

MEETING WITH INDIANS OF THE ULKATCHE BAND.

A meeting of the Commission with Indians of the Ulkatche Band was held at Fort Fraser on Monday, the 7th June, 1915, when

Mr COMMISSIONER CARMICHAEL having explained generally the scope and purpose of the Commission and the object of the meeting,

CHIEF JOHN of Ulkatche addressed the Commissioners preliminarily. He was glad, he said, to meet the members of the Commission, whom the Ulkatche people had been disappointed in not meeting last season. His people were anxious to ask the Commission for certain things, and if these were granted, the hearts of himself and his people would be made happy. It was true that a Reserve had been made for the Ulkatche people, but the land contained therein was no good, being all rock and gravel -- unproductive. Because of the worthless character of the established Reserve the members of the Band desired to get three or four small meadows on which they cut the wild hay. Nothing at all could be grown upon the Ulkatche reserve, and in consequence these Indians desired to get two better places, on the Salmon River. The Band had altogether about 500 head of horses. The place that they desired to secure on the Salmon River was good land, and these Indians already had made gardens there.

INDIAN JOHN, a son of the former speaker, also addressed the Commission, stating that when the present Ulkatche reserve was staked and constituted by the white man the Indians of the Tribe had all been absent, as a consequence of which a useless piece of land had been made Reserve -- land which would not at all provide for the 500 horses or more owned by the Band. There was nothing on the Ulkatche Reserve out of which the Indians could make a living, and in consequence they were compelled to go about from place to place, cutting hay where it could be got. It was for this that they asked to be given the places at Salmon River whereon something could be grown.

INDIAN FRANK, a brother-in-law of the last speaker, corroborated his remarks, and said that he had nothing to add thereto.

CHIEF JOHN (being thereupon sworn) deposed that he was one of the chiefs of the Ulkatche Band -- the second Chief. The