

2. (a) *Housing: Water Supply.*

Evidence has been presented to the Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons investigating the Indian Act regarding the acute need for improved housing and water supply on the reserves. We recommend that every effort be made by the Department of Mines and Resources to remedy these conditions as soon as possible, and that plans for improvement be formulated jointly with native representatives in each area.

(b) *Housing at Canneries.*

At a number of canneries where Indian workers are employed, new housing units have been constructed in recent years. At others, replacements are urgently needed.

Much improvement has been due to the work of the Provincial Department of Health, which is now taking an active interest in cannery sanitation.

We recommend that in every cannery a Camp Council of Native leaders be chosen to make and enforce rules for the use of facilities provided.

3. *Old Age Pensions.*

Social Assistance for Unemployables.

Old and unemployable persons among the native people should receive the same benefits as white persons.

We recommend that the Federal Government confer with provincial authorities with the object of working out a scheme for providing such benefits.

The wellbeing of the Indian should not be sacrificed because of divided authority in administration.

4. *Indian Trust Funds.*

We recommend that a complete resurvey of the administration of Trust Funds be instituted, with a view to determining the most efficient use of these funds for the general improvement of the conditions of life among the Indians, and that pertinent information be made available to tribal bands.

5. *Nursing and Social Service Field Work.*

We recommend that immediate efforts be made to increase the number of field workers in general nursing and social service work. In this connection we advocate an extension of the system now in force in certain parts of the province, whereby the nursing services are provided by the B.C. Department of Health and Welfare and paid for by the Dominion Government.

C. *Education.*

1. *School Facilities.*—At the present time school facilities in many districts are inadequate, but our Society believes that the Indian Affairs Branch is now making a real effort to meet the situation. New schools and teacherages are being built, teachers' salaries have been increased and day school teachers are now included in a teachers' pension scheme. We recommend that efforts along these lines be continued, and that particular stress be laid on improving the qualifications of the teachers.

We endorse the avowed policy of the Indian Affairs Branch in placing the emphasis on the construction of Day Schools rather than Residential Schools, which will only be built where the operation of a day school is not practical.

2. *Course of Study.*—We recommend that the Course of Study continue to follow closely that of the Provincial Department of Education, but that the Native Culture and Tradition be woven into the teaching of such subjects as drawing, literature, and Social Studies.