

The Saskatchewan

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REGINA, Sask.

INDIAN

The Saskatchewan Indian

Vol. 2 No. 8

October 1971

Dubois, Carriere and

Dance troupe performs at Ontario Place



Top Row: L - R Ken Goodwill, Bill McNabb, Gordon Tootoosis, James Peigan, George Saddleback, Harvey Yuzicapi, Wayne Goodwill. 2nd Row: L - R Jean Goodwill, Irene V. Tootoosis, Irene B. Tootoosis, Wilfred Tootoosis, Joe Saddleback. Kneeling: L - R Bob Cappo, Bill Peigan, Ed La Vallee, John Yesno (is not member of the troupe but he was the producer of overall show) The Canadian Prairie Inter-tribal Dance Troupe are shown above. The troupe travelled east to Toronto early October and performed at Ontario Place breaking attendance records. The same troupe performed at Expo '67 and made a European Tour.

Standing elected to Executive

Two former Board members and a newcomer were successful in their bid to represent their people on the F.S.I. Executive.

Newcomer Ken Carrier was successful in his bid for 3rd Vice-President.

Cy Standing from the Round Plain Reserve, retained his seat as Secretary on the Board of Directors.

For his 3rd successive term, Peter Dubois, from Fort Qu'Appelle, remained as 1st Vice-President.

Noel Starr, from File Hills, opposed Cy Standing and captured 88 votes to Mr. Standing's 114 votes. This was Noel's first attempt at seeking a berth on the F.S.I. Executive. He is currently

Chief on his reserve and no doubt we'll hear from this young man again in the future.

The position for 3rd Vice-President was not so clear-cut. Five individuals contested this position. Edward Bear from Saskatoon, Fred Martel from Waterbury, Ken Carrier from Piapot, and Gerald Wuttnee from Red Pheasant all sought the position of 3rd Vice-President. The final vote was Ed Bear, 40; Fred Martel, 50; Ken Carrier, 52; and Gerald Wuttnee, 47. Making Ken Carrier, a newcomer, a Piapot representative on the Federation Executive.

The position of 3rd Vice-President was originally held (Continued on page 2)

Ask permission first - Bowerman

Indian and Metis Minister, Ted Bowerman, said Wednesday, October 20 that his government would never allow lands set aside for Indian reserves to be staked by foreign or domestic mining interests without permission of Indian bands.

In 1969 the former Liberal government allowed a French

Mining Firm, Mokta, to stake a uranium claim on 980 acres of land which was to have gone to the Fond Du Lac Reserve.

As a result, said Bowerman, the Provincial and Federal government are now unable to transfer the land which both governments had previously agreed would go to the band.

If the land is transferred, it would mean the land accepting a minus claim for land which contains mineral rights which should have gone to the land itself.

"We would never allow such a thing to happen", he said.

In the early 60's, land was set aside for Northern Indians as laid down in the treaties, however the land was never designated. The band in question then decided that they wanted reserves at Stoney Ra-

pids, Fond du Lac and La Loche.

The provincial government was to take steps to preserve this land from mineral exploration by private companies.

The lands were surveyed and maps handed over to federal government which prepared to transfer them to bands.

But in 1969 before transfer was completed, provincial liberals allowed Mokta a special agreement to explore Fond du Lac designated land.

The Province is making sure there are no more special agreements hidden away which would disrupt proper transfer and would like to find a way to give Fond du Lac land back to reserve or at least manage some sort of agreement which would give Indians part of revenue of uranium claim.

Alberta students boycott schools

Over 2,000 students from three Alberta Reserves are currently boycotting classes in an effort to improve conditions on their reserves and to obtain more control over their own education.

The boycott taking place on the Cold Lake, Kehewin and Saddle Lake Reserves has the full sanction and support of the Band Council and the school committees. The boycott currently in its 7th week has been aimed directly at road conditions, housing conditions and unsanitary water supply on the Cold Lake and Kehewin Reserves. These two Reserves also want elementary schools on the reserves. Saddle Lake Reserve boycott is aimed primarily at the establishment of a high school on their reserve.

Russell Moses, special assistant to Indian Affairs Minister, Jean Chretien, visited the Kehewin and Cold Lake

Reserves earlier in September and was so shocked and dismayed at what he saw, he was forced to return to Ottawa and report the situation to his superiors. Before he left however, he accused Indian Affairs in Edmonton of covering up a bad situation.

He told stories of people drinking slough water, contaminated water supplies, living in 20-year-old log homes, generally living well below the poverty line.

At the same time, Mr. Moses was touring the reserves, a young boy from Kehewin was in the hospital at Elk Point, a small town at the south suffering from acute poisoning brought about by contaminated water supply at his home. Also on that reserve in the same area, there were 3 cases of tuberculosis reported last year from the same water

(Continued on page 2)

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Community college for La Ronge

When one thinks of a college, large buildings, classrooms, and a campus come to mind but the proposed Community College in La Ronge offers none of this.

Working under the assumption that training and education are more important than impressive buildings, Jonas Bird and Julie Nagi are out in the community selling the idea to the local members.

The people contacted are very receptive to the idea and some have offered their suggestions as far as course content and setting up the college.

The Community College con-

cept is a new one in which the existing facilities in the community are used. For example, if enough people want a welding course, then a local welding shop is used for the purpose of the course. Local teachers are also used such as handicraft teachers, etc.

This type of teaching trains people in their home community for their own needs.

In the past, people have been sent out to learn trades that are not necessarily for the benefit of the community.

This new type of college in La Ronge will be controlled by the people and for the community.



IMAGINE, THOSE INDIANS WANTING THEIR OWN POLICE FORCE. CAN'T THEY SEE WHAT A GOOD JOB WE'RE DOING IN PREVENTING CRIME? JUST LOOK AT OUR JAILS, THERE FULL OF INDIAN PEOPLE WE'VE ARRESTED. NEXT THING THEY'LL WANT IS THEIR OWN ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Willard Ahemakew '71

(Continued from page 1)

supply.

And charges of the people using their children for their own personal gain are unfounded when one considers the extremely high drop-out rate not only on these reserves but on Indian reserves all across Canada. For example, there was 100% failure rate in the Cold Lake Reserve in grade 9 last year.

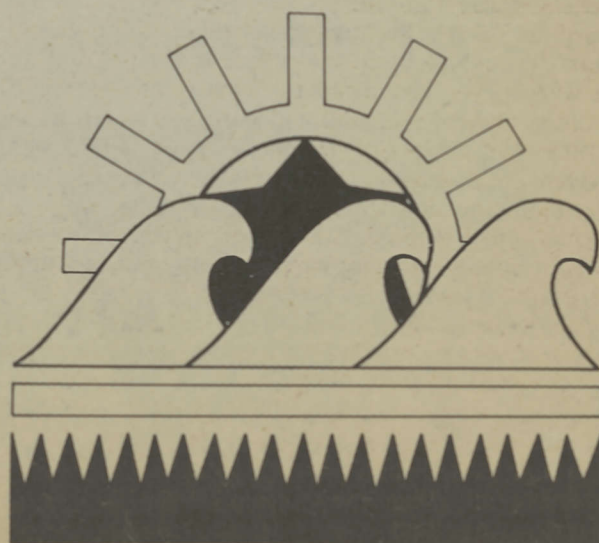
(Continued from page 1)

by Gordon Tootoosis from the Poundmaker Reserve. Gordon did not seek nomination for this election.

It was a close race for Peter Dubois in his bid for 1st Vice-President. His closest competitor being Antoine Cote from the Cote Band, Kamsack. Others who also ran were George Nicotine and Walter Dieter. The final vote: George Nicotine, 29; Walter Dieter,

38; Antoine Cote, 62; and Peter Dubois, 65. Giving Peter a 3rd successive term as 1st Vice-President.

The general voting for the election took the better part of an afternoon, however the actual voting did not take very long as for the 1st time, the voters registered through voting booth according to Districts, thus making the voting much smoother and generally easing congestion.



NEW SYMBOL FOR NEWSPAPER

"The Saskatchewan Indian" has a new symbol to represent the newspaper. From now on this symbol will appear on all our papers as the symbol of the newspaper.

The symbol stands for the treaty promises that were made to us. Each treaty opens with the words "For as long as the sun shines, rivers flow and grass grows."

This then is what our symbol stands for; the grass is on the bottom, the water in the middle and the sun on top.

FSI Executive meet with provincial cabinet ministers



Executive members from the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians and Provincial Cabinet Ministers met for a full afternoon, Friday, October 15. All Cabinet Ministers, except Education Minister, Gordon McMurchy, attended this important meeting.

The major items discussed at this meeting were the Medicare issue and reserve policing. The Premier and his cabinet members also questioned FSI Executive Members about the status of Indian people in Saskatchewan and gained general background in-

formation from the executive.

On the question of Medicare, the government appeared favorable to adopt a policy that has been adopted in Alberta where a treaty card is all that is necessary in obtaining medical assistance, however he did ask that information be sent from Alberta to the Health Minister so that he can act on that information.

In line with reserve policing, Attorney General Minister, Romanow appeared favorable to the question of establishing a special force on reserves. This question however was to be raised at the

annual meeting of the FSI and as such the discussion with the Attorney General was merely for his information and to establish knowledge of the Association and the Attorney General's department.

This meeting with the Provincial Cabinet marks a turning point in relations between the Indian people of this province and the government of this province. In the past, very few Cabinet Ministers from the old Liberal Gov't. had any time to give to Indian people seeking an audience with the elected representatives.

Bits and Pieces

The meeting ended promptly at five — the meeting was going smoothly, the chiefs and councillors were ready to go for another two hours to finish their business when Frank Frey, superintendent of Education for the Saskatoon district looked at his watch, announced it was five p.m. and promptly closed the meeting.

Wouldn't it be nice if everything ran on a nine to five basis, things such as poverty, disease and oppression?

Good-evening Folks — Here's a story told by Allen Ahemakew from Sandy Lake. It seems a trapper in the north left his radio on one morning. When he returned that evening he was surprised to find a bear listening to it. All of a sudden that familiar voice of Harold Ried came over the air. "Good-evening, folks," said Harold. "I understand that prime rates are being paid for bear hides. All you trappers better get out there and get a few bears."

With that the bear turned off the radio and rann off into the bush. That trapper never saw another bear all season.

