

# Local Board of Health

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308 CIVIC BLOCK,

Edmonton, Alberta,

May 22, 1937

Dr. R. B. Jenkins,  
Medical Officer of Health,  
Edmonton, Alta.

Dear Sir:

Referring to your letter from Comm. Gibb on the 7th inst. re halfbreeds camping near 140 St. north of Stoney Plain Road, I beg to report that accompanied by Inspector Douglas, Building Dept. and Constable Dunlop, City Police Dept. I visited this district on the 7th inst. and again on the 19th inst. with Mr. Shute, Chief Constable.

These people are trying to exist by gathering rags and empty bottles from the dump. Rags are sold to Jewish dealers for  $\frac{1}{8}$ ¢ per pound and empty bottles at 5¢ a dozen, and I am of the opinion that steps should be taken by the Dominion Govt. to extend Relief of some sort to them, as I consider they are in a worse position than the Indians. The Indians have their treaty money and rations from the Government, while the halfbreeds are gathering their rations from the dump. While visiting the dump I noticed some of the halfbreeds gathering foodstuffs there.

I gave each of these families, on the 7th inst. 14 days notice to leave the city and I understand from Chief Constable Shute that Deputy Chief Blackwood and Constable Murray gave them orders to move on the 18th inst.

If it is possible to bring this matter to the attention of the Dominion Govt. and it is decided to send an investigator I would be very pleased to accompany him on the inspection.

Attached is a list of the families camping in this district.

Yours truly,

  
CHIEF HEALTH INSPECTOR.

WRG/R

Families camping near 140 St. north of Stoney Plain Road,

A [redacted] H [redacted], wife and 4 children ages ranging from 6 years to 7 mos. Obtained relief last year from the Municipality of Winterburn. Off relief this year.

P [redacted] B [redacted], wife and 5 children ranging from 20 to 6 years. Notified on the 7th inst. to leave city. Re-inspection on the 19th inst, found that they had returned to Riviere Qui Barre.

J [redacted] F [redacted], wife and girl of 8 - left this locality.

A [redacted] J [redacted], came from Drayton Valley with family of 8 ages ranging from 20 to 1 year. Does work around the General Hospital. 19th inst. found they had returned to Drayton Valley.

A [redacted] D [redacted], wife and 4 children ages ranging from 24 to 6. Joe Dionne 16, badly in need of glasses. Gets \$6.00 per month relief from Winterburn municipality.

Mr. & Mrs. B [redacted], Mrs. B [redacted] niece of Mrs. D [redacted]. Residing in tent. Mrs. B [redacted] pre-natal case and due in hospital on the 20th inst. Patient of Dr. Wienlos. Miss Owens, Dept. nurse, had an interview with Mrs. B [redacted] on the 8th inst. B [redacted] got relief of \$5.00 per month up to April 4th 1937. In town 1 month.

Mrs. F [redacted] G [redacted], F 79. I understand she gets \$8.00 per month relief, from Mr. Drayton. Has been in this province the whole of her life. I am of the opinion she should be getting Old Age Pension. Her daughter M [redacted], and illegitimate child of 1 year reside with her.

Mr. and Mrs. W [redacted] S [redacted], and 5 children ages ranging from 9 years to 3 mos. Interviewed Smith and he stated the agent of the Winterburn Reserve would not allow him to stay there. Came into town on account of his wife being ill. Mrs. S [redacted] was under the care of Dr. Conroy at the Misericordia Hospital, during her confinement. S [redacted] informed me yesterday that his wife was ill. Miss Owens of this Department visited Mrs. S [redacted]. She was of the opinion that Mrs. S [redacted] did not require medical attention.

J [redacted] B [redacted], wife and 5 children. Wife ill in bed at time of visit. Miss Owens of the opinion this woman required medical attention. Family range in age from 11 years to 2 mos. I telephoned Mr. Drayton and got authority to have a doctor called. Dr. Crang saw this woman and will make arrangements to have her admitted to the hospital. While he was there he examined I [redacted], 7, who appears to be in a delicate condition, trouble with discharging left ear. Dr. Crang prescribed for her. Prescription filled at Jasper Place Pharmacy. Mr. Drayton instructed me to get some supplies for this family. Order for \$3.00 was filled by the Duncan Grocery, Stoney Plain Road.

B [redacted] P [redacted], F 65 Was receiving mother's allowance. This allowance discontinued in 1936. Instructed M [redacted] B [redacted] to take his mother to the Relief office and make application for relief for her.

A [redacted] G [redacted], wife and 4 children. Was receiving \$12.52 per month. States he is not getting any Relief this year. Badly in need of clothing and shoes.

W [redacted] C [redacted], wife and 2 children, girl aged 2 and boy 8 mos. Came from St. Albert. Informed me he came into town to try to get work. Does not feel like staying in St. Albert as he got into trouble there some time ago and served a jail sentence at Fort Saskatchewan.

N [redacted] S [redacted] Treaty Indian, in town 2 months. I instructed her to return to her reserve and on re-inspection on the 8th inst. she had moved.

G [REDACTED] C [REDACTED] and his two sisters living in a tent near 140 St. These are Treaty Indians and I instructed them to go back to their Reserve.