

The CHAIRMAN: We are on education. Mr. MacNicol is asking some questions. Would you like to proceed?

Mr. MACNICOL: The reason I asked that question was because Mr. Hoey is here and Major MacKay.

The CHAIRMAN: I think if we would confine matters to British Columbia it would help us.

Mr. MACNICOL: I am, and I expect Mr. Hoey to be able to answer how the schools in British Columbia compare with the Six Nations Reservation schools.

Mr. HOEY: I would say without any hesitation that the schools we have built since I entered the department in 1936—I am speaking now of day schools—are superior in every way to the best schools on the Six Nations Reserve. For example, we built a four-room consolidated school at Duncan in British Columbia which I consider is one of the most up to date and one of the finest consolidated schools in the district. We have already built one at Shubenacadie, an up to date four-room school with the whole of the basement accommodation available for vocational instruction. We built a similar one at Eskasoni—the contract has just been let for construction of a four-room consolidated school at Muncey.

Mr. MACNICOL: That is in Ontario. Yes, I know that one.

Mr. HOEY: All the schools we are building at the moment are the most up to date schools possible with full classroom accommodation and basement accommodation for vocational instruction, and with teachers' residences usually attached. There is nothing better anywhere than the schools we are now building, and I think the Indian day schools in the Dominion are on the whole in reasonably good shape. I think they compare favourably with one or two exceptions, with the schools you have on the Six Nations Reserve. Major MacKay can speak more competently on the schools in his province.

Mr. MACNICOL: And you are just pointing out that they are improving in British Columbia?

Mr. HOEY: They are improving everywhere.

Mr. MACNICOL: That is fine, that answers me. I have no other questions at the moment.

*By Mr. Blackmore:*

Q. May I ask one question with respect to these schools which you mentioned, they are all day schools?—A. Yes.

Q. Does the department build the schools, who is responsible for these school buildings? And, what about the residential schools?

Mr. HOEY: The government has not built a residential school, that is a new residential school, since I have been with the department, that I know of. We did build a residential school about four years ago to replace one that had been destroyed by fire; but we have not built residential schools of any type in recent years; except, as I say, such buildings as we built to replace schools destroyed by fire, and there are very few of them. The churches have been building a few. The Catholic church, up in northern Alberta, for instance, built a number in that part of the country in recent years. I think that is about all.

Q. May I ask if the government does or does not encourage an increase in the number of residential schools, or are we supposed to have sufficient?

Mr. HOEY: There has been a tendency on the part of the government since I entered the department—how shall I put it, to display a good deal of reluctance—

Q. To what?

Mr. HOEY: We approach the proposal to build new residential schools very reluctantly. I think I would be fair in stating that we are leaning toward