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in the said Section "G" I may say that this term has reference to and must be interpreted as meaning a Record obtained from the Provincial authorities, which is equivalent to a lease for one year and thence from year to year subject to the performance and observance of all the terms of the Mineral Act. This is shown quite clearly in Section 18 of "An Act Relating to Gold and Other Minerals, Excepting Coal", otherwise known as "The Mineral Act."

Therefore, as long as a Miner's Certificate and Record of his claim are in good order he would be entitled to a continuance of his lease from the Department of Indian Affairs for the surface rights.

I am hoping that before long Section 48 of the Act will be amended as regards mining by providing that where base metals are found in combination with the precious metals the lessee of the surface rights shall pay to the Department of Indian Affairs a certain royalty on the said base metals as shown by the sworn smelter returns. For I realize that it may be difficult in some instances to obtain surrenders, besides it may take a great deal of time on the part of the Agent in going to some of the isolated reserves.

Your obedient servant,

Chief Inspector of Indian Agencies.

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