
CPR recognition with special train to St. Albert for funeral.  
Burial in crypt.
- 286 - 291 Bishop Grandin
- 292 - 301 His appointment Bishop of St. Albert, 1870: death 1902.  
Introduction of his cause in Rome. *Travelled extensively as a missionary.*
- 302 - 312 Father Van Tighem, first stone church in Lethbridge, 1884  
Father Doucet, 60 years with the Blackfoot.  
Father Legal, was digging grave for Indians when word came  
of his appointment as Bishop Grandin's successor. *Gravedigger (Bishop)*
- 313 - 332 Other missionaries, <sup>nephew</sup> Leduc, Merer, Lestanc, LeGoff, André,  
Blanchet, H. Grandin, Fafard and Marchard killed at Frog  
Lake, their works and lives.
- 333 - 344 Meetings together, swapping stories.
- 345- 352 Conclusion.

NB. This tape was transposed from one done some years ago.