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Ottawa, 20th May, 1914.

I am in receipt of your letter of the 15th instant with enclosure, relative to the requirements of the Indians the Tobique and Edmunston Reserves in the way of seed this Spring; and in reply I beg to point out that seemingly the Indians of the Tobique Reserve did not take advantage of the assistance afforded them in the way of farming. It is shown from the crop return which you submitted in October last, that most of the Indians of the reserve sold their crops and also that they did not save any seed, and that in some cases they even failed to provide sufficient potatoes for their winter's

In certain instances crops were sold in the field. The Department paid for the ploughing of the land and for the seeding of the same, and therefore the fact that the Indians sold their crops unharvested, shows that they took practically no interest in the farming industry, other than to obtain what profit they could, without any exertion, consequent upon the expense incurred on their behalf. There is a marked lack of interest in farm work on the part of the Indians of this Reserve, and it appears that the way in which the work has been conducted, has simply encouraged the Indians in laziness, while the expenditure incurred seems to have had but little practical result.

It is observed that you recommend that assistance

be

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