

ment made, and confidently awaits reply.

I beg to remain,
Your obedient servant,
Sec. O.I.R.D.L.

Armstrong, B.C., Aug. 24.

Dr. Roche,
Minister of Indian Affairs.
Sir,

Permit me to call your attention to the letter head, to read, the Okanagan Indian Rights' Defence League. I presume, that as the responsible head of the Dept. of Indian Affairs, the fact that any necessity for the formation of any league should exist, will come to you somewhat in the manner of a shock. To the Honorable Minister, who, to quote a member of the opposition, is endeavoring to conduct his department in a fairly conscientious manner, the need for any such league on the part of our native population, whose destiny places them under the fostering care of your department, shall come with some measure of surprise to the general public. If the necessity exists for such a league, does it not reflect somewhat on the method, conscientious or otherwise, of your conduct of the affairs of your department? Pardon me, if I remind you of the fact that from your seat in the House of Commons, in reply to questions asked by Mr. F. Oliver, regarding the deposition of one, Chief Baptiste Logan, the appointment of his successor, one, Lame Pierre, with the accompanying questions. You may recall the occasion and your replies, if not, you have the evidence of the records within reach.

Would the statement publicly expressed, cause you any surprise, that each and every answer to the question asked you on that occasion, were in letter, word and sentence, one continuous tissue of untruths?

The Hon. Senator, Jas. Loughheed, in reply to Senator Bostock's questions of same date, did by the same replies, place himself in the same position as yourself. A creditable

performance indeed, for the two Hon. Ministers of the Government of the Dominion. I am fully aware of the fact that you but repeated statements compiled for you by the officials of your Department. This by no means negatives the fact that statements, the antithesis of facts should be uttered by any public man controlling the working methods of an important public department.

That you can personally assume responsibility for the language you used on that occasion, or that you can possibly allow the matter to pass without the strictest investigation, is unthinkable to any honest man or that any individual concerned, should escape your wrath.

Let me assure you that the deposition of Chief Baptiste, with the reputed election of his successor, was as villainous an act of injustice as was ever perpetrated upon a defenceless people by the unprincipled petty officials of any department. One, unfortunately still enjoys the privilege of receiving a salary from your department, "The other" has passed beyond your jurisdiction.

The reason for calling your attention to this matter of ancient history, may be gathered from the following statements of fact: That apparently a repetition of the unwholesome tactics employed by the predecessor of the present inspector for the removal of Chief Baptiste Logan has apparently been commenced for the purpose of removing the present Chief, Gaston Louis, for the sole apparent cause, that the chief is the only stumbling block between your accredited official's dominant will, and the right of these people for protection from spoliation and every criminal intent against their peace property and personal liberty. You will be advised through the correspondence with your Dept. that your Inspector has peremptorily deposed Chief Gaston. This excess of authority by your Inspector, the Chief quietly and properly ignored, as your agent, Mr. Brown, has had no complaint to make against the Chief.