



DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

CANADA

November 30th, 1931.

MEMO

Dr. Scott:-

Hereunder is a statement submitted by Indian Agent N.H. MacPhail of unsold Indian baskets stored at Perth, N.B. There are some 235 dozen, made up as follows:-

187 one peck baskets
2399 Half bushel baskets
234 Three peck baskets

He paid the Indians at the rate of \$2.40 per dozen for the peck baskets, \$3.00 per dozen for the half bushel baskets, and \$5.50 per dozen for the three peck baskets.

On November 18th, 1930, Agent MacPhail had on hand 120 dozen of unsold baskets against 235 dozen at the present time. The reason for this is that the sales during the present year have decreased. The sales last year amounted to approximately \$1200.00, while this year we have received cash from sales to the extent of \$567.00 plus outstanding accounts of \$104.38.

The American Government increased the duty from 35% to 50%. This, combined with the general depression, no doubt, was the cause of the falling off in sales.

Mr. Bury, of the Lands Branch, has always been interested in the basket industry at Tobique, and possibly he might be able to dispose of them in Ottawa or Montreal.

If these baskets are not disposed of, I do not think we would be justified in purchasing any this winter. This will mean that we will have to give relief instead.

I would recommend that Mr. Bury be allowed to dispose of these surplus baskets to the best advantage.

[Signature]
Chief Accountant.