

Okanagan I.R.
Head of Lake, B.C.
5th May, 1916.

Hon. W. J. Roche,
Supt. General,
Indian Affairs,
Ottawa.

Sir,

I fear that serious trouble will result in the Band here should Inspector Megraw persist in his present course of action regarding the renting a portion of our reserve here known as Alexander Ranch. The Inspector insists that the Band has rented this ranch to one Dr. Henderson and the Band insists that they have no knowledge of this beyond the statement of the Inspector and this Henderson, with a general knowledge that this Henderson and Alexander had some trouble in connection with some deal Henderson claimed to have made with Alexander in connection with the Ranch. Alexander being a Nicola Indians not Okanagan and having no rights in this Band. The later part of April it was reported to me that White-men Germans were plowing on this place. I instructed the reserve policeman to stop any whitemen at work there and to place a notice to that effect on the place. This was done and later this notice was torn down and work was resumed. I went to the ranch accompanied by four members of the band and ordered the men found there at work to stop work and leave the reserve.

On the 4th of May Inspector Megraw, Dr. Henderson, with Jamie Antons as interpreter motored to my place. Major Megraw told me to come with him to show Henderson a post that he might know where the line was. I told Megraw that I had stopped Henderson from taking that place and would not go with him. Megraw told me to suit myself if I wanted to go or not. I told Megraw I had sent my policeman to notify my people to come and talk over the Alexander place. Then the Inspector told me he would give me five minutes to decide, if I went

with them or not; if I didn't go with them he would bring a constable from town and arrest me. I told him I did not think they could arrest me if I was doing what was right on my reserve. I told him, "You yourself, Major Megraw, told me not to take anybody's word for anything; if Mr. Brown tells you anything that is not right, don't listen to him or anybody else, to suit myself for anything that was right on my reserve."

Then he told me that Henderson and some of the Indians had agreed to rent the place to Mr. Henderson, that they had written to the Government about it, and the government had given consent.

I told him that I knew nothing about it: that I had asked our Agent, Mr. Brown, and many of the Indians, who know nothing about it. Then our Inspector told me that I did not know as much as a block of wood, that a block of wood would make a better chief than myself. I told him that if a block of wood was chief then you white people could suit yourselves about everything that was wrong, but when I am chief I will not allow you to do anything that isn't right on this reserve. He then told me that Henderson was going to work on the Alexander place and for me not to interfere with him again. I told him not to send this man Henderson to the place again. "If he goes to work again I will stop him. We don't want him to rent the place." They said no more and went away. Later they returned to my place when Megraw asked me where Seymour was. I told him he went to inform the people that we were to have a meeting. He asked me what business I had to send for Pere Machelle. I told him he could find out if he was present at our meeting. He again told me that Henderson was going to work the Alexander place again. I told him if he did that he would lose all the tools that he would take on the place.

Then he told me that I had a rope