

We flew to Osnaburgh and on Tuesday we left for Sioux Lookout where the planes were carefully overhauled for the trip inland to Cat Lake and the other centres. We left Sioux Lookout on Friday morning, June 30th, but were forced to land on account of dense clouds and rain. We had to remain a day in the bush before continuing our trip to Cat Lake. After completing our work at all these points we then set out for Attawapiscat, Albany, and Moose Factory, where we remained only long enough to make the payments; no other matters were dealt with, as the bands are under the supervision of Dr. Tyrer. We left Moose Factory for Remi on Thursday, July 20th, and on Friday returned to Ottawa, having made the whole trip on schedule time..

Annuity payments.

As usual the annuity payments were made on the reserves whenever possible, and in the presence of the chiefs and councillors, care being taken to carry out the Minister's instructions to not permit any free traders to locate there during the payments. At the same time Indians accused of immorality, dishonesty and other misdemeanours, were reprimanded and warned not to repeat the offences. Owing to the remoteness of the districts, many Indians guilty of offences are permitted to escape with censure when they should have been meted more severe punishments.

The following table shows the comparative membership of the different bands of Treaty 9, for the years 1931, 1932 and 1933:-

Bands Treaty 9	Members 1931	Members 1932	Members 1933	Changes since 1932
English River	104	108	110	Increase 2
Martin Falls	148	146	147	Increase 1
Fort Hope	595	610	630	Increase 20
Osnaburgh	491	495	501	Increase 6
Caribou Lake	176	181	190	Increase 9
Trout Lake	666	694	703	Increase 9
Fort Severn	75	75	76	Increase 1
Winisk	90	93	105	Increase 12
Attawapiscat	529	537	553	Increase 16
Albany	686	691	692	Increase 1
Moose Factory	363	365	361	Increase 4
New Post	21	21	21	

Total increase 73.

You will observe that during the year there has been an increase of 160 by births and 110 other causes, but there has been a decrease of 92 by death and 105 other causes. The net increase for the year was 73 Indians.

I might add that there seems to be an increased tendency for the Indians to move from the inland posts to points along the railway line. I cannot see any objections to Indians who are self supporting doing this, but it is my candid opinion that it would be more beneficial to the Indians, as well as to the Department if the relief allowances at the lines were considerably cut and such Indians ordered to return to their posts where they would be under the direct supervision of the Indian Agent, who would be in a position to investigate their needs before authorizing any assistance.

EXTRACT
ON 7-4-44

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