

Mr. Ross (*Calgary East*): There are a number of questions I should like to ask but it is getting too late now. It seems to me that an inquiry should be held into the whole subject of Indian affairs to ascertain what, if anything, can be done in the way of helping them.

Mrs. NIELSEN: Set up a special committee.

Mr. Ross: Yes, so as to find out what should be done that we are not now doing. Perhaps there should be a board of Indian affairs consisting of persons outside the service as well as those within the service to advise the government on what would be the proper thing to do. However, at the present time I feel that a committee of the House of Commons with powers to call witnesses and to go into the matter very thoroughly and make recommendations to the House of Commons would be in order.

Mr. MACNICOL: I suggested that a couple of years ago.

Mr. Ross (*Calgary East*): I think it would be very helpful, to examine the policy and settle the policy. I think it would be welcomed by the minister and by the officers here so that we can lay down a definite policy of the future.

Mrs. NIELSEN: I am of the opinion that the minister must have great difficulty in having a department which has so many various concerns. It seems to me that this department of Indian affairs ought to be one separate department.

Dr. MOORE: We deal with every problem from before they are born until after they are dead, the whole gamut of human relations.

Mr. MACNICOL: The department has been starved for the want of money to carry on.

The CHAIRMAN: Any further questions?

Mrs. NIELSEN: I would certainly like to second the motion.

Mr. ALLAN: I think we are about to adjourn.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Mr. ALLAN: As to how we came to be here in the first place I think we owe it to yourself, Mr. Chairman, or your steering committee.

The CHAIRMAN: The steering committee.

Mr. ALLAN: The steering committee. I want on my own behalf, and I am sure on behalf of the other members of the Indian affairs administration, to thank you for the opportunity, and for the extreme courtesy and helpfulness which you have shown to us. Speaking for myself I came over here with some feelings of trepidation. I had visualized that this committee would tear the hide off Indian affairs administration. I had the idea in the back of my head that possibly unknown to us, and sometimes not unknown to us, we were being very severely criticized for our conduct of the department, and that we were going to be taken to task for the many things we hear of, some of them things which appear inconsequential, not of themselves, but because of the relationship that they bear to things that appear to us to be of prime importance in the administration and pursuit of our duties.

I think that the gentlemen who have attended here with me will agree that whatever the result of this may be it has been very helpful to all members of the administration who have sat through it. We are very prone possibly to regard ourselves as a little side show of government. I know we are very earnest in our work; we are very conscientious in our work, and I did not come here to toot our own horn either. Even if nothing should come out of this we are thankful for the opportunity which you have given us to give you a glimpse into what we regard as the important things in Indian administration.

I have listened to presentations by men outside my own service as though I were listening to strangers. We are not close enough to each other. I am quite familiar with Dr. Moore's work because he has been in the limelight