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National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) records – Denver, CO: General Material, 1944

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the resolution be adopted, seconded by Mr. Cross. The question was called for from the floor and the resolution was adopted by unanimous vote.

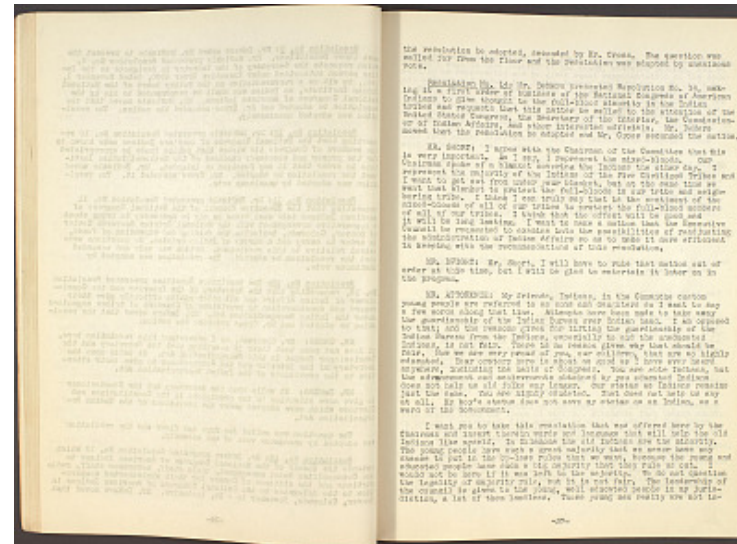
Resolution No. 14: Mr. DeMers presented Resolution No. 14, making it a first order of business of the National Congress of American Indians to give thought to the full-blood minority in the Indian tribes and requests that this matter be called to the attention of the United States Congress, the Secretary of the Interior, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and other interested officials. Mr. DeMers moved that the resolution be adopted and Mr. Cross seconded the motion.

MR. SHORT: I agree with the Chairman of the Committee that this is very important. AS I say, I represent the mixed-bloods. Our Chairman spoke of a blanket covering the Indians the other day. I represent the majority of the Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes and I want to get out from under your blanket, but at the same time we want that blanket to protect the full-bloods in our tribe and neighboring tribe. I think I can truly say that this is the sentiment of the mixed-bloods of all our tribes to protect the full-blood members of all of our tribes. I think that the effect will be good and it will be long lasting. I want to make a motion that the Executive Council will be requested to examine into the possibilities of readjusting the administration of Indian Affairs so as to make it more efficient in keeping with the recommendations of this resolution.

MR DWIGHT: Mr. Short, I will have to rule that motion out of order at this time, but I will be glad to entertain it later on in the program.

MR. ATTOCKNIE: My friends, Indians, in the Comanche custom young people are referred to as sons and daughters so I want to say a few words along that line. Attempts have been made to take away the guardianship of the Indian Bureau over the Indian land. I am opposed to that; and the reasons given for lifting the guardianship of the Indian Bureau from the Indians, especially to aid the uneducated Indians, is not fair. There is no reason given why that should be fair. Now we are very proud of you, our children, that are so highly educated. Your oratory here is about as good as I have ever heard anywhere, including the halls of Congress. You are able Indians, but the advancement and achievements obtained by you educated Indians does not help us old folks any longer. Our status as Indians remains just the same. You are highly educated. That does not help us any at all. My boy's status does not save my status as an Indian, as a ward of the Government.

I want you to take this resolution that was offered here by the Chairman and insert therein words and language that will help the old Indians like myself. In Oklahoma the old Indians are the minority. The young people have such a great majority that we never have any chance to put in the by-laws rules that we want, because the young and educated people have such a big majority that they rule us out. I would not be here if it was left to the majority. We do not question the legality of the majority rule, but it is not fair. The leadership of the council is given to the young, well educated people in my jurisdiction, a lot of them landless. Those young men really are not in-



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