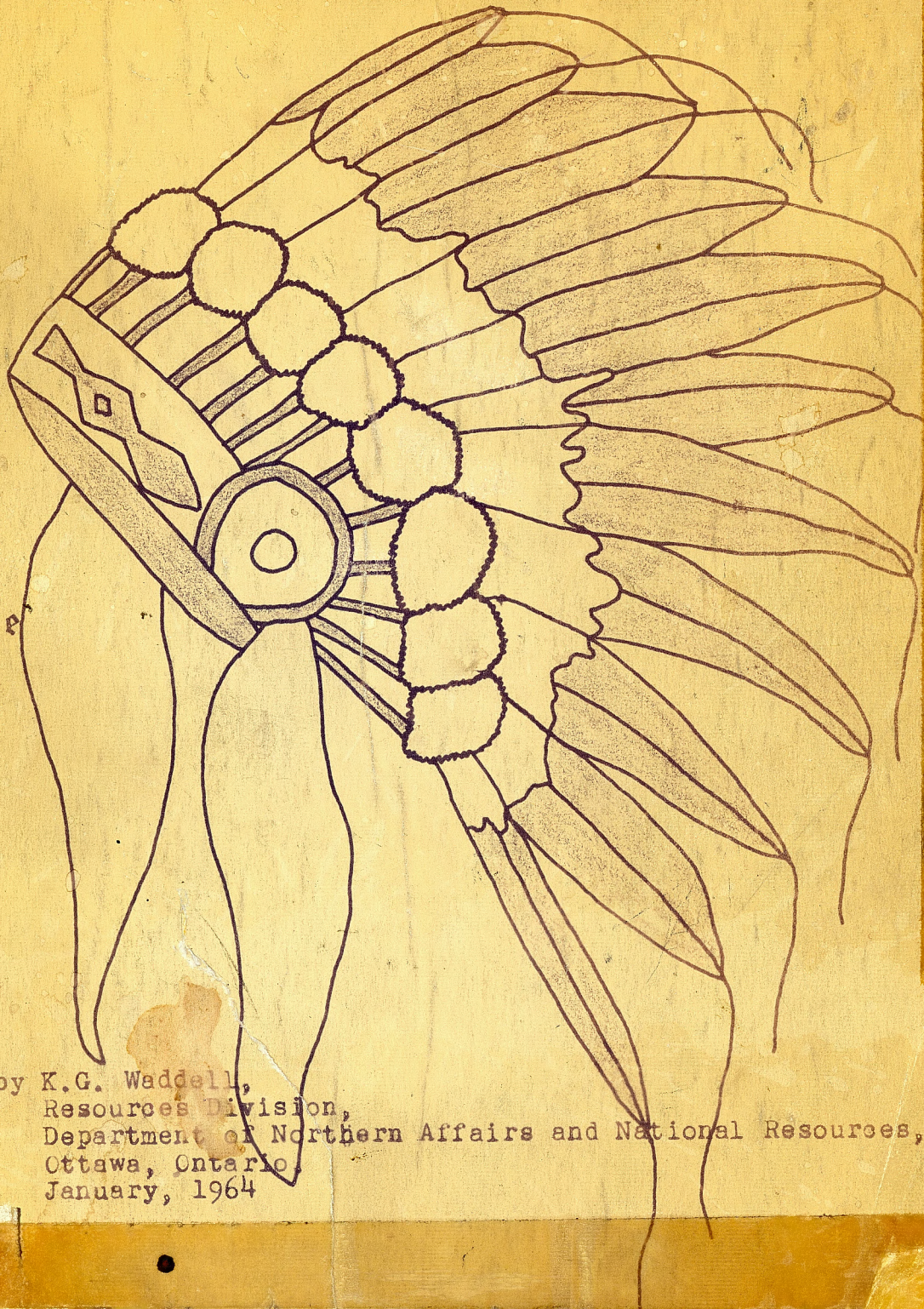
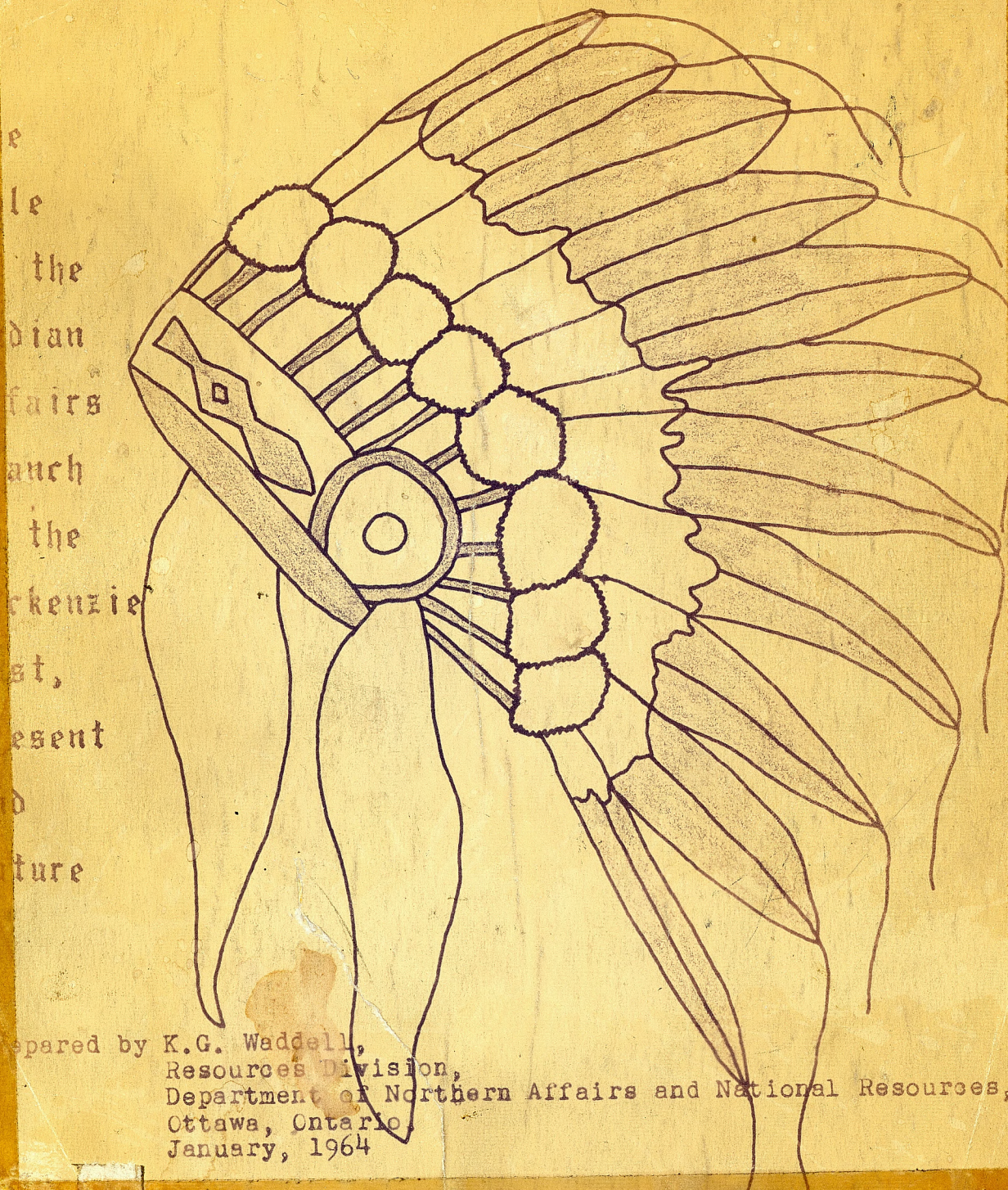


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prepared by K.G. Waddell,
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Ottawa, Ontario.
January, 1964



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January, 1964

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Northern University

Gentlemen:

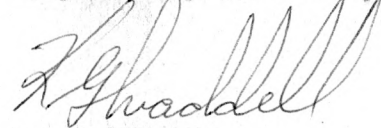
I submit herewith my essay assignment for Northern University 1963-64.

I realize that its length exceeds the requirements, but I feel this subject is far too important to be brushed over lightly. This essay is not to be considered as complete, but is primarily a beginning which may be enlarged upon in future years.

In the early years the factors of northern Indians cannot be defined to any given degree of latitude.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to Mrs. W.E. Strong and Mrs. N. Dinelle of the Northern Co-ordination and Research Library and Miss M. Clowes of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration Library for their most kind co-operation in helping to make this essay possible.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'K.G. Waddell', written in a cursive style.

