Commons Hear Plea For Indian Members

Ottawa — Canada's Indian population should be given a chance to plead its own case in the House of Commons, a Conservative MP suggested last month.

Murray McFarlane, member for Kootenay East, proposed that Indians be allowed to elect five members to bring their problems directly to the floor of the House.

"We have already made a start during the regime of the present government by the appointment of an Indian to the Senate," he said.

He was referring to Senator James Gladstone, a Blood Indian from Cardston, Alta., who was called to the Senate in 1958.

Mr. McFarlane spoke during Commons debate on spending estimates of the Indian Affairs Branch.

Members ranged over a wide assortment of Indian problems.

James Speakman (PC — Wetaskiwin) suggested that a force of Indian constables be formed to prevent the illegal sale of liquor on reservations.

Harold Winch (CCF — Vancouver East) charged that Indians in British Columbia have been "robbed of their lands" by the federal and B.C. governments.

He contended that an order-in-council passed in 1912 gave the two governments authority to sell land held by Indians with their consent. However, only half of the profits from the government sales were turned over to the Indians.

Citizenship Minister Fairclough replied that all this happened "a long, long time ago," and "that over the years undoubtedly things were done that should not have been done. I cannot, however, sit in judgment on anyone who participated in those actions."

Indian Meet Set For June in Chicago

The American Indian Conference will be held at the University of Chicago in June 1961. Indians throughout the United States have been asked to hold preliminary discussions of a proposed statement of Indian rights and a proposed method of Federal administration of Indian affairs.

According to Dr. Sol Tax, Co-coordinator of AICC, these discussions will constitute in a statement of rights and needs, of proper Federal policy, program and administration and appropriate programs for organizations concerned with Indian welfare.

Indian, Metis Conference Delegates Seek Aid To Solve Problems

Nearly 50 resolutions passed last month by the Manitoba Indian and Metis Conference offered brief glimpses of the conditions under which some of these people live.

Many resolutions sought federal or provincial government help to tackle the social and economic problems, experienced for years by Indians and Metis.

"These steps are in the right direction," insisted some of the 900 odd Indian, Metis and white delegates to the conference.

They and government and churchmen, welfare officials and others passed resolutions which sought to help overcome their difficulties in housing, employment, education and other things.

When ever possible, said one resolution, there should be kindergartens to help Indian-Metis children adapt themselves more quickly to another culture and language.

One resolution said everything "worthwhile" of Indian-Metis culture must get publicity to help down the barriers of discrimination against them.

Many are paid as little as $5 per day for 16 hours work in fish processing plants. The province should enforce Manitoba's 61 cents minimum hourly wage, said a resolution.

Another resolution urged the province to pass legislation requiring all bush clearing contractors to provide adequate board and housing for their workers.

The resolution also said until such proposed legislation is passed, the government should insist that bush clearing contractors provide such services to their workers.

Conference officials said the resolution was presented "in light of evidence of low pay and poor living conditions among 150 Indian and Metis bush-workers at the Grand Rapids power site.

(Winnipeg Free Press)

Manitoba To Assist Indians

Winnipeg — Agriculture Minister George Hutton rejected CCF criticism that his government is not doing anything to develop co-operative programs at Indian settlements.

The criticism was levelled by David Orlikow (CCF — St. John's), who praised the work of the Indian-Metis conferences but said the government had no program to carry through their recommendations for co-operatives.

Mr. Hutton countered with a flat statement that his government is prepared to provide guarantees to assist in the establishment and maintenance of co-ops.

However, he said, the Indian and Metis must show a desire on their own to establish co-op movements.

Well-Prepared

Mr. Hutton told the legislature that Federated Co-operatives Ltd. is well prepared to assist the
Another Step Towards Civic Maturity

There are in Manitoba some 40,000 people of Indian ancestry of which nearly half are Metis and the other half Indian — Cree, Ojibwe, Sioux and Chipewyan. Religion-wise, one third of the Indians and more than one half of the Metis are Catholics.

