

427013/7

Ottawa, 2nd December, 1918.

Sir:-

Referring to your letter of the 12th ultimo, in regard to the case of Fred Ballendine, of the Sturgeon Lake Reserve, who desires assistance from the Department to enable him to carry on farming operations, I beg to say that in view of the facts of the case as presented by you it would seem that you failed to exercise proper supervision in the case. You have said that Ballendine has about 20 acres of land broken "with the big engine". It is assumed that you were aware that the land was being broken for this Indian, and if so, you should have satisfied yourself that he had proper equipment to take care of the land broken.

With regard to the suggestion that the Department come to Ballendine's assistance in paying for the team he purchased, I beg to say that this will not be done, unless you can assure the Department that all other means have been exhausted to procure liquidation of the debt incurred, and I may add that notwithstanding the vendor's threat to resume possession of the team, it is thought that probably some other means can be found to satisfy him.

Your obedient servant.

Tom King
Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

S.A. Milligan, Esq.,
Indian Agent,
Leask, Sask.

Indian Affairs. Letterbook,
20 November 1918 - 12 December 1918, (R.G. 10, Volume 5741)

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