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NO RESERVE WORK UNTIL SQUATTERS GO

RIGHTS OF INDIANS TO BE CONSIDERED

The Vancouver Park Board, anxious only to "rid the city of an eyesore and a health menace," is not looking for ownership of Kitsilano Indian Reserve and will not look for it until the question of title is ultimately settled by federal, provincial and civic authorities with every due consideration of the rights of the Squamish Indian tribe, still the nominal and factual owners.

By formal resolution, Thursday, park commissioners stated their position, asked for co-operation of the city council in securing permission to administer the reserve "for clean-up and preservation of law and order."

Representatives of the Squamish Indians will be notified of the park board stand by being supplied officially with a copy of the resolution.

INDIANS DISTURBED

The Indians, Chairman R. Rowe Holland informed the board, are disturbed over reports and have made representations to Ottawa. They have even suggested taking up residence on the reserve again in order to demonstrate their ownership.

Meantime, Chairman Holland intimated, the park board will defer any work on the reserve or on the beach foreshore until squatters, their eviction again postponed until next March by agreement of city and provincial authorities, are definitely away from there.

"We have no thought or intention of developing the reserve as a city park now. That must wait until the city gets title and turns the property over to us for that purpose," said the chairman.

"STADIUM A DREAM"

"A phantasmagorical dream," was the chairman's carefully but quite successfully enunciated apostrophe on the proposal he credited to Mayor G. G. McGeer for the erection of a great sports stadium and civic auditorium on the reserve.

"The city hasn't the money and that's all there is to it at this time," he said in more colloquial language.

Warming again to this angle of the subject, Chairman Holland said:

"It is a shameful thing to talk of stadiums and such things when the city hasn't money to pave our streets."

\$3000 AN ACRE

Commissioner E. G. Baynes said that 8 acres of the reserve had been sold some time ago at \$3000 an acre and he sees no reason why this should not be regarded as a fair price for the rest if the city wants to acquire it.

That would mean a total of only about \$120,000.

"It will never be got for less than \$50,000, and you will see that it won't. You will have to settle with the provincial government as well as the Indian Department," Chairman Holland retorted.