

feed for their dogs. This might mean that the Dept. will have to come to their aid this winter. Other things point to a hard winter for these people, among which are bush fires. Bush fires were raging in those parts, especially around La Loche Lake where I counted no less than seven fires. These fires would destroy many fur bearing animals. I was asked by these Indians to place the matter of fall fishing before the Department of Indian Affairs, with a view to getting some concession for them to put up some fish in the fall, as this is their living.

PORTAGE LA LOCHE.

There are two small bands at this place, Fort McMurray Band and Fort McMurray Stragglers. They number about 43 and 30 respectively. I would suggest that these two bands be united in one, and named Portage la Loche Band. I would also ask that No. 37 Fort McMurray Band, Michael le Maigre be made Headman over the united bands. He is the only man who could fill this office. He has always acted as the spokesman for both bands, and is an outstanding figure among them, speaking English, French, Cree, and Chepeweyan languages.

Here also I was approached in connection with the stopping of fall fishing, and was asked to present their case to the Department.

Fort McMurray showed a decrease of 1 and the Stragglers an increase of four.

English River Band paid at Wapachewunak, 42 miles north of Isle a la Crosse. After having distributed supplies to the Indians at Portage la Loche, I left on Saturday afternoon 28th June on my return

return

EXTRACT
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