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Ottawa, Aug. 3, 1916.

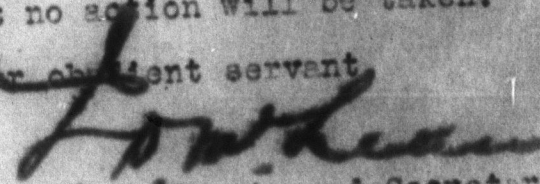
Sir,-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No.106-7 of the 25th ult. reporting the appointment of Shepapinnee, No. 52, as chief of the Assabaska band, and the death of Councillor Maisamwash, No.9, in May last.

In reply I beg to say that the appointment of Shepapinnee as chief for an indefinite term is hereby confirmed.

With reference to the desire of the band to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Councillor Maisamwash, as has already been observed in the letter quoted by you, as this band has a population of only about 150, two councillors are sufficient; but I have to remark that the Department has a reason for making the request contained in the first sentence of the enclosed circular, that you should report promptly when a vacancy occurs in the office of chief or councillor. There might have been some special reason for filling the vacancy created by the death of Councillor Maisamwash; but the fact that you neglected to report his death until July 25th deprived the Department of the opportunity of giving instructions to fill the vacancy at the recent annuity payments, even if there had been special reason for doing so. I have to request that in future you will comply with the instructions referred to, even though you may have reason to suppose that no action will be taken.

Your obedient servant


 Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

R. S. McKenzie, Esq.,
 Indian Agent,
 Kenora, Ont.

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