

MAINE INDIAN NEWSLETTER

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PENOBSCOTS DEPLORE PROPOSED
INDIAN AFFAIRS BUDGET CUT

COLBY COLLEGE

INDIANS on the Penobscot Reservation hope that the Legislature will not approve Gov. Kenneth M. Curtis' recommended cut in the proposed budget of the Department of Indian Affairs.

The Indians were optimistic a year ago when their own department was created.

"We worked long and hard for this," according to Penobscot Tribal Gov. John M. Mitchell.

Maine is the only state in the country to have a State Department of Indian Affairs. Congressional delegates and tribes from other states have already expressed an interest in this new approach to Indian Affairs. Some federal officials are also very interested in developments in Maine.

It was the intent of the new department to improve conditions on the reservations, in part, by creating positions for the Indian which would both help with governing the tribes and to boost economy.

Other proposed positions, such as a housing and construction officer, would be essential if a housing program were to be administered on any of the reservations. The federal government would fund such a program and the state would pay administration and related services.

Indian Affairs Commissioner Edward C. Hinckley has said that his department has been limited by a relatively small budget to treating only "symptoms" of the problem during the first year.

Tribal leaders declare that it would be impossible for the department to function as originally intended if the Legislature approves the state's recommended cuts. Some of the department's requests in the Part II budget (operating funds for improvements and expansion of services) have been cut 100 per cent.

Ernest Goslin, Penobscot Tribal Council member, pointed out that "the salaries of the commissioner, two agents, and a secretary, as well as office equipment, telephone, and travel expenses all come from the appropriation. So do regular services such as fire protection, plowing and rubbish removal. This does deplete the appropriation somewhat."

According to Tribal Governor Mitchell, "the state budget recommendations so cut the Department of Indian Affairs' proposed budget that it would be difficult for the department to maintain existing services, much less to do anything new. Legislative approval of the proposed budget cut would deny the Indian a just place in society. With an inadequate budget the Indian must endure the embarrassment that he is a ward under a trustee, rather than a beneficiary to a trust. How, then, can the image of the Indian as a perpetual failure be erased?"

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PENOBSCOTS DEPLORE...CUT
 (Continued from Page 1)

Mitchell notes that an extension of the present water and sewer lines and the construction of a community building are top priority items for the residents of the Penobscot Reservation.

There are presently 11 homes with neither water nor sewerage disposal. Some of these families carry water from a "faucet house". There is also a well from which five families draw water. In addition to relieving hardship for these people, Mitchell points out that a new line would make available new house lots. Furthermore, there are only four fire hydrants on the island, which is three and one-half miles in circumference. One hydrant in the Oak Hill area serves 24 homes. This is an obvious safety hazard.

Penobscot Reservation water and sewerage is listed quite high in the overall state construction budget. If it remains in this position, there is a good chance that the project will be funded. On the other hand, construction of a community building is a very low project in the overall budget and it is extremely unlikely that funds will be available if the cut is approved.

Penobscot Indians want a new building to replace the old Tribal Hall. The Tribal Hall presently serves the community for numerous functions. Monthly council meetings, general meetings, church gatherings, weddings, dances, and various youth activities are all held there. It would be a tremendous asset to the community to have pleasant and modern surroundings for these functions.

Furthermore, a new building could be a base for programs and improvements which Mitchell hopes to initiate during his term as governor. In his inaugural address, Mitchell cited the need for a better youth program and a central office for tribal records and statistics. He envisions a new building that would make satisfaction of these needs possible and serve the community in other ways as well.

A community building could be a center for youth activities of a scale and nature not practical in the old hall. A central office where treaties and other documents would be preserved and open to inspection could be housed in the building. Presently such papers are in the possession of past and present tribal officials and stored, in some cases, in cardboard boxes.

A section of the building could contain an Indian museum. Many valuable relics are found locally and sold out of state. Such artifacts could be purchased, instead, by the tribe and displayed. The donation to the tribe of at least one fine Indian relic collection has been declined because of lack of facilities. Mitchell emphasizes that the creation of such a museum would be a great help to shops on the island, and also a tourist attraction for the whole state.

A library would be another possibility. Here again, it has been necessary to refuse offers of books.

(A photograph accompanied this article which showed Stephen Paul leaving the "faucet house" at Penobscot Indian Reservation at Old Town, after drawing water for his family. The faucet serves six families.)

(From the Portland Sunday Telegram, March 12, 1967, Area Correspondent, Charlene M. Hall)

It is still not too late to order your copy of GLUSKAP THE LIAR & OTHER INDIAN TALES, by Horace P. Beck, from the Newsletter, for \$5.95. (See Maine Indian Newsletter, Vol. I, No. 6, for a review of this book.)