The Faith was brought to them over a century ago by secular and religious priests, soon joined by Sisters; curé-des-bois and brothers from Quebec, who brought Catholicism with them; a very large sector of the Indian and Metis population joined Protestant faiths through contacts with early settlers, officials of fur trading companies and missionaries.

While the Indians settled on reservations set aside for them by Treaties with the Queen, the Task Force on Indian Education was set up in 1945. Last year the Federal Government sent out a large scale survey of Indian and Metis communities. More Indian and Metis community leaders, interested in technical training; more care was taken in attitudes on public welfare assistance (such as family allowances), in the programs given in war services, all the river was treated. A few years ago, the survey was in point of fact the most important conference ever held in the history of the Native people of Canada.

The end result is that this year's conference was the most successful. Over 300 delegates represented over a third of Manitoba's native population attendance. The program of study periods covered a variety of problems brought to the attention of the conference by the delegates. The parliametary procedure was followed throughout; some fifty recommendations — all based on solid facts — were directed to the federal and provincial government as well as to welfare bodies and the general public.

No longer did the Indians air alleged or true grievances and ask for more relief assistance; but they did ask for jobs; for vocational training so that better paying employment might be available; for high school and technical education; protection of fishing and trapping areas; payment of fair wages and accommodation on the job; the establishment of consumer and marketing co-operatives; markets for native arts and crafts. Protests were registered against history books, films, and TV programs which give an erroneous and derogatory image of the Indian; moral protection of the young and suitable to the city. The city was stressed; ways and means of creating an effective local administration were studied; the electoral franchise — both federal and provincial — was urged.

In a word, the Winnipeg Welfare Council Indian-Metis conference is doing a great work on behalf of the native population, work which is an example and ideal for other Canadian provinces to emulate.

Truly, in Manitoba, the people of Indian ancestry have taken a prominent place in all social and political maturity.

G. L.

Pilot Project Successful

Initiated as a pilot project by the Department of Indian Affairs, the Rehabilitation centre at Assiniboine hospital in Brandon, Man., is the only one of its kind in Canada.

Conducted on behalf of handicapped Indians and Eskimos who chose to make their way in the "white" world, the program of training-in-residence has been operating for the past two years.

The students are given clothing allowance, taught to handle money, budget and care for their wardrobes. They learn social and workshop work, learn to understand and co-operate. The classes range in size from 9 to 16 persons. They are taught in complicated laws affecting every worker relative to taxes, unemployment insurance, pension schemes and unions.

Similar centres are planned for Winnipeg and other cities in the immediate future.

Minister Makes Encouraging Report

Canada's record of treatment of its Indian population is scarcely a sound one, but there have been praiseworthy improvements in recent years. According to Citizenship Minister Ellen Fairclough, there are now 40,000 Indians in school, compared with 16,000 in 1945. 3,000 young Indian and non-Indian women are in school and university, compared with only 71 in 1945. The Federal Government sent out a $27,000,000 on Indian education, double what was spent in the previous three years.

This advance is heartening to all who want to see the Indians take their rightful place as full Canadian citizens. Indeed, Mrs. Fairclough predicts that this objective can be fully achieved in two generations if a good percentage of Indians can be persuaded to attend high school and university.

"We are convinced," she told the Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association in February, "that there is no permanent solution to the Indian problem short of integration between the Indian and non-Indian populations of Canada. This solution is going to remain beyond our reach until all our Indian citizens have received the education and training which will permit them to engage in industry, business and the professions on equal terms with other Canadians."

The prospects for success are excellent because one-half of all Indians in Canada today are of school age or under. Here then is the opportunity, Mrs. Fairclough pointed out, to improve Canada's credit among other nations, particularly the non-whites, than that of wiping out once and for all, any trace of discrimination against our Indian population.
Delegates...
(From page 1)

Last month a one-man government inquiry investigated the men's complaints after they walked off their jobs, complaining they were poorly treated by bush-clearing firms.

The inquiry resulted in men being paid $1.35 per hour for a nine-hour day in clearing bush on a piece work basis, plus five cents an hour extra for using their own power saw. Indian workers get back pay of about $2,000, dating to last November.

