



Study of

Passes for Indians to Leave their Reserves

B. Bennett  
Treaties and Historical Research  
Centre.

October 1974.

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Summary of Findings

1. Such passes did exist.
2. They were first used in 1885 as a result of the Riel Rebellion.
3. They were used in the area of treaties 4, 6 and 7. It is not known if they were used in all agencies of these treaty areas.
4. No evidence was found of their use in other areas.
5. Oral evidence indicates that their use continued in some areas until the mid - 1930's.

## Passes for Indians to Leave their Reserves

Indians have been required to have passes or permits for a variety of purposes including, for example, permits to sell livestock and to live abroad for over five years.<sup>1</sup> The purpose of this report, however, is to investigate restrictions intended to confine Indians to their reserves. The prohibition of attendance at various performances held off the reserve is the only limitation of this nature to be found in the Indian Act. It is contained in the Indian Act of 1906 (section 149, part 2), which states

*Any Indian in the province of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia or the Territories who participates in any Indian dance outside the bounds of his own reserve, or who participates in any show, exhibition, performance, stampede or pageant in aboriginal costume without the consent of the Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs, or his authorized agent, and any person who induces or employs any Indian to take part in any such dance, show, exhibition, performance, stampede or pageant, or induces any Indian to leave his reserve or employs any Indian for such a purpose, whether the dance, show, exhibition, stampede or pageant has taken place or not, shall on summary conviction be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty-five dollars or imprisonment for one month or to both penalty and imprisonment.*

This section, with a minor change made in 1914, was repeated in the Indian Act of 1927 (Section 140, part 3), and was amended to omit the words "in aboriginal costume" in 1933. The main purpose of the restriction was to protect the Indians from specific evil influences: therefore it is of limited relevance to this study. The section was not included in the Indian Act of 1951.

At the time of the Riel Rebellion (1885), however, an attempt was made to confine Indians in the west to their reserves. The manifest intention of this policy was to keep as many of them as possible from joining the revolt. The first record of the policy that I discovered was in a letter dated 6 May 1885 from Major General F. Middleton to the Hon. Edgar Dewdney (Indian Commissioner, N.W.T., Manitoba and Keewatin). In part the letter stated:

*Would it not be advisable to issue proclamation warning breeds and Indians to return to their Reserves and that all those found away will be treated as rebels. I suppose such a proclamation would be disseminated without difficulty.  
(Dewdney Papers N.W. Rebellion, M.G. 27, Vol. 4. pp. 1658-1660).*

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1. Samples of letters of permission to live abroad are contained in Appendix A. See also the Indian Acts, Section 3b (1876), 11 (1880), 10 (1886), and 13 (1927).

In his reply of the next day, Dewdney wrote:

*Have issued a notice advising Indians to stay on Reserves and warning them of risks they run in being found off them but have no power to issue proclamation as you suggest. Have offered fifty dollars reward to any Indian giving information leading to conviction of any runner from Riel or hostile Indians. (Dewdney Papers, N.W. Rebellion, MG. 27, Vol. 4. p. 1660)*

Although a sample of this notice has not been found, proof that it was distributed is indicated by a letter also dated 7 May 1885, from P. McGirr (for the Commissioner) to the Acting Agent at Peace Hills. It states:

*I am directed by the Commissioner to enclose herewith a notice warning all Indians against wandering off their Reserves, which it is thought it would be advisable to post in any places where it would be likely to be seen and reported to them. (R.G. 10. Volume 1139).*

A month and a half later, when the west had become more secure, Dewdney felt that it was no longer necessary to place these restrictions on the Indians. In a letter to J.M. Rae (Agent, Treaty 6) dated 23 June 1885, he wrote:

*I am in receipt of your telegram requesting that copies of the proclamation warning Indians to stay on their Reserves be sent to you. You are doubtless aware that there exists no law by which Indians can be punished for being off their Reserves. The notice which you refer to was issued by me owing to the exigencies of the times, and simply warns friendly Indians that if found off their Reserves the military would be likely to arrest them on suspicion of being hostiles.*

*Now that nearly all the hostile bands of Indians have surrendered, I do not see that any good results would be likely to follow the further publication of the notice. If they are found committing any illegal acts they must be arrested and punished, but it would be futile to attempt to confine them to their reserves, when, if they do leave them, there is no law by which they can be punished and our orders enforced. (Dewdney Papers N.W.Rebellion, M.G. 27, Vol. 5, pp. 1948-9)*

Despite his statement in June that it was neither legal nor any longer necessary to confine the Indians to their reserves, Dewdney was informed on August 16th by Hayter Reed (Assistant Indian Commissioner, N.W.T., Manitoba and Keewatin), that Indians would not be allowed to leave the reserves in the Battleford area without a pass, even though he admitted that such restrictions were not legal. This letter contains the first mention of passes that was found. It stated:

*I am adopting the system of keeping the Indians on their respective Reserves and not allowing any leave them without passes - I know this is hardly support-able by any legal enactment but we must do many things which can only be supported by common sense and by what may be for the general good. I get the Police to send out daily and send any Indians without passes back to their reserves....*

*Now that the best time has passed for carrying out the intention of depriving the Rebel Indians of their horses I intend having them all collected and branded with the I.D. Brand and tell the Indians that they must not use them without the permission of the instructor, (that is off the Reserve)...." (Dewdney papers North West Rebellion, M.G. 27, pages 2076 - 2087).*

In 1886 Dewdney issued a proclamation informing the Indians that soldiers would be coming to the west to maintain the peace, and warning them not to carry firearms off their reserves without permission:

*I further notify you, that, as the Government intends to send a large number of soldiers and police into the country, it will be necessary for any Indian who wishes to hunt off his Reserve, to get permission, from the Agent, to carry firearms.*

*There is a law, both for whites and Indians, prohibiting them from carrying fire-arms in settled Districts, and, as a friend, I wish to notify you that any Indian found with fire-arms, off his Reserve, without permission of the Agent, will be liable to arrest. (Dewdney, 16 Feb., 1886. R.G. 10. Vol. 1143)*

Other correspondence during that year made reference to passes required by Indians. In a letter dated 29 May, A. McDonald (Agent Treaty 4) wrote:

*I saw two families at Broadview yesterday, they had a note from Lawford, stating that they were coming to see a sick person here. Just at present no passes should be given to those Indians, for I fear they will all be here.*

*I will, in a few days, explain to the Indians who have just arrived how passes are asked for and how they are granted by me, and should they be found off the Reserve without a pass, the Police will take charge of them. This must be done, for the other Indians are now very careful in getting passes before they go any distance, or should they wish to go to Broadview to earn a little money by working. (R.G. 10, Vol. 3727).<sup>2</sup>*

In another letter, dated 4 October 1886, Hayter Reed spoke of having mailed passes to the Acting Agent at Peace Hills. Unfortunately no sample was attached, so that it is impossible to tell exactly what type of passes they were. The letter states:

---

2. In Appendix B there are also two other letters referring to Indians being forced to return to their own reserves.

*I beg to advise you that I have, today mailed to your address, in 3 parcels, 3 Books of Passes.*

*One of these should be given to each Instructor in your Agency.*

*When granting a pass to an Indian whose conduct during the rebellion was unsatisfactory, the fact should be noted on the face of the Pass, for the information of the Police, or other Officials to whom it may be presented. (R.G. 10 Vol. 1139)*

There is further evidence of the use of passes to restrict Indian movement off reserves in an exchange of letters in 1891. S.B. Steele (N.W.M.P. Commander, Macleod District) wrote to the Commissioner of the N.W.M.P. of difficulties in confining the Indians to their reserves and admitted that the police had no legal right to turn them back:

*I have the honour to report for your information that as usual immediately after treaty payment there are a great many Indians moving about visiting other reserves etc. and probably with the view to keeping them on their Reserves, the Agent at the Blood Reserve has refused them passes, the Piegans who have been met off their Reserve have all been provided with passes.*

*I doubt the possibility of keeping the Indians at home by such coercive measures as stopping their rations or refusing a pass, they will go in spite of all their Agent can do and if they have to start on a long journey without any rations the chances of their killing cattle is very greatly increased. There is an order throughout the district to turn back any Indians without a pass but a difficulty arises in the fact that few of our men can speak sufficient Blackfoot to make themselves understood and the Indians when it suits their purpose can be very obtuse: they are aware too that we have no legal right to turn them back.*

