

254,909

OTTAWA, March 25th--1903.

Sir:-

Referring to your letter of the 16th. instant I return herewith the list of Indians who are indebted to Messrs. A. McGill & Son for agricultural implements furnished them. The Department desires that you will interview these debtors and lay before them the desirability of their endeavoring to settle their accounts. You should tell them that the Department expects Indians to pay their just debts, and if, as would seem, goods were furnished them by Messrs. A. McGill & Son, they should make an effort to pay for what they have received. In order that this may be done in such manner as will not bear too severely upon the debtors, you might suggest to them that they might allow 25% of their respective shares of interest to be deducted at each interest amount distribution from the money coming to them, and the ~~same~~ so deducted in each case applied towards settlement of the debt. If the Indians agree willingly to this arrangement (no undue pressure should be put on them) you should take from each debtor a written acknowledgement of the debts, and a consent to the arrangement, and forward the same to the Department.

To expedite the settlement, A. McGill & Son should supply you with an account in detail and duplicate for each claim, and the acknowledgement and consent should be written upon the face of the account, signed by the Indians and certified by yourself.

Your obedient servant,

John McIver Esqr.,
Indian Agent,
Cape Croker, Ont.

James S. [Signature]
Deputy Sup't. General
of Indian Affairs.

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

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