

us what they want it will make it easier for us to do it.

THE CHIEF: If we have hard living, are you going to make it easier for us to do it?

Mr Commissioner Macdowall: Well, if you will explain to us about your hard living, we will make recommendations to the Government and try and make it easier for you.

THE CHIEF: I don't quite understand this business - The way I think that you people are going to try and push us out of this country. I was born here and I was here before the whites ever came here. I don't think myself that the whites would try to make us go a very long way from here, and I don't think the white men will try and push us out of here so that the white men cannot see us. Everyone of us used to be here in this country before the whites came here right in this place and everyone was dying, and my father and mother used to cry on account of the people dying. I don't want to kick about the white people coming in here and I am not trying to drive them out - If they want to go prospecting, let them go - we are just like one brother - we are just as though we are eating off one table - That is all right; it is no good for us to have a piece of land all by ourselves - If you give us people a piece of land we are not free. This is my own country and I want to keep it. A white man comes to a creek and gets gold out of that creek after awhile he leaves it and we are sorry to see the white men go away - but we are not like that - we stay here all the time because the land is ours. It is no good for us to move out of this place because this is our country. We gave the names to the places around here and these old names came from our old forefathers and they are just named the same to this day - I don't think you believe me when I tell you I belong to this place.

Mr Commissioner Macdowall: Yes, I believe you belong to this place.

The Chief: Do you know what this lake (Atlin) is called?

Mr Commissioner Macdowall: I know it is called Atlin lake, but I don't know what it is called in *Atlin Indian*

The Chief: What does Atlin mean? *21*