

# NEW BREED

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## MAGAZINE

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# NEW BREED

MAGAZINE

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### Issue and Closing

Nine working days prior to publication.

# MESSAGE

## FROM THE MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

Welcome, from the management and staff of New Breed Magazine. New Breed has been a long standing vehicle for the Metis Nation to bring you all of the issues, events and happenings within the Metis Nation. We are taking on a new look and format. We will still be reporting all and any issues that relate to the Metis Nation as they happen. Our new format will consist of such features as an events calendar published every issue. To keep you informed on what's going on. A cooking corner column, a history page, a metis artist's feature every month and much more.

We welcome all editorial stories and photos. It's your comments and stories we want to have. Please let us know what going on in your communities. Send in your recipes and or comments on an issue you wish to have heard.

We at New Breed thank those subscribers that support this publication, but we need more subscribers. We survive on your subscription and any advertising dollars you can direct our way. Please fill out the subscription form on page 21 and return with your cheque.

We also welcome any Businesses wishing to advertise in this unique publication.

Due to format changes we wish to appologize for the delay on this issue.

With your support, financially and editorially, New Breed will be a success and an ongoing publication seving the Metis Nation. Publishing dates and additional information for New Breed is listed in our information column on the inside cover.

## FRONT COVER PHOTO



Remembering Metis heros at Batoche. St. Joseph's Day is celebrated Sunday morning with mass and a procession to the grave site at Parks Canada Historical site. This solem occasion reflects on the Battle fought in Batoche .

# Message From Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Executive

First of all, we would like to thank New Breed for the opportunity to communicate with Metis citizens of Saskatchewan and our readers for your continued support. We have been very busy since our election in February, but always welcome participation from people from our communities. Please keep the lines of communication open.

President Jimmy D has met with several cabinet ministers, Premier Romanow and Prime Minister Chretien in an effort to get the organization moving efficiently again. He

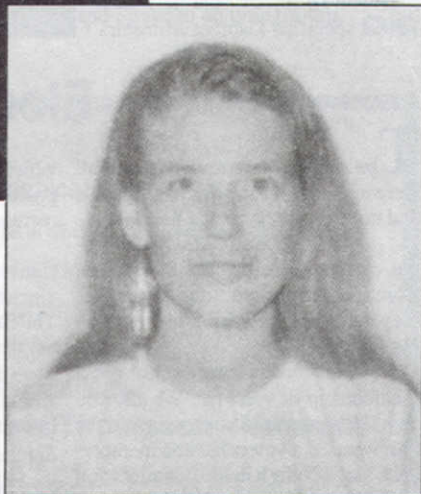


has also been working with Gerald Morin and the Metis National Council on national issues. Treasurer, Allan Morin has had his hands full with bills, budgets, funding proposals and other financial matters. Our Secretary, Lorna has been occupied with organizing the documents of the organization and an-

swering citizenship inquiries. All of us have met with locals and regions

commitment to the METIS ACT and perhaps to further our aim for a land base which includes traditional Metis lands across the province.

We would like to remind you that there will be a Metis Nation Legislative Assembly at Batoche July 20th and 21st and an Annual General Assembly in November, which will be kicked off by Reil Day, November 16th. We will keep you informed through direct communication and your area directors. We look forward to seeing



upon request to the best of our ability.

We commend the regional directors for the great job they are doing with no financial resources. All of us now have portfolios, so we have doubled and tripled

responsibilities. The Provincial Metis Council welcomes each new challenge with enthusiasm, because every day we get a little closer to our goal of Metis self-determination.

We view the upcoming election for the Government of Saskatchewan as an opportunity to gain fulfilment of com-

you there and at the many events our readers so thoughtfully invite us to attend. ∞

# M.N.S. PRESIDENT JIM DUROCHER MEETS WITH PRIME MINISTER CHRETIEN

Saskatoon, Sk., On Saturday March 15, 1995, Metis President Jim Durocher met with Prime Minister Jean Chretien in Saskatoon. Prime Minister Chretien had been on a brief visit to Saskatoon and allocated time to discuss Metis issues with President Durocher.

Durocher made two specific requests to the Prime Minister during their brief meeting. The first request was for the Prime Minister to encourage specific Cabinet Ministers to allocate portion of their time to discuss specific Metis agenda items with Durocher. Prime Minister Chretien made a commitment to President Durocher that he would advise specified Cabinet Ministers

to provide meetings with Durocher to

discuss the Metis agenda.



The sound request was for a future meeting with the Prime Minister either before the summer recess of the House of Commons (June, 95), or, shortly following the sitting of the House of Commons in the fall. The Prime Minister agreed to such a meeting with Durocher. "The object of this Meeting would be to ensure a strong partnership between the Government of Canada and the Metis for the purpose of bettering the lives of the Metis..." stated Durocher. Durocher also stated that he was encouraged by the fact that the Metis are not forgotten by the Prime Minister and his government. ∞

## Elections Review

The appeals were reviewed and all were rejected. There were ten appeals and nine appeared for the hearing.

At this election 6,000 Metis people voted and there was 1,000 ballots which were rejected, due to the fact they were not initialed and other irregularities.

"This election we did not use a membership or voter list. We allowed any Métis person to vote, which in the past we used a voters list and membership," said Nora Ritchie, Commission Member.

"Due to lack of finances we could not train our District Returning Officers because our budget would not allow it," said Electoral Officer Earl Pelletier

There were 20 people who ran for executive positions, 36 for provincial council, 56 candidates in total

which were all running for the various positions of Executives and Area Directors.

There will be a Elections Committee report to be given to the Provincial Metis Executive and Council. The Elections Committee will distribute the report to your region.

If there are concerns contact your area council and they will provide the information you need.

*Election Representatives are:*

### **Executives**

Jim Durocher President  
Lorna Docken Secretary  
Allan Morin Treasurer

### **Area Directors**

Michelle Harding Northern Region I  
Emile Janvier Northern Region II  
Don Favel Northern Region III  
Dale McAuley Eastern Region I  
Clarence Campeau Eastern Region II  
Garry Martin Eastern Region IIA

Leebert Poitras Eastern Region II  
Guy Bouvier Western Region I  
Daryl Larose Western Region IA  
Edwin Pelletier Western Region II  
Robert Doucette Western Region IIA  
Maurice Aubichon Western Region III

The Elections Committee would like to thank every person, Deputy Returning Officers, Poll Clerks for which they volunteered their free time to make this election successful.

