

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: Just that he is not any longer entitled to go to band meetings and vote on matters of the band. It is not the only distinction. He has certain property rights in the property of the band which he forgoes on enfranchisement. He has certain rights of participating in the proceedings and voting on anything that comes before the band. It is a little bit as if you were to remove yourself from the city of Toronto to a town in your own constituency. You would lose your rights to vote in Toronto but you would gain them elsewhere.

Mr. NOSEWORTHY: In other words he forgoes most of his rights as an Indian—his right to live on any reserve. May he join another band?

Mr. BLUE: He is paid off; he gets his share out of the band funds.

Mr. NOSEWORTHY: But to all intents and purposes he ceases to be an Indian?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: He ceases to be subject to the Indian Act and the Indian Act administration. If you will, he quits one club to join another one.

Mr. NOSEWORTHY: He is out on his own.

Mr. MURRAY: He proceeds to a higher degree.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: I do not think there are any citizenship rights which he lacks today.

Mr. NOSEWORTHY: Has an Indian the right to vote and still remain a member of the band?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: Yes.

Mr. NOSEWORTHY: To vote in provincial and federal elections?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: Not provincial—although yes, in some cases. He can vote in British Columbia.

Mr. BLACKMORE: If he becomes enfranchised he becomes subject to every form of taxation.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: That is right.

The CHAIRMAN: Shall 15(1) carry?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: May I present the objections. The Six Nations of the Grand River, Brantford, objected to this on the grounds that they say the legal right to grant or pay moneys to any Indian from band funds is objected to since funds were established for the benefits of their people. The people that apply for enfranchisement have not in any way contributed to the establishment of those funds and the council therefore request that their contention be placed before the law officers of the Crown for a ruling on the legality of such disbursements.

The band council of the Shubenacadie Indian reserve N.S. says that Indians should not be forced to enfranchisement—they are not sufficiently advanced.

The Committee of Friends of the Indians of Alberta recommend that provisions be made for a probationary period instead of the provisions of Section 15, and say that the Indians would feel more secure if provisions were made for their return to the reserve within a probationary period of five or ten years without loss of their rights on the reserve.

Now then the objection to the first part of 15, the per capita grant, was also made by representatives of the Six Nations at the conference. However I pointed out to them that if they felt there was no power in the government of Canada to grant this per capita share of the per capita funds they could very easily stop it in the courts if they wished to. The representative was satisfied with the explanation.

Mr. GIBSON: He gets no capital value of his share of the reserve. He just gets his share at the time he leaves; no further capital on his share of the land?