



**Prairie Metis leaders
take on the feds (page 2)**

NEW BREED

a publication of the Association of Metis & Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan

APRIL 1978

80 cents

This little guy's sign might have been a little confusing, but what he was trying to say is there must be a better solution than prisons for government services to Native people.

Young Mr. Klyne was only one of thousands of demonstrators who came to give their message to federal cabinet ministers during their pre-election western tour which stopped in Regina on March 11.

Also in this issue:

AMNSIS taking on provincial politicians in a first-of-its kind meeting at the Regina Friendship Centre with city MLA's (page 16)

Cardinal affair (page 6)

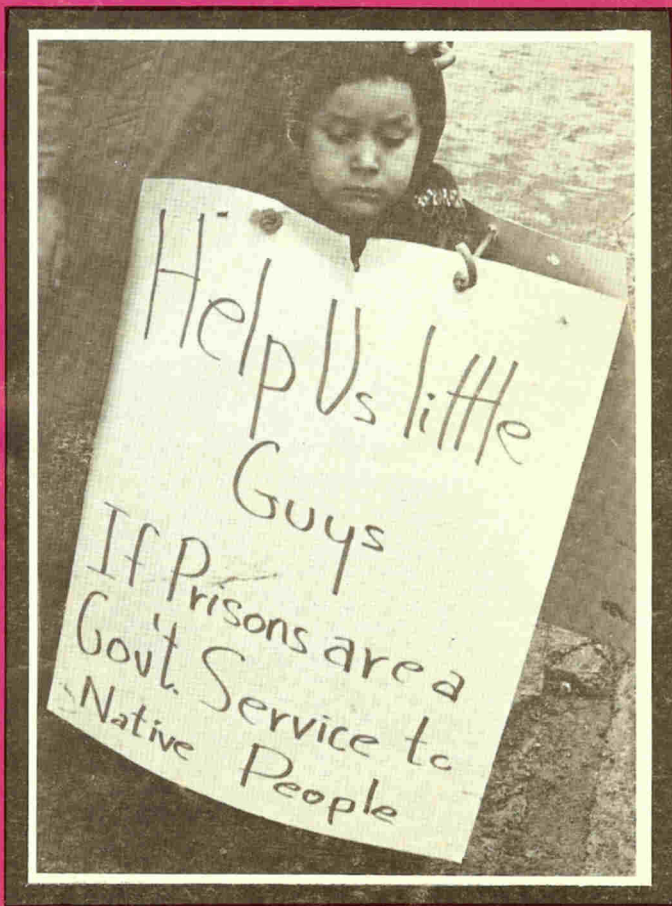
Batoche remembered (page 8)

Northern ice harvest (page 10)

Racial violence: Is police training helping (page 20)

Winter festivals (page 22)

and much, much more



OPINIONS

SUPER MAGAZINE

Dear New Breed:

As well as sending along my change of address I have also enclosed a cheque for \$13.00 to continue my subscription for an additional two years.

It's a super magazine. Keep up the good work!

Bob Adams
Nelson, British Columbia

☆

FEEDBACK ON "NATIVES & JUDICIAL SYSTEM"

Dear Editor:

I read, with real interest, Ms. Pinay's article "Native People and the Judicial System", published in your January-February edition. Her attack on the glaring inadequacies of the Canadian legal system in dealing with native people and native communities is more than justified.

I am grateful to Ms. Pinay for her mention, in her article, of our Program of Legal Studies for Native People, administered by this Centre. In that connection it occurs to me that you might be interested in reading a copy of our 1978 report covering that summer course. I enclose one.

Ms. Pinay's figures about the number of practising native lawyers in Canada and the number of judges are not quite up to date. Before our summer program started in 1973 there were, as far as I know, only 5 lawyers in Canada of native ancestry and five students then engaged in law studies anywhere in Canada. Since then 16 native students have received their LL.B. degrees from various Canadian Law Schools. Eleven of them were students from one or other of our programs. Further, there is now (and has been since 1974) a native Law Student Association of Canada. Currently it has a membership of 45. The majority of them are students who took our summer course.

There is a further, and most recent, development. Those native Canadians

who are now qualified lawyers are currently working towards the establishment of The Canadian Indian Lawyers Association. I expect that it will not be too long before that new organization will have a real impact on our legal system.

May I say that, as a subscriber to NEW BREED, I always find something of interest to me in each of your issues.

Roger Carter
Director, Native Law Centre
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

☆

TRY NEW TACTICS!

New Breed:

I have had the opportunity to read NEW BREED recently and have been impressed with the prevailing hatred expressed in it.

Wrongs cannot be improved by returning hatred for hatred. Positive attitudes toward improvement alone will improve that which is wrong.

Love is much stronger than a sword. Try new tactics!

M.F. - A Reader

☆

SURVIVAL

Dear New Breed:

On May 16, 1976, Nelson Small Legs Jr. sacrificed his life in the cause of Native rights. He gave his life in protest, because he saw the actual barbarity that is cast on our people. How many more of our young people are going to sacrifice their lives because they have found the bitter truths that exist in society today? Is the present system worth the lives it has taken? Can you measure a human being's worth? Is there no room for change?

Christ, we are alive; we exist. Do we have a future here in this great country we call Canada? We are a civilized

people trying to negotiate our problems with a society who invented those problems. We are not shaking our red fists at white Canada; but who created this mess, and who is trying to clean it up?

Maybe if we were talking dollar signs help would arrive in its millions; but we are not. We are talking Native, and that one big word... Survival.

Lyle Lee

☆

MANITOBA STUDENTS TO GET NEW BREED

To the editors — Hi!

I am currently teaching Native Studies classes for BUNTEP (Brandon University Northern Teachers Education Project). This winter I am teaching at Split Lake, Manitoba. All the students are Natives. I have just ordered a subscription for NEW BREED for all Centres. (It will go through our main office and may take a week or so to get to you).

In the meantime would it be possible to send out a bundle with 3 to 4 copies of all of last years' issues. I know the students would appreciate them.

Thanks.

Isabel Andrews
BUNTEP Centre
Split Lake, Manitoba

☆

EFFORTS APPRECIATED

New Breed:

Please renew my subscription for three years. Enclosed is \$20.00 to cover same.

Thank you — your efforts are much appreciated.

Dean Sinnett
Regina, Saskatchewan

☆

QUITE IMPRESSED

Dear Staff of New Breed:

I have briefly looked at your magazine for the very first time and I feel quite impressed.

Could you possibly send a complimentary copy to the address listed below.

Thank you for your attention.

Helen Douglas
Prince George, British Columbia

The NEW BREED is published ten times yearly by the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) at No. 4, 1846 Scarth Street, Regina, Saskatchewan, S4P 2G3. Phone: 525-6721. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Metis Association, however free expression of opinion is invited.

OPINIONS

Comments on our publication are most welcome. What do you think of the NEW BREED in general? What are your opinions on specific articles? What else would you like to see in the NEW BREED? These are but a few of the questions we would like to have comments on. Send to:

OPINIONS
New Breed
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OLD "NEW BREEDS" WANTED

Anyone having old copies of our publication NEW BREED, particularly older than five years, please contact us. We have had many requests for old issues and are interested in obtaining same.

We would be interested in either buying the newspaper or borrowing them in order to have copies made.

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ATTENTION WRITERS

Articles submitted to the NEW BREED and subsequently used for publication shall be paid for at the rate of \$2.00 per column inch (10 pt., 13 pica). We reserve the right to publish whole or parts of articles submitted.

The subject topic is unlimited - political editorials, community happenings, personal stories, poems, historical essays, or abstract writings are to name but a few of the possibilities. Present day problems and your personal solutions might prove helpful & interesting.

DEADLINE DATE: Submissions must be in by the 15th of each month for the following month's publication.

SEND TO:

Articles, NEW BREED
Association of Metis & Non-Status Indians of Sask. (AMNSIS)
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Articles must be signed in order to be printed. If you don't want your name to appear in print simply request that your name be withheld.

AMNSIS gains promises of more meetings



REGINA (RNB) - With the Hotel Saskatchewan meeting room packed with loudly applauding supporters, prairie Metis and non-Status Indian leaders took their case to the federal cabinet here March 11 and came away with the commitments they wanted from the Liberal ministers.

Lead by Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) president Jim Sinclair, they hammered home their case in the areas of aboriginal rights, northern development, employment, housing, justice, education, hunting & fishing rights, communications and recognition of elected Native political organizations to the cabinet committee on Native peoples.

They went into the public meeting looking for a public forum for their position and for commitments from various ministers for

future meetings. Backed by more than 200 supporters, they achieved both goals.

Traveling circus

The cabinet committee meeting was one of literally dozens of public arenas to accommodate the Liberal government's travelling circus during its pre-election western tour. Six ministers, representing health, Indian affairs, secretary of state, federal-provincial relations, manpower and immigration and chaired by the deputy prime minister, formed the committee to hear, but do little with, the Native briefs.

AMNSIS leaders recognized the tour was organized for a public display of the government machine in the province rather than to deal effectively with concerns they might have, but they were generally

satisfied with the outcome of the meeting.

Sinclair said during his half hour talk that he didn't "want to leave without definite commitments from a number of (the ministers) for meetings within the next five or six weeks".

Little response

Sinclair got the promises of meetings — with the ministers of health, manpower and Indian affairs, the secretary of state and the deputy prime minister — but little else in the way of positive response to his call for new directions in federal policies affecting Native people.

The ministers nodded throughout his speech and additional remarks by AMNSIS directors Rod Durocher, Rod Bishop and Wayne McKenzie and smiled slightly when Manitoba

Metis Federation (MMF) president John Morriseau told them action, before the election, would be needed to gain Native votes. But other than token admissions that problems exist and need to be worked on, they offered little new for Natives during this roadshow.

