

Ottawa, 21st November, 1914

Reverend Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th instant, asking for a copy of the laws pertaining to Indians as to offences that can be imposed on them for disorderly conduct.

In reply I beg to enclose a copy of the Indian Act and to refer you to Section 161 designating the offences with respect to which an Indian Agent has magisterial jurisdiction. You will note that in addition to any offences against the provisions of the Indian Act the Indian Agent has jurisdiction with respect to certain offences under the Criminal Code and that is the limit of the Indian Agent's jurisdiction. If the disorderly conduct referred to in your letter was of such a nature as to come within the definition of vagrancy as contained in Section 238 of the Criminal Code, the Indian Agent would have jurisdiction but not otherwise. The penalty for vagrancy is contained in Section 239 of the Criminal Code, a copy of which you no doubt have access to.

Enc.

Your obedient servant,

Rev. P. Duffy,  
Indian Missionary,  
Red Bank,

*[Signature]*  
Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

Indian Affairs, Letterbook,  
14 November 1914 - 26 November 1914, (R.G. 10, Volume 5545)

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