

After a historical survey, Dr. Kaye turned to recent developments. He said the discovery that X-rays could be totally reflected at fine glancing angles made it possible to use ruled reflection gratings for the production of X-ray spectra, and so gave a new and fundamental method of measuring X-ray wave-lengths. The method, had, moreover, proved invaluable for exploration of the region of wave-lengths occupying the former gap between the ultra-violet and the X-rays. Interest in those long-wave X-rays had also been evinced in medical circles both for treatment and diagnostic work. Low-voltage X-ray tubes with specially-transparent windows were now available. Incidentally, it would be a convenience to have a "handy" name for the "intermediate" rays. He had suggested that the term "W-rays" would complete the alphabetical sequence between "U V-rays" (ultra-violet rays) and X-rays.

At the other end of the scale, Coolidge's recent experiments with cathode ray tubes excited by nearly a million volts were obviously paving the way to X-rays corresponding to the same order of voltages. Several laboratories in the United States possessed million-volt generators, and there was one in Britain at the National Physical Laboratory which members would see at a demonstration. At Pittsfield the General Electric Company of America had attained to voltages of some five million.

The science of radiology was now of world-wide importance, concluded Dr. Kaye. The manufacturer of radiological equipment no longer occupied the position of instrument maker, but had become a fully-fledged electrical engineer.

### THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

TRANSFER to states of the activities of the Bureau of Indian Affairs dealing with education, medical attention and relief of Indians, a proposal made by the Department of the Interior, would be authorized under House Resolution 7031, which the House Committee on Indian Affairs has favorably reported to the House. According to the *U. S. Daily*, the committee says that the measure while not removing federal protection from the Indians would authorize federal and state cooperation.

The bill was introduced by Representative Leavitt (Rep.), of Great Falls, Montana, chairman of the committee, and is similar to H. R. 6075, introduced by Representative Kelly (Rep.) of Pittsburgh, Pa. The proposal has the approval of the Bureau of the Budget.

Its purposes are set out in a letter, made public by the committee, from the former Secretary of the

Interior, Hubert Work, to Chairman Leavitt, dated January 13, 1928, as follows:

I have the honor to reply to your requests of December 14 for reports on H. R. 7031 and H. R. 6075, both of which cover proposed arrangements for the transfer to states of activities of the Indian Bureau dealing with education, medical attention and relief of Indians. Inasmuch as the bills are identical in purpose and substantially identical in language, it is felt that both may be covered in a single report.

The principle underlying the proposed legislation is in agreement with my belief that the time has arrived when states directly interested in the civilization and advancement of Indians should begin to assume a greater degree of responsibility for Indian affairs, especially in the matter of directing the activities specifically mentioned in the bills under consideration. In several specific statements, including reports on legislation having the same general objective, introduced during sessions of the Sixty-ninth Congress, and in recent annual reports to the president, I have expressed this view.

A number of states directly concerned have given indications of a disposition favorable to the proposal and there appears to be little reason to doubt that their attitude in the matter be regarded as indicative of a general willingness on the part of the state authorities to assume further responsibility in the administration of Indian affairs.

The proposed legislation has my approval and I recommend that it be enacted into law.

Under date of January 4, 1928, the Bureau of the Budget advised that this report is not in conflict with the financial program of the president.

In its report the committee states:

For a number of years those constructively interested in the welfare of the Indians have been growing in the belief that it should be made possible for such states having considerable Indian population as have developed efficient agencies to deal with health and educational problems and to relieve distress among the indigent to give the benefit of such agencies to their Indian population as well as to the white.

Already some states, notably Minnesota, are giving attention to the health of the Indians, not only for the sake of the Indians but for the protection of the people generally. Dr. Guthrie, the head of the Indian health work and a trained officer of the Bureau of Public Health, has testified to the great value of such cooperation. In many of the states the Federal government has been paying tuition for the education of Indian children in the public schools, this over a sufficient period of years to demonstrate its unquestioned value.

At its last session the Legislature of Wisconsin enacted a law authorizing the government to enter into contracts with the federal government for the education, health, relief of indigency and promotion of agriculture among Wisconsin Indians, thus leading the way for legislative enactments by such states as so desire to enable them to cooperate in like manner.