Aboriginal Rights

Morriseau travelled from Winnipeg to lend MMF support to Sinclair's call for a new approach by the federal government on the question of Metis nationhood and aboriginal rights. In recent months the Manitoba and Saskatchewan organizations have moved towards a common position on aboriginal rights.

Morriseau described the border between the two provinces as an "imaginary line separating us as a group of people on the prairies."

Recognition of aboriginal rights was the focus of Sinclair's brief to the committee. Unless agreement is reached on settlement of Metis claims, he said, Native people will not be able to begin real economic development programs.

Calling for funding "for the kind of research we think is important", he compared treatment of the Metis nation a hundred years ago to that given defeated nations in this century's 'World Wars'.

"Those countries have been rebuilt," he said, while the Metis nation was "cut to ribbons... and left landless and in complete poverty."

The Metis societies' brief calls for a removal of federal restrictions on the scope of research into aboriginal rights and for immediate approval of current funding proposals.

All tie together

The demand for recognition of the Metis nation and its legitimate political organizations were linked to all the points Sinclair raised in his address.

"No one can settle these claims but Metis and non-status Indians themselves," he said, through their elected organizations. He called for the government to stop treating service organizations, like Friendship Centres, as the political voice of Native people.

Continued on next page

Protests greet cabinet meeting

- Regina News Bureau (RNB)



March 11 was an interesting day in Regina. The federal Liberal cabinet was in town to get votes for the upcoming election, and prairie groups and individuals were there with problems that needed solving.

The day was interesting as there is not necessarily a direct connection between re-electing Trudeau Liberals and solving problems presented to the government by prairie people.

From 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. cabinet ministers sat in panels hearing briefs on the economy, Indian, Metis and non-status Indian conditions, culture, agriculture, multi-culturalism and industrial development.

From 11 until 12 the cabinet met behind closed doors to hear reports from the various panels. They learned about the concerns, discussed a couple of areas in some detail, and did find time to make final decisions on two items in time for press releases to be ready by 12:30.

While the cabinet was meeting, demonstrators filled the Canadian Pacific's Hotel Saskatchewan corridor outside the library doors where the cabinet was busy at work.

The first demonstration to hit the second floor hallway was led by a coalition of groups concerned about employment opportunities. The demonstrators represented, the Saskatchewan Federation of Labour the University of Regina Students Union and the Saskatchewan Coalition for Full Employment.

Led by SFL executive secretary Larry Brown, the group gave out a

few poorly co-ordinated yells and was then persuaded by Brown to leave the hotel.

The second demonstration was made up of Fransaskois — French cultural groups from Saskatchewan concerned about assimilation. With chants, singing and determination they managed to stay outside the cabinet meeting until it was finished. They then collared Jean Chretien in the hall to ensure the cabinet had got their point.

Demonstrators from the Canadian Agriculture Movement didn't even get into the hotel. By the time they arrived, the security staff had decided enough was enough and told the farmers to demonstrate outside.

An earlier attempt to persuade the Fransaskois to stay outside failed when their leader said: "Bullshit, that other group went upstairs, and so will we." And they did.

The Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan held its demonstration while their leaders gave their positions to the cabinet panel. About 200 cheering, clapping members accompanied the leadership into a meeting room with seating for about 125.

The National Farmers Union decided not to hold any demonstrations. Instead they packed more than 800 supporters into their panel discussion in a hotel ballroom to cheer on their leader Roy Atkinson.

Continued on Page 21



Meetings promised

Continued from Page 3

He said settlement of the claims was necessary to a proper start on economic development for Natives; and that economic development was the key to solving a host of other problems.

Involvement demanded

"Development is taking place on our traditional lands," he said.

"We don't oppose development; but we are opposed to development that will take away our land and our rights while not involving us in the planning." Unless involvement and benefits are guaranteed, he said, "we're left with welfare".

As a first step, Sinclair said, AMNSIS must be involved in the development of the proposed Northlands Agreement between the provincial and federal governments. He called for funding, before the signing, of research and community involvement programs and for later guarantees of money for actual development by Natives.

Without Native involvement, he said, current development projects give "no guarantees of hiring, training or permanent jobs" for Natives. Resources are removed from northern Saskatchewan; traditional employment in trapping and fishing is destroyed and Natives are left with nothing.

Rod Bishop told the committee that the Department of Northern Saskatchewan, which is involved in the Northlands Agreement, is working against Native programs like the Regional Communications Centre in Beauval by cutting off funds.

"That's not consultation," Bishop said. "There's no way DNS understands the social and economic needs of northern people. If money is going to help us, we want to be a part of the planning."

Other concerns

Sinclair painted a picture of racism and economic deprivation as the results of this lack of involvement in economic development.

"Nine out of ten of our people are living in substandard housing," he said, while government programs have not delivered promised

housing. He gave examples of town councils raising lot prices to keep Native groups from building in many communities.



The AMNSIS demonstration came inside to meet the federal cabinet in Regina on March 11. Some 200 supporters packed the meeting room (opposite page) at the Hotel Saskatchewan.

They listened and applauded as leaders Rod Durocher and Jim Sinclair and Manitoba leader John Morrisseau told six cabinet ministers about changes that must be made in dealing with the needs of Metis and non-status Indians (opposite page).

AMNSIS directors Wayne McKenzie and Rod Bishop (left) added to the discussion from the floor. Before the meeting, four of the leaders (l. to r. Jim Durocher, Bruce Flamont, Morrisseau and Sinclair) gathered to talk strategy (photo at top of page).

He demanded that government programs not pay these falsely-inflated prices. "Don't subsidize racism," he said. "We should pay only equal prices."

The brief said there was a particular lack of programs for low income housing in cities, where most Metis and non-status Indians now live.

Conditions like these have lead to a high crime rate among Natives, he said.



"A recent study shows that Canadian Native people are the most incarcerated people in the world," yet the government's answer to the problem is an announced \$326 million program to build more penitentiaries.

"We must really be bankrupt for ideas as a nation if jail is the only solution we can come up with. More money to jails is inexcusable."

He accused governments as well of subsidizing "booze, but not food, for our people in northern Saskatchewan and for education systems that teach racism "to assimilate on our own terms."

"We need programs to revive our culture", like the proposed Dumont College at the University of Regina, Sinclair said.

Some promises

The only minister to give verbal support to the AMNSIS position was Andre Ouellet, Urban Affairs, who said, "I agree there is a need for an urban housing program. We will be ready to work together with you (AMNSIS) to develop a mechanism that will ensure... needs are met, not only in rural areas, but cities as well."

He announced new legislation that will allow for purchase of existing houses as well as construction projects.

Another meeting was promised,

this one by secretary of state John Roberts, after McKenzie launched a loudly applauded attack on Roberts' department from the floor at the meeting.

McKenzie said the department had been giving AMNSIS the 'run-around' for years over budgets for a province-wide communications program.

"We've shown that we need \$485,000," he said. "but all they gave us was \$25,000" and advice to cut back the budget. McKenzie said the same sorts of problems were not experienced by organizations in Alberta.

Roberts said he was unaware of such problems and promised to look into the situation. Under prodding from the AMNSIS director he also agreed to an early meeting with McKenzie.

Allan MacEachen said racism and discrimination were not good things but he said the government is not ready to acknowledge claims of Metis aboriginal rights.

MacEachen was unsuccessful in his attempt to get Sinclair to agree that the only jobs were wanted from northern development. Sinclair said the jobs are needed, but that the important point is that development is beginning to tie up all the resources in the north.

"That's where we're going to have to make our stand," he said.



Hard to tell good guys from bad in Cardinal affair

-Ron Thompson

Harold Cardinal, a Cree from Alberta, has been making headlines ever since he jumped into Native politics nine years ago. But even for him, the past twelve months have been a bumper year for headlines.

In February, 1977, Cardinal resigned his position as president of the Indian Association of Alberta (IAA), a position he had held since 1969, to become the new Alberta director-general for the federal Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND). And immediately, observers began wondering if he would be 'selling out' his past position as a high-profile Indian leader and frequent opponent of DIAND policies.

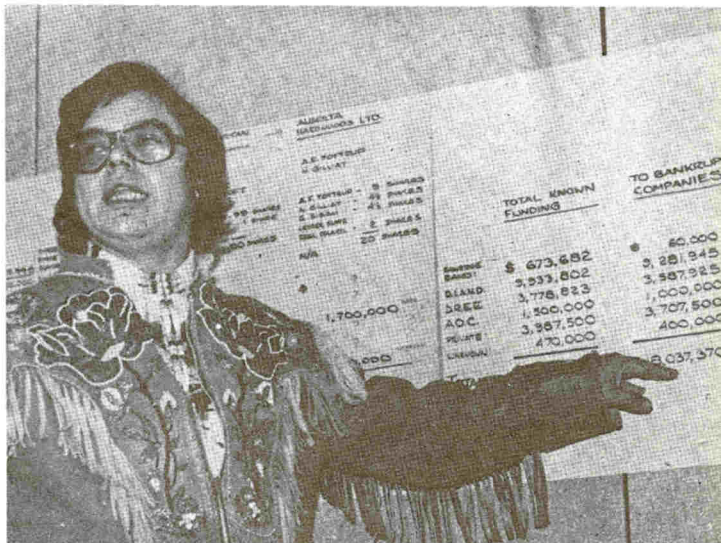
It appears, a year later, that the question of 'sell out' has not yet been answered to the satisfaction of all concerned; but there is no question that Cardinal remained a high-profile personality.

Fired; retaliates

Nine months after being appointed the first Indian director-general for the department, Cardinal was fired on November 21, 1977. The move, announced by DIAND minister Hugh Faulkner following a dinner meeting with Cardinal, ended a period of growing dissatisfaction by the department and many Indian leaders in Alberta with the director-general, but it unleashed a new wave of controversy, allegations and denunciations.

Harold Cardinal made it clear he would not be shunted quietly to the sidelines.