The concerns that the Elections Committee received from Métis people or suggestions have been seriously taken under consideration and will be placed within the Election Committees report. Some suggestion are; Advance polling stations, jails, workshops training for Deputy Returning Officers, Poll Clerks & staff.

For our next provincial election we need to implement the issues and concerns of our people, as well review the regulation which we plan to adopt as an election act. ∞

# THE REALITY OF THE UNEMPLOYED IN NORTHERN SASKATCHEWAN COMMUNITIES

Max Morin, Ile A La Crosse

**H**ow would you feel if you were unemployed, didn't have a job, had to go and see the social worker? Most men don't bother going, so the women have to go in order for them to feed their children, pay the rent to the housing board, and the power bill to Sask Power etc.

Your children would ask you how come you didn't work? With them not yet understanding, your response would be "Don't have a job". Plus "maybe I'll get hired later on." They would ask you for money, and you wouldn't have any. They would ask why? Without fully understanding and you would tell them "because I don't have a job".

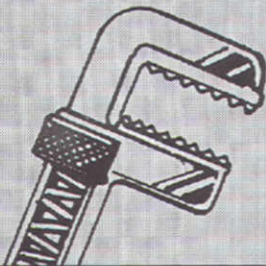
Pretty soon you start feeling bad about yourself. You pick on your family, you lock yourself in the house, don't bother going anywhere because people might call you down. You start looking at alcohol and once you drink you feel good and tough and you won't take any shit from anyone. You start looking drinking up the children's food money, arguing with your wife about the money. You start screaming at each other in front of the children. You leave to settle down the children and wife, but pick a fight on your best friend because he said something at the wrong time, while you were not feeling good about yourself.

The R.M.C.P. are called. You are charged with assault and kept in jail until court day. Your children can not understand why you are in jail, most of the time the children are told you've gone someplace else.

Your wife come to visit whenever she can, bring you cigs etc.

You go to court, get time for your crime, and life goes on. For the family you ask the questions? Is that Right? This problem was created by society and governments in power. I was unemployed trying to raise my family. Couldn't find a job. I Didn't like my situation, had low self esteem and I have to do time for this. ∞

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# PROPOSED GUN CONTROL LEGISLATION

The federal government tabled its new firearms control legislation, Bill C68, in the House of Commons on February 14th. The government claims that Bill C68, will reduce violent crime, suicides, theft, smuggling, and domestic violence. In fact, Bill C68 will have little or no effect on any of these things, but will drastically reduce freedom and security for all Canadians.

## BILL C68

1.) Will grant police the right to enter *without search warrant any place* in Canada where they have "reasonable grounds" to believe that there are firearms, ammunitions, or documents relating to firearms or ammunition. "Reasonable grounds" can be anything from definite proof to and unverified, anonymous phone call. Once inside, police will be able to search anywhere, open anything, and access any data they wish. Everyone present on the premises at the time of the search *will have* to provide all assistance to the police. Failure to do so will be punishable with up to two years in jail.

2. Will grant the government the power to circumvent Parliament with all future firearms laws. At present, proposed legislation must be presented, or tabled, in the house of Commons, where debate can occur. A vote is held in which all members of all parties

participate. Bills either pass or are defeated in this democratic manner.

The government does have limited power to pass laws by Order-in-Council. An Order-in-Council is a decree which is created and passed by Cabinet alone, without ever having to pass through the House of debate. When Cabinet chooses to pass a law by Order-in-Council, it is exercising a very undemocratic power.

At present, the number of firearms related laws that the government can pass by Order-in-Council is limited. However, Bill C68 contains sections which will give the government the power to regulate **everything** relating to firearms by Order-in-Council. This power includes the ability to make the laws apply differently to Aboriginal peoples. However, whether this would mean exemption or a completely different set of rules is not made clear.

Mr. Rock has stated at various times throughout the debate that Native people will not be inconvenienced by the new legislation, and that they will perhaps be ex-

empt. However, he stated at other times during the debate that Native peoples will have to abide by Canadian laws just like everyone else.

We would urge all Metis and First Nations people to maintain a close watch on the events in Ottawa. Get Involved! Contact your M.P. and M.L.A.s and make sure **your interests are looked after.**

## "VOICE OF THE SASKATCHEWAN FIREARMS COMMUNITY"





SASKATCHEWAN RESPONSIBLE FIREARMS OWNERS INC.

**S**askatchewan Responsible Firearms Owners Inc. is a non-profit corporation which act as an umbrella organization to coordinate the political activities of the Saskatchewan firearms community, working closely with existing provincial and national shooting organizations.

S.R.F.O.'s power is based on individual members. Even though firearms legislation is federal, administration of the law is a provincial responsibility. S.R.F.O. has aimed its efforts primarily at the provincial government level, and has achieved a great deal in a short time with only a few thousand members. S.R.F.O. has also lobbied on the fed-

eral level, and has met with Justice Minister Allan Rock twice. Members of the S.R.F.O. executive are scheduled to make a presentation in Ottawa to the House Committee on Bill C68 in early May on behalf of Saskatchewan firearms.

Our membership fee for 1995 is **\$20.00. This will cover our high costs of advertising, lobbying, and postage.** We have arranged for each 1995 S.R.F.O. membership to receive a free subscription to **Canadian Hunting and Shooting** magazine. Informational packages detailing provincial shooting events and updates on legislation changes will be included with each magazine issue. Some people have indicated that they would prefer

not to receive any mailouts or updates when they join. If you have a similar preference, your fee will still be \$20.00, but you will receive nothing in the mail. Please check your preference below. If you already receive Canadian Hunting and Shooting, we would ask that you give the extra copies you will receive to someone else, as it will be quite complicated for us to separately process requests for mailouts with no magazine.

Return your \$20.00 cheque and this form to the address listed below.

