Ottawa, April 17, 1911.

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A complaint has been forwarded to the Department through the How. J. McDougall from Chief Basil of the Bonaparte Band. The Chief says that he and his people desire to construct an irrigation ditch about seven miles long to carry three hundred inches of water from Hat Oreek to the reserve, but they are afraid of the white people, and especially that they will sedure all the water and leave the Indians without iv. He also says that he has heard that certain whites are ing to commence a ditch on the reserve.

I have to request you to look especially into this ne. You will note on page 48 of the Schedule of Indian eserves, a copy of which has been sent you by mail, that 1, 150 and 150 inches of water from Hat Greek respectively eve been allotted to three different reserves of these Inlans. The Chief does not mention to which reserve or reerves he especially refers.

If the Indians are in earnest in their intention to construct the ditch, they should be encouraged. There should be no question as to their right to the water which has buen recorded for them. The ditch, however, may have to

pass through private property and the works be otherwise af-

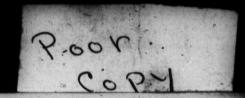
reted.

30,760.

Sir.-

Inspector of Indian Agencies, Varnon, B.C.

Dept. of Indian & Northern Affairs, Letterbook, 10 April 1911 - 22 April 1911, (R.G. 10, Volume 5340)



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