Faulkner said Cardinal had to go because of "massive deterioration" in working relations between the department and Alberta Indians. This claim was backed by demands from 27 of the province's 42 bands for Cardinal's removal as far back as September.



Cardinal retaliated with charges that he had been fired for beginning investigations of alleged mis-handling of funds by the department and several bands in the province. Within weeks, he had called a news conference at which he called for a judicial investigation into spending of \$110 million at the same time Faulkner was announcing appointment of a federally-hired investigator to look into the allegation.

Problems or fraud?

Department officials readily admitted there had been problems with handling of money granted to bands for economic development. But they vehemently denied that fraud had occurred, and said Cardinal had not approached Ottawa with his allegations until the night he was fired.

Cardinal charged that the situation went beyond 'problems'. He said the money had been handed over to Indian bands, sometimes in excess of approved amounts for the province, without adequate documentation of expenditures being required. He said also that there may exist kickback schemes involving department officials.

The department says that their program, since the early 1970's, of turning money over to bands to help them into business opportunities is bound to encounter problems until the Indians, inexperienced in proper business and accounting procedures, develop the necessary expertise.

Cardinal says the problems go beyond initial inexperience when tens of millions of dollars are involved and produced at least one

specific example. He says the Sawridge band at Slave Lake, with only 44 band members, was given \$20 million dollars in grants and benefits, and managed to lose \$18 million of that through lousy investments and bankruptcies.

By contrast, he said, the Wabasca band with 1,200 members "were refused funds by the DIAND" and had to scrape up their own resources to repair and remodel their sawmill.

"Dumb Indian" obsolete

Cardinal's own former organization the IAA, now lead by Joe Dion, had joined the fray against him. Soon after taking over as IAA president, Dion had accused Cardinal of having run "a one-man operation" during his presidency and later called for Cardinal's resignation or removal.

Cardinal said that the IAA had taken the DIAND stand that clear, audited statements from the bands would be asking too much of them. He said that no more can Indian groups and leaders play the role of "dumb Indian".

"That role," he said, "is past and long gone."

He added that the DIAND has some 700 to 800 civil servants at their disposal to provide moral and statutory services to the Indian people in the province. Bookkeeping and other business management assistance could have been provided from this source if that were the problem.

Too many enemies

Whatever the final outcome of all the allegations and counterclaims, it appears certain that Cardinal's days in his \$35,000 a year position as director-general for DIAND were numbered from his first few weeks in office.

He moved into the office with a heavy hand. He pulled stunts like relegating senior department officials to dark, basement rooms in the high-rise office headquarters. He installed a crew of 13 high-paid advisers, most of them members of the militant American Indian Movement. (AIM).

Then he and a number of his AIM advisers went to war with what looked like the strangest of opponents: the band chiefs and

councils in the province. Later he would claim that he had uncovered a "close and far-reaching secret relationship between officials in the department and Indian leaders" which resulted in millions of dollars going to members of the secret alliance, while Indian people with the greatest needs got the least.

Cardinal threatened a number of band councils with suspension of funding, and in one case, did cut off funds. Investigations were launched into the affairs of the Stoney band. And the reaction was not unpredictable.

Stoney band chief John Snow labelled Cardinal "the worst director-general in a hundred years". Twenty-seven Alberta bands petitioned Faulkner for his dismissal. The National Indian Brotherhood (NIB) came out in support of Cardinal's opposition in the IAA.

"The hard-fought rights Indians had won in their bid for self-government and self-determination were arbitrarily revoked," said the NIB. "The Indian Affairs bureaucrat (Cardinal) repeatedly ignored the advice of elected Indian leaders and chose to railroad his own policies through".



Hugh Faulkner, Indian Affairs

Messy aftermath

The aftermath of all this has been, and promises to be in the future, rather messy. It remains hard to pick out the bad guys and the good guys.

Right now, there are at least three official inquiries underway. Jack Beaver, an Ojibway chief and big businessman from Ontario, is conducting random audits for DIAND; there is at least one

federally-called RCMP investigation that has resulted already in dismissal of a handful of department officials for mishandling funds ("in the thousands, not millions", say officials); and recently, the Alberta government, after talks with Cardinal, has called for its own investigation by the mounties.

There has been a sit-in at the DIAND office in Edmonton; a threatened law suit or two by band chiefs; and — perhaps worst of all — a lot of talk about possible 'backlash' by Indian Affairs with regard to the economic development program.

As an editorial in the Vancouver Sun reported: "With Indians involved on every side, guess who loses?"

Given the history of government dealing with Native people in the past, that seems to be a likely outcome. If Indian economic development gets cut back, there is a ready 'scape-goat' available.

Mistakes make

At this point it's too early to predict the outcome of all the investigations. We may never know who, if anyone, mis-managed or defrauded or wasted the taxpayers' money. We may never hear the answer to Cardinal's question: "How can you lose \$110 million in five years?"

But it seems clear that Cardinal made some serious mistakes in his term with Indian Affairs.

He appears to have gone after the chiefs without involving the other band members in an understanding of what problems he had uncovered. He made alliances with the AIM that raised the boogeyman of "violent radicals" between him and potential allies.

If he was after bad guys and villains in the department and among band leaders, he was attacking people in powerful positions without an army of informed followers from Alberta bands at his back.

In the end — right or wrong — he was crushed by those he now says he was out to expose. Unless the investigations prove him right, he may have warned the enemy of his attack before he was ready for the fight. ☆

I Remember Batoche



—by Louise Trottier Moine

Ever since I can remember I have wanted to see Batoche, the famous last stand of the Reil Rebellion. So when I was nominated as one of the delegates to represent our Metis Society Local at the "Back to Batoche Days" I willingly accepted. A day before the grand opening, my husband, Grand-daughter Chantal, and I headed North in our little Chevy Biscayne. We had been informed that everything would be supplied in the line of lodging and food, so we didn't pack as much as we should have.

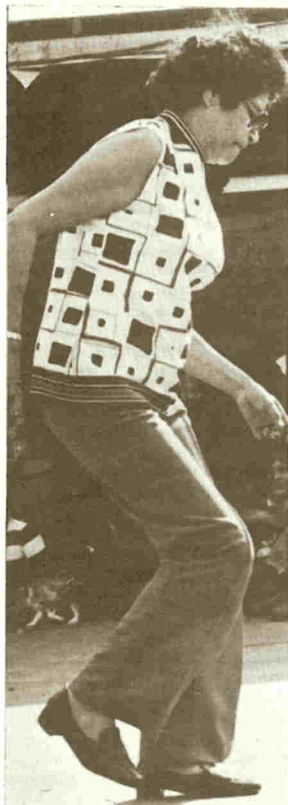
Our first view of Batoche was the National Historic Site. On the grounds that are fenced is a well kept lawn, picnic tables, etc. A large sign alongside of a two-storey building reads 'Canada Batoche Rectory'. As I gazed at the building I thought, at last I get to see the famous rectory I have heard and read so much about. Somehow it had stood up through the elements of time and war; but then it has been renovated and preserved throughout the years. So now it stands there as a monument, dedicated to those who gave their lives in the last stronghold of the Riel Uprising.

It was only another mile or so from there to the clearing where the meeting would be held. We saw army tents pitched all over the grounds. We signed our names at the registration booth and paid for our rations, which amounted to

\$5.00 per person for the week. We were informed that these would be delivered twice a day at a designated spot. The rations consisted of fresh meat daily (sometimes stewing meat, sometimes hamburger), also canned meats, that old standby bologna, pork and beans, tea bags, margarine, bread and potatoes. But this time there were cars, trucks, trailers and people all over the place. We drove around to see if any of our relatives had arrived on the scene but we recognized no one, yet.

The assembly hall and another building set up for bingo games were built as temporary shelters with open sides. The concession booths were being managed and operated by the different Locals of the Society. There was also a stand where Indian crafts were displayed and could be purchased. We bought tickets on a little tent completely equipped with all essentials required for camping.

In the hall where I registered in as a delegate, I was given a tag with my name and the number of the Local I represented. I was handed a red folder containing the agenda of the annual meeting and other material pertaining to the Society. Besides the executive on the platform, there was a tape recorder and to one side a T.V. camera. The microphone on the floor was there for the delegates to voice their opinions on any of the topics discussed on the floor. As the meeting



Jigging at Batoche

progressed, we were informed by the chairman that since we were now a recognized Society and not to be ignored a B.B.C. reporter had arrived and would be taking pictures and reports to be televised world-wide. At times the meeting would take on a bit of humour and then again some would get carried away in their criticism of the administration. Invariably, if course, politics would enter the picture.

The only time I wanted to voice my opinion was when the question concerning the adoption of children of Native origin came up on the floor. Not being aggressive enough, I didn't get the chance. Anyway I would probably have sounded like the 'Voice crying in the wilderness',

Finally we noticed some of our relatives coming into the hall. Later we all got together and managed to find a camping place using some of the tents provided. Our relatives had a three burner propane gas stove and all the utensils required for camping. By pooling our rations, we cooked and ate together. With the hamburger we would have liked to make "bullets" (French for meat balls - a traditional Half-breed dish) but none of us had brought flour or onions. We were also looking forward to the "ban-nock baking contest" but again some one had neglected to supply the flour and the other ingredients required. The contest didn't state that one had to bring their own flour, etc.

Bright and early each morning a car equipped with a loud speaker would drive around the camp, repeating the word 'wa-nesh-kack', Cree for wake up. This was alright for some of us who did not keep late hours, but what about the ones who did?

There was a sad accident, a young man lost his life in the river close by while attempting to save a teenager from drowning. When we noticed the R.C.M.P. around we knew something was wrong.



