

CLERIC LEADS FIGHT ON INDIAN EVICTION

The fight to re-open the little Indian school on the Poosepatuck Reservation at Mastick, Suffolk, may be carried to Albany.

This was indicated after the Rev. Ernest E. Eells of East Hampton, Suffolk, visited the reservation and urged Indians to present their case to Frank P. Graves, State Commissioner of Education. He also advised them to present it before the Brookhaven Town Board.

The school was attended by nine Poosepatuck children who, as a result of a recent school district vote, apparently will have to attend the public school at Moriches in the Fall.

Closing of the school, the Rev. Mr. Eells charged, is the first step of the State to deprive the Poosepatuck Indians of their homes and their reservation. Dispersal of the Indians, he said, would be a "historic calamity." He appealed for the aid of interested citizens.

Assemblyman John G. Downs, the Rev. Noe Eells disclosed, has

promised his aid in bringing the matter to the attention of the committee on education of the Legislature.

In his appeal to the Indian residents on the reservation, the Rev. Eells declared that "with the loss of this school goes the loss of your homes, your church and the sacred bit of God's Acre where your ancestors have been buried for 235 years."

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