K.G. Waddell.

The Role of the Indian Affairs Branch in the Mackenzie
Past, Present & Future

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

It is traditionally considered that North America was discovered in error and explored in exasperation by men looking for the riches of the Orient. Early knowledge of the Eastern Arctic was gained by Corte-Real in 1500 and others who followed, looking for the Northwest Passage and eventually settling for whales and furs. The search for new sources of furs took the agents of the trading companies right across the north and they left posts, many of which exist today as settlements of the Northwest Territories.

Since the inception of British rule in North America, the Indians have always been regarded as a special and separate responsibility of Government.

From the time of the first British settlement in New England, the title of Indians to lands occupied by them was conceded, and compensation was made to them for the surrender of their hunting grounds. The Crown has always reserved to itself the exclusive right to deal with the Indians for the surrender of their lands and this rule, which was confirmed by the Royal Proclamation of October 7, 1763, is still adhered to.

In 1670 during the reign of Charles II, instructions were given to the Governors of the Colonies which, among other matters, directed that Indians who desired to place themselves under the British should be well received and protected.

There are still in record numerous agreements and treaties dating back as far as the year 1664 and made by the British with the Indians of New England while Canada was still under French Government.

Later it was found necessary to establish an office devoted solely to the administration of Indian Affairs and in 1775, Sir William Johnson was appointed Indian Superintendent with headquarters in the Mohawk Valley, the country of the Six Nation Confederacy in what is now the State of New York.

Following the Revolution, the office was removed to Canada and the title of the position was changed to its present form - Superintendent General of Indian Affairs. From that time on a continuing administrative organization has been maintained for the protection and the advancement of the Indian interests.

At the end of the eighteenth century and the beginning of the nineteenth century, the Department was divided, with the office of the Superintendent General and the Secretary of the Department in Montreal and that of the Deputy Superintendent General and the Assistant Secretary at Fort George (Niagara).

By a general order May 13, 1816, the management of Indian Affairs was placed under the control of the Commander of the Forces in the British North American Provinces.

By another general order, on April 13, 1830, the management of Indian Affairs in Upper Canada was placed under Sir John Colbourne, the Lieutenant-Governor for that province, while that in Lower Canada remained under military control.

After the Act of Union in 1841 the head office of the Department of Indian Affairs, now united, continued to be at the seat of Government, which under the old Province of Canada, was moved from one place to another.

Until 1860 the Imperial Government was responsible for the management and expense of Indian Affairs, but in that year it was decided that the Province of Canada should assume the charge.

By the Act 23, Victoria, Chapter 151, entitled "An Act Respecting the Management of the Indian Lands and Property", the management of Indian Affairs was brought under the control of the Crown Lands Department from the 1st of July, 1860, with the Commissioner of Crown Lands being the Chief Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

Confederation was brought about by the British North America Act, 1867. This Act was passed by the Parliament of the United Kingdom on March 29, 1867, and was to come into effect by proclamation within six months from that date. On May 22, 1867, there was a proclamation which established the 1st day of July, 1867, as the day of which the provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, should form and be one Dominion under the name of Canada. On June 22, 1869, the Canadian Parliament passed an Act for the temporary government of Rupertsland and the Northwestern Territory when united with Canada. On June 23, 1870, the Parliament of Great Britain passed the Rupertsland Act under the authority of Section 146 of the British North America Act, 1867, which was an Order of Her Majesty in Council admitting Rupertsland and the Northwestern Territory into the Union, June 23, 1870. This Order in Council stipulated that Rupertsland and the Northwestern Territory would be known as the Northwest Territories. The lands formerly owned by the Hudson's Bay Company and then known as Rupertsland in the Northwestern Territory were surrendered to the Imperial Government by a Deed of Surrender dated the 19th of November, 1867, and then transferred to the Dominion of Canada under the Act of June 23, 1870.

At this stage the administration of land in the west was the primary consideration of the government and this is illustrated by the Manitoba Act of May 12, 1870, which stated:

"and whereas it is expedient to prepare for the transfer of the territories (Rupertsland and the Northwestern Territory) to the

Government of Canada at the time appointed by the Queen for such admission;

and whereas it is expedient also to provide for the organization of part of the said territories as a Province (Manitoba) and for the establishment of a Government therefor, and to make provision for the Civil Government of the remaining part of the said territories, not included within the limits of the Province".

This Act also authorized the Governor in Council to settle and appoint the mode and form of grants of land from the Crown.

By Order in Council Number 2 dated the 1st of March, 1871, the control and management of all Crown lands in Manitoba and in the remaining part of the Northwest Territories in Rupertsland was placed under the Secretary of State.

The office of the Secretary of State carried diverse duties in the period immediately following Confederation. The annual report for the year ending 1868 shows that Indian Affairs was the responsibility of the Secretary of State and this carried on into 1872.

In the spring of 1871, Mr. Wemyss M. Simpson was selected as General Indian Agent to make treaties with the Indian tribes, and to represent the Government and the Department of the Secretary of State for the Provinces in the Northwest Territories.

In the annual report of the Indian Branch of the Secretary of State for the Provinces for the year ending the 30th of June, 1871, Sessional Paper No. 22, the Minister made the following statement:

"The acquisition of the Northwest Territories, the organization of the Province of Manitoba, and the admission of British Columbia into the Dominion, widely extend the sphere of operations of the Indian Branch of this Department and must ultimately throw upon it a great increase of labour and responsibility".

In Sessional Paper 23, the annual report on Indian Affairs for the year ending the 30th of June, 1872, the Minister Joseph Howe reported that, in dealing with the new Provinces of British Columbia, Manitoba and the wide Territories of the Northwest, it had become apparent that Indian Affairs could not be managed by the application of the old machinery which had been found to work so well in the Canadas.

Mr. Howe further advised that no new treaties could be formed with any of the Indian Bands of the Northwest during the past year and that in certain areas, dispositions had been made to encourage the Indian Bands to make extravagant demands on the Government.

On the 3rd of May, 1873, an Act to provide for the establishment of the "Department of the Interior" was assented to. For a Department which was to have such a multitude of important responsibilities in connection with the development of western and northern Canada, it is interesting to note that there was very little in the debates of the House of Commons or

the Senate, prior to the enacting of the Act.

Chapter 4 - Statutes of Canada 1873 - stated:

"The Minister of the Interior shall be the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs and shall, as such, have the control and management of the lands and property of the Indians of Canada."

In the first annual report of the Department of the Interior for the period 1873-74, the Minister reported that additional work had been thrown on the Indian Branch with "The accession of some 55,000 red men, for the most part utterly uncivilized" adding still more seriously to the labours of the Indian Branch.

In the spring of 1874 three Acts came into force which were of particular and long lasting significance to the Indians of the Northwest Territories. The first was the restriction of the importation of liquor into the Northwest Territories. The second forbade Indians to drink liquor as well as forbidding anyone possessing liquor to make it available to an Indian. In order that these two laws could be enforced, a third was passed setting up the Northwest Mounted Police, known today as the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Commenting further about the Indians, the Minister advised that it was gratifying to note that, in some cases, they were beginning to acquire individual property, do some small scale farming and procure stock, but that progress was slow.

The Minister further stated that the Indian must not only acquire the elements of the English education, but must also be taught and trained in some useful industrial pursuit.

Tribute was paid to the work being done by the Missions in the northwest, particularly where Indians were involved.

In referring to the number of Indians in the northern part of the Northwest Territories, the Minister of the Interior, in his report for the period ending June 30, 1875, made the following statement:

"In the northern portions of our territories there are many scattered Indian bands who, from the fact that the lands are unfit for settlement, will probably never be required to be treated with".

The estimated number of Indians in Rupertsland was set at 5,170.

On the 16th of April, 1875, the Northwest Territories Act became law.

When the said Act came into effect by proclamation, the machinery provided by the Act was set in motion for the executive and legislative government of the whole of the territories formerly known as Rupertsland in the Northwest Territories with the exception of the Province of Manitoba.

There was an act passed during the fiscal year 1875-1876 to create separate territories out of the Northwest Territories. The effect of this Act was to detach the eastern part of the territories and set it apart with its own autonomy under the name of the District of Keewatin.