*I would suggest that representations be made to the Indian Department to instruct their Agents to supply rations to Indians who intend to travel at this season. (undated; R.G.10, 3863)*

Referring to Superintendent Steele's letter, Hayter Reed wrote to the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs (10 December 1891):

*In reply I beg to inform you that it is impossible to prevent a good deal of such visiting at the time referred to, and Agents are doubtless often puzzled as to the best course to pursue with regard to applications for passes.*

*As the Department is aware it has been necessary to caution Agents in Treaty 7, especially Agent Pocklington, against allowing his Indians to leave their reserve, and no doubt this makes him very chary about issuing passes.*

*On the other hand the action of the Agent for the Piegans in giving passes, may be justified on the ground that if Indians have made up their minds to go, they will do so, pass or no pass, (which is born out by what Mr. Superintendent Steele says about the Bloods), and that, as it is better to know who are going, where to and so forth, it is more expedient to give passes, as he has done.*

*With regards to Mr. Superintendent Steele's suggestion that Indians should be rationed for such journeys, the great objection to the adoption of that course is that the demands of Indians for passes would become far more numerous and more persistent.*

*Nor is there much danger of depredation to be apprehended from Indians travelling between the Reserves, since about two days is about the longest time occupied by such journeys. The danger comes from large parties making more extended excursions, to whom Agents would not feel justified in issuing passes, with or without rations. On the whole it appears to me that matters had, at any rate for the present, be left as they are.....". (R.G. 10 - 3863)*

Other references to passes of this type include the following ones from 1894, a year of Indian unrest in the west:

*Some Indians have asked me lately for passes to Red Deer to pick berries, but I would not grant them. If I hear of any number going North I will notify the Police to look after them. (Magnus Begg, Agent-Blackfoot Agency, to Indian Commissioner, Regina, 26 July 1894. R.G. 10-3918)*

*Information already received from our Agents in the district said to be affected, does not at all substantiate the truth of this rumour, and there is apparently very little importance to be attached to it; but it will be well nevertheless that you keep a close watch upon affairs in your agency, and the movements of your Indians. The arrival of any strange Indians, even though from other agencies under pass, should be carefully enquired into, and their business ascertained, and you should promptly advise this office of such arrivals...." (A.E. Forget - Assistant Commissioner (Regina), Confidential circular to Indian agents, 30 July 1894. R.G. 10 - 1137).*

Because it was felt that Indians visiting their children in residential schools were a disruptive influence, another type of pass was instituted in the west in 1889. The letter concerning these passes states:

*I have therefore to request that you would be good enough to allow no Indians to leave the reserves under your charge for the purpose of visiting any Industrial School without a pass, showing the time and purpose of their permitted absence, and bearing the name of each individual of the party covered by it. During the absence of such Indians their names must be removed from the ration list of the reserve to prevent their drawing rations there as well as at the school visited, or if rations are given them for the visit, the same should be stated on the pass for the information of the Principal.*

*You will please keep a record and make a monthly return of all such passes. (A.E. Forget, Assistant Commissioner, Regina, Circular letter, 29 March 1889. R.G. 10 - 1142)*



A week later another letter from Forget added:

*...be kind enough to warn all the Indians of your district that they will only be allowed such passes once in three months; but in cases where a child or children of the applicant, in the school, are sick, an extra pass may be granted. (A.E. Forget to Indian Agents, 8 April 1889. R.G. 10 - 1142)*

A series of letters in 1902-3 discussed passes for Indians crossing the International Boundary to visit other reserves. Among other things, these letters stated

*Referring to your telegram of yesterday, I beg to say that I am well aware there is no legal authority in Canada to compel our Indians to remain on or return to their reserves, whether they have passes or not; but we can keep other Indians off reserves as trespassers. (D. Laird, Indian Commissioner, to the Secretary, Dept. of Indian Affairs, 15 November 1902. R.G. 10 - 3797)*

*The less visiting an Indian does the better. It makes them restless and unsettled, and they no sooner return from one trip than they start upon another. We have an example of it this season with some of our own Indians who have been in the habit of visiting Fort Belknap at the invitation of these Indians, but always without a pass from here. (J. Wilson, Agent, Blood Agency to The Indian Commissioner, Winnipeg, 30 Oct. 1902, R.G. 10-3797)*

The two letters quoted above indicate that although there was some desire to restrict Indians to their reserves, it was recognized that the Department had no legal right to do this. The lack of legal authority was also admitted indirectly in a letter from the Superintendent-General's office in 1913. He stated:

*I am in receipt of your letter ... asking whether there is any regulation which forbids such an Indian living off her reserve indefinitely.*

*Unfortunately there is no provision in the Indian Act which requires Indians to reside on their reserves or to return thereto if they attempt to live elsewhere. (J.D. McLean Assistant Deputy and Secretary, to H.E. Calkin, J.P., Spirit River, Alberta, 22 August 1913. R.G. 10 - 4076)*

The preceding disclaimers notwithstanding, two pass stubs from the Battleford Agency (see Appendix C) indicate that passes continued to be used at least in this agency until 1918. Oral evidence from two IAND employees indicates that passes continued in use in some agencies until the 1930's. During an interview (17.9.74), Mr. C. Laight (Chief, Special & Administration Branch, IEA Program) remembered his father, who was the Indian Agent at Edmonton in the 1930's, giving passes. He recalled that they were necessary for an Indian to leave the reserve and that they had to be shown at all

agencies on the route of travel. Mr. H. Woodsworth, now in the Departments' Saskatoon Office, stated (by telephone 12.9.74) that he remembered passes being issued in Alberta until the mid - 1930's. At that time agents were instructed by circular to destroy all passes and to cease issuing them. The reason for this change of policy, Mr. Woodsworth recalled, was that an Indian had successfully sued the United States government over similar passes in that country. Neither records of this court case nor the circular were discovered during my research.

Conclusion

Thus, although evidence concerning them is limited, passes intended to keep Indians on their reserves did exist. Restrictions on Indians' movements off their reserves were first proclaimed in 1885 for the purpose of keeping them from joining in the Riel Rebellion. By August of that year passes were required by Indians who wished to leave their reserves in the Battleford area and perhaps elsewhere. Pass stubs indicate that they continued in use at Battleford until at least 1918, and verbal evidence that their use continued in some areas until the mid - 1930's. No evidence that passes were used anywhere but in the (present day) prairie provinces was discovered, and it is not known whether or not they were used in all agencies in the prairies.

Passes for Indians to Leave their Reserves

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Appendix C: Passes and Stubs (Samples)

Appendix D: List of Files Reviewed

## APPENDICIES

### APPENDIX A: Letters concerned with giving permission to Indians to live abroad

1. Agent J.N. Daley's Report - June 1940
2. T.R.L. MacInnes to Commissioner, R.C.M.P. 1 March 1941
3. T.R.L. MacInnes "To Whom It May Concern" 14 August 1941
4. T.R.L. MacInnes - Permission for J. Mainville - 20 November 1941

### APPENDIX B: Correspondence concerning passes for Indians to leave their reserves. (arranged chronologically)

1. F. Middleton to E. Dewdney - 6 May 1885
2. E. Dewdney to F. Middleton - 7 May 1885
3. P. McGirr to Agent, Peace Hills - 7 May 1885
4. E. Dewdney to J.M. Rae - 23 June 1885
5. H. Reed to E. Dewdney - 16 August 1885
6. E. Dewdney - Notice to Indians - 16 February 1886
7. H. Reed to Superintendent-General 27 May 1886
8. P. Hourie to Indian Commissioner 27 May 1886
9. A. McDonald to Indian Commissioner 29 May 1886
10. H. Reed to Agent, Peace Hills 4 October 1886
11. H. Reed to Agent, Piegan Reserve 6 July 1887
12. A. Forget to Agent, Piegan Reserve 29 March 1889
13. A. Forget to Agent, Piegan Agency 8 April 1889
14. S.B. Steele to Commissioner N.W.M.P. 8 April 1889
15. H. Reed to Deputy Superintendent General 10 December 1891
16. J. McDougall to Deputy Superintendent General 1 June 1894
17. R.B. Deane to N.W.M.P. Detachments 1 June 1894
18. Magnus Begg to Commissioner 26 July 1894
19. A. Forget to Agents 30 July 1894
20. J. Wilson to Commissioner 30 October 1902
21. D. Laird to Secretary of Indian Affairs 5 November 1902
22. J.D. McLean to Commissioner (Telegram) 14 November 1902
23. D. Laird to Secretary of Indian Affairs 15 November 1902
24. Memorandum to J.D. McLean 24 November 1902
25. F. Pedley to W.A. Jones 26 November 1902
26. W.A. Jones to Secretary of Indian Affairs 5 December 1902
27. F. Pedley to F. White 17 January 1903
28. H.E. Calkin to Superintendent of Indian Affairs 3 August 1913
29. J.D. McLean to H.E. Calkin 22 August 1913

