

morning, the ones where you interposed and got the option and got the property, you knew, before that time, the Demerara Bauxite Company had been negotiating for the acquisition of these other tracts, Lower Semarie and the Aurora, did you not?

A I believe they had made several offers on these tracts.

Q That had been going on as early as February 20, 1917 had it not?

A I can't say, I had nothing to do with their negotiations.

Q Then it is evident that these negotiations, these prior negotiations for these two tracts had been going on before you became manager for the company.

A I believe it had, but only from evidence brought out in the various lawsuits.

Q You know Mr. James A. King, don't you, Joseph A. King?

A I know Mr. Joseph A. King.

Q Who is he?

A At the time I was manager, he was Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Demerara Bauxite Company,

Q He was a reputable citizen of British Guiana?

A He was Crown Solicitor.

Q Do you consider him, and was he considered as a reputable citizen of British Guiana?

A I don't see why I should go on record as a character witness for Mr. Joseph A. King.