## INDIAN AFFAIRS, HUMAN RIGHTS AND CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION

move it—that this Committee be constituted. I agree with Mr. Orlikow and yourself that we do put forward the suggestion that this Committee be reconstituted as quickly as possible and that visits to reservations have top priority. I suggest also that the Steering Committee might get together to select specific problems such as the one you mentioned arising from our visit to Caughnawaga—the land claim settlement—and refer them to this Committee.

One final word in connection with what we saw in Winnipeg last weekend. There was humour demonstrated on the part of the Indian spokesmen, and I think this is a very encouraging thing, too.

I would not say that nothing has been done, Jack, because there has been a major breakthrough in education and there has been a major breakthrough in health—

Mr. ROXBURGH: That is what I am getting at. There certainly has been a-

Mr. DINSDALE: Since the Indian got the vote, he has become more aware of his privileges as well as of his responsibilities as a citizen. I think these are major breakthroughs.

An Indian told the story of an old Sioux chief who was baptized into the Church and whose unpronounceable name was changed to Joe. Joe was very happy to be a member of the Church, and a few weeks later he was being visited by the clergy. When the good Father arrived, he found Joe just about to dig into a moose steak and it happened to be Friday. He was chided for his violation of the regulations of the Church, and Joe said: "Father, I understand perfectly what I am doing. Since joining the Church I have learned a lot about white man's ways and before I sat down to eat this moose steak I sprinkled some water on it and said: 'Moose meat, you are fish'. I am eating fish, Father." The point he was trying to get across was that the Indian knows a lot about the white man's ways now.

Mr. MOORE (*Wetaskiwin*): Mr. Chairman, Walter brought out a point I was just going to raise. It is my understanding that the Indians at Caughnawaga do not vote. Is that correct?

The CHAIRMAN: That was the indication.

Mr. MOORE (Wetaskiwin): That was the indication I got. But I have noticed a tremendous difference in the outlook of the Indians at my reservation at home—about 3,000 of them—since they received a franchise. There have been three elections since that time and they are beginning to feel that they are taking part.

There is a tremendous change in our contact with them and in their outlook since this. It took a little time and it will take a lot more I know. But this has made a difference. I think possibly when we visit the reservations in which the Indians do vote, or partially do, we will find their vote increasing every time. Have you found this, Walter?

Mr. DINSDALE: They are putting candidates into the ring now.

Mr. MOORE(*Wetaskiwin*): That is true; and they are now doing a bit of campaigning on their own during an election. Of course, they enjoy being poll clerks. I think this will help the breakthrough.