

The WITNESS: I think Dr. Scott has it.

Dr. SCOTT: A square mile represents five; 640 acres for a family of five.

The WITNESS: And that is land which is capable of producing things, where we have great heaps of mountains in our lands, which were quoted as 107 acres, I think.

Hon. Mr. STEVENS: 132 acres.

The WITNESS: 132 acres for each family. You must realize that the greater portion of that is composed of rocky land.

*By Hon. Mr. Stevens:*

Q. Take for instance all through the lower Fraser Valley, anywhere on the coast; you would not require 132 acres for a family?—A. Yes.

Q. I do not recall of one Indian on the Fraser Valley cultivating more than a very few acres, and the very great bulk of them will cultivate nothing at all?—A. Quite so.

Q. Although they have the land there?—A. Quite so. That is not to be wondered at, Mr. Chairman; I think you know the reason why. They have not been agricultural people until just within the past few decades. Conditions have forced them to change and conditions will force them more and more to depend upon their land.

Q. Take that remarkably fertile reserve at Kamloops, where the two Thompson Rivers join. I have been watching that for thirty-five years now, and the Indians never use that land?—A. Well, as a matter of fact, Mr. Stevens, you cannot grow a blade of grass on that unless you bring water on that land, that Kamloops Reserve.

Q. Right beside it is some of the most productive land on the whole continent, and white men have gone on there and are growing the most magnificent fruits, and so on?—A. No doubt about it.

Q. Then come down to Penticton, that very fine reservation about two miles south of Penticton. I have known that for thirty years and it is just lying there. I was down there last year and right in almost to the city boundaries of Penticton there are thousands of acres of land highly developed, and on this reservation there is nothing done. I merely draw your attention to this to show that while you criticize the treatment, with all the efforts that have been made the Indians will not cultivate this very valuable, fertile land. After all, there are two sides to this problem?—A. Quite so. I want to be fair; I do not claim anything that we are not entitled to. Take the Kamloops area, for instance—the Chairman has a large area of land there and he knows just as well as I do that you cannot grow a blade of grass unless you have water on that land.

*By Hon. Mr. Murphy:*

Q. What do you say about this contrast that Mr. Stevens has drawn down at Penticton?—A. Well, as I said before those people have been more interested in stock than in fruit growing. As you know, the Okanagan valley has only become a wonderful fruit growing district within a comparatively short time, and the Indians have not been keeping up to the times. The time is coming—perhaps the time is now—when the Indians will be forced to do what their white brothers are doing.

*By Hon. Mr. Stevens:*

Q. I think it is just as well to get the other side of this picture. You complain—and justly perhaps—that the provincial government seems to be somewhat unsympathetic. All the witnesses have complained of that. Now, take Penticton, and this area around Summerland, or around Vernon—any of