

Canadian Justice Rules Indian Has Right to Drink as Others

Indians have as much right to get drunk as any one else? They didn't in Canada until last week.

Mr. Justice William Morrow of the Territorial Court of Northwest Territories ruled in an appeal case that a Yellowknife Indian, Joseph Drybones, has as much right to get tipsy as the next man. He ordered a \$10 fine and costs refunded to Mr. Drybones.

Under the Canadian Indian Act, Indians may not become intoxicated off a reserve.

Indians living in the north are treated differently not only from white men, but also from Eskimos, the judge said in a written decision released last Thursday, according to the Whitehorse Yukon Star. The act places an Indian because

of his race or color in a different position to that of his fellow Canadians.

Mr. Drybones pleaded guilty April 10 to the charge. He doesn't understand English and sat through his appeal without motion or sound.