

they would be given a tract of land One hundred and sixty miles square as a game preserve and hunting grounds for their exclusive use. They were so certain of success that certain of the Indians were allowed to state which portion of the tract they wished to hold for their individual use before they gave up the sum of money required of them.

Last year a party of men came into the district representing certain land speculators in Prince Rupert. These men were staking agricultural lands on a commission of Fifty cents per acre, and their operations extended from Chesley station 45 miles to the North to the Valley of the Clapan. One hundred and fifty miles to the South East, taking in all of the land in the vicinity of the three Northern Fishing points resorted to by the Tahltan Indians, this action on their part alarmed the Indians and materially hastened their joining the general movement.

I had a council with several of the leading men. made a trip to every locality in which staking was done and reported to them that no portion of this land was fit for Agriculture as heavy frosts are of frequent occurrence in June July and August and if ever purchased by strangers the land would ultimately be abandoned so they now regret having sent the money out