*This is your fight. DO NOT rely on everyone else to win it for you.*

**IF BILL C68 PASSES, THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ABLE TO BAN ANYTHING IT CHOOSES  
IF YOU DO NOT BECOME INVOLVED NOW, IT WILL SHORTLY BE TOO LATE!**

*JOIN S.R.F.O. TODAY, MEMBERSHIP COSTS ONLY \$20.00. PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY*

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FAX: (306) 653-3925

**NEWBREED**

# SUCCESS IN TRAINING

Once again the Metis people if given a chance can show what can be accomplished. For years ago, the Metis of Saskatchewan through their Metis Nation Political leaders, signed a deal with the federal Government of Canada and Human Resources Development Canada. This deal was called the Pathways Process in Canada. It gave all Aboriginal peoples the means to start to address their education initiatives towards employment. The Metis Employment & Training Institute of Saskatoon Western Region 2A is just one of twelve offices that were set up to help Metis people enroll in education programs and secure solid employment. We are now in our last year of this agreement and we should now reflecting on our accomplishments.

In the fiscal year of 1994 to spring 1995, the Metis Employment & Training Institute enrolled 118 students into diploma and certificate programs through Western Region 2A of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan. Fifty-six of these students were enrolled into SIAST upgrading courses ranging from grades five to ten and ten to twelve. Nineteen full accredited Institutes were used, ranging from Institutes situated in the city of Saskatoon to Institutes as far away as British Columbia and Alberta. Most of these courses taken are accredited through the Universities of the individual Provinces. The apprenticeship trades were also highly used by clients. These programs allowed the students to access training programs that were either hard to get into or lack of funds by the clients gave the individual no choice, but look at some other means and this usually was a student loan. The Pathways Process gave the Metis people the chance to go to school with no debt

load to think of when they finished and started to look for work.

Summer student programs for our youth has also been a big part of the Pathways Process through our office. It develops our youth in career choices and possible educational courses needed towards a rewarding job in the field of their choice. The stepping stone of our youth towards post secondary education and job security when graduating from their courses. By securing summer employment for our youth it brings out the best in them and gives them a better understanding of how the employment sector works.

Project based programs have been a great step towards employment Initiatives for Metis people through our Institute. Many programs have been run for the Metis people towards access and a better understanding of what it takes to be competitive in the job market. It also has opened up the doors towards educational courses that must be taken towards full time employment in that certain field. The clients begin to understand what education is needed

and what employers require for full time positions with their companies.

Unemployment for Metis people has always been a concern by the Metis people all across Saskatchewan. Metis Employment & Training Institute saw six hundred and fifty two clients walk through the doors to try and help them find employment. Many of these clients found employment from our job board and job terminal bank that's in the office. It helps the client find employment because in the past many jobs were not listed in papers and at the Canda Employment Center. We as the referral agency can help our people through the employment contacts that were networked with our office. If our people are ever to be competitive in the work force they need the training and job experience to secure those jobs that are available and the Pathways Process allow this to happen.

So if the provincial and federal governments get the idea the Pathways Process has not worked then send them to use we have statistics they can take back with them to Parliament.



## METIS EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING INSTITUTE



of Saskatoon  
Western Region 11A  
436 2nd Avenue North  
Saskatoon, Sask.  
S7K 2C3

Telephone (306) 244-1505  
Fax (306) 244-1928

Secretary  
Barbara Scott

Employment Counselor  
Dwayne Docken

Executive Director/  
Co-ordinator  
Dennis Kennedy

Career Counselor  
Tim Poitras



# THE PRIMROSE LAKE AIR WEAPONS RANGE AGREEMENT (P.L.A.W.R.) AGREEMENT 1954-1974

Lawrence Yew

An agreement dated the 4th of August, 1953, was entered into between the Government of Canada and the Government of Saskatchewan reserving an area of approximately 1,575,000 acres or approximately 2,461 square miles north and east of Primrose Lake for the exclusive use by the Government of Canada for military purposes. While the Agreement was stated as being for a period of twenty (20) years from April 1st, 1954. The agreement is, in fact, a perpetual reservation for the Department of National Defence, which may be terminated only at the insistence of the Government of Canada. In exchange for the range, the Federal Government was to pay certain amounts of money to the province, to compensate the province for loss of revenue from mineral resources, forest resources fur, and fish resources, and to pay for the cost of fire protection. Provisions also exist in this agreement for renegotiations of these payments at Federal Governments option, except for those covering mineral resources, and, as we understand it, such renegotiation has recently taken place.

Under the Agreement the federal government accepted; "responsibility for payment of compensation to persons or corporations having rights in the area, including rights in respect of timber (whether lease of freehold), trapping, fur farming, fishing or land settlement."

Following the signing of this agreement, efforts were undertaken by the Department of National Defence to pay compensation to individuals. As far as our research indicates, there were no

incorporated bodies compensation, except Indian Bands

1. No meetings were held to involve local residents in collective discussions in the question of compensation for loss of use of the Range, nor were any attempts made to organize any by the Federal officials. We have received some indication that local conservation officers of provincial government did organized meeting at Cole Bay, but we have not been able to determine how many people were involved, or whether federal officials ever attended to explain what was being negotiated.

2. Several people who were eligible for compensation due to loss of traplines, fishing, cabins, etc., in the area of the Range, were never informed that they were eligible for compensation, or how to go about getting it. Once our research is complete, we will provide a list of these people and their descendants.

3. Most people who signed waiver forms did not receive an adequate explanation of the duration of the Agreement; i.e., most understood that the Agreement was only for 10 to 20 years, not "once-and-for-all-time."

4. Our interviews with people who received compensation in 1954 indicated that people did not understand what they were signing. Few could read or write English, and translators were not present. Several have indicated that they thought they were signing receipts for the cheques they received, not waiving their rights in perpetuity.

5. Since no organizations existed which could collectively represent the interests of people who were losing access to the range area, the question of abo-

original title, or compensation for the loss thereof, was not raised during negotiations. In fact, no negotiations of any kind took place.

These questions raise many others which can only be answered by immediate negotiations with both levels of Government.

However, it is clear that the amount of compensation paid to area residents, particularly those considered "Metis", was totally insufficient.

Governments definitely took advantage of native people, through supposedly removing our rights while not providing adequate compensation, or, more importantly, explaining to people what they were signing or providing any opportunity to negotiate!

At this point and time the communities affected by the Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range (P.L.A.W.R.) Agreement have set up a "Negotiations Committee" representing the communities of Jans Bay, Cole Bay, Beauval and Ile a la Crosse, Sask.

