JOINT COMMITTEE

tell us before our next meeting the actual areas at present involved. How can we know what we are doing if we do not know what we are talking about?

The JOINT CHAIRMAN (Mr. Grenier): We can try to get that.

Mr. KORCHINSKI: Just to follow that up, there was some remark made by a gentleman in the corner, who said there was a settlement or a house in which an Indian is living, and then there is a row of people who are French, and then another Indian living further down. Do these people who are French—or anybody else who may be living there—have title to their property?

Mr. COLAS: We are not too sure. There must be a lot of squatters there. This question has never been clarified.

Mr. KORCHINSKI: These people would just come in and put up a property on the land to which they have no title?

Mr. COLAS: Yes, that has happened.

Mr. SMALL: They would have to have it registered.

Mr. COLAS: Well, they are small houses.

Mr. SMALL: Well, they would either have to have it in fee simple or fee entailed, one or the other.

Mr. KORCHINSKI: There would have to be some sort of description of these lands, would there not?

Mr. COLAS: Well, many people do not have this concept of description of land. When they wanted to pitch their house there, they did so, and the same thing applies on the Caughnawaga. You have many white people come there and build shacks. If there were some Urban regulation or something like that, then it would be possible to avoid the use of what we might call shacks.

Mr. KORCHINSKI: I imagine that if the people settled there are French, they pay some sort of taxes?

Mr. COLAS: No.

Mr. CHARLTON: As long as there is no misunderstanding; I think some statements have been made which perhaps created an impression across the country that the educational system, for instance, is not any good on the Indian reserves.

As far as the land is concerned, I think probably if Mr. Gabriel was correct when he said originally there were $3\frac{1}{2}$ by 3 leagues, which would mean there are about 30 square miles, the difference between that and 1,556 acres now procured by the dominion government, also including some of these lots which apparently have been squatted on by French people who have built houses—that is a matter which I think the courts would have to decide. But to come back to the educational system, I think it would be only fair if the departmental officials here, Mr. Brown, for instance, could say what comprises the educational system on the reserves and off the reserves now. I was interested to know that most of the members of the band there speak English; and you say there are only French schools.

Mr. COLAS: There is a French high school.

Mr. CHARLTON: I wonder if the department could clarify this for us.

Mr. BROWN: Mr. Chairman, I am not familiar with the whole history of education at Oka, but I will say that the Roman Catholic children in Oka attend the Oka Roman Catholic municipal joint school. The Protestant Indian children at Oka attend the Oka Indian day school.

Mr. CHARLTON: That is on the reservation?