



Bulletin

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PROVINCES TAKE-OVER INDIAN AFFAIRS PROPOSAL

In a statement to the House of Commons on June 25, Indian Affairs and Northern Development Minister Jean Chrétien announced four measures the Government was prepared to implement to create the necessary conditions for Canada's Indians to participate fully "in the cultural, social, economic and political life" of their native land.

The first proposal, Mr. Chrétien said, was the repeal of the Indian Act. The second was that provincial governments "take over the same responsibilities for Indians that they have for other citizens in their provinces".

The Minister's statement follows:

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to place the Government's statement on Indian policy before the House. The statement outlines the views the Government brings to the consultations which must now be carried on with the Indian people and the provincial governments.

Throughout a year's consultation with Indian leaders, the Government has reviewed its programs for Indians and their effects on the present situation of the Indian people. The review has shown that this is the right time to change long-standing policies. The Indian people have shown their determination that present conditions shall not persist.

From the early days of this country, a trustee relationship of a highly paternalistic nature developed between the central Government and Indian people. The Indian people should have the right to manage their own affairs to the same extent that their fellow Canadians manage theirs. Under present conditions they do not have anything like this degree of control over their land, their funds, or in fact any of their responsibilities. This is the central fact

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about conditions today, and it must change.

Opportunities are present today in Canadian society and new directions are open. The Government believes that Indian people must not be shut out of Canadian life and must share in these opportunities. The policy is founded on the belief that Canada should be free of discrimination. People must not be kept apart from one another by artificial barriers. The goal of a non-discriminatory society can only be achieved if many ideas change. Change must not be confined to the Indian people; other Canadians must change their attitudes, too. True equality presupposes that the Indian people have the right to full and equal participation in the cultural, social, economic and political life of Canada.

BLUEPRINT FOR CHANGE

The Government believes that the framework within which individual Indians and bands could achieve full participation requires the following:

First, the legislative and constitutional basis of discrimination must be removed.

Second, there must be a positive recognition by everyone of the unique contribution of Indian culture to Canadian life.

Third, services must come through the same channels and from the same government agencies for all Canadians.

Fourth, those who are furthest behind must be helped to catch up.

Fifth, lawful obligations must be recognized.

Sixth, control of Indian lands must be transferred to the Indian people.

The Government is prepared to take the following steps to create this framework:

First, to propose to Parliament that the Indian Act be repealed and take such legislative steps as may be necessary to enable Indian people to control Indian lands and acquire title to them.

Second, to propose to the governments of the provinces that they take over the same responsibilities for Indians that they have for other citizens in their provinces. The take-over would be accompanied by the transfer to the provinces of federal funds normally provided for Indian programs, augmented as may be necessary.

Third, to make \$50 million available over the next five years for economic development in Indian communities and for Indian people.

Fourth, to wind up that part of my Department which deals with Indian affairs; the residual responsibilities for the Federal Government to be transferred to other appropriate federal departments.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSION

The Government will appoint a commission to consult with the Indians and to study and recommend acceptable procedures for the adjudication of claims. The commissioner will be appointed soon.

I intend to meet with the executive committees of the Indian associations as soon as possible. I shall seek meetings with the provincial premiers or their representatives in early July. The Department



The Honorable Jean Chrétien
Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development

will immediately establish a unit of senior personnel who will have no duties other than to consult with Indian people, consult with provinces, consult with other federal departments about the means of implementation and the pace of it. This unit will also consult Indian bands to determine their views on control of their own land — complex questions which offer many alternatives. I hope that we can end the single, separate service agency within five years. I hope the Indian people will agree that this system which sets them apart is no longer useful. This will be the first goal of the implementation group....

OMBUDSMAN FOR STUDENTS

Pupils, teachers, principals or parents, who believe that a youngster's educational future is jeopardized by school regulations, or who feel his school career needs adjustment, may appeal to the Special Cases Committee of the Instruction Division of the Alberta Department of Education.

The committee, which is composed of three officials from the Department of Education, reviews all written requests from Alberta students to have scholastic records checked, particularly if the petitioner feels he has been denied acceptance to an educational institution or specific student course.

Acting as an "ombudsman" for the student, the committee may review such cases as: students who are unable to attend high school or university because their record falls just short of requirements (for example, students who may write four good papers and fall short on the fifth may request review); students who think the examination papers did not measure their scholastic potential; and students who may not be able to write exams because of being handicapped, and are deserving of special assistance. Students who fall short of regulations to post-secondary institutions are automatically reviewed.

