

race had supplanted a weaker, and the latter had been forced to accept the terms of the former. The same thing had happened here in British Columbia, and the Indians must accept the inevitable. Progress and development could not be stopped."

It clearly appears from reports in our hands that upon occasion of other gatherings of Indians held at various other places, Mr. McKenna expressed to the assembled Indians similar views.

We fully expect that Mr. McKenna's report of his investigations and negotiations will contain a valuable contribution to the discussion of the matters involved. At the same time we feel compelled to take issue with that view regarding native races which lies at the bottom of his whole dealing with the situation, as shown in the addresses mentioned. Now, for the first time, a representative of Canada has practically informed the Indians of British Columbia that they must consider themselves conquered peoples and cannot be permitted to assert that they have rights in respect of the lands of their forefathers. This he has done in direct opposition to the British principles embodied in the proclamation of King George Third, and to the statements of Lord Dufferin and the Canadian Ministers to which we have above referred, and to Canadian practice heretofore adopted in dealing with the Indians.

At a meeting held at Vancouver on 29th August last, the "Friends of the Indians" passed the following resolution:

"That in view of the letter of the Government of British Columbia, dated 15th April last, refusing to adopt the proposals for settlement made by the "Friends of the Indians" on 23rd January last, upon the ground that there is no question to be settled, and in view of the clearly defined attitude of Premier McBride evidenced by recent utterances, we re-affirm the necessity of securing at the earliest possible date a decision of the Judicial Committee of His Majesty's Privy Council regarding the claims of the Indians of this Province."

It has recently been announced in the press of British Columbia, apparently upon authority of the Government of that Province, that "a settlement of the Indian reserve question" has been reached between the Government of British Columbia and the representative of Canada, and requires only the "formal approval" of the Government of Canada.

With regard to this announcement we desire to point out, and strongly emphasize, that the whole effort of the Government of the Province to secure the making of a so-called settlement under the provisions of Article 13 of the Terms of Union is based upon the view advocated by that Government that the Indians have no aboriginal rights. We trust