

The Pueblo Lands Board held hearings to determine whether the non-Indian claims of adverse possession within the Taos Pueblo grant were to be recognized, and, if so, to determine the value of the land in order that the Pueblo could be compensated. The board found that a sizable portion of the Pueblo grant—

And bear in mind that the grant is the square, the grant from Charles the Fifth of Spain—

sizable portion of the Pueblo grant had been encroached upon by non-Indians and under the standards of the Pueblo Lands Act, confirmed the acquisition of this land in non-Indian ownership.

The total value of the Pueblo grant lands to which title of the Pueblo of Taos was extinguished was, according to the Board's own appraisers, \$458,520.61. However, the Pueblo Lands Board awarded the Pueblo only \$76,128.85.

Senator ANDERSON. Mr. Chairman, may I interrupt at this time?

Senator METCALF. Surely.

Senator ANDERSON. I don't know if you plan to explain this land-grant situation at all, but do you recall or have you seen studies where Senator Bursum introduced a bill?

Mr. SCHAAAB. I believe that is correct, Senator, yes.

Senator ANDERSON. I was a newspaper reporter about that same time, but it was done in order to guarantee what their rights should be. It was done because the Indians were claiming certain encroachments on their land because of the Spanish-American people who were residents of it.

Mr. SCHAAAB. Right.

Senator ANDERSON. And he got a bill passed which awarded the land to settlers by setting up a board, a studious group, and the lands were awarded to certain Spanish-American communities and was settled. Cash payment was awarded the Indians.

I think you realize the board at that time tried its best to determine what the title should be and it is a pretty important document. I wrote the first story about Mr. Bursum being appointed as a Senator. He was actually taking a bath when I broke into his room to talk to him about this appointment that the Governor was making and the Governor appointed him. I have had a great deal of admiration for Mr. Bursum from that time on but I know he thought they settled the title to this land very carefully.

The area was set aside for a good purpose and I wish we would receive testimony that this matter was settled by Senator Bursum. He thought it was, at least, and it provided some very fine source of revenue to all the people of our State.

Senator METCALF. Senator, was their title acquiesced in that settlement?

Senator ANDERSON. We thought so. At least I thought so.

Senator METCALF. And he thought so.

Senator ANDERSON. He thought so. I hate to break into this but hadn't title been established by Governor Hagerman of the board? Governor Hagerman was the son of a very able man, a very rich man in the State, and he was appointed Governor for reasons which would be interesting; which had to do with his love life in a short time and he came out to New Mexico and was Governor of that State. He also thought we had compensated the Indians for this land title. I haven't brought his book. I have it at my house, have examined it carefully, and I know he felt there was a settlement at that time and he thought the Indians did pretty well with that settlement.