

ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

KAMLOOPS AGENCY

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Royal Commission Of Indian Affairs For The Province Of British Columbia
Meeting With The Kamloops Board Of Trade In The Irland Hotel, Kamloops,
On Monday the 30th, October, 1913

Chairman: Now gentlemen what is it you desire?

H.T. Dennison (Secretary of the Board of Trade of Kamloops)

On behalf of the business men of the Kamloops Board of Trade, the following resolution was passed, which I shall now read to you;

"Whereas it is the opinion of the Kamloops Board of Trade that the continued use of the land on the North Banks of the Thompson river, held as an Indian Reserve is not in the best interests of either the Indians, or the City of Kamloops, the Board desires to represent to the Royal Indian Commission here assembled;

1st. That the land is not well cultivated, or employed to proper advantage by the Indians;

2nd. That its close proximity to Kamloops is not beneficial to either the Indians or the City;

3rd. That the development of Kamloops is restricted by the reservation of this property;

4th. That the land should be more profitably employed;

5th. That the prosperity of the Indians would be advanced by the sale of the land; and it is therefore resolved;

That the Royal Indian Commission be requested to consider the advisability of recommending the sale of all, or at least 800 to 1000 acres of the said land on the banks of the river opposite the City of Kamloops."

Sgt. James A. Gill, Pres.

H.T. Dennison:

I would ask Mr. Gill if he would speak to that Resolution; he is better posted than I am, and he is the President of our Association.

James A. Gill - Hereupon addresses the Commission as follows:

Honourable Body: Owing to today being a public holiday, there are not as many of our members here as there might have been, owing principally to their being absent from the City. But I might just state, that this matter of the Indian Reserve has been a burning question for years. In regards to this drinking question, the drinking business is steadily on the increase as shown by the recent police statistics. In 1911 there was 48 convictions in the City, you go to 1912 and there are 84; you go to 1913 and there are 71 so far, this year being incomplete. Now in our opinion it would be much better for the Indians, as well as for the City of Kamloops, to have them further away, and they would be able to sell the land to the highest bidder, and in that way get a little revenue which we think they ought to be allowed to keep themselves. Now that the railway is so close we think it desirable that they should be removed as the land over there, which is not now being used to any great extent, could be utilized for industrial purposes. Mr. Fulton would perhaps give more statistics than I can, but anyway that is the impression of the Kamloops Board of Trade.

Mr. F.J. Fulton, K.C.

Mr. Gale has said that I could give some statistics in connection with this question. Unfortunately we have had no opportunity to prepare any such information. I was informed only this morning that there was going to be a meeting, and I was asked to attend. I don't know the purpose of the meeting, but I would like to say this about the question now before you. It would be a good thing for the Indians and a good thing for the City if the same arrangement could be made whereby they could be moved to some suitable Reserve further away from the City. I have been in this City for the past 24 years, and during that period I have known of three murders in this City and neighborhood both through whiskey. The figures regarding the number of [p.2] convictions might be taken two ways, either there is more whiskey being ob- [p.3] tained, or the police are more active and getting more convictions, and this can all be attributed to the close proximity of the Reserve to the City. I have given considerable attention to this matter and to the Indian Reserves generally, and I can say this that for a great number of years I

have been if the opinion that while the Indians as the original inhabitants of this Province, are entitled to some consideration, still under modern conditions I don't think they should be allowed to hold back the development of the Province. With respect to the agreement made by the Dominion for the care of the Indians and for lands for their occupancy; when land was originally asked for from the Province for the use of the Indians of British Columbia, the Dominion agreed to make suitable provision for the Indians thereupon, the Dominion had wanted only 30 acres per family. The Province at that time had offered 5 acres for each family of 5 and had afterwards showed 625,000 acres to have been provided for the twenty-two thousand Indian inhabitants of British Columbia, or 30 acres more per family than the Dominion Government had originally asked for. If the Indian lands were being utilized to the best advantage I would not object to the extending of the present holdings, but this is not the fact. As for the Reserves in this locality, not one-half is being properly used. There is a considerable quantity of land today which could be cultivated, and it is good land, and as the Indians of this Reserve hold 7 miles square running back up the St. Paul's Creek fully something over 40 miles, you can see they hold a very large tract of land here. That land is not being made use of, and if there are 500 acres of cultivatable land not being used it means a serious loss every year to this Province, because owing to the physical [p.3] conditions of B.C., it is very important to this Province that every acre [p.4] of this land be used. I have seen white settlers come here and go back on the ranges utterly disgusted because all the land that might be cultivated was tied up. I am not prepared to say that the Indians could be provided with some other location equally suitable for their requirements; this would be a question for investigation by the Department of Indian Affairs or by the Commission.

Chairman:

Q. The Commission is not empowered to change Reserves?

Mr. F.J. Fulton:

A. It might, however, make recommendations.

Chairman:

Q. To do so would it be quite outside of its instructions?

Mr. F.J. Fulton:

A. I think that in any event exceptional circumstances would justify the Commission in such a course. The danger through the supply of liquor to the Indians in this locality would be further accentuated by Canadian Northern Pacific construction and by the location of the railway shops on the Kamloops Reserves; the Indian village would now be brought between Kamloops and another white settlement just north of the Indians to that there would be another white community only about three-quarters of a mile from the village.

Chairman:

Q. Does not the law against supplying liquor to Indians or the drinking of liquor by Indians accomplish the results aimed at? If it does not, then what sort of a law will?

Mr. F.J. Fulton:

A. It does not. Statistics prove that liquor cases among the Indians are on the increase, and they will undoubtedly increase still further when another white community is established close to the Reserve.

Chairman:

Q. What remedy would you then propose?

Mr. F.J. Fulton:

A. If the Reserve were put further away from white influence it would be less likely that white hoboos would continue to take liquor there for sale.

Chairman:

Q. Is the land in the Reserve - is that required for municipal purposes?

Mr. F.J. Fulton:

A. I am not in a position to speak for the city municipality, but these [p.4] lands might be required in connection with the development of the Kamloops [p.5] electrical power project. Mr. Gill held that provision should be made by the authorities so that Indians convicted of offenses should be sent back to the Reserves to which they belonged, upon completion of their terms of imprisonment. It was unfair to them and to the City to turn them loose in Kamloops.

Agent Smith:

In any cases that have been reported to me, the fares of such Indians have been paid so that they may return to their own Reserves.

To Mr. Commissioner Shaw:

Agent Smith stated that in the isolate disteicts there is much less liquor drifting among the Indians than on the Reserves in close touch with civilization centres. On the North Thompson reserve, fifty miles distant from Kamloops, there had not been a conviction for drinking or having possession of liquor during the past five years. The temperate habits of the Indians of this Reserve were largely attributable to the good influence of the temperate Chief. Although there was a saloon not far from his Reserve, there was no interperance among his people. Distance would make no special difference with Indians getting liquor if they were determined to have it.

T.T.H. Worshop:

Q. Enquired of Mr. Gill whether he had not received a further report from the Chief of Police containing statistics as to liquor drinking among the Indians during the present year.

Mr. Gill:

A. From March 5th, last the Provincial cases had been added, making thirty more cases to add for]9]3, or a total of]0] so far. The increase for September was more than for any previous month.

T.T.H. Worshop:

According to my information a good deal of those extra convictions occurred through the Indians falling into the hands of the police before they could get back to their tribes or to the Indian Agent. The inclusion of the statistics of these recurrent convictions, without special note [p.5] was unfair to the general body of Indians. [p.6]

MR. Commissioner Shaw:

Q. Recurrent convictions would occur in any year so that the comparison stands the same?

T.T.H. Worshop:

A. In my opinion the railway construction is also highly detrimental to the Indian communities, as it afforded increased facilities for the Indian: getting liquor.

Chairman:

In regard to the remarks made by Mr. Fulton that a large part of the near reserves is not being utilized at present, I would be under the

impression that this would be a matter within the scope of the Commission's powers to give attention to. If a statement could be prepared going into this more in detail, the Commission might be in a more advantageous position to give the subject attention. Just where the neglected Indian lands were situated might very well be pointed out.

Mr. F.J. Fulton:

When the Provincial Commission set to allot reserves, the Thompson Indians had asked for all the land lying between Kamloops and Shuswap Lake. These Indians did not get all that they asked for, but they were not using all that they did receive, not had they ever used it at any time during my 24 year's residence in this locality.

To Mr. Commissioner MacDowell:

Agent Smith said that the Indians of this locality were increasing in numbers. As to convictions for drunkenness, the Indians came to Kamloops from all parts of the country, from Vernon, Ashcroft, Lytton, and other outlying points - and it was scarcely fair to lay all the cons as the Kamloops Indians. The Agent also declared that all lands on the Kamloops Reserve for which water was available, were in use. Whiskey was usually got from peddlers and boot-leggers. It was these who bought from the licenses; not the Indians.

The Chairman held that for the man thus selling liquor without a licence, the punishment should be by imprisonment without the option of a fine.

Mr. Commissioner Shaw:

[p.6] Q. enquired if the representatives (of the Board would suggest that the [p.7] Indians be confined to their Reserves and not permitted to go off of such Reserves without a special permit?

Mr. F.J. Fulton:

A. I do not think that would work out. The Indians must go off their reserves in order to get work.

Mr. Commissioner Shaw:

But in such cases they could get their permits to leave their reserves in order to go to work. The fact is that the Indians do not as a rule get their liquor in the town. They usually have it peddled it out to them by less-class white men and these would not go long distances as readily as

they would go a short distance in order to do such business.

Capt. Worshop:

Stated that in Ontario a system almost amounting to compulsion had been adopted to make the Indians more progressive. They were practically compelled to cultivate their lands. There was nothing of this kind in British Columbia, and something should be done here to arouse the interest of the Indian in the advantages of citizenship and industry. The system adopted in the east had worked well, and he thought that a similar policy might with advantage be adopted in B.C.

Mr. Commissioner Shaw:

Observed that education might in a way be made compulsory, but as he did not think a similar plan could be very well adopted with regard to the cultivation of the land.

Capt. Worshop:

Explained that what he had meant was that as to the necessity for more encouragement to the Indians, rather than compulsion. The Chairman thought that in a country where farming could be carried on, instructors might very well be employed for the Indians, with general advantage.

Royal Commission 3f Indian Affairs For The Province Of B.C.

Salmon Arm, B.C.

October 22nd, 1913

A meeting was held at the Montebelle Hotel, Salmon Arm, B.C. at 8p.m. at which members of the Board of Trade of Salmon Arm, were heard.

Mr. James Evans:

So far as our position here is concerned, it is that the amount of land held by the Indians is quite a handicap to the land round about. It is very dirty in appearance. Some six miles west of here, just across the front of the settlement, there are about 2300 acres of land, and about 15 families in occupation of it. In Tappen Siding reserve there are about 3100 acres of land and about 20 families - averaging about 160 acres each. That 3100 acres of land, if it was properly cultivated, ought to comfortably support a great many more people than there are on it at the present time. Now, of course, everybody has their own ideas. I think the Indians were here first and should be treated as pioneers who were here first, and I think it is only fair that they should have all the land which is necessary for them to provide comfortable homes - provided they will cultivate it.

Chairman:

Q. Taking into consideration, what the Indians are by hereditary, you would hardly expect them to do as good work as the white farmers?

Mr. James Evans:

A. I think they are quite capable of being as good farmers as the whites if they had proper education and instruction, and I think they are entitled to sufficient land to support them; and as to the balance of the land, I think it should be disposed of in such a way as to assist them in clearing up all their land.

Chairman:

Q. Why would they require this assistance?

Mr. James Evans:

A. Well even the white men could have done with assistance when clearing up the land.

Chairman:

Q. The Indians have cleared quite a bit of land over the Country?

Mr. James Evans:

A. Well, they have in a way. I don't see why it ought to be taken away [p.8] from them. I have lived there as long as they have, and I think they ought [p.9] to have some claim to the land.

Chairman:

Q. Does any part of this reserve require irrigation?

A. Yes

Q. You said the Indians require instruction in farming?

A. Yes.

Commissioner McKenna:

Q. The Indians never had any farming instruction?

A. No.

Q. If they were properly instructed, would they be able to properly cultivate this land?

A. Yes.

Mr. Commissioner Shaw:

Q. How many white men in this place are cultivating 160 acres of land?

A. There is not a farm here today with 160 acres of land under cultivation.

Commissioner McKenna:

Q. What is the largest farm here?

A. I don't think that there is one farmer cultivating more than 100 acres land.

Q. Do any hold more?

A. Not more than ten anyway, and I think the majority of them would be better off if they sold out and paid off what they owed.

Commissioner MacDowell:

Q. What is the size of an average farm here?

A. I think about 40 acres is the average. There are some with only 20 acres. Eighty acres is a pretty good sized farm here at the present time and they are gradually diminishing.

Q. What is the size of the fruit farms?

A. From 5 to 20 acres.

Commissioner White:

Q. If a man had three or four horses and a hundred or two of cattle, how much land would he want for grazing?

A. I think we are drifting into a class of farming that does not belong to this district.

Q. You don't raise much beef here then?

A. No, the raising of beef is an incident, dairying is the main part of the cattle business in this district.

Chairman:

Q. Speaking of fruit farming, does not that require a good deal of knowledge? [p.9]

A. Yes, all kinds of farming do, but I don't think it requires any more than other branches of farming. [p.10]

Commissioner MacDowell:

Q. The dairyman has harder work than the fruit farmer has he not?

A. I don't know that he has. If a man looks after a fruit farm properly, he has lots of work to do.

Q. Do you think that these Indians would be able to take up fruit farming successfully?

A. I could not say. If they are not inclined to be stock farmers or fruit farmers I think they would not. They should be allowed to follow their own inclinations in this respect. They have land in sufficient quantity so that they might be given an opportunity to make their choice. The Indian has been handicapped by lack of education. I have worked with Indians and have had them working with me, and the Indians are as good or better than white men when they are on a farm.

Commissioner McKenna:

Q. Did it ever occur to you that the fact that the reserve is held by the band as a whole, impedes the progress of the Indians?

A. Well I know it would impede mine.

Mr. Commissioner Shaw:

Q. What Doctor McKenna meant, was, that, supposing you had a thousand acres, and you had a hundred men who had an equal right in it, instead of dividing it up into ten equal parts, would a man have as much interests in it, as he would have, if they each had an individual title to their particular share of it?

Chairman:

A. I think this is a question for the Commission alone to deal with.

Mr. James Evans:

Comparing the Indian with the white man, where the Indian has squatted on the land, and the white man has squatted on the land, there is very little difference between the Indians and the whites, until the whites know that they can get a clear title to the land they squatted on.

Commissioner Shaw:

Q. With regard to the Indian reserves in the immediate vicinity, do you [p.10] think it all practicable, that the Indians could clear those reserves up, [p.11] to any extent, within the next two or three generations?

A. I think it would be nonsense to expect it.

Q. That, of course, is simply an opinion?

A. Yes I think that the Indians, if they got a little encouragement and education, they could be made good farmers.

Commissioner MacDowell:

Q. Do the white people here supply a great deal of liquor to the Indians?

A. There is some, but not a great deal of that sort of thing. [Q:] A statement was made to us at one place, that when the Indians got money, two-thirds of it was spent in liquor.

A. Well, I could not say, but if it were it would not be in excess of what a good man of the white people spend in the same way. There has, of late years, been very little trouble with the Indians in this respect. There are very few Indians here that would take whisky if it were given to them. I don't know of any Indian here who has made any trouble in that

respect.

Mr. James Evans: (continuing)

I should like this matter of the 3,000 acres between 20 families, to be dealt with in such a way as would benefit the Indians, the Dominion Government, and the white people in this vicinity.

Commissioner MacDowell:

Q. How would you suggest dealing with the Indians in a matter of this kind?

A. I would deal with the Indians as I would deal with a child. I would not give them a title to any part of the land until I found they were capable of taking care of it.

Chairman:

Q. What would you say would be a fair allowance of land, per family, for the Indians, taking into consideration their present conditions, and looking forward also to a possible increase in their numbers in the future?

A. I don't think there are 20 per cent of the Indians on these reserves that there were 20 or 30 years ago, but taking into consideration all the facts, the nature of the land, the ability of the Indians and the possibility of an increase in their numbers, I think 40 acres would be sufficient for each family, but they should have assistance in cultivating it.

Chairman:

Q. That would be cutting short if there was an increase?

A. Well, no I don't think so.

Q. Well, say for a family of five, what would you consider a fair sized piece of land to set aside for Indian farmers generally?

A. Well, I could not say; so far as I can see the Indians have not increased.

Mr. Commissioner Shaw:

Q. Would you say that an Indian here should have the same allotment as those in the Nicola Valley?

A. No. That is a different proposition altogether. I am speaking of the Indians here.

Q. You made the statement, I think, that you considered 40 acres was enough for a whiteman to farm, and farm properly, in this vicinity?

A. Yes 40 acres is enough for a whiteman.

Q. And does the Indian not look foward to an increase?

A. Yes.

Q. And 40 acres is enough for a whiteman, also looking foward to an increase?

A. No, I don't think so.

Mr. Commissioner White:

Q. You take an Indian and give him 40 acres . He has 3 boys, and a wife; he dies, and the three boys have that 40 acres divided between them, what would be done for those acres?

A. Well they have the same privileges as a whiteman who is similarly situated, but I would suggest that land might be put aside in other parts of the Province for future allotments as the necessity for such allotments arose.

Mr. Commissioner Shaw:

Q. Do you know how long those Indians have been here - generally speaking?

Mr. James Evans:

A. On this reserve here?

Mr. Commissioner Shaw:

A. Yes.

A. I have talked with some of the eldest timers in this part of the Country, and they have stated the Indians were always here.

Q. Before any whiteman came here?

A. Yes.

[p.12]

Q. Do you know of any single Indian who has cleared say]0 acres of land:

[p.13]

A. No.

Q. Do you think it possible that any of them will, in the future?

A. I would not say that, I regard the Indian as a child who should be taken care of.

Q. Do you know of any Indian who cultivated any land before the white man came here?

A. No, I don't.

Mr. Commissioner Shaw:

Well I know of an Indian who did farming before the white man came.

They were growing their own vegetables before the white man came here. But the Indians of course had no knowledge of farming concept in their own crude way, before the white man came, and they have seen what the white men do.

Q. Do you know of any white men who have come to this valley to take up farming, who have known no more than the Indians, and yet have been successful?

A. Well, they may think they are successful, but I would not say so.

Q. Well the gist of your whole statement is that the Indians would be better off if they had less land, or if part of the land were sold and the money were held in tract for the betterment of their land?

A. Well, I would say that the land should be divided up amongst the Indians, in say, 40 acre blocks, and then they should be assisted in the working of it. They are good neighbours, those Indians, as far as can be expected from uneducated people. I think if this policy were followed, the Indians and everyone concerned would be better off. I would give them the interest on the money received from any sale of their lands, in case. Until this policy is carried out, I don't think the, Indians can be considered as having been rightly treated.

Mr. Commissioner McKenna:

Q. Is it a fair comparison to make between an uneducated white man and an Indian?

A. No, because the whiteman is better equipped as regards brain power. [p.13] I don't think however, that any of us, with the same conditions as the [p.14] Indians, would have fared much, if any better. As soon as the Indians can prove that they are capable of managing their own affairs they should be allowed to do so. There is a streak of siwash in the white man still. We, ourselves, are not so many jumps ahead of the Indians as we would imagine.

A.D. Currie:

Listening to the questions put to Mr. Evans and to Mr. Evan's statements, I would judge that he had put the matter of comparisons very well indeed. I think that probably by making a few comparisons in this district of what the white man and the Indians in this district have done, we would be able to get down to facts. We have had people in this district who have never had any knowledge of farming until they came here and they

have come in and bought farms and cleared up from 5 to 70 acres, and have ploughed this in orchards, quite a number of them - in my opinion - making a success of the venture. The land which these whitemen have cleared, is compared with the reserve, and as heavily if not more heavily timbered. This land they have increased in value from \$40 to \$50 an acre to an average of \$500 an acre, and in this work of clearing, have quite frequently employed Indians, and some of the Indians here, seem to know - in my opinion how to clear land, as they take contracts from the white man to do this kind of work, but so far as their own reserves are concerned they have not done anything towards clearing the timber off the lands. I am of the opinion that the Indians living on the reserves adjacent here, do not require the amount of land that is reserved for them. It would be of great benefit to the district - leaving the Indians a generous amount - to have a portion eliminated from, the reserve. I don't know that I have very much more to say.

Chairman:

Q. In view of the character of the Indian and their present ability to farm, what would you consider a fair allowance of land for family of five, to put into reserve, for present requirements and future contingencies?

[p.14] A. Well, I think that the whiteman here who have had]60 acres, and who [p.15] have been able to hold 80 acres have disposed of the other 80 acres to provide enough for their families both in the present and the future. I don't see therefore, whu the Indians could not provide for their present and future requirements with say, 80 cares at the outside. I think if they were allowed 60 acres they would be generously provided for.

Mr. Commissioner White:

Q. Speaking of those men who cleared from 5 to 70 acres, would not such men be able to raise sufficient money to help themselves to cultivate it?

A. Well, mostly they have sold a portion of their property.

Q. Well the Indian cannot sell his?

A. Then I am still of the smae opinion as Mr. Evans, that the Indians should have the benefit of any money received from the sale of any lands, such money being held in trust by the Government, so that the Indians could be assisted to clear the balance of their land.

Q. Under their present circumstances, would 60 acres be sufficient for them?

A. I think they would still be as well off if they only had five acres, unless there was something done to assist them in the cultivation of their lands.

Mr. Commissioner McKenna:

Q. The eighty acres is only part of your plan?

A. Yes, only part of the plan. It would then be necessary for the Government to assist them.

Q. I suppose the price offered, was the chief intermost to those men who had 160 acres, to sell half of it?

A. Well it was an indocument to some of them, but some had sold before prices were good.

Mr. Commissioner MacDowell:

Q. What is the value of the land near here?

A. Uncleared, from \$75 to \$150 an acre; cleared from \$150 to 200 an acre.

Q. Is it not a fact that during the last twelve months soem 10 acres of land in this vicinity were sold at \$20,000.00?

A. Yes, but that of course was improved land with buildings on it.

Q. How much would represent the value of the buildings on that land?

A. The value of the buildings would be less than \$300.00. [2500.00] [p.15]

Mr. Commissioner Shaw:

Q. What would you say as to the value of the Agricultural land - that in the mixed farming lands, in this vicinity?

A. It is worth from \$150 4b \$200 per acre, cleared and improved.

Q. Have there been any farms sold at that price?

A. Yes.

Q. In 40 and 60 acre blocks?

A. Yes.

Chairman:

Q. Just for farming purposes?

A. Yes.

I.R. Riley:

The Indians have made very little progress in clearing land in this district.

Mr. Commissioner Shaw:

Q. Would you compare the reserve at Tappen Siding and its surroundings, with the reserves here and their surroundings?

A. The Tappen Siding reserve is pretty much the same as the Salmon Arm reserve, but I think the surroundings here are a little further advanced than they are in Tappen.

Chairman:

Q. It would be of some use for grazing?

A. Yes, I don't think there is any waste land.

Mr. Commissioner Shaw:

Q. The uplands are more valuable on that reserve are more valuable than the lowlands?

A. Well, there are also a few vegetables grown there. My observation of the Indians is that they are not making much progress in clearing, but they are no worse than a good many whitemen who have no capital, either of their own or borrowed. I think the Indians would do much more if they had some assistance, in some way, but as it is, I don't see how they can make such progress. They are making a living in a way, but they have not much to spare for cleaning up land. I don't think there is over 7 or 8 per cent of Tappen reserve cleared.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Mr. Evans states he would suggest that this reserve here should be divided into 40 acre blocks, and let the Indians select their own lots, what would you say as to that?

MR. RILEY: Yes, I think that would be a good thing, and I would be inclined to give them their own choice, although I would sooner see them take it so that they would be mixed up a little.

Q. You would not regard it as any detriment if the lands so selected by the Indians were surrounded by white men's holdings?

A. No.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE: Would you give the Indians a clear title to their lands?

A. No, I would not until such time as they were capable of looking after their own affairs.

MR. B PANGMAN: I cannot give you much more information than those gentlemen have already done. I am very much of the same opinion as Mr. Evans and Mr. Currie. I don't think there is anything which I could add, that would be of material value to you.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: Have you had any experience in clearing land?

A. Yes, I cleared about four and a half acres of fruit land on the bench.

Q. Is it very expensive to clear?

A. Well, it depends on how soon you clear it. The longer it stands the easier it is. I have cleared land which cost \$180.00 an acre, when cleared at ease. Bench lands when there are deep rocks are the most expensive lands to clear.

THE CHAIRMAN: What kind of wood is it?

A. Fir.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE: What do you pay for young trees?

MR. EVANS: About 20 cents each, that is for yearlings. It takes 5 years for each tree to bear.

Q. Do these trees where they are irrigated bear sooner than they would have?

A. No, I think not. Irrigation is not necessary here. Cultivation is more satisfactory.

MR. PANGMAN: I as a fruit grower and have fruit trees from one to twenty two years old. I think that a tree at five years old just barely pays expenses for its care for one season. It generally yields a box of fruit for each year of its age, starting with the fifth year, The 7th or 8th year it will give you two boxes. When it is 10 years old it will probably yield one box of fruit for each year of its each. In the 9th year it should give you a gross profit. I don't think that irrigated trees give any more fruit in less time, then naturally grown trees.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE: If you had to irrigate, it would take a great many more years before you made a profit?

A. I don't know.

THE CHAIRMAN: I suppose these Indians get work outside do they?

A. Yes.

Q. Are they constant when they go out to work?

A. Yes, I believe they are. They are not always steady however, they are liable to take on a job and leave it suddenly. The cost of slashing land, which the Indians used to do, has gone up from \$2.00 to \$15.00 per acre.

THE MEETING THEN TERMINATED.

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE OF B.

C.

NESKAINLITH RESERVE No. 1, OCTOBER 24th, 1913

MEETING WITH THE INDIANS OF THE SHUSWAP TRIBE

ISAAC HARRIS, acting as interpreter, THE CHAIRMAN briefly explained to the assembled Indians, the scope and purpose of the Commission.

WILLIAM PARRISH, said, The first thing I want to speak about is, not to lose my rights on this reserve. I don't want to sell my rights and I don't want to lose my land, and I want to hold it in my head all the time.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does he mean by that, that the tribe want these things?

INTERPRETER: Yes.

WILLIAM PARRISH: (Continuing) I believe that is the right law on this earth and I also believe that is the law by God Almighty. I want our God to find me in the very same spot where I have been and I also want the King to know where I am. We are all improving in our work - the working of the land, therefore we wish to get some more and furthermore I want our Chief in our Reserve to have authority as what they call "The Justice".

THE CHAIRMAN: He wants the Chiefs to exercise the powers of a magistrate amongst the Indians, according to their old tribal customs?

THE INTERPRETER: Yes, that is so.

WILLIAM PARRISH (continuing) We asked the Dominion Government for help on that question, according to the laws of the King.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does he mean, powers to punish offenders under the "Indian Act", or for offences generally?

THE INTERPRETER: He says "that is all I want. In cases where I am not able to settle it then I can turn it over to the white justice".

WILLIAM PARRISH (continuing) I will also speak about our interests outside the reserves. Our old people have been using them for travelling purposes etc. For instance we want to go out to hunt, and sometime we want to go out to fish. We would like to be passable all through this Country so that we will come home alright. That is all I want to say. There is a place of my reserve I want to have the line corrected, where a white man is entering my reserve on

the side of the reserve.

MR. SHAW: (To Interpreter) Tell him he will have to have that settled with the Department of Indian Affairs, through the Indian Agent we have nothing to do with that. We have no power over it.

WILLIAM PARRISH (continuing) Some of my people also went outside of the reserve and they were advised by some of the white men not to go back, so as the Chief of the reserve would not have control over them. We wish to get assistance so as to have all these people back in the reserve.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: We will think this matter over and the probabilities that we will report the matter to the Government. The suggestions you wish made, we will consider and report some of them, At any rate, to the government. You will understand, of course, that these things cannot be brought about without legislation, that is, by having an Act of Parliament passed.

WILLIAM PARRISH was then sworn and examined by MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:

Q. You are one of the head men of this tribe?

A. Yes.

Q. Your chief died some two or three months ago, I believe?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know how many reserves the Neskainlith Band have?

A. I know.

Q. How many?

A. Right here at Shuswap and one at Salmon Arm.

Q. There are two separate reserves, one here and one across the River:

A. Yes.

Q. And the one we are on here this morning is No. 1?

A. Yes.

Q. And across the River that one is No. 2 and the one at Salmon Arm is No. 3?

A. Yes.

Q. Now speaking of this No. 1 reserve, do you know how many acres there are in this reserve?

A. We know it pretty well, but we don't know how many acres.

- Q. What is the occupation of the Indians on this reserve?
- A. They farm their lands, cultivate their ground, and raise everything.
- Q. Do they sometimes go out to work for outside people, on farms, or as labourers or anything of that kind?
- A. Yes, when we are getting short of food or anything, we get outside the reserve in order to earn enough money to keep us going.
- Q. Can you tell us how many acres on this reserve are under cultivation?
- A. I am not able to say how many acres of this reserve are under cultivation, but anything fit to be cultivated is under cultivation already, and outside of the cultivation we use it as pasture land for our cattle and horses.
- Q. Have all the Indians, - that is all the men - got a piece of land on this reserve?
- A. We have not enough land. We had to divide it up into small plots in order to keep everybody working, but not enough to make a good living.
- Q. Are there any Indians on this reserve who have not any land on your reserve at all?
- A. Some have no place.
- Q. Do you know how many Indians there are on the reserve who have no land or no home on the reserve?
- A. I did not prepare myself to count how many, but there are some who have no land.
- Q. What crops do you grow on this reserve?
- A. Wheat, oats, hay, potatoes and all kinds of vegetables, and apples. We also have cattle, horses, pigs and chickens.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Do the chickens, include ducks and geese and turkeys?
- A. Yes, all kinds of fowls.
- Q. Have you any sheep on the reserve?
- A. No.
- MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Do you grow any more crops of any kind on the reserve, than you use yourselves, - that is, do you sell any crops?
- A. Yes, we sell some crops.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Do you sell wheat, oats and hay?

A. Yes.

Q. And potatoes and vegetables?

A. Anything that we have to spare outside the vegetables, we sell.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Also horses and cattle sometimes?

A. Yes, any horse or cow to spare, we sell it.

Q. Are you fairly well equipped with implements for carrying on your farming operations:

A. Yes, all fairly well equipped.

Q. Can you tell us how many horses are owned on this reserve?

A. I could not say how many head, but we are short of pasturage we have on this reserve.

Q. Could you give us any idea as to how many horses there are?

A. About 300 head of horses.

Q. How many cattle?

A. About 100 head of cattle.

Q. Speaking of Reserve No. 2, on the other side of the river, that is on the east side of the river, what is the character of the land over there?

A. The nature of that land across the river from here, is *dry*.

Q. Is it level?

A. Some of it is level and we have used it for cultivating, some of it.

Q. What is the balance like that is not cultivated?

A. We cultivate that ground but it is not producing very good on account of no water. We have a Record to have water for that reserve, but we have never got water to it.

Q. Do you irrigate your crops on this side of the river?

A. Yes.

Q. Have you plenty of water on this side for all purposes?

A. The water is short for the amount of cultivable ground, and we have to grab it from one another.

Q. What means have you of bringing the water from the mountains on the reserve on which we are now? Any flumes or ditches?

A. We dug a ditch and with the assistance of the Government we got

water on to the cultivated ground.

MR. COMMISSIONER McKENNA: Was not a portion of the money with which that ditch was paid for money which came from the Railway company for right-of-way?

A. Yes, that is right.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Am I right in saying that when this ditch was built the Indians gave their time and labour free, without any wages, and the Government provided the tools and provisions for them while the work was being done?

A. Yes, that is right.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: Have any of the people living on the east side of the river, any interest in the land on the west side?

A. Yes we are all in one.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE: Was it easier to get water for the No. 1 reserve than it was to get water to the other side?

A. Yes. It was easier to get water for No. 1 than it was for No. 2 because it was a longer distance to No. 2 and harder ground and it would have cost more money.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Do the Indians living on that No. 1 reserve have an interest in No. 2 reserve, across the river, and also in the reserve at Salmon Arm?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, the land on the other side of the river which is not cultivated, what use do you make of it?

A. Just for pasturage and wood purposes.

Q. Is there any land over there which has not been cultivated, which might be cleared and cultivated?

A. There is some good to be cultivated if we could get water; the land over there is light soil, gravelly and timbered.

Q. Is the reserve land over there fenced?

A. We were ready to fence it, but we were stopped until the Commission got through.

Q. About how many horses are owned by the Indians living on the other side of the reserve, apart from the 300 you have mentioned? That is how many horses are owned on the other side of the river?

A. About 40 head of horses.

Q. And about how many cattle?

A. 5 or 6 head of cattle.

Q. Is there any Indian school on these Reserves?

A. No.

Q. Do any of the children from these reserves attend school anywhere?

A. Yes, some goes to school about 40 miles away from here, to Kamloops

Q. Do any of them attend the public schools - that is the white schools, here?

A. Just one.

Q. Would the Indians approve of the Indian Department establishing a school here on the reserve for their children - a day school?

A. Yes, I think the Indians would accept that.

Q. Have they ever asked the Department to do anything in that line?

A. Yes, we are always asking.

Q. How many children of school age are there on these two reserves? That is, children between the ages of 6 and 15 years?

A. About 45 children of school age.

MR. COMMISSIONER McKENNA: Is there not considerable fencing on No. 2 reserve?

A. Yes, the land which is cultivated is fenced.

Q. When you said that the Agent stopped you from fencing, did you not refer to the boundary line which is in dispute?

A. Yes the boundary line was in dispute and therefore we waited for the Commission.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: The reserve on this side of the river, is it fenced as a whole?

A. Yes, all fenced. The only pieces on the boundary line which are not fenced are what the white people have taken from us.

CELESTA was sworn and examined by Mr. Commissioner Shaw:

Q. Where do you live?

A. At Salmon Arm.

Q. Are you the head man of the Salmon Arm Reserve?

A. Yes.

Q. About how many families live on the reserve at Salmon Arm, that are on the No. 5 reserve?

A. NO ANSWER.

Q. There is a map, which is your reserve there?

A. All I know about it is, that this is where I live (indicating) - here where the Salmon River goes through, belongs to Narcisse.

THE CHAIRMAN: When we are talking about Salmon Arm reserve, you refer to this place (indicating) marked in red on the map, and marked green (which is No. 3 reserve of the Shuswap Tribe) The two pieces marked green belong to the Adams Lake tribe?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: How many families live on this reserve?

A. Nine families.

Q. What is the land on that reserve like?

A. A portion of it away down at the bottom is good land and the other portion up on the hill is dry land and timbered.

Q. How much land is cleared and under cultivation on that reserve?

A. There is about 100 acres of meadow which we use and cut hay off. That is timothy hay that we grow there.

Q. Was that 100 acres formerly timbered and has it been cleared by the Indians?

A. Yes.

Q. Was there some land lying next to the lake on which you cut hay in addition to that?

A. Yes, quite a large sized meadow.

Q. Do you know how many acres?

A. Yes, the meadow land is about 150 acres.

THE CHAIRMAN: That is not timothy hay is it? That is just wild grass?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: And the water over flows that in the summertime?

A. Yes. That 150 acres overflows at high water.

Q. Do you grow anything but timothy hay on that 100 acres which you cleared?

A. Yes, some potatoes and other vegetables.

Q. How many acres of potatoes and wheat and oats do you grow?

A. We are not able to sell all our vegetables and therefore we are making hay on that reserve, more or less.

Q. About how many horses are owned by the Indians on that reserve?

A. About 17 head altogether owned by those Indians living there.

Q. About how many cattle?

A. No cattle.

Q. Any sheep?

A. No.

Q. Any hogs?

A. No.

Q. Any poultry of any kind?

A. We have some poultry.

Q. Are you fairly well equipped with implements for working the land which you have?

A. We are not able to work that land into good condition because we have no tools to do it with.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: If you had the tools, could you make good work of it?

A. We cleared about 70 (seventy) acres on that reserve but we have been waiting for the stumps to rot. We have not sufficient tools to work it right.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Is that 70 acres outside the 100 acres which you have spoken of?

A. Yes.

Q. Where your clearing is, is that where the low-land is?

A. Yes, we work on the bottom land and foothills.

Q. What is the land like on the west side of the river, on the top of this hill?

A. We are keeping it for our timber supplies, more or less.

Q. Is that timber was cut off would the land be good for cultivation?

A. Yes, if we were able to clean it up and take the stumps off.

MR. COMMISSIONER McKENNA: What could be grown on that land?

A. Wheat and oats, and it would be good ground for growing apples.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE: Would it have to be irrigated?

A. No, it cannot be irrigated, it is high land.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Is there a Government wagon road runs along the west side of that reserve?

A. Yes, the Government road runs right on the line.

Q. On the other side are there any whitemen living - that is - on the west side?

A. Yes, there are white people all along there.

Q. Are there white people on the south side as well?

A. Yes, there are white people there too.

Q. And on the North side, are there white people there?

A. Yes.

Q. What are those white people producing, who are living just adjacent to the reserves on those three sides?

A. Principally apples and timothy hay.

Q. Are their orchards good there?

A. Yes.

Q. Would you say that the orchards around the reserve are as good as the orchards up near Salmon Arm town?

A. Yes, just about the same.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Do you know whether these white people who raise apples on the land referred to by Mr. Shaw, use fertilizer?

A. Yes, they use fertilizer and are also well equipped with some kind of machinery to work the land.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: What fertilizer do they use?

A. Horse manure.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Do they use imported fertilizer too?

A. I could not say. They spray their trees.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Do you ever see them bring fertilizer in sacks and throw it over the land?

A. No.

Q. How many children are there on that reserve?

A. Six small children.

Q. I mean children of school age - between the ages of 6 and 15 years old?

A. About 15, all told.

Q. Do any of them attend school anywhere?

A. No, some used to go to the boarding school at Kamloops, but there

are none going there now.

Q. Would the Indians there like to have a day school established there so that their children could attend it and be taught?

A. Yes, if it could be done, but I don't think there are enough children to make a school for.

Q. Do any of them ever attend any of the white people's schools around here?

A. No, there is a school near by, but I don't know of any Indian children who go to that school.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Do any of them attend any Indian Boarding School?

A. No. There were some used to attend the Boarding School at Kamloops; none attend it now.

Q. Why do they not attend the Kamloops school now?

A. I don't know; my child has got through school at Kamloops and came back.

THE CHAIRMAN: Show me on this map where you live?

A. You have seen my house where it is. I cannot read, but as far as I can see the sawmill is about here some place, and my house is about here (indicating).

Q. There is a road runs through between your house and the railway?

A. Yes.

Q. We went along that road and we could see down into that meadow. That is where they grow the wild grass is it? The meadow is right at the mouth of the creek?

A. Yes.

Q. Now then, I want to know where is that 100 acres of timothy land?

A. There is a piece from my house to the West, timothy ground, and another piece at the front of my house (south from my house) and more timothy ground north of my house. August has another piece still north from my house, and Sam has his own field right there too. I guess you did not go the full length; there is some fields back in there.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Is there any timothy land between the lake and the railway on that reserve?

