

the selection. What is your opinion in that regard?—A. It would not be practical.

Q. Why?—A. Because you would never get the Indians to agree. I think it was Chillihitza who said that, and possibly chief Johnny Chillihitza may have his own reasons for making a statement of that kind.

*By Mr. McPherson:*

Q. Do you not think that that refers to the man who was appointed Indian agent at Kamloops on one occasion who was a negro?—A. It is very likely in that particular instance it did.

Q. I think that is what he was referring to?—A. I will not say that, but it may have been that which he had in his mind. There was unfortunately a negro appointed Indian agent over the Indians in the Kamloops agency.

*By Hon. Mr. Green:*

Q. He did not make a bad agent?—A. A very good agent; a very respectable man.

*By Hon. Mr. Stevens:*

Q. He is a West Indian?—A. Yes, he is a West Indian, but the Indians did not like it.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Is it not a fact that they prefer a white man as an agent, and not a man of colour, or foreign nationality?—A. Yes, there is not the slightest doubt about that.

*By Hon. Mr. McLennan:*

Q. No doubt an agent who is persona grata with the Indians gets on a great deal better than a man who is not.—A. Yes.

*By Hon. Mr. Murphy:*

Q. Certainly better than someone whom they do not like?—A. Oh, yes. Of course it is the duty of any man who is appointed to supervise Indians, to become persona grata with them, as far as is consistently possible. He should not become too familiar with them or he would lose the dignity of his office.

*By Hon. Mr. McLennan:*

Q. There was another suggestion made by the old Chief, that it did not make for smoothness, or for good relations, to send in the police to arrest an Indian; he thought he should be brought out by the Indians, by their own policemen, and given over to the white policemen rather than that the policemen should go in on their reserve. Now, is that a point in which, without any difficulty, their feelings could be considered?—A. I do not think there is anything in that. You cannot subject the carrying out of law and order to the Indian chiefs. That must be left with the police department.

Q. That is the King's writ must run everywhere?—A. Absolutely, yes.

*By Hon. Mr. Murphy:*

Q. You heard these witnesses also speak about the division of water, for irrigation purposes?—A. I did.

Q. Are you in a position to express any opinion on that subject?—A. I am.

Q. I mean, from the standpoint of the Indian, as to whether he has been unjustly dealt with, or whether the prevailing conditions in that regard could