Another resolution asked the province to study the possibility of a co-operative fish marketing organization.

The preamble to the resolution said there was a great deal of waste and duplication in competition between fish companies and not enough attention is paid to improving the quality of marketable fish.

The conference also passed a resolution asking for provision of small loans up to $1,500, repayable in five years, to fishermen through some government agency or by professional guarantee banks for such loans.

Manitoba's nurses are to be asked to recruit and send nurses to staff nursing stations "urgently needed" on many Indian reservations and Metis communities.

The conference passed a resolution asking the nursing profession to promote a campaign among high school girls to train for such a job.

The resolution's preamble said there was an urgent need for more nursing stations on isolated reserves and northern communities.

Another resolution indicated the practice of tourists buying such Indian souvenirs stamped "made in Japan" was frowned upon.

The conference said handmade crafts of Indians-Eskimos were unprotected from cheap imitation knick-knacks "much inferior in artistry and beauty" to true native craftsmanship.

The conference suggested federal legislation, similar to that in the United States, prohibiting sale of any goods purporting to be Indian made.

A resolution was passed urging federal laws to "promote the development!" of Indian and Eskimo art.

More Conference reports on pages 4, 5 and 8.

Lady Chief

Duncan, B.C. — The Cowichan Indian band in this Vancouver Island district, which this year becomes the first in British Columbia to administer its own funds, is led by Louise Underwood, 28. She is the first unmarried woman elected chief of a B.C. band.

BOOK REVIEW


An outstanding account of the Canada fur trade, the lives and times of the men, both white and Indian, of the old Northwest.

Duncan, Chemainus Hosts To T-V Stars

Chief Dan George and his family will be among the entertainers taking part in an Indian concert to be staged in Duncan and Chemainus, B.C., March 24 and 25.

Chief Dan, "Antoine" and Robert George, "Bonaparte John", acquired fame in the television series "Caribou Country". Featured on the same program were Marie, Paul, and Art George.

The Georges with their six-piece orchestra and floor show are familiar to radio fans and night-club goers.

Teaming up with St. Paul's Dancing Group, their concert has been acclaimed as the finest performance staged on the Kitsilano Show Boat in twenty-five years.

Besides meriting praise from federal and provincial authorities, this concert won for them a trip to Palm Springs, Cal., where they entertained at the Chi-Chi with Murray Arnold, Bob Hope, Harry, Moore and other Hollywood celebrities.

They were such an attraction at the P.N.E. that they were brought back for five repeat performances including the Miss P.N.E. Show which drew a crowd of 25,000.

St. Paul's Dancing Group took first honors at the B.C. dancing festival in April 1960, at Vancouver. These children are champions in the national dances including, Irish, Spanish, Dutch, Ukrainian, Scottish, English.

Atlin Girl Wins Prize

An Atlin girl, Josephine Jack, is the winner of the Martha Louise Black memorial bursary which is awarded annually by the Whitehorse chapter of the IOSE.

The bursary was made available to Grade XII students who, after graduation, planned to carry on their education at a recognized educational institute.

An average of 72 placed Miss Jack first in her class. She is now attending the Vancouver Vocational Institute where she is studying to be a secretary. She was formerly a pupil at Lejac and Lower Post Indian Residential School. She has also won an Indian Affairs Department scholarship.

Next Month...

the Indian Record will publish an illustrated feature on the founder of the Oblate Missionaries, Bishop de Mazenod, whose death occurred May 21, 1861.

Copy deadline is Tuesday, April 11. Your co-operation will be appreciated in sending news and photos for that date. (Ed.)
Mohawk School Supervisor Urges Pride in Heritage

A noted Canadian Mohawk, Mr. William A. Hill, said that Canada should do as the Romans once did - maintain the cultural heritage of the people. He emphasized that the Indian must learn of his own heritage. When the Indian得知 wants to earn equal status, he must be proud of the culture that cannot be taught in a classroom. Mr. Hill added that teachers should have this knowledge of the past and present to help the Indian and Metis people.