### APPENDIX C: Passes and Stubs (from Glenbow Institute)

1. Blank Pass - Battleford Agency
2. Pass-Stub - Sarcee 30 November 1892
3. Pass-Stub - Sarcee 16 April 1893
4. Pass-Stub - Battleford 12 August 1917
5. Pass-Stub - Battleford 15 July 1918

### APPENDIX D: List of Files Reviewed

APPENDIX A

Letters concerned with giving permission to  
Indians to live abroad.

600172

ORIGINAL FILE  
78-40

A-1

*[Handwritten signature]*

AGENT'S REPORT ON WALPOLE ISLD. AGENCY FOR JUNE 1940.

x x x

The new U.S.A. law demanding passports has caused a great deal of work in this office as the U.S. immigration has demanded an identification card signed by the Indian Agent. I have pleasure in reporting that the owner of the Walpole Island Ferry Co. had several of these printed for us free of charge and so far to date we have some left on hand. I am enclosing a sample card and would like permission to purchase if necessary another 200 or 300 of these cards.

x x

x  
James W. Daley.  
Agent.

March 1, 1941.

Dear Sir:


Re: Joseph BEAR,  
Extradition Act,  
Indian Point, N. B.

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 22 with respect to the above noted.

In reply to your enquiry I may say that with respect to the application of the new passport regulations to Indians, the Department of External Affairs informs us that a solution has been given to the problem by the United States authorities from whose communication I quote as follows:

" It is therefore agreed that Indians born in Canada, if they have not been enfranchised by the provisions of Canadian law, may enter the United States without passports or visas, upon submitting proof that they are bona fide Indians. The instructions to that effect have been forwarded to United States immigration officers all along the Canadian-United States border."

Yours very truly,

  
T.R.L. MacInnes,  
Secretary.

The Commissioner,  
Royal Canadian Mounted Police,  
Ottawa, Canada.



600172

A-3

August 14, 1941.

THE UNITED STATES IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES

OR

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

This is to certify that Miss Juliette Chalifoux and Miss Germain Chalifoux are members of the River Desert Band of Indians, whose reserve is located in the province of Quebec and are subject to the jurisdiction of this department as provided by the Indian Act.

Any consideration that may be extended to them as Canadian Indians will be appreciated by the undersigned.



T.R.L. MacInnes.  
Secretary.



A-4

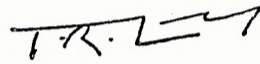
600172

November 20, 1941.

Dear Sir:

Permission is hereby granted for Joseph Mainville, an Indian of the Couchiching Band, in the Fort Frances Indian Agency, in the Province of Ontario, to reside outside of Canada for a period of five years from this date, pursuant to the provisions of Section 13 of the Indian Act.

Yours very truly,



T.R.L. MacInnes.  
Secretary.

J.F. Lockhart, Esq.,  
Indian Agent,  
Fort Frances, Ontario.

101

APPENDIX B

Correspondence concerning passes for Indians to  
leave their reserves. (arranged chronologically)

1658

Fish Creek, 6<sup>th</sup> May 1885.

Gov. Dewdney,  
Regina.

Would it not be advisable  
to issue proclamation warning breeds  
and Indians to return to their Reserves  
and that all those found away will be  
treated as rebels. I suppose such a  
proclamation would be disseminated  
without difficulty. No news yet of  
steamer

DEWDNEY PAPERS.  
NORTHWEST REBELLION  
1884-1885.

MH46, 1885

McDonald - Maudoch.  
M. 6. 27 I.C. 4. Vol 4.  
py 1658 - 1660

re: "Forcing Indians to Stay on  
Reserves."

Steamer cargo. Am waiting impatiently.  
 Three hundred cypher. Just heard from  
 Battiford that Otter started Friday  
 for Pondmaker's reserve with three  
 hundred men and five days rations,  
 contrary to my orders. All uneasy.  
 He is inexperienced as yet as his  
 troops. Macdowall gone to Prince Albert.

Fred. Middleton  
 Major General

1660

B2

By boat 1:15 pm

Regina, 7<sup>th</sup> May 1885.

Major General Middleton  
 Dish Creek ✓

Have issued a notice advising  
 Indians to stay on Reserves and warning them  
 of risks they run in being found off them  
 but have no power to issue proclamation as  
 you suggest. Have offered fifty dollars reward  
 to any Indian giving information leading to  
 conviction of any runner from Piel or hostile  
 Indians. Am sending you copies by mail.

J. D. Wood

1948 B4

23<sup>rd</sup> June 5

Sir

I am in receipt of your telegram requesting that copies of the proclamation warning Indians to stay on their Reserves be sent to you.

You are doubtless aware that there exists no law by which Indians can be punished for being off their Reserves. The notice which you refer to was issued by me owing to the exigencies of the times, and simply warned friendly Indians that if found off their Reserves the military would be likely to arrest them on suspicion of being hostile.

M. Rae Esq.

Battleford.

Now 4

Durdny Papers - N.W. Rebellion  
Nelson Riel 1777-2172m June 3, 1885  
M.G. 57 I.-C4 U05  
pg 1948-9

Letter Durdny to Rae re:  
"Punishing Indians for Being Off  
Reserves"

1949

Now that nearly all the  
hostile bands of Indians have surrendered,  
I do not see that any good results  
would be likely to follow the further  
publication of the notice. If they  
are found committing any illegal acts  
they must be arrested and punished,  
but it would be futile to attempt to  
confine them to their reserves, when, if  
they do leave them, there is no law  
by which they can be punished and  
our orders enforced.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

F. C. [Signature]  
Indian Commissioner.

Ch. H. Please then to Judge Rowland & ask him if  
this is not the case.

[Signature]

Battleford Aug 16<sup>th</sup> 1885.

Dear Mr Dewdney.

I have just finished a tour through the Reserves in this neighborhood & find that all the Indians excepting those of Little Pine - and there are exceptions to those - are inclined to work well, and I am endeavoring to impress upon our Employees that now is the time to work them into a proper groove in which they must be retained - but many circumstances tend to cripple our efforts at the start. such as shortness of cattle on some reserves and lack of implements on others. I am endeavoring at all events for this year to make instructions discard mowers as much as possible & in no case discourage their use as the work is to be done with scythes. thus providing work where otherwise it might be lacking - One is at a great loss to know what to do for good instructions