OLD RECIPE REVIVED: Cooking 'bullets' over open fire at Batoche

There was yet another structure, mostly a roof with all sides open. This had been constructed purposely for the Indians who would be doing the Pow-wow. When we noticed wigwams springing up here and there, we knew they were arriving and when we heard the beat of the tom-toms, we hastened over. Rumours were that they were being paid to perform their dance and they would be coming from all parts of the country. Our little Chantal was so excited when she saw young Indian dancers in the groups that she joined in with them. Each dancer was introduced by loud speaker as they entered the dance. Two beautiful Indian maidens introduced as Princesses were also part of the dance. As I sat there and watched their performance, I felt a sense of pride as my mind wandered back to the past, trying to visualize the time when the ancestors of these people and mine too, roamed and ruled the country and were once a proud and aristocratic race of the whole of North

America. As usual this was the most outstanding feature and proved to be the high-light of the whole event.

Only the first three days were taken up with business of the Annual Meeting. For the rest of the week there were sports of every description for young and old. There was bingo continually. In the evening there was modern and old-time dancing to exceptionally good music. Contestants who took part in the boxing, jiggling and fiddling contests were both talented and entertaining. The Miss Batoche contest drew many pretty contestants.

All in all it was a real lively get-together — never a dull moment; sort of mixing business with pleasure. Associating with my kind of people, where equality reigns supreme, was an experience to remember. Meeting relatives I hadn't seen since we were children brought back pleasant memories. I shall be looking forward to the next "Back To Batoche" days.

Back to Batoche '78

July 26 & 27 — Annual Meeting; July 28, 29 & 30 — Batoche Festivities

Contact: Bruce Flamont, #4 1846 Scarth St., Regina, Sask., Ph: 525-6721 for further information

Temporary reprieve for northern ice harvest

BEAUVAIL — A temporary reprieve for the northern ice harvest, in the form of federal funding for this winter only, was announced here March 2 in a letter from the Northern Municipal Council (NMC) to Natotawin News. The announcement says Peter Moss of the Department of Fisheries has agreed "in excess of \$75,000 has been made available for this winter's harvest".

Gordon Carle, NMC councillor assigned to the issue, said it was "the culmination of four months' pressure on the federal government to provide financial input to the weakening northern Saskatchewan fishing industry".

The NMC, says the letter, "considers this to be, finally, a recognition of the deplorable rate of unemployment in northern Saskatchewan". Unemployment in the region runs at between 50 and 60 per cent.

Carle also said pressure on the provincial government had gained a commitment from the Department of Northern Saskatchewan (DNS) for "assistance to the ice harvest in terms of equipment, gas, oil and aircraft travel as required". DNS had earlier announced it would not provide grant money as assistance.

Alternative to welfare

According to Robin Hill of the Regional Communication Centre here, much of the grant money has already been spent. The harvest has been completed at Beauval, and is well underway in other districts.

Without the ice harvest before spring thaw, the northern fishing industry would be virtually shut down for the summer. This, says Carle, would put as many as 1,000 families on welfare for up to six months — for lack of funds equivalent to one month's welfare payments in the area.

Last year for assistance

This year's harvest appears likely

to be the last one that will receive outright funding from either level of government, according to NMC's letter.

"Before spring," said Carle, "northern fishermen, interest groups and the federal and provincial governments will have to get together and agree on long term arrangements." He said the NMC would be willing to assist in co-ordinating, but that "fishermen are going to have to contribute financially to future ice harvest programs".

Other alternative funding programs include loans through either the Co-operative Fisheries or the FreshWater Fish Marketing Corporation, which would be repaid through deductions from the price fishermen receive for their catch.

Not all northern fishermen are affected either by the fisheries department grant or by the fact that similar funding won't be available in future years. Almost half (46%)

of northern fishermen are treaty Indians who receive assistance for the ice harvest through the Department of Indian Affairs.

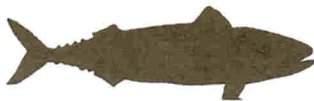
Recent meeting looks at problems

In a meeting at Buffalo Narrows since the March 2 letter, NMC officials discussed the fisheries and ice harvest problems with federal Liberal members, along with other concerns. Little headway was made.

Saskatchewan MP Cliff McIsaac suggested the NMC look for assistance under the soon-to-be-signed Northlands Agreement between the federal Department of Regional Economic Expansion and DNS.

The problem is that the NMC has already withdrawn from discussions of the agreement because of the DNS attitude. The department, say NMC officials, has essentially said: "If you agree with us, say yes. If you disagree, shut up".

The minister for unemployment and immigration, Bud Cullen, said at Buffalo Narrows that he had been advised to steer clear of the ice harvest issue. Fishermen were advised to look elsewhere for assistance.



QUEBEC INDIANS IGNORED IN NEW LANGUAGE BILL

Home is always on my mind. Hearing or reading about Quebec. La Belle Province, always evokes an emotional response in me which for the most part is upsetting, disturbing and surely controversial.

Having spent my first twenty-six years in Quebec in what is now labelled French-Canada. I pay special attention to what political implementations are forced into being by legislative authorities and I think of a people who are left out of the dispute between the recent immigrants of English and of French ancestry.

These people are the Quebec Indians the true inhabitants of that province.

Day in, day out, Canadians of British and of French origins, pull strenuously at their tug of war, both claiming to be the official peoples of this country - never for a moment including the first peoples who were here and who, in fact, assisted and taught these very same people life-saving survival skills. Sadly, the Indian peoples of Quebec and for that matter, in the rest of Canada, are not even mentioned in the heated debate of Quebec and national bilingualism. It is as though Canada's Indians do not exist. Or could it be that the Canadian government wants non-Native Canadians to forget how Canada was obtained through deceit, lies,

thievery and other equally base vices?

Why do we not hear about having an Indian language, for instance Cree or Ojibway, recognized as one of the official languages of this beautiful country since Indians are by definition of the Indian Act of Canada regarded as "the aboriginal peoples" of the land.

Ontario's Premier Bill Davis has gone on record as refusing to make French an official language fearing backlash on the part of the province's English-

A recent Toronto Star editorial dated

January 15, 1978 entitled, "Davis should face the French fact" sums up that newspaper's opinion on the subject by stating, "...Ontario citizens who are French and choose to remain so are entitled to deal with their government and to be served by it in their own language". In many parts of northern Ontario such as Sudbury, Hearst, North Bay, governmental services are provided in the French language. Similar governmental services in native languages are not as adequately represen-

ted on a percentage basis. This displays the disparity existing between a so-called "official" Canadian, the Francophone, and a person having aboriginal rights. Do the judges speak Cree? Do the professors conduct their classes in Ojibway?

It is not hard to see the gap widening in Canada's treatment of its true Canadians and its pseudo-Canadians of British and French origins.

— Hazel M. Brooks

Editor's note: The question of the Quebec language law (Bill 101) and its relationship to Native people in that province has not been ignored by Quebec Indians and Inuit. In November, three months after the bill passed, band leaders on the second largest reserve in the province said they would fight if necessary to keep the bill's provisions from being imposed upon their children. A petition circulated at Maniwaki said "the original inhabitants of this land reject the implementation of Bill 101 on our children in provincial schools. The people want to choose the type and language of education of our children, grandchildren and generations yet unborn".

Inuit in Fort Chimo and other Ungava Bay communities last August asked all provincial government employees and Quebec Provincial Police to leave town until Bill 101 was amended to the satisfaction of the communities. Services provided by Quebec "are almost zero anyway," said Charlie Watt, president of the Northern Quebec Inuit Association.

FEDERAL ATTITUDES COULD JEOPARDIZE SASKATCHEWAN LAND CLAIMS

REGINA - A one-million-acre settlement announced last August for Saskatchewan Indians may go out the window unless Indian Affairs changes its tune on federal contributions to the settlement. In a recent telegram to Department of Northern Saskatchewan minister Ted Bowerman, Indian Affairs minister Hugh Faulkner said federal money and land held by the federal government will not be available for the settlement.

Last August 24, the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians (FSI),

the province, and Faulkner's predecessor Warren Allmand announced that provincial bands with recognized entitlements would be given the first option of unoccupied provincial Crown land. Where unoccupied Crown land was not available, land was to be purchased for the bands.

The problem seems to be that the federal government thought all the land would come from provincial Crown lands. But according to Jean Fournier, executive director of the Federal Office of Native Claims,

land selected by bands is not all on provincial crown land. "About 30 per cent of the land entitlement is going to have to be purchased," he said.

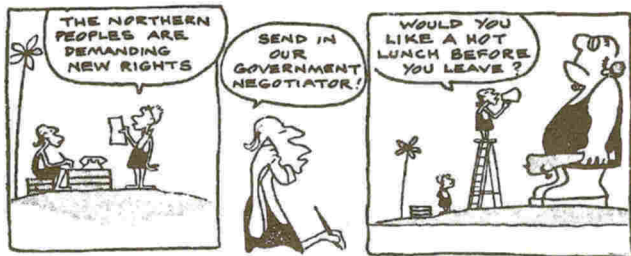
Feds won't pay

Faced with the prospect of having to put out real money for about 300,000 acres, the federal department has opted out of the agreement. Fournier says he thinks the federal government will eventually work out a cost-sharing formula with the province.

FSI negotiator Cy Standing says he isn't worried yet. "It is not the first time Indian people have run into problems," he said. "We've always held the position that eventual settlement will take years."

Saskatchewan official Rod Milen is not so optimistic, however. He says that the province may eventually have to take Indian Affairs to court, adding that the situation started to get out of hand in October

"I don't think Fournier is totally aware of how out of hand his negotiators have let things get. If we could have talked with Faulkner (in October), there might be cause for hope," he said. "As it stands right now, I see no reason for optimism."





from OUTSIDE our PROVINCE

THE LONGEST MARCH

CALIFORNIA, U.S.A. - A 3500-mile-trek from California to Washington D.C. began February 11 to press demands for Indian human rights, for national sovereignty and an end to anti-Indian legislation. Some 340 Native Americans set off on the 6-month trek to call for a defeat of 11 anti-Indian bills pending in Congress, freedom for Leonard Peltier and other political prisoners, and an end to forced sterilization of Indians. The major focus, when in Washington, will be to defeat House Resolution 9054 which would do away with treaties between the U.S. and the Indians, and would wipe out federal guarantees of Native American rights. Bill Wahpepah one of the chief organizers of the march said the multi-national corporations seeking control of the reservations' huge reserves of uranium, coal, natural gas and other resources would conduct a "great land grab" if the bill were passed.

