

Mr. GIBSON: You are only getting information?

Mr. NOSEWORTHY: In other words, this would only be a protection?

The CHAIRMAN: It would be of great assistance in surveying for roads, would it not?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: Yes.

Mr. HARKNESS: Is any consideration given to this proposition that these surveys would only be made with the consent of the band council?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: We approach the band councils and hope to obtain their assistance in the carrying out of the survey but we would not want them to be in a position to stop the work at a time when we had the opportunity to do it. We have to fit in the surveying with the work done by the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys. They will say to us, we will be able to provide you with so many survey parties this year in a certain area, and we take advantage of that. If the band council opposes the survey when in fact there is not going to be any disturbance to the band council except the physical disturbance of a survey party, we feel we should go ahead with the work at the time the party is available. As I said, in every case we do our best to get the consent of the band council.

Mr. HARKNESS: The basic point there, I think, is it not that some Indians are very much wed to the fact that all reserves held by the band is common land and if they are surveyed into plots that this is breaking down that idea. I would think the band as a whole does hold that idea strongly that they might be forced, as you might say, into another system.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: The forcing of another system goes with the allotment, not with the survey.

Mr. MURRAY: Mr. Chairman, it is necessary to survey these reserves where there are villages to lay them out properly, if you are going to bring the Indian up to the level of other people. Now, in regard to water services it is necessary to have a proper survey and an allotment of water. We have that in our district where they now want the water conveyed from certain creeks to townsites. Well, you have the survey made or you go ahead in a haphazard manner laying pipes here and there across the country and in order to avoid that it is necessary to have a survey made.

Mr. BLACKMORE: Mr. Chairman, the Alberta Indian Association finds cause for objection in clause 19, but I must confess I do not exactly see on what justifiable basis they do object. To me, it seems that the matter of roads in our age of automotive transportation is so important that it adds considerably to our way of living.

The CHAIRMAN: Clause 19?

Carried.

Clause 20?

Mr. HARKNESS: It is past 1.00 o'clock.

The CHAIRMAN: Tomorrow we will meet at 4.00 p.m. in this room No. 268. We will also meet at 11.00 o'clock on Thursday morning, April 19.

The committee adjourned.