

opportunity to look at the variety of conditions as they exist right across the country.

Mr. LAING: I would like to have my influence brought to bear to have you visit at least one Indian reserve where the problem can be summed up in the word "alcohol".

Mr. WATSON (*Châteauguay-Huntingdon-Laprairie*): I tend to agree with what Mr. Laing said earlier, that both St. Regis and Caughnawaga, in comparison with many other reserves in this country, are problem-free. They have problems but they are local problems that any municipality has. However, I think it is a good idea to start off with Caughnawaga because although it is one of the most advanced reserves in the country I think you will find there a different type of problem. There is the problem of fathers being away from their children all week and there is a bit of a juvenile delinquency problem, but there are also some very articulate Indians there, I think, who will express to the Committee fairly advanced views on how to deal with their particular reserve. This is a good thing.

The fact that these two reserves are in my constituency puts me in a rather embarrassing position, but I really think that we are wasting our time if we spend two full days at these reserves. I think we can handle them both in one day. If you take the train down to Dorval in the morning you get off the train there at 9 o'clock, or around that time; you can spend about three hours at Caughnawaga, and eat, and then drive for about an hour and a half to St. Regis, from which it is only another hour and a half's drive back to Ottawa. You can do this in one day; you do not need two days for it.

With all due respect to Frank Howard, who says that we should spend 12 hours in Caughnawaga, we are only going to get the maximum benefit out of our visit if we see and talk to the people in charge of the reserve. We will be looking for evidence and complaints from the local citizens and we will surely get them if we spend three or four hours in Caughnawaga. If you are not satisfied with what the Committee is doing, there is nothing to prevent individual members going off and visiting houses on their own. They can get all this information—

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: Do you wish to put that in the form of a motion, or is that necessary? Is it just an idea?

Mr. WATSON: (*Châteauguay-Huntingdon-Laprairie*): May I ask the members whether they would agree to fitting it into one day? Our time is limited, and if we can do something in one day rather than two I think it is to everyone's advantage.

Mr. BADANAI: I agree, Mr. Chairman, with Mr. Watson and with the Minister's opinion. I think we can see the two major reserves in the Montreal area in one day. We can then select a few of the others that are the most important, as mentioned by the Minister—those that are really in need of study.

I think we need the assistance and advice of the head of the department on where we should go, make a selection of eight or ten and then have a meeting to decide on the time. Let us start, as soon as possible, with at least one so that we can show that we mean business. I think this should be done immediately.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: Did you want to say something?