The section of the Annual Report for the year 1875-76 concerning the Indians said that the universal demand was for teachers and for persons to instruct the Indians how to cultivate the ground and build houses. This heralded the establishment of the local Indian agents throughout all of the superintendencies, and this system is still in effect today.

However, the main concern in the report was with regard to the declining numbers of buffalo, which were once thought to be an inexhaustible resource. The buffalo was the main source of food and probably even clothing and shelter for the Indians of the plains and now it was evident

the herds were on a decline to the point where they would not be able to sustain the Indians who were dependent upon them. This was a problem for the Council of the Northwest Territories and was considered under the following two headings:

1. What measures could be taken to protect the buffalo and preserve them as long as possible for the benefit of the Indians?
2. What measures could be taken to prepare the Indians for the time not far distant when the buffalo would be a thing of the past?

An important step taken in 1876 was the appointment of a medical superintendent for the Northwest. One of the primary duties was the early vaccination of the entire Indian population against small pox.

The first reference to the far north, although rather vague, occurred in the Department's Annual Report of 1876, when the Minister of the Interior excused himself for not supplying some of the details which usually accompany the annual reports of Indian Superintendents in all of Canada. He said that he could hardly be expected to furnish details for a district extending from the boundary line of the United States to the Arctic Ocean and from Keewatin and Manitoba to British Columbia and Alaska.

In the Annual Report presented in June 1878, two items of interest appeared in the Minister's preamble. First of all, he explained that the Northwest Mounted Police had been transferred from the Department of the Secretary of State to the Department of the Interior and secondly, that the rapid disappearance of the buffalo, which was a staple food of the Indians and the half-breeds of the Northwest Territories, was bringing about the belief that these people must be fed in a few years time at the expense of the country unless the Indian, in the meantime, acquired some other means of

subsistence than that which buffalo hunting afforded.

In this report covering the period 1878-79, the Minister of the Interior made the following statement:

"It will give Your Excellency pleasure to learn that the conditions of the aboriginal inhabitants of the Dominion is, on the whole, not only satisfactory, but gradually and surely improving. In the older Provinces, they have in many cases attained to an intellectual and educational standard not second to that of their white neighbors, engaging with much success in agriculture, mechanics, commerce and the learned professions, and taking a creditable part in social and religious life and in the political government of the country".

The Minister also advised that the business of the Indian Branch had attained to such extensive proportions, and the work of the Department of the Interior generally had so increased that it was found impossible for one Deputy Head to exercise control over the numerous details and the necessary personal supervision. It was therefore thought advisable to erect the Indian Branch into a sub-department and to confer upon the Deputy Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs the standing of Deputy Minister.

Mr. Edward Dewdney was appointed Indian Commissioner for the Northwest Territories and Keewatin by Order-in-Council dated the 30th of May, 1879.

On the 7th of May, 1880, the Indian Branch became an independent sub-department under Act 43, Victoria, Chapter 28, and the Deputy Superintendent-General had conferred upon him the standing and the authority of a Deputy Minister, and the annual report of the Department of Indian Affairs appeared for the first time in separate form.

In the report, specific reference to the Indians of the District

of Keewatin is made for the first time. The Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs made the following statement:

"the Indians of Manitoba and the portion of the Northwest Territories which lies immediately west of the Province, as well as the Indians of the District of Keewatin, living as they do upon the products of the soil and upon fish and small game, are not affected, like their brethern of the plains by the disappearance of the buffalo from the country, consequently there has been no extreme suffering among them".

Also in this report is a section dealing with Indian education in which the following startling statement was made:

"The plan recently adopted under Your Excellency's authority in connection with Indian day schools in Manitoba, Keewatin and of the Northwest Territories of granting bonuses annually, in addition to their salaries, to the teachers of the five most efficiently conducted schools and of presenting prizes to deserving pupils will, it is hoped, tend to stimulate both teachers and pupils to greater exertion."

However, in spite of all the efforts it is reported that the Indian day schools were attended with unsatisfactory results even under the best of circumstances.

During 1881 His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir John Douglas Sutherland Campbell, Marquis of Lorne, Governor-General of Canada, made a personal visit to the Northwest and it gave a universal satisfaction to the Indians and the words spoken by His Excellency had the effect of further impressing them with the conviction, with which the officers of the Department had continually endeavoured to inspire in their minds that the object of the Government was to render them assistance, and to enable them to become self-

supporting at as early a date as possible.

In the report for the year 1882 emphasis is again placed on the difficulties that attend the successful management of Indian schools throughout all of Canada. However in spite of this, other schools would be built as bands adopted settled habits and circumstances were sufficient to justify them.

In the 1883 report the following statement of interest was made:

"It will be gratifying to Your Excellency to learn that the relations of the Government with the numerous Indian tribes and bands continue to be satisfactory, and that if no very rapid strides towards civilization have been made by the Indians in the outlying territories, at least a gradual movement in that direction is observable among them, and that without exception, so far as this Department and its officers have been advised, a general expression of contentment with their treatment is prevalent among the Indians from one end of the Dominion to the other".

Also much concern was shown in the report with regard to Indians camping around the white settlements in the Northwest, causing the Indian's neglect of his fields and also the demoralization of the Indian women.

In the report for the year 1885 the Superintendent-General reports a great deal of concern by the Indians of the district of Keewatin with regard to their fishing rights being greatly interfered with by the encroachment of white fishermen and by the construction, in some of the streams, of dams and other impediments to the passage of the fish to their spawning grounds. The Indian had been assured of these fishing rights and felt that the Government was not keeping faith with them.

He again reports that the progress of Indian children at day

schools however efficiently conducted, was very greatly hampered and injuriously affected by the associations of their home life, and frequency of their absence and the indifference of their parents to the regular attendance of their children at such schools. Industrial schools, at which the children were educated fed and clothed and severed from home life during the school term, were obviously more preferable.

The Annual Report for the year 1886 devotes a great deal of space to the insurrection. However, it is interesting to note that dispatches expressing their loyalty and attachment to their Sovereign and their disapproval of the insurrection were received from time to time from Indian chiefs in several parts of the Northwest Territories, Manitoba and Keewatin.

In the report, the inspector for the Province of Manitoba and the District of Keewatin made the following statement:

"In all my interviews with the bands visited during the year, no complaint of any importance was made to me concerning any irregularity in the payment of their annuities, or in reference to the quantity or quality of the various supplies furnished them; but on the contrary, they frequently expressed their gratitude to the Government for so faithfully carrying out the stipulations of their respective treaties. Their loyalty to Her Majesty the Queen is so deeply rooted in their affections that neither the signal fires of rebellion nor the persistent importunities of accredited messengers from the insurgents, with presents of tobacco, to endeavour to induce them to follow their kindred on the bloody trail of the war path, could influence them in alienating their allegiance from their beloved Sovereign, whom they profoundly reverence with a devotion bordering on idolatry".

It is reported in the Annual Report for 1887 that the wigwams were almost universally abandoned, and good comfortable log cabins furnished with doors, windows, chairs, tables, kitchen utensils, cooking stoves and other modern improvements were substituted in their place.

In the report for the year 1887 a review of the past 25 years was given in which comparisons between 1862 and 1887 were made.

In reviewing the transactions and events connected with Indian management during the year 1888, the Superintendent-General reported that there was cause for encouragement and that it was necessary to be contented with small results in each year.

The Indians of the Northwest Territories receive credit for their work as scouts attached to the Mounted Police Force in the Annual Report of Indian Affairs for the year 1889. It is also reported that the general health of the Indians of the territories was on the whole better than it had been for some time back.

The Annual Report of 1890 states that the Indians of the seven Provinces of the Dominion and those of the District of Keewatin may be described as being, as a rule, self-supporting. There were, of course, in each division of the various territories Indians whose physical condition from illness, infirmity or age rendered them incapable of earning their own subsistence and, owing to the additional fact that they had no relatives or friends able to support them, would have to be assisted by the Department.

Regulations of the Department of Fisheries with regard to the sale or barter of fish, especially whitefish, in the lakes and other waters of the Province of Manitoba and District of Keewatin were the cause of great satisfaction to the Indians, it was reported in the Annual Report for the year 1891.

It is reported that during 1892, the sanitary measures inaugurated

by the Department of Indian Affairs contributed largely towards the general good health of the Indians. Much concern is still reported among the Indians of Keewatin because of the rapid depletion of fish in the waters of their territory.