People travelling on No. 1 Highway in the Sintaluta area should make it a point to drop in on Cora and Bill, who operate a cafe in the hotel. If anything exceeds their generous hospitality, it has to be Cora's most delicious and delightful pies. Bill and Cora are Indians of the Carry the Kettle Reserve. You will be hearing more about this charming and hard-working couple in the November issue of the "Saskatchewan Indian"

The big bull shipper and Chief of Little Black Bear Reserve, Goodeve, Saskatchewan, has some fine pure bred hereford bulls for sale. For more details, contact Mr. Wilfred Bellegarde of Goodeve, Saskatchewan.

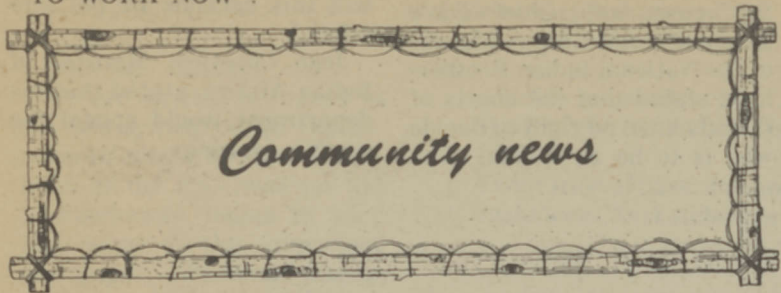
Meru Dieter

THE END OF AN ERA

Early in the horse and buggy days before the ecological balance was upset and Mother Nature was allowed to do her duties without the meddling and interference and the use of harsh and artificial growing aids for the plants of the earth by mankind, the trees, grass, berries and nuts, etc., grew in abundance as the natural growth of this vegetation had qualities like their counterparts — the original habitants of this great country.

Both man and plants acted in the closest partnership as natural conservationists. The trees and plants were natural watersheds catching and holding the water from both rain and snow and using only what was necessary and always returning to Mother Earth any unused material at the end of their producing cycle and man in turn only used what animals and plants that he needed for survival and always thanked the Great Spirit for everything he got. This uninterrupted balance of nature was so delicately balanced that all was not so easy for the native people. There were times when they did have to use all their skills and ingenuity in order to survive. Like any other species of mankind, they must have at times displeased their Great Spirit because it was at these times that the Great Spirit ordered Mother Nature to punish her children. She did this by creating storms, droughts, etc. However, these periods of depression were never prolonged to greatly hurt the people. Better times always returned and with the return of these better times the perfect co-ordination of plant life and weather provided an abundance of growth — the great shade trees with their fine and thick growth of leaves and the grass growing and becoming like a deep and velvety carpet. An adequate supply of plant food and fat and healthy animals assured the natives with plenty of food. However, tranquility and serenity weren't always the order of the day and the end of this near ideal way of life for the native people was soon coming to an end.

It began one hot and humid day when an Indian agent, with his coat off and shirt unbuttoned, fanning himself with his stiff straw hat to ward off the heat as he drove his equally sweating team of horses hitched to his buggy, came upon an Indian Chief sitting on the beautiful grass beneath one of the great shady trees with not a bead of sweat on his brow. The Indian agent began berating this Chief telling him he should not waste his time sitting around and that he should go to work. The Chief asked him why he should have to work. The Indian agent told him so he could make lots of money. The Chief then asked him why he should have to make lots of money. The agent replied that should the Chief go to work and make lots of money, he wouldn't have to work ever again. The Chief answered: "I DON'T HAVE TO WORK NOW".



Community news

Driver education at the reserve level

Thirty-six residents of the Gordons Reserve near Punichy are currently enrolled in a Driver Education Course on their Reserve.

The Course is being conducted by the Van - X Driver Training School Ltd. of Yorkton. The trainees wrote their tests for Learners licenses, September 13 and on the 29th, they took their road tests.

If you are interested in holding a Driver Education Course on your reserve, here is how to go about it.

You will need 25 trainees to make a class. Each one pays \$10.00 when he enrolls.

When you are sure of 25 paid up enrollees, contact the Indian & Metis Branch, Saskatchewan Power Building, Regina. Your Vocational Guidance Counsellor can make this

contact for you.

Once you have your class of 25, the Course can be promptly set up.

Each trainee receives 20 hours of in-classroom training and 8 hours driving practice. The \$10.00 covers the use of the training cars.

In addition to the \$10.00 fee, you will have to pay your own license. This will be \$8.00 if you are over 25 and \$10.00 if you are under 25. If you already have your Learners Licenses, the entire course will cost only \$10.00. The Indian & Metis Branch assumes the rest of the cost.

Considering the amount and value of training, and also that a licensed driver is an insured driver, it would be well worth while looking into the possibility of bringing this training to your reserve.

Kinookinow beach

The Kinookinow Beach Association was formed by the seven Bands who are co-owners of this valuable piece of land located on the southwest shores of Last Mountain Lake. It consists of twelve hundred and forty acres of prime parkland.

The Little Arm Lake adjoining Last Mountain Lake is contained wholly within this land. The natural growth of trees and hedges make for above-average spots for a campsite, cabin area and a recreational centre. It was these commutations of natural aspects of this place that prompted these enterprising citizens of these Bands to form the Kinookimow Beach Association.

After approaching various government agents, both federal and provincial, and other private concerns, enough funds were acquired to launch this very ambitious project. Engineers, consultants, surveyors, etc., were first hired, but funds still caused some problems; however, as the feasibility of this project became evident, funds were more readily available.

Some minor problems were encountered with the labour but this was also solved. At this time the work is progressing well into the first phase. A more detailed report will be appearing in future editions of this paper.

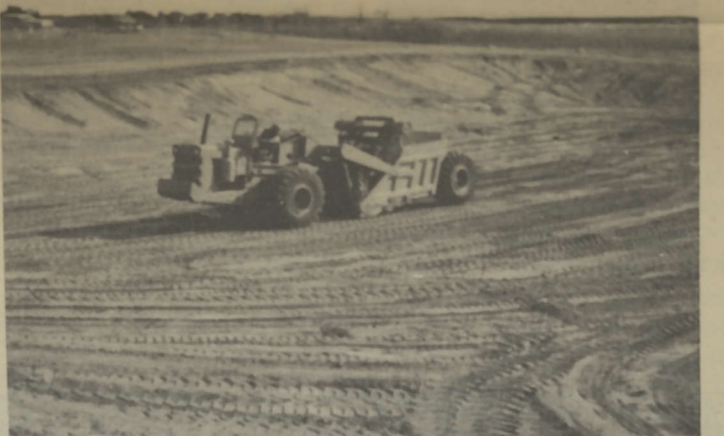
There are seven members on the Board — they are as follows: Hilliard McNab of Gordon's Reserve — President, Stanley Pasqua of Pasqua Reserve — Vice-President, Lucian Bruce of Muscowequan Reserve — Secretary, John Skeeboos of Poorman's Reserve, Leonard Buffalo of Day Star Reserve, Thomas Kaisowatum of Piapot Reserve and, William Pratt of Muscowepung Reserve.



Settle arm site for future beach and commercial area. Stores, concession etc.



George John of Pasqua Reserve tree planting on the south side of office.



Edward Wolf of the Muscowigun Reserve operating machine in sewer lagoon.

Thunderchild school committee awards students

Nine Indian students of Thunderchild Reserve, attending Turtleford School, were given awards totalling \$150.00 by the Thunderchild School committee. The students were chosen by the school as best all round students not only by attendance but also by class co-operation, ability, courtesy, and final marks. Thirty band members attended the awards day, October 11, at the Thunderchild band office.

The Thunderchild School Committee had set aside the money budgeting \$15.00 per student from grades 1 — 6 and \$30.00 each for grades 7 and 8. The award winners for 1970 - 71 season are as

follows: Grade I — Karen Okanee, radio; Grade II — James Snakeskin, skates; Grade III — Linda Okanee, camera and \$12.00; Grade IV — Eldon Okanee, watch and \$5.00;

Grade V — Barbara Paddy — watch and \$5.00; Grade VI — Cynthia Wapass, \$7.50, split with Linda Frenchman also receiving \$7.50; Grade VII — Jerry Okanee, watch and \$5.00;

Grade VIII — Shirley Ann Weeskusk, watch and \$13.05.

Secretary for the School Committee, Hervina Angus reported that they still had \$400.00 in the treasury. They are planning to organize educational trips for the Thunderchild students. She also

expressed hopes of forming an all Indian Girls hockey team this winter.

The Committee recently sponsored four boys to attend a hockey school. The Department of Indian Affairs also subsidized half of the costs. Attending the hockey school were Ken Awassis, Charles Paddy, Harrison Thunderchild, and Gerry Okanee. The Committee also sponsored two educational tours to the Battlefords Museum.

After the school awards day, the Thanksgiving weekend was ended by Alfred Peechow, chairman, with a brief speech on the topic of education, alcohol, and drugs.

Adding up the totals

How do you assess a political gathering of Indians? Indian politics are a strange and wonderful thing filled with colorful personalities.

Handing out pluses and minuses to the winner and loser is one way. The final score board may look as follows.

Dave Ahenakew deserves a plus, he came on strong, set the mood of the conference and didn't back down from the strong stand he took.

I'd give George Nicotine a minus. His actions lost him a lot of support from the membership at large. On the final day when the chairman called him out of order, the assembly reacted with a hearty round of applause.

Peter Dubois deserves a plus; for a while he looked like a doubtful starter in the first Vice-President race, however he squeezed in and by the end of the conference had done a fine job as chairman.

I'd give both Ken Carrier and Cy Standing pluses because of their election victories and because Ken is a newcomer and because Cy's hard work paid off both for himself and the organization.

The native youth deserve a minus. They demanded time to speak to the assembly and when they finally had their chance, they blew it by giving a poor presentation. Also when they were questioned, they couldn't supply satisfactory answers and the discussion broke down into little more than a shouting match.

And lastly, I'd give Gordon Tootoosis a plus; he didn't seek re-election and left his position for new leadership. Gordon deserves recognition for his work in the past two years so expect to see more of this young man in the future. He also did a great job as Master of Ceremonies for the Banquet.



Willard '71
Ahenakew

AFTER YOU INFILTRATE THE F.S.I. APPLY FOR A POSITION WITH I.A.B. IN OTTAWA.

