

to secure a surrender. That is one of the great protective measures of the Indian Act in the matter of Indian land ownership, the consent of the Indian owners is required before the Crown can dispose of the land.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: But these uninhabited reserves to which you may refer will be under such a demand.

The WITNESS: Yes sir, but the same thing applies. It does not follow because they are uninhabited that they are not being made some use of. It may be for grazing purposes.

Mr. BLACKMORE: I would like to express approval of the witness' ideas regarding the maintenance of the land. It is too bad to think that the coming of white people might deprive them of this right. We must respect that right.

The WITNESS: The other division of your question I would like to answer this afternoon.

Mr. MACNICOL: I have been looking over the notes I have made here. The different heads I have written down in sequence as Major MacKay gave them. First was administration and setup. The second was reserves, just mentioned by Mr. Stirling, and Indian lands. The third subject was the field supervision of Indian groups and so forth. The next one was the production and disposal of their stock, cattle, pigs, hogs and so forth.

The WITNESS: That all came under agriculture.

Mr. MACNICOL: The next one was the trapping lines, and the next was fishing. Something was said about their housing and the places they are living in. The last was education. I believe that he did mention something about health somewhere. I think if we take them up in that order this afternoon and take one item and let the members each ask questions and clear that one heading up before we start another it would be better.

The CHAIRMAN: You were going to say something about health?

The WITNESS: I did not make any reference to health inasmuch as that division of our work is now under the Department of National Health and Welfare. I am not just quite sure what my position is in that setup, nor yet what responsibility I may have in that matter.

Mr. MACNICOL: Perhaps in the interim you may obtain a report of the last meeting at which the Hon. Brooke Claxton told us a good deal about Indian health and then we could ask questions about that.

Mr. GIBSON: You could get a good deal of information from that.

The WITNESS: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: Could I ask the committee if, in addition to making these headings there are any comments they would care to make?

Mr. CASE: I think we would like to hear something about their houses.

The CHAIRMAN: We have that as a heading.

Mr. RAYMOND: Also miscellaneous, because I have some questions under that heading.

Mr. BLACKMORE: Has it been suggested that we should know whether or not any steps have been taken to restock the streams with fish?

The CHAIRMAN: That would come under fishing, I presume.

Mr. BLACKMORE: It would be interesting to hear if anything has been done with regard to taking care of fur conservation.

The CHAIRMAN: Very well then gentlemen we will adjourn until 4 o'clock.

The committee adjourned at 1 o'clock p.m. to meet again at 4 o'clock p.m.