There are good men in the country but some <sup>2077</sup> do not care to trust themselves on the Reserves while in other cases the wages are not a sufficiently tempting bait - and although it would be well if we had more men among our Indians still I consider it wiser to wait and endeavor to get the class we want - As it now stands we have only one man in the Eagle Hills one for all the Battle River Indians and two on the Sas<sup>n</sup> Reserves - this is not sufficient to handle them properly - especially when it is considered that the numbers of the bands have been materially augmented by members of other bands - I am sending Balleudine and another out with lists of the names of the Indians and finding out exactly who we have about us & where the rest are, for as it now stands we are greatly in the dark in this respect - I find that not a few of Big Bears band are

ambitious to go west to Buffalo Lake - no doubt  
with a view of joining Big Bear's eldest son  
whom you may remember you met in  
the Peace Hills last fall - I think it would  
be well to have the few lodges of this band  
now wandering in the Edmonton District  
sent to this, and distributed, as they will  
be a disturbing element where they now  
are. I hope you will not allow them  
to have any Reserve near Buffalo Lake  
if they still desire it as their time is now  
yours to dictate or even have any voice  
in the matter - I am adopting the  
system of keeping the Indians on their  
respective Reserves & not allowing any  
leave them without passes - I know this  
is hardly ~~in~~ acceptable & any legal  
infringement but we must do many things  
which can only be supported by common sense

and by what may be for the general good - 2079  
the Police to send out daily and send any Indians  
without passes back to their Reserves - but  
unless one is at their heels Police duties  
are all done in a half hearted manner -  
Some good officers should be here as those  
now in command are perfectly useless -  
Fancy after my taking the trouble to hunt  
up little Poplars exact whereabouts, which  
they had not the energy to do, and requesting  
a party be sent on his trail - it is found  
a party certainly were sent out but  
with only four days provisions + of course  
about the time it struck the trail it had  
turned back owing to shortness of food -  
fired on going through the country that  
Quinn's + Lash's stock, implements etc were  
the only ones which might be considered  
at all branded - Many of the cattle in  
this District were not branded + in some

2080

instances improper done & not in accordance with instructions. Evidently none of the wagons carts, harness etc in use on the farms or by Indians was ever touched with a branding iron - so that no doubt were the losses of many things which we would not otherwise be, were your instructions carried out - One harness has been taken away from two or three different people since my arrival - it was recognized newly because there was none other in the country like it & not from the brand marks - Again, even after my urgent protests to the contrary I find that articles are going out of this store without being branded - I felt so annoyed at this the other day that I managed to put together a brand & ordered that everything before it went into the warehouse should be branded - the consequences are all on

Stores now coming in are wanted — I think  
Rae merits a rap over the knuckles at your  
hands for this neglect — The fact is I find  
that if he has not good men under him  
he fails in having directions carried out  
properly as he appears never to put his  
own hands to the wheel — which must be  
done to meet with success —

I am endeavoring to impress upon the  
Instructors the absolute necessity of securing  
every bushel of grain & potatoes for next  
years seeding & not allow any to be  
used if at all possible — as to the quantities  
required it is impossible now to tell — as  
a favorable autumn may enable us  
to reap a fairly good crop from the small  
quantity sown — I see Rae has been  
again asking for a large quantity of wheat  
this season of wheat by Indians as you

2082  
I am aware has never been strongly <sup>2082</sup> ~~supported~~  
by me as I preferred to do still prefer to  
see good barley in their hands as so  
much less risk is run in its raising  
from frost, drought etc + it makes at  
the same time a good class of flour  
efficiently good + wholesome for the  
requirements - We have ample wheat  
in hand here to do for seed, which  
should only be given to the more  
advanced Indians + from it seed  
for the District raised - No doubt seed  
grain will again have to be sent in  
we cannot get it down from  
downstream also potatoes as there  
is little or none in the country -  
but I would strongly urge not to have  
anything to do with wheat -

I again find that our turnip seed has  
in most instances been planted  
too thickly. We will have to enforce  
the use of little cans with 3 or 4 holes  
like a pepper pot whilst sowing in  
this way - as it is in use on one or two  
reserves - it is found the seed is  
better sown & consequently a better  
crop reaped - Mossonin has a fine  
field of turnips beautiful clean ~~and~~  
but all our grain of course has  
been put in a little late -  
now that the <sup>best</sup> proper time has passed for  
carrying out the intention of depriving  
the rebel Indians of their horses I  
intend having them all collected and  
branded with the I.D. brand & tell the  
Indians that they must not use them

without, the permission of the <sup>2084</sup> Instructor  
(that is off the Reserve) - the horses will  
be left in the care of the Indians themselves  
but whitemen will be charged about  
purchasing them with one brand  
on them - thus we will be able to  
get some work out of them -

It is found that out of some 240 guns  
handed over to Col Smith at Bittong  
some 60 odd remain - the balance  
having been taken by his own  
officers I believe - apart from some  
12 or 15 the General sent for - this  
is a matter of regret as I think it  
will be found our policy to return  
a few guns to the Indians to enable  
them to provide themselves with  
game - but this number as many of them



broken we can do but little - My idea  
was to hand them over to the instructor  
who would loan them out to good  
Indians - that is where Indian  
American Instructor -

I am anxious to get to Pitt as soon  
as possible with a view of placing  
matters in a proper groove - From  
what I can now see I think on  
my arrival I shall suggest to you  
the advisability of placing all the  
Sag Lake Indians who desire to farm  
at Orin Lake & sending of course  
Keebecwin's & the far north Indians  
to their Reserves where game & fish  
is more or less plentiful - This would  
lessen expenditure materially in the  
way of buildings, salaries for officials

etc + lighten work - the numbers <sup>2086</sup> together  
would not exceed 400 I think -  
I think it would be well if you  
made Rae a L.P. as he could  
then furnish a refractory Indian  
as the spot of thought necessary  
+ not have to take him before  
me at Prince Albert -

Now that you have decided not to  
pay the rebel bands up here - I would  
suggest the advisability of sending  
in a little dress material for the women  
together with some blankets for all -  
I do not think much will be required  
as I have little doubt but that the Indians  
have not a few caches still about -  
as they now are I never saw better  
dressed Indians - their stolen goods has

had the effect of making them look  
more like Half-Breed —

A large number of cattle is supposed to  
be in the neighborhood of the Nose & I  
have persuaded Otter to send & find  
out the truth of the rumor & if true buy  
the stock in — Many of our Indians are  
at Tramping & Sanding Lakes & possibly  
they may be living on these Cattle — I am  
informed that a number who escaped  
from here have reached the Half  
Breed settlement on the Battle River  
& are cured — No doubt there are  
numbers as well in the neighborhood  
~~of the~~ Red Deer — If so they should be  
discussed & ordered to their Reserve

Wm S Dawney  
Wm S Dawney

Yours faithfully  
H. J. Reed

To the Indians of the

B6

North West Territories.

As the Spring is coming on, the Government is doing all it can to provide seed-grain, etc. for all the land you can cultivate, in order that you may put in a good crop for the coming season.

Large quantities of wheat, barley, oats, and potatoes, as well as garden-seeds, will be sent to your Agents; it will, therefore, be necessary for you to make every preparation to begin work as soon as the weather will permit.

The knowledge, that soldiers are coming to the country, has, I have no doubt, already reached you; and you have been told by people, who want to do you harm, that your arms are to be taken from you, and that arrests are to be made of those who took part in the troubles last Spring;

This is to notify, — all Indians, that such is not the case; no Indians will be disarmed who behave themselves, and attend to what the Agent tells them.

Neither will arrests be made of any who took part in last years troubles.

The soldiers who are coming, are for the purpose of keeping the peace; and while here, will endeavor to stop horse-stealing, both from Whites and Indians; and arrest any found so occupied. They will,

also,

also assist in putting a stop to whiskey-smugglers coming across the line.

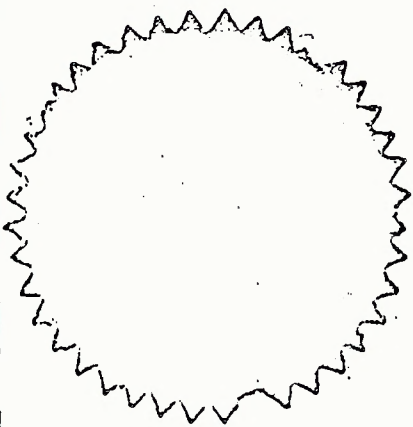
I further notify you that, as the Government intends to send a large number of soldiers and Police into the country, it will be necessary for any Indian who wishes to hunt off his Reserve, to get permission, from the Agent, to carry fire-arms.

There is a law, both for Whites and Indians, prohibiting them from carrying fire-arms in settled Districts, and, as a friend, I wish to notify you that any Indian found with fire-arms, off his Reserve, without permission of the Agent, will be liable to arrest.

I send you these words for your good, and hope you will take my advice, and that of your Agents and Instructors; and not listen to men who, for selfish motives, wish to see you discontented, and in trouble.

E. Dewdney  
Lieut. Gov. and Indian Commissioner  
Regina.

February 16, 1886.



