

APPENDIX GV

SHULUS RESERVE,

British Columbia.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons.

Honourable Sirs,—I, Antoine Eli, representative for WEST BANK Indian Reserve No. 9, am ready to answer the eight questions asked by the Senate and the House of Commons.

First, Treaty rights and obligations, we have no obligations under any treaty. We support ourselves. We are not supported by the Government.

Second, Band membership, I do not want band membership. We have a man by the name of Mickey Derrickson on our reserve. He is an American. He and his children have allotments on the American side. He is in the class of encroaching on our reserve. I object to this kind of band membership.

Third, Taxes. I don't pay taxes and I don't want to pay taxes inside of my reserve or outside. I am opposed to pay taxes now or in the future. When the white people enforce the law for us to pay taxes I still object.

Fourth, enfranchisement. I don't want to be enfranchised. I am an Indian and I don't want to sign my name to become a white man. I want to be an Indian always.

Fifth, voting. I am an Indian and I never vote at any white peoples election, but in any Indian election I will vote for my chiefs and councillors now or in the future.

Sixth, encroachment. I don't want the encroachment of any white man or woman on our Indian reserve. We have one white woman encroaching on our reserve, on the cut-off on our reserve, 20 acres, she has fenced off and cultivated. We want that land back.

Seventh, Schools. We prefer a day school at West Bank, for the residential school is too far away from us. We want more education and higher schooling for our children. The children that go to the Kamloops School don't have enough education to understand enough English. And the Catholic priest learns the children too much prayers and less education. It is more preferable if our children had more education: six days schooling and one day's preaching.

Eighth, General. We want the old Indian Act. What our Queen Victoria had made for us. We don't want the Indian Act to be revised.

For Health. We have a good doctor. But our nurse doesn't look after the Indians as she should.

For education. We want our children to get ahead in school. When they pass grade school, we want them to have high school training so to be advanced in life.

For housing, we are satisfied with what we have.

For agriculture, we have all the implements and we get along well as we are.

My son Alec Eli has been in the armed forces for four and one-half years. All he had for the trouble and pain of war was the army clothes he had on and a kit bag. The white soldiers that returned had better treatment than Indian soldiers.

Hunting. Our trap lines have been taken by whites. We want them back as it is the only means of our livelihood in the winter.

(Signed) ANTOINE ELI.