This committee is organized locally to represent the local peoples interests on the P.L.A.W.R. Agreement.

In conclusion the Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range Agreement has expired and the Metis are looking at a comprehensive package that will include immediate compensation and long term economic benefits from resource development.

The Metis do have rights under the Canadian Constitution and they must be full participants on any negotiations regarding the Primrose Lake Air Weapon Range Agreement. ∞

# World War 1 Indian Soldiers

By Dick Byrd

## Did they have to serve?

When Alexander Morris met with Indian leaders during the negotiations of Treaty #3 in 1873 he made the following statement:

"The English never call the Indians out of their country to fight their battles." "In case of war you ask not to be compelled to fight. If it should occur I think the queen would leave you to yourselves. I am sure she would not ask her Indian children to fight for her unless they wished."

With these words, it would seem, Alexander Morris, as the representative of the Canadian government, was leaving Indian military service voluntary. It is more than conjecture that the treaty commissioners did not want to delay land acquisition and saw no pressing need to make exemption to military service explicit in the treaties. This manoeuvre would come back to haunt the Canadian government in just a little over one generation.

In the years prior to the war Indian were not sought after to enlist, although some did. However, in the second year after the war the Canadian high command began to realize a manpower shortage. The attention quickly turned to the Indians. Older Indians concerned about treaty rights, abolished the young men about enlisting. Perhaps, they thought, that if their young men volunteered they would be relinquishing their right to be neutral. After which, other treaty rights might be at jeopardy.

The senior recruiting officers took an opposite view of Indian military service. They felt that Indians who did not enlist were breaking their obli-

gations as Canadians. They argued that there was nothing in the treaties preventing Indian enlistment. After this point Indian agents were to become the main instruments in Indian enlistment. It would seem as guardians of Indian rights in Canada. The agents would be most concerned as to the rights of their charges instead acting on the behalf of the recruiters.

As manpower demands increased, Canada's policies toward Indian military service became more erratic. The Military Service Act said all abled bodied Canadian men would be inducted into the military. This would of course include Indians, but the "Act" presumed all Indians across Canada to have the same situation historically, legally and demographically. If the government thought that all Indians were the same, had the same situations, they would soon realize their mistake. For example, in British Columbia the Allied Tribes of B.C. had long been disputing their land status. They argued that no treaties had legally extinguished their "Aboriginal Title", so they prepared a list of grievances and brought it before a joint committee of federal and provincial departments. The committee not only rejected every grievance but also forbade any further action regarding land claims and added the threat of legal prosecution against any Indians furthering land claims. The indignation of the B.C. Indians almost led to bloodshed. Why would one branch of the Canadian government insult the Indians of B.C. when another was trying desperately to recruit them for the war effort? The terms, miscommunication and bad timing, surely come to mind. Ontario

Mohawks in turn presented their ancient covenant with the British when they reminded Canada that they alone reserved the right to declare war or peace against any enemy of the crown.

The Prairie Indians put forth their most important legal question when a chief from the Treaty 7 area were asked:

"Are we treaty Indians, wards of the Empire, subject to conscription like the independent white man?"

This immediately raised the question of citizenship. The Indian people had only to apply deductive logic:

If an Indian was a ward of the government, he did not have the right to vote-without the right to vote, he did not enjoy full citizenship-conscription should only apply to male citizens-if follows that Indians that did not have to serve in the military. The government would now have to find another solution to this perplexing problem.

In 1917 Canadian parliament enacted the Military Voters Act which gave the vote to all military personal serving overseas including nurses. The Act extended the vote to wives, mothers, sisters and daughters of overseas soldiers. However, where the Indian soldiers were concerned the "Act" had the potential of opening up a hornets nest. First, the thought of some Indian women having the right to vote in federal election, when women in Canada had not yet attained suffrage would never do and what about the extended family in Indian culture? Would other Indian women remotely related also want the vote? The collaborating Federal departments now considered exemption.



Photo courtesy of Edward King

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In January of 1918 a passage was added to the Military Service Act which stated anyone denied of the vote would not have to serve in combat. Conscientious objectors, people who for religious or private reasons would not take up arms, could not vote and did not have to serve, the government was now about to put the Indians in the same basket as pacifists. What kind of a stir would this new measure have when the Canadian public heard that Indians would not have to serve in combat?

What about the Indians already serving in the front lines? Could they come home? The crowing touch to this governmental comedy of errors was with no conscription being held over their heads. Hundreds of young Indians began heading for the induction centre. Not wanting to fan the flames of discontent in the military ranks, the government made one last rule "no more Indian Volunteers they are not by nature adapted even for labour." However, in sharp contradiction they would not allow those already serving to come home.

The question of "Did they have to serve, had now come full circle with the words of Alexander Morris ringing more clear than ever." "In case of war, the Queen would leave you to yourselves to decide." Why didn't the Canadian government do just that - let them decide for themselves. Why did they think they needed coercion for Indian enlistment? Why was the special status of Indians under treaties ignored? Finally, why did the department of Indian Affairs, the custodians of the Indian Act and the Indian rights, vacate their duty and in fact throw in with the senior military recruiters? In the final call even through all this wrangling, thousands of Many never returned. *Lest we forget.* ∞

# Prudent Lapointe's Memiors

*Prudent La Pointe served as land agent at Willow Bunch. His signature is found on most Metis homesteads (scrip) documents. Printed permission of the LaPointe family.*



Louis and Marie Rose (nee Ray) Haggart taken from a post card provided by Senator Edward King.

**O**n April 2, 1883, I arrived at Regina which was then only a tent city. Upon my arrival, I went to see Pascal Bonneau, a French Canadian who came to ranch in Willow Bunch several years later. He had a small store under a tent, later, he would build a bigger store.

It wasn't until mid-August that I found the chance to leave for Willow Bunch with a Metis, Joseph Charrettes, who came from the North and had several (Red River) carts which had wooden ungreased wheels which screeched from morning to night. I travelled to Willow Bunch on one of these, perched atop my suitcase.