Some other repressive legislation under protest includes acts which would abolish Maine Indian treaty titles to state-owned land; end New York Indian titles to land; and even deny Native Americans the right to sell steelhead salmon.

HUMAN RIGHTS ACT CRITICIZED

OTTAWA (CNNS) - The new Canadian Human Rights Act has come under criticism from federal government officials for its inability to help Indian women fight discrimination in the Indian Act. Marc Lalonde, minister responsible for the status of women, said he was disappointed the new act did not put Indian women on equal footing with Indian men and that the Indian Act had not been amended to remove clauses discriminatory against Indian women. Section 12 of the act states an Indian woman who marries a non-Indian loses her Indian status and rights (this does not apply to Indian men who marry non-Indian women). Some women have been evicted from their homes and have lost federal payments as a result of the act.

The Indian Act is exempted from the jurisdiction of the Human Rights Act because the federal government is negotiating major revisions in consultation with the National Indian Brotherhood.

NASKAPI INDIANS AGREE TO LAND CASH SETTLEMENT

MONTREAL - The Naskapi people have settled for 9 million dollars and 126 square miles of land. The 400 Naskapi, the last Natives to sign the James Bay Agreement, gave up all claim to land in northern Ontario. In the land treaty the Naskapi will receive exclusive hunting and fishing rights for 1,600 square miles. They will also be relocated 9 miles from where they are now living and have the right to participate in the regional government north of Quebec's 55th parallel.

PELTIER NOT GUILTY

MILWAUKEE, U.S.A. - Leonard Peltier, American Indian Movement (AIM) activist, has been found not guilty of attempted murder of two former police officers. Peltier was charged following a fight with the two officers in 1972. Two witnesses testified that the two officers had beaten Peltier before he was forced to pull a defective gun in self defence. The police officers admitted under oath to being "slightly intoxicated" at the time. The defense charged that Peltier was beaten and arrested for his part in the Trail of Broken Treaties' demonstration in Washington.

Peltier is still serving two consecutive life sentences in federal prison as a result of a conviction for aiding and abetting in the killing of two FBI agents during that agency's seige of the Pine Ridge Reservation. An appeal of those charges will be heard this spring.

NEW FBI DIRECTOR ANTI-AMERICAN INDIAN?

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Charges of having a "consistent history of practicing racism, sexism and elitism" failed to stop the U.S. Congress from confirming the appointment of William H. Webster as the new king-pin of the F.B.I. here recently. Webster's history of racism was cited by a St. Louis civil rights activist and confirmed by a study of his record as a U.S. Appeals Court judge. Kenneth Tilson said Webster "has a restricted view of

federal Civil Rights Acts, fails to recognize First Amendment freedoms and is unwilling to curb abuses of discretion when in a position to do so."

The study by the Associated Press shows Webster preferred to stick rigidly to legal precedent even if democratic rights were violated. He denied a motion for injunction brought by the Wounded Knee Committee to prohibit FBI agents from harrasing, spying on and physically attacking lawyers defending Native Americans arrested during the 1973 Wounded Knee confrontation. The following year he refused an appeal to American Indian Movement (AIM) activist Russell Means in connection with a case contesting an illegal election for tribal chairman. Webster disagreed when two other judges reversed a conviction of Native Americans and then upheld a 60-day sentence for John Trudell AIM chairman for loitering in the hallway where AIM activist Leonard Peltier was being tried.

Webster, who says he will oppose prosecution of FBI agents who broke into homes or committed other illegal acts (as long as "they claim" they didn't know they were doing wrong), also belongs to four elitist St. Louis clubs — two of which are exclusively for white males — none of which he plans to quit.

PERMISSION TO CONTINUE POLLUTION — WILL IT BE GIVEN?

DRYDEN, ONT. (CNNS) - Reed Paper Ltd. has asked once again for an extension to a deadline to stop polluting the environment by dumping effluents into the English-Wabigoon River system. Reed contributed to the death of this river system by dumping huge quantities of mercury into the waters. Eating mercury-contaminated fish causes mercury poisoning (Minimata Disease) which attacks the brain, causing crippling damage to the nervous system and painful death. Unusually high levels of mercury have been found in the Indians from that area.

Last year the company was told to clean up its act and was slapped on the wrist with a \$5,000 fine for five counts of polluting. This time Reed believes that is has Ontario in an arm lock by threatening to close down its operations. With jobs at a premium (as disgusting as it is), premier Bill Davis may consider jobs more important than the lives of the people living along the river system.

LABRADOR CARIBOU CONTROVERSY NEARS SETTLEMENT

LABRADOR (CNNS) - Northwest River Indians here are considering a proposal put forth by Newfoundland tourism minister Tom Hickey that would grant them special hunting rights. The proposal gives the Indians the right to hunt caribou year-round in most of Labrador, up to a limit of one caribou per family member each year; but they would not be allowed to hunt in the nearby Mealy Mountains or Red Wine Mountains (where caribou populations are endangered according

to the ministry). The Indians will have access to the northern herd of caribou which is "quite far away" from Northwest River, but under a federal-provincial scheme some money is available to the band for hunting expenses such as transportation and bush planes.

The issue of Natives hunting rights became inflamed early in October 1977 when six Northwest River Indians and a missionary priest were charged with illegal hunting of caribou in the Mealy Mountains. At the time, the Indians were celebrating a ritualistic caribou sacrifice in the mountains. Hickey has said he will try to accommodate the aboriginal hunting rights and traditions of the Indians.

THE INDIAN HALL OF FAME

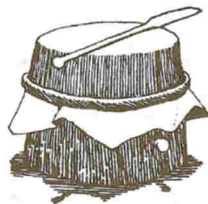
TORONTO (CNNS) - If you have ever been to Toronto's Canadian National Exhibition (CNE), and haven't bothered to see the Indian Hall of Fame, don't bother the next time because it won't be there. The Hall's board of governors said the annual exhibition was getting too expensive. The Indian Hall of Fame originated with a group of Indian people and the Indian-Eskimo Association in 1967. A selection committee was set up to chose individuals of Native ancestry who have made outstanding contributions to helping native people.

The collection is now on permanent display 365 days of the year at the Woodland Indian Cultural Education Institute in Brantford, Ontario. Photographs of the collection will also be taken and circulated across the country in a portfolio.

PSST! WANNA BUY A TOWN?

ALASKA (CNNS) - Here's a great deal on a 240-acre townsite. The town of Cantwell is going for \$795,000 and with this exclusive property you will also have an Alaska Railroad right-of-way, the road, and a nearby Inuit cemetery of your very own.

For an even better return on your money the business district of Northway, not far from the Canadian border, is available for \$1 million. This great investment lies on the route of the proposed Northwest Alaskan pipeline, and if you think that may be a little risky there are deposits of copper, gold and molybdenum which can be found within a 60-mile radius. Both communities can also be developed into tourist resorts if all else fails, because both have excellent fishing and hunting areas.





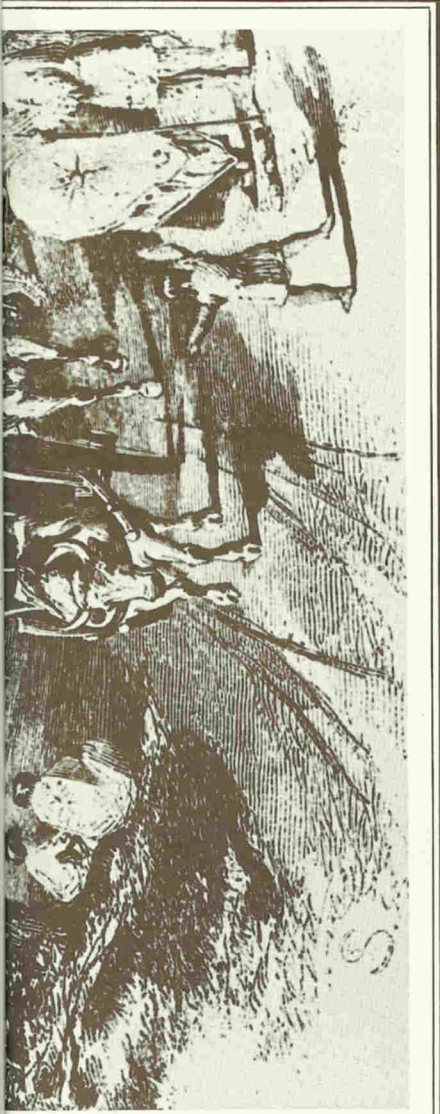


photo courtesy of Glenbow-Alberta Institute

"I felt a sense of pride as my mind wandered back to the past, trying to visualize the time when the ancestors of these people and mine too, roamed and ruled the country and were once a proud and aristocratic race of the whole of North America.

—Louise Trottier Moine

THE *local* NEWS

Southwest Area puts Regina MLAs on spot over jobs, housing, sports centre

Both politicians and Metis leaders must shoulder responsibility to "get to work and start dealing with the social problems facing Native people". Jim Sinclair told six Regina MLA's and a packed audience of 200 at the Regina Friendship Centre March 15.

Sinclair, president of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) was speaking at a meeting arranged by the association's southwest area and Regina local #9 to discuss local issues with the city MLA's.

