

them at a reasonably early date, full responsibility for the management of their own affairs. In other tribal jurisdictions, where there has been more isolation and less Indian experience with non-Indian ways of doing business, the consultations would undoubtedly be of quite a different type and would be aimed at longer-range objectives.

A good example of what I have in mind is to be found on the Uintah-Ouray Reservation in Utah. Under the law that was enacted last August the people of this reservation are being divided, by their own choice, into two main groups. The so-called "mixed blood" group, consisting of those who are comparatively well educated and have had extensive contacts with non-Indian society, is now at work on a readjustment program which will lead over a seven-year period to the complete elimination of all special relations with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Meanwhile, the full-blood people, who have had considerably less schooling and much more limited experience off the reservation, will be participating in a ten-year tribal development program aimed at preparing them more adequately and more fully for the eventual assumption of full management responsibilities.

But the main point I want to emphasize is the importance of developing forward-looking programs through the consultation process at each of the tribal jurisdictions as rapidly as possible. It seems completely clear to me that we have now reached the stage in the history of Indian affairs in this country where stagnation and apathy can no longer be passively accepted. As I have been telling our own people repeatedly in recent months, it is not enough for us in the Bureau to go on from day to day just providing services and carrying out our trust responsibilities. Over and beyond this, we must begin coming to grips with the more basic and long-standing problems in each tribal situation. First, we must sit down with the Indian people and define the ultimate objectives on which there is common understanding and mutual agreement. Next we must jointly hammer out plans for reaching these objectives over a specified period of years. Finally, there must be cooperative action in putting the plans and programs in effect.

Since most of these tribal programs will almost certainly place heavy emphasis on the economic development of reservation areas, it is important to mention here the strong possibility that the most expert kind of research assistance in the country may soon be available to several of the major tribal groups. As some of you probably know, a new non-governmental organization has been recently established in the field of Indian affairs by five prominent citizens who have given generously of their time and energies for this project. It is a non-profit corporation known as the American Indian Research Fund, Incorporated, and its purpose is to contract with research engineering firms of the highest caliber for economic surveys in key reservation areas with funds which we hope will be forthcoming from some of the larger foundations or from other private sources. Although the corporation has not yet reached the stage of actual operations, I am quite optimistic that it will soon do so and that survey work will be under way in several key localities before the end of 1955.

There are just two other points which I would like to bring out here in connection with the tribal programs which we shall be developing cooperatively with the Indian people. One concerns the place of land in the total Indian picture. The other involves a little further and final refinement on the nature of the consultation process.