

am persuaded that they would respond much more readily than is supposed. This has been my experience along other lines. The Indian is now better off, and pauperizing should cease. The churches also could, if they would, aid at least to the same extent as they do now, provided they are allowed to nominate the teachers. Better results would accrue to the churches, to the Indians, to their children, and to the Government, for in a very short time we would have a more intelligent class of Indians, more completely self-supporting, with the prospect of being altogether so before the lapse of a great number of years.

That 38 children of school age, in this Dominion and Province, out of every 100 should not be enrolled at all; that the average attendance for the former should be only 42 out of the 100, and for the latter less than 30 out of the 100, is a terrible indictment of the present system, and also of those who have this matter in hand. The perpetuation of the present order of things is by so much a perpetuation of the ignorance with which the Indian has been so long charged. I do not wish to be understood as blaming either Government or official; quite the contrary, there is much to commend. I simply think that better things are possible, and that it is as much the duty of the churches as of the State to see to it that they are realized.

To this end I think that the churches should appoint a strong committee to take the whole matter into consideration with the Indian Department, and, if possible, arrange for matters as indicated above, and also for the consideration of the vested interests involved.

#### **Church Conditions**

When the Committee on Naas Affairs reported there was a recommendation that the Indian District be subdivided into a number of districts, with chair-