It was the second public meeting

between the association and politicians in less than a week. On March 11, AMNSIS presented a brief to a committee of the federal cabinet during a pre-election western swing by the Liberal government.

At both meetings the problems of Native unemployment and housing were discussed, but at the meeting with the MLA's provincial issues such as aboriginal rights and hunting and fishing rights were replaced with more local concerns such as construction of a Native sports complex in the city.

Confrontation brings meeting

The issue of the sports complex led to a brief confrontation between culture and youth minister Ned Shillington and AMNSIS executive director Bruce Flamont. The province has so far declined to become involved in funding the proposed \$4 million facility, and Flamont was upset over a letter he had received from Shillington on the question.

"I feel insulted at even having to talk about this," Flamont said, indicating that Shillington's staff had demonstrated they were ill-informed about the need for such a



complex. The letter had said Regina had many "under-utilized facilities" and that transportation to the complex would be a problem.

The AMNSIS director said the issue had already been worked out with the city; that bus routes had been guaranteed; and that there are already problems getting facilities. He referred specifically to a wait of more than two years for a facility for a Native boxing club.

Regina mayor Henry Baker, MLA for Regina-Victoria (NDP) said the boxing facility would not be available before next fall, and reported that he understood agreement had been reached with the provincial government.

"We've put in our share (the city has guaranteed a 15-acre site tax-free at a cost of one dollar a year — worth \$300,000 to \$400,000)", he said, "I'm sure the province will put in its 20 per cent share."

Shillington, MLA for Regina Centre (NDP), said he had never closed the door on the sports complex, but had been told other facilities were available.

"My staff informed me facilities could be made available," he said. "I was proposing that you put together the programs, and we'll find the facilities."

The minister said he was also concerned about operating costs for the centre.

Baker said he was sorry the minister didn't discuss the matter with him. If he had, the mayor said, "I'm sure he'd have supported it as much as the previous minister."

"I think this is a great project," he said, indicating he had grown up playing with Native kids himself. "We as provincial, city and federal governments should get in on this."

Shillington closed the issue by saying he would look into the matter.

"I thought my proposal was reasonable, but obviously you don't," he said. "So perhaps we have to talk about some version of a sports complex."

Housing meetings to come

In discussions that spanned the length of the three-hour meeting, the urgent need for Native housing was answered with renewed promises of action by both the city and



Henry Baker (sitting) didn't back up Ned Shillington at meeting.

the provincial government. Finance minister Walter Smishek, recently appointed minister for housing, offered to meet with AMNSIS officials to discuss programs to meet housing needs in Regina and other Saskatchewan cities.

Fred Storey, AMNSIS consultant, told the meeting the housing issue had a long history of promises without action. He said a 1971 survey had shown "an immediate need for 8,000 new housing units in Regina" and that in 1973, a report to the provincial executive council said 40 per cent of Natives were living in houses without running water.

Storey said the federal government promised 5,000 houses in 1973, and that two years later an agreement was reached between the federal and provincial governments to provide 2,000 houses.

"So far," he said, "we've got 40 houses under the Assisted Home Ownership Program and another

371 in rural areas under Section 40, but half of those are for non-Natives... That's about 50 or 60 houses a year.

"At this rate," he said, "it will take a 100 years to get the houses we needed in 1971, and by then I'd predict half of them will need replacing. Is this a realistic schedule?"

Tony Merchant, MLA for Regina Wascana (Lib) and a federal candidate, said he would argue for an increase in the agreement from 2,000 to 5,000 residences.

With Smishek absent until late in the meeting, Bill Allan, MLA for Regina Rosemont (NDP), tried to handle early questions about housing. He said he understood the problem, but felt one difficulty might be the number of different groups involved in trying to provide Native housing.

He asked whether AMNSIS members would favour building "a block of 150 houses; turned over to AMNSIS." He said some people have argued that this would be setting up a segregated area and be unacceptable.

"I just want to know what you think," he said.

continued



Walter Smishek promised meeting

Dave McKay, AMNSIS housing director and president of the Regina Beach local, said there was no need for questions; that AMNSIS had "been writing you briefs for 10 years." He said 90 to 95 per cent of low income housing built since 1971 was for senior citizens.

He said most of the units AMNSIS now runs are too high-priced for their clients. He argued briefly with Merchant over the need to pay Central Mortgage and Housing lawyers, such as Merchant's firm, thus adding to the cost of the homes.

Baker said he had proposed a block-housing program years ago, but had been shut down by city council. AMNSIS consultant Bill Farley suggested there was no reason the MLA/mayor could not try again.

Shillington rescued Allan after MacKay asked whether the province was now prepared to sign "a 44-1B agreement with the federal government." The agreement would bring the province into a cost-sharing program which guarantees rents do not exceed 22 per cent of rentor's income. Saskatchewan and Quebec are the only two provinces not part of the agreement; Saskatchewan allegedly because they want to have a 75-25 rather than a 50-50 cost-sharing agreement.

Shillington asked that questions be held until Smishek arrived, but when the new housing minister did appear he had to plead ignorance as well.

"I'm not familiar with the details," Smishek said, "but I'm prepared to meet and discuss the matter. If there are benefits to be derived, let's enter into it."

In his closing remarks, Sinclair invited the minister to accompany him to Ottawa in April for a meeting with the federal housing minister. That meeting was arranged during the March 11 meeting with federal Liberals.

Sinclair supported the idea of an all-Native "satellite city". He said it was up to AMNSIS to devise a program and work out the kinks so that the smaller service groups involved in housing could go to work. He said that he was willing

to take the chance a segregated community would become a ghetto.

"If it's a ghetto, we'll be the ones that make it a ghetto," he said.

Jobs said urgent need

Leanne McKay, an AMNSIS program director, said that Native unemployment was in excess of 60 per cent in the province, as compared to 4.2 to 6.1 per cent for others in the province. She criticized unemployment statistics that exclude Natives, prison inmates, students and those who have given up looking for work.

"Since we're not in the statistics, the government does little for us," she said. "Programs are for the people who do show up in the statistics."

She said Natives in the province need 13,000 jobs immediately "to pay for the houses we're fighting for."

Stuart Cameron, MLA for Regina South (Lib) and also a federal candidate, sparked the evening's second confrontation when he replied to McKay. He said he had been shocked when he had learned the Native unemployment rate in Regina is 72 per cent.

He said it is "little wonder ...

tensions are developing in the city, and growing". He said he didn't know what the answers are, but that solutions are needed. He added that earlier remarks by Wayne McKenzie of AMNSIS had been harmful rhetoric.

McKenzie, southwest area director, and president of the Regina local, accused Cameron of not understanding the problems.

"You don't represent Native people," he said. "These aren't social problems, they're political problems."

Merchant laid the problems at the feet of reserve Indian bands "exporting unemployment to the cities". He said a lot of money is spent on reserves; money that bands spend to develop projects and hire band members.

"I'm inclined towards the idea that the federal government should be looking at helping Natives in the cities in the same way as on the reserves," he said. He added that he thought the suggestion of Manpower counsellors with Native backgrounds would help, even though these people might not have the necessary "paper qualifications".

Merchant also asked why the



Wayne McKenzie (left) and Stuart Cameron squared off at meeting

NDP had not lived up to its 1971 election promise of job-placement services for Natives. Shillington said they had tried, but that asking contractors to hire Natives had not worked. He said the only other solution appeared to be quotas, which had been rejected by Natives in the past.

Right kind of leadership

In his summation, Sinclair defended the strong statements made by McKenzie and other AMNSIS officials at the meeting. He said he liked the way they "tell the issues like they are."

"This is the kind of leadership you need," he told the packed audience of AMNSIS supporters. He also applauded the work accomplished at the meeting on concrete issues such as housing and the sports complex.

"People had a lot of hope when they set up the race relations

group," he said. "But you can set up all the race relations boards you want, and unless you start dealing with the outside social problems, you solve nothing."

"It's up to the politicians — and myself — to get to work on the social problems."

The provincial leader supported both the sports complex and satellite city suggestions, and added that more needed to be done in the areas of housing and jobs.

"To make housing projects work," he said, "we need to be involved; to deliver the programs; and make sure they work. We need other programs too, like counselling and placement services and alcohol and drug counselling."

He said work on employment demanded AMNSIS deliver "training programs to our people" — programs that include school programs, better history courses.

He suggested the government

channel the \$2.5 million devoted to the community colleges' NRIM (Non-registered Indian and Metis) program through Dumont College, a proposal that been put to the University of Regina by AMNSIS.

Sinclair also criticized the federal department of regional economic expansion (DREE). He said it is certain some of DREE funds are going into plans for new federal and provincial jails for the province.

"We never asked for jails," he told the audience, "yet you know they're being built exclusively for you."

He said taxpayers' dollars are being wasted on jails, foster homes and other institutions such as welfare, because "our land was taken from us and we have nothing with which to build an economic base." He said money should be redirected from institutions into programs to help build a base, to make Native people self-supporting,

BRIGHT SAND REPORTS GOOD YEAR, HONORS MEMBERS

BRIGHT SAND - "This has been a good year for us," reports a letter from Local #118 of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) here. The letter, addressed to the New Breed, discusses some of the successful programs underway in this community about 40 miles southwest of Meadow Lake.

Of major importance during the past twelve months have been a Canada Works program and a number of different training programs. In addition to talking about the programs, the letter also acknowledges the contributions of several individuals in the service of their people.

Under the Canada Works program, the local has employed nine people with a grant of just over

\$25,000 to assemble some 250,000 board feet of lumber. The plan is to use the lumber to commence a housing project this spring, "if everyone we are dealing with cooperates," says the letter, "and we hope they do."

Training programs

The letter explains the importance to the community of three different training programs organized, along with the Canada Works program, through the efforts of the AMNSIS area and local.

"This year we have 30 people staying in our community who would otherwise have gone to other areas to work," it says.

