

facts which seem to be apparent from the papers sent to them, and statements made before them at Duncan.

In the first place, the surrender of the Indians was, according to its face, made to the Crown "In trust to sell the same". The Commissioners find it very difficult to bring their minds to the conclusion that that involves a right to lease the property.

Mr. Alex Hird, the President of the Duncan Agricultural Society, while in answer to a question put to him as to what the value of the property was, stated that he was not a real Estate dealer, and could not speak with authority on that question, gave it as his judgement and opinion that property of a similar character in that neighbourhood was worth about \$3,000.00 an acre. That would make the property proposed to be leased, worth about \$15,000.00. Surely, if this property can, under the terms of the surrender, be leased at all, it ought to command a larger rent than \$1.00 per year for the whole five acres for 99 years.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

*E. L. Hartman*

Chairman of the Commission.