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of the evil results of indiscriminate aid, require that assistance shall only be given to the aged, sick and destitute, who are wholly unable to obtain the necessaries of life and have no friends to help them. The Department must insist that all who can, must provide for themselves and for their own sick and destitute, and also that the supplies given be limited to essentials only. As to the account itself, there are several items such as jam, apples, a broom, candles, raisins, potatoes, butter, cashmere dress goods, etc., which cannot be considered as justly coming within the scope of relief supplies; and there is unmistakable evidence in at least three instances of altogether unnecessary expenditure amounting to several dollars in each case, in connection with funerals. This is a matter upon which the Department has given expression to its views in such a way that there should be no room for misapprehension. Expenditure of this nature will not be paid for in future.

The charge of \$1.50 for a pair of gum rubbers seems exorbitant, and the Department would like an explanation.

If any of those who received supplies charged for in this account are now able to pay for the same, they should be called upon to do so.

You will be good enough to report fully in the matter at your earliest convenience.

Your obedient servant,

Leah P. ...
Deputy Supt. General
of Indian Affairs.

Indian Affairs, Letterbook,
23 March 1903 - 16 April 1903, (R.G. 10, Volume 5023)

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