Youth club organized

A meeting was held at Sweet Grass on October 4, 1971, for the purpose of organizing a Youth Club. About 15 young people attended this meeting. There was also another meeting that was held on October 7, 1971, for the election of officers. The following people were elected: President, Richard Fineday; Vice-President, Verna Atheynum; Secretary, Carma Swimmer; Treasurer, Rona Fineday; Social convenors, Pauline

Chicken and Sylvia Atcheynum.

The young people named their club, The Sweet Grass Progressive Youth Society. The activities of the club will be social functions in the form of dances, bingos, and bake sales, as well as sports activities which will include basketball and volleyball for the winter months. Competition will likely be against the North Battleford Friendship Centre.

Women's rights questioned

The right of an Indian woman to retain her treaty rights has received mixed reaction across Canada.

The case of Jeannette Corbiere Lavell in the Federal court of Canada ruled that "the Indian Act offends the right of such an Indian woman to equality before the law".

It was the first time a Canadian court has applied the 11-year-old Bill of Rights to the issue of sexual equality.

Mrs. Lavell, an Ojibwa, appealed her case after Judge Ben Grossberg resumed in June to order the federal government to reinstate her as a member of the band.

She was removed from the band list in December, 1970, following her marriage, April 1, 1970, to David Lavell, 26, a student at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute in Toronto.

Her appeal was heard by a three-man panel of the federal appeal court — Chief Justice W. R. Jockett and Justices Louis Tratte and A. L. Thurlow.

In replying to the results of this case both Chief Dave Ahenakew and George Manuel of the National Indian Brotherhood stated that the courts of Canada have no right to decide who is to be an Indian. The

decision lies with the Chief and band council of the reserve.

Harold Cardinal, Chief of the Indian Association of Alberta, stated that the case raised three important points. First, there is the land question: "does the woman's husband have the right to move on to our already crowded reserves; second, what is the status of the children from this marriage?; third, how far back will this decision be put into effect?"

Jean Chretien, Minister of Indian Affairs, stated that his department would appeal the court's decision.

Behind the news

Education issue

Education has been a hot issue with Indian people and chances look good that it will be even hotter in the future.

Traditionally Indian people have had no control over their children's education. The children have either been sent to boarding schools, cutting contact with the parents to a minimum, or else the children were placed in provincial schools where the parents were not involved since one has to be a property owner to hold a seat on the school boards.

This was the major issue behind the pressure to shift from the northern school board to the federal government. The parents in the north aren't in love with Indian Affairs so much that they want education handled by them. They simply want to be involved through school committees and teacher selection, etc.

Parents' control of educa-

tion means a lot to Indian people. In Alberta parents occupied the Blue Quills Boarding School until it was turned over to them to administer, the same basic right that any other Canadian parent has.

Integration, with its many advantages also offers considerable problems. Integration was generally forced upon the people whether they wanted it or not. And all too often it was a one way street leading to assimilation rather than integration.

Problems developed on the school yard and in Indian homes that the Indian Affairs Branch bureaucrats had not bargained for.

Now the trend is reversing. Indian people are asking for elementary schools on the reserve, schools that they control and can add courses in Indian Culture.

But the petty bureaucrats in

Indian Affairs continue to abuse their power and influence. An example of this recently occurred in a nearby reserve. A young boy was refused educational assistance by the Branch. The reason — he would be wasting the taxpayers' money.

How much of the taxpayers' money has been wasted on welfare because our people haven't received a proper education?

I would submit that too much of the taxpayers' money has been wasted in the past paying salaries to useless staff members in Indian Affairs.

Education doesn't stop at the high school level. There are many courses such as upgrading, motor mechanics, Driver Training, etc., that must be made available for the adult population on reserves. If we are to get ahead we must attend all the upgrading and adult education courses that are to our advantage.

The Saskatchewan INDIAN

The monthly Publication of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians.

Editor — Doug Cuthand

Reporter/Artist — Willard Ahenakew

Editorial Board

Sol Sanderson — Chairman

Dave Ahenakew

Gordon Tootoosis

Cy Standing

Henry Langan

Alex Kennedy

This paper is the official voice of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians. It is intended to serve as an effective vehicle for Indian opinion in this province. Signed articles and opinions are the opinions of the individuals concerned and not necessarily those of the Federation.

What do you want the newspaper to do for you?

Newspapers are different things to different people. Some read newspapers to gain information of what is happening in the world around them. Others look for coming events and things that are happening in the future. And yet others use newspapers to gain publicity for problems facing their community.

Whatever the newspaper, "The Saskatchewan Indian", becomes depends on you, the reader. Let us know what you would like us to print and we will try and oblige.

Here is a breakdown of some of our regular features. If you feel you can add something or write an article please write to us.

Editorial Page

On this page we will outline the position that the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians is taking on current issues. This is the page where we look at the news and analyze it. Also the Chief of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians will write a monthly column for this page in which his views will be stated.

We invite our readers to send in their comments and views. We will run guest editorials when available and also we will attempt to print all letters we have room for. Letters to the editor must be signed. If you wish to remain anonymous please specify and your name will not be printed. The letter must be signed or else they cannot be printed.

The editorial policy of the newspaper is to support the policies and programs of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians. This is not to pick out differing opinions. We must allow for free and open discussion otherwise we are not serving the Indian people in their best interests. Signed articles and editorials are not necessarily the opinion of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians but rather those of the individuals concerned.

Women's Page

We are making space available so the women's organization and local urban groups will be able to put their points of view forward. We will also print articles and information of interest to Indian women. If your group would like to give us some information please let us know.

Sports Page
We find sports news is a widely read part of the paper. People are interested in sports events. As well as covering tournaments and other sports events we hope to do stories on Indian sports personalities and any item of interest in the sporting world.

Classified Advertising

This is a free service to Indian people. If you have any item you wish to advertise please send us your ad. We will publicize coming events, announcements and miscellaneous advertising.

Children's Page

Very often political organizations tend to forget to involve our younger people in the programs. We hope to run little contests and print children stories for the benefit of our young people.

People Corner

We hope to run a regular feature on plain ordinary gar-

den variety Indians, all those so called "little people" out there. We welcome suggestions and information. All we require is a picture and a short story about what this person or persons are doing.

As well as the regular features already mentioned we hope to cover community news, news from the rest of Canada. Cree syllabics and letters to the Editor.

It is important to remember that we are nothing without your help. This paper must become much more than simply the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians paper. This paper must become the people's paper.

Newspapers traditionally are both a public watchdog and a public conscience. That is to say that newspapers watch and see that the people are treated properly otherwise they write about it, also if things are not right the newspaper reflects the conscience of the people.

A newspaper is a very important tool for social change. Please use it to your advantage.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Mr. Cuthand:

We are writing in regard to the new symbol which you announced would be used henceforth as the masthead for the Saskatchewan Indian in your last issue of this important newspaper. We would like to offer these views about it.

First of all the symbol appears altogether too harsh and has no resemblance to any native artistic symbols that we have seen. To put it more correctly it appears very un-Indian.

We know that we live on the prairies, the wheat belt of Canada, and perhaps the artist of this particular symbol was trying to convey this message, because the symbol to us is trying to say something about machinery. Like farm implements for instance. The bottom part you say represents the grass, appears much like the knives of a swather. The part which is supposed to represent the water looks too much like the shoes of a cultivator and the sun appears altogether too dead. It looks more like the hundreds of cogs used in a combine. The sun to us is very alive. It is a life giving force for almost everything on earth and a symbol representing it should appear that way also.

Anyway we are sure you must by now have the message

we are trying to convey to you. We do not like your new symbol!!!

We suggest you go to the people for their opinion on the appearance of the symbol.

We congratulate you and your staff on the new format and the new appearance of the newspaper. Continue the good work.

Yours sincerely,

Staff of the Indian Cultural College
Federation of Sask. Indians
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Dear Editor:

For what it's worth, I would like to welcome you back to your ole stomping grounds and, in particular, congratulate you on your new position.

Not that I ignore or discredit the past editor but in light of your efforts for "The Native People", I vision radical improvements for "The Sask. Indian".

Due to circumstances beyond our control we haven't been publishing our quarterly Newscall, however, this should be remedied so that we can resume publication. Hopefully, if time permits, we can solicit your assistance and advice in the layout and other areas related to publication. Perhaps I should inform you that our publication facilities are not exactly contemporary as we're still in the gestetner and stencil era.

The fellows are more than anxious to meet you at the workshop and I'm hopeful that hereafter we can establish a mutual relationship so as to relieve some of the frustrations we encounter in our en-

deavors.

In closing we send our regards to you and the staff in your worthwhile efforts to portray our people in the positive light — "Right-on Brother".

I remain,

In Brotherhood,
Donnie Yellowfly

Dear Editor,

We the members of the American Indian Cultural Group along with our Sponsors wish to extend our thanks to you and your people for sending us your paper. This helps us to keep up on all the matters of all our people.

Our group is one that is found in the island cages of this land (Prison). We are with the confines of a State Prison, but yet our spirit and aid is for our people. We know that the day, night and all living things has a great meaning and this we keep in our hearts. This we use in our daily lives to maintain our ways, we need to know more about our people, for the loss of contact is something that we know well, but yet we do not want to be away from where we belong.

We too put out a newsletter, The Speaking Leaves. We are a small group of Indians here, but we still are with the cause and movement of the right and just treatment that we have as people. It is our effort to help the one we can, not only in this place but also in the free society that we will be going to again. The hardships that face us as Indian Prisoner is one that

can be understood by many of our people. We need help to help ourselves and to provide a good name for ourselves and the people that we are part of. We realize that by doing good on the outside world and by staying out of prisons that the society can say that an Indian is Making It, and not that an Indian has gotten in trouble, Again!!!

We hope that you will send your paper to us and please let the people know that we wish to hear from them and to know their hearts. We will try to answer all letter we can, but if we fail to, we hope that you and others will understand the pain that we are in. A world with two ways, but yet we can not make either road at this time. The day will come, when we will be happy and in the great circle of our people. We end with the power of all living things, the day, night, the great sun, and all that is in the day of an Indian. We end in beauty.

Sincerely Your Brothers
of the AICG,
Martin Cantu, Sec.-Tres.

Brothers:

As Vice-President of the

Native Brotherhood Organization for "Indian & Metis" in the Saskatchewan Penitentiary. I wish to state that the view taken by our leaders regarding Poundmaker's lodge is very unsatisfactory. It was said that their main concern is prevention in regards to crime. I wish to state now, that once we do get Poundmaker's lodge, our primary concern will be the ex-con and the youth who are leading into the direction of crime. We will also be working with other organizations such as Friendship centres, orphanages etc., etc.