Economic Adjustment of Indians

Economic adjustment of Indians can be quickened if they know that their culture is valuable. Mr. Hill emphasized that the Indian must learn of his own heritage. When the Indian wants to earn equal status, he must be proud of the culture that cannot be taught in a classroom. Mr. Hill added that teachers should have this knowledge of the past and present to help the Indian and Metis people.

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In Northwest Territories

Historic Names for Schools

Canada is honouring the memory of a dozen courageous men and a woman to whom the present-day north owes much, as the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources announced today that the last of the largest federal schools in the Northwest Territories have been named after well-known explorers and the seven residences, associated with four of the schools, after Catholic and Anglican missionaries responsible for opening some of the first schools in the north.

"Some of these explorers dared the pack ice in ships that wouldn't be allowed out of port today," Father P. Grollier, O.M.I., the first priest to found a Catholic mission in northern Canada. He arrived at Fort Resolution in July 1858 and, until his death in 1864, established missions along the Mackenzie River as far north as Fort McPherson, where he died.

Sister Marie-Adeleine Lapointe was superior in the first group of Grey Nuns and the founder of the first orphanage and school at Fort Providence, N.W.T.

Fort Simpson: Thomas Simpson school; Lapointe Hall (Catholic residence); Bompas Hall (Anglican).

Fort McPherson: Peter Warre Dease school; Fleming Hall (Anglican); Frohmer school; Sir Martin Frohmer school. Yellowknife: Sir John Franklin school.

Bishop A. Turquetil, O.M.I. (1876-1955), spent forty-two years in the Northwest Territories, was named after Sir Alexander MacKenzie school; Grollier Hall residence (Catholic); Stringer Hall (Anglican).

Frontiersman Honored

North Vancouver — The first North American Indian to become a member of the Corps of Imperial Frontiersmen has been honored with the corps' highest Canadian award.

Trooper Harvey Gonzales, 38, of 437 West Third, received the corps' meritorious service medal from Brigadier W. H. Hocken, commanding officer of the Imperial Frontiersmen in Canada.

Gonzales, a member of the Squamish Indian band, was honored at a ceremony in the Indian Council Hall on Mission Reserve, January 18.
Art Obey Top Indian Athlete

(Bacalares Free Lance)

A young sports director from St. Paul's Indian residential school was named Canada's top Indian athlete for 1960 recently. He is Art Obey who has spent most of his 28 years in the Qu' Appelle Valley lakeside school that is an educational centre for some 350 Indian children.

The Tom Longboat Trophy, awarded yearly to the top Indian athlete in the province, "goes to one who has excelled in his sport" according to Father Dunlop, who presented the 45-minute program.

The Tom Longboat Trophy is named for Lebret and the Obey family. The Indian and Metis Friendship Centre of Regina sponsored a program of native dancing and singing at Campion College auditorium Friday, Feb. 10.

The Lebret Indian school sprinkled with Indian names was founded in 1933. It is a modern community on the reserve of the Piapot Reserve, 20 miles north of Regina. The elder Obey is from the Sioux tribe and Art's mother is a Saulteaux.

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Hobbenia Pee-Wees

Play In Quebec City

By Rev. A. Allard, O.M.I.

Hobbema, Alta. Early in January, 100 Pee-Wees from all Indian reservations in central and southern Alberta went to the Calgary Corral to be selected by Stampeder’s and Junior Buffalos’ coaches to participate in the International pee-pee tournament.

Ermineskin school, Hobbema, Pee-Wee team defeated an All-Star southern Alberta team 5 to 0. The coach of the Junior Buffalos told Father Allard that Hobbema should alone participate in the Quebec tournament because of their fast skating, ability.

Four lads from Hobbema were selected: Sam Aginas, Roy Arcand, Ivan Shortneck and Jimmy Minde. Others were chosen from southern Alberta to complete an all-Alberta star hockey team to represent the province at the International Tournament Feb. 9 in Quebec City.