Freeport - LATE EDITORIAL NEWS - On March 24th, Editor Eugenia Thompson reports the arrival of WILLIAM QUINCY THOMPSON, checking in at 8 pounds, 15 ounces!!!!

E D I T O R I A L S

THE MAINE INDIAN NEWSLETTER

EDITOR . . . EUGENIA T. THOMPSON
(Penobscot)

The Maine Indian Newsletter is Maine's only state-wide Indian newsletter, and is free of charge.

News and stories may be submitted to the Newsletter by the 15th of each month for publication at the following address:

Pine Street
Freeport, Maine 04032
(Telephone: 865-4253)

Letters to the Editor are welcome but must conform to the rules required by every newspaper. They must bear the writer's correct name and address although pen names are permitted at the discretion of the Editor. All letters must be signed though names will be withheld from publication on request. Preference will be given to letters not over 350 words in length. Letters are subject to condensation or editing when space limitations require and to correction of grammar or obvious errors.

* * * * *

AN EDITORIAL

The Newsletter submits that it was unthinking and unreasonable to reduce the Indian Affairs (art II) and Construction budgets from \$263,315 to \$60,000 for the next two years. We feel that our Indians should not take a back seat to such a "cut".

We feel that our Indians are people who should be given the same advantages as other citizens. It is true that the state has a treaty with its Indians to provide certain services, such as health, education, and welfare, but this should not mean the Indian would carry the same burden as a welfare recipient. The Indians are a segment of our population who have identifiable problems which, even if they were not Indian, should concern us, and which should bear tending. These identifiable problems are lack of running water, lack of sewerage systems, lack of adequate police and fire protection, lack of adequate housing, things which most Maine citizens take for granted.

While we ought to give back to the Indian measure for measure, we surely can make a start in providing funds for these projects. Necessary to man these projects are: Housing and Construction Officer, Social worker II, two Account Clerk I's, Social Welfare Officer, and Economic and Human Development Officer. Many of the needs of the Indians will be left unfulfilled and uncared for as long as we put off providing the people necessary to train and assist our Indians to re-develop their as well as our own heritage.

Many of the Indian needs are not merely financial, yet the only way these needs will ever be met is by our spending enough money to provide the kind of people to solve these problems. A small part of the budget (\$2500) is to provide for an increase in the Commissioner's salary. We feel this is necessary because we should not expect anyone to stay on without this type of incentive. Any businessman would agree to this, I'm sure.

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(An Editorial cont'd from page 3)

We realize that the Legislative Committee on Appropriations may not feel they can reinstate the whole Indian Affairs budget as it should be, however, even though the Department of Indian Affairs is a small department, its budget should be given the same consideration as will be given the other state departmental budgets. As much as possible should be reinstated in the Indian budget if the progressive beginning made by the 102nd Legislature is to be continued.

The Indians in Maine will continue to draw attention to the State; we feel that reinstating the budget will enable the Indians to improve their lot and will bring the right kind of publicity to the state.

* * * * *

GUEST EDITORIAL

The word "Poverty" has been popularized by The Great Society, yet a copper-colored people who once roamed without restraint this vast area we recognize as a Republic, felt the pangs of poverty as have no other people, who acquired their plight by the acquisition of their lands and unjust exploitation.

The minds of many are becoming enlightened by our national treatment of the American Aborigines. Here and there have been champions who have made eloquent appeals in behalf of the Red Brother. Any one reading the brilliantly written "Broken Peace Pipes" recognizes in the author a champion of the Indian.

To really beautify America, let us first rectify our reservation errors, by giving aid as bountifully and trustfully as we do abroad, to Indian leaders, that THEY at their descretion use such to restore reservations to places of sufficiency and security for those concerned. THIS we owe THEM.

We should be proud the Indian desires to keep his identity, for he truly is the first American, do we wish to exclude him from that which he is deserving because of this?

There is talk of termination, again being the rightful American, shall we refuse the Indian, his freedom of choice?

- Pocahontas Hagy

* * * * *

CONSTRUCTION OF PAVILION MOVES AHEAD

The Indians of Canada Pavilion is quickly taking shape and nearing completion.

The stylized tee-pee is now completely enclosed and basic carpentry on the inside is finished.

Landscaping is 60% complete and it will be finished by early spring. Murals are to be painted by Indian artists from across Canada on the outside walls at the base of the tee-pee. The paintings are to be finished in time for the opening of Expo 67.

The site of our pavilion is a particularly good one as it is flanked on one side by the United Nations Pavilion and the Canada Pavilion on the other.

A mono-rail, possibly the first of its kind in Canada, will pass our pavilion on the other side of the street. Beyond the mono-rail lies the St. Lawrence River with the Montreal skyline forming a spectacular background.

(The Indian News, Ottawa, Ontario, Dec., 1966)

MAINE INDIAN GOVERNORS URGE BUDGET RESTORATION

FARMINGTON - Governors of two Maine Indian reservations told a woman's meeting here Friday night that the public is becoming more aware of problems facing their people, and urged support in restoring this year's legislative budget request for the tribes.

