

Mr. MACNICOL: What is Mr. MacInnes' special department or branch?

The CHAIRMAN: He is Secretary of the Indian Affairs Branch. Would you go on, please.

The WITNESS: Question No. 8:

How many Indians take part in the administration of the Indian Affairs service

(a) on the reservations

(b) at provincial or federal headquarters?

There are approximately 500, of whom 2 (persons) are at Federal headquarters. We have no information on provincial headquarters because we do not have anything to do with the provincial services. There may be some Indians employed in them; if that means in the service of the provinces. Of that 500 I might explain that the great majority, 350 of them, are engaged in the fur projects, the service which Mr. Allan detailed to you in his evidence. I might explain that we did have some Indians in our departmental services a few years ago, more than we have now. Owing to present employment conditions more attractive offers and opportunities are supplied and, they have been leaving us, like so many of the white people in the civil service have been doing also. So that possibly after the war when employment conditions change and labour is not affording such a high premium as it is today, more Indians may come back to our service. Personally, if I may express an opinion on that point, Mr. Chairman, it would be this: that Indians as a rule like to get away from the Indian departmental service and branch out into other fields of endeavour where they are more independent, to where they are separated from being associated with the supervision of their own people; and on the whole I think that is better for them. I think they do better in other departments of the public service and in other walks of life when they detach themselves from the Indian administration and set out without any association of that kind to complicate their position.

Mr. Ross: How many are employed up here at Ottawa?

The WITNESS: I mentioned that there are two. There are just the two. Formerly there were four of them, I think. We have not had very many applications for positions from Indians in the office at Ottawa. An Indian has the same right as any other member of a community in Canada to participate in any civil service competitions and if he is qualified he can be appointed to a position in the Department or any other.

Mr. Ross: But they are not educated sufficiently to qualify them for positions in the civil service, are they?

The WITNESS: The ordinary education on the reserve is such as to carry them only through the primary school, but where they show aptitude assistance is given to Indian pupils for secondary and higher educations.

Mr. Ross: Take the reserve at Morley, they are not carried through the primary schools there in the Indian school at Morley. Let me say first there are 153 Indian children of school age on the Stoney Reserve at Morley and only 100 of them are attending school; what about the other 53 who are not at school at all apparently.

The WITNESS: Well now, that comes under a special service in our establishment, the training services. I think I would have to refer that question to Mr. Hoey.

The CHAIRMAN: Better leave that for Mr. Hoey.

Mr. Ross: I would rather have that dealt with now, because we are dealing with Indians and their opportunities. You take in Washington there are 83 Indians employed in the government service there. They seem to have more