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Ottawa, 29th July 1920.

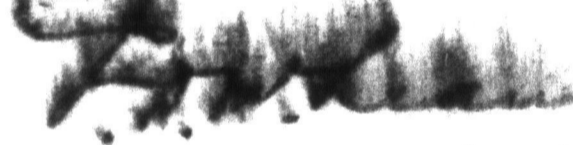
Sir,-

The following is a quotation from a letter of the 13th instant from the Indian Agent, Mr. H. Graham, relating to that portion of land in the portage between the Seton Lake Indian reserves Nos. 5 and 6,-

"When the matter was before you before it was ascertained that this land in question was Crown grant and had been taken up by white settlers who obtained Crown Grants for their holdings, notwithstanding the fact that the Indians held a letter from Indian Agent Ball stating that all that land between the two lakes belonged to them. As the land had been pre-empted the Department decided that the Indians must be paid for their improvements, but this they refused to accept at the time, hoping that when they took the matter before the Royal Commission they would be able to do something for them, which they were unable to do with the result that up to this day the white settlers have never paid the Indians compensation for their improvements. I will be much obliged if the Department will take this matter up with the lands Department at Victoria with a view to getting compensation paid to these Indians for their improvements."

Will you be good enough to look into the matter accordingly and if possible, obtain ^{the} compensation that appears to be due to these Indians.

Your obedient servant,



W. E. Ditchburn Esq.,

Assistant Deputy and Secretary,

Chief Inspector of Indian Agencies,

Victoria, B.C.

Indian Affairs. Letterbook,
22 July 1920 - 6 August 1920, (R.G. 10, Volume 5819)

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