

Branch, Indian and Inuit Affairs, Ottawa. Films and film strips may be obtained from the National Film Board, Ottawa.

### *Future of the Indians*

A welcome trend during the past few years has been an ever-increasing awareness on the part of the Indian people that their future lies largely within their own control. As a concrete illustration of this fact, more and more Indian bands have chosen to manage for themselves the funds earmarked for providing services to their members. This trend can be expected to continue and grow in the future, and will oblige the Federal Government and the Indians themselves to co-operate in developing policies and programs to strengthen the native sense of individuality, without, however, weakening the traditional sense of community.

Some people will see in the trend towards local government by the Indian bands an attempt to create a separate, parallel society. This fear must be dispelled, for the Indians' real object is to become full and equal members of Canadian society as a whole.

This aim will be achieved only if the Indians develop confidence and learn to manage their own community affairs in ways that are familiar to them, which they themselves can gradually modify until they achieve full equality with their fellow citizens.

In a comparatively short time, Indian associations have been formed in every province and territory of Canada. These associations are trying to find the most effective ways to help their people, and the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs is listening carefully to their opinions.

