

in the citizen . . . . The status of the restricted citizen Indian with respect to his property secured through the government is like that of a citizen child with respect to his, except that under existing law the Indian may be declared competent, and thereby given full control. It should be noted moreover that this restriction applied only to the property secured to the Indian by government action. It does not apply to property secured by the Indian for himself through his own efforts. He ordinarily has complete control of his own earnings and of any property purchased with his earnings.

Meriam.—Problem of Indian Administration.—

In any proposed amendment to the Indian Act regarding the conferring of legal rights upon the Indians we ask that discrimination as to racial origin be removed and that only those restrictions be kept in force which are clearly for the common interests of the Canadian people or of the Indians themselves.

6. *Encroachment of White Persons on Indian Reserves.*

From what we have already stated, we consider the Indian lands and hunting grounds as our own. We do not wish other people to intrude on our property without our consent. All other persons should have the consent of the Chief and council and members, of an Indian band, and the approval of the Indian Department, to occupy Indian lands.

7. *Indian Day and Residential Schools.*

We ask parliament to grant us full educational benefits for our children.

There are twelve thousand Indian children in British Columbia. Many of our children have no school of any kind. Parents have to wait in some cases till their children are ten or twelve years old before they can get them into a school. Parents have to take their children out of school too soon in some cases, to make room for others. Some Indian Day Schools are closed because there is no teacher.

We ask:

1. That Parliament recognize the natural right of Indian parents to choose the kind of education for their children, prescribed by the Department of Indian Affairs.

2. That the Indian parents be given full opportunity to express their wishes as to the education of their children.

3. That funds be voted by Parliament for full school training, both for all day class training from Grades I—VIII, and for vocational training, in both the Indian residential schools and the Indian Day schools, for all the Indian children whose applications for admission have been approved by the Indian Department.

4. That money be provided by Parliament for higher education for Indian children, advanced courses to be added to the Indian Day and Residential schools as required, and according to the wishes of the Indian parents and of the children themselves.

5. That the present system of Indian residential and day schools be kept, and that additional grants be provided for buildings and equipment for both Indian Day and Residential schools, until all the Indian children are given the opportunity of an education.

6. That in Indian Day school areas special economic assistance and supervision be given to families attending school, in addition to the Family Allowance, so that the parents of those families will have incomes high enough to feed and clothe their children from remunerative employment in the locality