

those gathered in council, rose to his feet to speak to their people.

"Mista-wa-sis and Ah-tuk-a-kup, I consider, are far wiser than I am; therefore if they have accepted this treaty for their people after many days of talk and careful thought, then I am prepared to accept for my people."

Chief Seenum then took his place and spoke. "You have all questioned Peter Erasmus on the things that have taken place at Carlton. He is a stranger to many of you but I am well acquainted with him. I have respect for his words and have confidence in his truthfulness. Mista-wa-sis and Ah-tuk-a-kup both sent their sons all the way from Carlton to where he lives, and he is married to one of our favourite daughters. He was not at home but they followed him to the prairie where he was hunting buffalo with our people. Little Hunter is a chief and brings back a good report of his work during treaty talks. He would not tell us something that was not for our good. Therefore, as those other chiefs who are in greater number than we are have found this treaty good, I and my head man will sign for our people. I have spoken."

Each of the other chiefs with their councillors expressed agreement, each man expressing in his own words ideas that conformed to the general acceptance of treaty terms. They were all willing to sign the treaty and there was not a single dissenting voice.

There was some delay on the morning of the seventh, which was the day set for the meeting with the Governor, as it was found that there were insufficient young men for the manoeuvres that always preceded a gathering of this kind as at the meeting at Carlton. Finally two young men volunteered their help. They were in training but as yet were not considered fully qualified.

The riders were performing in front of the people who were advancing to the Commissioner's tent when suddenly the two young men got confused in their movements and crashed their horses into each other. Both men were thrown to the ground, receiving injuries, and the horses were hurt. Fortunately there was a Police doctor on hand who took charge of the injured men. One had a dislocated hip while the other had only minor injuries; as they were taken care of the proceedings went ahead.

To an inexperienced person, viewing it for the first time, the show would appear to be a disorganized, undisciplined, crazy display of horsemanship, but this was not true. I had watched them training from a slow walking speed; all movements had an exact timing that was finally speeded up to manoeuvres that