

Refer in reply to the following:

Land  
Circular.

# Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

WASHINGTON,

April 8, 1903. *CAF*

To Indian Agents

and other Officers in charge of Agencies.

The following Departmental communication relating to advertising sales of inherited Indian lands is published for your information and guidance:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

WASHINGTON.

April 3, 1903.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Sir:-

I am in receipt of your report of the 31st ultimo, in reference to the publication of advertisements for the sale of Indian inherited lands and payment for same.

You +--+-- ask whether the general authority conferred by the amended rules to cause advertisements to be published and to collect stated amounts from purchasers of lands, is sufficient to warrant the office in instructing the agent to pay the account when an adequate sum has been received for such purpose; or whether it was the intention of the Department that the advertising contemplated therein should be done in conformity to Section 3828 P.S., and the regulations governing the Indian Service.

As the amended rules governing the sales of inherited Indian lands were prepared for the better protection of the Indians in the sales of their inherited lands, and not for the benefit of any Executive Department or Bureau thereof, I think the authority conferred thereby sufficient for your office to instruct the agents to pay the account from the moneys required to be paid by the purchasers.

The moneys required to be paid by the purchasers in paragraph 8, of Section 1, of the amended rules, which are to be used by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, for giving due public notice that the lands will be sold, will be taken up and accounted for as provided by the Act of July 1, 1898, (30 Stats. 595), for which the agents should render a statement of receipts and disbursements, supported by proper vouchers. These moneys do not belong to the United States or to the Indians, being paid for the sole use of giving notice of sales of land and I think they should not be covered into the Treasury, but may be retained by the agents, subject to expenditure when authorized by your office.

The inclosures to your report are herewith returned.

Very respectfully,

(SIGNED) Thos Ryan

Acting Secretary.

The receipt of this circular should be promptly acknowledged.

Very respectfully,

E.B.F.

*A.B. Turner*  
Acting Commissioner.



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April 8, 1903

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Concerning payment f or  
advertising Indian Lands.  
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Received April 13, 1903.