A. There is no timothy ground there, the water overflows.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE OF B. C.

October 14th, 1913.

MEETING WITH THE INDIANS OF THE ADAMS LAKE BAND OF THE SHUSWAP TRIBE
ON ADAMS LAKE RESERVE NUMBER 4.

ISAAC HARRY acting as interpreter, MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE briefly explained the scope and purpose of the Commission to the assembled Indians.

CHIEF TAWHALST said: "I am glad to hear the Commission and what their duties are in coming to visit my reserve. I know we have been getting on very poor on this land, with all hardships. I know the Chief who thinks that we should be at another reserve, and thinks that I should be here, and this is the same with all the Indians, that they should be at their places. My land is very far away and very deep and very high. Therefore I am very sorry that the Victoria Government has tied up all that belongs to me. Ever since, I have to pay some money before I can cut timber, and it was my own. My land is lots and the Government has confined me to a small spot and fixed my land so that I could dig in that little spot for a living. The Government has taken lots of money that belonged to me, and has as yet not helped me anything at all for machinery or any other improvements. All my rivers that are travelling through here long distances, the Government of British Columbia has made money out of them themselves. The railroad has gone through my reserve, and turned out money out of it, and has given me a certain sum to make a ditch out of it, which is only a quarter of what I was entitled to. Look at this railroad which went through my country all the way. In regard to white people who are living here I feel all right to them, as they have to work for their living the same as I do, and I am glad to have them as neighbours. God has made us all to be equal with himself. That is all I have to say. Take Mr. Shaw or Mr. Smith, they tell us, "We are the head men - come to us with any of your grievances". This is one of our grievances: for instance, in making the Indian police we have no authority because we cannot work outside, because the Indian police get

no pay.

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In reply to a question from the Chairman, INDIAN AGENT SMITH said:

"It is perfectly true that these Indian police do not get any pay. They work pretty hard, but they don't get any pay. They are appointed by the Indians themselves. They generally get tired of the work and throw it up as there is no pay attached to it".

ADRIAN NARCISSE was sworn, and examined by MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:

Q. Do you live on this reserve?

A. Yes, I live on this reserve.

Q. What is the population of this reserve? About how many men, women and children?

A. Pretty near 200.

Q. Are you speaking now of this one reserve or of the whole band?

A. For the whole band on this and other reserves.

Q. From the boundary line of the Neskainlith reserves up to and including this reserve?

A. I am only counting this reserve right here, but we also have other people at Salmon Arm belonging to this band.

Q. That is on Reserves 4 and 4a?

A. Yes.

Q. How do the Indians get their living on these two reserves, 4 and 4a?

A. From our land.

Q. What do you do on the land, do you farm it?

A. Yes, we cultivate our ground.

Q. What do you raise on it?

A. Hay, oats, wheat, potatoes, carrots, onions, and turnips.

Q. All kinds of vegetables?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you sell any off the reserve?

A. Anything over what we use, we sell.

Q. Do you ever have anything over and above what you use yourselves?

A. Yes, the Indians are just beginning to learn how to farm, and we have just a little to spare, which we sell.

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Q. You raise some hay don't you a considerable amount?

A. We raise a little and would raise more if we had more land.

Q. But you do raise a considerable amount?

A. Yes, but not enough.

Q. Do you sell any hay?

A. Yes, a little.

Q. Don't you sell more than a little?

A. I said before that we are only able to raise a little.

Q. Have you any horses or cattle?

A. Yes.

Q. About how many horses?

A. It will be over 200 head of horses.

Q. How many cattle?

A. About 49 head of cattle.

Q. Do you raise hay enough for your horses and cattle?

A. Sometimes we don't have enough.

Q. What do you do with the horses and cattle in the winter time?

A. The horses which we use for working, we keep them in the stables, and the horses which we don't work are generally turned loose in the fields here, on the hills and on the rocks.

Q. How about the cattle?

A. The same applies to them.

Q. Do you have to feed your horses during the winter?

A. yes.

Q. They. cannot get enough on the range without being fed?

A. Sometimes it is harder than others, but in some winters the young horses manage to feed outside.

Q. And the cattle, do you have to feed them all the winter?

A. Yes.

Q. And sometimes you have not enough hay to see them through?

A. Yes that is quite true. If the Indians don't watch the hay they are liable to go short.

Q. You seemed to have quite a good stretch of hay land in this valley, as we came along?

A. Oh yes, it is good land. Sometimes we have a little hay to spare

and the money goes for us to buy groceries with.

Q. You sell more or less of hay, every year?

A. Yes, we have to sell hay in order to get groceries. We must sell in order to get a living.

Q. And, in consequence, sometimes your horses and cattle have to suffer in the bad seasons?

A. Yes. Our land is good you see, provided that we had sufficient water to irrigate it.

Q. Have you no water to irrigate with?

A. We have water but it is not enough for two farmers to use the water for irrigation purposes.

Q. Do you only get water enough to irrigate two allotments?

A. Yes, and the others are fighting about the water all the time, taking it from one another.

Q. You can grow a lot here without irrigation, can you not?

A. Oh yes, we can raise some things without irrigation.

Q. I suppose that this land which we see along the bottom here from the bridge is all hay land, is it?

A.. Yes.

Q. You sell your grain and oats too, do you?

A. Yes, but only a little amount, not big quantities.

Q. Is that flat land here, irrigatable?

A. Yes, the water comes from above.

Q. That irrigates the whole flat then, does it?

A. I mean that there is water comes through when there is some to spare, but the water is generally used before it gets all over the flat.

Q. Well, the whole flat is not irrigated then?

A. No.

Q. I suppose you sell some horses too?

A. Yes.

Q. How many horses do you suppose you sell in a season?

A. I don't know. I could not say how many. Some of the Indians gets hard up and then they have to sell a horse.

Q. Do you sell any cattle?

A. Yes.

Q. I should suppose that a large amount of your living is derived from the sale of horses and cattle?

A. That is right. The Indians used to raise horses and sell them a long time ago for their living, but our stock is getting less as we have no place for them to run.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: They formerly used to run on the open range outside, did they not?

A. Yes.

Q. And that range has since been taken up by white homesteaders, so that there is no pasturage there now?

A. Yes, that is right.

THE CHAIRMAN: Have you not got enough pasturage on your own land?

A. Barely enough. Just at the beginning of the year we had to sell part of our stock in order to limit the stock to the measure of pasturage.

MR. COMMISSIONER McKENNA: After the open range was taken up by homesteaders, was your range confined to those side hills?

A. Yes, my stock is forced to go to the mountainside, where the grass is not much good.

Q. And when the open range was closed, you had to reduce the number of your horses and horned cattle?

A. Yes, that is right, therefore we want more land.

Q. And instead of making your living largely from your horses and cattle you had to make it from the sale of grain and hay and vegetables?

A. Yes, if I had enough good land so as to cultivate it for raising vegetables, grain and fruit.

Q. If there was a proper disposal of water over the flat land, would you be able to raise enough grain and vegetables for the support of the Indians living here?

A. You know yourselves it is just the same with the white people, the stronger man he gets the better part of the lands and the weak one is not able to hold his own, and he cannot make a living at all.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: You said a short time ago that you did not know how many horses or cattle were sold?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you consider it that the sale of horses and cattle, makes an important part of your living?

A. Yes, if there were sufficient pasture land for the horses to live on, we would certainly go into stock-raising more.

Q. Do you consider it just now, as an important part of your living - as things are?

A. We have already sold all our cattle. We don't sell much cattle now.

Q. What are you doing then, instead of stock-raising?

A. If we had known a long time ago before the whites ever came in we would have taken up all the good land which is now surrounding us.

Q. If all the good land in this reserve at the present time were brought under cultivation, could you not make a comfortable living from it?

A. I don't think it would be enough for everybody. It is too small.

Q. There would be about how many acres to each family?

A. You have seen some of the fields as you past them. There may be one field of 20 acres, and in that field there may be one family of quite a number.

THE CHAIRMAN: You say that you had to dispose of a large quantity of your houses and cattle because you had not sufficient pasturage for them, is that so?

A. Yes, that is right.

Q. That would leave at the disposal of the Indians, some hay and grain to sell, would it not?

A. I say that we have not enough to spare. Ever since I started to cut hay, I have been getting things on the strength of my hay. and very often it was all disposed of before the good were delivered. If I had enough land I would have enough hay to spare.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: Do the Indians living on that reserve, make their living from the reserve?

A. Yes, that is right, because the Indians are stopped from fishing

and hunting, and therefore they make their living from the reserve.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Do a good many Indians go out and make their living by working for whitemen on farms, and by logging?

A. Those who have no place go outside and work for the white people.

Q. Have you yourself a ranch?

A. Yes, I have.

Q. Don't you sometimes go out to work for white people?

A. A long time ago since, I did, but I don't now.

THE CHAIRMAN: You remember saying that you had to sell your cattle.

Up to the time you disposed of your horses, you had sufficient hay and grain - as a rule - to feed them when it was necessary to feed them?

A. Yes, it used to see them through the winter.

Q. How far do these two reserves - numbers 4 and 4a - extend along the river?

A. You see that this map shows a good many acres, but the land which is fit to be cultivated and got some good out of, is very small.

Q. What I want to know is, how many miles in extent, along the River, those reserves are?

A. About 3 miles.

Q. How far does it extend above where we are now?

A. Not very far.

Q. About how far?

A. About 500 or 600 yards.

Q. Does the reserve go over the hills or only part of the way up the hills?

A. Yes, you see this rock right here? It gets right on top of the hill.

Q. Does it not get on top of the hill, right along?

A. Yes.

Q. Is there not good grazing land all along these hills?

A. Oh yes, it is all right.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Do you know the two reserves at Salmon Arm belonging to this band of Indians?

A. Yes.

Q. Can you show us these two reserves on the map?

A. I am not able to read and I don't know.

Q. You know this reserve where Narcisse used to live?

A. Yes.

Q. That is No. 7 reserve, do you know how many acres in this reserve?

A. I know there is two reserves there, but I don't know how many acres in each.

Q. Do you know about how many families are living on No. 7 reserve at Salmon Arm, now?

A. They are all dead but one family. There is one Indian only living on No. 7. We were going to fence that piece of land there but Mr. Smith advised us to leave it alone until the Commission arrived.

Q. For the last 10 years, how many families have lived on that reserve?

A. Just the Chief.

Q. Since the Chief died, who has been living on that reserve?

A. When the Chief died, the wish of the band was that they were to administer that amongst themselves.

Q. Since the Chief died, who has been living on that land?

A. His name is Gabrielle who died two or three months ago.

Q. Who is living there now?

A. Two women and a boy who is living with them.

Q. Do you know how much land is cultivated on that reserve?

A. Do you mean the land which is cultivated or the meadow land?

Q. The land which has been ploughed and cultivated.

A. About 25 acres.

Q. About how many acres are in the meadow?

A. About 75 acres.

Q. Has this land been rented to anyone for pasture?

A. The Band did not rent it out, but the Chief did when he was not able to work any more. He rented it out so as to get enough to keep him.

Q. Since the Chief died, has his son rented it for pasture?

A. Yes, he has; and when the rent gets to the end of the season, the Chief of this tribe has to fix it up.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Are not the widow of the Chief and the mother and the child, supported out of the proceeds received from that rental?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Do you know what horses and cattle these people have who live on this reserve?

a. About 4 horses.

Q. How many cattle?

A. I don't think they have any cattle.

Q. Do you know this reserve up here - what you call "Loon's reserve" at Salmon Arm?

A. Yes.

Q. North of that, do you know another reserve belonging to your band (No. 6)?

A. Yes.

Q. Are there any families living on that reserve?

A. About four families,

Q. Living there all the time?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know how much land they have cleared?

A. About 30 acres.

Q. Is there any meadow land or hay land on that reserve?

A. Yes, some, but not fit to cut.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: Good for grazing, I suppose?

A. NO ANSWER.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Is this land good for pasture land?

A. No, there is no grass there.

Q. What is the land like?

A. Gravelly.

Q. Any timber on it?

A. Yes, timbered.

Q. Are there white people living at the back of that from the lake - that would be on the west side?

A. Yes, there are white people all around this reserve here.

Q. What kind of farms have they got there?

A. They are raising apples.

Q. Have they good orchards?

A. I don't know.

Q. Do you know Reserve No. 1 - Eastalan reserve?

A. Yes, I know it.

Q. Where is that reserve situated? It is near the foot of Deadman's Lake, is it not?

A. It is about 14 miles from here to that other reserve.

Q. This reserve, does it go down to Deadman's Lake?

NO ANSWER.

Q. (Producing Map) Do you recognize that reserve?

A. I guess that is it, but I cannot read.

Q. Is it partly on Deadman's Lake and partly on Deadman's River?

A. Yes, that is right.

Q. About how many families are there living on that reserve?

A. About five families.

Q. What do they do for a living around that Lake?

A. Some of the little pieces along the river there, they have been able to cultivate in order to get a living.

Q. Is there much land on that reserve good for farming?

A. No, it is all rocks.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Is it very precipitous?

A. It is like this mountain here (indicating) very steep.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Is there any timber on it?

A. Very little, not much.

Q. Is it any good for grazing?

A. Yes, it is all right for pasture.

Q. Are there any horses and cattle there now, owned by the Indians?

A. Yes, we take our horses from here and turn them loose for pasturage over there.

Q. Do you know the little reserve on the other side of the lake - No. 5 (Toops)?

A. Yes.

A. About how many families are living on that reserve?

A. Two families. Recently one of the elder men died, but he has left a widow and children.

Q. There are still two families there yet then?

A. Yes.

Q. What is that land like - is there any cultivation on that reserve?

A. Oh yes, we have some cultivated land there, but the place is very small. A boy, one of the owners of that place, is only young, but he is just commencing to farm that in good shape just now.

Q. The balance of the land which is not cultivated - what is that like?

A. It has all been slashed.

Q. By whom?

A. By the people who are there now.

Q. Is there part of this land rented to the Thompson River Lumber Company for some buildings?

A. Yes, one acre and a half.

Q. Is there any of the other reserve rented?

a. No.

Q. Do you know this reserve up at Squeam Bay (No. 2)?

A. Yes.

Q. About how many families are living there?

A. There has been a big family there but the old man died and he left quite a few children. Some of the children are at Kamloops school.

Q. Is there anyone living there now?

A. Yes, the widow is living there.

Q. Do you know how many acres are under cultivation there?

A. No, I don't. The land, however, is not very good there.

Q. What kind of land is there there?

A. It is not very good.

Q. Do you know reserve No. 5 - Staquamkalya?

A. Yes.

- Q. Where is this land situated?
- A. It is on the Sourthern shore of the Little Shuswap Lake.
- Q. Any families living there?
- A. No. It is no good for anything.
- Q. What is the land like?
- A. We are just getting wood off that reserve for here.
- Q. As a matter of fact, it is very steep, rocky land, right down to the water, is it not?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know how many children are going from this reserve to any school, at Kamloops or elsewhere, at the present time?
- A. There are 10 boys at the school at Kamloops that I know of.
- Q. Any girls?
- A. There are some girls, but I don't know how many. I think there are more girls than boys.
- Q. Do any of the Indian children attend the public schools here?
- A. No.
- Q. Do you think that the Indians of this reserve would like to have a day school established here, and a teacher supplied for the education of their children?
- A. I think it would be more better if a school was established on this reserve, so that the children could go to school right from their own home.
- THE CHAIRMAN: How do the Indians down on the reserve at Salmon Arm make a living?
- A. Cultivating crops and hay.
- Q. Leaving hay out of the question, do they raise any other crops for their own requirements?
- A. I think sometimes they get short and all the Indians are just the same.
- Q. But, as a rule, they raise enough of it to sell?
- A. Yes, sometimes when they have enough to spare.
- Q. But do they have enough to spare?
- A. Well, I guess you know. You have seen farmers and you know that sometimes they go short.

Q. Do they ever get enough to sell?

A. Sometimes they. do, but not all the time.

THE CHAIRMAN: The rule is that they don't, is it. not?

A. Yes, that is so.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE OF B. C.

October 25th, 1915.

Meeting with Indians of the Shuswap Lake Band, on the Qua-Aut Reserve No. 1

ISAAC HARRIS acting in the capacity of interpreter,

THE CHAIRMAN briefly explained the scope and purpose of the Commission

CHIEF CLEMMMA ARNOUSE said: "I am glad to see the Commissioners

who are visiting my place. I will not say much to you - only a few words. This place where I am now, is my own place.

I am glad now to have the chance to speak on my land truly, because it is my own land. I cannot let my land go. I want to say also one word about the laws of this Country. I want to get the rights of the law to administrate my own reserve. I have told you before I would not say much and that is all I have to say."

CHIEF FRANCOIS SILPAHAN: I am glad to see the Commissioners

today. I will say something which I have to say to you, I will tell you today, how the Indians do come to have hard feelings. You have been staying at home when the Indians began to travel, and explain their troubles; therefore you people have found out about our troubles, and have come to us. Now you have heard what the Indians explained at Ottawa and then have come to the reserves to see, and have the Indians to tell you all about it. It is not on our reserve only that our hard feelings commence; it is for land outside the reserves where the whitemen have stopped us. They stopped us from getting deer and birds, and stopped us fishing. That is what we have told the Government in Ottawa. We do not intend to do anything but we asked the Government at Ottawa to help us with it. When the Indians were here a very long time ago, and able to look for their own food all over, the Indians used to increase and they used to have good living. For instance you use your own food and are getting better all the time. When the white men came and brought in their food, which the Indians used, a lot of them died through it. The Indians then say:

"We will call on the Government for them to do what is right about it." We did not go to work and look for any trouble knowing that is wrong. We simply asked the Government to stand up for us and do what is right by us. You all know yourselves that we were born here and always lived here, on this land here You see your own selves as to how we love our land, which land we have made these improvements and built these houses on, that you see right here now. You have seen our work. We have built some good houses, just like as if we were anxious for the Government to help us to go ahead with our improvements in our reserves. We all want to work our land to good advantage, and we are short as to our means and knowledge of working the land.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Do you mean that you are short of machinery or that you lack knowledge?

A. Both.

We are also short in the authorities of our chief, and we want you people to help us and give him authority so he will have as much authority on his reserve as the white people have in their own places. That is what we want you people to do to help our Chief. Our Chief is here on the reserve and we have some troubles - whiskey troubles - and the policeman comes and takes our people away, and that is why we call upon you to help us by giving authority to our Chief.

You know yourselves that all the land is not good, there may be some level land but it is dry so as we can raise nothing. If we don't get help with that land with some water, nothing will grow on it. There is some land which has big trees on it. If we take the trees off there is big stumps remaining on the land, and we have no machinery to take the stumps out. Myself I have been trying to work my land to better advantage. I believe the Government Laws about the land. I have slashed and taken the timber off my land, but I got as far as the stumps and could do no more. I have cultivated around the stumps but I could not take the stumps out. What I am talking about is that the Indians have been working the reserves a long time

now. We have often called upon the Indian Agent for help and he always says "I will send word to Ottawa, and you can get what help you want." It seems to be without result. However, ever since Smith got to be agent, I see improvements, and he has helped the Indians on that point. I would like to see a little better management than what is being done now. That is all I have to say.

THE CHAIRMAN: Have you ever asked for stumping machines?

A. I have said just now, that before Smith became agent we asked for all kinds of tools, but we got none.

Q. Did you ever ask for a stumping machine?

A. Some whiteman has told us that if we told the Indian Agent what we want, he would help us, but we have not got help until now.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Do you get help now?

A. Yes, since Smith became Agent.

Q. Sufficient help?

A. Yes, Smith got us some machinery.

Q. Did you ever ask Smith for a stumping machine?

A. No.

Q. What machines did you get?

A. Threshing and mowing machines. We asked for some fencing to fence the graveyard with. We called on Smith and he helped us. The Indian Agent before Smith, he never helped us and we had to buy our own things. We have made up our minds to ask Smith the Indian Agent, for help for stumping machines, and work horses and other machinery. I would like to know from Mr. Smith, now where that money came from what was given to us in machinery? Was it Government money or was it some of our own money which had been paid for us for some of our land which has been taken by the white men?

THE CHAIRMAN (after consultation with Indian Agent Smith): It came out of the money which the Government holds in trust for you. The money, which was given for fencing the graveyard, however, was Government money.

SUB-CHIEF FRANCOIS SILPAHAN (Continuing): There is one thing which is

hard on us here on this land - whiskey. The Indians don't know what good it is for. The white man offers it for sale and the Indian buys it. I don't drink myself, but I see the other Indians drunk and it makes them poor. However, I won't say much about that, I am just telling you.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Have you any suggestion to make as to it should be stopped?

A. Yes, we are telling the Government about that and I want the Government to tell us where it is hurting us not to stop it. The whiteman sells the whiskey, then he goes and takes him to jail and takes his money from him.

THE CHAIRMAN: The whiteman also gets taken to jail when he gets drunk, and so does the man who sells the whiskey to the Indians.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: Can you tell us any way in which you think this selling of whiskey to the Indians could be stopped?

A. Yes, I have already said that the Indians get very poor about getting whiskey, and I think you ought to tell the white people not to sell whiskey to the Indians.

THE CHAIRMAN: But the Law distinctly states that the white man must not sell whiskey to the Indians.

SUB-CHIEF FRANCOIS SILPAHAN: We have nothing to say or any trouble with our reserves which are surveyed off now. We are all satisfied. We will also be satisfied for you people to look after us on our reserves, and help to make it secure.

PETER TOMMAH, said; My people have said quite a few words, but I will just say a few words myself. I am glad to say a few words to the Commissioners now, what we want to get is our own right for the reserve. The Indians have been anxious to find out the law of what you are doing now. The Laws of the Indians were kind of getting slow and I am glad to hear of the help you are giving now. The Indians do not want to stray away from the Government Laws, we want to be parallel with the Government Laws so that we will get along better. Since four years ago, the Indians have no power to do any law work within their reserves

because in every case they were taken up by the whites, therefore the Indians began to travel to find out what results they would get out of it. The Indians see the Commissioners now who have been sent by the Government, and the Indians would be glad for the Commissioners to help them on this question. We are not afraid of straightening things up and will be more satisfied, if everything goes straight from this time on, and the Indians and the Government will all work together.

PETER TOMMAH, was then sworn, and examined by Mr. Commissioner Shaw

Q. You belong to the Little Shuswap Lake Indians?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know about how many pieces of land your band of Indians own as reserves?

A. Yes, I think there are four.

Q. What is the name of the one we are on now?

A. Quaaout.

Q. What is the name of the one across the River?

A. Squilax.

Q. What are the others?

A. Scotch Creek.

Q. Where is another one?

A. Little Meadow and Tappen Siding.

Q. Where do you live?

A. On this reserve here. I also work another piece at Scotch Creek.

Q. Do you know how many families reside on this Quaaout reserve?

A. 20 families on this side of the river on this reserve.

Q. Do you know how many acres are in this reserve?

A. Nobody ever told me how many acres, but I know where the lines are.

Q. Can you tell us how many acres are cleared on this reserve?

A. Do you mean that was taken off by cutting the brush off, natural prairie, or altogether, that is cultivated?

Q. What is cultivated altogether?

A. 302 acres.

Q. Did you make out this list? (Exhibit G. 3)

A. Yes.

Q. What do you grow on this land which is cleared?

A. Hay, potatoes, small vegetables, anything that the whiteman buys.

Q. But lately the Indians have planted quite a few apple trees. Are any of these apple trees bearing fruit yet?

A. Not on this reserve, but on the other reserves there are some.

Q. Do you grow any more hay than you use for yourselves? That is, do you grow any to sell?

A. Yes, anything that we have to spare - not much though - we sell to the whites.

Q. How many horses are owned on this reserve?

A. About twenty.

Q. And about how many cattle?

A. The Indians have sold all their cattle on this reserve, and the scrub horses were all sold, we are just keeping nothing but the good horses.

Q. Do you grow any grain on this reserve, for sale?

A. No, we don't raise any wheat or oats on this reserve.

Q. Do you grow any vegetables or potatoes for sale on, this reserve? A. Yes, we grow potatoes and other vegetables on this reserve for sale. If we get the right price for our crop we sell it.

Q. Do the Indians on this reserve go outside to work for other people?

A. A long time ago they used to do it.

Q. Don't they do it any more now?

A. Some of the young fellows work for white men now.

Q. At what kind of work?

A. On farms, at logging, and in the lumber camp.

Q. Speaking generally, the Indians here make their living by cultivating their land, and by working on the reserves as a whole?

A. Yes. It is just a little while since the Indians have begun to work their land. A long time ago we used to work for white men.

Q. How long is it since you commenced to work your own land?

A. About 3 or 4 years ago.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: You heard the Sub-Chief say that he would like to have the legal right to govern his Indians?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, if the Chief had this Legal Right, could he stop the Indians from buying whiskey?

A. Provided the Government helps to stop, it. I guess he could, but not by himself alone.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Do you know Squilax, or Chum Creek Reserve across the river?

A. Yes.

Q. How much land is cleared on that reserve?

A. I think all the land that is cultivated on that reserve is a little over 100 acres.

Q. That is not included in the list you gave us, is it?

A. Yes, it was in that list I gave you.

Q. Then in the two reserves there are 302 acres, is that it?

A. Yes, that is correct?

Q. About how many acres are there cleared on this side of the river alone?

A. A little over 200 acres on this side of the river.

Q. Did what you say about growing crops and hay on this reserve apply to the other reserve too?

A. Yes, just the same.

Q. Now taking these two reserves together, what is the land like that is not cleared?

A. All good land.

Q. All good land if it were cleared?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you irrigate the land on this side of the river, which is cleared?

A. No.

Q. On the other side, do you irrigate?

A. No.

Q. Do you get good crops and hay without irrigation?

A. The other side of the river is good land and will raise good

food crops without irrigation, but the land on this side is dry and cannot raise as good a crop as the land on the other side of the river.

Q. Now about No. 3 - Meadow - how far away from here is that place?

A. About four or five miles.

Q. Do you know how many acres are in that?

A. I am not sure, but I think it is 60 acres.

Q. Is there any Indian family living on that piece of land?

A. Nobody living there.

Q. What use is being made of that land?

A. That reserve has been tied up, according to the movements of the Government, therefore the Indians have not been able to work it.

Q. How has it been tied up?

A. Because the two Governments are disputing over the reserves, and the Indians were kind of doubtful if they could have that land to work.

Q. Do you ever cut hay on that Meadow?

A. We used to cut hay on it a long time ago.

Q. Do you ever lease the land to white people?

A. I don't know.

Q. Is it fenced?

A. It used to be fenced but the fence that is round it is rotten.

Q. Are there any buildings on it?

A. The buildings which were put up there have all gone to wreck.

Q. Is all that sixty acres, meadow?

A. The majority of the land is meadow. There is a small portion of it in timber.

Q. The land which is timbered, is that good land if it is clear

A. Yes.

Q. How about Scotch Creek reserve? How many families live or have their home on Scotch Creek reserve?

A. Six families.

Q. Do they live there all the time?

A. Not always.

Q. Have they houses anywhere else - on any of the other reserves?

- A. Yes they have their own houses here in the village, and they have their own land there, which they work.
- Q. Is there any one living there at present?
- A. They are all here at the present time.
- Q. Do you mean that they are all here today or have been living there for the last two weeks or a month?
- A. When the work comes in to the other place, they go there to work, and when there is work here they come back here.
- Q. How much land is cleared on that reserve?
- A. About 50 acres. That reserve there is awfully hard to clear.
- Q. What do you grow on the land which is cleared there?
- A. Hay and other crops. We are just trying that land to see what we can raise on it.
- Q. Are there any hay stacks at present on it?
- A. There is some. We sold some.
- Q. At how many places do you cut hay there?
- A. About 3 places.
- Q. How much hay grows on the largest of the three places?
- A. We are not growing to a big extent. It is more like on trial.
- Q. Do you know how many stacks of hay are on that reserve now, which have not been sold?
- A. I say that they have not raised much. We have only got enough for ourselves.
- Q. Is there one, or two, or three, or four stacks of hay on that reserve today?
- A. There are two stacks there now.
- Q. About how much is in the larger one of the two?
- A. Two or three tons.
- Q. And about how much in the smaller one?
- A. Two or three tons in each stack.
- Q. What is the rest of the land like on the Scotch Creek Reserve?
- A. It is good land, but it is heavily timbered.
- THE CHAIRMAN: It is all Poplar timber, is it not?
- A. Yes, and fir and cottonwood - heavily timbered.
- Q. Mostly cottonwood, is it not?

A. Just about equal in proportion.

Q. That is, fir and cottonwood?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Do you know about the reserve at Tappen Siding?

A. I would rather you got one of the other who live there, to do that reserve.

Q. The Sub-Chief said you would like to own your land? Would each man on this reserve, like to own his own farm and have it to himself, so that the other Indians could not interfere with it?

A. Yes, our people here have been here a long time, and we want the right to our own land all the time.

Q. Would each man like a title to his own piece of land, the same as a Crown Grant, that is what I want to know?

A. I don't mean myself individually, but that Crown Grant should be held by the Chief for all the Indians in common.

Q. Is there any school on this reserve here?

A. No.

Q. Are there any children from this reserve attending schools elsewhere.

A. There are some attending school at Kamloops from this reserve, and there are some here who used to attend the school at Kamloops.

Q. Would the Indians approve of the establishment of a day-school here for their children?

A. Yes, I think that the Indians would be satisfied to have a day school here.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do the Indians here stay and work on the reserve all the year around, or do they go away and work elsewhere at different periods of the year?

A. They don't go far.

Q. I suppose they go some miles away to work?

A. They don't move about now, we are commencing to work steady on the reserve. We go on our other reserves at times.

Q. When you go on your other reserves do you take your children with you?

A. Yes.

- Q. You would have to leave your children here to go to school if you moved away?
- A. If it was true there was going to be a day school on this reserve, the Indians would look after it and see that their children went.
- Q. And you would leave your children here all the while to go to school?
- A. Yes.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Who would take care of the children when their fathers and mothers were away on the other reserves?
- A. We will find that out later on. We will just about do whatever the whitemen do, and if this Commission will help us on that idea we will go on the regulations of the whitemen as regards the school.
- MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Do you know how many children from these reserves are away at school now?
- A. Ten or more.

- FRANCOIS SILPAHAN was sworn, and examined by Mr. Commissioner Shaw
- Q. You are the sub-chief of this band, are you?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Where do you live?
- A. Tappen Siding.
- Q. Do your family live here on this reserve?
- A. Yes.
- Q. How many years is it since you left this reserve to go to Tappen Siding to live?
- A. About eighteen years.
- Q. And you have lived there ever since?
- A. Yes. I have been there trying to work my land ever since.
- Q. About how many families live on the reserve at Tappen Siding?
- A. Five families.
- Q. About how many acres are cleared on that reserve, all told?
- A. 60 acres of ploughed land and the land that is slashed is 18 acres. What I am telling you about, is my own.

Q. Did you help make out this paper? (EXHIBIT G3)

A. Yes.

Q. And that is correct?

A. Yes, that is right.

Q. What kind of crops do you grow on that land?

A. Myself I raise a little of everything - oats, hay, potatoes, carrots and all kinds of vegetables.

THE CHAIRMAN: - I suppose the others raise the same kind of things.

A. Yes.

MR COMMISSIONER SHAW: - Can you show us on this map, about where your cleared land is?

A. (About there) indicating near the Hatchery.

Q. And your land is round the lake, from the hatchery it is pretty near the end of the lake?

A. About 500 yards above the Creek, and above the railroad track, beyond the hatchery, is where my house is.

Q. What is the balance of the reserve like, which is uncleared?

A. All good land, level and good land.

Q. Do you irrigate the land which you have under cultivation?

A. There is a good seepage going through my field. I don't need irrigation.

Q. Are there any fruit trees planted on your land there?

A. I just tried lately, I put in some apple trees there and made a success.

Q. Do you sell any produce off the farms?

A. Yes I sell quite a bit. All I want to sell. The apples have only come on lately.

Q. About how many horses are owned on the reserve?

A. About 10 head of horses, that is all.

Q. Any cattle?

A. I sold all my cattle.

MR COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: - Why did you sell your cattle?

A. I sold all my cattle because one of my relations died, she used to look after them.

Q. Have any of the other Indians on that reserve, any cattle?

A. No.

Q. How is that?

A. I don't know.

THE CHAIRMAN: You don't know how the Indians on this reserve came to get rid of their cattle do you?

A. I guess they might have got "hard-up" - "broke" - short of money

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Did some of the Indians' cattle get in the pound, and the Indians have to sell their cattle to pay the fines?

A. No.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: How many children of school-age, your own and others, are there on this reserve?

A. About ten.

Q. Do any of them attend school anywhere?

A. Some of them go to the public school right there and some go to Kamloops Industrial School.

Q. Which public school do they go to?

A. Near Jim Carlin's place.

Q. Has there ever been any objection on the part of the white people, to the Indian children going to the public school?

A. No, not at Tappen.

Q. Do all the children live within reasonable distance of that school, who do not go to school?

A. There are none of the children of school age, who are not going to school.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE OF B. C.

Louis Creek, B. C.

October 27th, 1915.

MEETING WITH THE INDIANS OF THE SHUSWAP TRIBE, ON THE NORTH THOMPSON
RESERVE NUMBER 1

ISAAC HARRIS, acting in the capacity of interpreter, the scope at
purpose of the Commission was briefly explained by Mr. Commissioner
White.

CHIEF ANDRE said: "You know how poor I am, just like as if I was tied
up - therefore I am kind of poor. It seems as though I cannot
help myself to better myself, like as if I were afraid all the
time. Everything seems to be locked up now, different from what
it used to be a long time ago. It used to be that everything was
open to me, a long time ago. That is what I want. I want to be
more free, so that I can get along better. I want to know who
ever is the Chief that is going to help me on that point, to
help me on what is good. I think where I am now, the reserve is
pretty small, and I want these Commissioners to help me. I want
the Commissioners to help me by fixing my land right and make it
solid for my children all the time for ever. That is all I have
to say.

CAPTAIN GEORGE, spoke to the same effect, and then went on to say:
I want to be able to be free to go and hunt anywhere outside the
reserve. When I have some crop to sell, I should be able to
sell it, and so that everything will be open to me. That is all
I have to say.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Cannot you sell any crop that you raise on
this reserve now?

CAPTAIN GEORGE: Well yes.

Q. And nobody tries to stop you?

A. I am afraid that after a while maybe there will be a law to stop
me from selling my crop.

CHIEF ANDRE (resuming): There is one thing I want to talk about which
has been troubling my heart for some time. Only my daughter is
looking after me now, she left me and went to another reserve.

THE CHAIRMAN: Did she get married to someone?

A. Yes, but there was an arrangement made with the father of the man who married my daughter, that the man was to come here to live.

Q. What reserve did they go to?

A. To the Kamloops reserve.

Q. You will have to arrange with Mr. Smith, the Indian Agent, about that. We cannot help you as it is a personal matter.

A. That is alright.

JOHNNY OXINE, was sworn and examined by Mr. Commissioner Shaw:

Q. Do you belong to the North Thompson Indians?

A. Yes. I was not born here but I have been here over 20 years.

Q. Are you a member of the Band now?

A. Yes, I am a member of the band.

Q. Do you know how many reserves belong to this band of Indians?

A. Four.

Q. On this big reserve, No. 1, can you tell me how many families are living - that is on this reserve?

A. All these people here have children.

Q. Can you tell us how many acres of land are cultivated on this reserve?

A. There are about seven people who cultivate the ground, and the rest only have small little fields.

Q. What do the Indians on this reserve do?

A. They raise wheat, oats, and potatoes.

Q. Are they all farmers here?

A. Yes they are all farmers, but some are not able to farm to a big extent on account of shortage of machinery, horses, etc; but they are all raising a little, more or less.

Q. Is there plenty of land here for all of you to farm, if you had the machinery and horses to farm it with?

A. If all the Indians had sufficient machinery to work the land, I think the land would be too short.

Q. What is the land on this reserve like?

A. It is good enough land, but sometimes it gets dry.

Q. Do you use any irrigation here?

A. No.

Q. Is there any Creek in the neighbourhood that you could get water from if you had the means of bringing it in?

A. Yes if the Indians tried to do so, but it is hard work to get water.

Q. You mean it would cost a great deal of money to get the water?

A. Yes the cost of the ditch would be so great that it would be pretty hard for the Indians to make it.

Q. Do you raise any horses and cattle on this reserve?

A. A few - not many.

Q. About how many horses have you?

A. About 100.

Q. And about how many cattle?

A. About 70 head of cattle.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Any sheep?

A. No.

Q. Pigs.

A. No.

Q. Any fowl?

A. A few -chickens, ducks, pigeons, turkeys and geese.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have not many turkeys, have you?

A. No.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Do you grow hay enough on the reserve to feed all the horses and cattle you have?

A. When the winter is not so hard. When it is a mild winter there will be sufficient hay for the stock to get along fairly well.

Q. Are there any years in which you sell any hay?

A. Well, when some of us get short, we sell hay.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: You mean short of provisions?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Do they sell oats or wheat?

A. Yes we sell oats.

Q. Do you sell any potatoes or other vegetables?

- A. Yes, anything that we have to spare, we sell.
- Q. Do the Indians work away from the reserve, sometimes, during the year?
- A. Yes, when we find work.
- Q. What kind of work do you find outside of the reserve?
- A. General work, farming in the haying season etc.
- Q. Did any of you work on the Railroad during the construction of it?
- A. Yes, inside our own reserve, when the railroad was going through we helped to cut the right-of-way.
- Q. Do you hunt and trap during the winter months?
- A. Yes, we trap.
- Q. Taken altogether, do you make a fairly comfortable living for yourselves and families on the reserves?
- A. Some of us are not living comfortably, provided we do not go outside the reserve and help ourselves.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: You mean provided you don't go outside the reserve to work?
- A. Yes, and trap outside of the reserve too.
- Q. Would the majority of the Indians have to go off the reserve to labour and to trap in order to make a comfortable living?
- A. Some of the Indians here are regular trappers and would sooner go out and trap, and some are farmers who stay at home all the time.
- MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Where do your horses and cattle pasture during the summer?
- A. Right here and sometimes on the top of the hill.
- Q. Is the outside of the reserve fenced?
- A. No it is not fenced.
- Q. And your cattle range then on the Government lands?
- A. The cattle are not able to go up on the mountain; only the horses can go up on the mountain sides.
- Q. Do any white men own the land east of the reserve?
- A. I don't think so.
- Q. Do you know whether any white man owns the land on the River above

Page 60 missing from microfilm.

A. Yes, we will be glad to see a Day School here, and we have lots of children ready to go to school now.

THE CHAIRMAN: The people here don't go off fishing during the summer time, but stay about the village most of the time?

A. Yes we stay here most of the time.

Q. A good many Indians on this reserve have moved from the other villages?

A. We all belong here.

Q. Why did the Indians leave the other villages and make a new home here?

A. It is drier and cleaner here.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Did they not suffer a great deal from sickness on account of the lowness and dampness of the previous village?

A. Yes, that is right.

Q. And they came here to improve their health?

A. Yes, that is right.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE: And a good many larger and better houses have been built here.

