

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE

(OKANAGAN AGENCY)

.....Vernon, B.C.,.....

.....April 23rd.....1926.

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO

No.....

ALSO

TO DATE OF THIS LETTER

Sir,—

Will you kindly advise me in the following matter?

Miles F. Burnyeat, holder of a Free Miner's Licence, has obtained permission to prospect an Indian Reserve in the Similkameen, and located a claim on Upper Similkameen Indian Reserve No.1. (Vermillion Forks). He applied to the Gold Commissioner of the Similkameen district, Mr. Hugh Hunter, for a placer mining lease. This lease was given to him for a term of twenty years, paying to the Mining Recorder, Mr. Hunter, the annual rental of \$25.00. A copy of this lease covering the property referred to has now been forwarded to me and Mr. Burnyeat is anxious to commence operations if values warrant it.

According to the Act covering the mining of precious metals on an Indian Reserve, Mr. Burnyeat has complied with all the regulations. However, this Indian Reserve has been leased to Mr. Henry Knighton for a term of ten years from January 2nd., 1923, and he has refused permission for Mr. Burnyeat to enter upon the Reserve.

Will you please advise whether he has authority by virtue of his lease, to refuse permission to Mr. Burnyeat to work his claim? I presume he is entitled to compensation if the place is so mined, in which event Mr. Burnyeat will undoubtedly protest against paying the Mining Recorder \$25.00 per annum for the lease.

Personally I cannot see why Mr. Burnyeat should pay the Mining Recorder anything at all where the claim is on an Indian Reserve, but your advice in these matters will be appreciated.

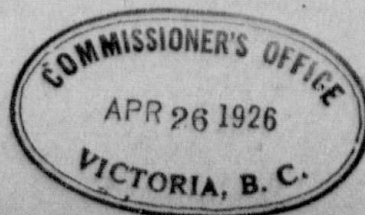
Your obedient servant,

*F. J. C. Ball*

(F.J.C. Ball)  
Indian Agent.

W.E. Ditchburn, Esq.,  
Indian Commissioner for B.C.  
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Victoria, B.C.

FJCB/ES



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