

With respect to title in severalty, he would recommend that such title be granted to Indians subject to the condition that they be not allowed to dispose of their properties for a period of 25 years; he thought the lands should be non-alienable to anyone, either whites or Indians, for that period. Otherwise the potlach system would soon give two or three Indians control of all the lands.

As to valuations of reserves, he presented a table of values as these appeared at the close of the last fiscal year, these values being largely judged by the price of lands contiguous. A fair value only had, he thought, been given to all the reserves. He also put in evidence his description and valuations of reserves (EXHIBIT J13) and census returns, giving population, religions, and all such general statistical information. (EXHIBIT J14).

Mr Commissioner Shaw: During the Commission's visitations of reserves in your Agency, as you know, they heard many complaints against yourself personally. If you wish to make any statement in connection with these matters the Commissioners are prepared to hear it.

Agent Halliday thought that it might perhaps be well for him to do so. The Royal Commission had, somewhat unfortunately for him, come into his Agency just as he had completed the prosecution of a number of cases under the anti-potlach law, and all the Indians in the Agency appeared to be under the impression that this was a personal matter, and, to use a common expression, were sore at him in consequence. He had been told before the coming of the Commission to the Agency that three of the Indians were making it their special business to go around and organize a campaign for his dismissal from the office of Agent, as they were of the opinion that if he were got out of the way the potlach might have a longer lease of life. On another point, Chief Owahagaleese had said that he and the Agent (whence) were strangers to one another and that such a condition should not exist between an Indian Agent and any of his people. The reason that the Agent and Chief Owahagaleese were strangers in this instance was briefly this: In the Fall of 1908 an Indian committed a rape on a white woman at Alert Bay and was caught in the act by a Provincial

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