

## TUCKER'S TOWN COMMISSION

### One Case Settled--Two To Go To Jury

At the present rate of progress, it will take the Bermuda Development Co. a very long time to acquire the land they desire by expropriation in the Tucker's Town area. The second hearing by the Commissioners was held yesterday, and the result to date is that three cases have been heard, one of which has been settled, and the other two will probably go to a jury to decide the compensation.

It will be remembered that the Commissioners sat a week ago, when the cases of Harry Nelmes and Melbourn Smith were dealt with. Nelmes was offered £350 by the Company, which he declined, and asked £5000. In regard to the latter man, it was found that his father owned part and an estate another part. An adjournment had therefore to be made to enable more information to be obtained regarding Smith, and to see if a compromise could be reached with Nelmes.

Neither of the men appeared at the hearing, and it was not until the Commissioners had visited their lots and talked to them that they turned up.

Yesterday, the men again failed to appear, and Mr. F. Goodwin Gosling, Secretary to the Company, told the Commissioners that he had endeavoured to do all he could in going round to these people and working in their interests as well as the Company's, but if they failed to help themselves by appearing then the matter must go to a jury.

Nelmes had refused to discuss the matter further, and Mr. Gosling did not propose to take any further action.

His offer to Nelmes was £350 in cash, or a lot of land 50 by 100 within a quarter of a mile of his home and £300 in cash, which would enable him to build a house and so retain his vote. The land offered was on the northern side

of the Mangrove Lake road.

With regard to Smith, it transpired that three acres of the land belonged to his father John Peter Smith, and three acres to the estate of Christopher Smith.

For the former's land, which was arable the Company offered £250 in cash, or a lot of land 50 by 100 and £200 in cash.

Mr. Gosling stated that he had been unable to see J. P. Smith, who did not appear at the hearing, neither did his son.

In both of these cases the offer of the Company will be sent the parties concerned in writing, by the Commissioners, and failing their acceptance a jury will have to be empanelled to decide the worth of the land.

In the third case Wentworth Josiah

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In the third case Wentworth Josiah Talbot was the presumed owner of 7 acres 1 rood and 13 poles, for which the Company offered him £600. In this his mother had a dower right, and while the son was prepared to sell she would not.

The offer was increased to £650 by Mr. Gosling, and Talbot accepted it. In addition, it was recorded on the minutes of the Commissioners that Talbot would be allowed to reside in his cottage which is on the land for a nominal rental, and that if the Company wished to take possession of it they would find him another. Regarding his mother's dower Talbot agreed to let her have £150, and it would be offered to her in a lump sum or at the rate of £9 per annum. The woman is aged 89 years.

Yesterday's hearing was held at the former residence of Mr. C. W. Walker, and the Commissioners comprised Major R. W. Appleby, Chairman; Mr. J. Scott Pearman, M.C.P., and Mr. C. E. Astwood, M.C.P.