In your reply refer to

1318

Commissioner's Office,

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

North-West Territories,

Regina, May 27<sup>th</sup> 1886

Vertical handwritten notes on the left margin, including "The same as" and "The same as" repeated vertically.

Handwritten signature and date: "May 31"

I have the honour to enclose a copy of a letter from Mr Peter Haurie who has just returned from the Reserves in this vicinity, reporting on his success in removing a number of Indians from the towns about, and from Reserves to which they did not belong, to their own Reserves.

I have the honour to be  
Sir,

Your obedient servant  
H. J. Reed  
Asst. Commissioner

The Rt Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
Sup<sup>t</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup>  
of Indian Affairs  
Ottawa

Copy of Original

Regina  
May 27/86

Sir

I have the honor to report to you, that in accordance with your instructions I proceeded to Piapoto Reserve on the 18<sup>th</sup> inst to take measures with a view to removing to their own proper Reserves a number of families who were camped there; and who were in the habit of visiting Regina for immoral purposes. I was accompanied by Inspector "Chalmers" and eleven men of the N.W.M.P. with whose assistance I accomplished the quiet removal of 6 families to Crooked Lake and one family to Touchwood Hills. The Police rendered me valuable aid as the Indians much objected to leaving. On my way home I found three families of Tile Hills Indians camped at Du' Appelle station who were also making their living by prostitution. These also on receiving your instructions through me started for home.

His Honor

I have the honor to be Sir

Indian Comm<sup>r</sup> your ob<sup>dt</sup> Servant

Regina

Sg<sup>t</sup> Peter Bourie

REG-3727

(copy)

30035

N<sup>o</sup> 6875.

Indian Office,  
Crooked Lake,  
May 29<sup>th</sup> 1886.

Sir,

I have the honor to report that after making arrangements for the transport of the Gopher family at Du' Appelle I left, arriving here yesterday evening.

This morning while making arrangements with Red Cart's nephew to commence planting potatoes immediately. I perceived that the Indians in Chackachas and So-ta-e-mus camps were preparing to move. I walked up to them. Chackachas" had already left So-ta-e-mus" was employed over a sick child. I however found out from Ah-Kista quah that they were moving to where they intended having the Sun-dance.

I am very sorry to see all these Indians so well supplied with horses, they can move at a moment's

notice

RG 10 - 3727<sup>h</sup>



The only new Indians who have asked for grub up to now are those with Lo-ta-e-new.

"Ah-in chu quan" of Moose Mountain is here, he is Chief White Bear's eldest son, he informed Instructor Copithorne that all the Indians of his reserve except three families have left, most of them being about Whitewood and on other stations on the line of railroad -

I saw two families at Broadview yesterday, they had a note from Lawford, stating that they were coming to see a sick person here, - just at present no passes should be given to those Indians, for I fear they will all be here.

Policemen should be ordered to Whitewood immediately, and to other points where these Indians are, and ordered back to their Reserve.

I will be at Whitewood on the 1<sup>st</sup>, I will drive along the line from Broadview and see what Indians are camped there, at the same time inform them that if they go on these

Reserves.

Reserves they will get no grub from me or any of the Instructors.

I will, in a few days, explain to the Indians who have just arrived how passes are asked for and how they are granted by me, and should they be found off the Reserve without a pass, the Police will take charge of them. This must be done, for the other Indians are now very careful in getting passes before they go any distance, or should they wish to go to Broadview to earn a little money by working.

To make matters work easier between Instructor McNeil and the new Indians, I have instructed him to employ an Interpreter for a short time, or until he becomes more acquainted with them. I have also directed him to treat them as the others, and to try and get them to plant some potatoes, which I fear is very doubtful their doing, as their whole mind is bent on the Sun-dance. I think we will be able to get some of the old Indians to do it for them.

I have the honor to be,  
Yc. Yc. Yc.

A. McDonald  
Indian Agt.

No.

OFFICE OF THE

Indian Commissioner,

North-West Territories,

N<sup>o</sup> 1308

*Circular*

Regina, 4<sup>th</sup> October, 1886.

Sir,

I beg to advise you that I have, to-day  
mailed to your address, in 3 parcels,

3 Books of Passes.

One of these should be given to each  
Instructor in your Agency.

When granting a pass to an Indian,  
whose conduct during the rebellion  
was unsatisfactory, the fact should be  
noted on the face of the Pass, for the  
information of the Police, or other Officials  
to whom it may be presented.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Indian Agent,  
Peace Hills -  
via Calgary

Frederick Reed  
Asst. Commissioner.

*A/12/9/86*

OFFICE OF THE

Indian Commissioner,

North-West Territories,

Regina, 6<sup>th</sup> July, 1887.Circular.  
A 11/7/87

Sir,

With reference to the subject of annuity-payments, I have the honor to inform you that the rules already laid down are to be followed, and that unless under exceptional circumstances, payment should be withheld from Indians absent from their Reserves, without cause.

The exceptional circumstances are, for example, when an Indian may be known to be absent for some useful purpose, such as trying by his own work to support himself, in part or in whole.

Other cases may occur, with regard to which you may feel assured, that to refuse payment on account of absence, would be an injustice; and of such, you must judge for yourself, and report your reasons, when you except them from the general rule above laid down.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

H. J. P. L.

Asst. Commissioner.

Actg.

Sub-Indian Agent,

Regan Reserve,

Fort Macleod,

Alta.

RG10-1142

No. 596

OFFICE OF THE

Indian Commissioner,

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES

Regina, March 29<sup>th</sup> 1887

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the visits of Indians to Industrial Schools, for the ostensible purpose of seeing their children, have grown to be so frequent that they have come to be regarded by the Department as a very serious evil, to be discouraged, because they tend to unsettle the minds of the children, confirm and foster idle and wandering habits in the parents, and cause an unjustifiable expenditure of supplies both on the reserves and at the schools.

I have therefore to request that you will be good enough to allow no Indians to leave the reserves under your charge for the purpose of visiting any Industrial School without a pass, showing the time and purpose of their permitted absence, and bearing the name of each individual of the party covered by it. During the absence of such Indians their names must be removed from the ration lists of the reserves to prevent their drawing rations there as well as at the school visited, or if rations are given them for the visit, the same should be stated on the pass for the information of the Principal.

You will please keep a record, and make a monthly return of all such passes.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your obedient servant

W. H. G. G.

Asst. Commissioner

Indian Agent

Regina Reserve

Fort Macleod

No. 113.

OFFICE OF THE

Indian Commissioner,

NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

Regina, 8<sup>th</sup> April 1887

Sir,

I have the honor to refer you to our circular of the 29<sup>th</sup> ultimo, in relation to the giving of passes to Indians visiting the industrial schools, and to further to add that you will be kind enough to warn all the Indians of your district that they will only be allowed such passes once in three months, but in cases where a child or children of the applicant, in the school, are sick, an extra pass may be granted.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,  
 C. E. Forget,  
 Asst. Commissioner.

Indian Agent,

Regina Agency

Fort Macleod

Alta —

COPY.

U. W. Mounted Police  
District Office  
Fort Huleed.

83757

The Commissioner

U. W. Mounted Police  
Regina.

Sir,

I have the honour to report for your information that as usual immediately after treaty pay month there are a great many Indians moving about visiting other Reserves &c and probably with a view to keeping them on their Reserve, the Agent at the Blood Reserve has issued them passes, the Piegiens who have been not of Blood Reserve have all been provided with passes.

I doubt the possibility of keeping the Indians at home by such coercive measures as stopping their rations or refusing a pass, they will go in spite of all their Agent can do and if they have to start on a long journey without any rations the chances of their killing outle is very greatly increased. There is an order throughout the district to turn back any Indians without a pass but a difficulty arises in the fact that few of our men can speak sufficient Black-

Foot

215  
1884. To make themselves understood and the Indians when  
it suits their purpose can be very obtuse; they are  
aware too that we have no legal right to turn them back.

