

of the sun, the mountains and the rivers--that so long as these remain should this Reservation be for them and their children.

"The sun ~~has not grown~~ dim, the mountains have not moved, the rivers still flow, but our Reservation has changed, and is slipping away from us.

"Another question put up to us, is the water, These creeks flowing through our Reservation is ours. They belong to us; also the Yakima River; I claim half of it under our treaty rights. It is ours.

Sluskin.--"Is my Reservation safe? I refer to the treaty. Does the old treaty stand good?"

McWhorter.--"This Government has made treaties with the Indians, but to break them at will. The words of Gov. Stevens, calling the sun, the mountains and the rivers to witness that this Reservation should be yours forever, were not printed in the treaty. Your fathers were deceived. The white man creates such laws as are best suited for his own purposes. Your Reservation is not safe."

Tonawasha.-----"Will our Reservation be opened without our consent?"

McWhorter. "The United States is strong, and the Yakimas are weak. As a white man, I am ashamed of my race; as an Indian I advise you to do the best that you can, and secure allotments for your children. Sell as little land as possible, but when you do sell, get all the money you can. So sure as yonder sun goes down, will your Reservation be opened."

Tonawasha.--"I am perfectly satisfied with your reply. It is almost like raising me from death. We want the truth good or bad, but have never known whom we could believe. I am glad indeed that you are with us and will try to help us.



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"I will say to you , that, not every Indian has his inherited lands for sale. Some of them have, and some are leasing. Others are waiting for later authority, (from the council.) Their advise is, you must not sell or lease if you can help it. The white man is crowding us out. Do not try to lease allotted lands. The Department authority will be later along. Some of us are holding lands and are not leasing or selling. We look to find money men, but we do not know who to sell too. You will have to tell us who is the money men. That is what I heard from Portland. We are not satisfied with the way that the Government handles ~~our~~ money."

Soponowix.-----" I want to say a word. Quite a few at my house, full bloods of the Souqualla (?) tribe, have authorized me to select allotments for them. Today I learn there is no good location I can find on this Reservation. Of course I had an idea where to find allotments, but I will now await the committee's report, and if Reservation lands are open, then I will select allotments.

#### C O N C E R N I N G W H I S K E Y.

McWhorter-" Do any of you know of any one selling whiskey to Indian  
 Sluskin-- "You have reminded me of something. In Old Town a kind of liquor is manufactured. Some get a small flask of it, and get drunk for five days. It makes them crazy. A certain man, a hard drinker, is now lost for twelve days. He had this kind of whiskey. Another man during the circus got some of this kind of whiskey, and got drunk at the Sunnyside dam, ~~He~~ <sup>now</sup> is lost for seven days. These people have no more children. We have reported to our agent, Mr Young about this whiskey, but we got no answer. I personally



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reported this to Mr Young, and he replied; "They will laugh if I report your speech to the Department. The saloons put up too much money to fight the Government. It is too hard to fight them." <sup>agent</sup> ~~The~~ Government feels powerless."

Chief Waters then addressed the council, but was not interpreted. Sluskin continued. "We appreciate your assistance, and we feel glad that you are with us. If we find any evidence worth reporting, we will feel glad if you will report to your friend; Commissioner Moorehead. We cannot do any thing to stop the bad things on our Reservation, nor will the whites help us. We hope that the Department will help us."

Satus Schuster.----" I live seven miles below Toppenish. My boys have not given me time to sleep for five years. They get whiskey at Toppenish, I consider this the worst business of all, which the whites have brought upon us."

Louis Schuster.-----"I am glad to see you today. I have heard your <sup>work</sup> talk. I feel good. This world is the work of God. Of course this God is above us, and has great power. He hears us talk and knows if we are speaking the truth, or telling lies. We rely upon you to send a full report to the Department for us. We feel glad over this.

When the whites were few our fathers gave them land. Today I see those few white people grown strong and prosperous. For them I am glad. I feel well towards all, but I grieve to see my people broken and scattered, by those whom we befriended. I, a red man am in poverty and not prosperous. The Government gave us breeches and blankets, but they have faded and gone. We do not ask that these be replaced. We want only our own, and the right to live."