

Mr. LICKERS: No, no.

The CHAIRMAN: You mean it is only for the Six Nations?

Mr. LICKERS: Only for the Six Nations.

The CHAIRMAN: I understood there are members from St. Regis on it, and others.

Mr. LICKERS: They are all Iroquois, Six Nations.

The CHAIRMAN: But they do not have to live on a Six Nations reserve?

Mr. LICKERS: No, but you have to be a member of the Six Nations Indians, or the Iroquois Confederacy, whichever you want to call it.

The CHAIRMAN: But not of necessity a Six Nations reserve Indian?

Mr. LICKERS: No, not of necessity. This is an international organization covering all the Iroquois confederacy, as it was at one time.

The CHAIRMAN: All right now gentlemen; if you will proceed, please.

The WITNESS: Mr. Chairman, may I say at the outset that we of the Indian Defense League of America are supporting the old system of the Council and Confederacy of the Six Nations.

The CHAIRMAN: Let us get along with the brief.

The WITNESS:

INDIAN DEFENSE LEAGUE OF AMERICA

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To the Members of the Joint Committee
House of Commons, Ottawa, Canada

HONORABLE SIR,—As an international Indian organization we are asked to submit the general decisions of its members and after many meetings, the following was passed and adopted as the knowledge of the Indian Defense League of America and general among the Indians especially of the Six Nations as hereunder endorsed.

We hereby present this brief summation in the good faith of a democratic Indian organization avowed to the principles of democracy and in denunciation of any form of "ism" or dictatorship. In the present confused world condition democracy is in need of every bulwark dedicated to the preservation of freedom in every form. We hope that the outcome of this brief letter will serve our white brothers to better understand our people and that the God-given principles of freedom and justice for which so much was given and for which so many died, including our own youth, will be manifest in the future dealings with our people not only in Canada but throughout America in full accordance with the Atlantic Charter.

We assume that the committee dealing with the Indian question are well versed in all Indian treaties especially of the Six Nations who have been a treaty-making people since 1530. In the Cayuga Arbitration of 1912 (Vol. I Memorial to His Britannic Majesty's Government) the status of the Six Nations was again emphasized and the Cayuga funds now held in trust at Ottawa is testimony to the validity of the many treaties involved. The generation that concluded these treaties respected the Six Nations and sincerely felt that their forbears would forever hallow these treaties and we hope that this generation of Canadians too will take the same consideration in the respect and we surely know that morality and sense of justice has increased and not deteriorated with passing generations and that this is the beginning of a broader outlook for our people.