

357,411.

829

Ottawa, May 19, 1911.

Sir,-

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant and note that your Department did not understand that the claims of Indians to certain small portions of land in the Railway Belt, B.C., should necessarily be constituted Indian reserves and that your Department will decide on the merits of each case and the manner in which it is to be dealt with.

The Indian Reserve Commissioner visited the different bands of Indians in the Railway Belt and allotted to them reserves that were supposed to be sufficient for their wants, but cases have occurred from time to time requiring further adjustment and no doubt there are a number of instances where plots of land should be secured to the Indians by constituting them reserves.

It is understood that this Department is to continue until finished the survey of the small plots of land authorized by the Minister, and that your Department will then decide whether all or any of them are to be constituted Indian reserves, or if the Indians will be allowed to homestead or be otherwise compensated for their rights and improvements and that in any case the Indians will be fairly dealt with.

If the foregoing is the correct view of the matter, action will be taken to have the surveys completed and copies of the plans &c., will then be forwarded to your Department for action.

Your obedient servant,

Secretary,  
Department of the Interior,  
Ottawa.

Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

Dept. of Indian & Northern Affairs, Letterbook,  
15 May 1911 - 29 May 1911, (R.G. 10, Volume 5346)

Poor  
copy

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES  
CANADA

