

have confidence and trust in the department, that the annual statement of all expenditures and receipts, and the general statement of our trust accounts, should be published for distribution annually to our people.

Section 94(a) should be amended by adding after the words ". . . may operate farms on Indian Reserves" in the second line,—“with the consent of the Band or Council of the Band”.

Section 95 should be deleted and the superintendent general should only be given supervisory powers unless otherwise stipulated.

Sections 110 to 114 should be deleted.

Sections 126 to 137 should be deleted and the Indians should be governed by the liquor laws and regulations in each province and they should have the same rights and privileges of buying and consuming as the ordinary resident of the province in which each band is situated.

Section 140(a), and section 140(a) subsection 2, should be deleted.

Sections 141 and 142 should be deleted.

Section 163(a) should be amended by deleting the word “male”.

Section 176 should be amended, and provision made whereby the people of the Six Nations may elect the chief councillor.

Section 178 should be amended to read “At such meeting of the Council the Chief Councillor or his deputy appointed for the purpose, shall

(a) preside, and record the proceedings;

(b) control and regulate all matters of procedure and form and adjourn the meeting to a time named or sine die;

2. The agent for the reserve will be present and shall

(a) report and certify all by-laws and other acts and proceedings of the Council to the Superintendent General.

(b) address the Council and explain and advise the members thereof upon their powers and duties.

Section 185 should be amended by giving the band or council of the band the same authority and jurisdiction over their own affairs as any municipal authority has in the province in which the band is situated.

Finally—apart from the preceding brief which deals almost entirely with matters affecting the revision of the Indian Act,—we would draw your attention to certain remarks of various witnesses who have appeared before you, whose statements we have read with considerable interest and with astonished amazement.

To refer to one in particular—your witness was speaking of the Reserve at Brantford,—our own Six Nations,—quote “I think we must look forward to their gradual assimilation”.

We very much resent those remarks, as we are proud of being Six Nations Indians. We are thankful we have sons and daughters, and we hope that they—like ourselves—will grow up with pride in the fact that they are, first—Six Nations Indians, and secondly—good Canadians.

The late Sir John Willison, speaking to a young Indian boy attending Upper Canada College, gave this advice; “My son, remember always that it takes a poor Canadian to make a good American. A man should have pride in his race and the land of his birth.” We as a people are very conscious of his meaning in the light of what is happening to-day.

We as a people bitterly resent these suggestions of assimilation or absorption, and cannot accept such as inevitable.

We remember well the words which appear on Chief Red-Jacket's monument in Buffalo:—“When I am gone and my voice is no longer heard, the avarice and guile of the white man will prevail. My heart fails me when I think of my people, so soon to be scattered and forgotten.”