

486,040.

Ottawa, April 7, 1919.

Sir,-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, in regard to the desire of the Northern Navigation Company, Limited, of Sarnia, to have their boats on the Detroit Wallaceburg run make Walpole Island reservation a point of call during the season of navigation.

In reply I beg to say that Mr. Gildersleeve, the Manager of the Northern Navigation Company, was advised on the 12th ultimo that no rights could be granted by the Department without the consent of the Indians, and that it would be advisable for him to take the matter up with the local Indian Agent at Sarnia and the Band.

I might explain that permission to land on the reserve cannot be given by the Department under the provisions of the Indian Act, without the consent of the Indians and on the 5th of August last, at a general Council of both Bands, it was considered advisable that there should be a meeting in regard to the landing of the boats at the high bank picnic grounds. The Department has not been advised of any action taken in connection with this proposed meeting, and it would, therefore, appear advisable that the question should be taken up as Mr. Gildersleeve has been advised with the local Agent at Sarnia and the Band.

Your obedient Servant,

Lt.-Col. R. I. Towers,
Sarnia,
Ont.

R. I. Towers
Assistant Deputy & Secretary.

Indian Affairs. Letterbook
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