The training programs involve 18 students — men and women — and

two instructors in classes teaching upholstery, typing and book keeping and carpentry.

In other areas, reports the letter, the local has held five picnics in the past year and hosted one AMNSIS area meeting.

Honourable mentions

The letter singles out four local residents for honourable mentions:

● Anna-Belle Chartrand, "for her love and devotion to all the Native people in our local, and all the work she had done";

● Wilfred Aultman, "for all the kind things he has done, and for working so hard to make our housing project work"; and

● Colin and Carole Davidson, "our past president and his wife", who were married Feb. 17 of this year.

In addition, the letter mentions "all the people who have made our classes and works project what they are today". It says the work and devotion of all those mentioned have made Bright Sand a "nicer place to live", and where the doors are always open to visitors".

PANEL DISCUSSES EFFECT OF POLICE TRAINING ON RACIAL VIOLENCE

Classes on Native culture for police-in-training are a step in the right direction, but much more remains to be done to curb racial violence in Regina, according to panelists at a meeting in the Regina public library March 13.

Social work professor Joe Dufour, city police community services officer Staff Sgt. Ken Walters and Stan Klyne, chairman of the Regina Native Race Relations Association (RNRRA), were panelists at the meeting of "Let's Talk", a series of noon-hour meetings on public affairs topics.

Subject of the March 13 meeting was "Racial violence: Is police training helping?"

Wise move, but...

Dufour, who is also a member of the RNRRA's police training committee, said, "It was a wise move on the part of Natives to take the approach of a race relations group."

He said Native people have neither the numbers nor the powers behind them to try "to take over society in an armed uprising".

In any case, he said, the biggest problem is to change the attitudes not only of Natives, but of the police and society in general.

The RNRRA is involved in providing part of the training program at the local police academy. Trainees receive 46 hours of "cultural awareness" training, of which 10 hours are devoted to the Native culture. Since September, seven two-hour sessions have been spent talking with Natives.

Dufour said police training is one step towards changing attitudes, but, "on the average," he said, "we meet with one officer once every six months." He said police are only part of the front line Natives encounter in their dealings with white, urban society.

"Social workers and other government service workers have to be reached too," he said.

Police aware of problems

Walters said that police "are well aware of the problems of Native people."

He said they know of the numbers of people who are coming into the city in search of jobs; that they are leaving behind their reserves and their culture; and that they are now trying to cope with the problems of a new lifestyle. Police are aware, he said, of the problems Natives face with accommodation, and the frustrations they experience from racism when they come to the city.

But Walters also noted that "it is the duty of police officers to enforce the law; and at times compassion wears a little thin. Therefore, it was decided there was a need for dialogue."

Dialogue and better understanding of the conflicts facing Natives are necessary, he said, if we are to prevent "social violence".

Racism, unemployment

In his address, Klyne said unemployment is the major problem Natives must deal with in Regina; a problem that is compounded by racist attitudes.

He said 70 per cent of Natives in the city are unemployed. With an estimated total Native population of 20,000, this means at least 6,000 Native people are out of work in Regina alone.

Klyne said the high unemployment rate was due "to some degree" to Natives being unskilled; but that racism among employers also had a lot to do with it.

"There must be an effort to make employers, teachers and the white society understand the cultural values of Native people," he said.

Demonstration questioned

During a question period, a woman involved with one of the police training sessions said she had been upset when a group of Native people came in and demonstrated. She said they brought with them a Native person who had been "brutalized by the police."

None of the panelists would comment on the matter, since it is before the courts. But Walters did say it is a police officer's duty "to use no more force than is necessary" to make an arrest.

In response to another question, Walters said "generally it was true" that most violence occurred between Natives.

Native involvement

The panel also discussed the role of Natives in the justice system. Walters mentioned that while there is room for them on the police force, only two of 292 officers currently are Natives.

Dufour said that court decisions often seemed inconsistent: sometimes harsh, sometimes not. He said that a solution might be to have more Natives sitting on the bench.

Walters said that crimes of "Natives against other Natives" were often treated with leniency. He wondered whether Natives on the bench might not appear to be just tokenism.



MOOSE JAW SPONSORS CARNIVAL, BAKE SALE

MOOSE JAW - March 5 the Metis Local #34 of Moose Jaw organized a Native Sports Carnival with approximately 125 people attending. Out of town visitors came from Regina, Regina Beach and Assiniboia.

Arrangements were made with Parks and Recreation to have the sports held at Buffalo Pound. After an exhilarating afternoon of sliding down the snowy slopes and a vigorous tug-o-war, an outdoor cookout was held. The Metis association bought the weiners, buns and soft drinks. Rose McInnes donated nine white fish and the necessary ingredients for grease bannock.

The fish and grease bannock were cooked over an open fire and served with home made deer soup. The deer meat and vegetables were donated by Lorraine Michon and cooked by Rose.

It was the first of its kind to be held in Moose Jaw and everyone is already planning a bigger event for next year. Hopefully this will become an annual event.

Bake sale

On Friday March 3, the Metis Local #34 held a bake sale at the office realizing approximately \$70.00. All the baking was done by the women in the local.

There was very little left over and everyone had a chance to see our new office and meet the staff who are employed there as well as getting to know some of our faithful volunteer workers.

SASKATOON LOCAL JOINS BATTLE FOR METIS STUDIES PROGRAM

SASKATOON - The idea of a Metis studies program at the university level in Saskatchewan has taken root at another location. In a March 11 letter to the board of directors of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS), the president of Local #126 here announced his group has decided to try to establish a Native studies program at the University of Saskatchewan.

This is the second such move from within AMNSIS. Over the past couple of years, the provincial office has been lobbying the provincial government for establishment of a Metis college at the University of Regina. The Regina proposal has tentatively been named Dumont College. As yet there has been no positive response from either the government or the U of Regina.

According to Earl Cook, president of Local #126, in a letter, "a documented, positive history of our Metis Nation should be taught in university classes.

"This would open communications between Native and non-

Native people of Saskatchewan," he says. "It would drastically reduce the negative racial stereotype attitudes the non-Native people have of our people."

Cook says such a program would be particularly important for teacher trainees, especially those who end up teaching Native children after they have completed university education.

"In order for children to learn and become successful, they have to feel good about themselves and their history," the letter says. "Without an accurate knowledge of our history, these educators have problems developing positive self-concepts within our children."

The letter asks for backing from the AMNSIS board in the efforts to establish the program on the Saskatoon campus. The idea has support, of course, but what has to be sorted out, say AMNSIS directors, is whether a campaign for a program in Saskatoon will jeopardize efforts already underway towards Dumont College.

PROTESTS

GREET

CABINET

Continued from Page 3

Little from press conference

At a press conference following the cabinet meeting, prime minister Trudeau denied the costly excursion to the West was part of any election campaign. If the government is to respond to the needs of the country it has to cross this vast land to hear the concerns, he said.

"I can only lament the cynics" who suggest this is a pre-election vote gathering exercise.

Trudeau did admit there might be a problem in the timing of the visit, but said there had been no such talk a year and a half ago when the cabinet went to Bathurst, N.B., for a meeting, or three months ago when the cabinet met in Toronto. The problem he fixed on was when the government should stop acting as a government — should it be six months before an election, or six weeks?

One financial goodie for the West was announced at the press conference. The government has approved plans for continuation of major railway branch line rebuilding in the Prairie provinces.

When asked what profit the West would get if it sent more government members to Ottawa in the next election, Trudeau responded quickly, saying he guessed they would get more government money coming out west.

Otto Lang, one of three Saskatchewan Liberal MPs, and renegade Jack Horner, the only Liberal now representing Alberta, quickly agreed. The more people elected as Liberals for the West, the greater the chances of government benefits coming this way, they said.

With four or five government jets at their disposal, Liberal cabinet ministers spread throughout Saskatchewan to "hear the concerns." At the same time, local Liberal candidates for the next election got the official public handshake, and Liberal supporters throughout the province were able to show the government really does care.

After all, why should they come to Saskatchewan if they don't?



Winter festivals popular passtime



Winter carnivals or festivals are an important part of the cultural and recreational life of Saskatchewan communities, both north and south.

Each year, communities come together for a week, a week-end or even a day, to celebrate winter and the lifestyle — both past and present — that people have adapted to winter work and play.

Contests are held... races on snowshoes and snowmobiles, on skis and by dogsled... otherwise sensible men load hundreds of pounds of flour on their backs and stagger over a measured course... men and boys flaunt extravagantly-beaded leather and fur costumes in search of "king trapper" titles... while each festival usually chooses one the young women as festival queen or princess.

In recent years, other sports — often indoor ones, like boxing — have been added to the festivals.

Recently, festivals were held at Green Lake, Deschambault Lake, Ile a la Crosse and at Buffalo Pound Lake (see story on page 21). Featured on this page are some scenes snapped at the Green Lake and Ile a la Crosse festivals.

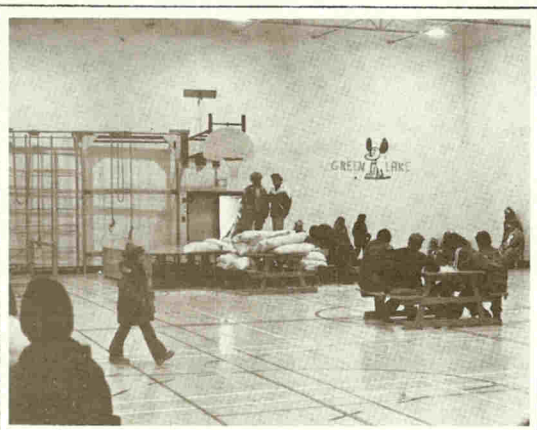




The photos on this page are all from the Green Lake festival; those on the opposite pages are snaps from the festival at Ile a la Crosse.

