

Mr. MACNICOL: What does that mean?

The CHAIRMAN: We will have to give it thought. We might meet again this afternoon. There is a large delegation still to be heard and we may have to sit to-night.

Mr. BLACKMORE: I wonder if we could not find it convenient to sit this evening.

Mr. FARQUHAR: It was agreed that we would sit again this afternoon at four o'clock.

The CHAIRMAN: All right, then, gentlemen; we will meet this afternoon at four o'clock, and if necessary, again this evening, if it is convenient.

The committee adjourned at 1.07 p.m. to meet again this day at 4.00 p.m.

AFTERNOON SESSION

—The committee resumed at 4.00 o'clock p.m.

The CHAIRMAN: We will proceed with our business. The next witness we will have will be chief William Meawasige. Will you come forward, please.

Mr. FARQUHAR: Mr. Chairman, if you will allow me I should like to say in introducing the chief to-day that he is representing some ten different bands on Manitoulin Island and vicinity which includes the "Soo" line. There is also Mr. Peltier here who would probably like to sit beside the chief.

The CHAIRMAN: I think that would be quite all right if he would.

Mr. FARQUHAR: Mr. Peltier represents one of the largest reserves on Manitoulin Island, the reserve of Wikwemikong. While we are only allowed one representative by the committee he has been sent here by the other bands in that section.

The CHAIRMAN: Other bands or reserves?

Mr. FARQUHAR: I suppose we would call it reserves, but they have different bands. I have much pleasure in introducing these two gentlemen to the committee to-day. Beside the briefs on which they have all agreed they have separate briefs from some of the different reserves on the Manitoulin Island and along the "Soo" line.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Farquhar.

Chief William Meawasige, called:

By the Chairman:

Q. Chief, you are a resident of Manitoulin Island and you are chief of what reserve?—A. I am not a resident of Manitoulin Island. I am from the Serpent river band on the north shore.

Mr. FARQUHAR: He lives at Cutler just off the main line running to the island.

By the Chairman:

Q. You are chief of one of the reserves?—A. The Serpent river reserve.

Q. How long have you been chief?—A. Six years.

Q. Were you elected?—A. I was elected.

Q. Six years ago?—A. Six years ago.

Q. You were re-elected when?—A. I do not know about re-election. I have been chief for six years next September to be exact.

Q. Do you have an annual election or a bi-annual election?—A. In three-year terms.