

Order Paper Questions

restriction on the number of Indians who could be elected to a school board. The Minister of Education may order that a rural area, such as a reserve, is deemed to be a ward and can elect a member to a school district board. Alberta: Presently, reserve residents cannot be members of school boards in Alberta because reserves are not considered to be part of a district, division or county. The province drafted legislation a few years ago which would have enabled reserve residents to participate fully on school boards; however, at the request of the Indian Association of Alberta, the proposed legislation was not enacted into law. Tuition agreements in Alberta contain a clause about Indian representatives attending board meetings; however, the representatives do not have a vote. The Lesser Slave Lake Indian Regional Council (Education Division) which now functions as a school board under the auspices of the federal Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, meets with the various provincial school boards where the children of the bands involved attend school. Saskatchewan: The Larger School Units Act, as amended in 1973, permits the establishing of one or more Indian reserves as a sub-unit attached to a school unit. In the province each sub-unit (usually five in a school unit) is represented on the board by one trustee. This legislation does not apply to city boards, consolidated boards or separate school boards. Manitoba: Where the Minister of Education receives a written request from a Band Council for the inclusion of a reserve in a School Division, and the Board of Reference grants the request, the reserve becomes a ward of the division. The new ward elects a trustee to the board of the division. As in the case of Saskatchewan, more than one reserve ward could be included in a school division. Ontario: The Provincial Education Act, 1974, allows for Indian representation on school boards where the board has entered into an agreement or agreements with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. The appointee is named by the band. Where Indian enrolment exceeds 25 per cent, two persons may be named. If agreements are restricted to either elementary or secondary education, the representatives may not vote on issues outside the area of agreement. Where the Indian enrolment is the lesser of 10 per cent or 100, any appointment of an Indian member is at the discretion of the board. In some cases where numbers have not justified full Indian membership on the board, an Indian liaison person sits with the board in discussions of matters relevant to Indian students. Quebec: The province of Quebec presently does not recognize Indian reserves or Indian communities on provincial crown land as being part of a municipality. Consequently, Indians are excluded from participation on school boards as trustees or school commissioners. The James Bay Agreement created two school boards in Northern Quebec. The Cree Board is composed of a member from each of the communities plus a representative of the Grand Council of the Crees. The Kativik (Inuit) School Board has a commissioner for each community having up to 500 inhabitants. Those communities having more than 500 inhabitants have an extra commissioner and the Northern Quebec Inuit Association has a representative on the Board. The Indians of Quebec Association has in the past expressed opposition to legislation

[Mr. Faulkner.]

which would enable reserve residents to serve on school boards. New Brunswick: The Schools Act (consolidated to 1971) allows for the election of school trustees and their appointment by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. In New Brunswick a resident of a reserve within a school district is considered a resident of the district and may stand for election. With regard to those appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, in practice the Chief and Council nominate a person who is accepted by the Minister of Education. In addition to the foregoing, it is common practice for Indian representatives to meet informally with boards to discuss educational matters. Nova Scotia: Under the Education Act, 1972, it is apparently accepted that to be appointed to a municipal school board the person must be a resident rate-payer or his spouse. For the legislation to apply to Indians, it would be necessary for a reserve to be recognized as being within a municipality and for the province to accept tuition payments as the equivalent of municipal property taxes. However, under tuition agreements and other less formal arrangements liaison committees have been formed by school boards and reserve education representatives. Prince Edward Island: There is no existing legislation which refers specifically to Indian representation on school boards. Newfoundland: Native people are not registered in Newfoundland but people of native ancestry sit on the Integrated Board in Labrador West and on the Labrador R C School Board. Also, a native representative sits on the Humber-St. Barbe R C School Board which manages the Cone River School.

5. (a) 4,277. (b) 486.

6. The Department and local Indian education authorities aim at ensuring, through their counselling services and discussions with provincial education authorities, that sufficient information and guidance is provided to students and parents to enable them to select educational program in keeping with the students' aspirations, abilities and interests.

7. On request by band councils, the department organizes literacy programmes according to local needs and preferences. Community resources, including departmental staff, are utilized. Arrangements may also include Basic Literacy and Upgrading Program which are organized by the Department of Manpower to improve the level of literacy among adults on reserves. On a longer term basis the steadily increasing retention rate of students at all levels is the best indicator of the decline of illiteracy.

8. The Department does not have statistics regarding the present rate of illiteracy since there appears to be no universally accepted criterion at the present time.

CONTRACT BETWEEN AECL AND NBEPIC FOR SALE OF URANIUM

Question No. 814—**Mr. Howie:**

Did Atomic Energy of Canada Limited enter into a contract with the New Brunswick Electric Power Commission for the sale of uranium and, if so, what is the term of the contract and the price charged for the uranium?