I would suggest that representations be made  
to the Indian Department to instruct their Agents to  
supply rations to Indians who intend to travel at this  
season. That many Indians are well intentioned is  
proved by the fact that some of our men met "Bull  
Snake Hat" and party nearly fifty in all en route to  
the Blackfoot crossing on a visit. They had no rations  
with them and tried to buy meat along the route but  
could not procure any till they arrived at Mosquito  
Creek.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your obedient servant,

Sgt S. B. Steale Supt.

Comdg. Madero District.



83767

In your reply refer to  
No. 300.  
also, the date of this letter.

Office of the

Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

North-West Territories.

Address your reply to  
"The Indian Commissioner,  
Regina, N.W.T."

Regina, 10th. December, 1891

Sir,

83767.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 7th. ulto: enclosing for report on the statements and suggestions made therein, copy of a letter from Mr. Superintendent Steele, Commanding the N. W. M. Police, in the MacLeod District, relative to the number of Indians visiting Reserves other than their own, after their annuities have been paid.

In reply I beg to inform you that it is impossible to prevent a good deal of such visiting at the time referred to, and Agents are doubtless often puzzled as to the best course to pursue with regard to applications for passes.

As the Department is aware, it has been necessary to caution Agents in Treaty 7, especially Agent Pocklington, against allowing his Indians to leave their Reserve, and no doubt this makes him very chary about issuing passes.

On the other hand the action of the Agent for the Piegans in giving passes, may be justified on the ground that if Indians have made up their minds to go, they will do so, pass or no pass, (which is borne out by what Mr. Superintendent Steele says about the Bloods), and that, as it is better to know

The Deputy of the

Supt. Gen'l of Indian Affairs,

Ottawa.

RG 10-3813

*Received  
Regina  
11/11/91*

Now who are going, where to and so forth, it is more expedient to give passes, as he has done.

With regard to Mr. Superintendent Steele's suggestion that Indians should be rationed for such journeys, the great objection to the adoption of that course is that the demands of Indians for passes would become far more numerous and more persistent.

Nor is there much danger of depredation to be apprehended from Indians travelling between the Reserves, since about two days is the longest time occupied by such journeys. The danger comes from large parties making more extended excursions, to whom Agents would not feel justified in issuing passes, with or without rations. On the whole it appears to me that matters had, at any rate for the present, be left as they are, and the success which has attended the employment of Indians as Police scouts, justifies the hope that they will put an end to such of the depredations as have been justly charged to the Indians.

As Department has been repeatedly informed, the conviction is firmly entertained, that no small proportion of depredations upon stock of which the Indians have been accused, has been committed by white criminals, and if it be found that despite the efforts of the Indian scouts attached to the Police force, there still remains reasonable ground to suspect Indians of such offences, I would suggest that the number of such scouts be increased, or better still that a body of the Indians be enlisted, as suggested in the Memo: attached to my letter No. 214, of 30th. ulto:

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Commissioner.

COPY

Morley June 1st 1894

The bearer of this by name "George Two young men" is a Stony Indian belonging to this Reserve. He is now on a visit to his relations of the Assiniboine and Sioux tribes.

His object is one of peace and friendly intercourse.

No one need dread the vicinity of his camp.

(Signed) John McDougall

Missionary

117342

Memorandum.

North West Mounted Police Force.

To Mounted Police Detachments  
on the Milk River.

The bearer two young men, a Stony Indian  
and eleven others are on their way to Assini-  
boine. They have been cautioned about the  
close season. Help them along and keep them  
out of mischief as far as you can.

(Signed) R. Burton Deane  
Supt Comdg.  
"K" Division.

*Party left this Agency July 1  
en route to their homes they  
are rationed for six days  
(Sgs) S.M. Kelly Aug. 10<sup>th</sup> Cas.  
Capt. J. D. Agnew*

434/B18

116719

COPY



FORWARDED FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE DEPARTMENT.  
REGINA. 28th July 1894.  
ASST. INDIAN COMMISSIONER.

*DM*

Blackfoot Agency

28th July 1894

*JL*

Sir,

With reference to the copy of letter from

the Indian Agent Battleford forwarded on the

21st instant re Thunderchild's report to

Mr Williams, I have the honor to state that

I have before heard the Stenies were dissatis-

fied with the imprisonment of young Chiniquay.

Some Indians have asked me lately for passes

to Red Deer to pick berries, but I would not

grant them. If I hear of any number going

North I will notify the Police to look

after them.

I have heard no expression of dissatisfaction against the Government. On the contrary

the Indians have been purchasing mowers and

rakes on their own account to put up hay, and

if I receive the Police Contract it will keep

them busy, as all the country between the

C. P. R. Line and Rosebud has been burnt

up

Indian Commissioner

Regina

*Reference Mr Williams' letter, of 18th + mailed to Dept on 21st Inst. & subsequent course. J. Anderson.*

*A. T.*

*Asst. Comm.*

RG 10-3918

up lately and hay will be scarce in this vicinity, but with a number of mowers a considerable quantity can be put up on the reserve.

The Indians are all on the reserve except four or five at the North Piegans and some working for ranchers in the vicinity. None are in Montana to my knowledge, three or four Stonies came here about a month ago looking for horses.

Should anything turn up I think important I will not fail to notify you.

I have &c

(Signed) Magnus Begg

Indian Agent

Office of the  
Indian Commissioner  
Regina, 30<sup>th</sup> July, 1894.

Confidential

Circular.

Sir,

I beg to inform you that a rumour has been conveyed to the Department, that the Southern Indians, those of Treaty No. 7, have, in view of dissatisfaction with the treatment at present accorded them by the Government, decided to send messengers to all the Indians in the Territories, inviting joint action on their part, and to the effect that some twenty-five emissaries had already been sent to the tribes south of the boundary-line, asking their co-operation.

Information already received from our Agents in the district said to be affected, does not all substantiate the truth of this rumour, and there is apparently very little importance to be attached to it; but it will be well nevertheless that you keep a close watch upon affairs in your agency, and the movements of your Indians. The arrival of any strange Indians, even though from other agencies under pass, should be carefully enquired into, and their business ascertained, and you should promptly advise this office of such arrivals, (if necessary by wire), as also of anything which you may consider of importance, viewed in the light of the rumour above referred to.

Your obedient servant,  
A. S. J. G.  
Asst. Commissioner.

Indian Agent,

S. S. J.

234892

--Copy--

Indian Agent's Office,  
Blood Agency,  
Macleod, Alta.  
30th. Oct. 1902.

Sir,

I have the honour to report that a party of Assiniboine Indians from Fort Belknap, numbering some 15 persons came to this Agency on a pass by their Agent without any previous consent having been asked or received, and as small-pox had just been discovered among another party of Indians coming from the same district in the U.S. (already reported to you) I at once had them taken in charge by the N.W.M. Police and removed forthwith to their own territory.

What I particularly would like is that some steps should be taken by our Department and the Department of Indian Affairs at Washington to stop giving these Indians passes to visit here without first getting authority. These visiting Indians come into Canada loaded with pipes, dancing paraphernalia saddles, etc, and trade them off for horses and other goods. They take from 10 to 15 days to come here and are travelling through a cattle country all the way and when they arrive are usually without food of any kind. If we dont feed them then they either live upon our Indians or what is more probable cause the latter to kill cattle for them. They require to travel all that distance back again and I do not suppose they go very hungry with lots of calves and cattle running loose.

The less visiting an Indian does the better. It makes them restless and unsettled, and they no sooner return from one trip than they start upon another. We have an example of it this season with some of our own Indians who have been in the habit of visiting Fort Belknap at the invitation of these

The Indian Commissioner,  
Winnipeg.

Indians

RG 10-3797



Indians, but always without a pass from here. They no sooner reached home than they again set out on a visit to the Crow Agency, U.S., and no doubt have extended an invitation to them to come to Canada also.

It might be well to ask the United States Agencies to return to the old system of punishing, or returning immediately, Indians who visit without a pass. While that system was in force we had no trouble about visiting Indians.

I trust you will bring this subject before our Department and press them to ask the United States Department to take some steps to end this annoyance.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd) Jas. Wilson.

Ind. Agt.

47584

B21

Office of the

# Indian Commissioner

for Manitoba and the Northwest Territories,

Winnipeg,

5 Nov. 1902



234882

In your reply refer to  
No. 61/19

and date of this letter and  
address

Hon. David Laird,  
Indian Commissioner,  
Winnipeg, Man.

