

there primarily to secure furs, but from a humanitarian point of view were obliged to give medical treatment and where necessary to issue relief to destitute natives and their families. It was also necessary to use economic restraint and pressure at times to encourage the trappers to secure furs which would market well for the company shareholders, and by the same token give the native new wealth. From time to time one hears criticism of this company concerning the high prices of commodities, but it is interesting to note that these critics are usually uninformed and do not realize that great expenses are involved in operating a trading post in the barrens where freight rates are high and buildings must be heated for a great part of the year. One can not deny that the Hudson's Bay Company has given a great many years of useful and faithful service to the cause of the North, and this goodwill has been extended into the present association of company officials and government personnel. The part that they have played in the development of the North has been one of the outstanding accomplishments of any organization in Canada.

It was after World War II that the price of furs dropped and little profit was to be made. In many places the company lost money, staying only because it felt responsible for the Eskimos in time of need. The fur market since then has not appreciably risen to the point where trapping is a profitable business. And even

more important insofar as the economy of the Eskimos is concerned, they have been thrown into contact with employment for high wages—a standard which they never before experienced, and that they are now having some difficulty with in that adjustment must be a complete and sudden thing to be successful. It is the general concensus that employment is the only sound economy for the people of the North, especially when game resources have decreased and fur is less marketable.

The Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources is now helping the Eskimos to obtain employment and is helping them to understand and adjust themselves to the requirements of this new way of life. Sympathetic officials in Ottawa and field workers are working to solve the complexities which arise during this transition period. And it seems that more than anything else, patience and understanding are the two most important factors involved. Once the change over begins it must be swift, especially with the rapid developments of the past few months.

By basing his economy on employment, the Eskimo provider can now earn a good wage which will provide him with good food, clothing, a home, security, schooling for his children, medical attention, independence and some of the delightful luxuries of life. The future of the Eskimo looks bright indeed! ● ● ●

In February 1954, John Charlie appeared in Court on a drunk charge under the Indian Act and was fined the usual \$10 and costs of \$6.50 or in default 30 days. Having been born and raised in the community, the Magistrate had no hesitation in allowing Charlie two weeks to raise the money. Charlie promptly departed for the United States and did not return for five years. In March 1959, thanks to the co-operation of some of the more permanent residents of the district and notwithstanding several complete changes of detachment personnel, Charlie hadn't been back in town more than a half hour before he was apprehended. The only odd part of this story is that Charlie, after being arrested, meekly inquired if it wouldn't be possible for him to have "a couple more days" to raise the money to pay the fine. (Cpl. S. E. Kary)

During the Summer of 1958, a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police on patrol in Yoho National Park, dressed in red serge, breeches and boots, was stopped by a young curvaceous American female who was obviously excited and wished to have a photograph of the constable. This was her opening remark: "I have travelled all across Canada and I have seen several brown ones, but I've never seen a *red* one!" (W.G.P.)