

British Columbia. I will tell you some amazing things. Of course there are lean years. But in 1941 and 1942 for example, which were big years in the fisheries, they made large profits. Do you know that the Indian outfits with their salmon trawlers—you ought to see them; they are the finest of boats, with copper painted bottoms; you could eat your lunch off the decks, they keep them so clean—made as much as \$300 to \$400 for a crew of about 5 men, in a single night in fishing for salmon off the Queen Charlotte islands? A case was brought to my attention by the Department of Fisheries where a member of a crew, one of the crews of the salmon fishing outfit on a boat from British Columbia, happened to be only a twelve-year old boy. He was available to work on the winch and to help bring the salmon in. His cut of the profits for two months' operations was, what do you suppose? If I told you two or three hundred dollars, you would think that was a tremendous amount for a twelve-year-old boy. It was \$3,600 for two months' work. That shows you how the Indians share in big prosperity when it comes along with the other sections of the community. There was a time twenty-five or thirty years ago in the big fish run years in British Columbia when all the Indians along the northwest coast were rich from the fishing enterprise. That shows you what economic and commercial possibilities the Indians have. I took two distinct and different classes of employment, fishing on the high seas and structural steel work in the skyscraper canyons of New York. Those are two widely differentiated fields of employment and yet the Indians were able to excel in both. There is fair proof that the Indian can get along pretty well if he is out on his own and uses his own self-reliance and initiative; but it is very true that there is a depressing and retarding reserve psychology, a sub-standard economy.

Mr. McDONALD (*Pontiac*): Would you call it an inferiority complex?

Mr. MACINNES: Yes, it is. It is more than that. It is a dependency complex.

Mr. MACNICOL: Before you leave that, how do you account for the Indians being so alert and so smart in structural steel?

Mr. MACINNES: That is a mystery. It seems a strange thing that when the white men came to Manhattan island three hundred years ago, they drove the Indians away into the bush and bought the island for a couple of cases of rum. Then later on, when they wanted to put up one-hundred storey buildings, they had to get those very same Indians back to build them for them. Is that not a strange thing? It is a mystery. I could not explain it at all.

Mr. MACNICOL: Their heads do not apparently get dizzy at such great heights.

Mr. MACINNES: They are apparently very steady and their nerve is very good at those heights. It is not all the Indians. It is just this particular race of Iroquois who seem to have that particular adaptation to that trade.

Mr. ROSS (*Calgary East*): Are not other tribes of Indians gifted?

Mr. MACINNES: In other directions, of course. Mr. Allan has explained to you how they excel as trappers, and there are various things that the Indians are good at. I certainly do not need to enlarge upon what Miss Moodie told you about native art.

Mr. ROSS (*Calgary East*): You have pointed out that the Indians are capable of doing great things.

Mr. MACINNES: Yes.

Mr. ROSS (*Calgary East*): But we have not got those great things from the Indians yet. As Mrs. Nielsen said a few minutes ago, we are in the horse and buggy days so far as the Indians are concerned. We need a new policy.

Mr. MACNICOL: We need more money to spend. That is one of the troubles.