It was mentioned at the F.S.I. conference that no harrasment will be tolerated from any other organization such as the Metis. Our organization is Indian & Metis and we don't intend to charge. This is one barrier we have to overcome. Until such time the attitudes change, I feel there will be no headway in any direction. I would emphasize unity, after all we are one people.

Grant Severight,
Indian and Metis
Native Brotherhood

Grand Opening

OF THE

Battleford's Alcoholism Centre

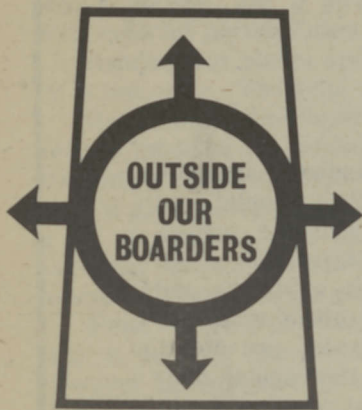
ON

OCTOBER 29, 1971

APPROXIMATELY 2:00 P.M.

THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED - EVERYONE WELCOME

Mercury poisoning of fish threatens Indian way of life



A large proportion of Canada's Indian population in remote areas is probably being poisoned to some extent by the consumption of mercury-contaminated fish.

An official of the federal environment department said "This would be a logical assumption since fish is probably the most important staple food in their diets."

Surveys and tests are being

carried out across the country to determine the extent of the problem.

The official said it could result in "terrible hardships" if it was decided that Indians would have to stop, or greatly reduce, their eating of fish.

A band of Cree Indians in the Lake Waswanipi area, 300 miles north of Montreal, was told to stop eating fish after

it was found that the average content of mercury in their systems was 10 times higher than the national average.

Four members of the band were hospitalized in Montreal for 10 days recently when blood tests showed they had levels of mercury 20 to 30 times higher than the national average.

"Those people were in serious danger of suffering permanent physical and mental damage," the environment official admitted.

The four were kept under observation while their bodies gradually excreted the toxic metal naturally. They were released when further tests showed mercury levels in their blood to be dropping.

For the moment, the Indian affairs department has arranged for alternate foods to be made available to the Waswanipi band.

The Indians face a fundamental change in their life-styles if they will not be able to eat fish in the amounts to which they are accustomed without the risk of mercury poisoning.

On the other hand, generations of people before them have eaten the same species of fish in the same quantities.

What is known is how many may have been harmed in the past by mercury poisoning. The problem has only been recognized in Canada in the last year.

Now that the danger is known it appears the northern natives are going to have to turn to sources of protein other than fish.

Some meat is obtained by hunting and trapping, but not enough is available from this source to make up the difference.

Realistically, there appear to be two alternatives: either the Indians will have to migrate to population centres, or ignore the danger and continue eating fish.

Government officials say it would be impossible to enforce a ban on fishing in the remote areas.

While man-made mercury pollution is being stopped, there apparently has always been naturally occurring high levels of mercury in northern waters due to the rich mineral content of geological strata.

The only thing government officials hope they can do, for the moment at least, is to persuade the northern natives to reduce the amount of fish in their diets as much as possible.

Ravine to yield rice

Five young Ojibway Indians from the nearby Rat Portage Reserve have won a \$1,500 conservation award to carry out a wild rice project on the Lake of the Woods in Ontario.

The five high school students, ranging in age from 15 to 18, received the White Owl Conservation Award Monday, August 30th, and will start to work soon clearing the area.

The young Indians' plan the outline of which won them the award sponsored by the Imperial Tobacco Company is simple.

This fall, while going to school during the week and working only on weekends, the young Indians plan to clear as much of a 10-acre ravine near Bear Point as possible.

They plan to build a dike at the west end of the ravine (the side facing the lake) and flood the area by pumping water into it. In this way they will "water kill" the underbrush that they don't clear and the area will be ready for planting wild rice next spring.

"It's going to work," said Peter Seymour, a community resource officer with the Ontario Indian community development branch.

Peter, who sponsored the five teen-agers in the White Owl award, explained that the wild rice paddy would serve two purposes: The Indians

can sell the wild rice or else use the area to attract hunters.

Wild rice is a delicacy both to humans and ducks and geese.

Once the paddy flourishes, Peter has no doubts that the ducks and geese will return to the area and be the first to start harvesting the 1972 crop.

Wild rice grew wild all around the lake a few years ago. However, when the Ontario power commission started to regulate the lake level, the wild rice died out because of the fluctuating levels.

"Damn power thing," said Peter. "There used to be lots of wild rice but the lake level went up and drowned the rice."

He explained that wild rice flourishes in about six inches to a foot or two of water. That's why the Indians plan to maintain the water level in the ravine by pumping.

Harvesting the rice crop looks easy but is difficult. Using a canoe, the Indians simply bend the rice into the canoe and pound the heads. The ripe rice falls into the bottom of the canoe.

However, not all the rice is ripe at the same time. It's like harvesting fruit. Only the ripe ones can be taken at a given time. The rest must be taken later. This is where the race between ducks, geese and man begins. The ducks

and geese linger in the rice beds feasting each day. The Indians must watch the crop closely and move in at exactly the right time.

Peter said it will be the first "tended" wild rice crop in the Kenora area. Tended wild rice crops are nothing new. Huge acreages in the United States have been planted and have caused the price of wild rice to drop drastically in the past year. However, the Americans are using a different variety of rice and it is not considered as good as the natural wild variety.

In his letter to the White Owl award committee, Peter noted that the marsh "had originally been a high producer of wild rice and other marsh vegetation essential to the sustaining of life of marsh inhabitants (i.e. ducks, geese and marsh birds)." He noted that "indiscriminate flooding" destroyed the natural vegetation.

The project would restore the vegetation and wildlife to the area.

The five young Indians are Randy Seymour, 16, Gene Seymour, 18, Stanley John, 17, Walter Skead, 16, and 15-year-old Louie Seymour.

David Marshall, midwest region general manager for the Imperial Tobacco Company, presented the cheque to the young Indians. It will be used for tools and the pump which will flood the area.

Tony Belcourt, the President of the Native Council of Canada, a Federation of Non-Status Indian and Metis Associations across Canada said that "it is important and mandatory that Friendship Centres do (nationally) agree on a basis from which they will work. However, I am not fully convinced that the Government will turn around and support Centres wholeheartedly."

Addressing a National Con-

Indians get new wage deal

The federal department of Indian Affairs has approved a work-incentive program for New Brunswick Indians that will give them a better income. Anthony Francis, President of the Union of New Brunswick Indians, said.

Mr. Francis of Big Cove said the program is aimed at Indians receiving welfare. Mr. Francis said the program was brought up and recommended at the Association's

annual meeting and was later approved by the regional office of the Indian Affairs Department in Amherst.

The program will be one year pilot project, he said.

Beginning September 1st, an Indian on welfare can obtain work with only 50 per cent of his take-home pay being deducted from his welfare payment. Before, 100 per cent of the net wages were deducted from welfare payments.

N.D.P. wants Indians in Ontario Delegation

Indians would be included in Ontario delegations to future federal-provincial constitutional conferences if the New Democratic Party won the October 21st provincial election, party leader Stephen Lewis said recently.

He also promised to intervene formally with the federal government to get Indian treaty rights fully resolved.

Lewis postponed a scheduled visit to North Bay and instead accepted an invitation to a meeting of the south-western region chiefs of the Union of Ontario Indians, held on the Saugeen Indian Reserve 18 miles west of Owen Sound.

Chairman Lyle Riley, region vice-president, told the dozen assembled chiefs that Lewis' policy "conforms to my way of thinking."

He invited the NDP leader to

the Indian Union's general assembly at Cornwall next month.

Lewis said the Ontario government's "casual indifference" towards Indians has been one of the saddest episodes in his eight years in the Legislature.

"The Indians of this province, in fact of all Canada, are fully justified in their sense of frustration and alienation," he said.

"It is an alienation for which no single political party or government is responsible. Rather, it is the collective people of this country who must accept their responsibility for isolating the Indian — for preventing him from sharing the opportunities open to the vast majority of our citizens and residents."

Appeal on Aboriginal rights

Do Indians hold a legal claim over vast parts of Canada, including all of Quebec, by reason of aboriginal rights?

The Supreme Court of Canada will provide at least a partial answer in late November when it hears an appeal by the Nishga Indians who seek

a declaration that they are owners of 4,000 square miles of land in northwest British Columbia because of their long-time occupation in it.

One of the reasons Indians rejected a new Federal policy on Indians was because of its silence on aboriginal rights.

Metis leader speaks

ference of Friendship Centres in Edmonton on September 14 he further stated that "it is important here to realize that there is not, nor should there be, any conflict of jurisdiction between the proper activities of the friendship centres on the one hand and the native organizations on the other. Indeed, the best interests of native people can be served only if these two kinds

of organizations co-operate with and support each other. The first step towards co-operation and communication is for our associations and friendship centres to hold discussions aimed at defining ways in which they can be of mutual help, and also for the purpose of agreeing on their respective spheres of activity. The native organizations themselves have an obligation to ensure that their membership knows about the services at the Friendship Centres, uses them and supports them in the important community service they offer."

Concluding, he stated, "certainly we support friendship centres, for us to deny our own people the right to involvement in their own way through friendship centres would be tantamount to cutting our throat."

Program battles alcohol

Solving a problem common among Natives through education in the dangers of alcohol is a primary objective of a new alcoholic-prevention program based in Edmonton. In so doing, Native Counselling Services hopes to eliminate a negative image often attached to natives — that of a drunken Indian consuming a bottle of rubbing alcohol.

The program, formerly known as the Native Court Workers Association, is under the direction of Chester Cunningham, himself a Metis.

"We found, while aiding these people through our work in the courts, that 90 per cent of them were there because of an alcohol problem," Mr. Cunningham said. Deciding to get at the root of the problem he has been conducting alcohol education workshops since spring in various reservations and Metis colonies. With possible funding from the federal and provincial governments to help pay the \$341,000 annual budget, Mr. Cunningham hopes to have six alcohol workers assisting in setting up educational programs on the reserves and colonies. Three will be based in Edmonton and work the northern half of the province.

and three will work from Calgary.

"Our approach is rather different from any other group because we are stressing prevention. We're going to various towns with films and pamphlets. We're not telling the native person not to drink but rather show them what liquor does to them," Mr. Cunningham said.

