The Indian problem

Excerpt from the 1920 testimony of Duncan Campell Scott, the deputy superintendent general of Indian affairs, to the Special Parliamentary Committee of the House of Commons that was examining Scott's proposals to amend the sections of the Indian Act that focused on enfranchisement (how Indian people would gain the rights of citizenship).



Comments in brackets are not part of the original document. They have been added to assist the reader with difficult words.

The Indian Problem

I want to get rid of the Indian problem. I do not think as a matter of fact, that the country ought to continuously protect a class of people who are able to stand alone ...

Our objective is to continue until there is not a single Indian in Canada that has not been absorbed into the body politic and there is no Indian question, and no Indian Department, that is the whole object of this Bill.

- Duncan Campell Scott 1920

National Archives of Canada, Record Group 10, volume 6810, file 470-2-3, volume 7, pp. 55 (L-3) and 63 (N-3).



