

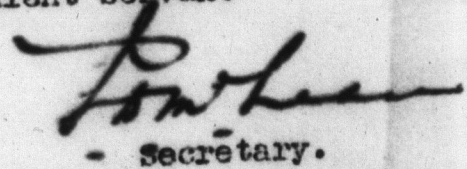
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Ottawa March 31, 1908.

Sir,-

Referring to letter of the 2nd January last addressed to Mr. J. E. Jackson who was acting during your absence, and previous correspondence, relating to the desire of the Indians of the Big River Reserve No. 118 to acquire a piece of hay land at Lake Witchekan I have to say that Mr. Inspector Chisholm is of the opinion that it would not be advisable to obtain a small reserve at Witchekan Lake for the purpose of establishing a ranch as this method of pursuing ^{the} cattle industry has never been a success among the Indians. He also thinks that it is quite unlikely that more than two or three families can be induced to leave their present reserve to settle at Witchekan Lake. He considers their present reserve a poor piece of land, the hay along the Big River being its best feature, and if the Indians are willing to surrender the entire reserve and have an equivalent reserve at Witchekan Lake or join the Pelican Lake band and have land at Pelican Lake, he thinks this petition would be worthy of consideration. Kindly enquire fully into this matter and report at your convenience.

Your obedient servant



Secretary.

Thos. Borthwick, Esq.,

Indian Agent,

Mistawasis,

Sask.

Dept. of Indian & Northern Affairs, Letterbook,
26 March 1908 - 15 April 1908, (R.G. 10, Volume 5196)

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