

254041-44A

Ottawa, 24th March, 1920.

Right Rev. Sir:-

Referring to letter to your Lordship of the 6th and your reply of the 12th March, relative to the cost of funerals on behalf of Indians who die at Cochrane, I beg to say that, as already intimated, the Department is paying at the present time at the rate of \$10.00 for each coffin which is supplied by the undertaker at Selkirk. Your Lordship is under a misapprehension in assuming that the said price was quoted a year or more ago and you will understand that in view of the fact that coffins can be obtained at Selkirk for \$10.00 each, the Department considers \$20.00 for a similar coffin at Cochrane excessive. Kindly inform the Department as to whether there is more than one undertaker at Cochrane. If there is more than one firm be good enough to give the name of each firm in order that the Department may make request for competitive prices.

On the 6th February the Department wrote the Medical Superintendent of the Lady Minto Hospital with regard to an account of \$42.00 in the case of an Indian named Pamcoosay Gablow. Exception was taken in the said letter to a charge for \$8.00 for embalming. No reply was received to the said letter and on the 21st February the matter was brought to the attention of Miss Alice M. Nic, the Superintendent of the Hospital. As information has not been furnished with regard to this charge, the Department will be glad if your Lordship will be good enough to look into the matter. I may say it is not usual for the Department to be asked to pay charges of this nature and an explanation as to necessity for the same in the case mentioned is desired.

I am, your Lordship's obedient servant,

Ht. Rev. J. G. Anderson,
Bishop of Neepawa,
Cochrane, Ont.

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