

these Indians and I suppose they still have an interest in the buildings down there on that Reserve and that sort of thing, and there is no doubt the Indians have been benefitted largely by being so close here - they have learned English; a good many of them, and they have proved themselves useful as everyone can testify when we had a last large fire here, and really I myself consider they are quite an asset to the place - but still it is the desire of the majority of the community that they should be set further away, so I suppose it had better be done. I do not know what the attitude of the Indians on this matter is, but no doubt the Indian Agent has had a chat with them.

Indian Agent Scott Simpson: I may say that the Indians here are very averse to being removed from their present abode.

Capt. Hawthorn, continuing. Well I think they have good cause of being averse to their being removed - They have gone to a lot of trouble putting up buildings and they have always behaved themselves remarkably well and I think it would be very disagreeable for them if we were to shift them and leave them alone where they would be the target for a certain number of undesirable white men who would be sure to go and live alongside of them.

Mr Egert again addresses the Commission as follows:

As far as the Indians here being able to make a living, there is no question but that they are able to do it, that is if they want to. Of course this winter they have not been quite as successful as they have been in the past, but in previous years it was nothing for an Indian to leave for the woods and in three months to return with skins worth anywhere from \$1000. to \$2,500. Some of them have been lucky enough to get some fine foxes whose pelts were worth from \$1200. to \$1500. per skin - So I say the Indians here, if they want to, are really not to be pitied. They are way ahead and a finer class of Indian than what we have around Vancouver or Fort Rupert. Now there is