

up in Bruce or in Huron district, where the younger portion of the tribe could go and settle. There was water there and hunting facilities conducive to the comfort of the Indian tribe. I do not know whether the tribe in other portions of the Dominion increases as they have been doing on the Mohawk reserve. That reserve is settled by Indians who are educated men, occupying very prominent positions, but they adhere with a tenacity that is truly wonderful to their tribal rights and the lands which belong to them. And it was only on condition that the proceeds of the sale of land should be invested in lands up on Lake Huron and Lake Superior for the younger portion of the tribe that they would consent to sell at all. If that were done in dealing with the reserve in the west it would preserve the rights of the Indian tribes. The only fear I have is that the fifty per cent of the money given to the tribe will be squandered.

Hon. Mr. RILEY—I do not think it is the intention of the department to give 50 per cent of the money derived from the sale of the lands in cash in all cases. It might be well to do that where Indians are well civilized, but where they are not civilized they should not get the money. The Indians of the west only get the treaty money, \$5 a head. It is intended to furnish those agencies with stock, implements, etc.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—If those tribes to whom the money is to be given are not civilized and do not know how to use it, that is the strongest possible argument that they should not be allowed to have it.

Hon. Mr. RILEY—They would not give the 50 per cent to any but civilized tribes.

Hon. Mr. WATSON—I think the power taken under this Bill is that they may use it to get the Indians to relinquish the land. The management of the Indians of Canada in the past, under all governments, has been such that they can be trusted to look carefully after the interests of the Indians in the future. They ask for power under this Bill to give the Indians the immediate use of 50 per cent of the money derived from the sale of their lands. The land I speak of was sold at \$15 an acre. The Indians who held that land, as a matter of fact, lived

away back on another reserve 15 miles from the place. I know the agent had a great deal of difficulty to get the Indians to relinquish the land, because they wanted to get a steam threshing machine, and some wind mills. I know the agent made some arrangement with them by getting some advance from the department, to assist in getting those things before they would relinquish the land. The interests of the Indians will be perfectly safe in the hands of the Indian Department.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I see the minister stated in another place that the lands held by Indians in the Territories of Saskatchewan and Alberta, are 2,171,114 acres over and above the 160 acres granted to each family of five.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (B.C.)—They require room for hunting,

Hon. Mr. JONES. There is this danger to be considered; any land sold hereafter will bring increased values. I should think that 35 per cent or 40 per cent is the proportion of the money received from the sale of the lands that will be paid to the Indians under this Bill. Though the department take power to give 50 per cent they will not exercise that power except under exceptional conditions. I should think beyond all question that the amount left after paying 50 per cent to the Indians would leave a far larger sum in the hands of the government than at the time of the passing of the Bill we are proposing to amend would have been left, on the basis of paying the Indians even 10 per cent. The lands have grown in value, the sum that will be given to the Indians will be helpful if it is reasonably well used, and I suppose it is reasonable to expect that it will be more appropriately used than it was in earlier years. The sum left in the hands of the government would, in my opinion, be much larger than in the earlier years in the history of the country. There are hardships to the settlers that live in the vicinity of reserves which also should be considered, in the matter of taxation, the making of roads, the building of schools, &c. The settlers will be materially helped in certain directions if the law is, as it has been so far as I know—and I heard no complaints—intelligently administered; so that new conditions having arisen it is na-