As part of the alcohol program the workers will also meet with glue sniffing, an increasing problem on the reserves.

"Even some of the adults have started sniffing; it's a lot cheaper than buying liquor."

Why do Native people drink to the extent that it has been called their greatest social problem?

"Possibly because liquor, for the Indian as well as others, is a crutch which can be used for different things."

"A lot of them drink a few bottles and feel equal. It's a source of courage for them," Mr. Cunningham said.

Boredom resulting from a lack of recreational facilities on most reserves and colonies leads the native to drink as well, he added.

By attempting to solve the

alcohol problem on the reserve, Mr. Cunningham hopes to lower the case load on his court worker program.

"Most crimes committed by the native person are caused by a need for liquor or as a result of consuming it," he explained.

The program will be geared to the entire community being served. "We hope we can get into the schools and at the kids. Maybe they'll go home and apply a little pressure to their parents to stop drinking."

Existing facilities, such as the alcohol commission offices, Henwood and Belmont, have failed as far as curing the native person of this problem is concerned, Mr. Cunningham said.

Natives are often frightened by the type of environment provided in places like Belmont and Henwood, although officials from both institutions have expressed keen interest in the new approach.

"What we would like to see in Henwood is a native counsellor, not to work only with natives, of course, but to be available if a native wants to talk," Mr. Cunningham said.

National association formed

Recognizing the need for a co-ordinating body to present the common concerns and opinions of all Friendship Centres to the two senior levels of Government and to other appropriate Provincial and National organizations through normal democratic channels, representatives of Canada's thirty-five centres organized the National Association of Friendship Centres.

Founded at a conference held in Edmonton the week of September 13, the Association is headed by a ten member Board of Directors, two representatives per province which have Friendship Centres. The Board Executive is comprised at one member per province: President R. Obomsowin (Ont.); 1st Vice-President Walter Schoenthal (Man.); and Treasurer A. Wolfleg (Alta.). The other Saskatchewan Board Member is Cliff Starr of Prince Albert, who is also Communications Director for the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians.

Deputy Minister named

John B. Caccia, 38, has been appointed assistant deputy minister in charge of the Indian and Eskimo Affairs program for the Indian Affairs and Northern Development Department.

Mr. Caccia, a partner in a Montreal law firm, succeeds Jean Bergevin who became senior assistant deputy minister in the Health and Welfare Department.

Alcoholism drug centre opened

The Board of Directors of the Battleford's Alcoholism Centre are proud to announce that they have opened an Alcoholism and Drug Rehabilitation Centre in the town of St. Walburg in northwestern Saskatchewan.

The centre was opened on Monday, October 4, 1971. The Alcoholism Rehabilitation Program at the Treatment Centre will be geared for Native people. It will be in the form of lectures, group therapy, visual instruction, AA meetings, AA literature. Counselling services will also be available. The whole program will be converted into the Cree language for the benefit of Native people with inadequate academic education.

This new project is just the beginning of a planned extensive program which will require staff and personnel trained in the field of alcoholism. All staff and personnel at this Treatment Centre will be of Indian and Native descent with a thorough understanding of the Cree language which is the Mother tongue

in this area.

Further information about the Alcoholism Treatment Centre and admission procedures will be mailed out to all Chiefs and Councillors, Band offices, Social Workers, and other interested agencies within the Battleford area.

Staff and personnel from the centre will be visiting each Reserve to inform people of the centre and its program.

The Board of Directors of the Battlefords Alcoholism Centre would appreciate any monies and donations from individual Bands and Reserves within the Battleford area. They would welcome co-operation from all organizations, Chiefs and Council and other interested agencies. Cheques or cash contributions may be mailed to the Board of Directors; and to the account of:

Battlefords Alcoholism Centre, Box 160, St. Walburg, Saskatchewan. c/o Mr. Andrew Paddy, Co-ordinator of Battlefords Alcoholism Centre. Telephone No. 248,3612 or 248-9290.

Fort Nelson Band find compensation unsatisfactory

Fort Nelson, B.C. — The Pacific Great Eastern Railway which crosses over the Fort Nelson Band in Northern British Columbia is currently a matter of controversy. The matter came to a head recently when Premier Bennett officially opened the new railway. Indians of the Fort Nelson band are dissatisfied with the compensation offered by the provincial government-owned railway and have refused to sign over title to a six-mile section of right-of-way that crosses their reservation seven miles south of here.

They had put up a barricade to turn back the Bennett train and another carrying dignitaries to ceremonies marking the extension of the PGE from Fort St. John, 253 miles to the south.

Hurried negotiations by PGE brass got them to clear the track and railway officials heaved a sigh of relief.

But when the Bennett special chuffed up to a bridge across the Fort Nelson River on the reserve the brakes went on and the train shuddered to a halt on the still-unballasted track.

There was a new barricade, this time built of paper signs stretched across the track.

"No trespassing, private property," the signs declared.

After a brief pause while

PGE officials sized up the situation and the pilot speeder cleared the signs away, the train crept ahead. The signs were put up again afterwards.

The Indian band passed a resolution authorizing construction of the track through the reservation, but refused to sign over the right-of-way because they have not been able to come to terms with the railway on price.

Band Chief Harry Dickey said the barricade was put up to draw attention to efforts by the band over two years to get a satisfactory settlement.

PGE land chief Gordon Ritchie, who left the Bennett train and flew to Fort Nelson by helicopter to straighten things out, said arrangements had been made with the band to let the trains through.

He didn't give details of the arrangements, and some of the Indians were muttering as though the incident wasn't over yet.

Bennett himself, in the last car of the inaugural train, did not even appear to be aware of the cause for the delay at the bridge.

PGE general manager Joe Broadbent said the Indians appeared to be upset because they did not get satisfactory compensation for construction of the Alaska Highway through their land, and don't want a repeat of the situation.

540 CBK

FIRST ON YOUR RADIO DIAL

NORTH COUNTRY FAIR

**SATURDAY
6-7:00 P.M.**

Produced by the CBC in conjunction with
THE EXTENSION DEPARTMENT,
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

HOSTS:

**Harry Bird
Dorothy Francis
Joseph Pelletier**

A one-hour program which will present information, features and music of interest to the Indian and Metis population of Saskatchewan

Join our company

A PICTORIAL VISIT TO THE NORTHERN SETTLEMENTS OF FOND DU LAC OF BLACK LAKE



70-year-old Mrs. Helen La Ball, from Fond Du Lac, tanning a moose hide while her grandson Peter looks on.



Because of the vast distances travelled to get to trap lines, dog teams are still favored over the power toboggan, because there is always the possibility of a power toboggan breaking down.



Since there are no roads connecting the remote northern communities to the southern populated centers, the airplane is relied on heavily for transportation and shipping of building materials and store goods.



The first house built in the settlement of Fond Du Lac. It is believed to be around 70 years old.



The kindergarten class in the settlement of Black Lake is seen here with their teacher Miss F. Hatch (right) and teacher aid Emily Robbillard, a member of the Black Lake Band.



Dry wood around the northern settlements is scarce. Since it is still the major source of fuel, it has to be cut well ahead of time then dried in this fashion.

F.S.I. Annual Conference



Registration for the three day conference began promptly at 8:30 on Tuesday. Over 260 delegates registered.



Translation was available in both Cree and English. Here Gordon Ahenakew provides the translation in Cree.



Community Development worker George Mercredi translates in Chipewyan for Chief and Senate member, Louis Dhitheda.



The opening speech by Chief Dave Ahenakew focused on alleged cases of outside interference toward the organization (see story this page).

Chief lashes out at Metis interference

In a hard hitting address to the annual assembly of the F.S.I., Chief Dave Ahenakew accused the Metis Society of Saskatchewan of interference with the activities of the Federation.

Hitting first at the Native youth project, a youth organization from Regina, the Chief referred to them as mindless militants who were unable to conduct themselves properly.

He then referred to a meeting between the Native Youth and the Federation Executive earlier on.

"This group", he stated, "failed to provide meaningful discussion and tried to use the politics of confrontation on their own people."

"We have learned a lesson and will not tolerate this type of program. Why doesn't this organization put some of their energies for the good of the people", the Chief concluded.

Continuing his attack, he cited three areas in which the Metis Society had interfered with the Federation.

The Metis Society has taken over the NAC Native Alcohol Council program). This program works in opposition to the F.S.I. The Metis Society actively supports a pro-

gram that is openly hostile to the F.S.I.

"The Metis Society also accuses us of not representing the grass-roots people, however we work through and represent the Chief and Council." I would submit to the Metis Society that if that isn't working at the grass-roots level, then I don't know what is."

Citing the final incident of interference the Chief stated that the Metis Society had sent a reporter to the conference and will send the same reporter to the reserves to assess the political situation.

"I would urge chiefs and councils not to admit this person into their reserves."

"We have a strong organization with the support of all levels of government and certain church organizations", the Chief said.

In his speech the Chief also mentioned the executive meeting with the Provincial Cabinet in which the Medicare problem was discussed and the proposal for reserve policing.

"Law and order are rapidly deteriorating on reserves." The most law abiding citizens of yesterday are now filling this country's jails.



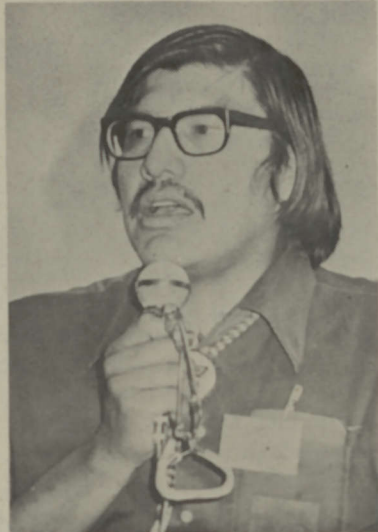
Henry Langa, Treasurer, presented the financial report.

