

TEKAWENNAKE

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Heritage of Indians Must Be Recognized (continued)

The brief, presented to the department of Indian affairs, includes a recommendation that Indians be recruited as teachers and teaching assistants.

Mr. Anaquod told an interviewer that down through the ages there has been a misrepresentation of both Indian culture and the role of the Indian in North American history.

Until recently, mass media had portrayed him as a red savage, the arch-enemy of the settlers, who lurked behind trees waiting to attack, scalp the men and abduct the women and children.

He said the disregard and falsification of the cultural and spiritual legacy of the Indians on the part of historians, educationists and policy-makers has contributed to the "demoralization and loss of identity of the Indian people."

"At one point, youth were ashamed of the fact that they were Indians."

Giving Indians material goods was not enough, Instead, "recognition of his identity by society would bring up the moral fibre of the Indian."

Promise Indians To Get Fair Deal

Indian affairs will undergo major changes within the next few months, MP Alfred Mongrain told The Expositor in an interview following the annual Liberal Association meeting here Wednesday.

"The Indian Affairs department will undergo the most extensive changes of any government body in an attempt to give the Indians better service," said Mr. Mongrain.

The MP said he has toured Canada during the past few months with Jean Cretien, minister of Indian affairs, who has been hearing Indian delegations across the country commenting on amendments of the Indian Act.

When informed of lack of representation of Six Nations Indians to a conference in Ottawa concerning the final draft of the Act, Mr. Mongrain said the government will have to listen to MP James Brown's plea for local representation.

"I assure you the Indians will get a fair deal from the department," he said. "After all, they've been in the country a long time, and they deserve it."

Mr. Mongrain said he could not comment on all the proposed changes Mr. Cretien has promised.

In addition to changes to the Indian Act, the minister recently announced he will introduce legislation to establish an Indian claims commission and a claims appeal board.

The meeting on the final revisions of the Indian Act is expected to convene "within the next two months," according to Mr. Mongrain.

Study Reserve Amalgamation

Amalgamation of Anglican and United Churches is moving closer, with several local churches already considering the move.

The Anglican and United Churches on the Six Nations reserve have been discussing amalgamation or more integrated co-operation, with an eye on the future when the two faiths finally amalgamate.

Rev. J. M. Boyd, a United minister from Preston who heads the Six Nations United mission board, said Wednesday that on two occasions he has met with Rt. Rev. G.N. Luxton, Bishop of Huron of the Anglican Church, to discuss the move.

Mr. Boyd said he hopes in the near future that representatives from the Six Nations churches will convene to discuss ways of working together.

At present, there are two Anglican and one United minister on the reserve.

"If this co-operation between churches is reached, it might be possible to amalgamate part of various congregations and reduce the ministerial force to one minister of each faith," said Mr. Boyd.

"This would also reduce the number of churches needed and also a manse," he added.

Mr. Boyd said amalgamation between the two faiths is also being urged on reserves at Walpole, Sarnia and Muncey.

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