The boys were trained by Father Allard and Mr. Arsenault. Indian Band funds from Chiefs Johnny Samson, James Bull, Bob Smallboy and Sam Curry defrayed travel expenses.

The Hobbenia Indian Pee-Wees had won many games this year, but had lost to Millet and Ponoka.

In Quebec, the Alberta team played Beaupre, losing 5-4, on Feb. 9. On Feb. 11, the team lost 3-2 to Bersimis Indians. The tournament attracted 16,000 people at the City Coliseum; a great ovation was given to the teams.

WILLIAM WUTUNEE

William Wutunee, 32-year-old Cree Indian lawyer from Saskatchewan, was a key speaker at the conference of The Pas on Indian and Metis relations within the community.

He was born at Red Pheasant Indian reserve near North Battleford, Sask., and studied at McGill University, Montreal, before obtaining his law degree from the University of Saskatchewan.

He is employed with the Saskatchewan government insurance agency. The conference at its closing session voted to set up a Community Friendship Council in The Pas to foster better Indian-Metis relations within the community.

Twelve Oblate missionaries met at Duck Lake, Sask., Feb. 22-23, to study pastoral problems on Indian reservations.

The Most Rev. L. Morin, Bishop of Prince Albert, was present at the meeting.

Nearly 100, She Returns to Trampoline

Timmins, Ont. — Maggie Leclair, Ojibwe, who insists she won’t be 100 for another three years, has gone back to her trampoline.

Rheumatism racking her frame, she checked out of hospital and headed the 21 miles back to her Kamiscotia Lake home.

Hospital officials said Maggie thought one day in hospital was fine but three days were just too much.

“It’s back to the bush for me,” she said.

Maggie Buffalo was born on the shores of Nighthawk Lake. When she left the hospital her doctor said she had one problem on her mind — where to get a new radio.

She had wrecked the old one by carving a hole in the cabinet and using it for a beaver trap.

Record Attendance

Rev. Joseph Kane, O.M.I., Indian missionary in the Kamloops district, has just completed a series of missions for the Indian people on Vancouver Island.

First he teamed up with Father Lorne Mackey, O.M.I., preaching at the latter’s missions in the Kuper Island area, then with Father Joseph Rossiter, O.M.I., whose Indian missions are centered around Duncan, Vancouver Island.

The missions drew record attendances at all reserves on which they were given.

Indian Women Seek Foster Child Change

A resolution urging that children of Treaty Indian status when necessary be placed with foster parents of their own familiar culture, was passed by the women’s group meeting in conjunction with the seventh annual Indian and Metis Conference in Winnipeg.

As Treaty Indians come under the jurisdiction of the federal government, payment for care of foster children is not available to Indian people. The services of the Children’s Aid Society of Manitoba has not been extended to Treaty Indians.

The resolution which went to the general conference for ratification was a pilot project now in progress in the western part of the province under the Children’s Aid Society of Western Manitoba. Recognized study

It recognized the study being undertaken by official and voluntary social agencies and offered assistance and encouragement in it and in early implementation of the necessary legislative machinery. The resolution also asked that the present policy of placing Indian children with foster parents of their familiar culture be strengthened and that the growing skill of Children’s Aid social workers be provided to administer these services without further delay.

A second resolution passed at the conference endorsed a resolution from the Manitoba Provincial Council of Women to seek federal government permission for the enactment of legislation designed to promote the development of Indian native crafts and arts and give protection similar to that afforded by the United States government.

The resolution noted the marked deterioration of skills of native crafts and lack of training for the young due to lack of protection. “They must compete with cheap mass produced imitation products, in most cases much inferior in artistry and beauty,” the resolution stated. It also noted that such protection would supplement income of native artists.

Manitoba To Assist... (Continued from Page 1)

Indian and Metis and that the government is also willing to help.

He pointed out that the government’s community development staff is seeking to educate the Indian and Metis, and that the idea of co-operatives is quite prevalent among them.

Effective assistance can be given without providing large sums of money and sending many government employees into the communities, he said.