F.S.I. EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS

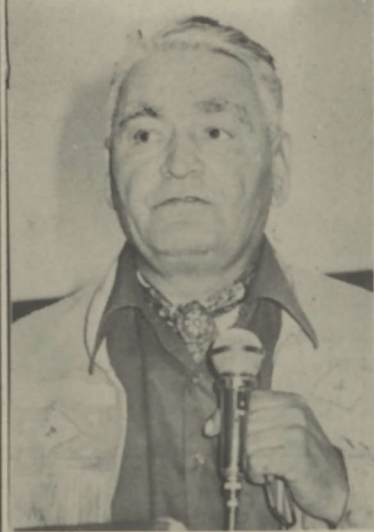
NOMINEES FOR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



NOEL STARBLANKET



CY STANDING



WALTER DIETER



PETER DUBOIS



TONY COTE

NOMINEES FOR FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

NOMINEES FOR THIRD VICE PRESIDENT



KEN CARRIERE



FRED MARTELL



GERALD WUTTUNEE



EDWARD BEAR



GEORGE NICOTINE



Voting was done by districts and went smoothly without any serious delays.

PEOPLE AT THE CONFERENCE



Sol Sanderson, special assistant to the Chief, presented the report on reserve policing and proposed that a special force be set up.



Ken Goodwill, Director of Cultural Centre, presenting his annual report to the delegations.



Harold Cardinal, Chief of the Alberta Indian Association, addressing the delegation.



Bruce Fotheringham, legal advisor to the FSI was at hand to clarify legal points that rose during the discussion.



Representatives from the Indian Association of Alberta took part in the meeting on the last day, here Eugene Steinbauer speaks while Eddy Bellerose listens.



Art Obey, Director of Sports and Recreation, reported on the structure and progress of the F.S.I. Recreation Program.



On behalf of the Indian people of Saskatchewan Chief Dave Ahenakew presented Premier Allan Blakeney with a beaded necklace.



"When Dave Ahenakew took over as Chief of the F.S.I. he found his office in a mess — 'When I took over the N.I.B. I found my office in a mess and I am sure Mr. Premier that when you took over the government of this province you found your office in a mess.'"

N.I.B. President addresses Annual Conference



Chief David Ahenakew welcomed Premier Blakeney to the conference.

"The only time we really win is when we stand together", George Manuel, President of National Indian Brotherhood told the delegates to the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians Annual Conference.

"In our early history, we were divided and approached the government only on tribal basis," he continued.

"There is a struggle ahead and unity is necessary." Using the Medicare boycott in Alberta as an example he said that Alberta stood together and as a result no Indian in Alberta pays for medicare premiums. However, he went on to say, "Alberta isn't a win, only a temporary win. A legal commitment is necessary before we have a complete win." Continuing on

his theme of unity, Mr. Manuel stated "We only represent 1 1/2% of the population. We have to stand together all across Canada if we are to seek victory."

"The basic struggle for all Indian people across Canada is to get our people off Welfare. We must create Economic Development to get our people jobs in our own country. The wealth of Canada is passed on to other countries. The wealth of Canada is passed on in the form of foreign aid and loans to other countries. It is also passed on in the form of raw materials being imported from the country."

Mr. Manuel then stated the aims and the role that National Indian Brotherhood plays in the Indian movement across

Canada. At the present time there are 17 people working in the National office involved in compiling research and informing the Provincial organizations what is happening in Parliament Hill as regards Indian people.

The National Indian Brotherhood is a two fold organization. First, it is a lobbying organization, the organization is stationed in Ottawa and is able to exert pressure to governments and have legislation changed, amended or brought forward for the benefit of Indian people.

The other role, the organization plays is in compiling research through the national archives and through the other sources available in Ottawa to make available to other organizations across Canada for their treaty and aboriginal rights research.



Entertainment for the evening was provided by Ivan McNabb, Harry Bird and Delores Mcleod. Here Harry Bird entertains with a song.



In his speech Premier Blakeney stressed the need for Indian people to determine their own destiny. He confirmed his party's stand taken during the election and pledged his support to the native cause. The premier also announced a \$500,000.00 training centre to be built in the Meadow Lake area. He also pledged financial support for treaty research.

An Interview with . . .

Ted Bowerman

Ted Bowerman, the M.L.A. for the Shellbrook constituency is the present cabinet minister in charge of the Indian-Metis Department. Mr. Bowerman brings with him previous experiences with Indian people. He was formerly with the D.N.R., a water bomber pilot and four years in the opposition.

Saskatchewan Indian — "Mr. Bowerman, many people feel that you inherited a white elephant in the Indian and Metis Department. It has been referred to as window dressing rather than serious human resource development. How do you feel about what it has been and what it can become?"

Mr. Bowerman — "I'm on record in the legislature when the bill was brought in for the establishment of the Indian Metis Department. I was opposed to the Department because we didn't know what structure or form it would take, but I felt that there really hadn't been enough consultation with Indian people and there hadn't been a fair discussion of the approaches that would be taken. Therefore, I said that I was opposed to it and our party generally did not favour it."

We said in our platform of the 1971 election that we would do away with the Department if — after consultation with the Indian and Metis people — they decided that they didn't want the Department, that we would be very happy to do away with it."

Saskatchewan Indian — "What would you personally like to see the Department become?"

Mr. Bowerman — "I have written to both the Metis Society and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians asking for their suggestions to what they see as the potential for this new structure and I hope to have the opportunity to sit down and review their potentials in the future."

I personally would like to see a program or organization more accessible to the public and more able to receive and involve people in the setting up of program. I am thinking of something more along the line of the Alberta Human Resource Development authority."

Saskatchewan Indian — "The provincial adult education program has been under attack by the students particularly in the Cutbank Training Centre. What changes do you propose to make in that situation?"

Mr. Bowerman — "We're presently going through a review at Cutbank. I believe that Cutbank was put together in extreme haste. I don't know of any Indian people that were really consulted about the establishment of Cutbank as an Indian Training, Upgrading and Work Centre. Therefore the problem is just now coming out with regard to the operation, the objectives and what Cutbank is really designed to be. We have invited Sask. Newstart and they have accepted to undertake some negotiation

and discuss with the people at the Centre to try and lay out terms of reference and generally assess the whole project."

Saskatchewan Indian — "In some cases Indian people have occupied educational facilities and had them placed under their control. Two examples being the Lac La Biche Newstart Centre and the Blue Quills Residential School near St. Paul, Alberta. How do you feel about this sort of movement toward educational self control?"

Mr. Bowerman — "Fine. I would be very happy to see it done. That's why we've invited Newstart in. We want to involve the people at the centre, both the staff and the students that are there. We want to set down new precise objectives that presently exist and the type of training that the people want. We would like to work out something on the basis where people could administer and undertake this project and manage it on their own."

Saskatchewan Indian — "One of the main issues in the Liberal's Campaign was the Dore Lake Pulp Mill and the whole matter of bringing capital into the north to develop primary industries. This was opposed by your party and the mill was subsequently scrapped. What do you see as an alternative for people in that area, who are for the most part on Welfare and unemployed?"

Mr. Bowerman — "We are presently involving ourselves in trying to more accurately define our principles for northern development. A very critical point in the development of the north is developing it for who and by whom. We are attempting to put into program those type of projects that will be employing a fair number of people."

We are hoping to involve the people of the north in helping us decide what program would be useful."

We could go on to talk about the aspects of northern development but we haven't yet had them approved by the cabinet so I would be rushing it now if I were to make any announcement in detailed form."

Saskatchewan Indian — "As well as the north a lot of southern reserves are economically depressed. Does your department or the government have any grants available for co-operatives such as farming co-ops or cattle co-ops?"

Mr. Bowerman — "Yes, we do, however I am not sure exactly what program of funding is available from our department simply because I haven't been able to give enough

time to that. Usually the approach has been, regarding Indian reserves, that this is a federal responsibility, we lend assistance whenever we can and we give support financially but not to any great extent. We will offer assistance by way of resource people if they are needed. I don't know what the future holds for us developing any major program outside of federal participation as far as Indian reserves are concerned. With regard to the Metis, of course, they are the responsibility of the province, that has been accepted and we will try to fill our program there."

Saskatchewan Indian — "In the election campaign the N.D.P. stated that they would assist Indians financially and manpower wise to settle treaty differences once and for all. What is being done on this?"

Mr. Bowerman — "I have had meetings with the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians executive in which we discussed these aspects on that very point. They made their application to us for financial assistance on this project and we're in the position now trying to secure funds for the rest of this year and will be doing the same thing next year."

Saskatchewan Indian — "What is the party's position on treaties?"

Mr. Bowerman — "My position, which I believe to be the party's position is that I feel that it is important that these matters be settled as quickly and as clearly as possible. The reason for this that once there has been a determination made as to what are the rights of treaty Indian people then if there is a difference of opinion then they can go on to negotiate the differences but now we don't know. For example the hunting of big game off the reservation, what should we do? Should the DNR approach hunters and seize their rifles if they shoot a moose? In the past the province has said to prosecute and many Indian people have been prosecuted for hunting out of season but until that matter is settled clearly, we can't really decide how to approach it. The officer doesn't like to go out and prosecute the person who hunts if he's not entitled to, nevertheless, it's his job to enforce the Game Laws and the Act. If the person who is hunting is not hunting rightfully then, of course, it's the job of the person to go out and enforce the law. I'd like to see that settled and work prepared for the province to go ahead and to expend funds and to encourage and support Treaty people as well as the Metis Society to have these things settled."

Saskatchewan Indian — "What about the fact that a number of Treaties, I am thinking of Treaty No. 6 especially, overlap with other provinces. Are you prepared to go and meet



with all these other provinces to plan funding?"

Mr. Bowerman — "Yes, of course, when you get into this, surely we'll be happy to make representations to other provinces if the Federation wishes us to do so on their behalf or to give them support in their bid to Ottawa for funding. We'll certainly consider the recommendations that they make to us but we're prepared to go out and make some expenditures of funds to establish the FSI in their project to review these matters themselves and to come to some conclusion on their own, as to what they really believe is their fundamental rights."

Saskatchewan Indian — "Obviously, the Treaty question is a very complicated one that overlaps on many different things, like you mentioned hunting rights, the Migratory Birds Act, etc. One problem of special consideration right now to Indian people and of a very deep interest to them is the Medicare situation and the Medicine Chest clause in the Treaty. I understand that in your constituency you made a commitment that you would do everything in your power to correct this situation and what do you plan to do on this?"

Mr. Bowerman — "Myself and the Attorney General, met

with the delegation of FSI Executive and already discussed some of the background to this situation. We've also had meetings with the Minister of Public Health and the Minister of Public Health is reviewing the matter in his Department and I know these things are slow in getting response and definite commitments but I am committed to this as you said; this commitment I made earlier in the game and I'm prepared to follow that one through as far as I, myself, personally is concerned, and I know our party is interested in doing as well."

