

amounted to 1,518,500. There were also grants to the original white settlers. I do not see that particularly specified here. Probably they are included in the half-breed grants. But I am going to make an argument to cover all special grants. I think most of them were made prior to 1870 or almost immediately afterwards.

My argument is this: if public opinion in Canada justified the giving of these grants to these different categories of persons living in Manitoba, Manitoba public opinion, a fortiori, would have done the same thing-- would have justified these grants. I think I am on sound ground when I argue that, had Manitoba had its natural resources from the beginning, it would have made the same contributions to those deserving classes in Manitoba.

MR. CRERAR: Were similar contributions made in Ontario and Quebec?

MR. McMASTER: Well, away back in the beginning, of course, there was a great deal of land that was given away; I think, sometimes, very improvidently.

MR. CRERAR: That is, to companies?

MR. McMASTER: Well, to companies and to favourites of the Government. Very early there were grants to U. E. Loyalists-- grants for nothing to U. E. Loyalists; there were grants to surveyors, apparently for the work they had done in surveying, though I am not sure about that. Anyway there were similar grants. I will not say they were identical, but they were of a similar nature. That is my argument there, and I am going to let it rest there. I think it is sound, and I do not know that I can make any other argument, because I am not prepared, and I doubt if anybody is prepared, to say just what were the causes and consider-

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