Sir,

I beg to enclose herewith copy of a letter dated the 30th. ultimo from Mr. Agent Wilson, of the Blood Agency, relative to United States Indians visiting Canadian Indians on pass.

I concur with Mr. Wilson in what he states regarding first asking the consent of our Agents before granting passes, and also returning to the old system of returning immediately Indians who visit without a pass, and I would request the Department to communicate with the United States Department in the matter as desired by Mr. Wilson.

Your obedient servant,

*D Laird*  
Indian Commissioner.

The Secretary

Dept. of Indian Affairs,

Ottawa.

RG 10-3797

To Minister of Indian Affairs

*J. M. T. [unclear]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

# Canadian Pacific Railway Company's Telegraph.

All Messages taken by this Company are subject to the following terms :



It is agreed between the sender of the following message and this Company that the said Company shall not be liable for damages arising from failure to transmit or deliver, or from any error in the transmission or delivery of any telegraphed message, whether happening from negligence of its servants or otherwise, or from delays from interruption in the working of its lines, for errors in cipher or obscure messages, or for errors from illegible writing, beyond the amount received for sending same. To guard against error the Company will repeat back any telegram for an extra payment of one-half the regular rate, and in that case it shall not be liable for damages beyond fifty times the amount received for sending and repeating.

Correctness in the transmission of messages can be insured by contract in writing, stating agreed amount of risk, and payment of premium thereon, at the following rates, in addition to the usual charge for repeating messages, viz.: One per cent. for any distance not exceeding 1,000 miles, and two per cent. for any greater distance.

This Company shall not be liable for the act or omission of any other Company, but will endeavor to forward the telegram by any other telegraphic Company necessary to reaching its destination, but only as the agent of the sender, and without liability thereof. This Company shall not be responsible for messages until the same are presented and accepted at one of its transmitting offices; if a message is sent to such office by one of the Company's messengers, he acts for that purpose as the sender's agent; if by telephone, the person receiving the message acts therein as agent of the sender, being authorized to assent to these conditions for the sender.

This Company shall not be liable in any case for damages unless the same be claimed in writing, within sixty days after receipt of the telegram for transmission. No employee of the Company shall vary the foregoing.

T. G. SHAUGHNESSY, President.  
JAS. KENT, Manager Telegraphs.

B. S. JENKINS, Gen. Supt., Winnipeg, Man.  
J. WILSON, Supt., Vancouver, B.C.

W. J. CAMP, Supt., Montreal, Que.  
A. W. BARBER, Supt., Toronto, Ont.

SENT NO.	SENT BY	REC'D BY	TIME SENT	TIME FILED	CHECK
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Send the following Message, subject to the above terms, which are hereby agreed to :

Ottawa, 14th November, 1902. 190

To Indian Commissioner,  
Winnipeg, Man.

Reference your letter fifth instant. In eighteen ninety three Department had communication with Indian Commissioner subject illegality of forcing Indians back who left reserves without passes. Apparently pass system only adopted by ourselves. See Indian Commissioners letter fifth June ninety three. Department unaware of pass system existing between two Governments. Answer.

J. D. McLean

(Charge Indian Dept.)

*Handwritten initials: Jm*

READ THE NOTICE AND AGREEMENT AT THE TOP.

RG 10-3797

Office of the

# Indian Commissioner

for Manitoba and the Northwest Territories,

In your reply refer to

No. 1/19

235195

Winnipeg,

15 Nov. 1919

and date of this letter and address

Hon. David Laird,  
Indian Commissioner,  
Winnipeg, Man.



*See as to this. Please see Comm  
letter of 5-13-19 about under 1  
approval thereon, also types*

Sir,

Referring to your telegram of yesterday, I beg to say that I am well aware there is no legal authority in Canada to compel our Indians to remain on or return to their reserves, whether they have passes or not; but we can keep other Indians off reserves as trespassers. There is no pass system existing between the two Governments. A custom by courtesy, however, has existed between Agents on both sides of the line to the effect that Indians coming with passes are allowed on reserves as accredited visitors. On account of small-pox and other causes our Agents have almost wholly stopped issuing passes to cross the line; but on the other side the practice is increasing, and Mr. Agent James Wilson wishes our Government to ask the Washington Indian authorities to instruct their Agents to discontinue issuing passes to visit Canada unless for such few Indians as may have relatives in Canada and whose visits may be agreed to by our Agents after they have been communicated with.

Your obedient servant,

*D. Laird*  
Indian Commissioner.

The Secretary

Dept. of Indian Affairs,

Ottawa.

R.



Ottawa, November 24th, 1902.

*J. H. Guller*

Memorandum:

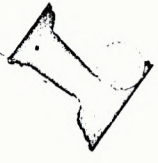
Mr. McLean,

I do not think there is any harm in carrying out the suggestion as contained in Mr. Laird's letter of the 15th of November regarding the issuing of passes to the Indians on both sides of the line. I think it is absolutely necessary to have an arrangement, if we have not already, if not perhaps legally binding, at least morally so, between Indian Agents on both sides of the line in the West in order to keep these Indians at home and more especially during an outbreak of any kind.

*Goodman*

*Dictated last week*

RG 10-3797



Ottawa, 26th November, 1902.

Sir:-

I have the honour to invite your attention to the fact that the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the Province of Manitoba and the North West Territories, in this Dominion, has reported to this Department that the issue by their respective Agents to United States Indians of passes permitting them to visit reserves on this side of the boundary line, more particularly those of the Bloods and Peigans situated in the Provisional District of Alberta, appears to be on the increase.

Since it has been regarded as a somewhat harsh measure to entirely prohibit a reasonable interchange of visits between Indians who although resident on different sides of the line may be closely related by ties of blood, there appears to have been a mutual understanding between Agents concerned to permit such visits to be made by Indians accredited by passes, but I think that for various reasons which will readily occur to you, you will be disposed to agree with me that such interchange of visits should be restricted as much as possible.

If right in this assumption I would suggest for your consideration the advisability of mutually instructing our respective Agents in the west, in proximity to the

*Handwritten signature or initials, possibly "H.M.", with a flourish.*

Hon. Wm. A. Jones,  
Commissioner of Indian Affairs,  
Washington,  
U.S.

the boundary, to confine the issue of passes to such Indians who may desire to visit reserves across the line, as have relatives there, and only to them after consent to the proposed visit shall have been obtained from the Agent having jurisdiction over the reserve which it is desired to visit, and furthermore to do all in their power to put a stop to unauthorized interchange of visits by promptly turning back all visitors not provided with passes and using any other means which may be available to effect the desired end.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sgd H. Pesky", written over a horizontal line.

Deputy Superintendent General  
of Indian Affairs.

Refer in reply to the following:

Land.

70768-1902

# Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5, 1902.

235801



The Secretary  
of the Department of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa, Canada.

Sir:

This office is in receipt of a communication dated the 26th ultimo from the Deputy Superintendent of Indian Affairs - reference number, 47,554 - who states that the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the Province of Manitoba and the North West Territories has reported that the "issue by their respective Agents to United States Indians of passes permitting them to visit reserves on this side of the boundary line, more particularly those of the Bloods and Piegiens situated in the Provisional District of Alberta, appears to be on the increase"; that while it would be somewhat of a harsh measure to prohibit entirely a reasonable exchange of visits between Indians closely related by blood ties, yet for various obvious reasons such interchange of visits should be restricted as much as possible; and he suggests that the issue of passes to Indians to exchange visits across the International boundary line be mutually confined "to such Indians who may desire to visit reserves across the line as have relatives there, and only to them after consent to the proposed visit shall have been obtained from the Agent having jurisdiction over the reserve which it is desired to visit, and furthermore that the respective Agents in proximity

RG 10-3797

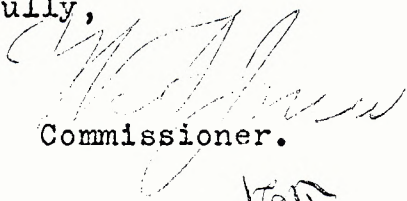


235801

to the boundary, be instructed to do all in their power to put a stop to unauthorized interchange of visits by promptly turning back all visitors not provided with passes and using any other means which may be available to effect the desired end".

