INDIAN AFFAIRS

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416 Federal Building, Vano uver, B. C. October 30th 1942.

Sir:

File No.136-14-934

Replying to your letter of the 29th instant with regard to timber on Squamish I. R. No. 25 (Kaikalahan) there was never any considerable quantity of timber on this Reserve, which is only 33 acres.

I judged by the cedar and fir stumps that this had been logged about 15 or 20 years ago, but it is possible that the cutting took place even earlier than that because on September 26th 1925 my predecessor, Mr.C.C.Perry, wrote the Department saying the Indians were collecting rent direct from the Hastings Shingle Mills Ltd., and he stopped it, and had a proper permit granted the Company. The timber may have been sold direct also.

There is no record on file that any timber was sold by the Department, and I am inclined to believe, in view of the above, that a certain Indian collected the revenue, but I have no proof, and am judging by certain remarks by Mr. Perry in his correspondence.

In April, 1932, I wrote the Department about taking off the remaining timber, hemlock and spruce, and a permit was issued to the Indians (File No. 30167-16) which they have never used.

On May 16, 1942, the Squamish Indian Council at a regular meeting, passed a resolution to sell the spruce and hemlock on this Reserve at an upset price of \$3.50 per thousand. In April, 1942, the Sorg Pulp Company of Port Mellon, wanted to take off this timber as part of their operations nearby, but on account of the delay in obtaining a permit, they found it no longer practicable and their solicitor advised me in May that they were no longer interested in it. On October 17th 1942 hile at Port Mellon, I asked the manager if he would be interested now, in taking this timber, and he said there was very little there, but some of his men might take it off with a tractor.

This mill, which adjoins the Reserve, has operated spasmodically in the past, but is now working steadily on war orders and can use any pulp timber available, otherwise there would be no sale for it. In 1925 the Indians were asking the Department to let them cut it on a 35¢ per thousand stumpage basis and the Company at present will pay \$3.50.

The Department now requires the various papers of surrender, although it is doubtful whether there is 100,000 less of spruce and hemlock worth taking off. Of course, the Department does not know the conditions and imagines that all the Indians are available at all times on one Reserve to sign papers and hold meetings. As a matter of fact, a meeting of the Squamish Councillors was called for the 28th of this month and we did not have a quorum as they are nearly all working, so you can realize the

> REPEAT REPETITION