

in the department quite prominently in this nutrition work. As to Miss Moodie's work we knew it was going on. I wish right now to compliment Miss Moodie on the splendid presentation she made to your committee. I learned a great deal from her presentation myself, and I have been associated with the department for six or seven years. As to Mr. Hoey you did not get him mad enough. He is an Irishman and if you had got him aroused he would have given you a real talk on Indian education which I know he lives every day of his life.

Mrs. NIELSEN: I wish we had known that sooner.

Mr. ALLAN: But what I got up to say—and I am speaking too much—is to thank you, Mr. Turgeon, and your committee, for the opportunity you have given us and for the very sympathetic and understanding reception we have had from your committee.

The CHAIRMAN: I was just going to mention the great debt of thanks that we, as members of the House of Commons working as an established committee, owe to these men and one woman, Mr. Hoey, Mr. Allan, Dr. Moore, Mr. MacInnes and Miss Moodie, for the enlightenment they gave to us to-day. I not only express thanks to you on behalf of the committee but I throw out a suggestion to the whole House of Commons, particularly to the government part of it. I am convinced by the two days we have had with these gentlemen of the Civil Service, departmental officials, that it would do much to promote public welfare if there were a closer relationship, a more intimate relationship, between the government, the House of Commons, and departmental officials. In a country such as ours the work of parliament and the work of government is carried out through officials, and it is all very closely related; one depends on the other, and the work of either is affected by the work of the other. I as chairman of the committee and naturally as a member of the steering committee who brought about the invitation for you to be with us am extremely gratified by the results obtained, and I appreciate this representative delegation of departmental officials who have come to appear here before this House of Commons committee. I feel that nothing but good will come of it; and I hope that the precedent that we have set, if it is a precedent, in the last few days will be taken up by other parliamentary groups and by other departments of the government as well.

I want to express thanks and appreciation to each of you who gave evidence to us to-day; also to Mr. Ford Pratt, Secretary to the Minister who has stuck throughout the hearing with us; and through you to the Minister and all other members of the department charged with the administration of Indian Affairs.

Mr. MACNICOL: As the only member of the opposition who has sat through this I want to say a word too.

Mrs. NIELSEN: Do you not include me as one of the opposition also?

The CHAIRMAN: There is no opposition in this committee.

Mr. MACNICOL: Pardon me, I should have said as the only member of the official opposition. I am very much pleased with the information that has been imparted not only to us but through press reports throughout the country. Ever since I have come into the House of Commons Indian Affairs seems to have had very little show. I have always taken a very vigorous stand in connection with Indian affairs whenever opportunity presented itself. The opportunity has not presented itself on many occasions because the estimates are brought down on the last days of the session, almost the last hours of the session, and we vote them through without investigation or any report aside from what the minister makes when he brings in his estimates.

I have visited many of the reserves sincerely inquiring into what can be done to improve them. What these witnesses have placed before us bears out