

SIX NATIONS COUNCIL MEETING-TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1973

LOCAL NEWS



INDIANS - ALIENS

Six Nations and New Credit Elected Band Councils along with other Band Councils received a telex dated October 5, 1973 sent to Indian Affairs and Northern Development at Brantford -

"Headquarters has advised us today that the Department of Manpower and Immigration October 15 deadline for registration of aliens does, repeat, does apply to Indian people born outside of Canada, even though their names appear on the Band lists, who have not yet applied for Landed Immigration status. This includes people born in the U.S.A. of Canadian parents.

If they wish to become Canadian citizens, Indian people in the above category should make application to Manpower and Immigration for Landed Immigrant status and to the citizenship branch of Secretary of State for Canadian citizenship.

GOES AGAINST TREATIES

The new regulation of the Immigration Act, set out by the Hon. Robert Andras, Minister of Manpower and Immigration, goes against the Jay Treaty entered into in 1794 between the U.S.A. and the United Kingdom Government. The Treaty of Ghent of 1814 reaffirmed the terms of the Jay Treaty.

Parts of Article (III) of the Jay Treaty states - "It is agreed that it shall at all times be free to His Majesty's subjectsand also to the Indians dwelling on either side of the said boundary line, freely to pass and repass by land or inland navigation, into the respective territories, and countries of the two parties, on the continent of America;.....and to navigate all the lakes, rivers and waters thereof, and freely to carry on trade and commerce with each other....."

The Indians of North America have considered that these Treaties have given

them the right to pass freely across the United States and Canada without hindrance notwithstanding any immigration laws.

The Jay Treaty was ratified by the President of the U.S.A. in October, 1795 and proclaimed in the U.S.A. in February, 1796. Canada has not yet ratified this Treaty in Parliament and according to Derek Bläckburn, M.P., the Canadian Government appears to be disregarding this Treaty altogether.



SIX NATIONS ELECTED COUNCIL REACTS

The Six Nations Elected Council, after being advised of the new immigration law passed a resolution stating:- "The Six Nations Council does not accept the policy that has been set down by the Department of Manpower and Immigration concerning Landed Immigrant Status, as North American Indians in the past have enjoyed rights in both United States of America and Canada."

The Council also prepared and sent a letter to the 265 Members of Parliament. The letter included their Band Council resolution and a request that the Hon. Robt. Andras attend a meeting