

The next section is social security and pensions. I do not think I need to read that. It has already been passed as to old age pensions. I will pass that.

Agriculture and other Industries

Competent instructions by competent instructors should be made available to the bands engaged predominantly in agriculture so that the Indians may be taught the best methods to utilize their own lands and thus help them to become self supporting throughout the year.

Due to the Indians' inability to borrow money to start any projects in an industrial way, loans at a nominal interest rate should be made available to them to get them started with farming, for sawmills for the northern Indians and any other industries suitable for the locality in which the reserve is situated.

Administration and Personnel

The persons administering Indian affairs should be competent men, and only those with a sympathetic understanding of the Indian mentality and who are willing to co-operate with the Indians should be appointed and especially if an Indian is qualified he should be appointed to the positions available. They should all be made civil servants but the Civil Service Act should be amended so that competition for such positions would be on a provincial basis rather than on a local basis as at present. Ministerial appointments should be abolished. Greater care must be taken in the appointment of Indian agents because of the important and influential positions held by them.

There is a complaint from the Spanish River reserve. The chief, who was at the Sudbury meeting with his associate, brought this complaint. I hope the officers of the Indian department will listen to this.

The council of the band have passed resolutions asking for an appointment of an Indian constable to police the reserve as well as a truant officer for the reserve and such requests have been ignored by the Department of Indian Affairs.

The children are out of control and many will not attend school.

Bootlegging operation on the reserve is at its height. Indians are drunk on the reserve nearly every night, fighting and disorderly with no respect for law and order. Conditions are growing worse. The mounted police cannot handle the situation as the nearest mounted police station is at the Soo, nearly 100 miles away, and when they are summoned to come, everything is over when they arrive.

The only solution is by an appointment of a local Indian constable with powers to arrest offenders of the law and to protect the interest of the inhabitants.

Inspector Arneil was on our reserve and he was informed of the situation.

The Indian agent is not taking steps to remedy the conditions.

The ladies' organization on the reserve are also joining in this protest for remedial action.

This is the situation as presented to the convention with a request for representation.

Moved by Elijah Tabobondong and seconded by Leonard Monogue that whereas the representatives of Number Nine Treaty Indians are aggrieved by the treatment under the provincial game laws by not being allowed to fish for food for their own use and most of the trapping territory now is being occupied by foreign trappers under licence, the Indians hereby complain that their interest has been neglected and hardships have arisen, we the Union of Ontario Indians demand that the living conditions of those Indians be investigated within the limits of the said treaty and some remedial action be taken immediately as it is urgently needed.