

254,026-57

Ottawa, February 10th, 1916.

Rev. Sir,-

I re-enclose herewith one copy of Dr. R. J. McDonald's account of \$60.00 for professional services rendered to Indians of Prince Edward Island during October, November and December, and I may say that the Department regards the charges therein for office calls and medicines much too high. It would seem that the doctor has been charging at the rate of \$1.00 for attendance in each case where the patient visited him in his office. You should point out to him that it is usual for the Department to allow .50¢ only for professional services rendered by a doctor at his office. I may say that the charge for professional services in such cases and the cost of medicines do not, as a rule, exceed \$1.00. It is only when it is necessary for the physician to prescribe an expensive medicine that a charge slightly above this amount is allowed. In ordinary cases the charge for services and medicines should not exceed \$1.00. Both you and the doctor should bear in mind that the amount appropriated by Parliament for medical attendance and medicines for Indians is only to provide for those who are destitute and it is calculated on the basis of payments charged by physicians to the poorest class of White patients. The strictest economy has to be observed in order that the Department may be able to

Rev. John A. Macdonald,
Indian Superintendent,
Grand River Lot 14,
P. E. I.

Indian Affairs, Letterbook,
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