

valid. If the claim be a valid one which is being advanced by this gentleman and those associated with him as to the Indian Tribes of British Columbia being entitled to the whole of the lands in British Columbia this Government cannot disturb that claim. That claim can still be asserted in the future."

12. Upon occasion of interview had with the Executive Committee and the General Counsel of allied Tribes at Vancouver on 27th July, 1923, the Minister of Interior speaking on behalf of the Government of Canada conceded that the allied Tribes are entitled to secure judicial decision of the Indian land controversy and gave assurance that the Dominion of Canada would help them in securing such decision.

13. By Order in Council passed in the month of August, 1923, the Government of the Province of British Columbia adopted the Report of the Royal Commission.

14. By Memorandum which was presented to the Government of Canada on 29th February, 1924, the allied Tribes opposed the passing of Order in Council of the Government of Canada adopting the Report of the Royal Commission upon the ground, among other grounds, that, no matter whatever relating to Indian affairs in British Columbia having been fully adjusted and important matters such as foreshore rights, fishing rights and water rights not having been to any extent adjusted, the professed purpose of the Agreement and the Act had not been accomplished.

15. By Order in Council passed on 19th July, 1924, the Government of Canada, acting under Chapter 51 of the Statutes of the year 1920 and upon recommendation of the Minister of Interior adopted the Report of the Royal Commission.

16. From the Memorandum issued by the Deputy Minister of Justice on 29th February, 1924, answering questions which had been submitted by the allied Tribes to the Government of Canada, the Order-in-Council passed on 19th July 1914 and the Memorandum issued by the Deputy Minister of Indian Affairs on 9th August, 1924, it clearly appears as is submitted that both the Department of Justice and the Department of Indian Affairs regard the Statute Chapter 51 of the year 1920 as intended, not for bringing about an actual adjustment of all matters relating to Indian affairs, but for the purpose of bringing about a legislative adjustment of all such matters and thus effecting final settlement under the laws of Canada without the concurrence or consent of the Indian Tribes of British Columbia.

17. The allied Tribes submit that, so far as Section 2 being the main enactment of Chapter 51 may be interpreted as being intended for accomplishing the purpose above mentioned and thus bringing to an end all the aboriginal rights claimed by the Indian Tribes of British Columbia, that enactment is in conflict with the provisions of the British North America Act."

18. On the 15th January 1925 the Executive Committee of the allied Tribes unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"In view of the fact that the two Governments have passed Orders-in-Council confirming the Report of the Royal Commission on Indian Affairs, we the Executive Committee of the allied Tribes of British Columbia are more than ever determined to take such action as may be necessary in order that the Indian Tribes of British Columbia may receive justice and are furthermore determined to establish the rights claimed by them by a judicial decision of His Majesty's Privy Council."

19. In the course of debate had in the House of Commons on the 26th June 1925 the Minister of Interior speaking on behalf of the Government of Canada in answer to the representations which had been made on behalf of the allied Tribes recognized that the allied Tribes are entitled to obtain from His Majesty's Privy Council decision of the Indian land controversy and agreed that the Government would give authoritative sanction for doing so.