The Annual Report for the year 1893 takes on a completely new format with the general remarks being made by the Deputy Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs. In it he reports that although the winter of 1892-93 was of unusual severity, there was no great suffering, although there were isolated cases of distress in remote regions among the Indians who were away hunting. The Indians that remained on their reserves are reported to have lived through the winter in comparative comfort.

An important feature in the management of Indian Affairs during the year 1894 was the enactment by Parliament of legislation which provided a remedy for several of the difficulties which had to be contended with in the past years.

The more important parts of the legislation were the provisions pertaining to matters of probate and distribution of the estates of inter-state Indians, trespass on reserves, the jurisdiction of Indian agents as ex-officio magistrates, the establishment of industrial schools, and regulations for the enforcement of attendance of Indian children at schools generally.

The year 1897 saw an important reorganization within the Department of Indian Affairs proper, and in the outside service in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories in the form of two new inspectorates in the Northwest Territories and one new inspectorate in Manitoba. Prior to this period there had been two in Manitoba and only one in the Northwest Territories.

By a Proclamation dated August 16, 1897, under the provision of

the revised Statutes, Chapter 50, "An Act Respecting the Northwest Territories," in pursuance of Order-in-Council P.C. 2319 dated the 29th of July 1897, a judicial district in the Northwest Territories was set apart to be named and known as the "Yukon Judicial District".

In Sessional Paper 14 63 Victoria, A-1900 the annual report for 1899, there is a mention of the discovery of gold in the Klondike region and how it had caused a great influx of people into that area, and the effect it had on the Indians.

In the report covering the year 1900 the Commissioner made the following statement:

"True, comparing one year with another lately preceding it, the advancement may not appear very marked, but looking back as I can over a quarter of a century of Indian history in this western country, the transition is wonderful".

J.A. Macrae, Commissioner for Treaty No. 8 visited the area covered by the Treaty which extended to the south shore of Great Slave Lake. During his visit in the area the various Indian bands on Great Slave Lake that traded at Fort Resolution, were brought into treaty relations with Her Majesty's government.

During the year 1901 a new school was opened at Herschel Island in spite of the fact that it was outside of treaty limits.

In his report to the Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs covering the year 1902, Mr. H.A. Conroy, Inspector for Treaty No. 8 advised that the Indians on the north side of Great Slave Lake were anxious to come into treaty, as were those Indians of the Providence and Mackenzie River areas. He further advised that these Indians claimed that the Slaveys and Yellowknives who were taken into treaty in 1900 had hunting grounds outside of the treaty and that they were akin to them.

In Mr. Conroy's report for the year 1903 he advises that during his visits making treaty payments that he met with three large bands at Resolution, and that these Indians were successful in their hunting, but that an epidemic had struck last year just after the treaty payments and 66 had died. However, this year he had found them very healthy.

He also reports that the Slave band in the vicinity of Hay River were very progressive, and that most of them had good log houses and most of them had plots of ground under cultivation.

In 1904 Mr. Conroy met with the Chipewyan, Yellowknives and Dogribs bands at Resolution and then on to Hay River where he met with the Slaves. He reports that the Slaves were not as strong physically as some of the others, but that they were very energetic and had productive gardens, which added much to their comfort; also that they had plenty of fish that season.

Mr. Conroy further reports that during his trip back to Resolution they had a very bad storm and that it had been the wildest that he had ever seen north of Fort Smith.

By proclamation dated the 24th of July 1905, under the provisions of the Act, Chapter 53 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, commonly known as "The Keewatin Act", the whole of the District of Keewatin was annexed to that part of the Northwest Territories not included in the said district on, from and after the 1st day of September 1905.

The Hay River boarding school for Indian children was re-opened in 1905 by the Church of England.

In his report for the year 1906, Mr. Conroy pays tribute to the missionaries at Hay River for the job they were doing in showing the Indians how to make life worth living.

In 1907 a boarding school was substituted for the day school at

the Providence mission.

The Hay River (St. Peter's) Mission Boarding School reported that the age of their pupils ranged from three to 18 years, though they occasionally received widows and others as mission helpers under instruction. The attendance during the year ending June 30, 1907, was 18 girls and 14 boys.

Mr. Conroy reports on his trip in 1908 pay treaty money to the Indians that the Indians as a whole had suffered considerably during the past two years owing to the shortage of fur bearing animals. However, very few Indians north of the 60th parallel had suffered in any way except some of the Mackenzie River non-treaty Indians where the fur bearing animals were very scarce.

He also states that he had always tried to impress on the Indians the necessity of fishing in the fall, for fear the deer would take another direction and they might not be able to locate them, and should this happen the fish would keep them from starvation.

The Roman Catholic mission at Fort Resolution built an excellent up-to-date convent and school in 1909 and was the best in the northern country. It was built on a modern plan and heated throughout by hot air furnaces.

On his visit Mr. Conroy recommended that the Indians in the Fort Smith area continue living in their teepees, as they were more healthy than shacks, which had no open fireplaces or any means of ventilation, but were heated with sheet iron stoves, which in his opinion were very unhealthy. He also felt that most of the tubercular trouble amongst these people could be traced to these dirty, unhealthy places. If built with open fireplaces, the foul air could be carried off. He suggested that all the old shacks be burned, as the Department would provide the Indians with teepees.

In the Annual Report for the year 1911 the Superintendent-General made the following statement:

"As the settlement and development of the country proceeds, this Department extends its areas of influence. There remains but few of the aborigines - and these in remote regions - who are not under direct supervision".

A notable extension of that influence was the appointment of two Indian agents, one at Fort Smith and one at Fort Simpson.

The Department felt it advisable to appoint these two local representatives in order that they could deal first hand with the question of relief, which might at any time become a pressing one owing to the failure of the Indians' natural food supply.

It was also deemed advisable to carry on some experiments in farming and to ascertain what crops could be grown in that latitude. The experience of the Department's officers could then be made available to the Indian, who might be able to cultivate small areas.

Each agent was appointed with the full authority of a magistrate, coroner and mining recorder.

Two portable saw and shingle mills were sent by the Department of Indian Affairs to Fort Smith and Fort Simpson with a competent mill-wright who installed them.

Mention is also made that gradual extension of responsibility was noted in the case of the Eskimo, who in past years, had not received any attention from officers of the Department of Indian Affairs.

By Proclamation dated the 10th of May, 1912, Acts of Parliament were brought into force extending the boundaries of the Provinces of Manitoba and Ontario to their present latitudes.

In the Annual Report of 1912, the Indian Agent at Fort Smith

reported that his presence had already been of benefit to the Indians. They were seeking his advise and were ready, under his direction, to take advantage of the saw-mill erected at Smith's Landing. It is also stated that the Indians were asking for seeds, especially potatoes and that they could also be induced to raise horses in large numbers.

In 1912 there were three boarding schools active in the Northwest Territories. An Anglican mission at Hay River and Roman Catholic at Fort Resolution and Fort Providence.

The appointment of a permanent health officer was welcomed by the Indians of the north and it was felt that an increase in population would show over the next ten years.

In the Annual Report for the year ending March 31, 1914, we find that the report was re-arranged and condensed for greater practical value.

The Indian agent for the Fort Smith Agency reported that the non-treaty bands at Fort Rae had suffered greatly through the absence of the caribou herd during the winter of 1912-13 and also due to a partial failure of the fall fishery and that relief had been furnished in extreme cases by the Hudson Bay and Northern Trading Companies.

It was further reported that fires were devastating large forest areas of the country and that game and fur bearing animals were being driven into remote parts. The Indians were spoken to on all opportunities requesting them to observe care in starting fires and the chiefs had promised to help in bring offenders to task.

With the saw-mill at Fort Simpson in full operation, several of the Indians were building new houses with shingles on the roof instead of earth.

It was reported that the Indians of the Fort Simpson Agency were of a peaceable, law-abiding character, and were amenable to reason, in so

far as the reason did not conflict with their superstitions.

In the report for the year ending March 31, 1916, a great deal of concern was shown by the Indian Agents due to the scarcity of moose in the Mackenzie and also the almost entire disappearance of rabbits.

It is also reported that with transportation facilities into the Fort Smith area becoming improved, the Indians were asking for the stock that they said was promised to them when they made treaty with the Government.

In the Annual Report for the year ending March 31, 1917, we note that the report has many alterations, the contents greatly reduced in order to meet with the wishes of the Committee on Parliamentary Printing with the view to the curtailment of expenditures. One of the ways in which this was done was the omission of the reports of the Indian Agents and Superintendents and replaced by a summary of the information contained in their reports.