We arrived at Jean-Louis Légaré place in Willow Bunch which was built in a coulee near the present town. I was the fifth French Canadian to live in Willow Bunch which was comprised of some forty families, partly made up of Sioux Indians. They had no land, only some buildings in the coulees and ravines. The buffalo hunt having been poor the previous year, they had nothing to do except hunt game: muskrat, fox, prairie wolf, coyote. They each had several horses, some were race horses, well - trained to hunt buffalo. The older Métis found life hard because of the lack of buffalo meat and in the following years, these same

Métis who had lived off this good buffalo meat were reduced to gathering buffalo bones and selling them in Moose Jaw, 85 miles away, for \$6.00 a ton.

On December 5 of that same year, I left with four Métis, that is, Narcisse Lacerte, Antoine Gosselin and his two sons to go buffalo hunting. That fall, a party of Métis had gone hunting and returned with a lot of meat.

We headed towards the Missouri Coteau where we expected to find buffalo. Three days after our departure, the wind came up and it started to storm and we had to find refuge in a coulee.

We had a tent and a small sheet metal stove but we didn't have much wood, being on the prairie and it was quite difficult to carry some along with us on these trips. When we lacked wood, it was customary to burn buffalo cakes. The storm lasted two days and finally we left to look for buffalo. At sunset on the second day, (around four o'clock) we spotted with our binoculars a herd of buffalo (we counted fourteen) two miles away. After discussion, the elders decided to chase them.

I was of the opinion that we should return home but we had to obey the elders and they were not so easily discouraged; this was nothing compared to what they had endured on previous trips when they had to eat poisoned wolf or to chew on their moccasins; they couldn't go home empty handed when they had families to feed. So off we went, some with traps, other with poisoned meat for wolves or foxes.

The continuing cold and storms prevented us from locating the animals we had poisoned. We lacked everything. On New Year's Day 1884, we only had a muskrat to share among the five of us.

The winter of 1884 passed uneventfully except that I attended my first Sioux Indian dance. Several families had wintered at Willow Bunch, the others having gone to Wood Mountain or Moose Jaw. They had nicknamed me Barbe Rouge (Red beard), Poutais Zi in their language. I would try to make them say Prudent, but they'd say Burludant or Bridenb.

In the fall of 1882, Reverend Father Saint Germain came from the mission of Qu'Appelle to reside among us. At that time, we didn't yet have the chapel in Willow Bunch. The Reverend Father said Mass in Mr. Légaré's private home. In the spring of 1884, we decided to build a chapel. As we had to transport lumber 110 miles, it was decided that we would build the

chapel off logs, with everyone responsible for furnishing and squaring off log. For the roof, we bought shingles. Finally everyone set to work and about July 1, our chapel was finished and were we proud! Father Saint Germain stayed with us for several more years.

The winter of 1884-1885 was drawing close, that is to say, about mid-March, when we heard that the Métis in the northern part of the province, in Duck Lake and Batoche, had rebelled under the orders of Louis Riel and his Lieutenant Gabriel Dumont. At that time, we received our mail once a month from the Mounted Police residing at Wood Mountain. Towards the end of March, several Métis left for Moose Jaw. On the way, they met some Scouts, people hired by the government to patrol "Dirty Mountain", some thirty miles south of Moose Jaw. These Scouts asked the Métis where they were going. Being told that they would be arrested. When they arrived back in Willow Bunch, some people wouldn't believe their story so they tried to return to Moose Jaw but once again, they were turned back. What could we do? Our supplies were running low, we had to have food. So Mr. Légaré decided to go himself. He left with several carts and succeeded in crossing the Scouts' line because several of them had heard of him, and knowing that he wasn't Métis, they didn't fear that he would be joining Métis in the North. The government had placed these Scouts in that position to prevent the Métis from Willow Bunch from reinforcing their Métis brothers in the North. That is probably what would have happened if the Métis could have travelled with their families. As it was, they hesitated to leave their families without food. Once in Moose Jaw, Mr. Légaré was summoned by Governor Dewdney in Regina who informed him that the Willow Bunch Métis were not free to leave Willow Bunch. Knowing the

Precarious standard of living of the Métis, Mr. Légaré pleaded in their favour and requested that they be free to earn their families livelihood. In the spring, they wanted to transport buffalo bone to Moose Jaw, their only way to earn money, even if they didn't earn much and life was hard. As a discouraged Mr. Légaré was leaving the Governor, he was called back and offered this proposition: "Mr. Légaré, I see only one solution to help our Willow Bunch Métis. You say they are suffering from hunger. If they agree, I shall hire them Scouts. Their duty will be to prevent any rebels from crossing into Montana. You will hire any man who can ride, young or old. They will provide their own horses, you will disperse them four by four, each party will have a tent and the necessary supplies. The government will pay each rider \$45.00 and if they accept, I will not require them to swear an oath and I want you to be their captain. I hope they will do their duty. Otherwise, I can't let them leave Willow Bunch and I will maintain a cordon of Scouts and they will be unable to escape." These are the very words used by Mr. Légaré to report on his interview with the Governor. Upon his arrival in Willow Bunch, Mr. Légaré called all the Métis to a meeting, explained the situation and the Governor's offer. I was present and I will always remember that stormy meeting. Several elders accused Mr. Légaré of having sold them out to the Governor, threatened him with death if anything happened to their relatives. I tried myself to make them understand that there was no advantage to Mr. Légaré in betraying them, that this proposal to the Métis so they could make up their own mind, that nobody was obliged to hire out, when an elder came forward and told me to shut up or else, that I had been too full of advice. The young people all wanted to hire out and the next day, 45 of them decided to accept the offer, so we took their

names, and the following days, Mr. Légaré assigned them their posts, always near lakes. They only had to hunt and eat and they made a lot of money during this Rebellion.

Many of the young people who had hired out as Scouts told me several times how they had given shelter in their tents to Métis escaping at the end of the war, lacking food or with horses worn out after a long race. These people were being helped by our Métis to cross the lines into Montana, by receiving supplies or a horse. These scouts worked for almost two months,

being discharged only at the end of the rebellion.

A detachment of the Mounted Police was located in Willow Bunch for a couple of years. A Sergeant Martin was in charge, I believe he died at Qu'Appelle Lake a few years later. Americans and Indians crossed to the Canadian side and stole horses. The Mounted Police could not often catch these thieves. That year, my brother Joseph had all his horses stolen. Fortunately, an old Métis, by the name of Narcisse Lacerte could track on the run and they arrived at Rivière aux Trem-

bles (Aspen River), 115 miles south, only an hour after the Indian thieves had arrived home. Joseph located his horses immediately, but was ordered by the Reserve agent to pay \$5.00 a head to compensate his soldiers.

