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Ottawa Feb 28, 1908.

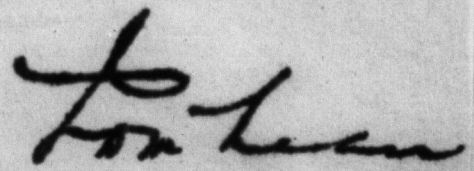
Sir,-

Mr. James McGowan, C.M.C., Duncan, Municipality of North Cowichan, has applied for assistance to his Municipality to defray the cost of construction and repair of road. He states that his Municipality is practically surrounded by Indian Reserves, that all the Indians living thereon possess buggies and wagons and that they use the roads to a greater extent than the whites.

I shall be obliged if you will be good enough to report in detail on this subject. Please ascertain especially what sum of money and labour the Municipality expends on the road and what proportion it would be reasonable to expect from the Indians.

I may say that the Department expects that all Indians as they advance in civilization shall undertake their full share of the maintenance of the roads within their reserves by performing statute labour thereon.

Your obedient servant



Secretary.

A.W. Vowell, Esq.,

Indian Superintendent,

Victoria,

B.C.

Dept. of Indian & Northern Affairs, Letterbook,
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