In one case, a student who was only able to take a vacation at exam time, had the Special Cases Committee work out a plan whereby the captain of the ship on which he was a passenger, gave him the exam.

FEMININE FIREMEN

Visitors to the Yukon are doing "double-takes" when they see women manning fire-engines.

Members of women's institutes are learning how to operate the fire-engines in case of emergency and are taking follow-up instructions on basic first aid. The reason — a great number of the men work outside their communities.

The training is part of a "safety in and out of the home" project by the institutes. Emphasis is placed on fire prevention, and the women have held discussions with their fire chiefs on prevention and hazards.

CANADA-U.S. TRADE COMMITTEE

The Joint Canada-United States Committee on Trade and Economic Affairs held its twelfth meeting in Washington on June 25 and 26. This body, which last met in Montreal in 1967, was established in 1953 to provide a forum for consultations at Cabinet level between the United States and Canadian Governments.

The Canadian delegation was headed by Mr. Mitchell Sharp, Secretary of State for External Affairs; the U.S. delegation was led by Mr. William P. Rogers, Secretary of State.

Committee members reviewed the international political and economic situation and reaffirmed their support for expanding world trade. They recognized the importance of achieving a smoother functioning of the international monetary system and agreed on the desirability of an early activation of the plan for Special Drawing Rights within the International Monetary Fund. The Committee was concerned over the economic growth of developing countries and confirmed the willingness of both Governments to participate with other countries in seeking to expand trade opportunities of developing countries.

The Committee noted with concern current de-

velopments in international wheat marketing, which have placed serious pressure on the price provisions of the International Grains Arrangement. The members emphasized their readiness to consult bilaterally and with the governments of other countries concerned to try to overcome these difficulties and restore stability in world markets, in conformity with the objectives of the International Grains Arrangement, which was an important outcome of the Kennedy Round.

Members reviewed the extensive trade and economic relations between their two countries, and Ministers reaffirmed their desire to co-operate closely in strengthening these relations.

The Committee agreed that inflation and the need to "cool their overheated" economies were serious problems facing both the U.S. and Canada. Fiscal and monetary policies were reviewed, which, in both countries are directed towards ending inflation.

Important bilateral trade and economic matters including energy, developments under the Automotive Agreement, and specific agricultural commodity problems were also discussed.

IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION

In an address to the Hants Industrial Management Club in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Manpower Minister Allan J. MacEachen declared that recent studies indicated that elementary schooling would be necessary for over 90 per cent of Canadians entering the labor force. Mr. MacEachen said that this requirement would be necessary as early as next year.

He said that studies conducted by his Department and other research bodies showed that, from now on, at least 40 per cent of Canadians entering the labor force would have to have finished high school; at least 16 per cent would require trade school or apprenticeship training; 10 per cent would need university graduation; and another 10 per cent should be qualified as nurses, teachers and graduates of technical and other non-academic post-secondary institutions.

The most conspicuous result of studies made by his Department, Mr. MacEachen continued, was the heavy demand for persons with technical and scientific training; for example, Canadian universities should be graduating four students in science for every one in arts. A comparison with the current output of technical institutes indicates a shortage of facilities for training students in technical and science-oriented courses.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

So far as job opportunities were concerned, Mr. MacEachen said, the most dramatic changes in-

dicated by the surveys would be the increase of professional and clerical workers, the rapid growth of industries using service occupations, and the increased use of managers in nearly all industry divisions. There would be a decline in use of laborers in secondary industries, he continued, and reduced employment chances in primary industries.

Jobs in construction and public utilities are expected to grow more rapidly than total employment, he said, and, in manufacturing, transportation and communication, at a somewhat slower pace.

A rapid growth in jobs in service industries, government, finance and business and a decline in opportunities in agriculture and forestry was predicted by Mr. MacEachen, and he added that a significant rise was likely in general education requirements of jobs.

Demand for those with only elementary education was not keeping pace with labor force growth; their proportion of employment was declining sharply, he said, and those with high-school education could expect job opportunities to grow at a rate about equal to labor force growth. Employment opportunities requiring higher education were increasing at about the same pace as jobs for those with only elementary education were declining.