Also in this report mention is made for the first time of the Tukudak tribes which extend to the Mackenzie Delta and the Copper Mines, who were located along the Coppermine River.

By Order in Council dated the 17th day of January, 1918, it was decided that Indians should be exempted from combatant service under the "Military Service Act".

During the year 1917 a national registration of Indians was conducted. However, in the remote regions of the far north such as Isle a la Croix, Treaty No. 8 and the Mackenzie River district and the northern portion of the Lesser Slave Lake district, it was considered impractical and unnecessary to register the Indians, and in consequence no attempt was made to do so.

A number of amendments to the "Indian Act" were passed in the spring of 1918.

By Order in Council P.C. No. 655 dated the 18th of March, 1918, the Northwest Territories was divided into the three Provisional Districts of Mackenzie, Keewatin and Franklin, and was to come into effect on the 1st of January, 1920.

Further amendments were made to the "Indian Act" during 1918, the most important of which was the providing for the administration of the "Soldier Settlement Act" by the Department of Indian Affairs in so far as returned Indian soldiers were concerned.

In The 1920 session of Parliament, further amended the "Indian Act" with regard to the subject of enfranchisement and education.

Section 9, 10 and 11 of the Act were repealed and new sections substituted. They enabled the Department of Indian Affairs to establish a system of compulsory education at both day and residential schools and it also gave the Department control and removed from the Indian parent the responsibility for the care and education of his child. This clause applied to all Indian children over the age of seven and under 15.

All schools were to be open to inspection and were to be conducted according to a standard already in existence. A regular summer vacation was provided for, and the transportation expenses of the children were paid by the Department of Indian Affairs.

With the discovery of oil at Norman Wells in 1920, it was anticipated by the Department of Indian Affairs that with the resultant increase in transportation and labour, would improve the condition of the Indians all through the north.

The year 1921 also saw the Department of Indian Affairs making a new treaty with the Indians along the Mackenzie River.

This treaty known as Treaty No. 11 was dated the 27th of June, 1921, and obtained from the Indians a surrender of a tract of land in the

the Mackenzie River district, an area containing some 372,000 square miles.

The terms of the treaty were signed by the Indians at:

Simpson on July 11, 1921;
Wrigley on July 13, 1921;
Norman on July 15, 1921;
Good Hope on July 21, 1921;
Arctic Red River on July 26, 1921;
McPherson on July 28, 1921;
Rae on August 22, 1921.

In the 1923 Annual Report of the Department of Indian Affairs, three agencies were reported in the Northwest Territories, namely Fort Simpson, Fort Smith and Fort Resolution, the latter having been established owing to the increased requirements of administration.

In 1923 the Indian Act was further amended and among those of most interest was the provision whereby the Eskimos were brought under the charge of the Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs. Prior to this enactment the some 6,538 Eskimos had not been officially under the supervision of any Government department by Act or statute. However, the Department of Indian Affairs had annually afforded them relief.

The Annual Report for the period ending March 31, 1926; a large section of the report deals with Eskimo affairs and tribute is paid to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police on whose reports were based the administration of the affairs of the Eskimo.

During 1926 the Roman Catholic Church erected a boarding school for Indian children at Aklavik at its own expense, and the Department of Indian Affairs agreed to provide a per capita grant.

The outstanding event of 1927 was the epidemic of influenza which swept the basin of the Mackenzie River during the month of July. The

disease which was of a very severe type, broke out at Fort Smith and spread to the Great Slave Lake area and down to Aklavik with great rapidity. At the time the doctor at Fort Smith was out of the country on leave of absence, but was quickly replaced by a doctor from Edmonton. The doctor and mission personnel at Fort Resolution and at Hay River looked after the Indians about Great Slave Lake and the doctor at Fort Simpson followed the epidemic down river to Aklavik. The death toll was heavy.

In the year 1931 the Department of Indian Affairs opened a new agency at Fort Good Hope, making a total of four agencies within the Mackenzie District of the Northwest Territories.

In 1933 the enfranchisement of the Indian section of the "Indian Act" was further amended.

In the Annual Report for the year ending March 31, 1934, we find that the Mackenzie District is back to three Indian agencies with Fort Smith having been closed down.

It is also reported that the price of raw furs had risen with the result the Indians hunting and trapping in the Mackenzie had benefited substantially. Even the humble red squirrel had been much in demand.

In the Annual Report for the year ending March 31, 1935, a medical superintendent, who also acted as Indian agent, was appointed to Fort Good Hope. Formerly there was no medical officer between Fort Simpson and Aklavik, a distance of some 700 miles. The first duty of the new officer was to relieve the medical superintendent at Aklavik during a well earned winter furlough.

In the summer of 1935, Harold W. McGill, Deputy Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs inspected the three agencies in the Northwest Territories, namely Fort Resolution, Fort Good Hope and Fort Simpson. This was the first time that any official from headquarters had visited the field

staff in this area since 1930.

The flight was satisfactory in every way and was not marred by the slightest accident or by an untoward incident. The journey from Lac du Bonnet to the Arctic and return to Edmonton occupied a period of 21 days, the actual flying time being 59 hours and the distance covered over 5,000 miles. In all, 27 points were visited; of these the following were visited twice: Aklavik; Norman; Fort Smith; Chipewyan and McMurrray.

Nothing was found during the journey that would cause any doubt as to the soundness of the Department's administrative policy in the Northwest Territories. The problems affecting the Indians in the northern portions of Canada including the Northwest Territories were quite different from those of the Indians living upon reserves in the more settled parts of the Dominion. The former Indians were still nomads; practically the only vocation open to them was that of hunting and fishing. A few found employment as guides, river pilots, wood cutters, etc., but the majority had to derive their livelihood from the same pursuits as had been followed by their ancestors for generations. The Department could not hope to do very much for these people by the development of industry and it was therefore proposed that efforts should be directed towards helping them to improve their methods of fishing and hunting by the supplying of ammunition and fishing twine when needed.

The most serious concern in this area was the one of health and as this was inextricably involved with the Indian mode of life, nomadic habits and uncertainty of regular food supplies, the responsibility was a grave one. The two outstanding features were the extensive tuberculosis incidents and the high infantile mortality among these people. A slow but gradual improvement was being brought about, but for the reason stated, no rapid or spectacular improvements could be expected.

The Department of Mines and Resources Act was assented to on the 23rd of June, 1936, Chapter 33, Revised Statutes of Canada.

Section 5 of the Act read as follows:

"The Minister shall have and may exercise all and every of the duties, powers and functions which were, immediately prior to the coming into force of this section, vested by any Act, order or regulation in the Minister of the Interior, the Minister of Immigration and Colonization and the Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs".

The Annual Report for the year ending March 31, 1937, was presented by Dr. H.W. McGill, the first Director of Indian Affairs, Department of Mines and Resources.

The condition of health among the Indians and other natives of the Mackenzie River basin was the subject of much discussion during the year 1936-37. Between McMurray and Aklavik on the main river route, and around the large lakes of the region there were some 16 or 17 main groups of Indians and a large number of subsidiary groups. The largest community numbered about 800.

They were barely holding their own in population and in some groups the deaths exceeded the births. In spite of every effort, the Indian Affairs Branch was finding it difficult to extend effective aid to these people.

During 1936-37 the Church of England erected a boarding school, hospital and church at Aklavik. These were of frame construction, and all the work on these buildings was done by Indians from McPherson in the Fort Good Hope agency. An experienced carpenter was sent up by the Church of England from the east and under his supervision, the Indians were trained to do the necessary labour.

In the Annual Report for the year ending March 31, 1938, it was reported that the fur catch was poor and the price of skins low. In that part of the Northwest Territories lying south of the Arctic Circle where the game supply was particularly low, it was decided, as a measure of relief to allow native born Indians and half-breeds who were authorized to trap without licences, to take muskrats in the district for a period of six weeks in advance of the normal trapping season. It was found that this temporary extension of the open season for muskrats was most beneficial to the resident natives.

During the year 1938-39 moose and caribou were plentiful although fur bearing animals were scarce. One of the principal factors in the depletion of fur was the over intensive trapping due to the encroachment of white trappers on the trapping grounds of the Indians. It was well known that the Indian, if left to himself, was a conservationist, but under the spur of competition, he was forced to disregard his natural inclinations.

During the year, medical superintendents were appointed at the Indian agency at Fort Norman (formerly Fort Good Hope agency) and at Fort Resolution. These replacements were necessary by one transfer and one retirement.

