

knowledge definitely enough to assume form, I will also investigate. I suppose you will feel adverse to granting another commission, but I do not think it would do any harm and possibly it might do a lot of good, and stop the mouths of a lot of disgruntled individuals here, if you would issue me another commission under Chap. 115, instead of Chap. 114, authorizing me to take cognizance of all charges against officials up to, say, the 1st of July next.

"No good might come of this, but it may be perhaps productive of one advantage, and that would be to forever stop the mouths of those who are now grumbling.

"You will probably see a copy of the 'Nugget' of last Saturday which treats of the affair in a most inflammatory and serious way. This sheet is run by Americans with an Englishman for editor. It appears these people have never had any newspaper experience heretofore and have not learned that many of the stories they hear are simply emanations of frenzied individuals who imagine that they have lost a fortune because they cannot get the claim they wish, or some similar idea. As fast as I can, I will prepare a report on each special charge and transmit it to you, summing up at conclusion the general report on the whole question.

"The question of the withholding of McDonald's royalty has been brought up and we will have to investigate it. At the same time, this matter is a serious one; McDonald presumably owed the Government some \$70,000 for royalty due, out of which only about \$2,000 was paid. Under ordinary circumstances the man would lose all his claims, but, as this was authorized by the late Commissioner, of course, McDonald could not be made to suffer for his acts; but it will have a very bad effect on the minds of the public when it becomes known that such was done.

"If you can see your way clear to renewing the Commission and extending it, please do so at the earliest possible date. I think it would be politic to do it and I would urge you as far as lies in your power, to grant it for reasons I have above stated.

"I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant

"(Signed) WILLIAM OGILVIE, Commissioner."