"This is what we think we'll need over the next decade in terms of jobs," Mr. MacEachen said, "more professional people, more technicians and skilled workers, fewer laborers and semi-skilled persons."

Mr. MacEachen said that Canadians were becoming aware of the need for increased learning and

more and more emphasis was being placed where it belonged — on technical and vocational training and retraining and on upgrading labor force skills.

OTA PROGRAM SUCCESS

A key factor in efforts to improve educational standards of Canada's labor force, he said, was the Federal Government's Occupational Training for Adults Program, administered by the Department of Manpower and Immigration, which was proving to be successful.

"In its first year of operation, about 294,000 persons took full or part-time OTA training. Last year the Department provided training for some 300,000 adults at a total cost of over \$200 million. This year we expect that about 325,000 will take training under OTA, at a cost of \$250,000 million," the Minister said. "Here in the Atlantic Region \$33,700,000 will be spent on OTA this year, with well over one-third of that figure — about \$13.2 million — set aside for payment of living allowances."

WHEAT SALE TO PERU

The sale of 200,000 metric tons of wheat by the Canadian Wheat Board to Peru was announced on July 4 by Mr. Jean-Luc Pepin, Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, following the signing in Ottawa, of an intergovernmental agreement with General Francisco Morales y Bermudez, the Peruvian Minister of Finance.

This is the largest sale of Canadian grain to Latin America in recent years; it amounts to about 7.5 million bushels, valued at some \$14 million. Delivery will start in September at the rate of 17 thousand tons a month.

The possibility of selling Canadian grain to Peru was discussed when Mr. Pepin and other Canadian ministers toured Latin America last November, after which negotiations were entered into by the Canadian Wheat Board culminating in the signing of the new agreement.

A NEW WAY TO CON THE BUYER

The Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs warns that one of the fastest ways to lose friends can be to give their names to a door-to-door salesman. It could also be one of the quickest ways to lose money. "Referral selling", as this is called, is sometimes designed not to save you money, but to separate you from more cash than you could normally afford for a color television set, sewing-machine, vacuum-cleaner or some equally expensive item. Yet it has been estimated in the United States, for example, that in 1967 referral selling involved a potential loss to the public of \$200 million.

The problem, however, is not confined to the U.S. Canadians encounter it too, simply by answering the door or the telephone. Here's how: an affable salesman might tell you he is not trying to sell his product — he merely wants your opinion of it or he may ask you to test it. But after the pleasantries are over, he may still try to persuade you to buy. There could also be a lure of a nation-wide contest in which you would be eligible to win a car, a mink coat or more money than you could earn in several years. Or there may be a suggestion that this was the most economical way for the company to introduce and distribute the item, without the expense of advertising.

Then it might be implied that you could purchase the product at a fraction of the cost simply by giving the names of friends who could be potential customers. Or you could write them yourself, introducing the salesman, his product and his plan. For each additional sale he made from the names you supplied, you might be told, you would be given a bonus to help defray the cost of the item. The gimmick, however, is that you must usually make a small down-payment, and sign a contract for the full purchase price. And this price is sometimes much more than the goods are actually worth.

CONSEQUENCES OF SIGNING

After you have signed the inviting contract, your problems may be just beginning. For one thing, your friends may not welcome the salesman, or the idea that they are helping you pay for the item. In fact, according to a U.S. survey of the referral sales of a vacuum cleaner, only 10 per cent of the customers received more than \$75, that is, three bonuses of \$25 each. This represents a relatively small amount towards the entire costs of about \$282 for a cleaner which had a wholesale price of only \$60. What you are not usually told is that the contract you sign may be put in the hands of a bank or finance company. This could mean another headache if, after you have recovered from the salesman's personality and plausibility, you decide that you don't want the item after all. Then you may be saddled with a product you do not really want — and with finance or bank payments you want even less. This recently happened to a couple in Enderby, British Columbia, who decided after three days that they did not want the vacuum cleaner, but could not persuade the agents to return their deposit and remove the appliance which was exorbitantly priced at \$278.

While most provinces have laws dealing with registration and control of door-to-door sellers, the Province of British Columbia has adopted legislation making any contract null and void where there is an element of referral selling attached to it in any way. Saskatchewan has also acted directly against this practice under the Direct Seller's Act by including a special clause in vendors' licences.