A. Yes, and if everyone of us was able to put up houses we would do so.

Q. A good many have been put up?

A. Yes.

Q. How long is it since you moved from the other village?

A. Just about two years.

Q. What proportion of this reserve could be cultivated without irrigation?

A. I would say that every bit of this reserve should be irrigated before we could raise good crops.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Is all the land on this reserve good land if the timber was cleared off?

A. Yes, all the land would be good if it were cleared.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: So cultivating this land without irrigation is a rather precarious business, Eh?

A. That is quite right.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: The Chief spoke about wanting to have everything free, and Captain George alluded to the hunting and fishing. Do these Indians hunt a good deal, for their living?

A. That is because of the Game Laws coming into force, with their close seasons.

Q. Do the Indians understand that those Game Laws are enforced for the protection of game, so that they will not all be killed off in a very short time?

A. Yes, we know that, but a long time ago when there were no laws the fishing and hunting was very plentiful.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: Do you get much fur here?

A. Just marten and lynx.

Q. You used to get \$10,000 dollars worth in a year. What do you get now?

A. We don't get any of that \$10,000.00 worth now, because the white men have come along and taken all our furs away.

The meeting then terminated.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

KAMLOOPS, B. C., October 28th, 1913

MEETING WITH THE KAMLOOPS TRIBE OF INDIANS ON THE KAMLOOPS
INDIAN RESERVE NUMBER 1,

ISAAC HARRIS, acted in the capacity of interpreter.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA, briefly explained the scope and purpose of the Commission.

CHIEF LOUIS, said:- There have been quite a few chiefs who have travelled to find something that is good to be talked of. I might find something to talk of myself that is good. This, where I am now, I think it is my land. The Queen said to me:- "Louis, you might be poor by and by, and some of my people will come and fix your land", so they came and fixed my land and they told me "Louis, this land now is yours forever."

THE CHAIRMAN:- Who was it that told you that?

A. The farmer Commissioners, Sproat, McKinley, and Anderson. They told me, "Now this land is yours, Louis, and you can improve it and work it". So I have told my people to go and work our land. We have fenced it so that it is all fenced now. Myself I think that the land that the land that is here now is mine. I fixed the land among my children here, and wherever the water reaches that land it raises a good crop. We have tried to cultivate the land which the water cannot reach, and it has been a failure. It gets dried up without irrigation. Right east from here there is good land on the River banks, and on the benches. If the water could reach these lands it would be better for us. There has been a ditch line surveyed to get water for these lands. Afterwards a white man took up a ranch between the reserve and the creek from where the water was to be gotten, and he stopped my water from coming. The other land we have

here, it is pasture land for the cattle, and timber land, and the timber is for our improvements such as houses, stables and other improvements for my people. I am getting old now, and I cannot talk very straight. My brothers, you must not have any hard feelings if I do happen to make a mistake in my speaking.

[p.63] Of all the land we have now, we cannot cultivate what is up on the mountain sides. It is just fit for pasture land. There is some of our land higher up from the river here in the valley where some of my people have taken up places and wherever it is possible to cultivate it they have done so. [p.64]

THE CHAIRMAN:- What valley do you mean?

A. At Scheidam Valley. Of course you cannot expect me to find everything and find out how to work the land, but we are starting in a good way of getting on to work the land. I have told my people to go ahead and try to work the land to the best advantage. I have been talking to my people for some years past, to you Chiefs and to the Governments, and to the people (the white people) that are here present. I never talk to them anything wrong, but I have said to you Chiefs that you had better help me with my work and with my people so as we will be able to get along good, in the future. Now you Commissioners have and have seen yourselves, the shape we are in, and I have also called upon you gentlemen for help. Of course we are not like the white men who have all kinds of machinery to work the land, and I will say that I am glad the Commissioners have come to see and help us. The Queen has told me to go along and do good work and also told me "If you will do that you will never get poor"; you will be getting better", and I have done it. Now I have done good work. I went all over and talked to my people, advised them to do good work and to follow the laws of the country, and behave themselves and work their land. Mr. Smith has helped us, and he talked to my people and we have started to raise crops better now. The Priest has helped me quite a bit. We should take whatever he says and if we don't take what he tells us to do, we will get poor and go astray. My Chiefs, that is the best I can do; my

head is not very good to talk. I kneel down before you Commissioners and I have explained everything that I think is right, and I think that there is nothing wrong on my part, and I want everything to be good for the rest of my days. That is all I will have to say before the Commissioners now. [p.64]

----- [p.65]

CAPTAIN LECAMP, said:- As. I understand the Commission to say, that if we have any grievances we are to tell them, I might speak of our land at Scheidam - the white man that has a place inside our reserve. All the Indians are objecting to that white man having land inside our reserve.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Do you live at Scheidam?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Is this the land owned by the Western Canada Ranching Company (Harper Estate) ?

A. Yes, we fenced our reserve all round and that piece of land belonging to the white men is inside, the reserve, and therefore it is wrong that the same white men should interfere with our water rights too.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- Does anybody live upon that tract of land within the reserve?

A. No.

Q. Is it cultivated?

A. No.

Q. What is it used for?

A. They never do anything with it.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Have these people (The Western Canada Ranching Company) not got horses and cattle ranging there?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- Is that piece of land fenced in by itself?

A. No, and there is no improvement done on that land by the white men, but yet they have the claim to that piece of land inside the reserve. That is what the Indians are objecting to.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- They have a Crown Grant to that land, have they not?

A. Our land is all fenced but that spot belonging to the white men is not fenced, and there is no improvement done on that piece of

land. That is all I have to say about that piece of land. It is wrong for us and the whole tribe. That piece of land which I stated belongs to the whitemen, inside our reserve, is good cultivable land. If the Indians were to get that piece of land they would make good use of it and cultivate it. [p.65] [p.66]

CHIEF LOUIS:- I want to talk to you about that piece of land too. You know that it is the feeling of my people here, as if, for instance, there was a table and a hole in the middle of that table, the dishes and utensils would fall through, and that is the way of it with this bit of land inside our reserve being in the hands of these white people.

ALEXANDER BOB, said:- "There is only one point we are short on here and we are very poor on that point. That is our water. There is a shortage of water for irrigation. The white man takes half the water, and he has no right to take any of it.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- Do you mean from St. Paul's Creek?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know how many inches of water you use from that Creek?

A. What I know, is that a long time ago, it was arranged that the Indians should have 500 inches of water and anything over that 500 inches the white man could take.

Q. And what happens today?

A. Well I don't think that half of the 500 inches of water which we are entitled to, flows into that Creek today.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Do you know whether the white man you speak of has a Water Record too?

NO ANSWER.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Do you mean to say that there is not enough water coming down that Creek now, to give you your 500 inches?

A. Yes. It is not 500 inches.

Q. Is the stream not sufficient to give you 500 inches if you put proper appliances in there to get it?

A. If we were able to get 500 inches for irrigation we would be able to cultivate our land.

Q. I understand from the Indian Agent that there is sufficient water there to enable you to get what you have a right to, and,

if you don't get it, the proper people to apply to, is the Water Commission, not to us.

ALEXANDER BOB (To Indian Agent) "Smith, you want to look after that."

[p.66]

JOHNNIE LEONARD, was sworn, and examined by Mr. Commissioner Shaw:-
[p.67]

Q. You are a member of the Kamloops Band?

A. Yes.

Q. You live in the village here?

A. Yes.

Q. And are well acquainted with the reserve?

A. Yes.

Q. How much land is cultivable between the hills and the South Thompson?

A. About 1,000 acres except what is ploughed.

Q. In that, you include wild meadows and cultivable meadows and what you raise vegetables from?

A. Yes.

Q. Coming up the valley you come to some land that is not fenced or cultivated - beyond the Scheidam, up the North Thompson - It is good bottom land is it not?

A. Yes.

Q. How much land is there there?

A. About 500 acres.

Q. Is that capable of being irrigated if you had water?

A. Yes, and it would be good land.

Q. Now, the 1,000 acres which you speak of, have you enough water to irrigate that with?

A. Well, at one time we had, but it is getting less. Towards the school we don't reach any water at all. From the school down this way it is pretty dry.

Q. If you had all the water you were entitled to, could you irrigate the whole of the land?

A. Yes.

Q. Between the village and the South Thompson, there is a good amount of sandy land, is there not?

A. Yes, but we could not cultivate that at all.

- Q. That stretches along the whole front, does it not?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Towards the river there is a stretch which could be cultivated?
- A. Yes, but we have no water to irrigate with. [p.67]
- Q. There is a bit of marshy land on the left hand side of the [p.68]
River. Could you cultivate that?
- A. No. It overflows.
- Q. Now how about the land on the other side of the bridge going
east, down towards the school?
- A. That is all kind of swampy. When the water goes down the wild
grass grows there.
- Q. Is there not quite a bit of cultivable land there?
- A. No, we have some wild grass there, but that is all.
- Q. After you get beyond the school, your reserves does not extend
much further up the river, does it?
- A. Yes.
- Q. How far does it go up the river from the school house?
- A. Four or five miles.
- Q. But there is nothing there except the hills is there?
- A. Yes, further on there is some good land, which if we had water,
we could irrigate.
- Q. You could irrigate the bench close to the river?
- A. Yes, there are two benches which we could irrigate if we had
the water.
- Q. You have a settlement up Scheidam Creek?
- A. There are only three settlers up the Scheidam.
- Q. That is up beyond the Harper Estate?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What distance is it along that road to where these people are?
- A. About two miles.
- Q. What do they grow up there?
- A. Hay and potatoes. Everything that we grow here they can grow
up there.
- Q. There is no cultivated meadow there is there?
- A. Yes, it is cultivated meadow and timothy hay and clover.

- Q. About how many heads of families are there living on this reserve?
- A. I could not tell you, I will leave that to Smith.
- Q. Now do the Indians on this reserve make their living? [p.68]
- A. Raising potatoes and other crops, and we sell hay and potatoes. [p.69]
- Q. You sell hay and everything else which you raise from the soil in larger quantities than you need for your own consumption?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And you always have something to dispose of?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Have you any stock?
- A. Yes, some horses and cattle.
- Q. How many horses - have you any idea - are there say 500?
- A. About 800 horses I think.
- Q. About how many cattle have you?
- A. About 500.
- Q. Any sheep or pigs?
- A. No.
- Q. And the usual amount of poultry and all kinds?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you sell some of your horses and cattle every year?
- A. Yes. It is no use keeping them to look at.
- Q. Do you breed your own horses here?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Are they pretty well bred horses?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you breed your cattle here?
- A. Yes, if we didn't they would grow less.
- Q. Sometimes you borrow your neighbour's bull?
- A. Yes, and sometimes they borrow ours.
- Q. Have you any machinery or farming implements on the reserve?
- A. Oh yes, quite a few now.
- Q. Were they purchased by yourselves?
- A. Yes, by ourselves.
- Q. Do you do any clearing of land?
- A. Yes, we clear what we want to plough and irrigate.

Q. Have you any trouble getting the stumps out?

A. Yes, but we have to get them out, and fight it.

Q. Have you stumping machines here?

[p.69]

A. No, we just take them out with an axe.

[p.70]

Q. I suppose your people go out and work when they can get work?

A. Oh yes.

Q. What work can they get here?

A. They can get \$1.50 a day.

Q. But at what kind of work?

A. Any kind of work.

Q. In the mill?

A. Yes.

Q. And over on white farms too?

A. Oh yes, we work for the white people to get our money.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- You go to work after you have done your own farm work?

A. Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN:- There are some who don't do any work on the reserve to speak of, but they go out and work outside?

A. Yes.

Q. You have a railway going through your reserve, that runs along the front of your reserve, following up the Thompson all the way to the rear of the reserve?

A. Yes.

Q. As it is now, this railway, commencing a short distance east of the bridge, follows the Thompson River right to the northern boundary of your reserve?

A. Yes.

Q. There is a right-of-way for a railway to the eastern boundary of your reserve?

A. Yes, but we don't know whether they are going through with it. It has been surveyed.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Has that right-of-way been paid for?

A. Yes.

Q. How much does all this right-of-way that you have been paid for amount to - can you tell me?

- A. No. I will leave that to Smith. He knows all about these
sort of things. [p.70]
- Q. How long is this wagon road up from here to the end of the
reserve? [p.71]
- A. About seven miles.
- THE CHAIRMAN:- How much carriage or wagon road goes through your
reserve?
- A. I could not tell you how many miles.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- Twenty miles?
- A. It is more than that.
- MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Is this highway built on land that could
be cultivated, or is it built on the hay land which could not
be cultivated?
- A. Not on the North Thompson River. All the good lands are below.
On the South Thompson River it goes through flat lands.
- THE CHAIRMAN:- Where do your horses and cattle range?
- A. On the pasture on the hillsides.
- Q. Within your own fences?
- A. Yes they are all inside.
- Q. You raise on your reserves sufficient to feed your cattle in
the winter time, and still have some hay to dispose of?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do any other cattle range on your highlands or hills?
- A. Yes, but we get paid for that.
- Q. About how many other cattle range over your hills?
- A. I don't know.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- How many - roughly speaking?
- A. Oh, there will be about 1500.
- Q. How much are you paid for that, every year?
- A. A thousand dollars a year.
- Q. How much land is occupied by the Boarding School?
- A. I could not tell you.
- Q. A half section (320 acres) is it?
- A. I guess about that, but I don't really know about it.
- Q. But there is land occupied by the school?
- A. Yes.

Q. A considerable area?

A. Yes.

[p.71]

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- You have worked a good deal for the
Ranching Company, yourself?

[p.72]

A. Yes.

Q. Did you do any cowboy work for them?

A. Yes.

Q. Could you tell us how many head of cattle they have?

A. No.

Q. Do all their cattle range on the reserve all the year round?

A. Yes, except in the winter, when the snow is on the ground.

Q. Do you know anything about any of the other reserves belonging
to the Kamloops Band of Indians?

A. No.

Q. Do you know that they have any other reserves at all?

A. Yes, I know they have some.

Q. Do you know of the reserve up the North Thompson River, about
twenty miles up?

A. Yes, and there is one up on the south side of the River - No. 5 -
I know that is only timberland.

Q. What use is made of that?

A. If we want any logs to build houses or stables, we go up there
and bring them down.

Q. Would it be good agricultural land if the timber was cleared off it?

A. No, I don't think so.

Q. Is there anybody living there?

A. No.

Q. Do you know another small reserve at Hafferley Lake?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know how many acres in that?

A. No. It is only a fishing ground.

Q. They use it for a fishing station every year?

A. Yes, and they have cultivated a little bit of it.

Q. Does anybody live there all the year round?

A. No.

Q. Do they sell any hay off there?

A. Oh yes, Mosie [?] lived there for two years.

Q. Does he not live there now?

A. No.

Q. Do you know of two small reserves further up, on Kamloops and Trap Lake?

A. Yes.

Q. Do the Indians use these reserves for anything?

A. Yes, as fishing grounds.

Q. And they go there to fish every year?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- Is it of any good us to them?

A. Yes, they go up there to fish.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Do you know where this land is, belonging to the Ranching Company, that lies within the reserve?

A. Yes.

Q. Does the wagon road run through that?

A. Yes, since they made the road up the Creek.

Q. You say the Ranching Company pay you a rental for that, and range all their cattle on the reserve?

A. Yes.

Q. And the Indians' cattle also range on that piece of land which is not fenced?

A. Yes.

Q. Well then, what particular harm is done to the Indians by that?

A. Well, the land is not cultivated and we could make more cultivated land out of it. It is no good to him; it is so small.

Q. Do you know how much land there is there?

A. It is about a quarter of a mile wide and one mile and three quarters long.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Does it go along both sides of the Creek?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Do you remember when this reserve was laid out for the Indians by Mr. Commissioner Sproat?

A. No, but I have heard about it.

Q. Did the Company own that piece of land before the reserve was laid out?

A. Yes, I believe so.

Q. Who bought it first?

A. Harper bought it first.

Q. Jerome Harper?

A. Yes, but he never fenced his land.

Q. Who did he buy it from?

A. From a man of the name of Scheidam.

Q. Are there many children on this reserve of school age - that is between the ages of six and fifteen years?

A. Quite a number.

Q. Do many of them attend school here?

A. Smith, he ought to know that. I leave it to Smith.

Q. Do you think that the Indians would approve of having a day School built here, so that the Indian children could go to school here, the same as the white children do?

A. Oh, I don't know.

MR. COMMISSIONER McKENNA:- How many of the children go to the Boarding School? Is there a good attendance?

A. Quite a number, but I don't know exactly.

Q. Are there many children here of school age who don't go to school at all?

A. All that are of school age are going to Boarding School.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- You spoke of some of this land on the point here, being sandy. Have you any idea as to how many acres there are, which could not be irrigated?

A. Not very much - about 20 acres, that is all?

Q. Have the Indians here ever had any assistance at all from the Government by way of putting in their irrigation system, and dyking the ditches etc?

A. No. They have done it all themselves.

Q. During the irrigation season is all the water used for irrigation purposes?

A. Yes, and if we had more we could use that too.

Q. There is no waste?

A. There is no waste at all. We used to have another creek further down, about ten years ago.

Q. Formerly you did not use all the water? [p.74]

A. Oh yes we did. [p.75]

Q. Do you know who has the water records on the Creek?

A. No.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- You say you don't know exactly how many cattle the Ranching Company range on your reserve. Can you give us any idea?

A. Yes, about 1500.

WITH RESPECT TO THE PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A DAY SCHOOL ON THE RESERVE

CHIEF LOUIS, said:- "All that I know is, that a long time ago we made arrangements to build a school on this reserve, and it was supposed to be a Catholic School, and we built one. It is there now. I expected to see my people improve when they first went to the Industrial School, but I have not seen anything of it. When they come out from school they don't seem to have improved much.

THE CHAIRMAN:- How far have the children to travel to school?

A. Two miles.

Q. Johnnie Leonard said a moment ago, that all the children of school age were attending at the Industrial School - what do you say about that?

A. What Johnnie Leonard stated is right. Some of the women say that they have enough school here for their children.

Q. Well then, does not that show some strong anxiety on the part of the Indians to educate their children?

A. Yes.

Q. Are you not getting the benefit of that to some extent. For instance can you write?

A. I write in my heart only.

Q. Can you write with a pen?

A. No.

Q. Don't you have to apply now and again to some of these children who have been to school to write for you?

A. Yes.

Q. And that is some help, is it not?

A. Yes.

Q. And some of them can read?

A. Yes, they bring me news.

Q. Well, the school is doing some good. then? ,

A. Well yes.

THE CHAIRMAN:- I have seen the Indian children go through their examinations, and have seen them pass their examinations quite - as well as any white children I have ever seen, surely that is improving them, is it not?

A. Yes.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

SAVONAS, B. C.

Wednesday, October 29th, 1913.

MEETING WITH THE DEADMAN'S CREEK BAND OF INDIANS, at DEADMAN'S CREEK
RESERVE.

The scope and purpose of the Commission was briefly explained by Mr. Commissioner White. Isaac Harris acted as interpreter.

CHIEF JOE TOMMA, said:- My brothers, you have known that I have been poor for a long time. It is nine years ago since we started to state our grievances, which also went to Ottawa. You can see the way I am situated here now. Therefore all the Indians of this part have gathered up what they have to say, and have sent it to Ottawa. I have been waiting for an answer to what I have said before on that account, till the present time. The Chiefs from this part have been there several times and have got no satisfactory answer to bring back.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Are you prepared to give a statement with respect to your reserves, as to how you use them and how you are situated?

A. NO ANSWER.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- What was the subject which you brought to the attention of the Government at Ottawa?

A. The grievance of all the Indians in British Columbia, that the white man has kind of spoilt us and locked us in. The white men have taken all the land and claimed all the water rights, and stopped us from hunting, fishing etc.

JIMMIE TAYLOR, was sworn, and examined by the Chairman:-

Q. You are a member of this band of Indians?

A. Yes.

Q. About how many families are there on this reserve?

A. I don't know how many families there are.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- Could you give a guess?

A. Last time I made a count there was 26.

Q. When was that?

A. Last year.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- Did that include widows, or boys of 18 years of age?

A. No.

THE CHAIRMAN:- How many reserves are there here - more than one reserve?

A. This is all one reserve.

Q. Have you any other reserve belonging to this band?

A. There are some people living on the other end of this reserve?

Q. What do the Indians here, do for a living?

A. They try to farm. They grow hay and have horses.

Q. Have they any cattle?

A. Some have a few cattle.

Q. How many horses are there owned by Indians here?

A. Only about three hundred.

Q. How many cattle?

A. About 25 probably.

Q. Any pigs or sheep?

A. No pigs, but a couple of sheep.

Q. Any chickens?

A. Yes a few chickens.

Q. Poultry of all sorts?

A. A few ducks, but no geese.

Q. What do you grow on this reserve?

A. We grow, hay, potatoes, carrots, onions, cabbages etc.

Q. Is the hay you get wild hay, or cultivated hay?

A. Cultivated hay.

Q. Do you sell any of this stuff off the reserve?

A. Sometimes.

Q. If you have more than you can consume, you sell it?

A. Yes.

Q. As a rule, do you consume what you grow?

A. No.

Q. Do you sell much hay?

A. No. We have not enough to sell all the time.

Q. Do you grow any grain?

A. No. We grow a little wheat for the chickens.

Q. Where do your cattle and horses range in the summertime?

A. On the hills round here.

- Q. *Is it good range?*
- A. *It is good enough, but it is leased to other people, round here and it is not fenced.*
- Q. *Is it leased to white people?*
- A. *Yes.*
- Q. *How come these white people have a lease of it?*
- A. *We don't own that part.*
- Q. *How far does your grazing ground extend up the hill on the other side?*
- A. *About two and a half miles.*
- Q. *Have you a pretty good range there?*
- A. *Not enough if we had our stock there all the year round.*
- Q. *Then you have to go into the common range with other people?*
- A. *Yes.*
- Q. *Do you sell any cattle from time to time?*
- A. *Yes, a few.*
- Q. *How do you earn your living?*
- A. *We generally work out, digging ditches or ploughing for white people.*
- Q. *Do you make much at that?*
- A. *As much as the white men. During the last few years when they were digging the ditch, we had as much work as we could handle.*
- Q. *How much land have you under cultivation?*
- A. *I don't think there is over 200 acres cultivated on this reserve.*
- Q. *Where is that mostly situated?*
- A. *Mostly further North - up the valley. That is where we have most of our hay, from here up.*
- Q. *You have a portion of your land leased to Mr. Smith-Curtis have you not?*
- A. *Yes.*
- Q. *How much have you leased?*
- A. *About 3,864 acres.*
- Q. *What do you get for that per year?*
- A. *One thousand dollars.*
- Q. *How long is the lease for?*
- A. *999 years.*

Q. What Company is it leased to?-

A. Well the first man was supposed to be Smith-Curtis.

Q. Did you make the Lease or the Department at Ottawa?

A. It was the Agent of the Department - Mr. Irwin. The Chief leased the land on the advice of Mr. Irwin, who said he would ask the Government to give us a range for our horses, and permission to carry 250 inches of water from there for us.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- Was that in the lease?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you ever get it?

A. No, and we have very hard work to get the \$1,000 a year. We thought we would have the use of the water, and we thought more of the 250 inches of water than we did of the money. He has not digged the ditch as promised, and we have nothing to make him dig the ditch.

Q. I think you said it was in the Lease?

A. Yes, but there was no time limit in the lease.

Q. Did you ever bring this under the Notice of the Government?

A. Yes but I don't know whether they paid any attention to it or nor. He came back here last year and he said "You fellows have not got any stated time for me to dig the ditch," and he said he would give us the \$1,000 with which we were to dig the ditch ourselves. We have found out since that this Company over here have digged a ditch for him, but he will never dig our ditch.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Did the lease provide the quantity of water which he could take for irrigating his land down south?

A. I don't know.

Q. What is the flume which I see running along the bench on this side here?

A. Smith-Curtis takes that away down for his land which he has down at Savonas, and which he calls the Kamloops Orchards.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Does Smith-Curtis own that farm, or the British Columbia Orchard Company?

A. He owns some, and some is owned by the British Columbia Orchard Company.

Q. The water that goes through that ditch now, does that belong to Smith-Curtis for irrigation purposes, or to the British Columbia Orchard Company?

A. The 700 inches belongs to Smith-Curtis.

Q. Who built that big flume?

A. The Walachin Company. The other ditch is the British Columbia Orchard Company's who use that for water.

Q. Where is the land that Smith-Curtis takes the water for?

A. It is on both sides of the Creek. You noticed the fence coming down the hill, pretty close to the road, that is the line.

THE CHAIRMAN:- I was under the impression that it was on one side of the road only?

A. No., it takes in both sides of the river.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- I understood you to say that Smith-Curtis had taken 750 inches of water to irrigate his land and that he paid the British Columbia Orchard Company for this?

A. Yes..

Q. You have a ditch of your own that you dug for yourselves?

A. Yes.

Q. How many inches of water do you get?

A. About 60 inches.

Q. About how much land does that irrigate?

A. About 150 acres.

Q. So that you irrigate all the land that you can cultivate?

A. Yes, but there is not enough water. Quite a few of us boys made another ditch.

Q. How much water have you got in that ditch?

A. I use about 30 inches myself, I could use more.

Q. But that is the full supply?

A. That is all I can get at present.

THE CHAIRMAN:- I suppose you could use enough for the whole reserve if you could get it?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- If you had water enough to irrigate the whole reserve, would you be able to cultivate the whole reserve yourself?

A. Yes, I could manage it right enough.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- How many acres are there on the whole reserve that could be cultivated?

A. About 1,000 acres or more.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- Outside the Smith-Curtis land?

A. Yes.

Q. Is that all?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- Do you include that benchland, which could have been irrigated if Smith-Curtis had carried out his Agreement, in that 1,000 acres?

A. Yes.

Q. How much land could you get water to on this reserve, which could be cultivated?

A. 1,000 acres at the outside.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Is there some benchland higher up, which could be cultivated?

A. Yes.

Q. Is there another Creek, from which water could be got on to that land?

A. There is a small creek higher up, but it is only available for about two months in the year. The water comes from Clemis Creek; there would have to be a reservoir built to store the water before anything could be done with it.

Q. How much of that land is there that could be cultivated?

A. There might be 100 acres - in small patches.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Is that included in the 1,000 acres?

A. No.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- There is, then, only 1100 acres, outside the Smith-Curtis Lease, which could be ploughed or cultivated?

A. Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Outside of that 1100 acres could any other parts be cultivated - without irrigation?

A. No.

Q. What purpose could it be used for then?

A. Pasture land.

Q. If your cattle were not allowed to range outside of the reserve you would not have enough pasture for them?

A. That is so.

Q. They could not live the year round on the pasture of the reserve.

A. If we kept them in the reserve all the year round we would not have enough.

Q. How many acres per head, would it take to graze them the year round?

A. About 10 acres per head.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Then about 3500 acres should graze your cattle all the year round? Did the Indians ever cultivate that land which Smith-Curtis has, before Smith-Curtis got it?

A. No, they had no water.

Q. Is it good land for pasturage?

A. It is just like the land outside here.

Q. Could the most of that 3,864 acres be cultivated?

A. I don't know how much of it could be cultivated.

Q. Could half of it be cultivated?

A. No.

Q. A quarter?

A. There might be a little more than a quarter.

Q. Without irrigation?

A. No, nothing without irrigation.

Q. He has 700 inches of water to irrigate that with?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you think that 700 inches of water could irrigate 1,000 acres of land? Would it be sufficient?

A. That is what the people claim they have in that ditch.

Q. Do you think that if you had 100 acres of land here, 75 inches of water would irrigate that 100 acres?

NO ANSWER.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- You have a ditch of your own up there, out of which you get 25 or 30 inches of water, how many acres will that irrigate?

A. I generally use it on about 16 acres.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Would it irrigate more than 16 acres, if you had it to irrigate?

A. That is all I use it on. Then the water goes down and I cannot get any more. My land is different to this land here. It is right on the creek bottom, and the moisture from the creek helps it a good deal.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- How much of the leased land is being cultivated by the Smith-Curtis people?

A. I don't think they are cultivating more than 200 acres.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- How many children are there on this reserve say between the ages of six and fifteen years.

A. I don't know.

Q. Have you any school on this reserve?

A. No.

Q. Do you know whether any of the children on this reserve go to any other school elsewhere?

A. A few go to the Kamloops School.

Q. Do you know how many?

A. There is only one I think.

Q. Have there been others before?

A. Yes.

Q. Have the Indians here ever talked among themselves about having a Day-school built here?

A. Yes, we have talked about it a little.

Q. Do you think they would like to have a school here?

A. Yes, I would, for one.

Q. Do the Indians of this reserve move their families away to other parts at different times during the year?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you think that the people here would be willing to leave their wives and children behind in order that the children could attend such a day-school?

A. Yes, I am sure they would.

Q. Now referring to the Smith-Curtis lease again, is the \$1,000

a year rental which is paid under this lease, paid to the Department at Ottawa, or to yourselves?

A. We have had a little of it here in cash, divided amongst the Indians every year.

Q. Every year until last year?

A. Yes.

Q. If there were a schoolhouse here, about how many children would be able to go to it?

A. There would be about 22 big enough to go to school.

Q. Are there any younger than those?

A. About 10 a little bit younger than these.

Q. So that if a day-school was started there, would be a large enough number to give a good attendance?

A. Yes.

Q. And you hope to have more?

A. Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Can you all make a comfortable living here?

A. Yes, with some exceptions. There are some blind people and some old men and women.

Q. Do the able-bodied men all make a comfortable living?

A. Yes.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE OF B. C.

ASHCROFT, B. C.

October 31st, 1913.

MEETING WITH THE BONAPARTE TRIBE OF INDIANS ON THE BONAPARTE

RESERVE NUMBER 3.

ISAAC HARRIS acted as interpreter. The Scope and purpose of the Commission was briefly explained by Mr. Commissioner White.

CHIEF BASILE, said:- "I am glad to see the Royal Commissioners here today. I have been waiting quite a few days to see this Commission. I have no object in waiting so long for this Commission to come, but I have learned and seen how my children are poor, therefore I would like to say a few words. What I say in regard to the poorness of my children, I guess you have seen it yourselves as well. I might say quite a lot, but when it comes to the fine point, I am short of land and it is hard to get water. We are not the only ones here that have the same grievance, but mostly all the Indians all over this part have the same grievance. As I told you, my children's land is short, and I will depend upon you Commissioners to help me all you can in that way. We cannot fix anything outside of this Commission. If we were to fix something to be good, we will have to come here and have it fixed by this Indian Commission. Therefore it will be administrated for good. You know our grievances include everything - land, deer, and game of all kinds. They are all included in this question. Therefore the Commissioners will look into it and fix it in a way that is fair and right."

NOTE BY THE CHAIRMAN:- The maps do not agree with each other, and neither of the maps agrees with the Schedule, re Bonaparte reserves.

TENAS LAPP, was sworn, and examined by Mr. Commissioner McKenna:-

Q. You belong to the Bonaparte band?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you live on this reserve here?

A. Yes.

- Q. Do you know how many acres there are in this reserve?
- A. No, I don't know that.
- Q. Do you know how many miles it is in extent?
- A. Well one end to the upper end is 15 miles, but there are white settlers in between.
- Q. Are you speaking of all the reserves of the Bonaparte Tribe?
- A. Yes all belonging to the Bonaparte reserves, but white men are sandwiched in between. The evidence I am giving now, is according to the mileage by the road.
- Q. How far does this reserve extend before you come to a white settlement at either end?
- A. It is about a mile wide.
- Q. Do you live in this village?
- A. Up at the other place and here too.
- Q. Up at Hat Creek?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Is that where you have your house?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Is that where you farm?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Which reserve at Hat Creek do you live on?
- A. The Upper Hat Creek.
- Q. Do you know the acreage of that?
- A. No.
- Q. About what proportion of that reserve is fit for cultivation with water?
- A. It is not very good land and there is no water there. The Indians have only nine inches of water there.
- Q. Where do they get their water from?
- A. A small Creek running into the reserve.
- Q. Did you make the ditch yourselves?
- A. Yes.
- Q. How much land do you cultivate with that nine inches of water?
- A. We cultivate 16 acres, and in the summertime the crop on that 16 acres gets burned up on account of lack of water.

Q. Do you get that water from Hat Creek or from some other Creek?

A. We cultivate five acres in the bottom, which we irrigate from Hat Creek.

Q. And the sixteen acres is additional to that?

A. Yes.

Q. And the 16 acres is cultivated with water from the hills?

A. Yes.

Q. How much land would be fit for cultivation on that reserve, if you could get a plentiful supply of water?

A. Oh, about 20 acres.

Q. In addition to what is cultivated now?

A. Yes.

Q. How is it that you only get nine inches of water from that Creek in the hills?

A. It is only a small stream.

Q. Does anybody else take water from that Creek?

A. No.

Q. Have you no storage facilities?

A. No.

Q. Why can't you get more water out of Hat Creek, then you get now?

A. The Hat Creek seems to be lower than our level ground where the ground could be cultivated.

Q. Could you go further up the creek, high enough to bring it down by a ditch?

A. No.

Q. Why?

A. Because the Canyon there is pretty deep. It is impossible to go up the creek and raise it high enough to water the higher benches which we want to cultivate.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Could you not bring it down by pipes?

A. No. I don't think so. We could not get the level and fall to bring it to the bench where we need the water.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- Is there any of that land which could be cultivated without water?

A. None at all.

Q. What do you raise on that reserve?

A. Just hay.

- Q. *Is that wild hay, or do you sow it?*
- A. *We planted that hay.*
- Q. *About how much hay do you raise on that reserve?*
- A. *About 12 tons a year.*
- Q. *Do you raise any grain at all?*
- A. *No.*
- Q. *Do you raise any potatoes?*
- A. *We raise some but they are pretty small.*
- Q. *Do you sell any hay?*
- A. *No.*
- Q. *Do you sell any potatoes or other vegetables?*
- A. *No.*
- Q. *How many horses have you at Hat Creek?*
- A. *Eight head of horses.*
- Q. *How many cattle?*
- A. *None.*
- Q. *Any pigs?*
- A. *No.*
- Q. *Any sheep?*
- A. *No.*
- Q. *Fowl?*
- A. *No.*
- Q. *What do you do for a living?*
- A. *We earn our living by outside labour.*
- Q. *Is there any good natural grazing ground on the reserve or surrounding hills?*
- A. *No.*
- MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- *What good is the reserve to you if you don't earn your living off it?*
- A. *It is pretty cold up there, and we have trouble to grow pretty near everything, but it is not much good.*
- MR. COMMISSIONER McKENNA:- *How many Indians live on the reserve at Upper Hat Creek?*
- A. *There are eight, including children and all.*
- Q. *About how many families?*
- A. *Two families.*

Q. Any widows?

A. There are nine people altogether in four households.

Q. Do you know the Lower Hat Creek reserve?

A. Yes, I guess you have seen it.

Q. How many people live on the Lower Hat Creek reserve?

A. There are six families on the lower Hat Creek Reserve.

Q. How many people in those six families?

A. Those six families contain 27 souls, and they have six houses.

Q. What kind of land is there on the Lower Hat Creek reserve?

A. All the land that is any good on the Lower Hat Creek reserve is just a few scattered pieces lying along the Creek bottom.

Q. About how many acres?

A. There are about 24 acres of good cultivable land.

Q. Is there any of that land which could be cultivated without irrigation?

A. No.

Q. About how many inches of water do you get there?

A. We get the water from Hat Creek.

Q. Do you know how many inches?

A. No.

Q. Do you get all the water you can out of Hat Creek?

A. Yes, whatever water we have been getting we have got from the Hat Creek. Wherever we can find a piece of land that we can irrigate, we get enough water to cultivate it.

Q. You get enough water to irrigate all the cultivable land?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you mean that, if you had more water, you could not cultivate any more land?

A. That is all the land which could be cultivated, which is being cultivated now.

Q. What do you raise on it?

A. Hay.

Q. About how many tons?

A. I don't know how many tons, but hardly enough to see us thorough the winter.

Q. Do you grow any grain?

A. No.

Q. Any potatoes?

A. A few, not many; they don't grow very well.

Q. Don't you grow any other vegetables?

A. We raise very little. They don't do very well.

Q. Do you sell any produce?

A. No, nothing at all.

Q. About how many horses have you?

A. Just about what teams we use.

Q. How many horses is that?

A. About four.

Q. Do you use them for freighting?

A. No, not there.

Q. Have you any cattle?

A. No. We cannot feed them; we have nothing to feed them with.

Q. Do the horses require all the hay you raise?

A. The horses we have at present eat all the hay we have, and we could do with more hay yet.

Q. Have you any pigs or sheep?

A. No.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Do you need the four work horses to work all your land?

A. We have four horses for each family.

MR. COMMISSIONER McKENNA:- Well that means that there are 24 horses?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Each man has two teams, is that right?

A. Yes.

Q. And they don't use them for anything but working the land?

A. No, they don't.

Q. How do the people on the Lower Hat Creek reserve make their living?

A. They go out and work. They get about a dollar a day and their feed.

Q. What do they work at?

A. Just when the white farmers have work ready for them they get work.

- Q. We are now on the Bonaparte reserve?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know this reserve pretty well too?
- A. Yes.
- Q. About how many families live on the Bonaparte reserve?
- A. Thirty-one families.
- Q. Is there any natural grazing land on the Lower Hat Creek reserve which amounts to anything?
- A. Outside the reserve there is some good pasture.
- Q. What about inside the reserve?
- A. The reserve is all through in the Canyon and the pasture is no good, but outside the reserve the pasture is good.
- Q. Where? Up in the hills or beyond the hills?
- A. On top of the hills there are good open ranges. It falls into valleys on the other side.
- Q. Does anybody graze cattle on the open range?
- A. All the white people put their cattle there every year. When the winter comes on, the white people's cattle come down on to the reserve and feed.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- Is the reserve fenced?
- A. We are not able to fence our reserve. We have no money.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- What do the cattle of the white people find to live on, on the reserve?
- A. We generally drive the white people's cattle away back home.
- Q. They come down on to the reserve for shelter, I suppose?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Each family has a house?
- A. Yes.
- Q. About how many people are there altogether?
- A. I don't know how many.
- Q. What kind of land is it here?
- A. Not very good. There is no water.
- Q. Have you no water here at all?
- A. There is water down below, but we have none up on the bench.

- Q. Do you cultivate any land here at all?
- A. About half to one acre, down at the bottom.
- Q. Is that all the land which can be cultivated at the bottom without water?
- A. There is some good land there, but on account of having no water we cannot cultivate it.
- Q. Is that one acre all that can be cultivated without water?
- A. There are little pieces besides which we cultivate, but sometimes, they don't turn out all right on account of no water.
- Q. Can you not bring any water on to it yourselves?
- A. The Indians are poor and cannot handle this water.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- If the Indians had the means, could they irrigate it?
- A. Yes, if we had the means, we could.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- About how much land could be cultivated there if you had the means to put the water on?
- A. This bench of land here is all good land if it could be watered.
- Q. About what proportion of this reserve could you cultivate with available water?
- A. All this lot, right up to the line here.
- THE CHAIRMAN:- The Reserve goes over across the River here, does it not?
- A. Yes.
- Q. There is a bench over there with some houses on, could not that be cultivated?
- A. Yes, that over there could be cultivated if we could get the water there.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- And the land along the bottom is good too if it had water, is it?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What do you raise on this reserve?
- A. Potatoes.
- Q. Do you raise many potatoes?
- A. No, we have not enough water.
- Q. Do you raise sufficient for your own use?
- A. No, we are short.
- Q. Do you raise any other vegetables?
- A. Nothing.

