

With regard to half-breeds: There were a number of these on nearly every reserve, there being about eight or nine on the Okanagan Reserve. These were in many instances children who had been abandoned by their white fathers and who had been brought up by the mothers, Indian women. These lived on the reserves and cultivated land there. In some instances the Indians voted to admit these half-breeds into the bands, but the Department had refused them membership. Owing to this refusal they frequently went into the towns and afterwards created trouble by taking liquor onto the reserves. They had under the circumstances no status either on the reserves or outside. He thought that these should be admitted to the reserve if they pursued the Indian mode of life so that they could be dealt with as Indians.

TO MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: There had been a census of the Indians since that contained in the Blue Book of 1912, which would be published. He could not say if this would show an increase in population.

MR. COMMISSIONER MacDOWALL wished it noted that the census might not be accurate. The method of taking a census might be susceptible of improvement.

TO MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: The figures he had cited were from the Blue Book of 1912. With respect to the authority of the chiefs: he favored the chiefs being given some authority backed by force of law. They should have some sort of magisterial authority, subject to the Agent. He would not have it so that ~~maintaining~~ a chief, if he caused the arrest of an Indian for an offence, would be punished through technicalities. If a chief fined an Indian and kept the money himself it would be wrong. There were tribal rules governing the distribution of such fines -- so much to keep up the buildings on the reserve, so much for the Chief, and so much for the