

30165-5
INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE



Lytton, B. C.

November 16th, 1922.

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
No. 1-B-16

ALSO

TO DATE OF THIS LETTER

575016

Sir,—

In reply to departmental letter No. 30165-5 dated October 27th, replying to mine of the 20th ult., in regard to the distribution of timber money to the Seabird Island Indians, I may say that on the 14th inst. I held a big meeting with the band when this matter was fully discussed.

The Indians are quite satisfied that they obtain partial distribution of the money in cash and stumping powder and other equipment for removing the stumps be supplied the band.

The Department ask me to report on how previous money distributed was expended and I beg to say that with the exception of a few cases the Indians purchased stumping powder, implements and stock for their farms. The exceptions, which one gets in every case, just used their money for buying supplies, but they were very much in the minority.

The Indians thought that if they could get a good supply of stumping powder and some heavy blocks and cable, they could get out the larger sized stumps with the use of teams. They would not feel justified in letting this work out to a whiteman who might have a donkey engine and stumping outfit. With a little supervision, I think that we can get good work done by the Indians themselves in this way.

I made enquires as to the cost of stumping powder and the cheapest is for the different Indians to become members of the Farmers' Institute, and then the powder would only cost them between five and six dollars a case. To buy it any other way would cost a great deal more.

I would strongly recommend that this matter be given the Department's earliest consideration and that the means be adopted.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

H. Graham
(H. Graham)
Indian Agent.

Assist. Deputy & Secretary,
Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

HG/MD

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 7859, File 30165-5 Pt.2)

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