John Mitchell of the Penobscot Reservation, and John Stevens of the (Indian Township) Passamaquoddy Reservation, met with the Franklin Chapter, American Association of University Women. Both spoke of the inception a year ago of the Department of Indian Affairs, and both told of needs at the reservations.

"For a long time, the first residents of this state have longed to become equal citizens," Governor Mitchell stated, "and the 1967 legislative budget request is aimed at helping us achieve a position of equality." He added that Indians believe the requests to be just, and are working toward restoration of the cuts made by Governor Curtis.

The speaker said Maine Indians have long endured poor conditions and situations which keep them perpetual failures. He outlined some of the many contributions of the Maine Indians to society and the state and country, such as the development of many foods we eat, language and tactics used by the armed forces, a democratic form of government, conservation services, and others.

In speaking of the recent problems of Indian schools on the reservations, Governor Mitchell said there are about 50 pupils at the school on Indian Island where there is a lay teacher and two nuns. White children attend the school also. After the fifth grade, students go to junior high and high schools off the reservation. He said the schools were transferred from the jurisdiction of the Health & Welfare Department to the Department of Education last July.

Governor Mitchell outlined some of the budget requests in detail, which included money for salaries of personnel, social workers, water and sewage projects, construction work and repairs, and other costs.

Governor John Stevens told the audience that Indians need the help of many people, including legislators and citizens who will attend the legislative hearings and learn what the Indians need and help them achieve their needs.

"The Indians have been neglected for many years and need a lot of things," Governor Stevens said. "We are not asking for too much, we just want to catch up with this century before it goes. One only has to look back in the past to see that our budget request is justified."

Governor Stevens said there are about 700 Indians on the two reservations at Indian Township and Pleasant Point. Men can only obtain seasonal work. He said mechanized wood operations had cut the work opportunities for the Indians.

Governor Stevens said the young people move off the reservation as soon as possible as there are no opportunities for them. Their culture and handicrafts are slowly dying as the young people show no interest in learning them. He said basket-weaving, done by the older residents, does not bring in much money since the Indians receive only a pittance payment from the wholesalers.

Stevens said in the ~~Peter Dana Pt.~~ area, there are two nuns and a lay teacher at the school. Indian, white and French pupils are integrated in grades through the seventh.

Gov. Stevens spoke of the Department of Indian Affairs as being "a newborn baby, which must be fed to grow" and said its programs have given hope to the Indians. He stated the budget request was needed to help

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the Department do its work to help the Indians. He said the majority of the Passamaquoddy people are now on welfare. They have, he said, a lot of timber and with help could work up some type of wood industry.

In answer to a question, Gov. Stevens told of finding an old deed whereby the Commonwealth of Massachusetts granted acreage to the Passamaquoddy Tribe. He said their actual land is much less than the deed states. An attorney is working on this problem.

Both men said Indians have so many problems they cannot solve themselves, they go outside for help. Both reservations have been helped by VISTA volunteers. These young people stay for a year and help in the schools with tutoring, work after hours giving help to students who need special attention, and develop recreation projects.

Jim O'Donnell, a native of San Francisco and VISTA volunteer presently working with the Penobscots, told the meeting of his work, and that he hopes for a summer recreation program with sports and a day camp program.

David Berule, a native of Augusta, also attended the meeting. He is presently with the Passamaquoddy working in education and recreation.

Both Governors and VISTA workers answered many questions during a social hour following their formal presentation.

(From the Portland Press-Herald, 2/20/67. A similar article appeared in the February 24th Farmington Journal & Chronicle)

INDIAN LEGISLATORS' LOT IMPROVED SLIGHTLY

The March 3rd Kennebec Journal reported: House majority Republicans tried to give the two Indian representatives some postage stamps, phone calls and auto mileage Thursday (March 2nd) but some Democratic members held up the effort. "I think it goes a bit too far," said Rep. James T. Dudley, D-Enfield. "There are a bit too few of those people in the state."

Rep. Joseph Einnette, D-Old Town, tabled the proposal until the 7th. The order, presented by the House majority leader, Rep. Harrison L. Richardson, R-Cumberland, was the result of a GOP decision in caucus on the 1st. It would have given Indian tribal representatives John Nelson of the Penobscot Tribe and George Francis of the Passamaquoddy Tribe the same postage and telephone privileges as other members.

It would have given them automobile mileage for 10 round trips between their homes and Augusta. The regular members get mileage for one round trip a week and the session usually lasts 20 weeks or more.

Indian representatives have seats in the House but no vote. They receive \$500 each, not the full \$2,000 of regular members.