Q. Any grain?

A. No.

Q. Any hay?

A. No.

Q. Are there any horses on this reserve?

A. Not many.

Q. Do your horses range out all the year round?

A. Some pull through the winter allright but some die.

Q. They die from want of food?

A. They die from hunger.

Q. Have you any cattle?

A. No cattle.

Q. How do the people here make their living?

A. Working for white people to get a little something to eat.

Most of the people are out working now for white ranchers.

Q. Do you do any freighting at all?

A. The Indians used to freight a long time ago, but the whites have made regulations so that the Indians cannot haul freight.

Q. Who made these regulations?

A. They were made in Ashcroft.

Q. Have they a Freighter's Union there?

A. I don't know.

Q. If an Indian went down to Ashcroft with a wagon, and someone wanted him to take some freight down for them, would anyone stop him from unloading that freight?

A. No, if an Indian was sent by somebody from here with freight he could take it allright, but they would not be allowed to enter the business on their own account. When an Indian hauls a load he is charged \$5.00 for a license before he can take a load of freight.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- Who charges that \$5.00 license fee?

A. There is a man at Clinton who follows up that business.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Did any Indian ever pay that \$5.00 license?

A. All the Indians that have hauled freight have had to pay it.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- You say the Indians have been stopped from freighting?

A. Yes. Some of them are stopped and have their wagons lying idle now.

Q. Can you mention anybody that refused the Indians freight? Do you yourself ever freight?

A. Yes, on the 20 mile road?

Q. Do you freight now?

A. In two or three weeks time I go one trip.

Q. Do you expect to be stopped from freighting too?

A. Well, the man who keeps the store up there has given me the Contract to haul his goods myself.

Q. Then you are not stopped?

A. No.

Q. Have you a license?

A. No.

Q. You said the Indians were stopped?

A. Yes. You asked me if the Indians ever did freighting work.

Q. May I say this, that you cannot compete with others for public business, but if a man asks you to carry freight for him, you are permitted to do so?

THE CHAIRMAN:- When you freight for this man, do you take his wagon and horses, or your own?

A. My own.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- Does he pay you by the 100 or does he hire your team and yourself?

A. I am hauling by the 100.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- How long ago is it since the Indians were stopped from freighting - in your sense of the word "stopped?"

A. It is just lately I heard they were stopped. One man just told me today. The Chief says it has been going on quite a long while. We have had to pay licenses for quite a while.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- There is some bottom land here covered with scrub timber and poplar trees, is that on the reserve?

A. Yes.

Q. Why then do the Indians not clear off the scrub and burn it?

A. It will be no use to clear it because nothing will grow without water.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- Mauvais Rocher reserve, do you know that?

A. No.

Q. Does any Indian live there?

A. I don't know.

Q. That is on the road between here and Deadman's Creek?

NO ANSWER.

Q. Do you know anything about Leon Lake reserve? - 59 acres in extent?

A. No.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Do the Indians on these reserves mostly make their living by working for white men?

A. Yes.

Q. Working on farms?

A. Yes.

Q. Do they ever work on railroad construction?

A. No.

Q. Do they ever work on the Government road?

A. No. They used to give us jobs on the Government road, a long time ago, but now no more.

Q. When working on farms for white men, can you work mowing machines and plough, and do other good work like that?

A. Not myself - I guess the boys can.

Q. If you had good land, would you be able to make a living on the reserve, without having to go and work for the white farmers?

A. Yes, if we had help to get water on to our reserves.

Q. If you had money by which you could bring water on to this Bonaparte reserve, could you clear it up and have a large farming area?

A. Yes, that is all that is keeping the Indians back - lack of water.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- If you had this land cleared and the water brought on, would it be enough to support the whole population of these reserves?

A. Well yes, I guess in the bottom there would be two or three acres each for all the Indians.

MR. COMMISSIONER McKENNA: How many acres altogether do they cultivate down there now?

A. Just one acre for one man.

Q. Do you mean one acre per family?

A. About four of us have an acre each, that is all.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Do the women not cultivate this land when the men are out working, and take care of the crop?

A. There is no water.

Q. Who does the work on the land - the women or the men?

A. The men work the land. There is not much work to do on the land.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Do you mean to say that the women do not work the land?

A. There is not much cultivable land for the women to work.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Do you ever see the women working on the land?

A. Yes, when planting potatoes.

Q. Do you ever see the women digging the potatoes?

A. I am not here all the time.

Q. Do you ever see the Indian men digging potatoes down there?

A. Yes, I dig my own.

CHIEF BASILE, was sworn, and examined by MR. COMMISSIONER McKENNA:-

Q. Do you know Leon Lake reserve?

A. Yes.

Q. About how many acres is it?

A. About 80 acres maybe.

Q. What is the land like?

A. It is good land but pretty high.

Q. What proportion of it is bottom land, along the creek or lake there?

A. Some along the edge of the lake is allright.

Q. And along the creek?

A. Right at the mouth of the creek, and along the edge of the lake is good.

Q. Is there any land cultivated there?

A. No.

Q. Anybody living there?

A. There used to be one Indian who stayed there, but he is dead, but the house is there.

- Q. Did that Indian cultivate any land?
- A. A little.
- Q. What use do you make of that reserve now?
- A. Just for fishing.
- Q. Do you get plenty of fish there?
- A. Yes lots.
- Q. Do the Indians go from the reserves upon which they live, to fish there every year?
- A. Yes from these and other reserves.
- Q. From the Lower and Higher Hat Creek reserves?
- A. Yes, at certain times of the year, and white people go there to get fish too.
- Q. Do these white people go on your reserves to get fish?
- A. Yes, we never stop them; it is open to everybody.
- Q. Do you know Mauvais Recher, on the road between here and Deadman's Creek?
- A. Yes.
- Q. It contains about 100 acres?
- A. I guess so.
- Q. What sort of land is that?
- A. Good land.
- Q. Flat?
- A. Yes level land.
- Q. Does anybody live on it?
- A. A long time ago there used to be some Indians there.
- Q. Are there any Indians there now at all?
- A. A long time ago that place had water, and then there were Indians on it. The Indians used to raise all kinds of crops on that reserve - wheat, oats, hay, potatoes, and everything there.
- Q. Where did they get their water from?
- A. There used to be a creek there.
- Q. Well, what about that creek now?
- A. It is dried up.
- Q. And you left the reserve on that account?

- A. Yes. We go there now in the Salmon fishing time, to catch and dry salmon.
- Q. Do all the Indians go over there then, or only some of them?
- A. Quite a number of them go there.
- Q. Is there good salmon fishing there?
- A. Yes. It is a good fishing station.
- Q. Are there any houses there now?
- A. There used to be buildings there, but they are now all wrecked, and when the Indians go there for salmon they camp there.
- Q. During the last few years you were given a reserve in the Lillooet district on the west end of Bihkium Lake. Do you know anything about that?
- A. Yes, I had spoken several times about that before I get it.
- Q. What is that reserve used for?
- A. For fishing.
- Q. What kind of fish do you get there?
- A. Rainbow trout.
- Q. Do many of the Indians use that as a fishing place?
- A. Yes, all the Indians in this vicinity go there to fish. Lots of white people go there and fish too.
- Q. How far away from here is that place?
- A. Nine miles further from here than Leon Lake.
- MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW;- What do you do with the fish you get there? Eat it or sell it?
- A. We just eat them; that is all. What we don't eat, we salt and dry. The run of the fish there just lasts two week in every season. Each Indian that goes there gets about 100 lbs. of fish and what he does not make use of for himself, he salts and dries them.
- Q. At Leon Lake what kind of fish do you get?
- A. Small trout.
- Q. And at different times of the year?
- A. Yes at different times of the year. Leon Lake fish comes first and the other right after.
- Q. Do you eat that fish or salt it?

- A. *Mostly we eat them, but some we salt.*
- Q. *Do you get the cut-throat trout?*
- A. *No.*
- Q. *What kind of salmon do you get at Mauvais Recher?*
- A. *Sockeye.*
- Q. *Do you get a plentiful supply there?*
- A. *Some of them get as many as fifty each.*
- Q. *Do you salt and smoke these too?*
- A. *Yes.*
- Q. *Is fish their man food here?*
- A. *Yes.*
- Q. *This 80 acres at Nihkium Lake, is it not good for cultivation?*
- A. *It is no good for anything. It is away up in the mountain. There is a kind of little swamp there which the Indians use for picketing their horses when they go there. The rest is mountainous.*
- Q. *Just enough grass there to keep the horses alive while you are fishing?*
- A. *Yes.*
- Q. *Have you any school for the children here?*
- A. *I have said something about the school before.*
- Q. *To whom did you say it?*
- A. *To Dr. MacDougall.*
- Q. *Have you any school here for the children?*
- A. *No school for the children.*
- Q. *Do any of the children from these reserves - that is from either the Lower Hat Creek and Higher Hat Creek Reserves or this reserve go to school at all?*
- A. *They go to Kamloops School.*
- Q. *How many?*
- A. *About ten.*
- Q. *How many children of school age - between the ages of eight and fifteen have you on the reserves?*
- A. *The children have been going to the School at Kamloops for seven or eight years, and when they come back it seems as if they don't know anything.*

Q. How many children of school age are there now on the reserves?

A. There are more than ten ready to go to school now.

Q. Would you like to have a day school here?

A. Yes, because I have talked to Dr. MacDougall about a school and asked him to get one here, after I found out they were not getting on well at Kamloops.

Q. Did he promise to get you a school here?

A. He said maybe we could get a school here.

Q. On what reserve would you put the day school if you got one?

A. We leave that to you.

Q. Suppose the school was on this reserve, could the children get from the Hat Creek reserves here?

A. Yes., because they actually belong here.

Q. Would it not be too far for them to come?

A. These people at Hat Creek Reserve have houses here. This is their main headquarters.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- When you said there were 31 families living on this reserve, did that also include the families living at the other two reserves?

NO ANSWER.

MR. COMMISSIONER McKENNA:- How many families live here on this reserve

A. About 31.

Q. Does that include the families who also have places at the Lower and Upper Hat Creek reserves?

A. Just those that have their permanent residence here. That does not include the Hat Creek people.

Q. When do the Hat Creek people come here?

A. Just whenever they want to come and reside here for a few days.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- Have they houses of their own here?

A. Just whenever they come here.

THE CHAIRMAN:- You heard Tenas Lapp give his evidence, did you not?

A. Yes, I heard him, but not quite right.

Q. You are not prepared to swear as to whether it is correct or not?

A. I did not hear all that he said.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- You heard part of his evidence?

A. Yes, but I am a little bit deaf.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- Is there anything that you would like to contradict in Lapp's evidence:

A. I could not catch every word that he said.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- How do the people of the Bonaparte Tribe make their living:

A. Just by work.

Q. What kind of work?

A. Working for white people.

Q. Do they ever do freighting?

A. Yes, sometimes., whenever they get a chance to haul.

Q. Did they do as much freighting this season as they did last?

A. I think it is about the same.

Q. I understood Tenas Lapp to say that the Indians were in some way stopped from freighting?

A. Yes, the Chief from Cornwall Reserve said to me that the Indians were stopped from freighting.

Q. But you yourself, do not know of any Indians being stopped from freighting?

A. No, I do not.

THIS CLOSED THIS MEETING.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE OF B.C.

ASHCROFT, B.C., NOVEMBER 1st,

MEETING WITH THE INDIANS OF THE ASHCROFT TRIBE ON THE ASHCROFT
INDIAN RESERVE NUMBER 2.

MISS LILLY BLATCHFORD, was sworn as interpreter. The scope and.. purpose of the Commission, was briefly explained by Mr. Commissic Macdowall.

THE CHAIRMAN (to Chief Francois Scotty): "You heard the statement made by the Chief yesterday, on the Bonaparte reserve; we want a statement of the same character as that made by him, but not the same exactly. That is, we don't wany any repetition. You know what the general wants and conditions of the Indians of these particular reserves are, and we want you to say what they are."

CHIEF FRANCOIS SCOTTY, said: "One of the reasons of our grievance is that we have not sufficient water for irrigation purposes for the reserve. Years ago, when Judge Cornwall was in charge we had a lot of water. Newcomers came in, however, and put cement walls across, and we have since not been able to get water in sufficient quantities. There was a small lake that we had up here, where we used to get hay on the side hills; the whitemen took and built a dam at the foot of this lake, and since then we have not--been able to get hay off this place. When they started to build the dam, this time, they said they were going to give the Indians hay in exchange, but they have not given us a bit.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Was that on the reserve land?

CHIEF FRANCOIS SCOTT: Yes, that lake was inside of our own reserve It belonged to us, and when the white man put in the dam they claimed the whole thing. We have a small piece of land down by the River bank, but we don't get very good crops off it, on account of not having sufficient water.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Which particular reserve are you speaking of

CHIEF FRANCOIS SCOTTY: This one you are on now. Then we had a

spring down below the road here, with which we need to irrigate about 20 acres of land, and we had very good crops. When JOHN CREEK was there, he used to borrow the water from us. Since STEVEN TINGLEY took over the ranch he has built a cement flume, so that we cannot get a drop of water.

THE CHAIRMAN: Where is Tingley's place?

A. On this side of Ashcroft, on this side of the road after you cross the bridge. So, since then, we have not been able to use that land at all - not for years, and that has made us very poor. When Judge O'Reilly was here he gave us a lake and the rights from the lake just down here to the wagon road. Lately some white men have come in and taken up homesteads between the lake and the road, and have thus made our reserve small, and left a little bit of reserve around the lake. This reserve was given us by Judge O'Reilly to be used as a range for our horses. That is about all that I think I have to say.

THE CHAIRMAN: Was that MacLean Lake that you spoke of as being given you by Judge O'Reilly?

A. Yes, MacLean Lake.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Was that the lake that was dammed by the whitemen?

A. Yes - just the one lake.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Did they build this dam at MacLean Lake on the reserve?

A. Yes on the reserve.

Q. Who gave them permission to build the dam?

A. I don't know, it was built by them before I was elected Chief. An Indian of the name of Waskie was in charge at the time.

SAMSON, a member of the Ashcroft Band, said: "I have lived here all my life. I have been very pleased to have met all you folks. The Indians have had a lot of trouble here, right here on this reserve. I am very glad the Government sent you here to come and look after our troubles for us, for you see the white men have not treated us fair. They have taken our water and land and

have subdivided our land to suit themselves. They have even put

gates across our roads so that we cannot use them. It does not matter what we try to do, the white men are around and try to put us in gaol. If we want to go and kill deer and birds we are stopped. Even our firewood, they won't allow us to take what we want. For our wood we have to pay them 25 cents a cord before we can take it off our land.

THE CHAIRMAN: To whom do you have to pay this 25 cents a cord for the wood?

A. The whitemen here tell us that we ought to pay it to the Government.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Is that when you take wood off the Indian reserve?

A. Our reserves are very small and there is not sufficient wood on it for our own use. We have to go outside our reserves; then we have to pay this 25 cents.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Have you any firewood on the reserve at all?

A. Very little - not enough. The only other place we can get wood is at MacLean Lake, six miles from here. There is quite a lot there, but it is too far away.

Q. Is there a wagon road to MacLean's Lake?

A. No, only a trail, and even that has been fenced across by white men.

Q. Just a bridle trail?

A. Yes just a bridle trail.

They have dammed MacLean's Lake and have stopped us from getting water there, and even when they have finished irrigating with the water, they might turn it in to us, but instead of doing so, we have to walk half a mile to get a pail of water even for drinking purposes. I have not anything else to say, but we will leave it in your hands to settle what is suitable, and we will abide by what you say.

THE CHAIRMAN: We cannot settle it all. All we can do is to bring it under the notice of the Government, and it will then be for them to take what action they may deem necessary.

THE CHIEF: Our crops are not sufficient to carry us through the

winter.

CHIEF FRANCOIS SCOTTY was then sworn and examined by Mr. Commissioner White:

Q. Are you the Chief of this band?

A. Yes, I am the Chief of this tribe.

Q. Do you know what is the name of this reserve?

A. Ashcroft reserve.

Q. It is down here in the book, as 105 mile-post; do you know it by that name?

A. 105 mile-post is down further on.

Q. Do you know how many acres are contained in this reserve?

A. I don't know.

Q. Are these the headquarters and where the village is on this reserve?

A. Yes, this is the headquarters for the reserve.

Q. Do you know how much cultivated land there is on this reserve?

A. I don't know that we have more than about 10 acres down below this reserve under cultivation, and, besides, there is not enough water on it.

Q. What is the reason there is so little cultivated land here?

A. Because there is not any water.

Q. What is the character of the rest of the land that is uncultivated?

A. There is plenty of good land but not enough water.

Q. Is all of it good?

A. Yes.

Q. Can you tell me why you have not enough water?

A. Because the white men will not give us any water. They have taken it all away from us.

Q. How many horses have you on this reserve? That is, how many belongs to this band?

A. Altogether we have about 20 horses which are broken in for teams, etc.

Q. How many unbroken horses have you on this reserve?

- A. We have no unbroken horses.
- Q. And those twenty horses are all the horses you have belonging to the band?
- A. That is all we have, we just have them for working purposes.
- Q. Do you raise enough hay for them.
- A. I don't know that we got more than 5 tons this year, to be divided amongst the lot.
- Q. What else do you raise besides hay on this reserve?
- A. We raise a few potatoes for our own use, and a few garden vegetables just enough for our own use.
- Q. How do the Indians make a living here?
- A. They work for the white men around the district, and that is how they get their money.
- Q. Farming work?
- A. Yes, we work on the white men's farms.
- Q. How many people are there on this reserve? That is, how many families?
- A. There are about 10 heads of families.
- Q. You have another reserve here - Maclean Lake reserve - have you any cultivated land there?
- A. At the present time we don't get a thing out of Maclean's Lake Reserve - on account of that dam, which has covered up all our pasture land, and we have not been able to get any hay.
- Q. You say the white man has made a dam on the lake?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And that causes the lake to overflow the land?
- A. Yes, the water has flooded over the pasture lands.
- Q. Is there not a natural stream running from that lake down here?
- A. There is only one outlet from that lake and the white men have dammed that.
- Q. That one outlet you speak of, ran down to this reserve?
- A. Yes, it used to run down to this reserve.
- Q. And that has been diverted by the whitemen?
- A. Yes.

WITNESS, continuing: This dam has a gate, and at any time the white men want the water they lift the gate, and when they don't they shut the gate down.

Q. So that no water runs down the outlet now?

A. Yes. They have put a cement flume up there, so that there is not any water running this way.

Q. Is that reserve fenced?

A. No.

Q. Is this reserve fenced?

A. We have just got a small part of it fenced off.

Q. Did you not make a fence along here lately, expecting the water to come in on the land?

A. We put this fence in lately when Shields told us we were going to have water soon.

Q. And no water has come through?

A. No.

THE CHAIRMAN: The dry water-bed that runs by here is the outlet of MacLean's Lake - is that so?

A. Yes, that was the former outlet.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE: Now you have another reserve called Cheetsums Farm, have you not?

A. Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Where we were this morning, looking over the bank?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE: How much cultivation have you there?

A. About twenty acres, divided between two families.

Q. Do the two families live there?

A. Yes they live on that reserve. One of the families lives there all the year round; the other one comes back here in the winter time.

Q. Do they both have farms there?

A. Yes.

Q. Is there water there?

A. Yes, they have water there, a fair amount coming from a spring - about 20 inches of water. In the summertime - during the

- dry season, the quantity of water is reduced.
- Q. The two families here, and the two families on the other reserve are all the families of the whole tribe?
- A. Yes. There are about twelve families and quite a number of young boys growing up.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: About how many boys of 18 or over, are there?
- A. We have not any boys of 18, they are all younger than that.
- MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE: What is the pasture like on these reserves?
- A. Our pasture land is not very big, on account of the white people cutting off big portions of it.
- Q. Do you mean to say that the white men have cut off portions of the reserve?
- A. Yes, the reserve that Judge O'Reilly gave us the white men came and cut off a portion of it. That reserve used to run from Ashcroft right to MacLean's Lake.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: Did you sell any portion of it?
- A. No, we never sold any of it.
- MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE: You say the pasture that you have now does not amount to much?
- A. Yes. It is not enough. It is very small.
- THE CHAIRMAN: I want to know, with reference to that reserve we looked over this morning (Cheetsum's Farm), whether the people living there have enough water to cultivate more land than is cultivated there?
- A. I really could not say, I would have to ask the woman who is looking after it.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: You said that the Indians of those reserves made their living by working for white farmers, is that right?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you do any teaming at all?
- A. The boys started in teaming. They took out a license, and just went one trip when the white men told them they could not do any more.
- Q. Since then you have not done any more?
- A. Since then we have not done any more because the white men

won't give us any teaming to do.

Q. Who won't?

A. The forwarding agent at Ashcroft.

Q. Do you know his name?

A. All we know is that one of the man's names is Smith.

Q. Do you do any fishing here?

A. In the summertime we manage to catch and dry and salt a few fish.

Q. Is that an important part of your food supply?

A. Yes, that is what we depend upon for the winter supply of food.

Q. Where do you catch the fish?

A. Down in the Thompson River.

Q. Do you have to go off the reserve to catch fish?

A. No, we don't have to go off the reserve, because it is just down at the River-bank.

Q. The reserve affords a good fishing ground?

A. We have "off seasons" some times.

Q. Do you do any hunting?

A. Once in a while the boys go out hunting.

Q. You don't get much food that way?

A. No.

Q. Do you trap at all?

A. No.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: You said you had twenty working horses and only three tons of hay, where do you get the food for these horses?

A. We let them run out on the side hills, and in the wintertime we get in wood and sell it to the white men, and then we get hay in exchange for the wood.

Q. And in that way you are able to get enough hay to feed your horses properly?

A. It is hardly enough, but we do the best we can.

Q. Then you cut the wood yourselves?

A. Yes, we cut the wood ourselves.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: When you said all the land on the reserve

was good land, did you include the sidehills in that?

A. No, all the flat parts.

Q. You meant the flats by the River and the beaches, when you said all the land was good?

A. Yes, but I did not mean the sidehills and rocky parts.

THE CHAIRMAN: Where do you get the wood from which you sell for hay for your horses food?

A. About 3 miles from here, up on the hill, and we have to pay stumpage of 25 cents a cord.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Is that on the Indian reserve?

A. No.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: Is there plenty of wood where you get that from?

A. Yes, there is a lot of wood all the way up the mountain.

Q. And you can sell all you get, can you?

A. If we have the wood cut we can sell all we can get.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: If there was a wagon road to MacLean's Lake reserve, I suppose you would be able to cut your own wood and haul it to market?

A. Yes.

Q. Do your women go out to work at washing clothes and that sort of thing, to help to keep the family?

A. Yes, some of our younger women that are strong go out and do washing and general housework for different white families.

Q. Are they paid by the day?

A. Yes.

Q. Do any of the girls go out as permanent servants?

A. No, only by the day.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do they offer to go out to service?

A. They would go if they were asked to do so, but nobody want them - only for a day at a time, to do some of the rough work.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE: Have you any school here?

A. No school.

Q. Do any of the children from this reserve go to school anywhere?

- A. No, they have never gone to any school.
- Q. Would you like to have a school here?
- A. Yes, we want one.
- Q. Have you ever asked for one?
- A. No, we have never asked for one, and this is the first time we have ever been asked about it.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: Do you object to your children going to the school at Kamloops?
- A. We don't approve of the idea of the children living here going away to other schools.
- Q. Therefore you want to have a school on the reserve?
- A. Yes, we would rather have a school here where the children can go, and still at the same time stay at home.
- Q. How many children of school age are there on the reserve?
- A. We have only 13 children about 5 years of age, on the reserve.
- Q. How many children between 5 years and 15 years of age are there?
- NO ANSWER.
- MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: How many are under age?
- A. I really could not say.
- MRS. SARAH CHWAIL (Known also as Mrs. George McGee) was sworn, and examined:
- Q. You live on the Cheetsum's reserve?
- A. Yes, I live down on that reserve. My father lived on that reserve and built a house there, and I have been living there ever since.
- Q. You cultivate some land there?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Have you any water on that reserve?
- A. A little.
- Q. If you had more water, could you cultivate a larger portion of the reserve?
- A. Yes - My Aunt there (indicating the person in question) has taken up another portion of the reserve and is farming it.
- Q. Do you cultivate all the land that you have water for on that reserve?

A. I have cultivated a piece of land on that reserve, but there is hardly enough water to do all that I would like to do.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is the water you get on that reserve, sufficient to cultivate all the land that you and your aunt both cultivate at the present time?

A. No, not sufficient.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: How much more land could be cultivated there if there was plenty of water?

A. There is quite a lot of good land which, if we had water, we could use.

Q. Could you tell us how many more acres?

A. I don't know how many more acres.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE: Could you cultivate as much more again, as you are now cultivating, if you had water?

A. Yes, just about the same size as the piece of land that I am now using. There is a part that I don't cultivate. I drive the horses in and use it for pasture.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: What do you raise on that reserve?

A. A little hay, enough potatoes for my own use, and a little garden produce, just enough for my own use.

Q. How many horses are there on the reserve?

A. About seven.

Q. Where those horses included in the 20 which the Chief said the band owned?

A. I don't know.

CHIEF FRANCOIS SCOTTY: I did not touch that reserve, and I did not include those 7 horses in the 20 I mentioned.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE: (to MRS. CHWAIL) Is there not an orchard on that piece of land?

A. Yes.

Q. How many trees are there?

A. I put in quite a number of trees but a lot of them died, as I had not enough water to irrigate them with.

Q. Have you any horned cattle?

A. About 5 head of horned cattle.

Q. Any milk cows?

A. Yes, one that I milk, and the rest are young cattle.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Do you raise enough fodder for your horses and cattle?

A. Some years I have enough, and some years I have not.

Q. Some years you have to buy?

THE CHAIRMAN: Do you buy, or let them half starve?

A. I let them stay out on the sidehills till it gets really cold, then I bring them in and give them hay.

Q. How do you manage to live - Do you sell anything?

A. I sometimes sell my garden produce, and then I sell a few eggs and sometimes some of my chickens.

Q. Do you sell any of your stock - horses or cattle?

A. Once in a while I see a beast.

Q. Have you any children?

A. Just one girl.

Q. Can you manage to do any fishing in the river?

A. Yes, I go out and fish in the River with a dip net.

Q. Do you get a fairly good supply of fish that way?

A. Sometimes we have quite a lot of salt salmon, and other years we have not very many.

Q. I suppose you manage to dispose of one or two beasts every year?

A. About one calf a year.

ACTING SUB-CHIEF WASKIN, was sworn, and examined by Mr. Commissioner White:

Q. You were Chief of this band at one time?

A. Yes.

Q. And are acting-sub-Chief now?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know anything about the Dam that was built at MacLean Lake?

A. No I don't know anything about it, because when this dam was put in, Harry Cornwall was Chief, and I have not been Chief very long.

- Q. You do not know what bargain was made?
- A. No.
- Q. When you were Chief, did you ever object to the dam being put in there?
- A. Yes, I objected to it always. I did not want the dam there.
- Q. Did you complain to anybody about it?
- A. I told the Indian Agent that I did not want the white men to go and put the dam there.
- Q. What was the name of the Indian Agent?
- A. Mr. Irwin.
- Q. Did you ever complain to the present Indian Agent?
- A. Yes, I have told him.
- Q. Do you know who put the dam there?
- A. Barclay.
- Q. Did you ever complain to Barclay about it?
- A. No, I did not, we always depended upon our Agent to do that for us.

THE CHAIRMAN: Addressing the Indians: "Some matters have been brought under our notice today which have been rather a surprise to us, that is, with respect to the manner in which the water seems to have been cut off from these reserves. It may be alright according to the law, but I do not know how the law in these parts is as regards this matter. However, I think the Indian Agent should look into it, which no doubt he will do I have no doubt that the Commission will, in due time make representations to the Government at Ottawa, upon the subject, so that if a wrong has been done with respect to these reserves, the Indian Agent will be instructed to permit no such wrong to be done in the future without taking proper steps to prevent it."

ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE OF B.C.

SPENCES BRIDGE, B.C.

November 3rd, 1913.

MEETING WITH THE INDIANS OF THE COOK'S FERRY TRIBE OF INDIANS.

MISS LILLY BLATCHFORD acted as Interpreter, THE CHAIRMAN briefly explained the scope and purpose of the Commission.

CHIEF JOHNNY WHITMETEA, in charge of the Northern half of the Reserves of the Cooks Ferry Tribe (Nos. 1 to 7 inclusive), said: "I tell you why we feel sad and dissatisfied. You see, a long time ago, in this reserve we never saw any different people. This country was our own house. We never saw any strangers ever come in to enter, nor did we open the door to them. Then the whitemen came and they said to our forefathers: "We are going to come in on your land". Our forefathers said "If you are a good people, you may come in". "Then we shall light the fire, and shall stay by the fire and you can come in and stay by the fire, and we will both warm ourselves. We shall drink from the stream and so shall you. They said, 'that is how it shall be'." The white men said "We will do the same", and our forefathers said "Very well", all the roads and the whole country shall be free so that my heart will not be sad". That is what our forefathers said: "Then you folks will not be sorry", and they said "Very well" It was not very long after that, when they came to our forefathers and said "We shall cut off portions of the land for you and give you reserves, and when we have given you these reserves, then all the outside lands shall belong to us". So our forefathers said "Very well". They said "if you are going to do that, then the Queen shall have charge and look after our interests, because you have spoken well in the past, that is why we want the Queen to look after us, and see that you folks do very well by us". It was not long after that, that we heard the Government at Victoria had taken all the outside land and claimed it as theirs They have taken possession, and sold our lands, and that is how we are all so poor.

Everything that was on the land they have taken possession of it and we have been very sorry about it. Now we hear again lately that the Victoria government has said "We own all the reserves; any day that we feel inclined, why we will turn you out", as we feel very sad over it and we have had many a conference over it since. We do not like the way they have treated us. It hurts us. We formed a Committee and we went to Victoria. We saw the Government Officials at Victoria. We told them "We have come, and are going to talk to you on the Land Question". That is what we said to the Government Officials in Victoria. They said "We will not talk to you. It is not you that owns the land; it belongs to the Queen, and we are just working for the Queen's interest. We shall not talk to you this time. It shall be the Queen who will talk to you on this question, she says "You will hear of it", so we have been waiting ever since. All the Indians all over the Country are feeling very sad and sorry at the treatment we have received. Even here in this house, we have to talk of our troubles. All the Chiefs that went to Victoria have been waiting to hear what the Queen had to say on the subject. That is all I have to say."

JOHNNIE TITLANETEA, CHIEF of the remaining portion of the Cooks Ferry Reserves, and of the Oregon Jack Creek reserves, said:

"A long time ago, when we were here by ourselves, we never saw any white men. Then the white men came here. When the white men first came here, we did not understand one another very well. The whitemen would speak and we would answer, but we did not understand one another very thoroughly, so our conferences then were not satisfactory. In those times I suppose we fought a little; so our forefathers told us. However, our forefathers said that was to stop, and the old white men - the fathers of the present generation - said "There shall be no more fighting amongst ourselves", so the Indians and the white men shook hands and made an agreement that they should be friends. So the officials who were in charge then told our forefathers that

not to feel bad about anything that happened and not to have any more sorrows, because from that time onwards, they would show us that there is a Chief above all others. "We shall tell you what the Big Chief has to say. This Chief will certainly treat you right. Then they told us that this Chief over all of us was the Queen, and it was from her that they came, so they would do her bidding, and do what she said. So our forefathers said "The whitemen have spoken good, we are sure that the white men will treat us right", and they were very pleased over it. Some time after that there was a new crowd of officials come in and they said that the whiteman was to take all the land. The former officials had told us that the Queen said that they were to come out here and help the Indians - not abuse them - and that they were to give us presents before they took our land and that is why our forefathers said "Yes, that is good". That has been told us time and again by different officials until lately. They have always always been telling us that the Queen will settle this dispute. Neither the Dominion Government or the British Columbia Government would settle it. Lately, we have been told that the Victoria Government claimed all the reserves and that they had a perfect right to turn us off.

THE CHAIRMAN: Who told you that?

A. One of the officials. When we heard that, we were all very sorry to hear it.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: What official told you that?

CHIEF TITLANETEA: It was general conversation among the whiteman that the Government was going to take possession.

Q. Then it was not an official who said anything of the kind?

A. No. (Continuing) Then we made up our minds that we would look for officials who would take up this matter for us. Then we got together - sometimes here and sometimes at other places -. One time we went to Ottawa. There we saw Mr. Borden, so we told him things were not satisfactory with the Indians out in British Columbia. We said "We have come here to tell you about it, and we want to hear what you have to say to us". Mr. Borden said

Oh, is that your trouble? Now listen; I am going to tell you something. I only came in here yesterday. I am only just a new official. You see the snow, how it is falling heavily. That is just the way all the troubles are pouring in to me at the present time. You must all go back. I will look into this later on, then I shall tell you all about it". Since then we have been waiting to hear from him and have written to him since, quite a number of times. Now that you have come, we take it for granted that Mr. Borden sent you here, and now we feel very pleased to have you tell us what is to be done".

CHIEF JOHNNIE WHITHETZA was sworn and examined by Mr. Commissioner Shaw:

- Q. You are Chief of part of the Cook's Ferry Band of Indians?
A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know how many different Indian reserves there are that you have control over?
A. Skoonkoon, Kumcheen, Shawniken, Shaniken, Chuchhriaschin, Nicoelta Klocklowuck.
- Q. Do you know No. 1, Kumcheen Reserve?
A. Yes I know it.
- Q. Are there any Indians living on that reserve at present?
A. Yes, there are some living there.
- Q. About how many families?
A. About five families.
- Q. Five families or five Indians?
A. Five families.
- Q. What is the land like on that reserve?
A. It is not good land; it is very rocky.
- Q. What do the Indians do, who live there?
A. Just because it is a reserve, we built our houses there.
- Q. What use do they make of the land?
A. There is about half an acre or less, we use for garden purposes. That is all the good land there is.
- Q. What do the Indians do for a living, who live there?
A. They work amongst the white men so as to get money to get food with.

Q. Do they fish there?

A. Yes they do a little fishing. They get fish for their food.

Q. Have they a station for catching and drying salmon there?

A. They dry a little and they salt a little.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: How many people make up these five families that live there?

A. There are only five people there altogether - two families.

Q. Do you know how many acres there are in that reserve - about?

A. About 5 or 6 acres I should judge.

Q. Has any of the reserve been washed away by the river during your time?

A. The land on the Nicola side was all washed away and left nothing but stones.

Q. And you now estimate that you have only about 5 acres left?

A. Well on this side of the reserve the C.P.R. has built a right -of-way, which has also made it less.

Q. You said that you cultivated half an acre or less. Is that cultivated by irrigation?

A. There is a little bit of water running from the Nicola river when it is in flood.

Q. And you have no more water than would cultivate half an acre?

A. That half acre is the only bit of land that is fit for cultivation.

THE CHAIRMAN: That half acre you speak of is the only land that is fit for cultivation - water or no water?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: But it has to have water to cultivate

A. Nothing will grow there without water. The land here, where there is no water, nothing will grow on it.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE: Have you any horses or cattle there?

A. Yes.

Q. How many?

A. I don't know how many there are, but I should think there will be about twenty owned by the Indians on that reserve.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Do you know Skoonkoon Reserve No. 2?

A. Yes. I know it.

Q. Are there any Indians living on that reserve?

A. There are not any Indians living there, although I make use of that reserve. I built a fence and am using it for pasture land for my horses.

Q. What is the land on this reserve like?

A. It is good land.

Q. Has any of it ever been cultivated or ploughed?

A. A son of mine was going to use that, and he had built a ditch but by the time he finished the ditch, he died.

Q. Is there any water that could be put on this land?

A. Yes, if we had a ditch made.

Q. Is it all land that could be ploughed and cultivated?

A. There is a little of it that is good, but the rest is rocky.

Q. Would there be water enough to irrigate all the good land there is on it?

A. Yes , plenty of water.

Q. About how many acres on that reserve could be cultivated?

A. About 3 acres, and the rest of the land is not up to much.

Q. Has it ever been cultivated?

A. They used to have a garden down by the river bank, but the upper part of the flat has never been cultivated. The piece that we had the garden on, is where the Canadian Northern Railway right-of-way went through.

Q. Has the C. N. P. R. right-of-way taken all the land by the river bank?

A. Yes.

Q. Are there any houses or other buildings on the reserve?

A. No.

Q. Has any Indian ever lived on that reserve?

A. Yes, we used to live there.

Q. SHAWNIKEN RESERVE - No. 3 - Do you know that?

A. Yes, that is where I live.

Q. That includes 4 small reserves but we will take up the one on the other side of the river, what is the land on the other side of the river like?

- A. The land there is not very good. There is very little under cultivation on account of some of it sliding down, which has taken away a great portion of it.
- Q. Does the C. N. P. R. right-of-way run through this land along the river?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did some of the land which you were cultivating slide down so that it has become useless for cultivation?
- A. Yes, quite a lot of it.
- Q. Do you know how many acres of cultivable land were carried away by the landslide?
- A. I don't know how many acres.
- Q. How many acres are there now that can be, or are being, cultivated?
- A. About 4 acres.
- Q. Is there water to irrigate that 4 acres?
- A. Yes, I have some water which I can use for irrigation purposes.
- Q. What is the rest of this land like?
- A. The rest of it is all rocky land.
- THE CHAIRMAN: I understand you to say that what little land is left after the landslide will not be very good for cultivation. Is there any more land that could be cultivated?
- A. No, none whatever.
- Q. Are there any houses on that Reserve?
- A. Yes, there are houses there.
- Q. About how many families living over there?
- A. Just myself, my wife, and my father and mother.
- Q. Are there no children on that Reserve?
- A. No.
- MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Do you all live in one house?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did the C. N. P. R. right-of-way go through any of the cultivated land?
- A. Yes, they took about 40 X 10 feet off the land I had cultivated

- Q. Now with reference to Shaniken Reserve Nos. 4, 4A and 4B - This is the Reserve where the village is built, is it not?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What is this land used for?
- A. We don't use it for anything but for living on.
- Q. Is there any part of this Reserve cultivated?
- A. No, because there is no water on this Reserve, and crops would not grow.
- Q. Is there none of it capable of being ploughed?
- A. I would be all right if we could get water on to it.
- Q. About how many acres of this Reserve could be ploughed?
- A. I could not say.
- Q. Is there any part of it which could be ploughed?
- A. I really could not tell you how many acres could be cultivated until we turned water in to see if any of it would be cultivable.
- Q. Is there any part of this Reserve which could be ploughed or cultivated, leaving out of the question the possibility or otherwise of getting water?
- A. There might be two or three acres which could be ploughed.
- Q. This is used exclusively as your townsite and village?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Now with reference to Nos. 5 and 5A Chuchhriaschin - Do you know these two Reserves?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Going from here, the first piece of land is 20 acres in extent - Is that land used by the Indians for any purpose?
- A. We use it but we don't get very good returns from it on a/c of the people taking the water from us.
- Q. What people?
- A. Tom Cornew?
- Q. Is there any house on that?
- A. Yes, on 5A.
- Q. Is there one on No. 5?
- A. Yes.