Those we are able to identify on this page are (clockwise from the upper left): Franklin Carriere, who placed first in king trapper costume competition; George Lafleur, who came second; Norbert Leggit; Marius Bouvier and Jimmy Laliberte (with microphone). Unfortunately, we don't have the names of the two junior king trappers.

Carriere wound up Champion King Trapper of the festival, also winning the "pro event" flour packing with a two-day total of 1600 pounds. Our correspondent Pete Bishop, we should note, came second in novice flour packing with a two-day total of 850 pounds.





Book tells Metis history



Author Jock Carpenter, of Lethbridge, tells the story of her grandmother, Marie Rose Smith — the "Fifty Dollar Bride" — in a fascinating tale of Metis life on the prairies in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The book is reviewed this month in *New Breed*.

What started as a project to research and tell her grandmother's story became, for a Lethbridge Metis woman, a book that talks about the importance of Indian women and Metis people in opening the Canadian West. But Jock Carpenter's book **Fifty Dollar Bride** succeeds, as well, in telling the story of her grandmother and her life on the prairies almost a hundred years ago.

Marie Rose Smith, 1861-1960, was born at Fort Garry into a family who lived the historic life of the Metis — following the buffalo, hunting, making pemmican and trading, with their long lines of slow, creaking Red River carts. At 16, she was married to Scandinavian Charles Smith, who had shown his good intentions with a fifty dollar present to her mother. The book tells Marie Rose's story from childhood to just after her husband's death in 1914; the story of building a ranch life in Alberta, of raising seventeen children, and of her colorful friends and associates on the prairie frontier.

Part of her remarkable story was serialized from her diaries in the **Canadian Cattleman** in the early 1950's. The rest her granddaughter Jock Carpenter uncovered in talks with two of Marie Rose's children, Jock's mother Marie Helen Smith and uncle Robert Smith, and from unpublished diary records.

More than personal

Marie Rose Smith was a remarkable woman; and, as the *New Breed* discovered in a recent interview with her grand-daughter and biographer, Jock Carpenter is not a typical author. In fact, until after she had begun the project of researching this story, she was secretary to the dean of education at the University of Lethbridge.

During research of her grandmother's life, Jock Carpenter found she was on the trail of a story that was broader than the life of even so remarkable a lady as Marie Rose Smith.

"It was important to me to really tell her story," she said, "but now I realized Metis people haven't received credit for opening up the Canadian West. If it wasn't for Metis people, the fur trade would have been impossible.

"Historians also don't give credit to Indian women; without them, the white men who first came west wouldn't have survived."

As a result, Jock Carpenter's book became more than the story of one woman's life. In a sense, it became the story of Everywoman of the prairies a century ago: "It's the story of any woman who was out West in those days."

And it became, as well, the story of the Metis people — their history and their lifestyle, and of the heritage they have left this country.

Attention to detail

Jock Carpenter says this is important today. She feels more people

should be recording the earlier lives of their parents and grand-parents, before those personal histories are lost forever.

"That's important," she says, "because of the way people today are trying to return to an awareness of the importance of those earlier lifestyles. Much of it has been lost already."

In her book, Carpenter paid a great deal of attention to the details of everyday life as it was lived by her grandmother. In a style she says is purposefully "earthy and simple", she gives details of everything from preparing hides and pemmican to erecting teepees and log cabins.

Full circle

The story of Marie Rose Smith chronicles the life of prairie pioneer women and a part of the history of the women of the Metis nation. It details a lifestyle that is regaining respect among the descendants of that nation. And more:

"We seem to have come full circle," says Carpenter. "Metis were instrumental in opening up the West; women were treated with

more equality. Later Indians and Metis (and women) were downgraded. Now our people are becoming aware of the richness of that lifestyle and taking pride in their heritage again."

Part of that process is books like *Fifty Dollar Bride*, and its author, a Metis woman who has moved from secretary to author and chronicler of the history of her people (she is at work on her second book).

Part of it, as well, is the fact that this book, about a prairie woman, written by a prairie woman, is being considered for the high school curriculum in Alberta. It would also make the basis of a fine movie.

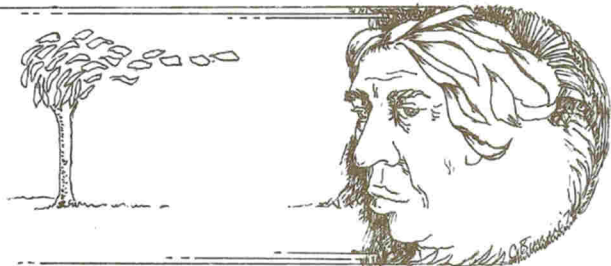
Certainly it is important reading for all people interested in the history of the Metis people on the prairies of a century ago.

Fifty Dollar Bride
by Jock Carpenter,
Gray's Publishing Limited
Sidney, British Columbia

YOU ARE YOU

by Aleata E. Blythe

Old Iaa was an Indian
Perhaps I am Indian too
Because Old Iaa raised me.
Some call me a 'halfbreed'
But they don't know.
Old Iaa never told me
From whence I came
Only that I am me
And that is all that matters.
Some say old Iaa's young wife
Conceived me
From a white man
Who later died
For his deed.
Perhaps tis true —
They say too
The woman was let die
When I was born



And that I too would have died
Had old Iaa
Not come upon the scene.
The old people of the Lodge
Protected themselves from me —
The young threw stones
And called me names.
They say too old Iaa's hair
Turned the color of winter
After I was born.
And that the outcast spirit

That lurks within my soul
Will never cease to wander
Will never find a home,
Because I am neither —
I am a halfbreed.
But I remember what old Iaa taught —
"You are you
It will be what you make it.
Remember — You Are You —
And that is all that matters."

Recreation director is 25-year boxing veteran

"Boxing has, in a large way, been responsible for keeping youngsters out of trouble and instilling pride in themselves," says Claude Petit, recreation director for the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS). In a recent interview with NEW BREED, Petit talked about

his love of the sport and the ways he has worked to promote the sport among young Natives in the province.

A boxer himself, with twenty-five years experience in the sport, Petit takes pride in his personal involvement and achievements in the ring. In 1968, he became the first Canadian to win the British Empire Army Boxing Award — to add to his collection of Golden Gloves awards captured in places like Edmonton (5 times), Billings, Montana, and his four Canadian Army awards.

Organizer now

Since then Petit has stepped out of the ring, but not out of the sport. He has put his experience to work organizing clubs around Saskatchewan to try to give more youngsters a chance at becoming involved in the sport that means so much to him.

With his help, clubs have been formed in Saskatoon, Meadow Lake, Green Lake, Duck Lake, Prince Albert and Regina. Another is currently in the works in Assiniboia.

It's work that Petit speaks of with genuine joy, as he tells of the benefits that can be found in the sport for youngsters. He says he feels a responsibility towards helping children, and sports is one of the best channels for doing this.

Discipline and pride

"Boxing is a sport that develops self pride," he says. "Kids can feel proud of the skill they achieve through hard discipline and working with others."



The kids work hard, not only at boxing but in other sports like hockey, which helps keep them in good physical condition along with their training in boxing. In addition, says Petit, they gain access through boxing to travel, and meeting different individuals. Out of it all, he says, they learn to help themselves and to become more responsible.

Work pays off

For Petit, the rewards are in the privilege of helping youngsters and watching them grow. "It's very exciting to be part of a process helping youngsters help themselves. It's very rewarding watching the kids change over the years, developing healthy attitudes, pride in themselves and pride in their people," he says.

Recently, however, there have been some more tangible rewards both for him and for the young boxers, as the training, discipline and hard work begin to pay off in awards for this new generation. A recent example was the success achieved by Zone 8 at the 1978 Saskatchewan Winter Games. The boys from Zone 8 returned home with a gold, a silver and a bronze medal for their efforts in that competition.

Future plans

Right now Petit is working at trying to gain access to a building in Regina that can be used for a boxing club. AMNSIS has already acquired a good deal of equipment, and Petit is ready to go with all the plans and training programs on paper; all that's needed is the facility. (Plans for a Native Sports Complex in the City came to a standstill recently when the provincial government had second thoughts about arrangements between AMNSIS and the city, provincial and federal governments.)

His concerns include more than just recreation programs and



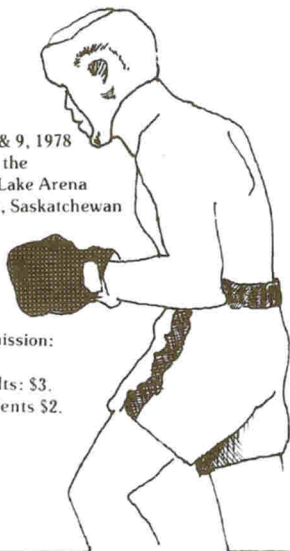
These young boxers from Duck Lake took gold, silver and bronze medals from the Saskatchewan Winter Games held in Moose Jaw.

facilities, however. He is also looking at setting up counselling service for some of the troubled boys he works with. And his long range goal is nationwide:

"The establishment of an all-Native Boxing Association across Canada is one of my long range goals", he said, "since 85% of our boxers are Native anyway." ☆

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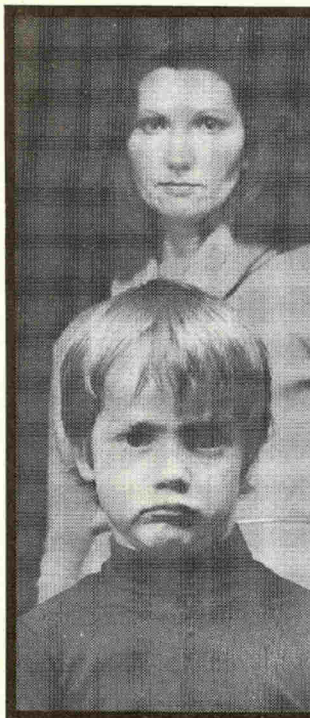
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