

After introducing Rev. A. E. O'Meara as representing the "Friends of the Indians of British Columbia" and himself as representing the "Moral and Social Reform Council of Canada," Dr. Tucker first stated the case and then proceeded to give, in brief, the history of it. The case may be stated roughly as follows:—The Indians of British Columbia, as the original inhabitants of the country, claim that they have certain rights in the land and before the Government can sell or dispose of the land those claims should be considered. The Government of the Province, on the other hand, take the position that the Indians have no claims and, though they have never given any reason for their position, they positively refuse to modify it. It is on this clear-cut issue that we present our case to-day.

From the commonsense point of view it would seem to appeal to all unprejudiced and disinterested people that men who have inhabited a country from time immemorial and made their living there, must have certain rights which no newcomers should altogether overlook and override. Those rights should be extinguished in some equitable way by negotiation and compensation. Mere strength, or numbers, or