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April 23, 1947

R.H. Moorey, Esq., Indian Agent, Duncan, B.C.

Mr. C.W. Swanson of the Standard Logging Company called at this office yesterday in connection with their timber Licence No. 266, Chemainus I.R. No. 13. The matter of increased stumpage rates, reference your letter of February 10th to the Company, was discussed at some length, Mr. Swanson maintaining that the logging conditions would not permit payment at the rate suggested. It was pointed out to him that the information available to this office indicated that the Company had removed approximately sixteen million feet of timber from the Reserve at what appeared to be ridiculously low rates and that they should be prepared to pay somewhat more for the remaining timber than a new operator would. No decision was reached as to what would be a fair rate for the remaining timber but Mr. Swanson promised to make an offer for the various grades and species through your office and including provision for payment of ground rental.

The matter of the one million b.f. of virgin timber on the reserve was also discussed, Mr. Swanson being of the opinion that you were opposed to the removal of this timber, which is contrary to the information given in the second paragraph of your letter of December 6th. It is not entirely clear from our files whether the Indians surrendered all the timber on the reserve or not, but if they did the Standard Logging Company could be required to remove the timber above mentioned in order to clean up their licence. Mr. Swanson stated that he is prepared to do this but did not wish to antagonize the Indians, some of whom wish to retain the timber for their own use. These Indians are however in the minority and we should not yield to their wishes if most of the Band wish to have the timber removed. As the Company's licence expires April 30th I would appreciate hearing from you as soon as you receive their offer letting me have your views and recommendation with respect

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