In the review for the year ending March 31, 1941, concern was being shown due to fur not being plentiful. The beaver and white fox in the Northwest Territories were the exception. Fishing was very good and large quantities were caught and dried for later use. The Indians also had a successful autumn hunt for caribou and moose, and wild ducks and geese were seen in exceptionally large numbers.

Reports from the Northwest Territories during 1941-42 indicated that the fur catch on the whole was fair and prices were good. The supply of caribou was scarce in the Fort Resolution district and muskrat hunting

in the spring was very poor. White foxes were plentiful towards the Barrens, where also there were sufficient caribou for the Indians from Fort Rae. Rabbits increased in the Fort Norman and Fort Simpson agencies which, with the better prices of fur, helped the Indians considerably although they complained of the depredations of wolves, which greatly reduced the number of moose in that region.

Abnormal movements of population caused by war conditions brought many epidemics to the Indians particularly in the Yukon and the Mackenzie River basin. Outbreaks of typhoid, influenza, diphtheria, whooping cough and measles occurred. Medical and nursing aid was provided as promptly as possible.

During the year 1946-47, a major step forward in improving the efficiency of Indian Affairs administration in the field was the production of an Indian agent's manual covering all aspects of the responsibilities of a Canadian Indian agent. This was the first time in the long history of administration of Indian affairs in Canada that such a manual had been available for reference by the field staff.

Another important step during the year 1946-47 was the recognition of Indian school teachers as permanent civil servants for purposes of salaries, superannuation and other benefits.

A campaign to x-ray Indians throughout the Fort Norman agency had progressed well with half of the population of the Mackenzie Delta having been served. A new day school at Fort McPherson was welcomed and was operating at full capacity.

During the 1947-48 season, new game laws were introduced in the Territories and as a consequence, reduced returns to Indians engaged in hunting and trapping. However, as the Indians became accustomed to adjusting their hunting and trapping activities to registered trap line

systems, beaver and muskrat preserves, and other controlled fur conservation practices, returns increased and the supply more dependable.

During the summer of 1947, many Indians were able to find employment around Fort Simpson. The construction of a new building for the experimental farm station provided work until the fishing season opened in September.

Although economic conditions had not affected the Indians in the Fort Norman region adversely, it was expected that the number of Indian families requiring relief would increase unless returns from hunting and fishing could be augmented by other employment between these two seasons.

The Indians were also x-rayed during the annual treaty payment trip.

During the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 1949, a general reorganization of Indian Affairs administration in the Territories was commenced. This involved a re-allocation of regional offices and new personnel. It was visualized that this reorganization would materially assist the Indians scattered over great areas in the northwest by providing closer supervision and greater educational and health facilities.

The year itself was bad for the Indians in all three agencies. Game was scarce and the decline of fur prices affected their livelihood with resulting increase in relief costs. Added to this burden was the increased cost of white man's food to which the Indian had to resort when his natural food supply diminished.

In the Fort Norman agency much ground work was done in compiling statistics on births and deaths and other information requisite for Family Allowances and the old age allowance.

The Department of Citizenship and Immigration came into force on January 18, 1950.

The Department of Citizenship and Immigration comprises the Immigration Branch and the Indian Affairs Branch of the former Department of Mines and Resources, and the Canadian Citizenship Branch and the Canadian Citizenship Registration Branch, which were transferred from the Department of the Secretary of State.

Prime Minister St. Laurent, speaking to the House of Commons on Saturday, November 26, 1949, said that since the policy of all members of the House was to attempt to have the Indian Affairs Branch administered in such a way as to bring the original inhabitants of Canadian territory to citizenship, it was considered that the Minister responsible for the Immigration and Citizenship Branches should, in addition, be given the responsibility for the Indian Affairs Branch.

During the fiscal year 1949-50, the Indians at Liard, Fort Simpson and Fort Wrigley were brought under the Fort Norman agency for administrative purposes. The Fort Resolution agency headquarters was moved from Resolution to Yellowknife and a superintendent appointed. These changes did not complete administrative reorganization in the Territories but went far towards that end with the eventual objective of improving the lot of the hunting and trapping Indian.

A start was made during the year towards the development of commercial fishing. Winter operations at Hay River and on the northern arm of the lake realized a gross return of \$4,500.00.

Two new schools were put into operation during the year; one at Rocher River and the other at Hay River with attendance at the new schools being most encouraging.

Day schools were completed at Fort Good Hope and Arctic Red River and were opened in July 1950 and January 1951 respectively.

A few homes were erected and a small reserve was established on

Latham Island, Yellowknife in 1950.

Welfare teachers, Indian Health Service personnel and Royal Canadian Mounted Police assisted greatly in furthering the adult education program and in general, social work. As a result of these activities, an improved standard of living and health began to be noticed.

A new Indian Act was passed by Parliament and brought into force on September 4, 1951.

The new legislation resulted from an examination of the whole field of Indian Affairs by a Special Joint Committee of the Senate and House of Commons during the sessions of 1946, 1947 and 1948. The committee held 128 meetings, heard 122 witnesses and received 411 written briefs from Indian bands and organizations and from other individuals and organizations interested in the welfare of the Indian people. Proposed legislation was widely circulated among the Indians and others interested in their welfare, and many representations were received suggesting improvements to the various provisions. Of particular interest was a conference of representative Indians held at Ottawa with the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, at which the proposed legislation was discussed clause by clause. Special Committees of the House of Commons and of the Senate also reviewed the draft legislation and suggested various amendments.

The provisions of the new Act may be summarized briefly under a few general headings, with particular regard to the definition and registration of persons entitled to be Indians; the management of surrendered and reserve lands; tribal funds; the election and powers of band councils; enfranchisement of Indians both as individuals and bands, and the education of Indian children.

Many of the bands living beside Great Slave Lake engaged in commercial fishing, particularly in the Hay River and Fort Simpson districts.

Despite their fears to the contrary the Indians found fish to be plentiful and many adapted themselves to the new industry. A number were also employed in the rapidly expanding mining industry, which to some measure, assisted in compensating for reduced trapline returns.

Attendance at day schools was fairly good, depending on the proximity of the Indian homes to the schools and the ability of the parents to remain in them throughout the school year. A tendency toward a greater appreciation of the value of education was noted, and where economic factors made it possible for the families to remain throughout the year in a settlement where a school was available, full advantage was taken of the opportunities offered.

A number of young Indians enlisted in the armed forces, including a good representative group from the Hare bands of Loucheaux Indians.

During the fiscal year 1952-53, eight day schools and four residential schools were in operation in the Mackenzie region. A new two room day school was completed at Fort McPherson in early December 1952 and was in use before Christmas.

Tuberculosis was well under control in the far north, and all known cases were hospitalized. The only exception to this was encountered in the Fort Franklin area where it was difficult to persuade these Indians to accept medical treatment.

A highlight in the Indian Affairs Branch's personal relations with Indians during the year was a conference held in Ottawa October 26, 27 and 28, 1953, at which representative Indians from many parts of Canada met with the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration and Branch officials to express their views on the operation of the "Indian Act" which came into operation in September 1951.

In the Mackenzie the Indians were encouraged to take an interest

gardening, and there was a considerable increase in the number of gardens planted. A garden tractor supplied to the Fort Norman agency had been put to very good use.

The educational facilities for Indians in the Northwest Territories continued to expand with 10 day schools and four residential schools in operation.

During the winter of 1954-55 there was a moderate increase in the price of furs which brought some improvements in the economic position of the Indians in the Northwest Territories and many Indians took advantage of opportunities to improve their diet through domestic fishing in the numerous lakes in the Mackenzie area.

A supervised caribou hunt was conducted for the first time in the Yellowknife and Rae areas in an effort to encourage the Indians to provide food for the summer months and, at the same time, conserve big game by storing in cold storage lockers provided by the Indian Affairs Branch. This experiment was only moderately successful.

Two new cold storage reefers were completed at Fort Franklin and Snowdrift during 1955-56 to enable the Indians to store fish and wild meat for domestic use. Arrangements were made to transport to the Indian settlements at Rocher River, Resolution, Rae, Franklin and Fort McPherson wild meat taken by Indians at points too far from the settlement for transportation by dogs.

A commercial fishing venture was undertaken on Great Slave Lake with equipment, including nets and cabooses, advanced by the Indian Affairs Branch. The venture was successful and the Indians participating completed the season with a reasonable profit and with most of their equipment paid for and in good condition for the next year's operations.

