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Indian Office,  
Victoria, B. C.,  
March 28, 1914.

Sir:-

Referring to your letter to me of the 8th January last, No.274,726, I have the honor to inform you that I proceeded to Bella Coola on the 11th instant to carry out the instructions contained therein.

After thoroughly examining both the Bella Coola and the Neeleets Connay Rivers and running a rough traverse of the highroad along the bank of the latter I called on the Secretary of the Conservative Association and also the Secretary of the Development League to learn their views. The great trouble appears to be outside of the Indian Reserve. Last November the "Neeleets Connay" broke through its banks above the townsite, flöoded the town to a depth of three feet, damaged the streets and some houses, and endangered the safety of the inhabitants generally. This is a matter that concerns the Provincial Government and with which the Indian Department has nothing to do.

Another point at which damage occurs is on a small slough in front of the hotel. Here, on lots valued by the owners at \$3,000 each, there has been a slight washout, and no doubt if the slough is not cleared further damage will occur. The lots are 30 feet wide and in no case will the cost of clearing amount to more than \$5.00 a lot. I think this might be left to the owners to do. It will be noticed that the lower portion of this slough is on the Indian Reserve. There is a small jam on this part, and a few trees

The Secretary,  
Department of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa, Ontario.

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