

and all sorts of things like that—I feel that those are things which the Indians should be asked to produce until they have earned a living. There is a living to be earned in craftwork for men and women. I would say, roughly, 10 per cent of the Indian population; of course that is not a large percentage, but it helps out a lot.

By the Chairman:

Q. Ten per cent of the Indian population could thrive on practical craftwork?—A. Yes, the men are very good at willow-work, and all sorts of things.

The CHAIRMAN: Any further questions?

Mr. TUSTIN: Miss Moodie held up this basket and said there was a tremendous amount of work in it. I think she said she did not think the Indian Affairs Department should promote this sort of work. Then Mr. Matthews said they were not forced to do this work and Miss Moodie followed by saying that they were urged to do it and if not they would be criticized. Now, who does this criticizing?

The WITNESS: I think the criticism comes from women who have had little experience in such matters.

Mr. MACNICOL: Can't you keep them off the reservations altogether?

The WITNESS: I wish we could, but they form themselves into associations and they succeed in getting publicity.

By the Chairman:

Q. You do not mean, Miss Moodie, that the Indians are criticized by departmental officials?—A. Oh no, not at all, no.

The CHAIRMAN: That has been made quite clear, Mr. Tustin.

The WITNESS: The Indians do a good job just as long as they are supervised, but just as soon as they are not supervised they go back to their old ways. For example, take children going to school. These children are educated up to the age of fifteen or sixteen, but when they are allowed to go back to their own homes, they tend to fall back into the same old lines.

Q. I have heard it said that it takes three generations of schooling, say, in a good residential school, to get Indians to the point where they can hold their own ground.—A. I do not think it should be expected that they change too rapidly. There are a great many things that these Indians make, such as apple baskets, for which there is a great demand. I think that there should be some supervision to keep these people on that job. I have a letter here in connection with picking baskets. I received a request from a large basket company asking about baskets made about this long (indicating), having a heavy hoop for a handle, and another heavy hoop for a circle. Now, these baskets contain at least 30 cents worth of ash splint. Consider the cost of materials plus the time spent in making them and the fact that the ceiling price for them is \$12 a dozen—

Mr. RICKARD: We pay \$1.20.

The WITNESS: You should pay \$2.

Mr. RICKARD: We cannot afford to do that.

The WITNESS: That basket is going to last for twenty years.

Mr. RICKARD: It won't last more than two years. No basket that any Indian can make will last more than two years.

The WITNESS: I will bet you the ones that I have would last more than two years.

Mr. MACNICOL: Oh, sell him one for \$5 and then give him a discount.

Mr. RICKARD: We found that a basket lasts two years with ordinary wear and tear, and at that we think we are doing very well.