

The committee resumed at three o'clock.

Mr. MANION: With the consent of the committee, Mr. Chairman, I should like to make a brief statement with reference to Fort Churchill which I think will be of interest not only to the people of western Canada but to the country generally. I was asked this morning, and I have been asked at various times by hon. members, about the possibility of getting out a shipment or shipments of grain from Churchill this autumn. The government, through myself and my officers, has been working continuously in an endeavour to get grain shipments through Churchill. We have had the matter under consideration with Mr. John I. McFarland and various organizations, private and public, but we had not succeeded in obtaining any promise of a shipment of any kind except 150,000 bushels with the On-to-the-Bay Association had arranged through Mr. McFarland. This morning, learning that Mr. McFarland was in the city, and before I was asked anything about the matter here, I tried to get in touch with him, and I succeeded at noon in having an interview with him. My chief, the leader of the government (Mr. Bennett), Mr. McFarland and myself discussed the matter, with a view to having Mr. McFarland cooperate with the government to have Fort Churchill tested. He has consented to cooperate with us in an endeavour to get out two cargoes through Churchill this fall.

Mr. BRADETTE: Carloads?

Mr. MANION: Two cargoes. I do not know the number of bushels, but Mr. McFarland feels that two cargoes are as much as he can reasonably assure us of. Under the circumstances we are hoping to have these two cargoes go from the port of Churchill some time after September 15. If someone else comes forward with a third cargo almost immediately—because the boats will have to be arranged for—we could probably handle a third cargo. As I stated previously, apart from what we have accomplished through the kind offices and cooperation of Mr. McFarland, we have not succeeded in getting anyone to ship wheat that way. In view of this arrangement, however, we hope to be able to ship the two cargoes out this fall as a test.

The CHAIRMAN: There is nothing before the committee. The next item is:

Indian Affairs—Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Northwest Territories, \$1,007,639.

Mr. McKENZIE (Assiniboia): I wish to ask the minister a question with regard to

the lake resort at North Carlyle. I understand that there was a movement on foot to cancel the lease held by the town of Carlyle of a portion of the Indian reserve near the lake. The reserve is in the Moose mountains. I wonder what progress has been made with regard to the cancellation, or whether the matter stands.

Mr. MURPHY: I believe that some years ago a lease was granted to the town of Carlyle by the Indian department, giving rights in connection with a summer resort near there. The term of the lease was I believe for a period of ninety-nine years at \$400 per year. The matter is now in the hands of the Department of Justice and will go before the court.

Mr. McKENZIE (Assiniboia): I want to present the point of view of the town of Carlyle in regard to this matter. It is true, as the minister says, that there was a lease in 1907 or 1908 or thereabouts made between the town of Carlyle and the Indian department, in connection with a portion of that reserve. The significant point is that for about twenty years the Indians were apparently satisfied with that lease. It is true that the lease was for ninety-nine years, the amount being \$400. Someone who pretended to have considerable interest in the Indians persuaded them that they were not getting enough for the lease of that land. At the time the land was leased it was just a rocky lake front and, in that condition, no one would think of paying \$400 a year for a lease of that property. However, it went on from 1906 until about two years ago. I wish to read a letter which I have received from the mayor of the town of Carlyle, to show their position in the matter. Up to this time I had not heard of any dissatisfaction among the Indians, but the question was raised about two years ago when the town of Carlyle wanted to rent an additional piece of land for a golf course. The town of Carlyle has spent a considerable amount of money establishing their summer resort, which is second to none in Saskatchewan. This letter, addressed to myself, reads:

Re town of Carlyle and Carlyle lake resort lease.

You will remember that about two years ago the town of Carlyle wrote you requesting that you intercede with the Indian department on our behalf in an endeavour to have them lease the town an additional piece of land to be used as a golf course.

At that time we offered the Indians \$400 per year rental, although the estimated rental on this land was approximately \$50, with the idea of clearing up any dissatisfaction there might be concerning the old lease.