

To. F. H. Jones - From Phil
- how are these people doing -

T I I E

A R O O S T O O K

I N D I A N

Vol. # 3 No. 10 P. O. Box 223 Houlton, Maine 04730 October 1971
Tel. (207) 532-6452

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

At the present time, the Association of Aroostook Indians has a job opening for the position of Youth Coordinator. The Youth Coordinator will have general responsibility for the coordination of all youth programs available to Aroostook Indians and for the development of new programs. Present programs this person will be in charge of will be the summer camp program and the tutorial program. New programs may include camping, field trips, scholarships, school placement, counselling and others. The individual (male or female) hired for this position shall receive a salary of ninety (\$90) dollars per week plus expenses. All perspective applicants will be interviewed by a committee appointed by the Board. Preference will be given to Indians who apply and there are no specific formal education requirements. Hiring will be done on basis of ability and experience. Applications may be obtained by writing to the Association of Aroostook Indians, P. O. Box 223, Houlton, Maine, 04730.

TUTORIAL PROGRAM

The Association of Aroostook Indians and Ricker College are sponsoring a tutorial program for Indian children in Aroostook County during the 1971-72 school year. This year we are recruiting college students from the University of Maine at Presque Isle to serve as tutors so that the Indian children can be accommodated in and around that area.

This program is not only for children who are having a hard time in school, but it can help any Indian child to learn to enjoy school and schoolwork. The tutors will be assigned to one child for a few hours each week. The final determination of when and where the tutoring will be done will have to be a joint decision of the tutor, the child, and the child's parents.

Applications have been mailed out to the Indian population in Aroostook County. If you have not received an application and you would like to have your child tutored, please contact the Association.

(NOTE: These tutors will be operating on a volunteer basis.)

FIRST INDIAN GAINS TOP STATE POST

AUGUSTA (AP) - Gov. Kenneth M. Curtis Wednesday (Sept. 22, 1971) appointed John Stevens, governor of the Indian Township reservation at Princeton, as Maine's new Indian Affairs Commissioner.

He is the first Indian ever named to a top state post.

Stevens, who has been governor of the Passamaquoddy reservation since 1954, will succeed James Murphy of Dexter.

"Gov. Stevens has been an outstanding leader. It is almost hard to believe that, as a young man not quite yet 40 years old, he has already served as governor of Indian Township for 17 years. During that time, he has achieved a record of outstanding success," Curtis said in announcing the appointment.

Stevens was selected from 85 applicants whose qualifications were reviewed by the governors of Maine's two other Indian reservations and the lieutenant governor of Indian Township.

Murphy resigned last summer, but agreed to stay on the job until a replacement could be selected. He is reportedly moving to another state post, but hasn't as yet detailed his future plans.

Curtis' appointment is a personal one and not subject to Executive Council approval.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

We wish to offer our support to John Stevens and also wish him success and luck in his new endeavor.

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HOULTON CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Tom Battiste, Gregory Buesing (AAI staff members) and his wife Jean have joined the Houlton Citizens Advisory Council. This group was set up by the

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Houlton Town Council to advise it. Although it has no power to make decisions, it can publicize issues and study problems. Right now it is made up almost entirely of young (under 40 years) men. There is only one Indian (Tom) and one woman (Jean). There are no low-income people.

This committee will play an important part in getting federal housing into Houlton. If you live in Houlton and want to get your foot into the town government, the Houlton Citizens Advisory Council is a good thing to join. Contact the AAI office for further information

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FOR ANY INTERESTED INDIAN MAN OR WOMAN:

There is still an opening for any interested Indian person to be trained in the audio-visual field at the University of Maine in Farmington. This is a two year program in media technology which will prepare a person to work in schools, communications, hospitals or any other place where media technology can apply. "Media Specialist" is a new term for audio-visual specialist. The program will consist of classroom and laboratory work with special emphasis on a working internship at the audio-visual center at the University of Maine in Farmington. If anyone is interested, please contact:

University of Maine in Farmington
Basic Studies Program
Franklin Hall
Farmington, Me. 04938

or:

A.A.I., Inc.
P. O. Box 223
Houlton, Me. 04730

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The following is a letter we received September 3rd, 1971, requesting the whereabouts of a certain John Tenass. If anyone knows his whereabouts, please contact:

Mr. Allan Richard Francis
Site I, Box 13
R.R. # 1
Newcastle, New Brunswick

The Association of Aroostook Indians
P. O. Box 223
Houlton, Maine 04730

We would like to hear of him and if possible directly from him. We are hoping that we will hear from you very soon.

Very truly yours,

Family & Grand Children
(Francis & Tenass)
Allan Richard Francis

ARF/cs

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Dear Sirs:

Hopefully Happy News

Mr. Allan Richard Francis and Family
Site I, Box 13
R.R. # 1
Newcastle, New Brunswick

First, we should give our location here in Canada. It is called "Eel Ground Indian Micmac Reservation," located just outside of Newcastle, New Brunswick, about 110 miles from Fredericton, N.B.

