

him. What I mean by that is that none of this land will be leased to white men if there are Indians ready and available to farm it. Just as fast as these young men wish to settle down we will place them on this land, not only on the Blackfoot reserve but on all the reserves on which the policy of greater production was carried on, in order to encourage the Indian to work these farm lands. So far we have not been able to get a sufficient number of Indians to farm the area that was under the greater production scheme. Therefore, we have to lease to the white men temporarily year by year.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): But is there an amount of \$4 being paid to the Indians?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Not that I know of.

The CHAIRMAN: Shall the item carry?

Mr. MANION: No, Mr. Chairman. I want to ask a few questions and if I do so after eight o'clock it will probably be just as well.

At six o'clock the Speaker resumed the chair and the House took recess.

### After Recess

The House resumed at eight o'clock.

#### PRIVATE BILLS

##### SECOND READINGS

Bill No. 119 (from the Senate), to change the name of Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo Telephone Company to "Brazilian Telephone Company."—Mr. Ryckman.

Bill No. 120 (from the Senate), respecting Montreal, Joliette and Transcontinental Junction Railway Company.—Mr. Denis (Joliette).

Bill No. 121 (from the Senate), for the relief of Fannie Boyle.—Mr. Sheard

Bill No. 122 (from the Senate), for the relief of James Forbes.—Mr. Spence.

Bill No. 123 (from the Senate), for the relief of Julia Tracey Kay.—Mr. Duff.

Bill No. 124 (from the Senate), for the relief of Charles Philip Roy McCabe.—Mr. Ross, (Kingston).

Bill No. 125 (from the Senate), for the relief of William George Haden.—Mr. McMaster.

Bill No. 126 (from the Senate), for the relief of Gertrude Irene Wood.—Mr. Church.

Bill No. 127 (from the Senate), for the relief of James Murray.—Mr. Stewart (Hamilton).

Bill No. 128 (from the Senate), for the relief of James McAllister.—Mr. Sheard.

Bill No. 129 (from the Senate), for the relief of David Albert Clayton.—Mr. Sheard.

Bill No. 130 (from the Senate), for the relief of Hugh Russell Fulton.—Mr. McKillop.

Bill No. 131 (from the Senate), for the relief of Maybelle Elizabeth French.—Sir Henry Drayton.

#### SUPPLY

##### INDIAN AFFAIRS

The House again in Committee of Supply, Mr. Gordon in the chair.

Mr. MANION: Has the position of Indian agent at the head of the lakes been filled? I know that the agent was retired a month or so ago but I do not know who has been given the position, if it has been filled.

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): The position has been filled by the Civil Service Commission, the appointee being Mr. J. Garry Burke.

Mr. MANION: Mr. Burke was never in the Indian service before?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): No.

Mr. MANION: Is he a returned soldier?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Yes.

Mr. MANION: I desire to say a few words in regard to the Indians in this country. Ever since the white man entered Canada his race has been pushing the Indians farther and farther back into the hinterland of this country. I do not say that in any critical spirit because I believe that Canada has been treating her Indians probably a great deal better than the people to the south of us have treated theirs, as is evidenced by the fact that throughout the time we have dealt with our Indians there have been practically no difficulties or troubles in connection with them, whereas in the United States the authorities have undoubtedly met with many difficulties in the way of guerilla warfare and so forth. I believe, however, that it is well for us to bear in mind at all times that after all the Indians were the first Canadians; at least they were here before any of the rest of us, not excepting my good friends in Quebec. It should, therefore, be the wish of the Canadian people to show them every consideration possible; and indeed I believe that it has been the policy of the Department of Indian Affairs under all governments to treat the Indians in a reasonably fair way. At the same time the Indians throughout this country, at least in many bands, have been decreasing in great numbers. At the head of the lakes in the neighbourhood of Fort William and Port Arthur there are a couple of bands as well as one at Nipigon