

Mr. GALL: This is a compromise on the part of the council.

Mr. TURNER: Do you agree with this compromise?

Mr. GALL: Yes.

Mr. LONEY: Is it reasonable to divide the Eskimo people of the central Arctic into the two districts of Nunassiq and Mackenzie in respect of administration, education and health and welfare?

Mr. GALL: No.

Mr. DINSDALE: Mr. Gall, I take it from your remarks that you believe this bill is a step in the right direction? You are in favour of greater autonomy for the territories and you feel this bill is a step in that direction, is that right? Would you favour the suggestion that the council be partly elected and partly appointed, or would you care to express your point of view in this regard?

Mr. GALL: Mr. Chairman, at this time I should like to be frank. The appointed members to the council have been a great help to me since I became a member of the council. I have never been in the position of opposing an appointed member. Whenever I have opposed members of the council I was opposing elected members. Whenever we had a dispute in regard to procedural matters we always asked for the advice of the appointed members, and they have been very helpful in this regard.

Mr. NIELSEN: If a system could be devised whereby this type of advice was available to the council, would you be in favour of a wholly elected council?

Mr. GALL: Under the conditions as you have described them I possibly would be in favour of a wholly elected council at some time in the future. However, I must point out that during the sessions which take place after council meetings, and I am not aware of what you people in parliament call those sessions, we gain from the wisdom and advice given by these appointed members.

Mr. NIELSEN: Could these individuals serve that same purpose as well in an advisory capacity as they do as members?

Mr. GALL: I cannot answer that question. May I ask you a question?

Mr. NIELSEN: Surely you may ask a question for the purposes of clarification.

Mr. GALL: Are you referring to a situation where I must run to an adviser seeking advice in respect of every point of order? I am thinking in terms of a new member in the council rather than in terms of an experienced member.

If they have to do this all the time, I think this council would be run by our lawyers.

Mr. DINSDALE: I think Mr. Gall suggested in his opening statement that he thought there were local residents qualified to serve as appointed members. I take it he would favour appointed members coming from the north rather than from outside.

Mr. GALL: Yes. There has been criticism levelled at this council for appointed members coming from outside. They were able and capable, but just because they were not residents, this criticism has been levelled at our council. I think we have evolved enough now that we can have appointed members because, as I mentioned, some of the people I know would not care, because of business and other things, to stand the pressure of elections.

Mr. DINSDALE: One more point: in 1962 the residents of the eastern Arctic were given the federal franchise. This presented an anomaly in that they had the federal franchise but they did not have the territorial franchise. There had