

OFFICE OF THE

CANADA

DEPARTMENT

OF

MINES AND RESOURCES

INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

Cranbrook.B.C. Novr.25th.1942.

Dear Sir:-

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 13th.inst., with reference to the proposed sale of timber on St. Marys Indian Reserve #1.

The cutting would, as you surmised, be done with a Portable Saw Mill on the Reserve. The price offered by the Companyffor cutting logs is \$1.65 per thousand. This is an increase of 40¢ per M.paid a year ago; in addition to this the Company will pay for skidding. They are prepared to offer the Indians employment at Piece work, or by the day, with or without teams. The average Kootenay Indian usually gives a better account of himself when working for the other fellow, than when working for himself, however, they would have the choosing to work for a set wage or by contract.

I share your view that they should study ways and means of reaping the best possible harvest out of the sale of their timber. For this reason I am inclined to think that they would make more prog-ress working by the day than by taking contracts. That is, of course, a matter which only the future can decide; as to the price offered \$3.50 per M.is considered high, in this district. It is more than rival Companies will pay.

If you happen to know of any responsible outfit at the Coast that might be interested, there is no reason why they should not be given an opportunity to bid if the Timber is advertised for sale.

I enclose herewith copy of letter addressed to the Director, Dr. H. W. McGill.

I/L

Major D.M.MacKay, Indian Commissioner for B.C. P.O.Box.70. Vancouver. B.C. Yours faithfully

Andrew Irwin. Indian Agent.

PLEASE QUOTE

FILE 2-10

encl.

AFFAIRES INDIENNES