In reply you are informed that the office fully approves of the proposed plan, which appears to be for the best interests of all concerned. The respective U. S. Indian Agents in charge of reservations in proximity to the International boundary line have therefore been instructed to take such action as may be necessary to carry the said plan into effect.

Very respectfully,

  
Commissioner.

W. M. W.

L.

H. O.

Letter from Mr. White  
of the 17th ultimo on  
Mr. Pedley's Private File  
H. O.



Ottawa, January 17th, 1903.

Dear Mr. White,

Referring to your favour of the 17th ultimo,

I beg to say, 1st, regarding the small parties of Indians, principally non-Treaty, roaming or camped at different places in the Territories, etc., that this is a matter which has received considerable attention for some time past but with apparently no very satisfactory results. There are difficulties in the way of interfering with the liberty of these people so long as they are doing no harm or violating no law. I hope, however, that we will arrive at some conclusion before long.

2nd, with reference to the point in your letter, namely, the crossing from the United States of Indians who remain as long as they like on Canadian Territory, I beg to enclose herewith copies of the recent correspondence dealing with the subject.

Yours very truly,

F. White, Esq.,

Comptroller North West Mounted Police,  
Ottawa, Ont.

RG 10-3797

Spirit River, Altn.  
Aug. 3/1913

John <sup>W</sup> Superintendent  
The Dept of Indian Affairs  
Ottawa

Dear Sir.

Will you kindly furnish me with information as to the regulations in the case of Treaty Indians living off the reserve.

What are the restrictions upon them? Are they supposed to remain off the reserve indefinitely?

There is a Treaty squaw - a widow by the name of Lawrence living in this settlement, whose husband was on the Reserve at Sturgeon Lake, but the widow has been receiving treaty at Dumfries. Some of the breeds here have asked me to have her sent back to the Reserve at Sturgeon Lake. They claim she has been making "bad medicine" among them. I have told them that I did not consider that I could take <sup>summary</sup> action in the matter.

but would communicate  
with your Department, as to  
what rights she had to be living  
off the Reserve. If you will please  
forward me any information  
which may have a bearing on  
this case, will be greatly  
obliged.

Yours respectfully

H. C. Calpin  
Justice of the Peace

11320.

Ottawa, August 22, 1913.

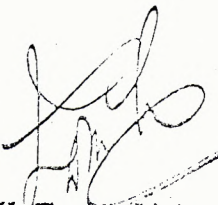
Sir,-

I am in receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant relating to an Indian treaty woman, the widow of an Indian named Laurence of the reserve at Sturgeon Lake, who is now living in your settlement, and asking whether there is any regulation which forbids such an Indian living off her reserve indefinitely.

Unfortunately there is no provision in the Indian Act which requires Indians to reside on their reserves or to return thereto if they attempt to live elsewhere.

Probably, however, the squaw to whom you refer can be made to remove from your settlement if she is making herself a nuisance to the settlers. If she is living on private property without leave, she can be prosecuted as a trespasser; if she is a prostitute or a harbinger of prostitutes she can be punished under Section 220 of the Criminal Code; or if she is a vagrant she can be prosecuted under the last clause of sub-section (a) of Section 233, or some other sub-section of the said section of the Code.

Her case might be brought to the attention of the Indian Agent who pays her annuity money, and probably he could induce her to remove to the reserve at Sturgeon Lake, to which she apparently legally belongs, by informing her that if she lives there she will, if in need, receive help from the Department, in addition to her annuity.

  
H.E. Calkin, Esq.,  
Justice of the Peace,  
Spirit River,

Alta

Your obedient servant,

Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

RG-10-4076

APPENDIX C

Passes and Stubs (from Glenbow Institute)

BE 31/B336/v.6

Department of Indian Affairs.

No. 94

BATTLEFORD Agency.

191

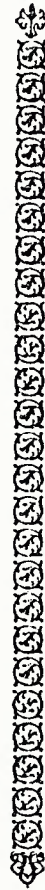
No.

Band

Time

Business

Gun



No. 94

Department of Indian Affairs.

BATTLEFORD Agency.

191

No.

Band

is permitted to be absent from his Reserve for

days from date hereof. Business

and is permitted to carry a gun.

Indian Agent.

Glenbow Alberta Institute  
902 - 11th Avenue S.W.  
Calgary Alberta

BE 31/5243/f.22

**DUPLICATE.**

No. ....

Sarcee Indian Agency,  
Calgary

Date November 30 1899

Mr. Sarcee Agency

~~Deliver from Indian Supplies to~~  
~~of Bull Head, from~~

"Knife" has permission to go into  
on account of Calgary, to trade, is to return  
to Reserve before night.

MS for I.B.L. I.A.

ARTICLES.	QUANTITY.

Agent.



Glenbow-Alberta Institute  
902 - 11th Avenue S.W.  
Calgary Alberta  
BE 31/S 243/f. 22

**DUPLICATE.**

No. ....

Date *April 16<sup>th</sup>* 189*3*

Sarecc Indian Agency,  
Calgary Alta.

Deliver from Indian Supplies to

*Wet to Slaughte, square of Bull Head  
on account of Band has leave for one day  
to go to Calgary to trade.*

ARTICLES.	QUANTITY.

Agent.

must be present

Glenbow-Alberta Institute  
902 - 11th Avenue S.W.  
Calgary Alberta

BE.31/13336/v.6

Department of Indian Affairs.

No. 20

BATTLEFORD

Agency.

Aug 12<sup>th</sup> 1917

Nepahat

No. 35

Band Red Pheasant

Time 30 days

Business Visiting at

Raddle Lake

Gun

Glenbow-Alberta Institute  
902 - 11th Avenue S.W.  
Calgary Alberta

BE 31 / B336 / V.6

Department of Indian Affairs.

No. 75

BATTLEFORD Agency.

July 15<sup>th</sup> 1918  
Peter Horse

No.

Band Thunderchild

Time 10 days

Business going to  
Bear's Hill  
for horses

APPENDIX D

List of Files Reviewed

Files Reviewed

<u>Title</u>	<u>Volume</u>	<u>File No.</u>
Authority of Agent	3701	17150
Powers of Agent	3946	123496
Instructions to Agent	4048	360377
Passes to Visit Other Reserves*	3863	83757
Powers of Agents	3582	1024
Powers of Agents	3677	11426
Status of Indians off Reserve*	4076	443220
Piegan Agency Circulars 1884-92*	1142	
Miscellaneous Records 1885-97	466	
Letter Registers 1932-36	5870-80	
General Administration-Regina 1883-1901	1026	
Circular Letters-Blackfoot Agency 1888-94*	1137	
Agent's Reports -Blackfoot Agency 1897	1155	
-1920		
Letterbooks Blackfoot Agency 1884	1027	
-1905		
" " " "	1136, 1140	
Circular Letters 1884-95 (Peace Hills)*	1139	
Permits to Indian Women (1935)	3145	345246
Permits to Visit U.S.A.	3559	70-23
Letters of Identification*	3233	600172
Permit to reside on reserve	3558	62-7
Licences to hunt	1865	
Fines under the Indian Act	2296	
Instructions to Agents (1933)	-	
Membership: Restrictions on Indians	1/3-3-12	
-1899-1956		
Indian Dances	3825-26	60,511-1,2,3
Unrest-Treaty 7	118400	
Migrations of Indians	2132	26574
Regulations	3694	14553
"	3577	468
"	3787	42908
"	3875	90880
Indians Wandering Off Reserves*	3797	47554
Indians off Reserves	1866	487-1
Permits and Licences	1867	502-1
Petitions 1896	3961	147141
Aftermath of Riel Rebellion*	3727	25167
Unrest in Treaty 7 (1894)*	3918	116719
Immorality	2991	216447
Departmental Orders	2277	55412
Instructions-Treaty 9	3097	297171
Firearm Permits	3224	547223
R.R. Passes	3190	471654
Rules and Regulations	2400	83013
History of Indian Affairs 1919-41	6812	480-2-1
Regulations 1888-90	6813	-
" 1890-1947	6814	-
U.S. Indian Legislation 1913-36	6823	-

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\* Material copied from these files