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OLIVER L. STANTON, B.A., M.D.

YELLOWKNIFE - N.W.T.

June 14, 1950.

Mr. R. A. Gibson,  
Deputy Commissioner N.W.T.,  
Ottawa.

Dear Mr. Gibson,                      Re: Arsenic Control

During the latter part of May we had two Air Force men in hospital with symptoms of abdominal cramps and nausea, suggestive of arsenic poisoning. They had been drinking water from Long Lake. Laboratory reports as follows:

F/O DeBlicquy - Urine specimen 23.5.50  
As 0.05 mmg. per litre.

LAC. Cogley - Urine specimen 23.5.50  
As 0.1 mmgs. per litre.

Water from Long Lake R.C.A.F. Camp reported May 25/50 as follows:

✓ Long Lake - As 0.05 parts per million.

Lake Water - (tap in building) As 0.03 parts per million.

Pump - 200 ft. from shore - As faint trace.

In view of the above I doubt very much whether these 2 men actually had arsenic poisoning, but more likely were suffering from the common form of gastro enteritis.

At end of May, Mr. Bonniface Bourke, a teamster ran short of feed and turned his two horses loose to forage on Latham Island. On May 18/50 these horses cropped herbage and drank from stagnant pools. They became ill within a day or 2 and one died on May 25th and the other on May 26th. Specimens from various viscera all showed arsenic present. The amount in liver specimen being 0.05 grains. These animals undoubtedly died from arsenic poisoning.



I am enclosing accounts for specimens sent to the Provincial Analyst and also for necessary advertising. These have all been paid by me and will you kindly reimburse me. The advertising account of the Yellowknife Blade was for \$72.00 and was charged at regular advertising rates and was given a half page spread... However, I considered this excessive and have assessed it at \$25.00 which I consider more in keeping with the advertising I desired. I took this up with Mr. McMeekan and it is satisfactory to him.

Will you kindly send a copy to Dr. Charron.

Yours very truly,

(sgd.) O. L. Stanton - M.D.

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