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Ottawa 28th April, 1904.

Sir,

The Department has recently had under consideration the question of allowing the Indians of the Southern Alberta Reserves to obtain employment in connection with a Beet Root Sugar Industry which is in operation at or near Raymond (a station on the railway between Lethbridge and Coutts). The proposition, as represented to the Department, is viewed with favour.

It is understood that two hundred Indians can be employed (chiefly at outside work) during the months of May, June, July, October and November, and that they will be paid for their services at the same rate as White men, viz: so much per acre. It is stated that from \$1.00 to \$1.75 per day can be made.

I have to request that you will look carefully into this matter and after consultation with Mr R.N. Wilson, of the Blood Agency, let me have a full report and recommendation. You should say how many of your Indians would be available for the work. Subjects for special consideration would be the manner of payment, which should be in cash, and the accommodation to be afforded workers if they are not to lodge and feed themselves.

Your obedient servant.

J.H. Gooderham, Esqr,
Indian Agent,
Peigan Agency,
Hawleed, N.W.T.

James Smith
Deputy Supt. General
of Indian Affairs.

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