

Mr. COLAS: That is correct.

Mr. WRATTEN: A gentleman at the back said that there was an Indian piece of property, then French properties, and then another Indian piece of land. How does the Canadian government account for that situation?

Mr. COLAS: That question never has been answered for us. We have asked time and time again, and have been told that a decision would be reached shortly, as you will notice from the letter in 1958 which I read to you. We have no answer to that problem, and that is why the Indians are frustrated.

Mr. FANE: Mr. Chairman, there are a number of things I would like to say. First of all, I would like to say that I, personally, am cognizant of the fact that the Indians in Canada have been short-changed throughout. They are being confined to reserves and are experiencing great difficulties. However, there is one matter which I would like to mention at this time. How do we know what we are talking about when we do not know the area of the land in question? We were given the original area, but nobody can tell us how much there is now. How much of it is common area and how much is still retained by the order of St. Sulpice? If Mr. Colas cannot tell us, perhaps an official from the Indian affairs branch could do so.

Mr. L. L. BROWN (*Special Assistant, Indian Affairs Branch*): We have an approximate figure of what they received in grants from the king of France, and we have an accurate figure of what the government acquired in 1945 in connection with the purchase from the Sulpicien order.

Mr. FANE: How much?

Mr. BROWN: About 1,556 acres of what we call "outside the town" land, and then there were an additional 51 or 52 lots which are right in the town, just the same as if they were on Bank street or Sparks street, just ordinary lots, of 50 by 100, or about that size.

Senator STAMBAUGH: Did you say 1,500 acres were purchased?

Mr. BROWN: Fifteen hundred and fifty six was the figure I gave.

Mr. FANE: How large is this common area?

Mr. BROWN: I have no idea. It was not purchased in 1945.

Mr. FANE: Surely somebody can find out how large that common area is that is disputed, because I am sure that a golf course does not take more than half a section at the most. It should not take more than a quarter section. Out west 160 acres is usually sufficient for a golf course, but some of them can stretch a bit if they get the land cheap enough, and 160 acres or even 320 acres would not take too much away. But it does seem that if that were owned by the government and it was supposed to be set aside for a reservation, the settlement by people other than Indians, on what was supposed to be a reservation, does seem very wrong.

I cannot understand the attitude of the Indians in this part of the country thinking they are not Canadians, because they are the original Canadians. They should be very proud of the fact that they are the original Canadians, and the fact that they have perhaps in the past not had all the privileges available to other people in Canada should not deter them now. Because if they want to become Canadians they should work at becoming Canadians and not be happy in retaining the doubtful privilege of still being wards of the government.

I am sure the government at the present time is very, very anxious to help the Indians, wherever they are in Canada, to take their proper place in the economy of the country. I would like, Mr. Chairman, to have someone