

Your Committee believes that a new definition of "Indian" and the amendment of those sections of the Act which deal with Band membership will obviate many problems.

Your Committee recommends that, in the meantime, the Indian Affairs Branch should undertake the revision of existing Band membership lists.

3. LIABILITY OF INDIANS TO PAY TAXES

Your Committee recommends the clarification of those sections of the Act which deal with the exemption from taxation of an Indian's real and personal property on a reserve.

Your Committee, however, is of opinion that Indians should continue to pay taxes on any income earned by them off, i.e., away from their reserve, even though they do reside on or have an interest in a reserve.

4. ENFRANCHISEMENT OF INDIANS BOTH VOLUNTARY AND INVOLUNTARY

The revised Indian Act should, in the opinion of your Committee, contain provisions to clarify the present rules and regulations regarding enfranchisement.

5. ELIGIBILITY OF INDIANS TO VOTE AT DOMINION ELECTIONS

As part of the education and preparation of the Indian to assume his place in the Canadian body politic, your Committee recommended, on May 6 last, that "voting privileges for the purpose of Dominion elections be granted to Indians on the same status as electors in urban centres". This is a matter which, in the opinion of your Committee, should be referred to a special committee on the Dominion Elections Act, with a view to early implementation of the recommendation.

It is realized that many Indians are not anxious to have or to use the franchise, under the misapprehension that, if they do exercise it, they will lose that they consider their rights and privileges.

Many Indians who do not have the right to vote at Dominion elections do pay taxes on income earned away from the reserve, together with sales tax, gasoline tax, excise tax, et cetera. This is taxation without representation.

It is the opinion of your Committee that it would encourage Indians, particularly the younger ones, to interest themselves in public affairs, if they were given the privilege already recommended. Your Committee is further of opinion that the public generally would be given a better appreciation of Indian affairs.

6. ENCROACHMENT OF WHITE PERSONS ON INDIAN RESERVES

Your Committee recommends that the revised Act contain provisions to prevent persons other than Indians from trespassing upon or frequenting Indian reserves for improper purposes.

7. THE OPERATION OF INDIAN SCHOOLS

Your Committee recommends the revision of those sections of the Act which pertain to education, in order to prepare Indian children to take their place as citizens.