

land to the needs of the Indians it seemed to him that Canada becomes responsible for satisfying the claims of the Indians.

Q. There is just the point. You say they have not given that?—A. We tried to get adequate lands and we have not been successful.

*By Hon. Mr. Stevens:*

Q. Mr. Paull read this morning, and also on Thursday, extracts from the petitions or reports indicating that certain areas were inadequate 30, 40 or 50 years ago?—A. Yes.

Q. Well, it is quite clear that since that time, not only in 1912 but prior to 1912, very substantial additions were made which apparently satisfied the claims raised at that period?—A. (No audible answer.)

*By Mr. Hay:*

Q. Mr. Stevens worked it out on the basis that what was originally 20 acres is now 127 acres?—A. I think that needs explanation.

*By Hon. Mr. Stevens:*

Q. I am not talking about whether that is adequate now or not. The point is; the Indians raised this very question of inadequacy of land, say, 50 years ago—I think there was one in 1874, which would be 52 years ago—and the basis then was 20 acres. There is ample evidence to show that that amount has been augmented very considerably since then, indicating that the Government did respond to the request of the Indians and apparently satisfied them, because there was very little heard of it again for a long time. In 1912 a settlement of the same question was attempted again. You will admit that, will you not?—A. I do admit it.

Q. We come to this situation; you want either one of two things; either the claim to aboriginal title or the claim for further consideration of the amount of land set aside in the reserve?—A. Well, this is what we did. We criticized the report of the Royal Commissions of 1913 and 1916. In view of our criticism, the present Minister of the Interior, when he came to British Columbia in the year 1922, agreed that we should be privileged to supply the Commission with additional claims for land. We did that, and I think of all the claims that were submitted at that time, not one has been acceded to. Three of us went out to interview the Indian Tribes and they asked for certain things. Those claims were filed with the Commission as additional claims of the Indians, as far as lands were concerned, and as far as I am aware I do not think a single claim was acceded to. I just want to point that out.

Q. That was subsequent to the filing of their report?—A. Yes, but before the report was accepted.

Q. But it was subsequent to the filing of the report by the Commission?—A. Yes. That is the position to-day; there is not any more land available. Now, we talk about lands, because it is one of the basic things of one's living. We admit that conditions are different in British Columbia. I think in that province we have all the living conditions that are found all over the Dominion. It is true that we are not dependent entirely upon lands for our living; we are not agricultural people entirely. Certain portions of the province are dependent upon their land for a living, such as the interior, the Fraser Valley, and other stretches of land that are fertile, but the fact is this; in other parts of the Dominion, say in the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta, the Indians are provided with adequate lands to ensure their living for all time to come.

*By Hon. Mr. Murphy:*

Q. Do you know how much land per head the Indians have in Saskatchewan?—A. I am not just prepared to say; I think the figures are available.

Mr. O'MEARA: About nine times as much.

[Rev. P. R. Kelly.]