The market gardening project at Hay River was moderately success-

ful. Four hundred bags of potatoes were shipped to various points in the northland and the Indians participating retained a sufficient supply for their own needs.

During the summer of 1956 construction projects at all settlements in the Fort Norman Indian agency, except Fort Liard, Fort Wrigley and Fort Franklin, provided employment opportunities for most Indians in that area. The majority of the Fort Liard Indians worked for a geophysical survey party, the Fort Wrigley Indians were employed all summer on river transportation and some of the Fort Norman and Fort Franklin Indians obtained employment with transportation at airline companies at Norman Wells.

About 50 heads of families in the Yellowknife agency found employment in mining ventures at Snowdrift, Rayrock and Yellowknife, and a like number worked at construction and other jobs at Yellowknife and Hay River.

Small sawmills were shipped in to Jean Marie River and Fort Franklin to enable the Indians to process local lumber for housing improvements, and to acquire practical experience to equip them either for commercial production or to take jobs with lumbering companies operating in the north.

Game hunts were organized and results in the Yellowknife agency were discouraging due to the scarcity of caribou. However, moose were fairly plentiful in the general Mackenzie river region and with transportation arranged by the Indian Affairs Branch, the Franklin and Good Hope Indians, in addition to meeting their winter requirements, were able to bring in about 8,000 pounds of meat for summer storage in their reefers.

In november of 1956, 62 Fort Rae and Trout Rock Indians took part in an organized domestic fishing project at Trout Rock with the Indian

Affairs Branch supplying fishing gear, transportation and food supplies. The venture was a success with the catch exceeding 100,000 pounds.

During the 1956-57 season there was a continued decline in fur prices and its effect on the hunting and trapping industry was, to some extent, compensated for by increased employment opportunities resulting from the quickening tempo of development in the region.

Twenty representatives of Indian bands of the Northwest Territories and the Athabaska Indian agency in Alberta met with the Director and Branch officials at Fort Smith on July 29 and 30, 1957. This was the first meeting of its kind held in the Northwest Territories and it provided an opportunity to discuss the steps taken to carry out the provisions of Treaty No. 11 regarding land settlement. An exchange of views also took place with regard to other matters of interest to the Indians of the area.

Several organizational changes designed to improve services offered by the Indian Affairs Branch were made during the year 1957-58. The headquarters of the Fort Norman agency, renamed the Aklavik agency, was transferred from Fort Norman to the new Aklavik townsite under construction at East 3. A sub-agency was established at Fort Norman and the Old Crow Indians in the extreme northern part of the Yukon were brought under the jurisdiction of the agency at Aklavik. Later in the year the Yellowknife agency was reduced in area by the creation of a new agency at Fort Smith with supervision over the Indians in the settlements of Fort Smith, Fort Fitzgerald, Fort Resolution, Rocher River, Fort Providence and Hay River.

The Branch obtained a supply of buffalo meat from Wood Buffalo Park and shipped 42,000 pounds to cold storage reefers previously erected for Indians at Yellowknife, Fort Providence, Fort Rae, Snowdrift, Rocher River, Fort Resolution, Fort Simpson, Fort Franklin, Fort Norman, Fort Good Hope

and Fort McPherson.

During the year 1958-59 the Indian Affairs Branch provided advances to enable 22 Indians from the Fort Franklin band to trap north of Great Bear Lake.

A new hostel at Fort McPherson opened in September 1958 was filled. A summer school was operated at Nahanni and a new day school erected at Fort Wrigley. Approximately 50 children were placed in foster homes on a temporary basis to enable them to remain in day schools while their parents were away from the settlement trapping.

The provisions of more adequate housing received attention. This not only improved living conditions in a number of settlements but also furnished several jobs. With the exception of the aged people, all the recipients contributed something towards the cost of their buildings, either in labour, logs or cash. The houses erected at Jean Marie River and Fort Franklin were built from logs that had been cut by the Indians and squared with sawmills supplied by the Indian Affairs Branch. A gravity flow water system was installed at Arctic Red River to provide the settlement with an unlimited water supply during the summer months.

Some progress was made in the acquisition of small parcels of land to provide Indian housing lots.

During the year 1959-60 it was arranged that welfare services involving neglected or dependent children, care of aged and infirm would be handled by Territorial or municipal social workers on a reimbursement basis with the Indian Affairs Branch.

Efforts were made to stimulate the interests of Band Councils and have them take a more active part in the administration of their people.

Administrative changes during 1960-61 were the creation of a regional office in Fort Smith of the Fort Simpson agency and a new sub-

agency at Fort McPherson, and the transfer of three bands south of Great Slave Lake from the Yellowknife agency to the Fort Smith agency.

A placement officer was appointed to the region in Fort Smith in September 1960 and was actively engaged in the selection, counselling and placement of several Indian students in the Sir John Franklin School in Yellowknife. A Vocational Training Advisory Committee was organized during the winter and held quarterly meetings in Yellowknife with the placement officer as secretary.

In 1962 the Indian Affairs Branch headquarters was reorganized following a survey by the Civil Service Commission. Functions and responsibilities of the Branch were regrouped under three major activities of Education, Operations and Support Services.

The northern areas within the confines of the Northwest Territories are, with some very important differences, broadly typical.

There are 25 distinct Indian communities varying in size from tiny hamlets of 50 or 60 people to those such as Fort Simpson with 497 and Fort Rae, the largest of all, with 740. These figures cover only those normally resident in the communities. An equal or larger population are the drifters and nomads, their movements conforming to the ever changing cycles of availability of the natural resources and casual employment upon which they depend.

A striking feature of the Indian population is its youthfulness; 51% under the age of 21 and 20% under six in the year 1959. Another fact of major importance is the marked increase in population of 22% since the year 1949. This rate of increase may be expected to accelerate as better services of all kinds become available and also due to the density of the groupings in the younger age groups.

In the period 1949-59, extraordinarily violent changes took place.

Industry, mining, defence, government activity, roads have developed bringing new people, new opportunities and new problems. Family Allowances, Old Age and Blind pensions, welfare payments, wage employment, day schools, and many others made their appearance, each profoundly affecting the old patterns and suddenly enlarging communities.

It was also during this period that it became popular to deprecate trapping. Prices were low and would go even lower because new synthetic furs, sold by the yard would displace the natural products for a short period of time. Trapping interfered with day schools and made it difficult to keep in touch and it was therefore necessary to make the adjustment to wage employment as soon as possible.

Despite rapid development in the north, wage employment was not available for all Indians. Even if more employment had been available, many of the Indians lack both the training and inclination which would have enabled them to have made the adjustment satisfactorily.

Trapping and the harvesting of renewable resources must be recognized as the key factor in the economy of the Indians at the present time and this carried with it basic and far-reaching implications for all other activities. If the prices paid for furs during 1944-45 had held up the situation of the Indians in the Territories would be entirely different. The Indian Affairs Branch of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration fully appreciate the many undesirable features of the nomadic, seasonal and erratic way of life imposed upon persons who must depend upon renewable resources for a livelihood. There is hope that there will be an increase in the number of Indians with training, education and experience to take advantage of the gradually developing opportunities in the Territories. However, this process cannot be crowded nor the pace forced at a rate faster than the Indians and their communities are prepared to move.

The important thing that the Department must preserve is the pride of the Indians in themselves, their independence and their self reliance. The program designed to improve housing, education and health must not be carried out at the expense of creating a dependent and listless people.

The shift to wage employment should be encouraged and supported but care must be taken to ensure there is a road back to self support if the demand for the kind of labour the Indian can supply were to cease abruptly. The Indian communities need to be strengthened and improved. Better housing, improved hygiene and child care and better sanitation are all necessary, but these must come through the Indians themselves and through their leadership and initiative.

One third of the population of the Territories are Indians and it is obvious that the social and economic well-being of these 5,150 Indians and their Metis cousins will have a major influence upon the vitality and future of the Mackenzie.

The Indians in the Mackenzie can be considered in three broad economic resources upon which they depend.

The first and the most important numerically are the Indians, who through choice of necessity, still depend on the harvest of annually renewable resources for subsistence and cash income. Those who pursue this traditional vocation are mainly in the older age group who have no aptitude nor any inclination for any other pursuit. However, there are many more who still depend on the chase because there is no alternative unless they move to areas of industrial development.

