

121698/23.

Ottawa, 2nd April, 1902.

Sir,--

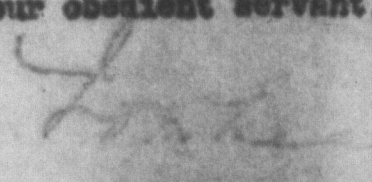
I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a letter of the 26th ult. from Acting Indian Agent Wright asking for authority to hold elections of chiefs and headmen at the next Treaty Payments in the Couchiching agency.

You will observe that Mr. Wright is in some doubt as to the Department's decision that elections cannot properly be conducted in Manitoba, the elective system not having been applied to that province so that any so-called "elections" can only be regarded as appointments; also as to the term of office being "indefinite."

I should be glad to be advised by you whether you consider that there are any reasons why the appointment of chiefs and headmen in the Couchiching agency should be conducted in a different manner from that of chiefs and headmen in other agencies in Manitoba; also your views as to Mr. Wright's recommendation in regard to the reduction of the number of headmen in certain bands named in his letter.

The Indian Commissioner,
Winnipeg, Man.

Your obedient servant,


Secretary.

Indian Affairs, Letterbook,
15 March 1902 - 5 April 1902, (R.G. 10, Volume 4989)

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