


Ottawa, November 2nd, 1904.

O-4/417.

Sir,-

I am in receipt of your letter of the 22nd ultimo in reference to an account from Dr. McAlpine of Vancouver for attendance upon one Henry Buler, also enclosing communications in regard thereto from Agent McDonald and Agent De Beck, and in reply I beg to say that the Department approves of the action of the Agents named in refusing to issue a voucher in favor of Dr. McAlpine. Indians must be given to understand that when they need the services of a physician they should go to one of the salaried medical men if it is at all possible for them to procure such services. If the Indians will not go to ~~them~~ <sup>a medical officer appointed by the Department</sup>, they must be prepared themselves to pay for the medical attendance furnished them. The medical men who are not appointed by the Department to attend Indians should also have it made clear to them that if they furnish medical attendance to Indians they must look to the Indians for payment for their services. As the man Buler is a halfbreed, he is not entitled to be attended by a physician paid a salary for attendance upon Indians. Kindly inform Agent De Beck that halfbreeds are not to have extended to them the privilege enjoyed by Indians. Indian women who marry white men should not be allowed to reside on the Reserves with their families as to all intents and purposes a woman so married is a white woman after marriage and takes the status of her husband.

Your obedient servant,

  
Secretary.

A.W. Vowell Esq.,

Indian Superintendent,

Victoria, B.C.

Indian Affairs, Letterbook,  
20 October 1904 - 16 November 1904, (R.G. 10, Volume 5077)

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