

Mr. MACNICOL: What would be the objection to appointing him a few months beforehand, and thereby accord him an opportunity to learn what the other man knows about matters?

Mr. HOEY: I think that would be an excellent arrangement.

Mr. BROWN: It would mean an amendment to the Civil Service Act, and Regulations thereunder.

Mr. MACNICOL: I think you have something there.

Mr. CHARLTON: Should there be any difference made between a man retiring on pension and a man who is out on sick leave? If it be a case of sick leave I can understand it, because a man might come back after his sick leave and find his position filled.

Mr. HOEY: Yes, in the case of sickness, we should have an agent at large. In Ontario he would be attached to the Ottawa office, and in British Columbia to the Commissioner's office. He could go from one agency to another and receive a thorough training.

Mr. MACNICOL: I think that is a good idea, sir. Your first recommendation would be to have an agent at large; and your second recommendation would be, where he is definitely going out—you must know of some who are going out for some reason or another—to have the appointment of some one to assist him during the last three months of his holding his office.

Mr. MATTHEWS: The committee must take a much wider field than that, because I take it that applies all through the civil service.

Mr. CASE: There we have two very important observations and we should not lose sight of them if we are to have any change in administration at all.

*By Mr. Bryce:*

Q. Do you find it advisable to change an agent every two or three years, or do you prefer the method by which a man is kept all his lifetime on the one reserve?—A. Well, I should not hesitate to answer that question. I think Indian agents should be transferred about readily, once it is obvious that they have perhaps reached the height of their usefulness in an agency. I think the transfers should be readily made.

Q. Answer me this. Do you think the agents should be changed around every three years?—A. Well, I do not know that I would favour any set period, but I think that agents should eventually be changed around. I think this from my own experience it keeps men on their toes to transfer them, especially from a place where they have taken root.

Q. In my experience, I have found they can be too long in one reserve.—A. That is my experience, too.

*By Mr. Raymond:*

Q. I understand that you are Indian Commissioner for British Columbia?—A. Yes.

Q. Then may I direct this question to Mr. Hoey. Is there such a commissioner for all the provinces? I mean, is there such a commissioner for each other province?

Mr. HOEY: No, there is not. There is a commissioner for British Columbia, with a certain salary rate, Commissioner MacKay. In Alberta there is what we call an Inspector of Indian Agents. In Saskatchewan there is an inspector; in Ontario there is an inspector, Mr. Arniel, and in Quebec there is an inspector. Major MacKay happens at the moment to be the only Indian Commissioner in the field.

Mr. RAYMOND: Would it be possible to have the name—I do not mean today—of the inspector for the province of Quebec, and his address? Who is the chief inspector, if that is what you call him?