I see this one, like the Northern Education situation which you are familiar with and this agreement was negotiated between the Federal and Provincial governments without really very much consultation with the people in northern Saskatchewan and after taking office, Mr. MacMurchy, Minister of Education, with the FSI and Chiefs of northern Saskatchewan was able to effect the change in that contract and went back to the original situation and I would know that all of them won't be that easy but I would hope that we will be able to follow through on that kind of basis even in the Medicine Chest or Health proposition."

NOTICE

A competition is now open to all Indian people in Saskatchewan,

- to give suggestions for an OFFICIAL NAME of an Indian Radio Program soon to be aired over a Saskatoon Radio Station — an Indian name for the program is preferred.
- A prize will be awarded to the winning candidate.
- All entries should be sent in no later than November 30, to:

Ed Lavallee
Indian Cultural College
Federation of Sask. Indians
Emmanuel College
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

INDIAN

PEOPLE IN SASKATCHEWAN

Evelyn Locker

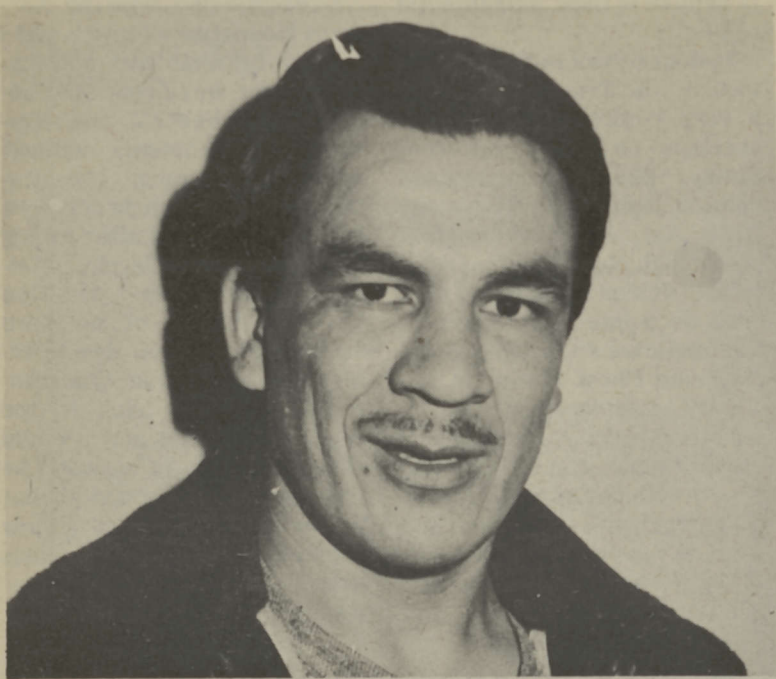


Evelyn Locker, Executive Director of the Regina Friendship Centre since 1968 has resigned her position effective October 31.

Born Evelyn Eagle Speaker on the Blood Reserve of Alberta, she attained her Grade XII standing at Cardston High School in 1953. Completing a secretarial course in Cal-

gary the following year, she worked in Calgary until 1957 at which time she was wed to Robert Locker of Lethbridge. They lived in Calgary and Vancouver prior to settling in Regina in 1966. Mrs. Locker, as a note of interest, was Calgary's Stampede Queen in 1954.

Georges Mercredi



30-year-old Georges Mercredi of Stoney Rapids, is the Community Development worker, for the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians, in the remote northern settlements of Fond Du Lac, Black Lake, Wollaston Lake and Stoney Rapids.

Georges served 3 years with the Canadian Armed Forces and was in Germany and a number of other countries with N.A.T.O.

Georges has had a various number of jobs in the past years. Jobs such as Pressman at the mine in Thompson, Man., worked underground at

the mine in Uranium City, worked with the Dept. of Public Health, Community Health Worker with Dept. of National Health and Welfare, worked for Nor Can Air as agent for a number of years and has had a good trucking business of his own.

Georges is deeply involved in community affairs. He is presently vice-chairman of the Stoney Rapids Advisory Council, chairman of newly formed Recreation Board and chairman of the Health Committee.

Georges is married and has 3 sons.

Paul John



Paul John, a 20-year-old member of the Patuanak Indian Reserve in northern Saskatchewan, is currently studying to obtain his commercial pilot's license. Paul has been working at Athabaska Airways

in Prince Albert for the past 2 years.

He obtained his private pilot's license last April 27, and is currently apprenticing for engineering of airplane engines.

Paul took his elementary education at the residential school in Boval, and finished grade eleven in Meadow Lake.

Paul hopes to fly for Athabaska Airways when he has his commercial license.

JEAN GOODWILL

Formerly from the Little Pine Reserve and currently living in Saskatoon, Mrs. Goodwill was recently selected as Co-ordinator of the Indian Women of Saskatchewan Organization.

Past positions that Jean has held are those of Editor of the cultural magazine, "Tawow", Executive Director of the Winnipeg Friendship Centre and various positions as a registered nurse in northern Saskatchewan particularly in the La Ronge area.

She is married to Ken Goodwill, Director of the Cultural Centre in Saskatoon. Ken is from the Standing Buffalo Reserve.



Ron Bear



60-year-old Ron Bear is a member of the John Smith Reserve near Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

Mr. Bear, after working for the Department of Indian Affairs for a great number of

years as a carpenter, has gone into self employment by opening a fully equipped wood work shop on the reserve.

He does custom wood work, repairing and makes fur stretchers that he hopes to sell

to trappers for a very reasonable price.

Mr. Bear stated that business could be better if there were telephones on the reserve.

Mr. Bear is married and has four children.

Issiah Roberts



**The Dying Art of Making
A Birchbark Canoe**

Issiah Roberts of the La Ronge Band lives in Stanley Mission during the winter and returns to spend the summer along the tranquil shores of Otter Lake.

Mr. Roberts is one of the last few people in Canada able to construct a birchbark canoe by hand using natural materials almost exclusively.

Mr. Roberts is pictured here with a 12½ ft. canoe which he constructed in the latter part of this summer. A canoe of this size takes approximately ten days to two weeks to build. The forming of the ribs to size is done by placing the canoe on a soft bed of moss and shaping them from inside with the weight of the body on the feet. Strips of thin planking running lengthwise are added for additional strength. The birch, which

can only be taken from the tree at certain times of the year, is sewn together and to the frame of the canoe with strong strips of root. The more traditional practice of sealing the canoe with tree pitch has been abandoned in favor of commercial glue which yields a stronger bond.

Mr. Roberts says that the canoe will last indefinitely if handled properly, but the inexperienced canoeist would be wise to learn the art of piloting the craft which it is said tips very easily in the hands of a beginner.

The La Ronge Band would like to have Mr. Roberts teach others in the community this specialized art while he is still able to demonstrate his skills. With the onset of age, Mr. Robert's hands are slowly crippling and he may not be able to continue much longer.

Adolfas Mercedie



Last July, 29-year-old Adolfus Mercedie opened Athabaska Billiards in the remote northern settlement of Fond Du Lac, and has four pool tables in operation.

Adolfus, a member of the Fond Du Lac Band, got the idea

while working in Uranium City because of the busy pool halls there. He came home, bought the old Hudson's Bay Residence, tore it down, hauled it to its present location piece by piece, and reconstructed it into a billiards hall.

Since there is no other form of recreation in the settlement, business is booming and provides a comfortable living for Mr. Mercedie the year around. He hopes to add on a coffee shop in the near future.



Matt Belgarde

Currently the executive assistant at the Regina Friendship Centre, Matt Belgarde has worked with the National Indian Brotherhood, the Manitoba Indian Brotherhood and the Indian Affairs in the Meadow Lake area, all in the past five years. Matt is 23 and from the Little Black Bear reserve near Belcarres. As a worker for the Regina Friendship Centre, he is actively involved in planning program for the Urban Indian and Metis People.

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH

**Sundays: 5:30 p.m.
CJNB Radio — North Battleford**

**Tuesdays: 9:30 p.m.
CJGX Radio — Yorkton**

**Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.
CKBI Radio — Prince Albert**

**Thursdays: 7:30 p.m.
CKRM Radio — Regina**



Ivan McNabb, a member of the Gordon's Reserve in Saskatchewan, is producer-host of Moccasin Telegraph aired over radio stations CJGX Yorkton and CKRM Regina.

Moccasin Telegraph is a series of informative radio programs designed for the Indian people of Saskatchewan

and sponsored by the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians.

Ivan received most of his education at the Gordon's Indian Residential School.

He served for some time in the Canadian Army.

Ivan is very well known for his singing and has won many awards. The most notable one was being named winner of

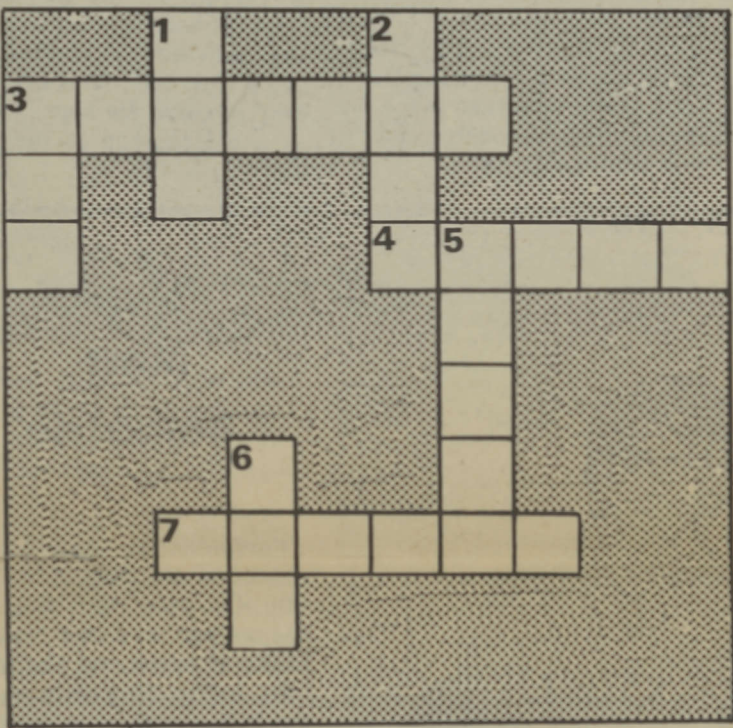
Gala Night Under The Stars talent hunt. The prize for winning this talent hunt was a trip to Hollywood where Ivan made an appearance in a segment of the then very popular television series, Bonanza.