- Q. Are there any Indians living in these two houses?
- A. A man and his wife and two children living in the house on No. 5A.
- Q. Is there anybody on the other Reserve?
- A. Yes, a man and his wife and mother live on No. 5, and the man who lives on No. 5A cultivates a small piece of No. 5.
- Q. What do they grow on these Reserves?
- A. They have a little hay, potatoes and a few vegetables. Years ago the Indians used to get very good crops off these two Reserves, when we had plenty of water, but since the whitemen took the water, we have not done half as well.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Where do they take this water from?
- A. Nicoelton Creek.
- MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: No. 6 Nicoelton Reserve - What is the land on that Reserve like?
- A. That land has not been under cultivation very long. We have a few little hay ranches there, where we get a little hay. The reason we have not cultivated it is because we have no water on that place.
- Q. Is it good land? Is it flat land, or rocky mountain land?
- A. We have only fenced in the very best parts - the rest is hilly and rocky and not fit for cultivation.
- Q. About what portion of it or how many acres would you say is fit for cultivation?
- A. I really could not say.
- Q. Is there any of this land which is level and covered with brush?
- A. There are a few places there which have quite a lot of brush on them.
- Q. Is it in the open patches along that brush that you get the hay?
- A. Yes, the Indians have cut out some of the brush and timber, and used it for pasture or hay land.
- Q. Is the hay you get there wild hay or Timothy hay?
- A. Clover and timothy.

Q. Are there any Indians living on this Reserve?

A. Every little garden patch that is fenced in has a house on it.

Q. How many houses are there?

A. There are three families living there.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: How many people altogether?

A. 8 of them in one family, 4 in another family, and 2 in the third family. There is also another family which has six people in it.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Now then there is another Reserve 7 miles up the Nicoelton river called Kloklowuck?

A. Yes.

Q. Are there any Indians living on that Reserve?

A. Yes.

Q. How many families?

A. 10 peoples altogether.

Q. How many houses?

A. 2 houses, containing two families.

Q. What is the nature of that Reserve, mountainous, rocky, or level or covered with brush?

A. There is a little of it which is good, and the rest is of no use whatever.

Q. Do you cultivate all the good land that is on that reserve?

A. Yes, we are cultivating all the good land that is on that reserve

Q. Have you got plenty of water to cultivate all the land with?

A. Only a very little water there.

Q. Is there enough water for what good land there is there?

INDIAN SULKEJA: The water on that reserve is not enough for the 3 acres which are under cultivation.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW (to Witness): Is what that man says correct?

A. Yes, I think so.

Q. Is there only 3 acres on that reserve which can be cultivated?

INDIAN SULKEJA: There is only 3 acres which we can use and the rest is mountain.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW (to Witness) You have heard that, is it correct?

A. Yes.

Q. What is the balance of the land like?

A. It is all side hill and mountainous land.

Q. What do the people living on these seven reserves, do, generally speaking, for a living?

A. My people are not very well off because you can see by the amount of land which we have under cultivation. It is not sufficient to keep us in fair circumstances.

Q. How do you make your living?

A. We work for the white men.

Q. At what kind of work?

A. We work at farming, and sometimes on the railroad.

Q. Taken altogether, do you make a comfortable living?

A. No, not very good.

Q. About how many horses have all these Indians, who live on these seven reserves, altogether?

A. I don't just know how many horses the Indians have.

Q. Can you tell us, about how many? We don't expect you to say exactly?

A. NO ANSWER.

Q. Do you grow any hay and feed on the reserves, to feed the horses and cattle you own?

A. No. It is not enough.

Q. How do you provide fodder for your cattle then?

A. The horses and cattle browse on the side hills and a great many of them die.

INDIAN AGENT SMITH: They have about 230 horses.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW (to Witness): Is that right?

A. I think so. It might be.

THE CHAIRMAN (to Indian Agent Smith): Have they any cattle?

INDIAN AGENT SMITH: Yes, a few head of cattle - about 30 head.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW (to Witness): Do you grow enough potatoes and other vegetables for your own support, or do you have to buy from the white people?

A. We don't grow enough potatoes for own use, but when we get money we go and buy from the stores.

THE CHAIRMAN: About 30 head of cattle have the Indians got?

A. A little more than 30 I think.

Certain Indians at the rear of the room, interjected the remark, "The number is about 50 - not 30"

SULKEJA, was sworn, and examined by MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:

Q. You live on this Kloklowuck reserve (No. 7)?

A. Yes.

Q. Have you a wife and family?

A. I have a wife and three boys.

Q. Are you working any land on that reserve?

A. I cultivate that land every year.

Q. About how many acres do you cultivate?

A. About 3 acres, that is all.

Q. What do you grow on the 3 acres?

A. Potatoes and hay, that is all I every grew there.

Q. Have you water enough there to irrigate that 3 acres properly?

A. There was never enough water to irrigate with, and to make matters worse, the C. P. R. have built a flume and taken it across the river for their use.

Q. What does the C. P. R. use the water for on the other side?

A. They use it for a water tank for their engines.

Q. And does that reduce the flow of water a very great deal on the reserve?

A. They have taken it very nearly all, so that my crops have simply dried up.

Q. Do they take it across in an open flume or in pipes?

A. In water pipes.

Q. About how many engines a day do they water from that water tank?

A. Whenever the trains go up there.

Q. How often do trains pass through, going both ways?

A. There are two trains on that branch and they go up and come back again each day.

Q. Is there more land on that reserve which could be cultivated if you had water?

A. There are just 3 acres which could be cultivated, because the rest is all side hill.

Q. Are there any more people living on this reserve?

A. My brother lives there.

Q. With you?

A. Yes, we both live and farm there together.

Q. In the same house?

A. No, two houses.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Is your brother married?

A. Yes. He has a wife and one child.

Q. How much land does your brother cultivate?

A. We both cultivate the same 3 acres together.

Q. And that is all the land which is cultivated on that reserve?

A. That is all.

Q. And there is no more fit for cultivation?

A. No.

JOHNNY TITLANETZA, was sworn, and examined by Mr. Commissioner Shaw:

Q. You are a chief of the Cook's Ferry Indians?

A. Yes. I am a sort of Chief, here, but I belong to other reserves.

Q. Do you know reserves Nos. 8 and 8A known as Tsinkahtl?

A. Yes, I know them.

Q. Speaking of the one along the bank of the river, are there any Indians living on that reserve?

A. Years ago there used to be quite a number of Indians but they have all died out. I live there myself, and sometimes my friends come up there and live.

Q. What is the land on that reserve like?

A. That land is not fit for cultivation at all. The reason that place was given us as a reserve is because our forefathers used it as a fishing station. Mr. Commissioner Sprout gave it to us as a fishing station.

Q. There is another small reserve further east, near Venables Creek, what is that reserve used for?

A. In former years when Mr. Sprout was going round giving us our

reserves, our forefathers asked him to give us that place on account of a little spring which is there, and we thought we would be able to irrigate our land. There is an acre of land there which might be cultivated but the water is not sufficient.

Q. Is there anybody living on that reserve?

A. No, but it is open for everybody to go there, and the cattle use it for pasture.

Q. Is it fenced?

A. No.

Q. Who owns the lands surrounding it?

A. It is Government land and everybody uses it as a range.

Q. There is a spring of water there, which the stock drink out of?

A. Yes, all the cattle and horses drink from there.

Q. Everyone uses it in common?

A. Yes.

Q. No. 9, PEMYMOOS, do you know that?

A. Yes.

Q. What is the land there like?

A. Some of the land is fit for cultivation. I have a piece of land under cultivation - about 2 acres.

Q. In orchard?

A. Yes.

Q. Is that where you live?

A. Yes.

Q. Is there any other land on that reserve, cultivated, outside these two acres?

A. Years ago, there used to be a lot of Indians living there, but now I am the only one left.

Q. I want to know how much of that large reserve could be cultivated?

A. I think at the present times we have 70 acres under cultivation, taking us altogether.

Q. Have you all the land under cultivation which could be cultivated?

A. The rest of the land is very hilly, full of knolls and ravines, to get it level, we would have to use a scraper.

Q. Are you cultivating all the land that is fit for cultivation?

A. Yes.

Q. Have you got plenty of water for that land?

A. Some seasons we have sufficient water and sometimes we have not nearly enough. Up in the mountain we have three lakes where we get our water from. If we have a large snowfall we have lots of water, and when there is not a big snowfall we don't have enough. If we had some assistance to make a dam at these lakes, we believe we would have sufficient water to last us all the time, independent of the snowfall.

Q. Are there any whitemen who interfere with your water rights on these creeks?

A. The nearest party that I have heard of wanting to take the water from the lakes is a man at Ashcroft, who proposes to build a dam and take the water to Ashcroft, and another party is a miner who proposes to do the same, as he wants the water to work a quartz claim. I have asked the Indian Agent to see that we get records for these lakes.

INDIAN AGENT SMITH: 400 inches have been recorded.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: (to witness) Are these lakes on streams which run through the reserves?

A. Yes.

Q. How many families are living on this reserve?

A. Twenty-seven people on this reserve.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: How many families does that make?

A. About 7 families. They have 7 houses. There are a lot of little vacant houses besides.

Q. In speaking of this reserve, do you include a small reserve of 36 acres lying further up the river (No. 10)?

A. Yes. I am counting them in too.

Q. What do you raise on the Pemymos reserve?

A. Hay and clover, potatoes, turnips, beans, peas, apples, oats, wheat, pears, cherries - all kinds of fruit grain and vegetables.

Q. You get prizes for some of your, fruit do you?

A. This year Mr. Smith, the Indian Agent, asked me to send some to

New Westminster, but I have not heard anything from him about it.

Q. Do you sell anything off that reserve at all?

A. We sell a part of our produce, but we find it very difficult to take our vegetables out, as we have no road.

Q. How do you bring them out?

A. By packhorses, and often times when we get to the end of our journey, the apples are all bruised and we cannot get the price for them which we otherwise would get.

Q. How far have you got to take these things?

A. About 5 or 6 miles.

Q. If you had a wagon-road you could get much more revenue from the produce you raise upon your reserve?

A. Yes, if we had a wagon-road we would not use a pound of our produce, but would sell it all. Last year I lost over two tons of potatoes through not being able to get them to market. I also lost about two-thirds of my apple crop last year.

Q. Do you make your living exclusively by tilling the soil?

A. We very nearly make all our living off the land, but when times are hard, that is when water is scarce, we go out to work.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Do you know whether any proposal was ever made by the Indian Department to build a wagon road from your reserve?

A. Years ago I spoke to Mr. Irwin, and I told him that he should build us a road, because we were still packing on horse back, the same as we did over 100 years ago, and now we have trains going by almost every minute, and we are still packing our goods to market on horse back.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: Did Mr. Irwin not do anything?

A. Mr. Irwin said "Very well, I shall help you, but the only way I can do it, is that I will give you 400 dollars to build five miles of road with. When you have done that, I shall get the Victoria Government to help you further on". They have not done anything since. The Government should give me some money, what the Government received for right-of-way from the C.P.R."

Q. Do you know the reserves at Spatsum, 11 and 11A?

A. Yes.

Q. How many families are living on these reserves?

A. There is just one family, the rest have all died out.

Q. Does this one family cultivate any land on these reserves?

A. Yes, they are always cultivating their land.

Q. Do they cultivate all the land which is available on these reserves?

A. Years ago when there was quite a number of them, they had all the good land under cultivation. We used to go to the mountain and bring the water from the spring. Since the other Indians died out, the remainder have not done that. They are just using a small spring on the lower bank. They just cultivate about one acre.

Q. Is there anything to prevent that one family from going up the mountain and getting that water from the spring, the same as the others did?

A. They have all been too young. They are just growing up, and have not been able to do this work before - not being old enough.

Q. How much land was under cultivation when they were all alive?

A. They must have had about 10 acres under cultivation. If the Indians at Spatsum had some help they would be able to help themselves a great deal better.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: That creek is marked on the map as Pokheitak?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know reserve No. 12?

A. Yes.

Q. The 8-mile Creek runs through that reserve and four other reserves, does it not?

A. Yes.

Q. What is the land on that reserve like?

A. Just swamp land and meadow land - Judge O'Reilly gave it to us.

Q. Is it all flat land?

A. There is not very much land. It is just round the edge of the

lake.

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WITNESS (Continuing): The hay that grows on this swamp land is not fit to be cut as it is too coarse.

Q. Are there any Indians living there?

A. We go up there in the summer time and live there and cut some swamp hay around the edge of the swamp.

Q. Do you feed your horses and cattle with that Hay?

A. Yes.

Q. No. 13, what is the land like on that reserve?

A. The same kind of land and used for the same kind of purpose as No. 12.

Q. How many tons of hay do you cut on these two reserves, 12 and 13?

A. I think there will be about 50 tons, when we have a good season but we very seldom have that.

Q. Do you take the cattle up there in the winter to feed them, or do you haul the hay down on to the reserve?

A. We drive them up there in the winter time and feed them up there

Q. No. 14, what is that like?

A. That is the same as the other two reserves.

Q. No. 15, what about that?

A. That is the same as the others as well, we use it for cutting hay.

Q. Are there any Indians living on any of these four reserves, all the year round?

A. We just live there in the winter time, to drive our cattle to feed there. In the spring we come back to our home village.

Q. Does that 50 tons of hay, which you mentioned just now, include all the four reserves?

A. Yes. Sometimes we don't get enough hay off all these reserves to feed our cattle.

Q. How many head of horses are there owned by Indians on these reserves which I have been asking you about?

A. We have not very many altogether, but I should think, that, counting the cattle and horses together, we have about 100 head, maybe more.

Q. Do you produce enough fodder on all these reserves to feed what cattle you have got, as a rule?

A. If it was not for the low lands by the river bank, we would not have enough hay to feed our stock eacy year.

Q. Around these reserves is there a cattle or horse range?

A. We use all this Government land away up on the bench between 8 and 5 mile creek.

Q. Do you have to feed your stock all winter every year, or are there some years when they are able to range out all the winter?

A. Some seasons we have a little hay left in the highlands, and sometimes we have a little left in the low lands.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: If the cattle and horses did not have access to this open Government land for grazing, would you be short of grazing land or not?

A. If it was not for the open range we would be very badly off. We would all be delighted if you could give us that bit of range land for our own use, as it is of no use to the white men. There are no white men around there, in fact.

Q. The land adjoining the reserve, between 5-mile and 8-mile creek, is that it?

A. Yes.

Q. Does it touch the reserve?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Now about Oregon Jack? In that band there are 7 reserves. Do you know Nos. 1 & 2, which are hay meadows?

A. Yes I know.

Q. Number 1, what is the land there like?

A. This piece is down in the valley and there is a lot of little cottonwood growing there. When there was a lot of Indians we intended cutting down this Cottonwood and using it for pasture land.

Q. Is there any Indian living on Number 1?

A. No. They just go, or intend going from their villages to work and clear it up.

Q. Number two, on Oregon Jack Creek, what about that?

A. I know that. It is a valley, with the creek running through it, and on the East side there is fairly good land which we have put under cultivation. We have grown hay, wheat and potatoes. On the opposite side there is a small creek coming in, and we thought we would have been able to bring the water from the Creek right across, but we have not been able to do it and we have to depend upon the rain.

Q. Are there any Indians living on that reserve?

A. They singly emigrate there during the summer time.

Q. And they cut hay there?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, Number 3, at the mouth of Oregon Jack Creek, also No. 5. What about these reserves? What is the land there like?

A. We can plough that land. It is fit for ploughing. It is a large reserve and there are only parts of it, here and there, little patches down near the river and a little bench higher up, which we might be able to use, but the bottom part is really the only part we could cultivate.

Q. The land that is cultivated on this reserve is irrigated, is it not?

A. Yes, all this land is within the dry belt and must have water before anything will grow. The land there is very good, so that it is fit for cultivation.

Q. Would you say that the land on the upper bench, next the road, was good land if it had water on it?

A. Oregon Jack took that land up, fenced it in, and claimed it as his own. Then Mr. Macdonald, Engineer, told Simeon here to go and take up land there. This man put up a fence which took him two years to build, and Oregon Jack came along after the fence was up and claimed the whole lot.

Q. Do you know the head waters of the Oregon Jack Creek?

A. There is a place up in the mountains called the 3 Sisters, - 3 springs - which have formed a sort of reservoir which runs down into the creek.

THE CHAIRMAN: Would you be able to get that water on to the reserve

by a ditch, or would you have to build a flume to get it down?

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A. Years ago we used to be able to get the water on these upper flats quite easily. The reason we now use the bottom lands is, that we have to take the water which the white man leaves. There is already a ditch which the white man takes all the water out of.

Q. Would there be any chance of your building a dam in that reservoir and holding the water there for your own use in that way?

A NO ANSWER.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: How many families are there living on that reserve

A. Thirteen people all told.

Q. How many families?

A. One family, but they have two houses.

Q. No. 4 was exchanged a few years ago for Nos. 6 and 7, are there any families living on No. 6, that is, on this side of the river?

A. Yes, there are people living there.

Q. About how many families?

A. About 11 people all told.

Q. What is the land on this reserve like?

A. That is very poor land.

Q. How much of it is cultivated?

A. About seven acres.

Q. Is there any water on that reserve?

A. When we lived on No. 4, we had plenty of water there, and when they made the exchange they told us they would give us plenty of water, but they have not done so, therefore we are very short of water.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Who told you that?

A. We were told by the Indian Agency and by the C.P.R. Co., Mr. Mackay was then Indian Agent and he said the same quantity of water would be given us as we had on No. 4.

Q. Is there anyone living on this lower reserve?

A. No.

Q. Is anyone using the water which you used to use on the old reserve?

A. A man by the name of Thompson is using that water.

Q. If you had more water could you cultivate more land there?

A. Yes; -there is a little more land which we could use if we had more

water, although the soil is not very good.

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- MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Is there water available on the land if you had the means of bringing it where you want it?
- A. The only place we could get water from is the dam where the Ashcroft farmers get their water from and there is also a small creek which we might get water from. The lake is very large and if it was not for the squabbling of the farmers at Ashcroft, fighting over the water, there would be quite enough water for everybody, if they would only be agreeable.
- Q. Now, do you know No. 7 reserve?
- A. Yes, I know that one.
- Q. What is the land on that reserve like?
- A. Just as poor as that on No. 6.
- Q. Is there any water available for it?
- A. We used to get it from the same creek where the other people got theirs, but since they have stopped us we have not been able to get any at all.
- Q. Are there any people living on that reserve?
- A. Only one family. The man works on the railroad, not on the land, as he has not been able to get any water.
- Q. Is he a married man?
- A. Yes, he has a wife and two children.
- Q. Do the people of the Oregon Jack Creek Band make their living same way, pretty much, as your people?
- A. These men, when they have a fairly good season they do very well farming, but at other times, when the water is a failure, they work out. They take wood off the Government land and sell it, but they have to pay stumpage of 25 cents a cord.
- Q. About how many children between the ages of 5 and 15 years are there on all the reserves of the Cooks Ferry and Oregon Jack Creek bands?
- A. About 30 children of school age.
- Q. Do any of these children attend school anywhere?
- A. Just one girl who goes to the day school at Lytton, no others have ever gone.

Q. If the Indians had a day-school built on this reserve here, do they live here constantly enough to enable their children to

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attend school?

A. That is what we want, if the Government would help us build a school. We have talked about it but we have had no help from the Government.

If we had help we would see the children went to school. Our minister and our Indian Agent have spoken to us about it.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: On which reserve would you put the day-school?

A. If we talked it over amongst ourselves I think we would be able to find a place where there would be water, and where we could build a school, not too close to the white men, and still have a school on the reserve.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Are you speaking now of a day-school or a boarding school?

A. We would rather have a day school if possible, because when the children go to a boarding school they are just like being lost to us.

Q. Well, taken altogether, these Indians might be in a better condition if they had all the available water brought to the reserves that is, if they had assistance to bring the water on to their reserves, is not that true?

A. Yes. If we could have water on our lands and some help from the Government and a farm instructor - because we don't know farming as well as the whitemen do - If we had an instructor to come here a few days each year it would help us.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: Do you think that if you had a day school here, you would be able to make arrangements to have all the children attend school here in one place?

A. Yes we could easily arrange that amongst ourselves, by building a house and putting in a crop so that one man and his wife might live near the school and his wife would be able to look after the children for everybody.

YELLAMUGH (Known as "STAGE BILLY") was sworn, and made the following statement: "We are all very pleased to have you here. We have

taken land up from the very first, not long after that everything

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went wrong. A long time ago when we took up the land, they gave us half the water and the other half was given to the white men. Not long after that we began having trouble over the water and the white men wanted to take it all from us, so we have not been satisfied since. We have cultivated a little bit of land but it is not sufficient for our horses feed, and that is what makes us poor. Even here, down on the river bank, we have not sufficient food. We sell a few head of horses and cattle and from that we get a little food for ourselves and our horses and cattle. That is the way it has been since the beginning when they gave us the land I am not going to talk very long now, I shall give you my paper that you can read that (Exhibit G. 4 handed in).

THE CHAIRMAN: We have not time to read this now but we will take it home and consider this along with other matters.

YELLAMUCH: When will you send it back?

THE CHAIRMAN: Who do you want it sent back to?

A. Send it here to me at Spences Bridge Post Office.

Our people had land given us from a place called Cleetz up to a place called white rock. When Judge O'Reilly was here and when the old Chief was alive. I was a witness.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Where are Cleetz and White Rock?

A. Cleetz is 5 or 6 miles down the river, and White Rock is up above Oregon Jack. When the surveyor came he did not follow out the agreement, but only surveyed off a portion here and there. Our horses used to range from Cleetz to White Rock, on both sides of the river, and it is the same today.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: And they range there still, do they?

A. Yes.

AT THE CLOSE OF THE MEETING AN EXHIBIT (G. 5) WAS PRESENTED TO THE COMMISSION THROUGH MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW

ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE OF B.C.

EVIDENCE GIVEN BY Mr. J. F. SMITH, INDIAN AGENT, KAMLOOPS, B.C.,
BEFORE THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA, REGARDING CONDITIONS GENERALLY IN THE AGENCY, on
NOVEMBER 19th. and 20th., 1913

THE CHAIRMAN Have you been sworn Mr. Smith?

A. No Sir.

HE IS HEREUPON SWORN BY THE CHAIRMAN TO GIVE EVIDENCE.

Q. You are the Indian Agent for the Kamloops Agency?

A. Yes.

Q. How long have you been such?

A. I was appointed on the 1st. of January, 1912.

Q. How many acres are there in the Kamloops Reserve, I
mean the one across from the town of Kamloops?

A. I can hardly say off hand - I will have to look up
my references which I have here.

Q. 33, 131 acres? Is that correct?

A. It is not as much.

Q. How many acres are in it then?

A. You will have to take from that 225 acres for the
C.N.P.R. right-of-way. The Industrial school has
320 acres; then there is about 21 miles of public
highway, averaging 66 feet wide.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- That is 8 acres to the mile is it not?

I can hardly say.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE:- 168 acres, is that right?

A. Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: That would be 225, 320 and 168. That would represent
the total acreage to be deducted from the Kamloops
Reserve? Are there any further deductions?

A. It appears that this piece of land that is now held
by the Western Canadian Ranching Company is also in-
cluded in that area. The area is calculated in a
square block.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Would not that be calculated in a square block and deducted from the area of the block?

A. No, I don't think so.

Q. Your map shows it to have been deducted from the area?

A. It shows the whole thing in a block.

Q. How much is there in it?

A. One and a half miles long by half a mile wide.

Q. That would be 480 acres?

A. Yes.

I would say that when that was surveyed that was deducted.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE: Are there any other areas or public highways to be deducted?

A. Yes, the 21 miles of highway.

THE CHAIRMAN: You were including right up north and also south and going to the northeast?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: You say half a mile wide by one and a half miles long?

A. Yes, it is 40 chains wide. That is the strip of land in the centre of the valley there.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: What piece is that?

A. The piece the Indians complained of being in the centre of their Reserve there in the centre of the valley. I showed you the block of land that is held by the ranching company above.

THE CHAIRMAN: That is the piece away up near that village we drove up to that afternoon?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: There would be 240 acres in that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Where is Trap Lake?

A. On the Nicola Road going out to Nicola Valley.

- Q. What way does that go then?
- MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: You did not see that, Mr. Chairman; we would pass it coming in from Quilchena on Sunday; it is near one of those lakes.
- Q. We will stay with the Kamloops Reserves - now where is Gillard Indian Reserve?
- A. On the North Thompson river; it is a timber reserve
- Q. That is outside the main Kamloops Reserve?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What kind of land is on this reserve?
- A. All the bottomland is good land, except a small piece which is heavily timbered.
- Q. What about this Kamloops Reserve, apart from that which is sandy?
- A. Rocks and mountain.
- Q. Are the hills good for any useful purpose?
- A. No, nothing except for grazing.
- Q. Good grazing?
- A. Fairly good grazing.
- Q. Is this bottomland irrigated?
- A. All that water is available for is irrigated -- all the land that can be irrigated is under cultivation.
- Q. How much can they irrigate with the water that is now available?
- A. I consider what land they have under cultivation today will utilize more water than they are getting
- Q. Is there means of getting greater irrigation which would bring the rest into use?
- A. I think so -- there was a survey made of the ditches. There is a bench near the Industrial School at the south end that could be brought under cultivation if there was water, and all the land at the bottom east of the Industrial School within the southern [p.142] [p.43]

boundary. If there was water -- it appears that several years ago a survey was made for a ditch to bring the water to those benchlands, but nothing was ever done. I have a copy of the plan I found in the office; I think it was made by Mr. Green -- no, by John Jane, showing the plan of the ditches. (Examining map) If it was taken from here and brought around to those benches here, it would bring that part of the reserve under cultivation.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW: That ditch is carried up to near the Industrial School, is it not?

A. No, the Industrial School is about here. There is another ditch here, Mr. Shaw.

Q. This St. Paul's Lake is on the Reserve, is it not?

A. No, it is not on the Reserve.

Q. Is this the point of diversion between the water used by the Indians and Harper's Camp?

A. No, it is right here.

Q. Don't they take their water from here out of the reserve?

No[?] answer:

Q. Do you know anything of the country north of St. Paul's Lake?

A. No, I have it here; I don't know anything about it personally. I was never over it. (shows plan)

THE CHAIRMAN: How much land is cultivated on the Kamloops Indian Reserve -- I don't mean pasture, but land under actual cultivation?

A. I estimate about 1,600 acres under actual cultivation on that Reserve now.

Q. Is any land cultivated up at that settlement which we drove up to?

A. Yes, that is included.

Q. Is there any more land that could be brought under cultivation that is not under cultivation?

- A. Yes.
- Q. How much?
- A. Possibly eighty across more, I think.
- Q. Is that all?
- A. Yes in that valley.
- Q. Would there not be more of that in the northern end of the valley?
- A. I am just speaking of the land up at that settlement.
- Q. How much is there stretching up along the Thompson there that is not cultivated that could be cultivated?
- A. About 1,200 acres.
- Q. Can that land be irrigated well?
- A. It could be irrigated. If it was, it would produce anything that is grown in the ground.
- Q. There is some land down on the road towards the school that is cultivated; is that included in what you just said?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What do they principally grow on the bottomlands?
- A. There is some meadow hay out on that bottom, also oats, wheats, timothy hay, potatoes, cabbages, onions, and in fact all classes of vegetables.
- Q. Do they market those things?
- A. Yes, they market a good deal of it.
- Q. How much pasture land is there on that reserve?
- A. At least 15,000 acres of pasture land.
- Q. You don't count the rock in?
- A. No, I leave that out. The whole of that side facing North is good pasture; the land facing South is nothing but bare rocks.
- Q. There is a good deal of that along by the school-house?

- A. Yes.
- Q. What is the population of that Reserve?
- A. 278, men, women and children. We have one family of seven with 5 children, we have seven families of 6 each; there are 28 children in that, we have seven families of 4, 18 children in that, 13 families of three, 13 children in that, we have 26 families without any children, and we have 3 widows with 9 children, then we have 1 widow with 4 children, we have 2 widowers with 8 children, then we have single men 15, and single females 13.
- Q. What ages are you including in that?
- A. From 15 up to 21. We have 3 males and 7 females over 65- there are 278 people there - and children under this we have 17 males and 25 females.
- Q. Is that all?
- A. We have 36 males and 37 females between 60 and 65 - We have 84 males and 81 females between 16 and 55.
- Q. Is that all?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you consider the Indians in your Agency are increasing or decreasing?
- Q. They are on the increase?
- A. Much of an increase.
I could not say how much off hand - I have only been there two years, but they have increased since I have been there.
- Q. Each year?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know what the natural increase for two years have been?
- A. No. I only got the census definitely last March.
- Q. Supposing it was desirable to cut off that portion of the Kamloops Reserve between the village and the river - that sandy portion - I suppose that could be cut off without very much detriment to the Indians?

A. It would be a detriment in this way - they get a small revenue in that sandy portion of the Reserve - the Contractors buy that sand from them at so much a load.

Q. What would be the revenue?

A. It would be ten cents a loads, and it helps the old Chief out very much - he gets that little revenue from the sand which helps him out a good deal.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- How much would it come to in a year?

A. Possible \$300.00 or \$350.00.

THE CHAIRMAN:- I suppose the sand is taken from pretty much the one place?

A. Yes, just on the side of the bridge there.

Q. In front of that there is some property on the Reserve - You know here there is something that looks like a river bed on marshy land - I suppose that is no good; we saw water on it as we passed along?

A. It is good - they get hay from that. It overflows every year, and when the water recedes, they cut that meadow, and they use it for pasturing their cattle.

Q. Don't their cows get mired in it?

A. No, it is not miry.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- That water was from the fall rains?

A. Yes. The water has always been out of that slough sufficiently early for them to cut that hay with a mowing machine until this year. I have been up and down there for a great number of years, and they always cut their hay there with a mowing machine. The Canadian Northern has blocked the lower end of it with their track, and there is not sufficient outlet for the water to flow off of it in time to cut their hay.

THE CHAIRMAN: Supposing we should come to the conclusion that it was proper to cut off a portion of that reserve; what portion could be cut off with the least detriment to the necessary requirements of the Indians?

A. The portion that might be cut off, (and I might not be in favour of cutting off any) would be that portion lying east of the Industrial School.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: Would that be taking in their village?

A. No, the land referred to is east of the Industrial School,

THE CHAIRMAN: How many horses do they own there?

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: You said just now that if land was to be cut off with the least detriment to the Indians -- to their reasonable requirements -- it would be near the School. Now could any land be cut off without interference with the necessary requirements of the Indians?

A. No. In answer to the Chairman's question with regard to stock: They have 500 head of horses, 123 head of cattle. They harvested 710 tons of hay last summer.

THE CHAIRMAN: If I understand your answer, in your reply to Dr. McKenna's question, in your judgement all that reserve is necessary for the reasonable requirements of the Indians?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: Are they using all that Reserve?

A. No; they cannot.

Q. Well then, if they don't use it, how can you say that it is necessary for their requirements?

A. That is not a fair way to put the question. If they had the facilities it would be to their advantage to use that reserve.

Q. What facilities?

A. Water and irrigation.

Q. Can they get that?

A. Yes.

Q. How?

A. They have a record of 500 inches of water. Last spring, year ago, I got assistance from the Dominion Government to repair their ditch. I spent \$300 odd on a flume; the Western Canadian Ranching Co. also has a record, and a previous manager of the ranching company was a very good man to the Indians and they allowed him to use what water

[p.148] he wanted. The result is that they are dividing the [p.149] water. The Indians are getting about 250 inches and the ranching company getting the balance.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: That is by mutual consent of the Indians?

A. Yes.

Q. If they got the additional 250 inches, would that irrigate the 1600 acres?

A. Yes.

Q. And there is no reason why they cannot irrigate the 1200 acres if they had the balance of 250 inches?

A. Well, the ditch is in a different place.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE: What kind of a ditch?

A. An earthen ditch.

THE CHAIRMAN: Could the Indians make it?

A. Yes.

Q. Why don't they?

A. The conditions of the Indians, you see, sir, are such that they cannot afford to do it; they have their families to support in the meantime, and they have to have money in order to do that kind of work.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do you think this system of pouring money into the Indians every time they want to have some little improvement done is a good system to adopt?

A. No. I cannot say that it is a good system although I find these Indians willing to do the work if they are given reasonable assistance and are properly directed.

Q. It is not a question of money then, is it?

A. No; they may require lumber and they get what lumber is required, but they have always done the work with a direct of course.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE: They would require to use lumber?

A. I think they would have to have lumber in some places.

MR.COMMISSIONER SHAW: To irrigate this land up the North river, you say there are 1200 acres which could be irrigated?

- Q. The water they do get comes down this creek right here?
- A. Yes. The ditch, coming down by the new wagon road, which would be a higher level ditch, it would irrigate all the land on the North Thompson portion of the Reserve. I think, Chief, that it could be worked out in time. I have not had sufficient time to work out all these little systems for the Indians which would advance them in that direction.
- MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Where the ditch follows the wagon road up to the mouth of the river, is that not higher than that line above?
- A. No.
- MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW (to the Chairman): Mr Smith began to give the product of their lands, and he says that last year they cropped 710 tons of hay. Now what else have they got?
- A. I have only got the hay they cropped this year, but I can tell you what they grew last year.
- THE CHAIRMAN: While you are looking that up, that sandy land in front of the village in view of the railway going by there -- that will become valuable for building purposes, will it not?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And if so it would bring a fairly good price if properly handled?
- A. Yes; if it were properly handled.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: That would give them the money to build their ditches?
- A. Yes. They had last year 23 tons of wheat and they harvested 105 tons of oats, and pease, and of beans they had six tons. They had about 280 tons of potatoes last year, 80 tons of carrots, 15 tons of turnips and about 30 tons of other vegetables.
- MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: How many tons of oats and wheat?
- 105 tons of oats and 23 tons of wheat.
- THE CHAIRMAN: They must sell a lot of hay off the Reserve?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do their cattle come through the winter pretty well?
- A. Yes.
- Q. They don't have to feed their horses much?
- A. No.

- Q. They have a large piece of land up on the hill?
- A. Yes. That is pasture land, and is leased to the ranching company. I have a copy of that lease here (Lease produced)
- Q. What rental do they pay?
- A. \$1,000 a year.
- Q. Do the Indians get that?
- A. When Calhoun was there the Indians were drawing a little, but now the whole thing goes direct to Ottawa.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: That is the rental for grazing?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Who pays that?
- A. The ranching company.
- Q. Does the Department use any of that money for the Indians?
- A. All that I know of was the money they gave me to build the flume.
- Q. Have you a copy of the financial statement of the Department?
- A. No.
I want to see where that money is going.
- MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: The fact of the matter is the former manager used to advance money to the Indians on behalf of the lease, but the Department stopped it and the whole thing now goes in to Ottawa.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: On the Blood Reserve, I know, they took this money but gave it back to the Indians after two years.
- THE CHAIRMAN: If they got that money, it would help them out a good bit would it?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Douglas Lake, is that in the Kamloops Agency?
- MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: No, it is in the Lytton Agency.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: What is the name of the Band that has the lease?
- A. The Kamloops Band.
- THE CHAIRMAN: What is this fishing station they call No. 2, Trap Lake, are any Indians living there?

- A. Yes, there is a house and a stable there.
- THE CHAIRMAN: What else do they do there?
- A. They cut hay to feed their horses in the winter, and the other fellow raises a few potatoes.
- Q, Do they market anything from there at all?
- A. No.
- Q. How do they live?
- A. The old man -- we give him an allowance of \$3.00 a month, for a little flour and meat.
- MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE: Do they get fishing in the lake?
- A. Yes.
- MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: He mines sometimes, does he not?
- A. Yes, he used to, but he is now too old to mine.
- THE CHAIRMAN: What is this Hihium Lake? I see it is marked only a temporary reserve -- what does that mean?
- MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: That was a reserve set aside a couple of years ago by the Superintendent-General; I don't know for what purpose.
- Q. Do you know anything about it, Mr. Smith?
- A. No, I don't know anything about it.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: It was set aside in 1909. It came to my attention last year, when Mr. Oliver was out here.
- THE CHAIRMAN: Who set it aside?
- A. The Superintendent-General.
- THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Smith, you don't know anything at all about it do you?
- A. No.
- MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE (examining the Schedule): It seems to be for three bands.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: I am not positive, but I think it was set aside for fishing purposes.
- THE CHAIRMAN: The Indians spoke about the right-of-way and complained that the C.N.P. had taken more land than they had agreed to sell?
- MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE: Ten feet more.

Q. Do they ever go there?
A. The Indians go there to fish.
Q. Is that all?
A. Yes, that is all.
Q. Is it much good?
A. No, it is no good at all. No. 2 and No. 3 are practically the same.
Q. What about that timber reserve, Gilead, No. 4?
A. That is on the North Thompson, about 20 miles up on the right side of the river.
Q. Any Indians live there?
A. No Indians live there.
Q. What kind of land is it?
A. It is timbered land.
Q. I see there is 30 inches of water recorded there; how about the timber -- is it any good?
A. Yes, there is some birch wood there.
Q. Is this birch wood big enough for timber?
A. No, it is only fit for firewood.
Q. Is it close to the North Thompson river?
A. Yes.
Q. How do they get the firewood down to where they live?
A. They raft it down. There is some good merchantable logs there.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: There is practically no timber on the big reserve is there?

A. No.

THE CHAIRMAN: What about that fishing station on Heffley Lake, No 4, does anyone live there?

A. There are two families living there, and that reserve contains 46 acres. There is a meadow there. One lives there entirely and the other lives there sometimes and goes up to the town. This old man Moise lives there with his wife.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Is there a house there?

A. Yes. There has been a great deal of dissatisfaction regarding the location of the line.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Do you know the width of the right-of-way?

A. Yes.

Q. How much?

A. Ninety feet.

Q. And they fenced a hundred?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: Don't they get a chain and a half? That would be 99 feet?

A. Ninety feet is what the Indians agreed to sell -- in addition to that, where the station is they are supposed to have got one mile long by 500 feet wide. In that 500 feet--both the Indians and myself understood that the bridge crossing the river was in the block -- included in this 500 feet. I had no knowledge about it until the early part of this year. The Indians came over and put up quite a protest about all the buildings and the Y crossing the river, which they said was on the Reserve.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: I think this is a matter to be settled by the Department and the railway company.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: I suppose if the railway company needs that they will have to get it.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: Well they got their right-of-way for 90 feet and it seems they've not got their deeds yet.

THE WITNESS: The Indians asked me to make special representations about it, and the Chief Justice also asked me to report on it.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: Could you show me on the map where these extra pieces are? And this ten feet extra which they took?

A. Yes. (Shows on map)

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: They have taken the land properly within the act for their right-of-way.

THE CHAIRMAN: I had the idea that a right of way was six rods -- 99 feet

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: They were guaranteed the 90 feet but they put up

their fences and took one hundred feet.

Witness: It is just possible they paid for 100 feet, but the fact is the Indians only agreed to give or sell 90 feet, and they took 100 feet.