In the summer of 1886, no incidents, life was very quiet. That summer, there was only myself and a Métis named Brière in Willow Bunch. The Métis were carting buffalo bones and Mr. Légaré was gone to sell horses in Manitoba. Father St Germain was visiting at Qu'Appelle Lake. The summer was very long. We had a few visitors from Montana and the Mounted Police.

Until 1889, Mr. Légaré would leave to buy horses in Montana each fall and return to Manitoba each spring to resell them or exchange them for cattle. He had decided to try ranching and at the same time, he wanted to build a cheese factory that he started up in 1891.

During the winter of 1890, Mr. Légaré was anxious to purchase a goodly amount of cattle or milk cows so he asked me to go buy horses in Montana. He did have good bunch of horses that he could have sold in the spring but he didn't have enough to allow to buy enough milk cows for the cheese factory.

I therefore left on February 5, 1890 with two good Métis horsemen, Francois Lafournaise and Jonny Chartrand; the latter was a good guide. We brought along two saddle horses and one horse harnessed to a jumper. We planned to go to "Sun River", some 500 miles from Willow Bunch (probably a tributary of Missouri near Bozeman, Montana.) Our first step was to reach Fort Belnap, located on the Milk River, 200 miles from Willow Bunch.

In the spring of 1889, I decided to buy a farm and raise cattle. I built a house and other buildings. But in the spring of 1891, Mr. Légaré started the operation of the cheese factory that he



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# ABORIGINAL COURTWORKER PROGRAM STARTS MAY 1

had built and he asked me to run his store as well as the cheese factory, so I came back to work for him. He had distributed his mild cows among the Métis families who then looked after getting the milk to the cheese factory. This greatly help to support the population of Willow Bunch: the factory produced as much as three hundred pounds of cheese a day. The first cheesemaker was Gaspard Beaupré, followed by Mr. Joseph Boucher who came from St Gabriel de Brandon to replace him. The big inconvenience was that the cheese had to be transported to Moose Jaw. It was so far away that the cheese had often spoilt by the time it arrived. The winter of 1894 was very cold and with two thousand cattle on hand, it caused the demise of the industry that had so helped the population of Willow Bunch.

About the first school built in Willow Bunch. It was built in 1886, my brother Joseph was the first to teach in Willow Bunch to everyone's satisfaction. I was a school trustee for several years along with Mr. Légaré, was also the treasure. The third trustee was a Métis, Narcisse Lacerte. I had to go from house to house to collect enough taxes to support our school. The majority of Métis didn't want to pay, saying taxes were already high enough, that the school was not their facility if they had to pay more taxes. Times have changed; today, everybody hurries to the Municipal Office to pay and there is less criticism. ∞

Justice Minister Bob Mitchell, Chief Blaine Favel of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN), and President Jim Durocher of Metis Nation of Saskatchewan (MNS), today announced that the new Aboriginal Courtworker Program will be operational May 1, 1995.

"We have worked together to develop a program that will assist aboriginal people, especially youth, who are involved with the court system to understand their rights, options and responsibilities, as well as the precedures in the court," Mitchell said. "Now we are ready to work together to administer the program and enure its success."

Mitchell said that 28 full and part-time courtworkers have been hired by 13 community-based aboriginal agencies. The courtworkers are completing in-class and courtroom training in April before returning to their home communities to provide services effective May 1.

Co-managed by the province, the FSIN and the MNS, the Saskatchewan Aboriginal Courtworker Program is funded on a 50 to 50 cost-share basis by the provincial and federal governments.

"The courtworker is a positive interim step in reforming the current criminal justice system," Chief Favel said. "Such developments are necessary to address the immediate needs of aboriginal people in conflict with the law."

"We hope this program will help the justice system to appreciate the cultural traditions, values and customs of our peoples," Durocher said.

The aboriginal agencies are: the Onion Lake Cree Nation, one courtworker; the Battleford Tribal

Council, on courtworker; the Northwest Friendship Centre, Meadow Lake, 2.5 courtworkers; including one in La Loche' the Beauval Metis Local, .5 courtworker; the Prince Albert Grand Council, 3.5 courtworker positions, including part-time staff in Fond du Lac, Stony Rapid, Wollaston Lake, La Ronge, Cumberland House and Pelican Narrows; the Prince Albert Indian and Metis Friendship Centre, two positions; Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Eastern Region II, Archerwill, one courtworker; Metis Family and Community Justice Services, Saskatoon, 1.5 courtworkers; the Saskatoon Tribal Council, two courtworkers; the Yorkton Tribal Council, 2.5 courtworkers; the Regina Friendship Centre, one courtworker; Touchwood File Hills Qu'Apple Tribal Council, two courtworkers; and, the Southeast Metis Development Corporation, Fort Qu'Appelle, .5 position.

The Aboriginal Courtworker Commission Act has been introduced in the legislative assembly. It will establish an independent, co-managed commission to administer the delivery of courtworker services to aboriginal people.

The Metis Nation Courtworkers in your area are as follows:

Beaval	Debra Laliberté
Archerwill	Kelly Pruden
Saskatoon	Vance Winegarden
Blaine Lake, Rostern	May Henderson (P/T)
Fort Qu'Appelle	Daryl Desjarlais



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMES TO METIS PEOPLE

## METIS WOMEN - EASTERN REGION IIA

The Metis Women, Eastern Region IIA exists to serve the Metis Nation, Metis Women and children working towards Metis self-determination at all levels. The Metis Women - Eastern Region IIA was formed to assist Metis people, women and children in particular, in accessing programs and services and to deal positively and effectively with issues which affect us. We have two primary goals; to unite Metis people and improve the everyday life conditions of Metis women and children.