Ivan is the son of Chief Hilliard and Doris McNab from the Gordon's Reserve.

Children's Page

PUZZLE FUN

CAN YOU SOLVE THIS PUZZLE?



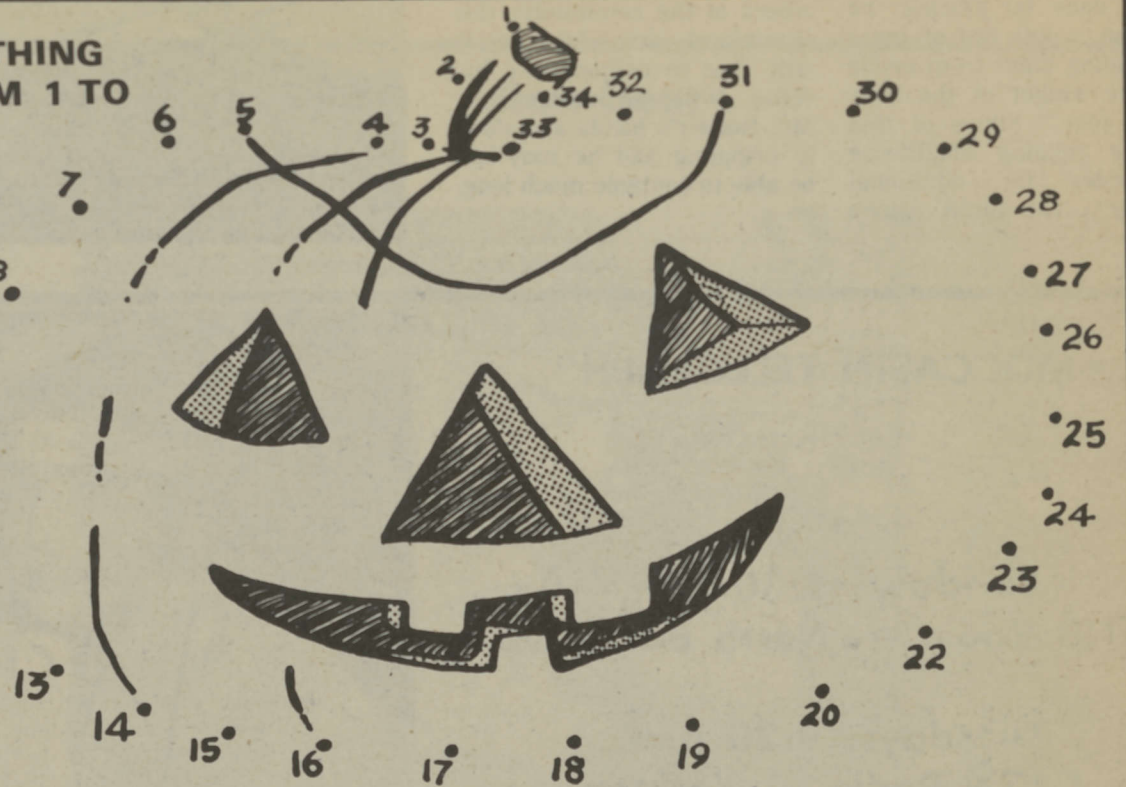
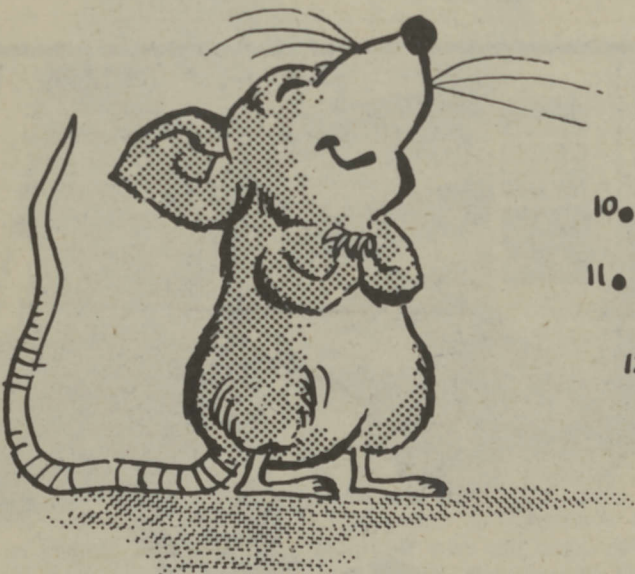
DOWN

- 1. GIVES US BACON
- 2. GIVES US HONEY
- 3. GIVES US MILK
- 5. GIVES US RIDES
- 6. HERDS COWS

ACROSS

- 3. LAYS EGGS FOR US
- 4. GIVES US WOOL
- 7. HAS VERY LONG EARS

THIS MOUSE HAS FOUND SOMETHING TO LIVE IN. JOIN THE DOTS FROM 1 TO 34 AND FIND OUT WHAT IT IS, THEN COLOUR.

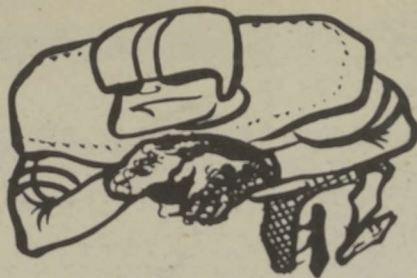


NEW CONTEST

OPEN TO CHILDREN 7 TO 10 YEARS OLD

WRITE US A PARAGRAPH ON HOW YOU SPENT YOUR SUMMER HOLIDAYS AND WIN ONE OF THE 3 HIDDEN PRIZES TO BE WON. ENTRIES MUST BE IN BY NOVEMBER 19, 1971. SEND YOUR ENTRY TO; THE SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN, ROOM 107, 1114 CENTRAL AVE., PRINCE ALBERT, SASKATCHEWAN.

SPORTS



Invitation To International Hockey Tournament



(Left to right), Ruben Burns, Ray Ahenakew and Fred Sassakamoose kicked off a fund raising campaign, to assist in sending an all star bantam hockey team to the International Tournament in Kamloops, British Columbia, with a 50 - 50 draw at the Chiefs Conference in Prince Albert on October 19, 20, and 21.

In April of 1972 an all Indian Bantam Hockey Team from Saskatchewan will be participating in the International Bantam Hockey Tournament in Kamloops, British Columbia.

For the first time in sporting history of the Indian people in Saskatchewan, a team will be representing us in International competitis.

Teams from Russia, Czechoslovakia, Holland, Japan and the United States are expected to compete in the Tournament.

18 young Indian youths will be selected from the reserves and urban centres in Saskatchewan to compose this hockey team. As soon as the selection has been made the youths will be transported to some training location in Saskatchewan on weekends for coaching. Fred Sassakamoose and Ray

Ahenakew have been appointed to coach the team. Ruben Burns has been given the managing position for the team.

The Sports and Recreation Department of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians have started to raise funds to assist in sending the team to the tournament. It was felt at the Chiefs Conference that this is certainly a worth while project to have these boys represent the Indian people of Saskatchewan. Any project that the Bands can fund to assist in sending this team would certainly be of great assistance.

If you wish to assist or want information, write to: Ruben Burns or Ray Ahenakew c/o The Federation of Saskatchewan Indians, 1114 Central Ave., Prince Albert. Ph. No. 764-3411.

P.A. Student Residence Takes Muscowequan Meet

by Ken Williams

The Prince Albert Student Residence won the Muscowequan Student Residence cross country meet held recently at Lestock, 100 miles north east of Regina. Prince Albert with their second successive win amassed 72 points while the host had 94. The team with the lowest score wins.

Muscowequan and Prince Albert won two team events each while Gordon's Student Residence won one.

The 13 and under girls race was won by Muscowequan as its team placed second, third, fourth, and fifth while the individual winner was Gloria Akachuck of Gordons. Prince Albert won both the team and individual trophies for the girls 14 and over. Leona Martin was first and her team

mates came second, third and fourth for the team win. Both girls races were over a 1½ mile course.

In the boys races Thomas Cook of Prince Albert was the individual winner while his colleagues helped capture the 12 and under team trophy for the 1½ mile event.

The 14 and under boys ran 2 miles and Joey Cyr came first as did his team from Muscowequan.

Gordon's made a clean sweep of the 16 and under boys when Delbert McNabb won the individual award and his team came first over the 2½ miles.

The wind gusted to 25 mph during the afternoon in 40 degree temperatures which made it tough for the more than 90 athletes who competed.



Students from the Prince Albert Residence won five of nine trophies at the Annual Cross Country Track meet held in Lestock. Above from left to right are: Thomas Cook, 12 and under winner, Gilbert McKenzie boys' captain; Nancy Ross girls' captain and Leona Martin, 14 and over girls' winner.

Scotty Cote Captures First Saskatchewan Indian Golf Championship

Thirty-one Indian golfers, from various reserves in Saskatchewan, competed for the first Saskatchewan Indian Golf Championship held at the Cook Municipal Golf Course in Prince Albert, on October 9 and 10.

The Federation of Saskatchewan Indians Sports and Recreation Department were instrumental in organizing and sponsoring this event.

The Golf Championship will be an annual event for the Indian people of Saskatchewan.



Peter Dubois (left), first Vice-President of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians congratulating and presenting the Saskatchewan Indian Golf Championship Trophy to Scotty Cote of the Cote Reserve.

CONTACT THE
SASKATCHEWAN
INDIAN
IF YOU HAVE ANY
SPORTING EVENTS
COMING UP ON
YOUR RESERVE

Sandy Lake Teams Capture Championships



Lloyd Goodwill (right), a member of the Standing Buffalo Reserve in Saskatchewan, was the second place winner in the championship match. Peter Dubois presenting the runner-up trophy to Mr. Goodwill.



The Sandy Lake senior soccer team won the first Saskatchewan Indian Senior Soccer Championship on September 25. Other teams competing for the championship came from Beady's, Mosquito, and Kamsack Reserves. The Thunderchild Reserve played host to the championship finals.



The Sandy Lake Junior Soccer Team became the first Saskatchewan Indian Junior Soccer Champions, on October 2. Other teams seeking the championship came from Duck Lake, Sturgeon Lake and Mistawasis Reserves. The Sandy Lake Reserve was the location of the championship finals.

I dream of
things

that never
were,

and say
why not

— ROBERT F. KENNEDY