

You may find the finished Act a little hard to understand. You may look for some of your suggestions and not recognize them because of these things. We will try to keep you informed about all this. You can be sure that your views will be heard, that they will be reported to the Canadian people by the newspaper, television and radio people here. You can be sure that we will report them to the Government. Members of Parliament will know what has been said when they come to review the new legislation.

#### PREPARATORY WORK

This is an important step in consultation, but it is only one of many steps. We have sent a handbook out to as many Indian homes as we could reach. All of you have the background papers before you today. When these meetings are all finished we will have heard from over 600 Indians representing their people. Before these meetings there were discussions with many Indian people. Together with them we have examined the main features of the present Act which appeared to require amendment. They have considered what changes in the underlying principles were necessary in order to reflect the needs, objectives and desires of the Indian people. From these talks the discussion handbook *Choosing a Path* was prepared. I hope there is no one here who believes that these questions are worded to impose a viewpoint, for that is NOT the case.

We recognize that many Indian people would have liked more time to consider the questions raised and to think about their suggestions. Every day that passes delays the revision of the Act and I am sure that most of you agree that there is a need for revision and the sooner the changes are made, the better it will be for the Indian people.

We do not want to hurry you, but we cannot delay too long. The Government decided to go ahead with the consultations now to speed things up as much as possible. If any of you have second thoughts about any of the questions after other Indians in other parts of Canada have spoken, you can write to the Department and tell us. You are, of course, able to write to your Member of Parliament at any time and you will be able to send your views to the Parliamentary Committee which the Government has said will review the Bill before it is passed into law.

So you can see there are many opportunities for you to speak, but this is the main one. Here you will have time to consider the questions, to discuss the different things which affect your band and to record your views. All of us hope that these meetings will provide a new outlook in Indian Affairs, a new relation between us.

#### MORE MOTOR VEHICLES

Preliminary figures on Canadian motor-vehicle registrations for 1967 indicate that registrations have increased by 5.22 per cent over the 1966 figures. The largest increases over 1966 provincial figures were in the Yukon and Northwest Territories - 13.69 per cent; Newfoundland - 10.74 per cent; Quebec -

7.54 per cent; Saskatchewan - 6.60 per cent; Alberta - 5.86 per cent; and British Columbia - 5.81 per cent. All these were larger than the national percentage increase. All provinces and territories showed an increase over the 1966 motor-vehicle registrations, but the number of vehicle registrations is subject, however, to subsequent revisions.

Preliminary figures for 1967 showed that motor-cycle registrations had increased by 16.08 per cent since 1966. Bus registrations also increased by 9.81 per cent over 1966 figures.

Preliminary Canadian figures on the issue of trailer licences in 1967 showed an increase of 11.76 per cent over 1966 figures. All provinces recorded increases in the issue of trailer licences.

#### RAINMAKING RESEARCH

The Department of Transport reports that, while cloud-seeding cannot yet change the weather significantly except under certain circumstances, international research is continuing in the field of weather modification. Although the science of weather modification is in its infancy, some types of weather have been changed slightly with enough success to warrant a continuing and expanding research programme.

Research in weather and climate modification is continuing in all parts of the world and the Department of Transport takes part in this research through its Meteorological Branch. It also monitors the results obtained elsewhere to assess how they can be applied to Canadian weather conditions and requirements.

Research into modern weather modifications began in 1946 with the discovery that dry ice dropped into a water-droplet cloud with a temperature below freezing would cause the droplets to change to ice crystals, grow, and fall out of the cloud. Silver iodide had a similar effect if the cloud temperature was a few degrees lower. Since then, many various experiments in cloud-seeding have been conducted throughout the world. Some have been successful, but the conditions under which weather can be modified are not yet understood.

The seeding of clouds has been used successfully to dissipate super-cooled fog and low clouds over limited areas by seeding with dry ice, silver iodide or liquid propane. Success has also been reported recently in dissipating warm fogs through the use of unspecified chemicals in a patented process, but so far this technique is still in the experimental stage.

Some promising results in the suppression of lightning through cloud-seeding with silver iodide have been reported from the United States, but confirming evidence is still required.

The Health of Animals Branch of the Department of Agriculture inspected 788 whales slaughtered and processed in 1967.