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Ottawa, 6th June, 1914.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 1st instant, I have to say that the presents to which you refer as having formerly been given to the Indians were discontinued when it was considered that their distribution did not tend to the best interests of those by whom they were received. The Department has been careful, however, to see that sick, infirm and aged Indians requiring assistance are properly cared for, but holds that all those who are in a position to do so should rely upon their own exertions for their maintenance.

As to the matter of your being allowed to take your wares across the International boundary free of duty, to which it is thought your letter refers, this is a matter over which the Government of Canada has no jurisdiction.

Your obedient servant,



Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

Mr. Henry Abomsawin,

Pierreville,

Que.

Indian Affairs, Letterbook,  
5 June 1914 - 12 June 1914, (R.G. 10, Volume 5521).

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