Commissioner MACDOWALL: Well, they will certainly need the ground for crossing the river.

Witness: The crossing of the river would be another matter.

Commissioner SHAW to Mr Commissioner MCKENNA: I think it is wholly a Departmental matter is it not?

Commissioner MCKENNA: Yes.

Commissioner SHAW: It seems to me that it is simply a matter of trespass and it should be taken up with the Department. In the Agreement the Government provides to give them not more than 100 feet in width of Crown land, but if they want to go through a piece of private property they are at liberty to do so.

Witness: I am only speaking about the railway taking the 100 feet when they only agreed to take ninety.

Commissioner MCKENNA: Did you get a copy of the Order-in-Council granting the taking of this land?

No. (to Mr Commissioner McKenna) Could they expropriate more than 100 feet?

Commissioner MCKENNA: Yes, if it was approved by the Railway Board.

Witness: My objection to the 100 feet is this -- that they pass right through the Indian village and they had to remove their meeting house and several other buildings.

Commissioner MCKENNA: Well, they ought to pay for it.

Witness: Yes, I know. Where the Indians understood the right-of-way was to go was at the bank of the river, between the graveyard instead of which they pass through the Indian village, practically cutting it in two.

Commissioner SHAW: The only thing is that the arrangement made with the Indians and the arrangement made with the Department are different.

Commissioner McKENNA: What the Department should do is to make them pay for the damage to the buildings, and I think it is a matter for you, Mr Smith, to take up with the Department

CHAIRMAN: Now we will come to the Salmon Arm. What is the name of that reserve we visited first?

Commissioner SHAW: The centre one of those three at Salmon Arm is Switzemalph Reserve.

CHAIRMAN (reading Schedule): Where is that?

On Page 68. And the other two at Salmon Arm belong to the Adams Lake Tribe, blocks a and b.

Q. Where does William live?

Witness: He lives on this Switzemalph Reserve, block C.

Q. Where does Narcisse live?

A. He lives in Block B or Reserve No. 6.

Q. Where?

A. At Salmon Arm.

Commissioner SHAW (to the Chairman): If you take page 83, reserves 6 and 7 -- No 6 contains 318.90 acres and 7 contains 766.37
There are three reserves: two belong to Adams Lake and the middle one belongs to Shuswap.

CHAIRMAN: Where was that meadowland we saw?

Witness replies by showing on map: On that red portion, Block C.

CHAIRMAN: Where do you get those A, B and C from?

Witness produces map: That is the official map supplied by the Department.

Commissioner SHAW (examining map): No 6 contains 318.90 acres, No 7 contains 766.37 acres and the middle one contains 1273.77 acres.

CHAIRMAN: You are acquainted with what is known as the Switzemalph Reserve of the Neskainlith Band, No. 3?

A. Yes.

Q. How many acres does that contain?

A. 1273.77.

- CHAIRMAN: When you say 1273.77, that is exclusive of the C.P.R. track is it?
- A. Yes, but not exclusive of the highway.
- Q. How many acres would be in that?
- A. About 15 or 16 acres.
- Q. What kind of land is it?
- A. All good land.
- Q. That land could be fit to grow anything I suppose? I suppose it is capable of growing almost anything?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Without irrigation?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Could it grow anything without irrigation?
- A. Yes.
- Q. How many people reside on that reserve?
- A. Nine couples there.
- Q. How many people?
- A. About fifteen.
- Q. That is, men, women and children?
- A. Yes.
- Q. That is the place where William lives?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What houses have they there?
- A. There are about eight dwelling houses and possibly about nine other buildings.
- Q. Are those Indians well to do?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Are they industrious?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And sober?
- A. Yes.
- Q. How do they make a living?
- A. They make a living by farming, raising and selling hay and vegetables of all kinds -- they have a young orchard which

was put in by William Celesta and it will be bearing next year.

The CHAIRMAN: They don't work out?

A. Yes, they do at times.

Mr. Commissioner SHAW: Have any of the Indians on that reserve land on any of the other reserves?

A. Sam August -- he has.

The CHAIRMAN: A couple of young fellows came out on the road when we were up there ---

Mr. Commissioner SHAW: Those were Mrs Michels boys.

The CHAIRMAN: Have they any cattle or horses?

A. They have ten or fifteen head of horses but no cattle.

Q. Do they sell the horses?

A. They are all work horses.

Q. How much land have they under cultivation?

A. I think there are about 100 acres under cultivation.

Q. What is the rest of it?

A. Well it is in timber.

Q. Do they use the timber?

A. They cut the birch wood for firewood, also some sawlogs which they exchange for lumber for their buildings.

Q. What other use do they make of the land?

A. The rest of the land is wooded.

Mr. Commissioner WHITE: Any pasturage on it?

A. No, there is no pasturage there; it is heavy timber. There are about 30 acres besides what they have under cultivation cleared but not stumped. In time they will clear out the stumps and generally clear it.

Mr. Commissioner SHAW: Does Sam ever do any work up there?

A. Yes, up until last year, because I threatened to take it away from him.

Q. Does each have his own holding?

A. Yes, some have five acres and some ten, and the outside land is held in common.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, we will come now to the other one - Switzemalph Reserve, 6 and 7, in the Adams Lake District.

Yes.

Q. No 6 of those two -- how much land is there in that?

A. I don't think more than 766.37 acres and that is exclusive of the C P R right-of-way.

Q. What kind of land is that?

A. About half of it is good land. I was over that and was very much disappointed. A lot of it is just rocky and only about half of it is good land.

Q. I see the map here says that it is good land and it says there is poplar and birch on it?

A. Yes, a lot of it is pretty rocky. Right near the river is very good land.

Q. How much about is fit for cultivation?

A. About half.

Q. And the rest is not?

A. No.

Q. Is it good for pasture?

A. No.

Q. (by Mr Commissioner MacDowall): Is it covered with wood?

A. Yes.

Q. Good wood?

A. Good firewood.

Q. How much a cord do they sell this birch wood for?

A. I don't know what they sell it for but I can tell you what they get in Kamloops for it. They get \$7.00 a cord for it in Kamloops. The Department sent me up to that place to report on a right-of-way running through it to the lake for a wharf.

The CHAIRMAN: What will that good land grow?

A. Anything; it is first class land.

Q. Is the good land all cultivated?

A. No.

Q. How much of it is?

- A. I should judge about 30 acres altogether between the railway and the track.
- Q. And the rest of it?
- A. No use made of it.
- Q. What is the population?
- A. Three couples live there and two families.
- Mr Commissioner MACDOWALL: And the total population is what?
- A. Seven altogether.
- Mr Commissioner SHAW: Do they live there permanently?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What is the west end of it -- that is the furthest towards Tappen. What is that part of the reserve like?
- A. That is the poorest part of it. Old man Kirkpatrick lives over there.
- Q. Do the men who live on this reserve -- have they land on any other reserve?
- A. No.
- Q. What part of this reserve are the clearings on?
- A. The nearest to Salmon Arm.
- Q. What part of Reserve No 3 are the houses and cleared land on?
- A. Pretty near the centre of that reserve.
- The CHAIRMAN: Do the people who live on this reserve No 6 make their living by what they grow on the land?
- A. Yes.
- Q. They don't work out either?
- A. They do sometimes.
- Q. You told me what the place is capable of growing; now what does it grow?
- A. They grow timothy hay and vegetables of all kinds.
- Q. Any stock?
- A. They have work horses.
- Q. Any cattle?
- A. When I first came in they had six head of cattle, but they were all killed by the C P R.

THE CHAIRMAN: Now we come to the other Reserve, No.7 - How many acres does that contain?

A. 318 acres.

Q. That is closer to Salmon Arm?

A. Yes.

Q. What kind of land is it?

A. It is first class land.

Q. All of it?

A. Yes.

Q. There is a valuable meadow there, is there not?

A. Yes.

Q. It is cut by the Indians?

A. Yes.

Q. Is all the good land cultivated?

A. Only a small portion of it - it overflows.

Q. How much of the rest of the Reserve is cultivated?

A. Just the small portion where Narcisse lives.

Mr. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- How many acres in that small portion?

A. About 40 acres.

Q. That includes the meadow?

A. No.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is there not some meadow land in front of it?

A. Yes, a natural wild meadow - I am speaking of the land under cultivation.

Q. How much land is there under cultivation?

A. About 40 acres.

Q. How many live there?

A. There are two widows and an orphan live there.

Q. Do they work it?

A. It was worked up to now - Of course the young man died this summer and he had some other Indians helping him to work it - The orphan is only about 4 years old.

Q. There is a piece of that land which is close in to

Salmon Arm that looks as if the stumps had been there for a great many years without being removed, is that right?

A. Yes they rent that to Mr. Palmer for grazing, and Mr. Palmer practically keeps the old widow.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- What rent does he pay?

A. He gives them a good deal more than what the agreement calls for - he keeps them - In addition to that I have known him to even pay their Doctor's bills.

Q. Do they get a pretty good rent for it?

A. Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Do you know what the population of that Reserve has been for some time past?

A. No.

Q. Does anyone else live there but those two families?

A. That is all.

Q. How many houses on it?

A. One dwelling house.

Q. Can you say whether the population has decreased or increased?

A. All the Reserves have increased in population in my Agency.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Well No.7 five years ago had 4 people, and now it only has 3?

A. Yes, I know, but at the last census it was very difficult for me to say, because the last census was taken 5 years before I took hold of things - I am considering the, Reserves as a whole, not separately.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Does Tappen Siding belong to this group?

A. No.

We will now come to Naskainlith No. 1 - that Reserve is down the river, is it not?

A. Yes.

Q. You are acquainted with that Reserve?

A. Yes.

Q. That was the Reserve where we held our meeting, was it not?

A. Yes.

- Q. How much land is there on that Reserve?
A. 3,245 acres.
Q. What kind of land is it?
A. Good land.
Q. How much of it is cultivated?
A. I estimate 900 or 1,000 acres.
Q. Is it land that can be cultivated from the actual rainfall of water, or has it got to be irrigated?
A. It has to be irrigated.
Q. Could they cultivate more if they had irrigation?
A. All the available land that is fit to be cultivated is under cultivation.
Q. And is there any reason why they don't cultivate it all?
A. There is not sufficient land to justify bringing on the water that is available.
Q. What kind of Indians are they?
A. The most industrious.
Q. What do they grow there?
A. Timothy hay and clover, oats, wheat, peas, beans, potatoes, onions, cabbages, melins, turnips, parsnips, and in fact all kinds of vegetables - besides which they have raspberries strawberries and other fruits.
Q. Are they independent farmers?
A. Yes, very independent.
Q. Would you say they are more capable than the average Indian
A. Yes Sir.
Q. Have they any stock?
A. Yes.
Q. Horses and cattle?
A. Yes, they have cattle and horses, pigs, geese and chickens.
Q. How many horses have they got ?
A. 239 head of horses and 65 head of cattle.
Q. I suppose the horses and cattle are fed from the hay they grow, and then I suppose they sell the surplus?
A. They sell the surplus of hay. They had 300 tons for market

and about 500 tons of oats threshed for the market besides what they kept for hay themselves.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I suppose they sell a large amount of produce from their land?

A. Yes.

Q. Do they work out?

A. Yes, they work out sometimes.

Q. Where do they pasture their cattle?

A. Right on the side-hills there.

Q. What is done with the land over and above what they cultivate

A. It is kept for pasturing their stock.

Q. Have they got more pasture land than they require?

A. No, they have not got enough for the stock they have.

Q. What is the population of the Reserve?

A. 178.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Is that the population of this particular Reserve, or are you including the population of Salmon Arm and No.2?

A. Yes, 178 includes them all, as I am not able to give you the population of each particular Reserve;- I have to deal with the Band as a whole.

THE CHAIRMAN:- On Naskainlith No. 2 - how many acres in that across the river?

A. There are 2,456 acres in that Reserve.

Q. What kind of land is it?

A. The bottom land is good - I would Judge outside they have about 30 acres under actual cultivation. I don't think there is more - The whole of the bottom land could be put under cultivation.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- There seemed to me to be more than that?

A. No, that is about all.

Up next to McBryan's field, there is a big piece under cultivation, and then further along there is some more.

THE CHAIRMAN:- How much is capable of being cultivated?

A. About 80 acres - I am speaking now of the amount under

cultivation this year.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Do you mean that there are 80 acres cleared and capable of cultivation?

A. Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN:- What is the character of the rest of the land?

A. Side-hil and timber.

Q. If these people only have this small quantity of land, how do they make their living? -

A. They have land on both sides of the river.

Q. Those people on No.2, are assisting those on No.1, are they?

A. Yes.

Q. Any land there fit for pasture?

A. A small quantity of the side-hills is fit for pasture until you get up on top of the hills.

Q. Do they pasture their cattle on those side-hills?

A. Yes.

Q. And do you say they have not enough land, even on both sides of the river?

A. No. On No.2, they have practically no pasture at all, it is all covered with timber.

Q. When you were giving the quantity of horses, you were including those on No.2 and No.1?

A. Yes.

Q. Also the population?

A. Yes.

Q. How much land is capable of being cultivated on Naskainlith No.1?

A. About 80 acres.

Q. What is the other useful for?

A. For grazing.

Q. I thought you said there was no grazing on No.1?

A. No, I said there was no grazing at all on No.2.

Q. I suppose some of the land outside is suitable for pasturing?

A. Some is and some is not.

Q. How much of it is suitable for pasturing?

- A. About 1,000 acres of the land that is facing South of the side-hill is good for pasture, but on the top it is heavily timbered, and there is no pasture on it.
- Q. Can any part of that land be irrigated within the possibilities of an Indian?
- A. No.
- Q. I am talking now about the pasture land?
- A. No, it could not be irrigated because it is steep mountains.
- Q. Over on the other side you told us that the outside of what had been cleared is timbered, and I think you described the quantity?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Is that land fit for pasturing?
- A. Very little pasture as far as I can see - It is something similar to No.1, scrubby, timber, and rocky land.
- Q. And not useful for practical purposes?
- A. No.
- Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Regarding the irrigation on No.2 - Is there a water record for part of that Reserve?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Would you consider it feasible to bring water from the source of the record?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And if that water were brought, could you say how much could be cultivated under irrigation?
- A. The whole of the bottom land - 30 acres - is under cultivation now, and there is about 80 acres that could be put under cultivation if the water could be brought on to it.
- Q. What would you say about cultivation without irrigation?
- A. It could not. be cultivated.
- Q. That land down towards the South and around a marsh there- was that cultivated this season on No. 2 what they used to call Sam's Lake?
- A. I don't think so - but I am not positive.

Q. Would you say that could be cultivated under dry farming methods?

A. Yes it could under dry farming methods.

Q. Successfully?

A. Well, I would not say successfully - I would not want to go into that question as far as the Indians are concerned. Well, under modern dry farming methods, but it would be very expensive.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Is it expensive?

A. Yes.

Mr. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- You mean in labour?

A. Yes, in the employment of labour.

Mr. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- You need a cultivator and harrows, would you not?

A. Yes.

Mr. COMMISSIONER McKENNA:- Don't you use a particular kind of plough for that?

A. No. With dry farming methods it is not possible to raise hay - It is more suitable for vegetables and grain.

Q. And where dry farming is carried out, it is done principally on Duck's Range, is it not?

A. Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN:- What is the size of 4 and 4A - I mean how many acres?

A. No.4 contains 3,206 and 4A contains 334.

Q. Now where is Reserve 4A?

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- It is between No.1 of the other Band and No.

THE CHAIRMAN:- What is the character of the land there?

A. What bottom land there is, is first class land.

Q. I think we will put 4 and 4A together - All the bottom land is good, is it?

A. Yes.

Q. How much under cultivation?

A. About 1100 acres under cultivation in No.4 and 4A.

- Q. How much is suitable for cultivation in addition?
- A. I estimate there are 1800 acres altogether.
- Q. That would be 700 acres in addition to the 1100?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What is the character of the rest of the land?
- A. Side-hills and mountains.
- Q. Rocky?
- A. Near the village it is rocky.
- Q. And the rest of it?
- A. For pasture.
- Q. Any other grazing land on that Reserve?
- A. No.
- Q. What is the population of those two Reserves?
- A. 181.
- Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Does that include the ones living at Salmon Arm?
- A. Yes, that is the population of the whole Band.
- CHAIRMAN: We got those yesterday, I think in dealing with those Reserves at Salmon Arm.
- Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- At 6 and 7, at Salmon Arm, how many residents there?
- A. 18 - 3 on one and 15 on the other.
The population of the whole Band is 181 - but there are 18 resident on 6 and 7.
- Q. How many reside at Hastelen?
- A. On this Reserve there are 153 people.
- THE CHAIRMAN:- Which one?
- A. No. 4 and 4A.
- Q. How many families?
- A. It is almost impossible to separate them from the ones living at Nos. 4 and 5. In dealing with them I have to deal with the whole Band.
- Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- How many families in the whole Band?
- A. 44 families in the whole Band.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- That would be 32 families in 4 and 4A

A. Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN:- How do they get their living?

A. By farming.

Q. Are they pretty comfortably off?

A. Yes.

Q. Pretty good farmers?

A. Yes, good farmers.

Q. Have they any cattle?

A. Yes.

Q. How many?

A. They have 52 head of cattle, 237 head of horses, 34 hogs and 300 chickens.

Q. Where do the cattle and horses range?

A. On the side-hills on the Reserve.

Q. Have they sufficient pasturage for their cattle and horses

A. No.

Q. Where is Hastelan No.1?

A. It is at the foot of Adams Lake - A small portion around the edge of the lake is fit for cultivation.

Q. There are 2,178 acres in that - What is it good for?

A. Nothing except for timber.

Q. And they are not allowed to use the timber?

A. No - There are two families living there.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- How many acres are there cultivated there?

A. About 80 acres altogether.

Q. What wo families live there - I thought the old man died?

A. The widow and here son is married, and she has 3 or 4 children.

Q. Does not Casimer Michel go up there sometimes?

A. Yes, that is at Squaam.

Q. Regarding the liquor on the Adams Lake Reserve, have you ever had any trouble arising from liquor being used on this Reserve?

A. Not until recently - About two months ago I got information; A party wrote me about this matter and asked me to take some

action regarding these lumber men bringing in liquor,
and I immediately took action.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Do you know of any time past where there
has been any trouble?

A. No, not in my time.

Q. Don't you think it would be better to get them away from
there?

A. Yes, I think it is the only Reserve where I think they
should be removed. I think the Band is a very progressive
kind of people and have not sufficient land to supply the
people. There are two families of about 10 people who are
reported to be leading an immoral life on that Reserve.

Mr. COMMISSIONER WHITE:- If you take those Indians who are immoral
and put them with the others, would you not get the others
immoral also?

A. No they would not be affected by outside influences.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Would there not be land up on top of the hill
on No.4 where that timber is? Have you been up there?

A. Yes, all over it - the line runs right between Neskainlith
and Adams Lake Reserve.

Q. I mean between the Neskainlith line and the timber limit?

A. It is settled all up there.

Q. By whites?

A. Yes.

Q. But I mean on the Reserve?

A. There is no land that I know of that can be put under culti-
vation but what those Indians have under cultivation to-day.

Q. Except where the timber is?

A. Yes.

Mr. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- That might be good for dry farming?

A. No, I don't think so.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- I thought there was some good land up there?

A. No there is no good land up there that is not under culti-
vation.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Look at Squaam - Where is that?

- A. That is a small Reserve on the forks of the Adams Lake.
- Q. How many acres?
- A. About 80 acres.
- Q. What about that - anyone living there?
- A. No one living there, although it is a nice place - It is a fishing station, and there are about 40 acres on it that could be cultivated if they had water for it.
- Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- I thought they made it a sort of a stopping place for people going up trapping and fishing?
- A. Yes they do.
- Mr. COMMISSIONER WHITE:- Do the Indians make use of that for fishing
- A. Yes, they make it the headquarters, for trapping and hunting.
- Q. I suppose there are no cattle on this Reserve?
- A. No.
- THE CHAIRMAN:- Where is Toops?
- A. Toops is at the mouth of Adams Lake, opposite No.1, and contains 25 acres.
- Q. Is that used by the Indians at all?
- A. I don't know, I was never there.
- Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- I think the Mill Company have a warehouse on it, and possible a wharf?
- A. Yes.
- THE CHAIRMAN:- The next place is (Quaaout), North of Little Shuswap Lake.
- Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- The first is Quaaout No. 1, where we held the meeting.
- THE CHAIRMAN:- In respect to this Reserve, I think we will deal with that and the one at Chum Creek - I think we will deal with the two together.
- Q. Now how many acres does Quaaout Indian Reserve contain?
- A. 4,265 acres.
- Q. And Chum Creek?
- A. I think 600 acres.
- Q. Those two Reserves are kept together by the Indians?
- A. Yes.

- Q. How many Indians live on those two Reserves?
A. 97 people.
Q. How many families?
A. 16 on those two Reserves.
Q. What kind of land have those people got?
A. On No.1 there is a large area. of first class land.
Q. How many acres on No.1 of first class land?
A. I should judge more than half of the 4,265 acres is first class land.
Q. How much of it is cultivated?
A. About 30 acres under cultivation.
Q. Can it be cultivated without irrigation?
A. No.
Q. Is there means of getting irrigation there?
A. Yes, and very easily got. They have an unlimited supply of water there that could be handled for the Indians.
Mr. COMMISSIONER WHITE:- Could they get the water unaided?
A. No.
THE CHAIRMAN:- What kind of timber is on it?
A. Small scrubby timber; but there is some merchantible timber, and it is not hard to clear.
Q. What is the land outside of that like?
A. Mountains.
Q. Good for grazing?
A. Yes, if the timber was reduced, some of it would be good for grazing.
Q. Now we will go over on the other side of the river - how much land is there there?
A. 25 acres under cultivation there.
Q. How much fit for cultivation if it was cleared?
A. Possibly 100 acres more.
Q. How do these people make their living?
A. By logging generally.
They don't seem to be able to handle the land they have, either that or they don't attempt to utilize them.

Well I think within the last two years they have made quite an improvement.

Q. Are they addicted to liquor?

A. No. It is such a difficult reserve to get at, that although I was there very often this year, I have never had a great deal of complaints about their drinking.

Q. Have they as good a reputation for honesty as the usual run of Indians up there?

A. Yes.

Q. How about Scotch Creek - There is nothing along between these two Reserves?

A. No.

Q. Scotch Creek is on the Big Shuswap Lake - how many acres does that contain?

A. 2,105 acres.

Q. How many people live there?

A. There are 3 cabins there, but I don't know of any Indians living there.

Q. No permanent residents there?

A. No.

Q. They go there from time to time?

A. Yes, and work in the lumber camp and make hay.

Q. That is a pretty good Reserve for fertility?

A. No, I don't consider it good at all - the land is sandy, and a great deal of the bottom land is very hard to clear on account of the heavy cedar.

Q. Looking at it from the front, it appeared to me to be covered with cottonwood?

A. Yes in front of the river, but at the back it is covered with cedar - quite a large tract is very heavy cedar. The leaves looked to me to be cottonwood leaves.

Q. You say it is heavily timbered?

A. Yes.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Would you say it is not reasonably required for this band of indians?

- A. No, I would not say that. I would say that it is required for the Indians.
- Q. Why is it required?
- A. Because from the proceeds of the sale of the timber, they would be able to clear the land where their village is, so as to enable them to make homes and cultivate their land.
- Q. By what means?
- A. By the sale of the timber.
- Q. Would the sale of the land help them in that respect?
- A. The timber is worth more than the land.
- Q. If it were sold at public auction, would the money derived from the sale assist them in the same way?
- A. If it were sold by auction under the present system and the revenue that would be derived after the same was divided between the two Governments, there would not be sufficient money left to bring it under cultivation. It will cost more than they got for the timber to clear the land.
- Q. Have you visited any of the settlers that are adjacent to this Reserve?
- A. No, but I know what the land at Scotch Creek is like.
- Q. Do you know if settlers have gone in there and taken out homesteads near this Reserve?
- A. Yes.
- Q. North of the Reserve?
- A. I don't know.
- Q. Was there not some of this land Crown Granted and since bought by a Company?
- A. I am not sure - I don't think so. I know this, that the characteristic of the land that is included in this land at Scotch Creek is somewhat different to that of the neighbouring land. That particular bottom is heavily timbered, more merchantable timber is on it, it is harder to clear than any other portion that I know of in that vicinity.
- THE CHAIRMAN:- Those people have not shown very great activity in using that land, have they?

- A. No.
- Q. I heard a rumour down there that these people were offered privileges in respect to irrigation.
- Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- That was at No.1 - Not at Scotch Creek - Those privileges refer to No.1 where we held the meeting.
- THE CHAIRMAN:- I heard it was on this Quaaut Reserve?
- Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Well that is where we held the meeting, and they refused it because it was going to be too much trouble to clear the land, is that not so, Mr. Smith?
- A. Only in a sense - They did not say that out and out. When they were offered all the surplus water that came out of this flume, which would be sufficient to irrigate a large portion of the Quaaut Reserve, they said the land was not cleared.
- THE CHAIRMAN:- And still they won't clear the land.
- Mr. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- This arrangement was made only a few months ago.
- Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- What stock have those Indians got?
- A. Very little.
- Mr. COMMISSIONER WHITE:- The Dominion Government have a Hatchery there, have they not?
- A. Yes, and a trap to catch the spawn.
- THE CHAIRMAN:- How much hay did they have down there where we were?
- A. I saw last year, I think they had about 1-½ tons altogether.
- Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- They stated they sold some hay this year?
- A. Possibly they did.
- W. COMMISSIONER WHITE:- Do the Dominion officials reside there?
- A. No, they have a Hatchery, but it is at Tappen.
- Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- How many horses have they got?
- A. 10 head.
- Q. How many cattle?
- A. None.
- Q. Do they log usually on their own land, or do they work for other people?

A. They log from their own land.

Mr. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- There are no Indians in the meadow?

A. No.

THE CHAIRMAN:- What is it used for?

A. I don't think it is used for any particular purpose.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- It is away up in the Turtle Valley?

A. Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN:-- What kind of land is it?

A. I never was near it.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- There is a small meadow containing about 20 acres; it is surrounded on one side by level flat good land, and on the other side there is a side-hill - I cannot say that it is all good land except 10 acres. On the side-hill it is good pasture, and 15 years ago the Indians used to cut their hay there, and then they leased it for a term of years, but for the last five years there has been nothing done with it at all - It was fenced at one time, with a stable on it, but the fences have all rotted down, and the land is practically commonage and everyone's cattle roam over it. It was bought by the late Whitfield Chase from the Government, and several years afterwards the Government set it aside and gave him back his money without interest.

WITNESS: That piece of land, as far as I have heard, is a very good piece of land, and immediately this road question is settled, I think they are prepared to fence it and cultivate it as soon as the wagon road is put through it.

THE CHAIRMAN: What about Tappen Siding - How many acres in that?

A. 786 acres in that.

Q. Does any one live there?

A. 3 families, totalling 14 people.

Q. What kind of land is it?

A. Good land.

Q. All good land?

A. Yes.

Q. How much under cultivation?

- A. There is quite a large tract under cultivation - There are about 90 acres under cultivation including the meadow, and 40 acres cleared and not under cultivation, and the rest of it is capable of being cultivated if it was cleared.
- Q. What do they grow there?
- A. Everything except grain - They have all kinds of vegetables Timothy hay and an orchard. The C.P.R. track goes right through it, and there is a Fish Hatchery on it.
- Q. In the number of acres you have just stated, have you taken from that the C.P.R. Track right of way?
- A. No I don't think so - but one man there he has 90 acres under cultivation, and there are two or three wagon roads running through it.
- Q. Are these pretty industrious Indians?
- A. Yes.
- Q. They live by farming?
- A. Exclusively by farming.
- Q. And they are good farmers?
- A. Yes, they are the best of that Band.
- Q. What part of the Reserve is the cleared land on?
- A. On both sides of the track.
- Q. Have they any horses?
- A. Yes, they are all work horses.
- Q. How many?
- A. 14.
- Q. Any cattle?
- A. No.
- Q. Any sheep or pigs?
- A. No.
- Q. Have they any orchards?
- A. Yes, they have a fine little orchard, but it is not bearing yet.
- Mr. COMMISSIONER WHITE:- How many acres does the Hatchery occupy?
- A. About 4 acres.

THE CHAIRMAN: The next place is North Thompson, what about that Reserve - It contains 3,220 acres - is that right?

A. Yes, and 85 acres off for the C.N.P.R. right of way.

Q. How many live on that Reserve?

A. There are 187.

Q. What is the character of the land on that Reserve?

A. All the land is good there, because they have nothing but a stretch of bottom land.

Q. It is not watered by irrigation, is it?

A. It has to be irrigated.

Q. Have they got irrigation facilities?

A. For a small portion of it.

Q. How much?

A. Possibly 80 or 90 acres.

Q. Have they facilities for irrigating any other portion of it?

A. Not very good.

Q. Is it within their means?

A. No, it is beyond their means.

Q. How much land could they irrigate in addition to what they have if they had proper facilities?

A. Every foot of it.

Q. As it is, how do they use the land they don't cultivate?

A. A small portion, 100 acres, just near the village down to the track, is cottonwood and rocks - I estimate 150 acres of the Reserve altogether is not fit for cultivation; the balance of it could be cultivated if they had water - for 100 acres of it along between the track and the river they don't need irrigation, they got a lot of hay there, and the lower portion of the Reserve, which is the largest tract and containing between 1500 and 1800 acres, just about ½ is under cultivation, by dry farming methods.

Q. Successfully?

- A. Yes, some years they have very good crops of oat hay - They get all their hay from the upper end of the Reserve.
- Q. Have they got an available market for what they grow?
- A. Yes, they have been selling most of it for the past couple of years to the construction camps.
- Q. And supposing there were no construction camps, could or would they have difficulty in selling their produce?
- A. Well they will have a market for all they grow in the City of Kamloops after the railway gets running through - As a matter of fact Mr. Fennell buys all their grain.
- Q. How do they live?
- A. By farming and trapping - During the last few years, however, they live almost exclusively by farming their land.
- Q. Do they work out?
- A. Very few of them.
- MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- Are they good trappers?
- A. Yes.
- THE CHAIRMAN:- Have they any stock? How many horses have they got?
- A. 135 horses and 47 cattle.
- Q. Have they pasture for their stock?
- A. None at all - They pasture on the bottom when the crops are off.
- Q. How do they do when the crops are growing?
- A. They turn them out to range all over the country.
- Q. Was there not some question came up about asking for some pasture land?
- A. Yes, I think so.
- MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- About how much additional land would be sufficient for pasture for them?
- A. About 640 acres.
- Q. Would it all be in one Section?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Is it surveyed?
- A. No, but I made a recommendation to the Department to get that piece of land for them.
- Q. Has that application gone into the Provincial Government?
- A. No, not that I know of.

Mr. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- You had better get a description of that land and send it in to us, and we will make an application for it.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Comparing this Band of Indians with the other Bands in your Inspectorate, what would you say as to their progress?

A. I would say that they are the most moral of any we have got - They are about as good as you can expect Indians to be. During the last five or six years they have made great progress in the cultivation of their lands - previous to that, when trapping was good, the majority of the labour men devoted their time exclusively to trapping and hunting, but now they are turning their attention to the cultivation of their land.

Q. The piece of land that you suggest for an addition, is that any good for farming?

A. No, nothing but pasture.

Q. They have plenty of agricultural land?

A. Yes.

Q. And they are practically hemmed in by white settlers?

A. Yes, and by the coal mines.

Q. Are there any coal leases in this land?

A. No.

Q. Did you send a description of this land to Ottawa?

A. No, I made an application to the Department, asking them to ask the Provincial Government for it, but they never replied to it.

THE WITNESS HERE READS A COPY OF LETTER HE SENT TO THE DEPARTMENT.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Does that adjoin the Reserve?

A. No.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Would that land be reasonably close to their Reserve for grazing their cattle on?

A. Yes, it is as close as they could get any kind of land at all. They can take that and fence it, and their stock will get access to Boulder Creek.

Mr. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- And the Creek runs through it?

A. Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN:- These are a hard working lot of people, are they not?

A. Yes, they are good people.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Do you know of these three small Reserves?

A. The one at Little Fort, Nehalliston No.2, is a Fishing Station.

Q. Which side of the river is it on?

A. The left bank.

Q. That is on the East side?

A. Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Do they use it for any purpose at all?

A. It used to be the principal Fishing Station, but the C.N.P.R. has cut it in such a way that there is very little left. It is 5 acres in extent, and the C.N.P.R. cut it in two, and there is hardly a piece big enough to put a tent on.

Q. And it is of no use to them?

A. Well they camp there.

Q. What about Barrier?

A. It is just a Fishing Station.

Q. What kind of ground?

A. Sand and gravel.

Q. What about Lewis Creek?

A. There is 8 acres there. It is cut through by the C.N.P.R. - All the good land there is under cultivation.

Q. Anyone living there?

A. No one lives there, but they have a garden there.

Q. Deadman's Creek, what about that? That contains 20,134 acres. Is that right?

A. Yes.

Q. What kind of land is it?

A. There are two or three different classes of land on that Reserve - 4,926 acres of it is leased to Smith Curtis for 999 years.

Mr. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- For how much a year?

A. \$1,000.00 a year.

Q. Do you know whether Smith Curtis had a grant from the Province of the reversionary interest of the land covered by that lease?

A. I could not tell you, but I was told he had.

THE CHAIRMAN:- What kind of land is that which is leased?

A. A portion of it is rocky, but possibly 2/3rds. of it is first class land.

Q. And the rest of the land?

A. Rocky.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- When was the lease granted - have you a copy of the lease here with you?

A. Yes. (Witness here produces a copy of the lease, and hands (same to the Chairman, who read it and asks the Witness to (leave it so that the Commissioner can peruse same, after (which same will be forwarded to him at Kamloops).

Q. What were the conditions?

A. \$1,000.00 a year, and a high level ditch to be erected, on which the Indians were to be allowed to carry 200 miners' inches water; but there was no provision made in the lease giving any specified time when this ditch was to be constructed.

Q. One of the conditions of the lease was that they were to be allowed to get 200 inches of water, and that condition has not been fulfilled?

A. No.

Q. Was no compensation made?

A. No compensation was made, but a promise of compensation was made?

Q. What amount?

A. \$1,000.00, and an agreement drawn up by which this \$1,000.00 was to be applied towards the improvement of the present ditch until such time as he was prepared to construct this high level ditch.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Was that agreement signed?

A. Yes, it is signed by Smith Curtis and by the Department.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- Was there a report of that made to the Department?

A. Yes.

Q. And is there a copy of the agreement on file at Ottawa?

A. Yes.

MR•COMMISSIONER SHAW:- What is the balance of this 15,000 acres like?

A. Quite a considerable portion of it is good land, but I don't think there are more than 1200 acres of good land.

Q. How much of that is cultivated?

A. Possible 200 acres under cultivation.

Q. Is the 200 acres irrigated?

A. Yes, there is possibly 600 acres more that could be put under cultivation.

Q. By their own methods apart from the Curtis deal?

A. Yes.

Q. This water that they were to get from Smith Curtis, how much would it irrigate?

A. It would possibly irrigate all the balance.

Q. How much would that be?

A. Possibly 400 acres of the 600 acres could be irrigated from the 200 miners inches of water.

Q. And then there must be 600 acres unprovided for?

A. Yes.

Q. Would you consider dry farming feasible in that land?

A. No.

Q. Now we have accounted for 6,000 acres. What would the balance of 14,000 acres be like?

A. Hills and mountains.

Q. Any pasture?

A. Fairly good pasture, but it is open.

Q. How many Indians live on this Reserve?

A. 40 families - 142 Indians, men women and children.

Q. How do they make their living?

A. By working out. A good many of them work out, driving or herding cattle and horses, and then again they work out for white farmers.

Q. How much stock have they?

A. 300 horses, 40 cattle and quite a number of chickens.

Q. Is there any cultivation on the north part of the reserve?

- A. Up near the Creek there is a small part.
- Q. The Creek runs practically through the middle of the Reserve?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And the cultivated land and the good land, where does it lie?
- A. The best land is on the South side of the Creek, where the village is.
- Q. Does not the Curtis lease take up some land right down to Savonas?
- A. Yes, all the land from the bridge down to Savonas.
- MR.COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- You say the rent was not paid?
- A. Yes, it was paid in to the Department, but the Indians did not get it.
- MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Is the land surrounding this Reserve all settled?
- A. I don't know - that runs up on the mountains and also on the North there are steep mountains there.
- Q. It is a large Reserve, but very little to it?
- A. And previous to the institution of the Walach ditch the whole of the land under the Smith Curtis lease was practically useless..
- THE CHAIRMAN:- If they got the privileges which they bargained for, they would have a pretty good piece of land, would they not?
- A. Yes, they could bring 400 acres more under cultivation.
- Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Are they fairly industrious?
- A. Yes - I am speaking of their conduct since I have had to deal with them - I don't know what they were before.
- Q. There has been a good deal of liquor there, but not very much trouble with it?
- A. As to that I cannot say.
- THE CHAIRMAN: Now we come to the Bonaparte Reserve - Where did we hold our meeting, was it on No.3 or 3A?
- A. On No.3.
- Q. We approached it from which way?
- A. From the south east.

- THE CHAIRMAN (examining map) That mark along there is a flume we saw is it not?
- A. No, that is a wagon road.
- Q. Now we will take those two together 3 and 3A. The area of 3A is 1283 acres, and 3 contains 477 acres, is that correct?
- A. Yes. _
- Q. What is the character of the land in those two Reserves?
- A. Well the character of the land where the village is on No.3, is good land.
- Q. Without irrigation?
- A. No good without irrigation.
- Q. Do they irrigate it?
- A. No. There is practically a very small portion of the land under cultivation at all.
- Q. Why?
- A. Because they have no water.
- Q. Any reason why there is no water?
- A. They have no facilities for bringing the water on the land
- Q. And how about the character of the land on 3A - What is the character of the land on there?
- A. Practically all of it is side-hills - except a small portion down at the bottom land, where they raise a little hay.
- Q. How much land under cultivation in both Reserves?
- A. Possibly about 60 acres altogether indifferently cultivated.
- Q. Do they keep any cattle?
- A. There are 270 head of horses and 20 head of cattle.
- Q. On Reserves 3 and 3A have they these cattle?
- A. These cattle are held by the Bonaparte Tribe - a portion of them live at Hat Creek.
- Q. On another Reserve?
- A. Yes. It is hard for me to give you the figures for any one locality - I have taken the figures for the whole Band.
- Q. What different places do they live in then?
- A. We will have to figure them out a little differently. There are 240 head of horses held by those Indians at 3 and 3A

- Q. You are eliminating those in Hat Creek Reserve?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What is the population of those two Reserves?
- A. 150.
- Q. What do they raise there in the land they do cultivate?
- A. A little hay.
- Q. Do they raise enough for their horses?
- A. No.
- Q. Have they any cattle?
- A. There are about 5 head of cattle on 3 and 3A.
- Q. No sheep I suppose?
- A. No.
- Q. And they don't raise enough for their cattle and horses?
- A. No.
- Q. What do they do?
- A. They buy hay.
- Q. Where do they get the money to buy it?
- A. They are principally teamsters and they work out for the farmers
- Q. That is the place where they complained that they could not get any work to do?
- A. Yes. That is the place where they said they were not given any freight to haul. The Bonaparte and Ashcroft Band of Indians are the two poorest bands of Indians in my Agency.
- Q. Why?
- A. For the lack of facilities for handling the land.
- Q. What can these men do if they are cut off from this teaming business?
- A. They will starve to death. They don't raise and cannot raise enough to keep them under existing conditions.
- Q. Could water be brought on that Reserve to make the land fairly cultivatable?
- A. Yes Sir.
- Q. Easily?
- A. Well the water is there. The Indians applied to the Department to allow them to dispose of Mauvais Rocher, No.2 and to apply the

proceeds of that sale to the construction of a ditch, through which they could bring water from Hat Creek on to a great deal of the land they have on No.3 and 3A.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Is water available on Hat Creek?

