

By the way, when I suggested some of these new constituencies, I had that thought in mind, because the new constituency that we propose to call the Arctic will take in Tuktoyaktuk, and it will also take in Inuvik in population. But the rest would mainly be Eskimo, and I would be very happy to see a young Eskimo, or a young part Eskimo, come into the council as one who knows what the conditions are. I would like to see such a person elected as the next member for that section. And I think we may see it happen, too.

Mr. DINSDALE: In the light of what Mr. Lang has said I conclude that he feels that in the Mackenzie constituency, or speaking of the people in the delta constituency, it would be possible for a native northerner to be elected by the ordinary electoral process.

Mr. LANG: I think so. We very nearly had one elected at one time. I cannot go into the details of it, but unfortunately, at the time we were not happy about the present member, and the Indians were very strongly in favour of getting somebody else. In fact, they approached me to run at the time.

Mr. NIELSEN: With the next member to be yourself?

Mr. LANG: I saw an old chief and I asked him who he wanted to have run, and he wanted to have the Anglican clergyman run. But things being as they were, I explained to him that it would be rather tough on the other religious parties. So I advised him not to "run" the Anglican minister. But that man actually got within 57 votes of being a councillor.

Mr. DINSDALE: In the preliminary stages do you think it might be a good idea, in regard to appointed members, to consider the appointment of native northerners to council because of the difficulties which you have outlined and the possibility of a little bit of racial segregation? It might in the preliminary stages ease this problem and provide the northerners with legislative experience were they to be appointed to council?

Mr. LANG: Yes, in one way I think it would be a very fine thing. The qualities that up to the present time we have looked for in our appointed members are not particularly those of knowledge of the north country. It has been rather technical knowledge, like that of a lawyer or an engineer, and so on. But as far as appointing natives goes, all they would know would be at the grass roots level of the country. We are fairly familiar with the areas. Having lived there for 35 years, there is not much they could teach me about the grass roots level. The idea is attractive. I do not know how big a council we could afford, but it would be very nice to have one Eskimo, and one Indian, in an advisory capacity, or perhaps as appointed members. However, we still must have some appointed members in order to get technical information. As we have more and more elected members we are going to be rather short of appointed members. Perhaps we will finally end up with Eskimos and Indians with the remainder being elected members.

Mr. DINSDALE: Would you say that, as a result of the speed of the educational process in the north, it will be possible within the immediate future for an educated native northerner, who has special training, to take over some of these functions of the council?

Mr. LANG: What exactly do you mean by "immediate future"?

Mr. DINSDALE: How far in the future do you think it will be before the prospective native northerner who has gone through the educational process will be able to perform the functions of council and take an active part in the activities of the council, not only from the standpoint of grass roots knowledge but also from the standpoint of technical and special knowledge?

Mr. LANG: Mr. Chairman, I feel that a man must be at least 35 years old before he can assume these functions, so that the answer to your question