

18 years, and I think this is the solution and answer to the problem. I think that is all, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. HALEY. The gentleman from Alaska.

Mr. POLLOCK. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. CONNOR, I think one point you did not bring out but alluded to, perhaps assuming that the committee was aware of it, is that it is my understanding in the Court of Claims the judgment would be only a money judgment and not involve land under the normal situation. Isn't that so and here we have a different situation?

Mr. CONNOR. That is correct. It has been customary to just award money. The natives take the position that they would like to have some land and this is a valid form of settling the matter.

Mr. POLLOCK. I knew I would get a rise out of you.

Mr. ASPINALL. Of course. The last important bill we had before this committee was a bill for the Indians. That was their plea. They wanted 48,000 acres of land, too. The Indian Claims Commission left it wide open for this committee to make this determination.

Mr. POLLOCK. Yes, sir.

Earlier you gentlemen both alluded to the problem as we discussed earlier before you were witnesses about the one-quarter blood or more or less. What specific proposals do you have to meet the problem?

Mr. CONNOR. I could submit some suggested language. In the bill that we drafted, which is S. 2906, we put a provision in there that where a person cannot establish or where the evidence is not available to establish his blood quantum then the Alaska Native Commission would make a determination. The test would be whether he is regarded as a native by the community in which he lives or from which he emanates, and that his parents were so regarded. There would be the test. We are saying where you do know the blood quantum is less than a quarter, that some of these people would still be includable. In other words, expand it slightly. We already have a provision in there to take care of people who have difficulty in assembling proof. We just hope the Alaska Native Commission will make fair determinations in these cases.

Mr. POLLOCK. I wanted to get that in the record.

I believe it was brought out in the Senate testimony and I thought it should be here.

Mr. LEKANOF, there is one comment I would like to make about your presentation. It was a very, very excellent one. I wonder if you presented your education plan to the State of Alaska. Have you presented it to the Governor?

Mr. LEKANOF. No, this is the first time that the proposal has been given to anyone.

Mr. POLLOCK. As you know, the State is attempting little by little to take over the education process.

Mr. LEKANOF. We intend to turn it over.

Mr. POLLOCK. Mr. Chairman, in making the comment about the excellent presentation of Mr. Lekanof, I would like to observe on behalf of the committee that I think we have some very, very capable young native leaders who today have made an excellent and very eloquent presentation of their positions. We are very proud of them and we do think they are quite capable of running the affairs of their native groups. I am very pleased with them.