

"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." – Voltaire

A Wall—

Victor Allen on Communication

(Editor's Note: Early last month, Victor Allen, an Eskimo living at Inuvik, N.W.T., addressed the Fourth National Northern Resources Conference on the theme of Man and the North held in Edmonton, Alta. The following is an excerpt from the speech. The subject is communication.)

By Victor Allen
Inuvik, N.W.T.

One thing more and then I will leave this matter of education. My people do not understand what is happening.

This conference is about Northern Development. This conference is about Man and Northern Development. To me Northern Development means men working together,— my people, Indian people, Metis people, from the south, all all Canadians, working together. We should develop the North together.

But people from the south and government administrators are not getting through to the native people. This is where much of the trouble is right now. But I know that the minute you get through things will be a lot better in the North. We'll all know where we're going. The native people of the Territories will feel better right away the minute you get through. They will feel encouraged. These people want to do things with you but when you don't get through—then you've got a wall.