The Metis Women - Eastern Region IIA, has engaged in activities, foremost being that of developing an organizational structure which will effectively serve our needs. The Metis Women-Eastern Region IIA, has also developed cooperative working relationships with other organizations and institutions which deal with issues the same or similar to ours. This includes the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan, the Eastern Assiniboine Training & Employment Inc., Eastern Region IIA, the Gabriel Dumont Institute of Metis Studies and Applied Research, Yorkton and area services/program provides us (Social Services, Legal Aid, Mental Health, Victims Dept. RCMP, etc.), as part of our overall efforts to coordinate work, the Yorkton Metis Women have been successful accessing the Community Action Plan for Children (CAPC), the program is sponsored by the Federal Government Ministry of Health to promote healthy children.

### Metis Women of Yorkton Child & Family Services

Brenda Chartrand was hired by the Metis Women of Yorkton for the position of Program Development Co-

ordinator, Child & Family Services Project under the direction of the board, Brenda will facilitate the extension of services to Metis families who would not otherwise access these services.

Brenda has been involved with the Metis Nation and Metis Women organization for the past 20 years. She left Yorkton for approximately 5 years to pursue a career in Metis Human Justice. She attended the Gabriel Dumont Institute in Prince Albert from June 1991 to April 1993, receiving a certificate in Human Justice. Brenda then became employed as a Drug & Alcohol Counsellor at the Whitespruce Youth Treatment Centre in Yorkton until she was hired by the Metis Women of Yorkton.

As Program Development Coordinator, Brenda will develop and implement programs designed to remove children from risk. This will include the partnership of identified agencies to restructure existing services to take the Metis Culture and values into account.

The goals of the Metis Women of Yorkton, Child and Family Services Program are:

- 1) To develop and/or modify existing programs to support the Metis culture.
  - 2) To provide needed services to the Metis Women and children in our area.
- For more information contact Brenda Chartrand at 283 Myrtle Avenue, Yorkton, Sask., S3N 1R5 or telephone at (306) 782-1855

In light of these initiatives, the Metis Women Eastern Region IIA had a Practical Planning Workshop April 29, 1995 in Yorkton, Saskatchewan as

described here is:

- Facilitation in strategic planning and identifying services that are presently existing.
- Why we must work together today in order to provide a solid "Metis Nation"
- Way to organize, network and develop common front issues of importance to Metis Women.
- What will development mean to our future programs and services;
- Development of regional networks within community organizations.

Participants of the workshop were Metis Women - Eastern Region IIA

I would like to thank the Metis Women of Eastern Region IIA the opportunity to continue to represent us on a provincial level and Lance LaRose of Metis Family Community Justice Services.

My objective is and always will be "to work with all Metis Women in the fullest of my ability, and to promote the importance of all women and children's issues such as; Education, socio-economic, justice and other related issues.

With great pleasure of representing and building the future of all Metis women of Eastern Region IIA.

**Darlene Langan Area Director  
Metis Women - Eastern Region IIA**





# MESSAGE FROM METIS WOMEN'S PRESIDENT JANICE HENRY

When elected into my position as President for the Metis Women of Saskatchewan, I made a commitment to have an open line of communication with the Metis Women in this province. Please accept this brief submission as my first endeavour with respect to this commitment.

Firstly, I would like to clarify why I chose this type of communication. Through discussion I discovered that this issue was going to be mass circulated which would be accessed. Also I believe that we have a responsibility to support Metis initiatives.

To actually address the issue of my activities in the last several months the word "hectic" pretty much sums it up. On March 25 & 26, 1995 Metis Women of Saskatchewan held a General Meeting. In view of the reality of the time restrictions with which to plan this meeting it was truly a great success. There was approximately 115

women in attendance and all women appeared comfortable and communication was excellent. Special thanks to all the women who attended the event, as your inclusion is critical to the success of the Metis Women.

As President of the Metis Women of Saskatchewan, I am automatically a member of the Metis National Council of Women. Recently, I had the opportunity to travel to Ottawa and meet with the President of the Metis National Council of Women. Also I have attended in New York and represented Saskatchewan (MNCW) with respect to a Non Governmental Meeting that was held on the Status of Women. This meeting was held specifically as a preparatory component for an International Women's Conference to be held in Beijing, China (Sept., 1995). May accommodations were at the exclusive New York YMCA in the heart of downtown N.Y.

Another exciting turn of events is that I was recently appointed as Minister responsible for Metis Justice and Family Services. This appointment is tremendous step for the Metis Women in view of the reality that these areas are of priority with our women. This stance taken by President Jim Durocher further demonstrates the commitment the MNS has to the Metis Women inclusion.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Metis Women in this Province for entrusting me with my position. I will continue to strive for the actualization of Metis Women initiatives. Open communication is the key to effectively addressing the issues that are paramount to us. Please contact me if I can be of any support.

*United In The Metis Nation!*



## MOTHER-DAUGHTER DUO WIN IN PROVINCIAL ARM WRESTLING TOURNEY

The provincial arm wrestling championships were just held in Prince Albert. Bernice Pelletier of Prince Albert was named the Saskatchewan Female Arm Wrestler of the year based on points accumulated during the tournament

circuit. Her 12 year old daughter, Lisa Pelletier, was second. The mother-daughter duo finished first and second, respectively, in the women's 80- kilo right arm. It is the first full year of competitive arm wrestling for both.

Bernice Pelletier got her first taste of competitive arm wrestling last summer, which the shopping mall hosted.

"I used to arm wrestle at home on the kitchen table but this is a whole different ball game," said Bernice.

She also competed against her daughter, which really adds quite a bit excitement because I she's pretty powerful. I joined a club this year so I could get her motivated. "By next year she'll be putting me down."



# Cook's CORNER

## BANNOCK

5 Cups Flour  
3 Teaspoons Baking Powder  
3 Teaspoons Shortening (heaping)  
1 Teaspoon salt  
2 1/2 cups milk

Thoroughly mix all dry ingredients, add shortening and mix well breaking down the shortening into small pieces. Add milk and mix well. Bake at 350 degrees until brown.

I usually spray my baking sheet with pam or grease the pan to prevent the bannock from sticking.

**FOR DIFFERENT FLAVOUR:**  
Substitute: 2 1/2 cups buttermilk and 1 teaspoon baking soda in place of milk

or

*Add some grated cheese to your dry mixture before adding the milk.*

*Submitted by  
Betty Fisher*



# The Aboriginal Soldier After the Wars

Standing Senate Committee on Aboriginal Peoples

Ottawa March 29, 1995, Senator Raynell Andreychuk, chairperson of the Standing Senate Committee on Aboriginal People, today tabled a report on the treatment of Aboriginal veterans following the First and Second World Wars and the Korean War.

