

*River frontage*

At a band meeting a resolution was passed that individual band members be permitted to purchase river frontage to beautify and build breakwaters to keep our banks from washing away. This resolution was turned down by the Indian department, the results being that the banks of our valuable land are now washing away, so we request the right for individuals, members of the band to purchase the river frontage.

Matters specified and numbered one to eight, in the orders of reference of both the Senate and the House of Commons made on Thursday, 13th day of May A.D. 1946 at Ottawa.

A question was, do your band wish to pay delegates' expenses?

On August 9th 1946, Sarnia Band held a meeting to consider and answer the above mentioned, therefore it was moved by James B. Williams, seconded by Lloyd Williams that this band of Sarnia reserve pay expense of the delegate out of band funds for the purpose of attending the meeting at Ottawa; also moved by Leonard Plain and seconded by Lloyd Williams that the band set aside the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.) from band funds to pay delegates' expenses. Carried unanimously.

## INDIAN ACT

Section 4 Part 1—to be abolished.

Reason—Indians being deprived of their rights.

Section 9—Part 1—(a), (b), 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6 unsatisfactory.

Education of Indians at present is the sole responsibility of the federal government; education, health, and welfare have been in the hands of the Indian department at Ottawa.

(a) It is our contention that the results of this policy has been that the Indian population of southwestern Ontario has received a far lower standard of education, health, and welfare service, than the other citizens of southwestern Ontario, and that much of the deplorable conditions under which the Indians are living to-day can be traced to these low standards.

(b) Greater facilities and opportunity for education opportunity to obtain high school, and university education should be available more generally for the Indian youth.

(c) Since the present school system has been a failure, we recommend that education of Indians be committed to regional boards, upon which Indians in the district shall be represented by Indians.

(d) That the responsibility of administering the education for the southwestern Ontario Indians be placed in the hands of the provincial government, and that the dominion reimburse the provincial government for all expenses incurred in the provision of an educational standard, which shall be equal to that of the other citizens of southwestern Ontario.

Section 13—regarding loss of membership through residing in a foreign country without leave.

We recommend the jurisdiction be left entirely to the band, chief and council.

Section 48—(2), (3) and (4).

We oppose to this section by virtue of our treaty rights, where large territories have been surrendered and the small portions of lands which we now possess or was reserved according to our treaty rights, for our own exclusive right and enjoyment, and our posterity. We wish this section to be abolished.