

MEMO FOR MINISTERS - RE BRITISH COLUMBIA INDIANS - (cont'd.)

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MR. O'MEARA: "I assume you include the Indians."

MR. HARCOURT: "I include the Friends of the Indians, "but am not prepared to express an opinion as to "whether the Indians require to be consulted."

MR. O'MEARA: "We would, I think, consider that funda- "mentally necessary."

MR. HARCOURT: "My hope is that a settlement as nearly "quite satisfactory as anything human can be may be "arrived at, and my desire is that you Friends of the "Indians should take the matter up, approaching the "Governments in a conciliatory spirit, having in "view an equitable settlement. I want that you "should do all in your power in this direction. "If, after taking these steps, you find it necessary, "come back to me. Only under very special cir- "cumstances and as a last resort would I advise the "Imperial Government to intervene. In my judgment "the stage for such intervention has not now been "reached."

On 4th July I discussed with Sir Charles Lucas the advisability of securing that in some way what was said to me by Mr. Harcourt on 30th June should be formally communicated to the Friends of the Indians. Sir Charles agreed that this was desirable and decided to advise that the dispatch which it was intended to send to His Excellency the Governor-General should contain the main points of the interview, together with a request that the dispatch be communicated to the Friends of the Indians.

A.E.O'M.

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