A. Yes, they have a record on Bonaparte - They have 50 inches of water on Hat Creek and 100 inches on Bonaparte.

Q. You said that the Indians at Bonaparte and Ashcroft were the worst situated in your Agency?

A. Yes.

Q. Why?

A. There is another Reserve pretty nearly as bad, but none really as bad as Bonaparte and Ashcroft Reserves.

Q. They have a considerable quantity of good land, have they not?

A. All the good land you could see from the meeting house - You drove through it this side of O'Hara's - All the good land in that valley is held by white settlers.

Q. That Creek bottom is quite a width there?

A. No it is very narrow.

Mr. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- How do you account for these Indians being the poorest in your Agency?

A. For the reason they have no water to cultivate their land which they already have, and by not having the water, they are looking in other channels for their support and can't find it.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- You say that they could get water from Hat Creek, is that so?

A. Yes, it is feasible for 3 and 3A.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Now we will go to the Hat Creek Reserves - Are those two Reserves near together?

A. No, they are quite a distance apart.

Q. Are they in a different direction?

A. They are in the same direction.

Q. Which one did we go to first?

A. Upper Hat Creek.

Q. One is supposed to contain 2,057 acres, and the other one 2,078 acres - We will take Upper Hat Creek. What kind of land is there?

- A. Narrow bottom, on which there are 4 families there - about 10 acres under cultivation. There is not 50 acres of the whole 2,057 acres fit for cultivation.
- Q. Why?
- A. There is just that narrow bottom, surrounded on both sides by side-hills.
- Q. Not fit for pasture?
- A. No, not even fit for pasture - There might be a little fit for pasture.
- Q. Could they bring any water on that Reserve to irrigate it?
- A. No.
- Q. Any cattle?
- A. 15 head of cattle.
- Q. Any horses?
- A. Yes a few horses - I don't know how many.
- Q. How do they get their living?
- A. At the Upper Hat Creek Reserve there are 4 families - There are 9 people, and they work out.
- Q. What do they do?
- A. They work for farmers herding cattle and teaming.
- Q. Now we will come to the Lower Hat Creek Reserve.
- A. It is just the same we passed right through it.
- Q. How many acres cultivated there?
- A. I estimate possibly about 40 acres that might be put under cultivation.
- Q. How many acres under cultivation?
- A. About 24 acres.
- Q. Any stock?
- A. 16 horses - they are mostly work horses.
- Q. What is the character of the rest of the land?
- A. Mostly hills and rocks.
- Q. Good for pasture? Do they grow enough to pasture their cattle?
- A. No, hardly enough.
- Q. Do they earn their living by selling horses?
- A. Yes, they sell a horse now and again. There are 27 people at

the Lower Hat Creek, and there are 36 people in the Hat Creek Reserves altogether.

THE CHAIRMAN:- What about Loon Lake, 59 acres, where is that?

A. That is a Fishing Station.

Q. On what river is it?

A. It is back on the hills.

Q. It is on a lake?

A. Yes, right around a lake.

Q. Does anyone live there?

A. No one.

Q. Is it good land?

A. Yes, they dammed it and flooded it.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE:- They complained that the dam at Loon Lake was dammed and it overflowed.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- That trouble was with the Ashcroft Reserve - It was not the Shield's dam they complained of.

WITNESS:- I don't know anything about that matter.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Shield's won't let them go up to Hat Creek because they would interfere with the water coming down below.

THE CHAIRMAN:- There is another Reserve there, Mauvias-Rocher, 99.80 acres, what about that?

A. That is the Reserve I called your attention to while travelling on the train on the main Thompson river.

Q. What do you call the Main Thompson?

A. Down near [wal?] This is the Reserve where the Indians made application to the Department to allow them to dispose of it and to apply the proceeds from the sale of this Reserve towards the construction of a ditch to bring water on to 3 and 3A. They also had an offer from the C.N.P.Ry for the purchase of it, and the Department's instructions were that no action could be taken regarding the disposition of any Indian lands until a report was made by the Royal Indian Commission.

Q. Can this land be cultivated?

A. Yes.

Q. Is it cultivated?

- A. No.
- Q. Does anyone live on it?
- A. No.
- Q. Any use made of it?
- A. No. They used to live there - It was formerly a Fishing Station.
- Q. Now we come down to the Ashcroft Reserve - What is the place we were at out of Ashcroft?
- A. On No.2.
- Q. Before we go there (Perusing Schedule) I see a Reserve of 80 acres unnamed - I mean un-numbered? What is that?
- A. You will see opposite that (Perusing Schedule) it is a temporary Fishing Station.
- Q. Is that inhabited?
- A. I don't know anything about it - I have not got it in my Schedule at all.
- Q. Now we come to the Ashcroft Reserve - What Reserve was that we went out to see?
- A. No.2.
- Q. How many acres does that contain?
- A. 3,470 acres.
- Q. What is the quality of the land?
- A. Good - more than half of it is good.
- Q. How much under cultivation?
- A. Possibly 2 acres.
- Q. Why is the rest of it not cultivated?
- A. Because there is no water.
- Q. Can they get water?
- A. They have a record at McLean's lake, and they have a record of 220 inches from the Bonaparte.
- Q. Enough to irrigate the whole place?
- A. Not enough for the whole place, but enough to irrigate possibly 400 acres - The soil is a rich clay soil.
- Q. It is all good land - How much could be put under cultivation if water was brought there?

- A. 150 or 200 acres could be cultivated with the amount of water they have a record for.
- Q. Is more water available to make the balance available for any useful purpose?
- A. Only a small portion of this Reserve; the water they have a record for would irrigate 150 or 200 acres.
- Q. Could they get sufficient water to make the rest of the land fit for cultivation?
- A. I think so.
- Q. Where from?
- A. From the Bonaparte.
- Q. Nevertheless with all the available water they have, there is a portion of the Reserve that could not be cultivated?
- Q. How is it their water is cut off in that way?
- A. I know it is cut off. Mr Barclay has utilized all of it.
- Q. Have they any cattle?
- A. No cattle, but a few horses.
- Q. How many horses?
- A. 47 head of work horses, teaming and saddle horses.
- Q. No we come to MacLean's Lake No.3 - What about that?
- A. I was never there - I don't know anything about it.
- Q. Cheetsum Farm, 770 acres, what about that?
- A. It is a good piece of land down there by the bottom.
- Q. Do they irrigate there?
- A. Yes, they have a little water which they get from Minibieret Creek.
- Q. They have little bit of good looking land, have they not?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And it looks as if it is fairly fertile?
- A. Yes. All they have is practically under cultivation.
- Q. How much is there there - Oh, I think that woman testified as to that.
- A. I think there are about 60 acres in that bottom land.
- Q. A good deal of that Reserve if irrigated would be good land but it is not irrigated, is that so?

- A. Yes.
- Q. Can water be brought on there?
- A. Yes.
- Q. From where?
- A. From the same ditch that supplies the upper ditch.
Now there is another Reserve called No.4, without a name
(Perusing Schedule) Lot 446 and portion of 17 that was
exchanged by Cornwall Bros.
Yes, that is a small piece. No.2 and No.4 are practically
the same.
- Q. I suppose the character of the land is just the same as the
main Reserve?
- A. Just the same.
- Q. Now we come to Spence's Bridge - Where is Kumcheen (Cook's
Ferry) - where is that?
- A. That is coincident with the place you were at at Spence's
Bridge - Kumcheen is right on the Nicola river.
- Q. Where did we hold our meeting that day?
- A. At No.4.
- Q. (Perusing Schedule) That is only a small place containing
35 acres?
- A. Yes, where the village stands.
- Q. Do the Indians have their principal residence there?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Are those people scattered over these different Reserves,
or do they live in one place?
- A. They are scattered all over - the majority of the people
under Chief Whitimeetza live at No.4.
- Q. How many live there in that village?
- A. The whole of the Band under Whitimeetza live there - Whit-
imeetza and his family live on No.3.
- Q. Where does that man live that spoke to us about farming?
- A. He is in charge of the Reserves from No.8 inclusive, and
Whitimeetza is in charge of the Reserves from No.1 to 7
inclusive.

Q. How many people are under Whitimeetza?

A. I cannot give it.

Q. Can you give the population of those under the other man I spoke to you about?

A. No I cannot give it to you.

Q. What is the character of the land on these Reserves?

A. Speaking of these from No.1 to 7, I might take them as they go.

Yes.

No. 1 Reserve has about 21-3/4 acres at the mouth of the Nicola - 2 families live on that Reserve - About 1 acre under cultivation; perhaps 15 acres could be put under cultivation with a better supply of water.

No.2, Skoonkoon, on the right bank of the Thompson, 55 acres is a stony piece of land, used principally for fishing station.

No.3, Shawnikan, 106.2 acres, is occupied by Chief Whitimeetza and his family - The lower portion is good land, the upper portion stoney and some timber - About 10 acres under cultivation - possibly 20 acres more could be cultivated with an increased supply of water.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE:- On No.3, was there not some of the land slid down?

A. Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Who lives on No.3?

A. Whitimeetza.

No.4 Reserve, 35 acres, flat, on which the village stands - A large portion of both sides of 3 and 4 slid away into the river some years ago - None of it under cultivation.

No.5 and 5A, 20 acres each, small garden patches - About 5 acres under cultivation - There is no water there.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE:- Tom Cornow, did he not take away the water on No.5A?

A. No, that is No.6 according to my Schedule.

No.6 Nicoelton, contains 2,008.50 acres - splendid valley

of excellent bottom land - In this valley there is fully 1500 acres suitable for cultivation if water could be secured At present there are 80 acres under cultivation with in-different success in consequence of lack of water - I made an effort last year to secure water for this tract of land and examined blue earth lake with a view of damming the same, but the Department would not entertain the cost.

Mr. COMMISSIONER WHITE:- They are cultivating all the land they have water for?

A. No, they were up to 3 or 4 years ago - there was sufficient water coming down this Creek to cultivate this 80 or 90 acres, but in the last 3 or 4 years, Mr. Carnow who has a prior record, has deprived them of all the water, with the result that this land is not being cultivated.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Has this man the right to stop them?

A. I believe he had a prior record.

Q. Is that a fact?

A. When I saw it, it was a fact. I made arrangements with him last year through which he gave them some water sufficient to raise a small patch of potatoes there - It is too fine a valley to allow it to go that way - These Indians, among them, they have quite a lot of cattle - They had a lot a few years ago but they lost a good many, with the result that they are very poorly off - They are very nearly as bad as the Ashcroft Band; their land is better though.

Mr. COMMISSIONER WHITE:- The C.P.R. took some water from there, didn't they?

A. No, not from there - that is up on the Nicola. The C.P.R. took water from No. 7, about 14 miles up the Nicola river.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Is that the Nicoelton

A. Yes, No.6 - It is a beautiful valley and a splendid piece of land in it - It is not hard to clear.

- THE CHAIRMAN:- (Perusing Schedule) This says there are 50 inches of water recorded there - Are there any other sources of water in that Creek?
- A. I think there are, but it all goes into that Creek, and immediately it does, it is the property of the man who has the prior record - They have a lot of horses - This Stage Billie he has a big band of horses.
- Q. How many horses altogether on No.6?
- A. 470 head of horses.
- Q. Any cattle?
- A. 310 head.
- Q. Plenty of grazing land?
- A. They are using pretty nearly all of it for grazing land, except this 80 acres in the bottom.
- Q. Where do they get their hay?
- A. They take their chances in the winter - last year they put up 40 tons.
- Q. Now about Klo-klo-Wuck, 219 acres, what about that?
- A. (perusing schedule) I have it in my book 210 acres.
- Q. What kind of land is it?
- A. A small piece of land is good - There are two families, 10 people - they have about 10 acres under cultivation, and possibly 15 acres that could be put under cultivation.
- Q. Would it have to be irrigated?
- A. Yes. They complained that the C.P.R. diverted the water from this point for their tank.
- Q. You ought to bring that under the notice of the Government.
- Q. Do they keep any stock there?
- A. They have 2 teams of horses.
- Q. Any cattle?
- A. No.
- Q. How many people?
- A. 2 families, 10 people altogether.
- Q. On the right bank of the Thompson river (Perusing Schedule) 19 acres, No.8, 6 miles above Spence's Bridge, do you know that?

- A. The only one I know is 8 and 8A.
- Q. (Perusing Schedule) I have 8 and 8A - 8A has no name - One is 10 acres and the other 19.8 acres - Do you know anything about them?
- A. I don't know - I have never visited them.
- Q. About Pemynoos 4,507 acres - what about that?
- A. No.9, 4,507 and No.11, 36 acres - they are practically the same thing - They are the most prosperous of the Bands.
- Q. Is that where Chief Titlanctza and his family live?
- A. Yes, he and his family live there - there are other families there besides him.
- Q. He (the Chief) stated that the land was very good, and so far as he was concerned, was raising excellent crops - Is that right?
- A. Yes, that is right.
- Q. How much is under cultivation on 9 and 11?
- A. About 500 acres.
- Q. Of that this man Titlanctza has how much?
- A. About 60 acres under cultivation now, and he is preparing 40 acres more.
- Q. They raise everything?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Any cattle?
- A. Yes, he (the Chief) has none though?
- Q. How many cattle?
- A. They have about 60 cattle.
- Q. How many horses?
- A. 38 work horses, and about 75 or 100 wild horses.
- Q. Have they got pasture for them?
- A. Yes Sir, good pasture. They got a lot of hay up at some lakes in Highland Valley.
- Q. The pasture land which they have there, is it natural?
- A. Yes, natural pasture land.
- Q. Do they use irrigation for cultivating what they have?
- A. Yes.

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- Q. Have they got all the land cultivated that the water is capable of irrigating?
- A. Yes.
- Q. But there are 200 acres which could be brought under cultivation if they had water - Could they get water?
- A. Yes - I have given them the lumber to construct a flume.
- Q. Where do they pasture?
- A. On the side-hills.
- Q. Have they more pasture than they want?
- A. No, they have not got enough.
- Q. That is the place where they say they have no road?
- A. Yes - they have to pack all their fruit and produce out on horseback.
- Q. Is there no way of stopping that - could they not have representations made to get them proper roads?
- A. Yes, I have had Mr. Griffiths estimate the cost of building this 5-½ miles, and he estimates the cost would be about \$3,000.00, and the suggestion was, that if the Department would contribute ½ of the amount, they (the Prov. Gov't) would build the road.
- Q. Did you bring that matter under the notice of the Dep't?
- A. They informed me that they had no funds to apply for that purpose, and this year I took the matter up again, and I was informed by the Provincial Government that they refused to construct it, because no one would be using it but the Indians, and that is the reason they would not build it.
- Mr. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- Would you construe that to mean that they had rescinded their previous offer?
- A. Yes. These people are shipping a great deal of stuff - there are tons of Beans, Potatoes and wheat, also raspberries strawberries, and gooseberries.
- Q. They raise every kind of fruit?
- A. Yes. The excellence of the fruit was such that the Minister of Agriculture took every pound that they had of beans, po-

tatoes, oats and wheat for the Chicago Exhibition, and the letter which I got was for the excellence of the quality, and yet they cannot get a road to take that stuff out. The reason that they give for not building the road is that no one would use it except the Indians.

THE CHAIRMAN:- When the C.N.P.R. goes along there, won't that make a difference?

A. The C.N.P.R. will be on the opposite side of the river. This place that I am speaking about is on the left bank of the river, the C.N.P.R. is on the right bank.

Q. That is about all we can do in respect to that. There is another reserve of 36 acres, Oak Heights, No.10 - Do you know anything about that?

A. No.

Q. The next is 11A, containing 160 acres?

A. Yes, only one family lives there.

Q. How about the land?

A. There is a piece of bottom land there.

Q. Is it being cultivated?

A. Yes the families live there and they are cultivating all that they have water for.

Q. How much are they cultivating?

A. About 15 or 20 acres.

Q. Could they cultivate more if they had more water?

A. Yes, they have a record of 75 inches in that Creek. If they had more water they could cultivate a good deal more - perhaps 25 or 30 acres more.

Q. What is the character of the other land?

A. Good pasture land.

Q. Any stock?

A. 2 team of horses them.

Q. Any cattle?

A. No.

Q. Now there is another Reserve containing 365 acres, what about

that?

- A. They are about the same character of land - All these are in Highland Valley - Those are the Reserves where they cut hay around these lakes.
- Q. Any cultivation along there?
- A. No, there is a natural hay there, and they cut the wild hay.
- Q. Anyone live there?
- A. No, they drive their cattle in there in the winter time to feed.
- Q. No cultivation on them?
- A. No.
- Q. Coming down to Oregon Jack - what is that hay meadow there of 30 acres - Do you know anything about that?
- A. It is not occupied.
- Q. What purpose is it used for, or is it used at all?
- A. I suppose they used to cut hay off it.
- Q. Wild hay?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Is there any wild hay there now?
- A. No.
- Q. Where has it gone to?
- A. It has dried up.
- Q. It is no good for any purpose?
- A. No.
- Q. What about No.2?
- A. There are 35 acres not occupied.
- Q. Is it any use for any purpose?
- A. I don't know.
- Q. What about No.3, Oregon Jack Creek?
- A. There are 3 families living there of 13 people - There are 1043 acres in that - there are about 60 acres under cultivation.
- Q. That includes 3 and 5?
- A. Yes.

- Q. What about the rest of that land?
- A. A large portion of it is good land, right on the bench, if it was possible to get water on to it.
- Q. Is it possible?
- A. Yes, it is possible, from Oregon Jack Creek.
- Q. Why don't they get it?
- A. It requires ditching and fluming - in fact a neighbour there had been taking all the water there is in the Creek.
- Q. The only way would be to go higher up and bring the water down
- A. Yes.
- Q. On No.3 and 5, are there any cattle?
- A. Yes. 3 families there, but they have no cattle but some horses.
- Q. How many?
- A. 14 work horses, also a cow and a calf.
- Q. Where do they pasture them?
- A. On the side-hills.
- Q. Good pasture?
- A. Yes, good natural pasture.
- Q. How do these people make their living?
- A. They are successful farmers - This man Pascow has 3 brothers.
- Q. And they are good farmers?
- A. Yes, they have 10 acres of an orchard - they raise splendid crops.
- Q. What about Nepa on the left bank of the Thompson river, Nelson Creek?
- A. That has been relinquished. It has been sold to the C.P.R. They got a Deed for that on the 1st. January 1912.
- Q. What about 6 and 7 - Do you know anything about them?
- A. I don't know anything about them.

NOTE The failure of the C.P.R. to carry out the promise made to the Agent when exchange was made on No.4, Nepa Reserve, and 6 and 7, for a supply of water, should be brought to the notice of the Department.

- Mr. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA:- Have you see the statement of population put in by Inspector of Agencies Mr. Cummiskey?
- A. I did.

Q. Do you consider it correct?

A. No I don't - He never got the information from me - No doubt he took it from the 1911 census.

Q. Do you consider his figures under the mark?

A. Yes, I do regarding my Agency. I will leave you a statement of the population of all the Reserves in my Agency before I go back to Kamloops.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Do you consider that your Agency is larger, or too large for one man to do justice to himself and the Indians?

A. I think it is quite reasonable - I find I can handle it easily.

MEETING WITH MR. MATTHEWS REGARDING ZOHT INDIAN RESERVE, ON OCTOBER
17th. 1913

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- I believe, Mr. Matthews, you will be able to give us some information as to this particular Isaidnan Reserve, and also as to the general condition of the Indians in this locality.

Q. Now looking at this blueprint could you point out to us which blocks of land on here are vacant?

WITNESS (Perusing blueprint) Blocks marked 23, 25, 26, 33, 34 and 35 are vacant.

THE CHAIRMAN (After a conversation with the witness) Mr. Matthews says they ought to get some land lying North of Nos.. 33, 34 and 35. The land is a better summer country, consequently better for grazing purposes.

Memo by the Chairman.

It would seem, therefore, that what they might get would be 33, 34, and 35, and three Lots lying immediatly North thereof. The land that they were asking for at Hamilton Reserve is all. taken up.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Are they a lot of enterprising Indians in the locality?

A. Yes.

Q. Are they using the land they have to fairly good advantage compared with the whiteman?

A. Of course they do things sometimes in a rather funny way. I think though they have been improving their land more and more, but I don't thing you could compare them with some of the white ranches.

Q. As to the amount of land they have in the Reserve. would you say it was inadequate, or have they more land than they should have?

A. I don't think they have down at this end of the valley. I think they have enough though inthe Shulus I.R.; that is, of course, if it was all cultivated.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- Supposing now the Indians were put on the Shulus Indian Reserve with a farming Instructor, do you think they would cultivate more land than they do at present?

A. Well, I could not say, but I think they would be much better off if they had someone to show them how to cultivate the land.

Q. Do you think there is enough water on the Shulus Reserve to bring water for 1,000 acres?

A. Yes, I think there is.

MR COMMISSIONER WHITE:- Are the Indians increasing?

A. I think myself they are on the decrease. I think the Indians on the Shulus Reserve are decreasing.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Do you think they are using the land reasonably well according to their rights?

A. Yes I do.

Q. They could clear that whole bottom land, and they have 800 or 1,000 acres of land that could be made fit for cultivation?

A. Yes.

MR COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Is it not a fact that quite a large number of white settlers are not producing as much as they ought to?

A. Oh yes. The Indians here are very good, and they are not a bit worse than the whiteman. It seems to me from what I have noticed in regard to these larger Reserves like Douglas Lake, the Chief is given too much control over it. The Chief at Douglas Lake has one field of 16,000 or 20,000 acres.

Q. And does he not rent a large portion of that to the Douglas Lake Cattle Company for thousands of dollars every year?

A. Yes, I believe he does.

An Indian Reserve is supposed to be for the benefit of the Indians as a whole, and the Chief nearly every year he rents that for thousands of dollars and he gets all the money himself for renting the land - He must be worth \$100,000.

A. Well I know he has a pretty big bank account, but I could not say exactly what he is worth.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

MEETING WITH THE COLDWATER BAND OR TRIBE OF INDIANS ON THEIR RESERVE ON
the 17th. DAY OF OCTOBER, 1913

MR COMMISSIONER WHITE explained to the Assembled Indians the powers
scope of the Commission, and

JIMMIE was sworn to act as Interpreter.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Now if any of the Indians wish to speak, we shall be
glad to hear them.

CHIEF GEORGE SANDY ADDRESSES THE COMMISSION AS FOLLOWS:-

A. Yes, we are poor. Yes, I saw all you Commissioners here to-day to fix everything right, just like as if God brought the good vows to us. To-day I am awful glad to see you people come. Yes, this country is just like in half between the whites and us Indians - You got the fair share out of this country, and we got to use our own share, that is the reason I am speaking to try to get my own share - everything that is running in the country, deer and birds and everything that grows in the ground. From the first beginning everything was free to me, but I see you people here to-day, and I want you people to settle the things so that I can use my own share out of the country. The Government from Victoria, he has been using everything by himself - he never gave me my share. Where we are now, and the children we have here in this Reserve, the land is pretty short to them - everything that we raise here we are awful short and from planting everything we are also short from cutting our hay-ever since the railway went through our land. I want to have the use of our share even outside the Reserve - we would like to use that forever - That is all I have to say.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Does anyone else wish to say anything?

FELIX SAMPSON HEREUPON ADDRESSES THE COMMISSION AS FOLLOWS

A. I was awful glad when I saw all the Commissioner here to-day, and every word is what the Governor said. I am awful glad the Commissioners are here to-day - just like as if you are

going to turn over the land so that I can use that and everything what is under the land; because the man gave me this land to live on it and so did the whites - But now the Commissioners are here to-day and I am going to use this land and I will be better, because I am awful thin I used to work pretty hard, and then the -railway went past us, there is where I got poor. Ever since the railway went through we did not have enough land; I don't think each one had more than two or three acres - Even if I had chickens I could not make enough to feed those chickens If I had horses and cattle they would all starve to death when the winter time comes. In the Spring when the summer time comes all my Cattle and horses are all right; it is the only time they look better, and I am always alone, I can only take care of myself to make my living - That is what makes me feel sorry because I cannot make enough to feed my own family. The land here is not big enough. Where I used to plough, where I used to cut the hay all these places are now too small for me and for all of us, and the rest of the land is only good for the stock. Now I am glad to see all the Commissioners here to-day to settle this thing because they are sent by the Government to fix these things right and I wish you would give us a little more land to make our living. I hear to-day that the Government had his hand on all the land, thzt is the reason I am short of stock, and I cannot get any more arid land to go ahead and make my living - Everything what is in the land, I cannot go ahead and use them myself because he is holding my back and my coat - If he will only give me a chance and not hold me too much, I would be able to make a living.

THE CHAIRMAN:- You mean you could make a living by hunting and fishing if the Government would let you - Is that what you mean?

A. Yes, everything what is in the land - hunting and every-

- 3 -

thing that is fit for me to use-that is what I want,
and all the timber to.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Yes, I see

WITNESS And everything that is in the land, timber and all, I
want to make my living out of all these things. My dear
friends I always keep the lower mind, and that is all I
have to say.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Does anyone else wish to speak.

JAMES ANTOINE (THE LATE CHIEF'S SON) HEREUPON ADDRESSES THE
COMMISSION AS FOLLOWS:-

I see you people here to-day, I don't know much about
the country yet, because I am nothing but a boy - I want
to ask for help for everything, because I am poor. Ever
since I was born I never got ahead to be better because
where I am, the land is pretty small for me; that is the
reason I am poor - I think it is the best way, and I wish
you would get me a little more land so that I will get
better - That is all I have to say.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Doe anyone else wish to say anything:-

QUILO SHEST HEREUPON ADDRESS THE COMMISSION AS FOLLOWS:-

Mr COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Do you belong to the Colwater Reserve?

A. No, he belongs to the Joeyaska No.2.

THE CHAIRMAN:- I would rather not hear you for this reason that
you do not belong to this Reserve - We will hear you later
on after we get through with this Reserve, the Coldwater Re-
serve.

Now does anyone else from this Reserve wish to say
anything?

CHARLES JULES HEREUPON ADDRESSES THE COMMISSION AS FOLLOWS:-

Yes, I see you Commissioners here - I am not fit to speak,
but anyway I heard you people say you wanted each one to
speak, and I am going to try and speak. I feel awful bad,
and that is the reason I want to explain to you how poor
I am. You people know how poor I am - I cannot make a step
anywhere; just like as if I am standing on my one leg right

here to-day - Yes, I cannot make a step anywhere. If I am

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going to try to make a place outside where I am, the white people will pull me right back again.

THE CHAIRMAN:- How will the whitepeople pull you right back again?

A. Because he will not allow me to hunt or get my own food.

Q. Well now when you get this permission to go and hunt, do you want the whiteman to go and hunt with you, or do you just want the Indians to be allowed to hunt?

A. The whitepeople try to shut this thing down, and I always say all right.

Q. It is not only to the Indian that they shut down, but they do it to the whiteman as well. If you allowed hunting by whiteman and Indians alike all the time, very shortly there would be nothing left; everything would be killed off.

A. That is what I want to find out if I am allowed to hunt. The whitepeople are stopping me, and even the Government are stopping me from hunting.

Q. You can hunt at all times during the close season and kill what you want for your own use but not to sell - that is a better chance then the whiteman has - he cannot do that.

A. That is all right, but the whitepeople they are using it more than what we use. A lot of people come around and kill all the game in the country, and we have nothing left.

Q. Well the whitepeople are only allowed to kill a certain number, and if they kill more than they are allowed, they are liable to be brought up and fined or put in prison.

A. All the game that the whitepeople kill, it is just as though they are making fun out of it without using it, but the Indians want to kill it for us to eat.

Q. The Government cannot come down and set upon Mr. Shaw for instance - If they break the law of the Government - all they can do is to fine the person who is found breaking the law and try and prevent them from doing these things.

A. That is what makes me feel sorry because all the whitepeople are going around and killing everything - they are wasting all the game before we have a chance of using it ourselves.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Anyone doing that is doing wrong, and is liable to be punished; that is all I can say.

A. Look at me, I am poor, and all the whitepeople they watch me pretty sharp - If I go out to get game they watch me, and haul me right up and put me in gaol for it.

MR COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- Have you ever been hauled up for it?

A. I am awful afraid about it, that is the reason I have had no trouble.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Who has been hauled up among the Indians? Has Charlie Isaac been hauled up for shooting?

A. Yes.

Q. What time did you shoot - was it in close season or in the open season?

A. I just got hauled up this Fall in the open season for shooting two deer and a fawn - I shot them late in December.

Q. You shot a fawn did you?

A. Yes.

Q. But you were not fined for killing the big deer were you?

A. Yes, I was fined for killing the small deer.

MR COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- Were you brought up in Court?

A. Yes, in Tulameen Court House.

THE CHAIRMAN:- I do not know whether you were justified in killing a fawn, but because the Magistrate made a mistake that is no reason -----

MR COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- Who was the Judge before whom you were brought up?

A. Murphy at Tulameen, and I gave him \$25.

Q. Did you not tell the Agent that you were not brought up before the Judge, but that it was the Constable that fined you, and that his name was L. Woolford?

MR COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Who was the Judge that fined you \$25.?

A. I don't know the man - I know his face. But anyway the Judge told me "I am the Judge in Tulameen".

Q. Where did they fine you the \$25. were you on the road with those deer, or were you in the Courthouse?

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A. Right in the Courthouse, and they told me if you don't pay \$25. we sill have to arrest you and put you in gaol.

THE CHAIRMAN TO INDIAN AGENT BROWN:- If this man has been unlawfully fined, I think that you should take the matter up with the Attorney-General as soon as you can - I am endeavouring to show that the law for the whiteman and the Indian is just the same, and if some person has unlawfully extorted money from this man, you just report it to headquarters and it will be dealt with.

WITNESS (Continuing) When the whitepeople make laws they don't come and tell us about them, and we don't know anything about them.

THE CHAIRMAN:- The Agent should come and tell you when new laws are made.

Now I think we have heard enough insofar as statements are concerned - There is not one man who has made a statement, who has made any remarks about the general conditions of the Indians - all their remarks have been confined to personal grievances; but this grievance about fishing and hunting, this is nothing new, we have heard these before and it is now pretty well knocked into our heads. Now we shall proceed to hear evidence as to the character of your Reserves, what you do, and what property you hold. This information is necessary for us to enable us to make our report. We can get it from other persons besides the Indians, but we think it fair to give the Indians a chance to see what he says about the matter. Now who will come forward to testify - Ask the Chief if he is willing that this man (William Nelson) should give evidence.

THE CHAIEF:- Yes we are all willing that this man give you some evidence.

WILLIAM NELSON IS HEREUPON DULY SWORN TO GIVE EVIDENCE.

MR COMMISSIONER SHAW:- You know this Coldwater Reserve pretty well, do you?

- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know how many acres are in it?
- A. I don't just know how many acres are in it; I know this Reserve is in three parts.
- Q. What do you mean by three parts?
- A. There is another Reserve still to this - There should be two Reserves near this.
- Q. What do they call those other two Reserves?
- A. There is a name Siwash Meadow.
- Q. How large is the meadow?
- A. About as large as the Coldwater 42.50 acres.
- Q. And the other one is Pauls Basin No.2 containing 1594 acres. Now on this Reserve where we are now - What is the general character of the land?
- A. On this land there is a river running through the centre of it, and the biggest part of it is mostly side-hill.
- Q. Is all the flat land that can be cultivated along the banks of the river?
- A. No.
- Q. Can you give us an idea how many acres there is cultivated on this Reserve, roughly speaking?
- A. To a family, not more than 10 acres - hardly that.
- Q. How many families live on the Reserve?
- A. There are 113 people on this Reserve, men, women and children.
- Q. About how many fathers and mothers?
- A. About 17 or 18 families.
- Q. There would be about 175 acres cultivated?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What do they produce on this cultivated land?
- A. Chiefly hay.
- Q. Has the land been ploughed and sown with grass seed?
- A. Partly wild hay.
- Q. Would you say they are cultivating all the land on this Reserve that can be cultivated reasonably?
- A. Nearly all cultivated.

- Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- What use do they make of the hay they grow on the land?
- A. We feed our stock with that hay.
- Q. How many head of stock have they on the Reserve here - About how many horses have they?
- A. Close on to 350 horses and cattle.
- Q. Do they grow enough hay on this Reserve to feed those horses and cattle?
- A. In a mild winter they are short of hay, and if it is a long winter, we have to buy hay from the whitepeople.
- Q. (Perusing map) Coming to this little Reserve here - Are there any Indians living there?
- A. No.
- Q. What sort of land is that?
- A. There is a small piece for grazing, and the balance is only rocky.
- Q. The next Reserve, Paul's Basin, are there any Indians living on that?
- A. No.
- Q. Is there any of that land meadow land?
- A. Yes, there is some good land there that can be cultivated.
- Q. Is it open land or is it timbered land?
- A. It is mostly timber, and we cannot get water on to it.
- Q. Is there a lake on it?
- A. No, it is a swamp.
- Q. What is the land like around the swamp?
- A. The Indians get a little swamp hay, and the land would be good if we could get water.
- Q. About how much would be good if you could get water on to it?
- No answer.
- Q. Would you call that land pasture land?
- A. Yes, but we cannot keep horses there all the time, because it dries up.
- Q. Have they sufficient pasture land in this vicinity for all the stock they have in summer?
- A. Yes they have on the outside.

MR COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Is the outside all open land?

A. No.

Q. Part of it is open land?

A. Yes, and the pasture is getting smaller every year.

Q. Up to the present time, have they had any trouble in getting summer feed for their stock?

A. They come in fat, but it is not like it was before when they used to be allowed to roam.

Q. Their stock does well during the summer months?

A. Yes.

Q. But in the winter they are short of hay; particularly if it is a long winter?

A. Through the winter they are short of feed.

Q. The railway passes through the Reserve the full length of four miles, and most of the right of way is meadow land - Has it made any great difference to the amount of hay they cut?

A. Yes, it does.

Mr. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL About 40 tons a year?

A. I cannot say.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Do these Indians ask for any more land, or for their Reserve to be enlarged?

A. What I have heard, if it was possible for the Reserve to be enlarged in such a way that Coldwater and Paul's Basin could be connected together, I think it would be better.

Q. Is there good land along in between there?

A. That is for holding spring pasture after the snow is all gone - they can graze on this land.

Q. Is any of this land taken up by white settlers?

A. Not just where we are asking for more land.

Q. Do they want the land right down to the river?

A. Yes, we want to have the river as an Eastern boundary - They would like the land to include the lake on the west side of the river in order to have water for their stock.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Is there any stock here on this Reserve?

A. No.

Q. About how many children of school age would there be here

A. 31.

Q. Have they ever applied for a school?

A. I have heard them talking about it. All these people here are Roman Catholics. If they could send them to a Industrial school then have a day school on the Reserve it would be better. But some of them wants a day school.

Q. Are there any children at present away from this Reserve to an industrial school such as Kamloops?

A. No they are all small children. The Chief often said he would like to have someone here with an education so that he could help him (the Chief) along.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- You say the railway cut off about 40 acres of your best meadow land - But the railway paid for it didn't they?

A. Not very much.

Q. What was done with the money?

A. Some was given to the Government at Ottawa, and some was given to the Indians.

Q. What did the Government do with it - Did they pay you interest?

A. We heard if the Indians wanted it, they could get it for buying some implements.

THE CHAIRMAN: You do not know how much they got in cash?

A. I think there was \$860. in the Bank; that is they hold this in trust.

Q. And then they got \$860.?

A. I think they got more than that, but I cannot remember how much.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- With regard to the number of children - you did not say there was 31 children on the Reserve, it was someone else - How many children are there on the Reserve?

A. Sampson says he counted them, and there are 31.

When Mr. Sproat was here, he gave us this land and he gave us our range land, and then another man came along and fenced our range land, and then two men and a Spaniard fenced those places, and we have no range, and if we had any stock, there would be no place to feed them on.

I am glad to see you Commissioners here to-day to help me out in these things - If we had horses, it would be just like if they were coralled - we have no place where we can turn our horses out to feed - That is why I am here, I want you Commissioners to help me out in these things - We had a little stock, but we couldn't turn them out, and where we are we have no got enough land to turn our stock out, and have to rustle around to get feed for them - We have children, and we have to turn our stock out, and we want you Commissioners to help us.

THE CHAIRMAN:- How much stock have you got - horses and cattle?

A. All the stock we have, I think it just come to about 160 head.

Q. You mean horses and horned cattle?

A. Yes, that is what I mean and I want you people to help us out - We have no range.

Q. Have you any hay meadows on the Reserve?

A. We only have about 30 acres in hay meadow.

Mr. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- How do they feed their cattle in Winter?

A. When we feed all our hay out it does not last long to feed our stock with the little hay we have, and after that we always buy hay from the whitepeople and from the rest of the Indians

THE CHAIRMAN:- How many families on the Reserve?

A. Six families.

Q. How many people?

A. 20.

Q. You do not get enough hay on the Reserve to winter your cattle?

A. No - We are a long way short, and we cannot get any water to irrigate our ground.

Q. What is the rest of the land like outside of the 30 acres of hay land?

It is pretty rocky but not bad.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- How do you make the money to buy your hay?

We sell our cattle and horses - that is the way we buy our hay.

THE CHAIRMAN:- That is all - We will look into this matter. And I may just say that we will look into the Coldwater matter as well.

CHIEF PONEY OF THE SPEOS I.R. MAKES APPLICATION FOR THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL LAND.

I want some more land directly South of the Speos Indian Reserve 1-½ miles, and running the full width of the Reserve.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

MEETING WITH THE NOOAITCH GRASS BAND OF INDIANS ON THEIR RESERVE No. 10
on the 17th. October, 1913.

JIMMIE AENEAS ADDRESSED THE COMMISSION AS FOLLOWS:-

ISAAC HARRIS, acted as Interpreter.

Our water on our Reserve is very short - that is the reason why we cannot cultivate anything very well on account of being short of water - We want to get permission so that we can get water on Speous Creek.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- That is a matter which you will have to take up with the Indian Agent.

A. This land starts up on a cliff - It is very mountainous - We cannot pasture our horses on it.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Any people living on it?

A. We live right down along the edge of the river. It would be a good thing if we could get some more land. We want to extend our Reserve and to have a piece of land for our pasture. It is good land North of the river.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- The application of Jimmie Aeneas for an addition to his Reserve No.10 for pasture land lying along the Creek to the South-East of the Reserve 2 miles wide and 6 miles along the Creek.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Well there was some of the Indians that wanted to say something about the Shulus Indian Reserve - We will hear them now.

