

The CHAIRMAN: Let me put it to you this way. Suppose we were to assume for the moment, or take for granted for the moment, that the complaints we had at St. Regis and Caughnawaga were uniform across the country; suppose that were the case. Do you feel that on the basis of that visit and knowing the problems, we can get a solution to those problems?

Mr. BARNETT: Not on the basis of visiting these two reserves.

The CHAIRMAN: No, but I am saying: Let us assume that these problems exist throughout the country; that these are the problems under five headings or ten headings. Do we have solutions for that? We are going on these trips but the point is: are they going to be exercises in frustration? Are they going to be exercises of the Committees taking trips or are we going to be able to do something about solving the problems? This is the point. Everyone comes and says: "These are the problems." But I have not heard anybody coming with suggestions for solutions.

Mr. ROXBURGH: Give us time; give us time.

The CHAIRMAN: What time? We have had 300 years. How many more years do you want? We have had 300 years.

Mr. ROXBURGH: I am talking about this Committee, not the 300 years before. We are starting now; give us a little time. Mr. Chairman, you must remember this: it is all right to go to Caughnawaga and the other reservation but try and put their same problems right across Canada. There are a few major identical problems but you ought to know enough about life that you do not just do that that way.

We have to see these different types of reservations. They may have similar problems but if you have hunted and trapped with the Indians and been up in the far north and have seen them under those different circumstances—there are different circumstances but they may have similar problems—

The CHAIRMAN: I agree with you. I am not quarrelling with that but there have been Committee meetings in the past and absolutely nothing—no solution has come.

Mr. ROXBURGH: Let us take our Committee meeting then and let us start in.

The CHAIRMAN: Are we more intelligent than the other Committees?

Mr. ROXBURGH: I think we will be when we come back from those reservations. If we are not then we should not be there. We should not be on this Committee.

The CHAIRMAN: All we do is sit and talk about the problems. We know the problems exist but where are the solutions?

Mr. ROXBURGH: Mr. Chairman, let me talk, please. You are the Chairman, not the talker here. Just remember that.

The CHAIRMAN: Go ahead.

Mr. ROXBURGH: Have other Committees visited reservations right across Canada? It has never been done before. That is the reason why.

Were you with the Northern Affairs Committee when we went right across the Northwest Territories and talked to the Eskimos? I got a real eye-opener—