

dismal record of two peoples in co-habitation in this country. I have a vision of the day when our Indian people will walk with us side by side with a pride their forefathers once had, but that will not be accomplished by an attitude on the part of the department that asks: What can we do for them? No, it will be accomplished by a department that allows the native people to do for themselves.

By the minister's own admission, his department has made mistakes. I quote from *Hansard* of June 12 at page 6695 where the minister is reported as having said:

Certainly there will be mistakes made. Lord knows, we have made more than our share.

Such true words come right from the minister himself. He goes on to state, as reported in the same page of *Hansard*:

We are quite prepared, with proper guidelines, to turn over to the Indian people as much responsibility for their affairs as possible. As far as I am concerned, that is a fundamental cornerstone of our policy, whether it is the management of funds or running the various other aspects that apply directly to their lives. We feel strongly that that should be the thrust.

Madam Speaker, here we have a minister who says it is his desire to have the department managed to the greatest possible degree by the native Canadians, the Indian people, in line with the thought of the native people having self-determination and who then contradicts that by the most blatant examples of inaction. I speak particularly of inaction in appointing native people to the decision-making positions within his department. I should like the minister to name for me five positions in Ottawa, referred to as the higher echelon of his department, which have been filled by Indian persons. That might be too difficult for him to do, so I shall ask him to name four or three or two. I challenge the minister to name one single solitary position in the higher echelons that is filled by a native Canadian. He cannot do that because there is not one position filled by an Indian person.

On June 13, when I asked the minister when he intends to appoint to one of these hundreds of positions a native Canadian he replied, as recorded at page 6732 of *Hansard* for June 13:

Mr. Speaker, I have some thoughts in these areas and am currently pursuing them with my colleagues in cabinet.

The minister says he has some thoughts in these areas. I should think after 100 years of bungling and making the kinds of mistakes that have been made he should have more than thoughts. He should be able to give me some names. He should have some responsible leaders in this country administering the policies which hitherto have been anything but in line with the concept of self-determination. I believe we, the white people, are responsible for turning our reserves into ghettos of poverty. We the white people, have stripped the native people of their pride. We have made them beggars in their own land. If the minister adopted this method of appointing native people and involving them in decision-making roles this would give us an opportunity to demonstrate our faith in the ability of the Indian people to run their own affairs. It is not that they demand respect, but rather that they are worthy of it.

Mrs. Iona Campagnolo (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):

Adjournment Debate

Madam Speaker, I am pleased that the hon. member took less than his allotted time because the amount of work which has been done in this field is so great I should like, if possible, to take longer than the regular time. I shall begin by saying that in the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, for example, at the end of December, 1974 there were a total of 1,188 Inuit and Indian employees. This represents approximately 13 per cent of the department's total manpower. In addition there were 362 casual or term native employees. Of the total, two native employees were in the executive category while more than 300 were in responsible positions in the administrative and foreign service, scientific and professional categories. The balance were employed in technical, administrative support and operational categories.

The hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Whiteway) spoke about my minister during the last 100 years. While he is a relatively youthful man, I do not think 100 years would really do him justice. The honesty of the minister I have the honour to represent is unquestioned, and if he says he had some doubt about the efficiency of the program I think the hon. member should be honoured to receive those remarks in this House.

The employment of native people in the public service, in the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and in the private sector is a high priority that is being pursued conscientiously and vigorously by the department.

Mr. Whiteway: Name them.

Mrs. Campagnolo: I named 1,188. I also named two who are in executive capacities. However, the hon. member may not be interested in these facts I am attempting to give him. We recognize that native people are significantly under-represented in the labour force. We know that this is the combined result of their socio-economically disadvantaged position and the consequent inability to compete on equal terms with non-Indian workers as well as a reluctance on the part of some to move into the wage-earning economy.

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The department has a large number of programs aimed at dealing with this problem both directly and indirectly. In general, the economic development activities that the Indian and Eskimo affairs and northern programs undertake through various loans and grants are aimed at generating employment opportunities for the native people. The department has a wide range of educational and vocational training programs that are designed to enable the Indian people to acquire qualifications appropriate to their participation in the labour market. I do not believe it is stretching the point to say that the largest proportion of the department's budget is directed towards improving the economic situation of the native people.

But in addition to general economic development program which create jobs for the native people, the department has various specific programs designed to come to grips with particular employment problems.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Morin): Order, please. The motion to adjourn the House is now deemed to have been adopted. Accordingly, the House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 2 p.m.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.23 p.m.