come into force until a date named by the Lieutenant-Governor. On the 18th of February a Proclamation was issued by the Lieutenant-Governor to the effect that the Mineral Act Amendment Act of 1919 and the Placer-Mining Amendment Act of 1919 should come into force on the first day of April. 1920; therefore, if any staking has taken place on Finlayson Island, as you state in your letter, such staking has been done illegally, as until that date the Provincial Mineral or Placer-Mining Act do not apply to Indian Reserves.

with regard to the regulations contained in Dominion Order-in-Council No. 2525, these, I may say, came into force on the 30th of December last but only so far as actual prospecting was concerned, as the matter of obtain-ing a lease for surface rights on Indian reserves can only be taken up after a claim has been recorded and a lease for the mining of precious metals thereon has been obtained from the Provincial authorities under the new Provincial Act. which does not come into force until the let of April.

Your obedient servent.

Chief Inspector of Indian Agencies.

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