Dear Mr. Francis:

We are printing your letter in the Association's newsletter, The Aroostook Indian in the hope that someone here might know where your grandfather is.

It had been for such a long time trying to locate this person and then just a few days ago my uncle, Peter Tenass, brother of John Tenass, was in Houlton, Maine and brought a copy of the A.A.I. of July, 1971, with the story of Miramichi Fire as explained by John Tenass.

The story about the Miramichi Fire was taken from a book by a Dr. & Mrs. Wallis entitled The Micmac Indians of Eastern Canada. Although the book was printed in 1955, it was based on notes made by Mr. Wallis in the 1920's.

We hope your search will be successful.

John Tenass as mentioned in the article of Miramichi Fire, we feel, would be our Grand Father, and if so, located his identity to verify that he'd be the father of Mrs. Philip Francis (Josephine Tenass), Mrs. Frank Ward, Sr. (Dorothy Tenass), and the husband of former Margaret Bernard.

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FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR INDIAN STUDENTS

He left one day in 1948 after the confusion between him and another man and he never returned. It has been since then his family members had been trying to seek his location or his whereabouts.

There is limited financial assistance for Indian students attending school away from home available through the Catholic Church's Division of Indian Services in Bangor, Maine. A student may apply for up to \$300 for a full year. Applications may be obtained by writing or calling Mrs. Helen Ciganik, Brissette Road, Caribou, or Tom Battiste of the Association of Aroostook Indians, P. O. Box 223, Houlton, Maine.

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The following comments were made by several of the young participants in the summer camp program, July 18th - August 8th, 1971:

"Dick (Laughing) was an active member of the camp. He gave assistance in such activities as boating, arts, and crafts in which he taught beadwork, Lacross, a game first played by Indians, and most important of all is Indian dancing which inspired us all."

Comment from unknown participant in the Aroostook Indian summer camp.

* * *

"I liked Camp Karawanee because they helped the Indian children like me. Most of the Indian children are very poor. When I came to Camp Karawanee, the people helped you learn a lot of things that Indians should learn. I think there should be a camp like this in more places. I know for I am an Indian and know what it's like to be poor and lonely. But when I came to Camp Karawanee I was happy because I gained a lot of friends and knew how the other girls were like."

Sandra McDonald, age 12
Houlton, Maine

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OUR CAMP (poem)

Our camp is no room for millionaires,
But a room for love
and a room for friends.
That's all we care.

Edith Ciganik, age 13
Caribou, Maine

* * *

"The Micmac Indians are very kind and are very hospitable. White men thought they were savages and cannibals. The Micmac Indians are very brave people, for if they showed fear, it is a sign of weakness. The Indians are not poor. They have many priceless things made by themselves. The Indian people now should carry on the same traditions of long ago. If we had the land our ancestors had, there would be no room for the white man to live. So I think that the Indians have the right to have their land back, not just little reservations scattered here and there. There are some concerned Indians who are fighting for their land. I think that there should be more fighting and maybe someday, if the world isn't destroyed by the white man, we will get our land back. When I get older, I want to live and fight like a true born Indian."

Mary Jewell, age 14
Presque Isle, Maine

* * *

"An Indian is an understanding person."

Ann Joseph, age 9
Houlton, Maine

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WHAT IS AN INDIAN?

He is a dark person,
He has a good mind,
An Indian is a nice person.
He can dance good,
He talks a different way,
He likes to travel a lot,
I like Indians.
Some are good and some are bad,
They can ride horses good.
They wear different clothes.

Shirley Gidion, age 9
Caribou, Maine

(comments - cont'd from previous page)

COMMENT

WHAT IS AN INDIAN?

An Indian is a person who is not afraid to die. And today they do not speak their language. They should be able to have a good education and be treated like others.

Kelli Tompkins, age 11
Houlton, Maine
* * *

KAMP KARAWANEE

I had lots of fun at this camp, they had lots of games and things like that. There were four girls to every cabin. We was taught how to weave belts, rugs, and other articles. We had Dickie Laughing come to the camp to teach us dances, songs, how to bead bands and belts. We also had a woman that came to teach us about nature. She told us to call her Miss Woody. I don't think any Indian could find a better camp.

Susan Levasseur, age 14
Houlton, Maine
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INDIANS ARE COMING

Once we lived about a mile from town, and we were just 4 and 5 years old. Across the woods there was a high school. On a nice day, when the wind was blowing right you could hear the school band playing.

My mother was hanging out clothes when we heard the drums from the distance. My mother said that we ran to her crying, "Momma, the Indians are coming, they are coming through the woods, Mom will they kill us?"

But we were the Indians - we didn't know until we were older. So let the Indians come, and we will all work together and look forward to a better future.

Donna Sanipass
Mapleton, Maine

Aroostook Indian news is very precious to us. With a little effort we can and shall keep Aroostook news published.

We Indians at one time contacted each other through drums. That is past history now. We talk to each other via telephone. We use the telephone and let's use our precious newsletter, Aroostook Indian news.

Tilly West
Ashland, Maine

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