Over the past year, member of the Committee were deeply shocked and saddened by the compelling personal testimony of ill treatment of Aboriginal veterans' recollections of bravery at war, then neglect at home, the Committee has called the Government of Canada, on behalf of the Canadian people, to recognize the special contribution of Aboriginal soldiers during wars and to apologize for the inequities and insensitive treatment these Canadian soldiers experience in the post-war years.

"Aboriginal people from all over Canada treaty Indians from the Prairies, Indians from remote and urban settings, Metis and Inuit from far flung locations - went to war to fight for freedom and justice beside all other Canadian soldiers," said Senator Andreychuk. "When they came home, they discovered nothing had changed for them. Intolerance and injustice persisted. Metis and Inuit were forgot-

ten. *The Indian Act* restricted the rights of status Indians.

The Committee's Deputy Chairman and initiator of the study, Senator Len Marchand, himself a status Indian, is pleased to announce that the Committee is also calling for the establishment of scholarship fund. "If we are serious about saying we are sorry, that this will not happen again, the government must set up this fund. Providing a scholarship will be both an acknowledgement of the wrongs of the past and a ray of the hope for the future."

Government officials assured the Senators of their commitment to providing services to Aboriginal veterans. The report therefore recommends that the Department of Veterans Affairs follow up promptly on concerns of the veterans who wrote or spoke to the Committee. Attention to the problems of these approximately one hundred individuals is just a start. Appropriate services must also be provided to aboriginal veterans. Finally, the Committee calls on the Department of Veterans and Indian Affairs, together with other responsible federal departments, to give attention to improving the living conditions of all Aboriginal peoples in Canada. ∞

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March 10, 1992

## To the Metis People of Canada

As the Member of Parliament for Don Valley East, I wish to convey to you my sincere congratulations on the occasion of the House of Commons having unanimously passed the following motion:

That this House take note that the Metis people of Rupert's Land and the North Western Territory through democratic structures and procedures took effective steps to maintain order and protect the lives, rights and property of the people of the Red River;

That this House take note that, in 1870 under the leadership of Louis Riel, the Metis of the Red River adopted a List of Rights;

That this House take note that, based on the List of Rights, Louis Riel negotiated the terms for the admission of Rupert's Land and the North Western Territory into the Dominion of Canada;

That this House take note that these terms for admission form part of the Manitoba Act;

That this House take note that, after negotiating Manitoba's entry into Confederation, Louis Riel was thrice elected to the House of Commons;

That this House take note that, in 1885, Louis Riel paid with his life for his leadership in a movement which fought for the maintenance of the rights and freedoms of the Metis people;

That this House take note that the Constitution Act, 1982, recognizes and affirms the existing aboriginal and treaty rights of the Metis;

That this House take note that since the death of Louis Riel, the Metis people have honoured his memory and continued his purposes in their honourable striving for the implementation of those rights.

That this House recognize the unique and historic role of Louis Riel as a founder of Manitoba and his contribution in the development of Confederation; and

That this House support by its actions the true attainment, both in principle and practice, of the constitutional rights of the Metis people.

It is a privilege for me to share this special moment with you.

*Alan Redway*  
The Honourable Alan Redway,  
P.C., Q.C., M.P.



# METIS FAMILY AND COMMUNITY JUSTICE SERVICES REUNIFICATION

Lynn LaRose, Reunification Officer

Metis Family and Community Justice Services Inc. in Saskatoon initiated a program in 1993 called Family Connections in which its goal is to search for biological families to possibly reunite them with their families and/or communities. The name of the program has since been changed to the "Reunification Program".

Metis Family and Community Justice Services Inc. receives may calls from all over in the United States from far away as Kentucky and Florida. We

also receive many calls from all across Canada from the east to the west coast.

Calls and letters are received weekly, and although a reunion cannot be guaranteed the search is taken seriously and set upon at once.

Clients are referred to MFCJS from various provinces and prominent members in the community such as therapists, Social Services and other family service groups. We also utilize resources from other provinces and if need be we refer our clients over to

them if the search is headed that way.

We have had some successful searches ending in reunions and are pleased that in some way we have given back to these people their heritage, culture and most importantly their loved ones.

Special thanks goes to Heather Cooke and Arden Moore for their valuable input in initiating the program.



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McKay Tech Inc., Universal Career College, and the Academy of Learning are active members of the Saskatchewan Association of Career Colleges, the National Association of Career Colleges, and the Better Business Bureau.

### Why a Private Career School?

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people choose to enroll in privately funded career training facilities. Schools like McKay Tech Inc., Universal Career College, and the Academy of Learning exist to provide students with the best chance of gaining fruitful employment in the real world.

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Private schools are dedicated to helping people become successful. We are aware of the needs of the market and will make every effort to assure the graduates are qualified for work. We cannot guarantee employment, or promise to find jobs for our students, but we know that if we provide the tools and skills, the person really interested in success will be ready to apply the determination necessary to succeed.

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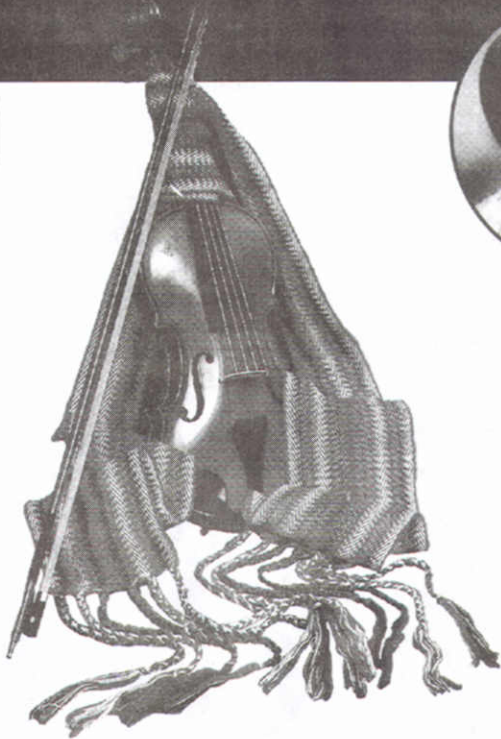


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