JOANA IS HEREUPON SWORN TO GIVE EVIDENCE.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- All right Joana, go on?

We did not have enough hay in Shulus, our land is too small for us, and there are a lot of Indians in that land. We have a lot of stock, lots of cattle, and lots of horses, and we cannot get enough hay for them - What they eat inside the field now, and even outside it is not enough to feed them. We are very short of land in Shulus, and even now there is a whiteman right in the middle of it to-day - the man's name is Lindley and

and Alf. Collett, and they are living right amongst us. Look at me, I have some stock from being short of hay I got to buy hay from here and even from Douglas Lake - I have to go that far to buy hay to get through the winter - That is the reason I am speaking to you to try and get some more land to give us enough to raise enough for the people in Shulus, and to raise enough hay for our own stock.

APPLICATION FROM THE NICOLA MAMEET I.R. FOR ADDITIONAL LAND.

Starting at the most Easterly and Southerly point, thence North to the N.E. corner of the Reserve, thence East 5 miles thence South to a point directly East of the point to the point of commencement, thence West to the point of commencement.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- How many had of stock do all the Indians on the Shulus Indian Reserve own on No.1?

A. 587.

Q. Is that horses and cattle?

A. Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Anything further - Did you help us to make up this statement, William Nelson?

A. Yes.

Q. Could you give us a list showing the total number of stock in all the Reserves?

A. I did not have time.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
MEETING WITH THE DOUGLAS LAKE BAND OF INDIANS, AT DOUGLAS LAKE ON THE
18th. OCTOBER, 1913.

The Chairman explained to the assembled Indians the powers and scope of the Commission, and

ISAAC HARRIS acted as Interpreter.

CHIEF CHILLIHEETZA addressed the Commission as follows:-

"I am glad, to see you Commissioners come and heal up the wounds that is in our hearts - It is just like the time the Commissioners came and visited my father a long time ago; they were sent by Queen Victoria, and now you are doing the same, you have the same work when you come to my place now - A long time ago when my father had a talk with the man that the Queen sent here, the man who came here, sent by the Queen, said to my father "You had better take land to be posted with 4 posts and if you take land in that way, and when it is already posted and all that land will be marked on those posts; just like a high fence there will be nothing go inside those posts except you Indians and it will be the law of the Queen. My father said "why, just like as if the Queen was going to take my land but this man who offered to put the posts down told my father that there will be lots of bad whitemen will come by, and this man said to my father, the Queen is going to take you and look after your interests all the time; my father also said if I happen to get stuck sometimes, if I happen to say anything to the Queen, will she take my word. That man said "Yes, Chilliheetza that is just the way that the Queen wants. If you happen to get stuck, you can call on here for help, and she will help you all the time. The reason we call the Queen is because that is our Great Chief a long time ago and it is the only one we have known." My father said "all right, I will do what the Queen tells me to do, now I will take my Reserve and be posted", and he said to my father "you take the Queen's advice, and she will help you in every respect" My father said "all right, we will take our small piece where

we are going to live, and we will talk about our interests in the big outside lands, and the Commissioner said "all right".

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Who said that?

A. Mr. O'Reilly, and Mr. Sproat later on. The Commissioners know my father; he wanted some money, that is the reason why he would settle the interests of the Indians on the outside lands later on, and they never did say anything about it ever since the Queen died and my father died and no word was said until now - That is the reason the Indians have been talking about that subject now - You Commissioners here all know that the whitemen have not paid one cent to the Indians for the Province of British Columbia; and the Indians also talked about land to be given by the Crown for land that is needed for the Reserves such as pasture land to keep stock for the benefit of the Indians - Like us here now, we have fenced all our Reserve but still our cattle is not getting enough pasture land - that is what the Indians want; they want the Reserve to be joined with land, but not to have the Reserve cut.

THE CHAIRMAN You want some more land added?

A. Yes. That is all I have to say.

Q. Does anyone else wish to say anything?

JOHNNIE HOLMES ADDRESSES THE COMMISSION AS FOLLOWS:-

The expression of the Chief now stated to you is the whole feeling of the Band and no one else has anything more to say.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Now we would like to take some evidence with respect to these Reserves.

CHIEF CHILLIHEETZA:- I have told you Commissioners that all our Reserve is fenced.

THE CHAIRMAN:- I would like to know how large your Reserve is, how much of it is under cultivation, also how many horses and cattle you have.

THE CHIEF: We have a few pieces of cultivated land where we are able

irrigate.

THE CHAIRMAN (to the Chief), will you be sworn to give evidence?

A. Yes, I will give evidence.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- You are the Chief of this Band of Indians on this Reserve?

A. Yes.

Q. Here is a-map; I would like you to come over and look at it. That is Reserve No.3 Douglas Lake, and to the south of it is another Reserve No. 8 Spahumen Reserve - Is that correct?

A. Yes. This Reserve we are on now is all called Spahumen Reserve, and not Douglas Lake.

THE CHAIRMAN:- He means that both Reserves Nos.3,4 and 8 are all called Douglas Lake.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- How many acres are in these three Reserves altogether?

A. I think there are a good many acres.

Q. Well do you know how many?

A. I cultivate myself alone 200 acres.

Q. I mean in the whole Reserve - It is a very large Reserve then, is it?

A. Yes.

Q. Is this Reserve all fenced?

A. Yes, all fenced. All the places where the corners of the Reserve goes into whitemans land that is the only place that is not fenced.

Q. Who built the fence around this Reserve?

A. All the Indians.

Q. And does this whole Reserve belong to the whole Tribe of Indians - Do they hold this Reserve in common?

A. Yes.

Q. About how much land on this Reserve is cultivated - that is growing grain, hay, potatoes, vegetables, wild hay or timothy hay - how many acres altogether?

A. I think it will be 1,000 acres or more.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- About how many families or heads of families are there on this Reserve?

A. About 30 families.

Q. And does each man, the head of the family, have his own piece of cultivated land?

A. They all have their own places.

Q. The pasture land outside the cultivated land - does each man have a piece of that, or is it held in common by all of the Indians?

A. There are quite a few fields separate by themselves, but when they get short of grass we are all in one big field.

Q. About how many cattle are owned on the Reserve by the different families on the Reserve?

A. About 800 or more.

Q. How many horses?

A. 3,000 head of horses.

Q. Where do these cattle and horses range in the summer time?

A. On our land here inside the Reserve. You can see for yourself it is all eaten up, there is no more grass.

Q. Do they never turn them out on the Government Reserve during the summer?

A. I don't know of any Government land around here.

Q. In the winter time do you have to feed all these cattle?

A. We feed them in the winter time, and as general rule we are short of hay.

Q. And do you feed the horses in the winter time as well?

A. Yes towards spring they need feed and we feed the horses also.

Q. Do you ever rent any part of this Reserve in the fall or spring to whitemen to pasture their cattle?

A. The first time when we didn't have enough stock to pasture we used to, but not now.

Q. How many years ago was that?

A. About 8 years ago.

Q. Was this done through the Indian Agent, or did the Indians make a bargain of their own?

- A. Yes, through Indian Agent Irwin.
- Q. And the money that was paid was divided among all the Indians of the Band?
- A. Yes, when we have some to spare we divide it among the rest and sometimes there is a very little and we cannot divide it up.
- Q. Is there any school on this Reserve?
- A. No.
- Q. Are there many children of school age on this Reserve?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Is it the desire of the Indians here to have a school established here for their children?
- A. I think it would be all right.
- Q. Have they ever asked the Indian Department to do this for them?
- A. Yes, we told them. We would like to have a school and we would like to have a Doctor, but we have no chance. We never got no assistance from anyone.
- Q. Does not the Indian Department appoint a Doctor to look after the Indians when they are sick?
- A. No. I never was told to go to a Doctor that would be called an Indian Doctor for the Band.
- Q. Was not Doctor Toto of Nicola up here some time ago?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did any of the Indians send for him and ask him to come up?
- A. No one told him to come up.
- Q. Did he come up to see the Indians?
- A. Yes, he came up to see the Indians - We did not know what he was. We know that that he was a Doctor, but we used to pay our own bills before he came up here.
- Mr. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- About how many head of cattle do you sell in a year?
- A. About 100 head or more.
- Q. The cattle must be increasing?
- A. Yes, they are increasing all the time.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- Do you sell many horses?

A. We used to sell some horses before, but we have not sold any yet this year.

MR. COMMISSIONER WHITE:- You say you have about 1,000 acres under cultivation - Is there any more land on the Reserve that could be cultivated?

A. I think so if we could get water on to it.

Q. This 1,000 acres is irrigated, is it?

A. Yes, it is irrigated land.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Where do you get the water?

A. From the Spahomin Creek.

Q. Is that Creek on this Reserve?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- Is that the Creek running along the Reserve?

A. Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Does anyone else use water in that Creek but the people living on this Reserve?

A. No.

Q. I suppose you could make it available for more land than is cultivated?

A. The water could be increased to supply more cultivated land by damming the Creek and holding the water until it is necessary to be used. At the present time the Creek is not able to supply water to cultivate any more land.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- Suppose that plan was carried out, how many acres additional could you cultivate?

A. I suppose it would be about three time more than I am doing now provided that water was properly looked after - I mean to say there is another stream goes into this lake which the whiteman wants. If the whiteman gets this, the lake will be gone.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Suppose you were to alter the little ditches that run through your land and make them go further over the land with the same amount of water that you are using now, could

you cultivate more land?

A. It might increase it a little.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Has the Reserve got a Record for this water?

A. Yes, I guess Mr. Irwin has it.

MR.COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- Why don't you put in a further application to get more water from the lake?

A. Well I am explaining those matters now so as you Commissioners can help me out.

Q. The Indian Agent is the one to whom you should apply for additional water?

A. All right, if the Commissioner advise me to do that, I will see Cummiskey and the Agent for more water.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- How many cattle have you of your own?

A. 500 head of cattle.

Q. And how many horses?

A. I think 500 horses or more.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- Are they heavy horses or light horses?

A. There are 4 stallions heavy draft Clydes and one light stallion.

Q. You ought to be able to get good prices for the heavy horses?

A. Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Are there any more Indians who would like to say anything?

JOHNNIE HOLMES says I agree with what the Chief has told you.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Are you the Chief of the Nicola Lake Indian Reserve?

A. Yes, I am the Chief here.

Q. And when you are speaking of the amount of cattle and horses, you include what is on both Reserves, do you?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- How many families live on the Nicola Lake Reserve?

A. About six good big families.

Q. Do they cultivate much land there?

A. Yes.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- About how much?

A. I counted it before.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- It is all included in the evidence he gave a short time ago.

THE CHAIRMAN:- Coming along here, we came or passed through the Reserve and on the right hand side of the road there was a lot of range land - Does that belong to that Reserve, I mean the Nicola Lake Reserve?

A. There is a corner of Indian Reserve there - It is so small it would not pay us to fence it.

Q. No no, I mean where the church is?

A. The church is inside the Reserve.

Q. And we came along on the right hand side of the road, there is a bit of range land, is there not?

A. The whitemen has fenced along the side of the road, and they put our fences inside the whitemen's fences. We want to fence that now, and we are going to do it on Monday or Tuesday.

Q. Is that the Company's land?

A. Yes.

Q. Coming along the road you look down to the left we look down upon the meadows of this Reserve - do you know that?

A. Yes.

Q. Well now on the right hand side of the road there is a lot of range land, is there not?

A. Yes that is the piece we are going to fence right away.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
MEETING WITH MR JACKSON OF NICOLA, IN THE NICOLA HOTEL AT NICOLA ON THE
18th DAY OF OCTOBER 1913.

- Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- We would like you Mr. Jackson, to give us a general description of the Reserves in the Douglas Lake and Quilchena Districts, as to the acreage, the amount of land that can be cultivated and irrigated. Now are the Indians cultivating all the land in these Districts?
- A. In some of these they are.
- Q. In regard to Quilchena Reserve, (perusing map) you see the acreage on the map - Is there much of this land fit for cultivation?
- A. I should judge there are about 200 acres that can be cultivated.
- Q. Is it cultivated fairly well?
- A. All that is cleared is cultivated.
- Q. Is there any land there that might be cleared and cultivated?
- A. Yes, there is probably 100 acres that could be cleared and cultivated.
- Q. You mean they are cultivating about $\frac{1}{2}$ that might be cultivated - Now what is the balance?
- A. Mountain and pasture.
- Q. Is the Reserve fenced?
- A. Yes, it is all fenced.
- Q. Is that the home of Chief Johnnie Chilliheetza?
- A. Yes, he has one home there and one at Douglas Lake.
- Q. How many families live on that Reserve?
- A. Not as many as formerly; but I should judge there are about 12 families there.
- Q. What is their condition generally?
- A. On that Reserve they are fairly well to do.
- Q. They have stock?
- A. Very little stock. They used to have quite a few horses. They seem to live very well as long as they leave whiskey alone.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Do they pasture their stock on the Reserve or outside?

A. On both.

Q. Do they lease or rent that pasture?

A. They have done so on some occasions; not always. I have known several years where they have rented it.

MR.COMMISSIONER WHITE:- How many acres are there in the Reserve?

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- 2,692.

THE CHAIRMAN: Suppose we took up each Reserve by itself?

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Yes, I think it would be better.

THE CHAIRMAN TO WITNESS:- What do they cultivate on that Reserve?

A. They grow grain, hay and vegetables.

Q. Do they grow any vegetables to sell?

A. Very little.

Q. How do they use the hay they grow?

A. For their horses.

Q. As a matter of fact they are horse and cattle dealers?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know how many horses and cattle they have?

A. I have no idea.

Q. The pasture outside the Reserve in which they range their stock, I suppose is common to everyone, is it?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know whether the range outside is owned by private individuals?

A. It is Government Reserve - There are 16000 acres on the Hamilton Reserve.

Q. You have given us about 200 acres that would be fit for cultivation and the other half is not cultivated - What kind of land is it?

A. Bottom land covered with cottonwood.

Q. I suppose it would be easy to clear, would it?

A. Yes, they are clearing a little every year.

Q. You say that they sometimes rent their range land - Is that being

done by the Indians generally, or by the Chief?

A. By the Indians generally.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Now about the Reserve at Douglas Lake containing 23,047 acres, No.3, What is the character of that Reserve?

A. Principally pasture land.

Q. Is there any cultivation on it at all?

A. Yes.

Q. Could you give us an approximate estimate?

A. They took in a lot of hay last year - I would judge they cultivate about 150 acres between grain and hay.

Q. Is there any other land on there that is fit for cultivation?

A. Yes, there is some.

Q. About how much would you say?

A. Last year Chilliheetza claimed a lot of this bench land for putting in a big ditch, and it is possible he put in 150 acres more.

Q. They are a progressive lot of Indians there, are they?

A. Yes.

Q. Is this Reserve fenced?

A. Yes. It is all fenced in except a small portion.

Q. What use do they make of the range land?

A. They use it for pasture.

Q. For themselves?

A. Yes. One field about 14,000 acres, the Chief has fenced privately that he rents.

Q. The Chief rents that himself outside the other Indians?

A. Yes.

Q. And are the other Indians satisfied with that arrangement?

A. No, they are not - they never were satisfied.

Mr. COMMISSIONER WHITE:- Is that mountain land?

A. Yes.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Rolling mountain pasture land, is it?

A. Yes.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- And in some years he gets a very large rental for it, does he?

A. Yes, both in the Fall and in the Spring.

Q. Have the Indians there got much stock of their own?

A. Johnnie must have about 400 head of cattle, and 400 head of horses.

Q. The other Indians of the Band, how much have they?

A. I don't think they have altogether over 100 head of cattle between them.

Q. How many horses?

A. Probably 250 head.

Q. Have those Indians enough feed for their stock in the winter?

A. They generally have enough.

Q. And all the pasture they want?

A. They are pretty well supplied.

Q. By what authority does the Chief monopolize that Reserve?

Mr. JOHN CLAPPERTON:- It is a hereditary custom.

Q. I suppose it is a Tribal custom, and what he gets he holds?

A. Yes.

Mr. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL:- I don't suppose he cares very much about Indian rights?

A. No.

THE CHAIRMAN:- In the first place there is some of this land that is fit for cultivation, and has not yet been cultivated - I suppose that is all bottom land?

A. No, the most of that land which they could put under cultivation would be bench lands.

Q. Could they put irrigation there?

A. Yes.

Q. Have they the means of irrigation there?

A. They have plenty of water.

Q. Do the Indians understand the principles of irrigation?

A. Yes, the old fashioned system of ditching.

Q. You have been cattle raising here I suppose?

A. Yes.

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THE CHAIRMAN:- Can you give me some idea as to the character of the range land here - About how much land would it take to properly pasture 100 head of cattle?

A. We generally always calculate 15 acres to the head; that is mountain land.

Q. There is a small Reserve No.2, containing 60 acres - How many families live there?

A. One family.

Q. Does he cultivate all the land there is there?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know of No.6, Logan's, a small Reserve of 45 acres?

A. No, not very well.

Q. You stated how much of this range land would be required for 100 head; about 15 or 20 acres to the head - Take that land that is fit for cultivation, suppose, this bottom land was cleared, would it make good pasture land?

A. Yes, the best of pasture land.

Q. Suppose that land was cleared, how much would it pasture?

A. Probably 2 head to the acres if it was very good land sown in clover.

Q. What would you say Mr. Jackson is the average length of time that stock is fed each year.

A. There are no two years alike, but I suppose it would average 3 months feeding, and 9 months outside.

Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Are there not some winters here that horses are not fed at all?

A. You never need to feed at all where it is not pastured in the summer.

Q. There are winters that only the weaker calves and cattle are fed?

A. It is very seldom.

- Q. Do they use this Chapperon Lake Reserve at all?
- A. No one resides on it - they cut a little hay on it sometimes.
- Q. There is a larger Reserve at the North end of Chapperon Lake. Does anyone live there?

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- A. Just one family lives there when I was up there.
- Mr. COMMISSIONER SHAW:- Where is another Reserve called the Spohem Reserve?
- A. That has been joined to the Douglas Lake.
- Q. You say there is general dissatisfaction among the Indians on account of the Chief taking practically the whole Reserve for his own private use?
- A. Oh yes, there always has been. I have had a lot of trouble with them about this matter - I don't think the Indian Agents went as far as they should have gone - They always go to the Chief and not to the Indians, and that makes it harder
- Q. This Band of Indians are prosperous are they not?
- A. Yes, they are. Chilliheetza made all the Indians help him in fencing in the large Reserve without paying them, and then he turned around and charged them so much per head for grazing their cattle.
- Q. Does he charge the Indians on this Reserve for pasturing?
- A. Yes, he does.
- THE CHAIRMAN:- Mr Jackson stated that the Indians living here are a very prosperous lot I would not have thought so, because they don't appear to work very hard.
- Q. Have you anything to add Mr. Clapperton to what you have heard Mr. Jackson state?
- A. No, I think Mr. Jackson has told you everything there is.
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Royal Commission on Indian Affairs for the Province of B.C.

MEETING WITH THE NICOLA MAMEET BAND OR TRIBE OF INDIANS OF THE SHULUS
INDIAN RESERVE: ON 16th. October, 1913

Jimmie Aee'neas was sworn to act as Interpreter.

Chief Tom Peter addresses the Commission as follows:

I am glad to see you people all here today. We have been waiting here for the Commission for sometime to have everything in the right way that is why the Commissioners are here today. We have been sorry for quite a while for our own property. We have here today quite a few people who I think own quite an interest in the land. We know this is our own property we want our own things We don't want anyone to claim any interest and the Commissioners are here today to have these things fixed alright. That is what we want to have these things settled. I guess we are going to be fixed alright. Now you are going to give us our own property and we have been wanting this for along time and everyone will be satisfied. If we only settle this thing to have everything right. There is only one thing that is right. We want our own property that is the last word I have to say.

Mr. Commissioner Shaw; Do you mean by your own property to have it free of control by the Ottawa Government so that the Government at Ottawa will have nothing more to do with it?

A. We don't want the Commissioners here to say I don't want Ottawa.

Q. Do you mean by our own property do you mean the Indian Reserve?

A. All the land in the reserve, and even all the land outside the reserve I want to be free the way we are now and I want it to be by that way all the time.

Mr. Commissioner Macdowall: Do you mean that you don't want anyone to come into the reserve and use the land?

A. No, I don't want to stop anyone from coming in, but I want the land to be free, that is to be free to everyone.

The Chairman: You want the land to be free so that you can go and hunt and shoot and to go wherever you please without interference is that what you mean,

A. Yes, I want all the country to be free so that I can go out and hunt. If these Commissioners don't understand this thing I might go

out and hunt and someone might go out and shoot me. [p.231]

The Chairman: You don't object to whitemen outside of the reserve [p.232]
going there and farming and building houses do you?

A. No.

Mr. Commissioner Macdowall: And I suppose you want the reserve to
be kept by themselves?

A. Yes.

The Chief: I don't want the Commissioners to forget me I want them
to remember me and I will do so to. I believe that is what is right.

BLAIR PETER ADDRESSES THE COMMISSION AS FOLLOWS:

I am glad to see all the Commissioners here to-day. SINCE I was born
to be a man here I saw the whitemen come into this country and the
white people fenced the country all over and then I never felt sore
about it. Everything what is in this country everything is just like
drying out where I used to get my food. I used to get my food from
the water and it seems as though that is drying out too. I am awful
glad that the Commissioners are here today I want them to help me and
give me these things that I want. Yes My dear friends you know and I
know it myself that we born in this world. Everything is lying just
like on top of the ground out of the rocks and from the ground. I am
glad that the Commissioners are here I wish them to help me have these
things all fixed up. Anything I want I want them to give it to me.

Chief Michael of the Hamilton Creek I.R. addresses the Commission:

I don't want to be ahead of your people I heard you last
night and that is why this morning I started from my home pretty
early to meet you people. I want to be glad to you people what you
think about me. It is alright when the first white people first
c me to this country 68 years ago my own ch f he was free to
everything to let everything free in this world. All the gold what
he used to find on the Fraser River, no one ever stopped him from
getting it. Everything was free. The hay and trees was all free.

Everyting in the old days was free, game, deer and all the fish in
the river. I am thinking just now that I want to be free like that
all the time. When I see all the white people coming to the country
[p.232] and the country is full and everything I had in the old I would like [p.233]
to have as it was in the days of Queen Victoria. Queen Victoria said

in the first everything will be free and I want you people to fence your hay fields anywhere you can. You can cut the hay and I want you to fence it up, but outside of that everything shall be free and all the people in the country and all the game too. Now today I am just thinking the same thing. Now you have heard me and I am glad to see you people here today and all I want is to have the things as we used to have them in the old days. I know that we've got a God in heaven who is our Judge, and He is the Man who will come some day to judge us. That is all I have to say.

Chief TOM PETER is hereupon sworn to give evidence and examined by the Chairman:

Q. You are the Chief of this Reserve?

A. Yes.

Q. This reserve, it is across the river is it not?

A. Yes, it is across the river.

Q. Only a little bit of it is across the river, isn't it?

A. Yew, just a small piece.

Q. Does the reserve go up on those hills there?

A. No.

Q. A small piece of the reserve is on either side of the Mameet river?

A. Yes.

Q. Does it go up on the hill or is it on the bottom?

A. It is all on the bottom.

Q. On this side of the river does it go back to these hills?

A. Yes, this side of the Mameet lake it follows the mountain.

Q. Does it go up to the top?

A. Pretty near the top.

Q. This land in the bottom is very good land is it not?

A. Yes. What is in the bottom is very good and the part on the hill is all rocky.

Q. What is the hilly part used for, is it for grazing?

A. We use that for range in the winter time.

Q. Is it all good range or only part of it?

A. Part of it is pretty good land for grazing and some of it is fenced.

- Q. What do you grow on the bottomland?
- A. Everything we can raise is raised on this bottomland - we grow hay and everything that we use.
- Q. I suppose you grow potatoes and cabbages and all kinds of vegetables?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you sell any of this stuff or do you use it all yourselves
- A. We just use it ourselves.
- Q. You raise a large quantity of hay, don't you?
- A. We don't raise much hay, just enough for our own use.
- Q. What do you get your living by?
- A. We just raise our own vegetables.
- Q. You cannot live on those unless you sell some of them. Don't you sell a lot of the stuff you grow on your farms to other people?
- A. Yes, some of the Indians raise some vegetables and sell them.
- Q. I suppose you sell some hay too, don't you?
- A. Yes, some of the Indians when they think they have enough they sell it, and when they think they don't have enough they don't sell it.
- Q. Do you own any cattle - I mean on the whole reserve?
- A. Yes, we have some cattle.
- Q. Any horses?
- A. Yes, all us Indians have cattle and horses and sometimes we sell our cattle or our horses and this is the way we make our living.
- Q. How many cattle do you keep as a rule?
- A. Quite a lot of these Indians have horses and cattle, and part of them they don't have enough horses and cattle.
- Q. Can you not give me any idea as to how many horses and cattle you have on the reserve?
- No answer.
- Q. As a matter of fact you are what is called mixed farmers - that is you grow what you can raise in the ground, and you sell your cattle and horses?
- A. Yes.

- Q. All the cultivated ground is on this bottom is it not?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know how much land is cultivated here?
- A. All the cultivated land I think it is about 200 acres or more.
- Q. Do you raise all the feed, hay, necessary for the purposes feeding your cattle and horses in the winter time?
- A. Yes, we raise enough hay to feed our own stock.
- Q. Have you sufficient range for your horses and cattle to pasture on in the summertime?
- A. Yes, we have a range and it is a pretty good range, but at the same time the Government at Victoria wants to claim the whole thing.
- Q. I understand then you have sufficient range for your cattle to pasture on in the summertime. Is that range all in the reserve or is it off the reserve?
- A. If we keep our stock on the reserve, what we have fenced in, we would have nothing. All our stock runs out except in the winter time.
- Q. Is there not considerable land on this flat that you could use for your horses and cattle - you say you only farm 200 acres?
- A. I think if we keep our cattle here there is not enough at all.
- Q. There is considerable pasture ground here is there not on this flat - you only farm 200 acres?
- A. No, there is not enough if we keep our stock inside here. There is not enough for our stock. If we can let our stock run all over we are satisfied.
- Q. I understand then there is not enough pasture on the hills and the bottom together outside of the haylands to maintain your stock and they have to run outside is that correct?
- A. Yes.
- Mr. Commissioner Shaw: What is the name of the Band of Indians you are Chief of?
- A. The Shulus.
- Q. How many of these reserves (looking on the map) belong to

these Indians? How many of these reserve are you Chief over?

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- A. I am Chief over all of these reserves.
- Q. Are you Chief over the Hamilton Creek reserve?
- A. No.
- Q. Are you Chief of the Coldwater reserve?
- A. There is another chief there.
- Q. Are you Chief of these reserves along the river here?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Well you are Chief of all the reserves along here down to Nicola river?
- A. I am Chief all the way up to the foot of the lake.
- Q. But the Coldwater there is another chief -- is he the head chief?
- A. Yes.
- Q. You live on the big Nicola-Mameet reserve do you?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And you cultivate a lot of the land here?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you irrigate the land you cultivate?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you cultivate all the good land there is on that reserve?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Is there any more land that they could plough on the reserve
- A. Yes, there is some more but we dont cultivate it now. We are going to cultivate it all.
- Q. You say you cultivate 200 acres, does that take in all the hay land, the oat fields and the potatoes?
- A. Yes, we cultivate it all.
- Q. How many more hundred acres could you plough -- that is level land that you could plough nicely?
- A. We could plough 200 acres more.
- Q. Would there be lots of water in the creek to irrigate it?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Now then on this reserve here No.8, Speous? Do you or any

one cultivate any of the land there?

A. Yes, I know about a reservation there.

Q. Are there any Indians living on that piece of land?

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A. Yes, I know there is a reservation there.

Q. Are there any Indians living on that piece of land?

A. Yes.

Q. And do they farm there?

A. Yes.

Q. How much of it, all of it or part of it?

A. The Indians dont cultivate it all but we are going to.

Q. About how much do they cultivate there?

A. About 200 acres and what is not cultivated is about 80 acres.

Q. Now this reserve here, No.9, is that good level land that could be ploughed and cultivated?

A. Yes, that is pretty good level land; it is all cultivated.

Mr Commissioner Shaw: That is 1960 acres and it is all cultivated?

A. I have spoken to the Indian Agent about it and he knows all about it.

Q. You say it is all cultivated?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know the name of this reserve all along the river, No.10 here?

A. Yes.

Q. Is it all good land?

A. Pretty good land.

Q. Is it all cultivated? Is it ploughed? Do you get hay or oats on it?

A. Yes, it is all cultivated. It is ploughed and we raise hay on it and it is thickly populated.

Q. Now No.11, this is what they call "potato land"? Is it not

A. Yes.

Q. Do a lot of Indians live along here?

A. Yes.

Q. And do they cultivate all the land here, 6000 acres?

A. It is all pretty good land and all the people live there too.

Q. Do they plough it all and but hay on it all?

A. Part of the land is pretty good and part of it they cut hay on it.

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Q. And what is the rest of it like? Is it mountain pasture?

A. It is rocky and mountainous and range land.

Q. Do you know these two reserves here, 12 and 13?

A. Yes.

Q. What is the land like on those reserves?

A. About 15 acres good land and all the rest rocky and mountainous?

Q. Is it good range?

The Chairman: You mean only 15 acres good on No.13?

A. Yes.

Mr Commissioner Shaw: Now No.12, does anyone live on No.12?

A. We just have this for pasture. There is nothing there but a corrall.

Q. Is it all fenced?

A. No, not all, outside is a pretty bad place.

Q. Now coming back to No.1, Shulus, is that all fenced

A. Up to 8-Mile Creek. We had a fence all the way but there is another corner which we happened to leave out because we did not know it was a Reserve.

Q. And you keep this for a winter range?

A. Yes.

Q. And in the summer you put your cattle on the mountains all around here do you?

A. Yes, in the summer time we run our cattle out on the mountain on the other side of 8-Mile Creek.

Q. Who owns this land on the mountains? Does any white man own it?

A. There is a white man lives there and all his land is fenced in, but the mountain land is not fenced in.

Q. And all the Indians and this white man drive their stock out there on the mountains in the summertime?

A. Yes.
Q. Can you tell us about how many cattle your Indians have?
A. 260 head of cattle for everyone.
Q. And about how many horses?
A. 300 head of horses.

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Q. And you have some very good horses here have you not?
A. Yes, part of the horses are pretty good.
Q. And you have some good Clydesdale stallions have you not?
A. Yes, we had some but they are all too old what we bought.
Q. Did you say all this reserve was fenced in?
A. Yes, it is all fenced.
Q. (The Chairman) I understood him to say that the land on this reserve went up on top of the hill or in some places nearly on top of it?
A. Yes.
Q. You also told me that the cattle ranged along the hills on the reserve?
A. Yes.
Q. It is not fenced right to the top of the hill is it?
A. Yes.
Q. You say then it is fenced right up on top of the hill?
A. Yes.
Q. Is it not a pretty tough place for cattle to range on the top of these hills in the winter time?
A. The cattle, we dont keep the cattle there. The cattle paw there in the winter time through the snow.
Q. Now I think that is all we have to hear. Thera is a man here who lives right in the corner of this reserve. Lindley?
A. Yes.
Q. Where is this man Lindley?
A. I dont want Lindley to come inside this place, but anyway he is inside of the Reserve and the Indian Agent would not do a thing to take Lindley out of there.

Mr Commissioner Macdowall: Why didn't the Indian Agent, do that?

A. Because Lindley gets the best of him; he could not get Lindley out of there. Lindley says I bought that piece of land from the Victoria Government. When Lindley first came here he built a house and the Chief here he went over and built a house there. The Chief here went over and told him not to build a house on that land.

The Chairman: We have nothing to do with a thing of that sort. We can

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only do as we told you a little time ago, that is, to adjust the reserves. Now what about that Hamilton Creek reserve, is there anyone who wants to come forward and give information regarding that Hamilton Creek reserve?

STEVE MICHEL is hereupon sworn and examined by Mr Commissioner Shaw.

Q. You live on the Hamilton reserve and you are a son of Chief Michel, are you not?

A. Yes.

Q. There are 4400 acres in that reserve are there not, do you know?

A. You can see by the map how many acres there are in it.

Q. What kind of land is it on No.6?

A. Not very good land for cultivation.

Q. How much of it is under cultivation?

A. We dont raise much grass there but we use the biggest piece of that reserve for pasture.

Q. Where do the cattle come from that pasture there and who owns them?

A. Just our own stock that stays in that reserve.

The Chairman: How many people live inside the reserve?

A. Me and my father, there is five of us in half of the reserve.

Q. And who occupies the other half of it?

A. There are 2 brothers and we have a nephew on the other end of the reserve.

Q. That is 9 people living on that reserve altogether?

A. Yes.

Q. Now taking your end of the reserve, are you married?
A. No.
Q. Taking the end you and your father live on, do you cultivate it at all?
A. There is 5 head people there and 13 young children on my half
Q. Well coming down to the other, how many live on the other half?
A. Paul has no family, Neela has no family. Shaskam has two, a girl and a boy.
Q. Has he a wife?
A. Yes.

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Q. Is that all?
A. That is all.
Q. What do the five families raise on your end? Do you raise hay?
A. We raise some hay but not enough.
Q. None of the five families raise enough hay do they?
A. We got short all the time.
Q. About the other three on the other end, do they raise enough?
A. No.
Q. Where do you cut your hay that you require to make up what's wanting?
A. We buy it from the white man.
Q. How many cattle have you at both ends of the reserve?
A. Me and my father and the five families which occupy the one end of the reserve have 90 head of stock.
Q. Is that horses?
A. No, only cattle.
Q. How many have the people at the other end?
A. The other families that occupy the other half own about 45 head of horses and 10 head of cattle.
Q. Do you live on this reserve all the time?
A. Yes.
Q. And do the others?
A. Yes, that is their home.
Q. Is there a fence around it all?

A. Yes, there is a fence all around it.

Q. How do you make your living, do you sell cattle and horses

A. The old man is old now, but just from selling off stock we make our living and I get some of it too.

Q. You dont work outside do you? You are lame, are you not?

A. I am not fit to work outside.

Q. Do some of the others work outside?

A. Some of them work outside.

Q. Do they get pretty steady work?

A. No, they work outside for white people, working their land.

Q. Where de your cattle range, that is the cattle all the people

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have on the reserve, do they range on it and off it as well?

A. Because we have all our land fenced in and outside belongs to the white people.

Q. Do you let your cattle range outside the reserve?

A. We keep all our stock inside the reserve and all the grass is bare. There is no more feed for them at all and I dont know how we are going to manage this winter to feed our stock.

Mr Commissioner Macdowall: Is there no free land around where your cattle could range near the reserve?

A. It is far away from the reserve. We are surrounded by white people owning the land, and we are simply in that reserve and there is no more feed for our stock. I am glad to see you people here now and to hear all about my reserve and I want you people to fix it.

Mr Commissioner Shaw: Why dont you people put your cattle out on the open range like the people of the Shulus reserve?

A. I want to turn them outside and the white man wants to put me in jail for turning my cattle out, and therefore I have to keep them in my reserve.

Mr Commissioner Macdowall: Could they not range then near the Mammeet Indian Reserve?

A. I am afraid to turn my stock our far away, because they will get into the white man's land.

Mr Commissioner Shaw: Is the white man's land all fenced around there?
Do they own it or do they only lease it?

A. They tell me it was coal land and they fenced it in.

Mr Commissioner Macdowall: And have they a crown grant to the surface rights?

No answer.

The Chairman: Now is there anything else you would like to say?

A. I would like to ask the Commissioners for a piece of range land outside my reserve.

Q. Where are you going to get it?

A. Right outside on the east side.

Q. Can you point it out on the map?

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Witness indicated location on map.

Mr Commissioner Shaw: He wants a piece starting at the S.E. corner of the Hamilton Creek Reserve No. 7. How far E. do you want to go?.

A. Two miles.

Mr Commissioner Shaw: Thence E. two miles, thence N. 3 miles, thence W. to the reserve line to the eastern boundary of the reserve and thence following the reserve line S. to the point of commencement.

CHIEF SAUTA was hereupon sworn to give evidence and examined by Mr Commissioner Shaw:

Q. You are the Chief?

A. Yes.

Q. Over what reserves?

A. Zoht Reserve No. 1 and Zoht Reserve No. 2.

Q. Well what do you want to say?

A. We only have a very small place and we only have a very small bit of ploughed ground but no range..

Q. Do you cultivate all of this reserve and cut hay on it?

A. Part of it is pretty good land but it is very small and the rest is rocky.

Q. And you want some more land?

A. Yes.

Q. Where do you want it?

A. I want a piece following a creek up towards the top of the hill.

Q. What is the name of the creek?

A. Zoht creek. The main creek is up the hill, there is a little creek down here (indicating). I want land adjoining the creek and going up the hill.

Q. Do you want it on both sides of the creek?

A. I want it two miles wide and three miles long. I want a piece of land two miles wide by three miles long north of the holding of the white man and between two unnamed creeks to the north of Harry Matthews' land.

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The Chairman: Who lives on that reserve?

A. There are 10 or more altogether.

Q. Are you one of the ten?

A. Yes.

Q. How many heads of families are there?

A. Five families.

Q. How many cattle and horses have you among you?

A. Fifty head altogether.

Q. Do you mean horses?

A. Cattle and horses - 30 head of horses and 20 head of cattle.

Q. And I suppose you make your living by selling horses and cattle?

A. Yes, that is the way we make our living now. The white man has tied everything up so that we cannot fish or hunt, also the white man drives us away from killing deer or birds, therefore we make a little hay to get our living. And the women make a little money by doing laundry for the white men.

Q. Do the men go out to work outside the reserve?

A. Yes, we work a little.

Q. And the women work by doing a little laundrying?

A. Yes, they wash clothes and we make a little money from that.

Q. Do they go out to laundry or do they do the work on the re-

serve?

A. They go off the reserve.

William NELSON is hereupon sworn to give evidence and is examined by
Mr Commissioner Shaw.

The Chairman: You know this reserve the last witness was speaking of?

A. I am acquainted with the people but not with the land. All
the land on that reserve is rocky.

Q. You heard him give his evidence just now and you head him
say that the women on that reserve go out and do laundry work

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know what they get for their services?

A. Some \$1.00 a day and some \$1.50.

Q. What is the condition of these Indians on this reserve, are
they poor?

A. They are very poor.

Q. Do these women go out to do laundry work to a very great extent or to a small extent?

A. To a very small extent.

Q. What proportion of the earnings got by the people on that reserve do the women earn?

A. I could not say. The mother of that family will go out to work and she may make \$2.00 or \$3.00 a week.

Q. Well if she contributed \$3.00 a week, how much would the men contribute?

A. They work at \$1.50 a day; sometimes they work for one day and sometimes they can't get work at all.

Q. You state that the men contribute a large percentage of the earnings?

A. Yes, these Indians used to go to Vernon to pick hops. That is now cut out and they are now behind.

MR. COMMISSIONER SHAW: How many people live on Reserve No. 3?

A. One family.

THE CHAIRMAN: What does your son do on that land?

A. He cultivates it and makes hay.

Q. Has he any cattle?

A. Yes.

Q. How many?

A. I included them with the whole cattle on all the reserves.

Q. Do you own them?

A. No, my nephew owns them.
