

reserves. However, I would say the seminar was a success. Unfortunately it suffered from a bad press. Headlines, such as the following were seen:

A senior government official warned this town Sunday that its failure to care about local Indians may lead to racial violence.

At the same time a leading welfare official compared the racial situation in the area to that of the southern United States.

These statements appeared in the *Winnipeg Tribune* on November 15. The headline in the *Winnipeg Free Press* read as follows:

Indian-White violence feared unless Kenora commits its interests.

This also appeared on November 15. These statements had an unfortunate reaction amongst the townpeople because they would look out on the street and see certain Indians. These were probably what we call the hard core derelicts, the ones who suffer from alcoholism. They would say, "revolt, those guys have not got any gumption to revolt." This sentiment was echoed a few days later by Dr. G. C. Monture, who is a full-blooded Mohawk from the Six Nations Reserve. His opinion was that welfare and alcohol had combined to defeat the Indian and deprive him of any initiative.

I had the privilege of attending the seminar and was also asked to speak. I suggested to the people there that they should organize and that there were certain things they should do to make their organization effective. As things turned out, my advice was not heeded. They went ahead with their own plans which turned out to be quite successful. They decided to organize a march on the town of Kenora. As a result of the headlines, to which I referred a few minutes ago, the press came streaming in. They came with cameras, with notebooks and with preconceived ideas. There were those who had covered the civil rights demonstrations in the United States and they immediately assumed that this was a similar situation.

• (8:10 p.m.)

They compared Kenora with Selma, Alabama. They talked to the townspeople in that peculiar way the press has, and ended up at times putting words and ideas into the mouths of the local residents. They made good copy; the news was sensational. They focused public attention on the town of Kenora and, in the heat and the glare, the townspeople looked inward.

Meanwhile, while the press swarmed into Kenora, work went on over the presentation of the brief and publicity was brought

The Address—Mr. Reid

to bear, so that things came to almost an unbearable peak on Monday, November 22, 1965. Four hundred Indians from the reserves around Kenora marched on town council, which on this occasion held its meeting in one of the larger halls in town. The Indian march was impressive. It was an impressive demonstration of solidarity and of discipline.

Two main results flowed from this march. First of all, Mr. Speaker, just being able to assemble and to present a brief to the town fathers gave the Indians confidence which they never had before. The Indian now found himself for the first time in his history in this area a force to be reckoned with in the community. Second, because the demonstration was so orderly and so well carried out and so truthful, the opinion which the townspeople of Kenora had of the Indians went up markedly.

The brief which the Indians presented had been prepared in the glare of publicity, but unfortunately the expectations of what was put in the brief were quite different from its actual contents. The local people had been led to believe as a result of the publicity that all of the problems which the Indians had would be specifically dealt with in the brief. They were wrong, for the brief was nothing more than an eloquent plea for help; an admission that the Indian by himself did not have the ability or the power to save himself. It admitted the frustrations of the Indian. It admitted the Indian's inability to handle most of his own problems. It admitted the Indian's need for help from the townspeople of Kenora.

I have here, Mr. Speaker, a copy of the brief, and I am wondering whether I might ask for unanimous consent of the house to have it printed as an appendix to the *Hansard* debates for this day.

This brief asks for four things.

Mr. Bell (Carleton): Mr. Speaker, what is the nature of the document which the hon. gentleman is seeking to have made an appendix?

Mr. Reid: The brief presented to the town of Kenora by the Indians. The source of this particular copy is the full report which was printed in the local newspaper.

Mr. Ricard: No; we can look at the newspaper for that.

Mr. Bell (Carleton): Mr. Speaker, this brief appears to be a document of a very substantial nature. It is not in accordance with the