In working with this group it is necessary for the Indian Affairs Branch to work in close co-operation and collatoration with the Territorial Government and with provincial governments since the fur and fish resources

are under provincial control. The Indian Affairs Branch, the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources and the Territorial Government have been working closely together toward a more appropriate system of trapline registration in the Mackenzie District covering the trapping of muskrats and the control, rehabilitation and management of fine fur resources. Special efforts are also being made to improve the technique of handling, curing and processing of pelts which can have a very important bearing upon the price secured by a trapper for his furs. The Indian Affairs Branch has introduced a program of grubstaking in an effort to fill the gap left by the virtual collapse of the traditional credit relationships with the traders in the Mackenzie. Many special arrangements are made in various parts of the Territories to enable Indians from the settlements to reach the hinterland where fur and game are plentiful. At various points in the Territories small freezing units have been installed which enable the Indians to preserve game and fish for use in seasons of scarcity. As in the provinces, the Indian Affairs Branch is working toward better marketing arrangements to enable the Indian producer to secure the highest possible net return for his product. Every attempt has been made to overcome the defeatist attitude toward the gathering of natural resources and encouragement of the Indians to take advantage of the only resource to which many of them have access in the interests of preserving self reliance and economic independence during this very difficult transitional period.

A staff of specialists with the Indian Affairs Branch will continue to develop positive programs until such time as the general economy and the Indians reach the transitional stage where they will still depend to some extent on hunting and trapping but will increasingly be deriving income from wage employment.

This is the group of Indians who experience the most difficulty and for whose benefit much of the time and effort of the placement specialist staff of the Indian Affairs Branch is devoted. The present methods are to assist this group of Indians to find employment during the summer months in construction, guiding, transportation and road and railroad maintenance. This is primarily designed to bridge the gap between trapping seasons. However, efforts are made to assist the Indian to take the complete step from hunting and fishing to wage employment by developing employment projects such as clearing railroad and highway rights of way and pulp making or by finding permanent positions where available.

One of the strange aspects of the present penetration, particularly in the Northwest Territories, is the fact that government officials outnumber potential employers or new industries.

One of the major problems is the Indians who find regular summer wage employment and are unable to find winter employment. After a relatively prosperous summer and the spending of their wages, as a rule unwisely, they tend to be loath to return to their traplines. When they do go trapping, it is for very short periods and relatively close to the settlements with the result that game and fur animals have or are becoming depleted there, while in the more isolated areas, the game is reaching dangerously high population levels.

A program of some promise to this group is the development of handicrafts. The Department of Citizenship and Immigration is endeavouring to develop an industry which will add to incomes derived from casual employment and the chase. At the present time this may be classed only as a cottage industry but recent authority to supply materials and purchase finished goods should enable the acceleration of the project at least in areas frequented by tourist fishermen and hunters.

Perhaps the most promising feature of the future northern economy is mining and exploration for oil and gas. However, one of the many problems is the aversion of the Indian to working underground.

Many of the Indians are handicapped by a language barrier and the lack of primary education, but it is also true that in the past ten years tremendous strides have been made in remedying that defect. It is anticipated that, as the present school generation graduates, they will be much better fitted to find employment by the further education now available to them in trades and technical schools, apprenticeships, on-the-job training, in-service training and short courses such as those related to guiding, all of which are designed to facilitate Indian entry into the final stage of the transition towards complete integration.

The final class of northern Indians is at or near the economic status of non-Indians in the community in which they live. This in the north is a very small group, most of whom live in houses built with the assistance of the Indian Affairs Branch, with the standards of hygiene varying from very good to very bad. Many more Indians are needed in this group and this will, of course, depend on education and expansion in the economy with new industry and commerce being established in each community to provide opportunities for the increasing numbers of Indian skilled craftsmen, artisans and technical or professional persons.

In the House of Commons Debates for Monday, December 2, 1963, Page 5324, the Honourable Guy Favreau, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration gave the following reply to a question asked on the appointment of a committee to study problems of integration:

"It gives me pleasure to inform the honourable members and the house that we have undertaken a three year research program to determine to what extent the Indians in all parts of Canada

share in the social and economic life of our country.

This survey is designated to provide comprehensive data from which to draw basic principles for the setting up of the policy and general program we shall have to follow in future if we wish to promote the welfare and progress of the Indian population of Canada.

Mr. H.B. Hawthorne of the University of British Columbia and Mr. Adelard Tremblay of Laval University have undertaken, as director and assistant director, the carrying out of this extensive research project.

Specialists and research assistants attached to Canadian universities and research centres will be charged with various sections of the programs as required. The research work will apply to four important aspects of the Indian question: economic development, promotion of education, band councils and progress toward administrative autonomy."

Indian Affairs was attached to the Department of the Secretary of State at the time of Confederation and the following Secretaries of State were also Superintendents-General of Indian Affairs:

Honourable H.L. Langevin	July 1, 1867, to December 7, 1869
Honourable Joseph Howe	December 8, 1869 to Jan. 6, 1873
Honourable Thos. N. Gibbs	June 14, 1873 to June 30, 1873

By the Act 36, Victoria, Chapter 24, the Department of the Interior was created from the 1st of July, 1873, and the Indian Branch attached to that department.

Since 1880 the Indian Department was a separate one by the Act 43, Victoria, Chapter 28, assented to May 7, 1880.

The following is a list of the Superintendents-General since

July 1, 1873:

Hon. Alex. Campbell	July 1, 1873 to Nov. 6, 1873
Hon. David Laird	Nov. 7, 1873 to Oct. 6, 1876
Hon. David Mills	Oct. 24, 1876 to Oct. 16, 1878
Rt. Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald	Oct. 17, 1878 to Oct. 16, 1883
Hon. D.L. MacPherson	Oct. 17, 1883 to Aug 4, 1885
Hon. Thos White	Aug. 5, 1885 to Apr. 21, 1888
Hon. Edgar Dewdney	Aug. 3, 1888 to Oct. 16, 1892
Hon T. Mayne Daly	Oct. 17, 1892 to Apr. 30, 1896
Hon. Hugh J. Macdonald	May 1, 1896 to July 8, 1896
Hon. Clifford Sifton	Nov. 17, 1896 to Mar. 1, 1905
Hon. Frank Oliver	Apr. 8, 1905 to Oct. 6, 1911
Hon. Robert Rogers	Oct. 10, 1911 to Oct. 28, 1912
Hon. Wm. J. Roche, M.D.	Oct. 29, 1912 to Oct. 12, 1917
Hon. Arthur Meighen	Oct. 12, 1917 to July 10, 1920
Hon. Sir Jas. A. Loughheed	July 10, 1920 to Dec. 1921
Hon. Charles Stewart	Dec. 29, 1921 to June 1926
Hon. H.H. Stevens (Acting)	June 29, 1926 to July 13, 1926
Hon. R.B. Bennett (Acting)	July 13, 1926 to Sept. 1926
Hon. Charles Stewart	Sept. 25, 1926 to June 19, 1930
Hon. Ian Alistair MacKenzie	June 19, 1930 to Aug. 1930
Hon. Thos. G. Murphy	Aug. 7, 1930 to Oct. 23, 1935
Hon. Thos. A. Crerar	Oct. 23, 1935 to Dec. 1, 1936

The Department of Mines and Resources Act was assented to on the 23rd of June, 1936, and the Department of Indian Affairs became a Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources, Statute 1, Edward VIII, Chapter 33.

The following is a list of the Ministers of Mines and Resources:

Hon. Thos. A. Crerar	Dec. 1, 1936 to Apr. 17, 1945
Hon. James A. Glen	Apr. 18, 1945 to June 10, 1948
Hon. James A. MacKinnon	June 11, 1948 to Mar. 31, 1949
Hon. Colin Gibson	Apr. 1, 1949 to Jan. 17, 1950

The Department of Citizenship and Immigration was created by Statute 13, George VI, Chapter 17, assented to December 19, 1949, and proclaimed in force on January 18, 1950.

The following is a list of Ministers of Citizenship and Immigration:

Hon. Walter E. Harris	Jan. 18, 1950 to June 30, 1954
Hon. John W. Pickersgill	July 1, 1954 to June 21, 1957
Hon. E. Davie Fulton (Acting)	June 21, 1957 to May 12, 1958
Hon. Ellen Louks Fairclough	May 12, 1958 to Aug. 9, 1962
Hon. Richard Bell	Aug. 9, 1962 to Apr. 10, 1963
Hon. Guy Favreau	Apr. 10, 1963 to

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