When the matter was brought up again, on March 7th, the Newsletter understands that it was again tabled, this time until the 9th, by Rep. Frank Miliano, R-Eastport, at the request of Rep. Einnette.

On March 10th, the Kennebec Journal reported: An order to give Indian representatives postage and telephone credit cards and reimbursement for 10 round trips to the legislature during the regular session was passed after being delayed a week without explanation. The Senate passed it on March 14th.

The Indian Affairs Committee of the legislature, at its first hearing, on March 8th, heard testimony on several bills. Two of them, L.D. 186 & 188, would, if enacted, give the two Indian legislative representatives "the same compensation, mileage and allowance as any other member of the Senate and House of Representatives" as well as "a seat in the House of Representatives and all privileges, rights and duties of other representatives, including the right to serve in a nonvoting capacity on any committee" with the exception of "the right to vote on pending legislation".

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INDIAN LEGISLATORS'....
 (Continued from Page 6)

Although there was some discussion at the hearing regarding possible changes concerning the representatives' right to speak on the floor of the House, the only witness who spoke in opposition to the bills was Rep. Binnette. The two L.D.s were jointly sponsored by Rep. Carlton Scott, R-Wilton, and Rep. Glenn Starbird, D-Kingman.

INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HOLDS FIRST HEARING

In addition to L.D.s 186 & 188, described in the preceding story, the Indian Affairs Committee of the legislature scheduled three other bills for hearing on March 8th.

L.D. 144 (Presented by Rep. Starbird), "AN ACT Relating to Specially Designed Motor Vehicle Number Plates for Indian Agents and Commissioner of Indian Affairs," was withdrawn at the request of Indian Affairs Commissioner Edward Hinckley.

L.D. 634 (Presented by Sen. Jon Lund, R-Kennebec), "AN ACT Providing for Review of Laws Relating to Maine's Indian Tribes," was withdrawn at the request of Commissioner Hinckley following a special meeting with the Penobscot Tribal Council and Passamaquoddy Legislative Representative George Francis.

L.D. 633 (Presented by Senator Lund), "AN ACT Relating to Conveyance of Reservation Lands for Penobscot Tribe of Indians," was supported by Hinckley, Penobscot Legislative Representative John Nelson, and a number of Penobscot tribal members present. No one at the hearing spoke in opposition to the bill. An opinion from the Attorney General's office was read to the Committee indicating that passage would "not in any way adversely affect the tenure which the Indians have in their lots" and would not "in any way change the ownership of lots already assigned and will not affect the ownership of future lots which may be assigned."

The bill requested the elimination of the phrases "during the pleasure of the Legislature" and "during the will of the Legislature" from individual Penobscot deeds and from the statutes referring to the assignment of Penobscot Reservation lots. The Newsletter understands that the elimination of these phrases would give Penobscot tribal members "clear" title to their assigned lots, rather than title depending on the whims of future legislatures.

L.D. 634 was reported out of the Committee to the Senate with the recommendation that it be granted "Leave to Withdraw," on March 14th.

L.D. 633 was reported out of the Committee to the Senate with an "Ought to Pass" recommendation, on the 14th.

L.D. 144 was reported to the House from the Committee with a "Leave to Withdraw" recommendation, and L.D. 186 (pertaining to compensation and allowances for the Indian Legislative Representatives) was reported to the House by the Committee with an "Ought to Pass" recommendation, on the 14th.

As of March 31st, the Newsletter understands that these bills are in the following status:

The two bills to be withdrawn (L.D. 144 & 634) have been withdrawn and are "dead."

The two bills pertaining to compensation and privileges of the Indian Legislative Representatives (L.D. 186 & 188) are still being discussed in committee and on the House floor. (See related story on Page 19)

The bill pertaining to the wording of deeds of Penobscot Tribal members was signed into law by Governor Curtis on March 23rd. (L.D. 633)

INDIAN PAVILION EXPO '67

by Duke Redbird

May your form reflect
 The symmetry of our wigwams and teepees
 May your structure incorporate
 The strength of our long houses both East and West
 And may your walls create
 The warmth of our fires
 That have burned a hundred thousand years.

May your colors express
 The pageantry of our ceremonies
 May your tapestries weave
 The story of our Great Men both Then and Now
 May your fabrics portray
 The contrasts of our culture
 That has lived a hundred thousand years.

May your furnishings tell
 The simplicity of our wants and needs
 May your accoutrements spell
 The multiplicity of our tongues both Old and New
 May your designs whisper
 The tale of our legends
 That have been told a hundred thousand years.

May your fixtures cast
 The light of our learning
 May your shadows project
 The mystery and depth of our religion both Remembered and Forgotten
 May your fountains recall
 The bubble of our laughter and the silence of our tears
 That echo across a hundred thousand years.

May your floor combine
 The past and the future of our people
 May your carpets spin
 The mosaic of our complexities both common and unusual
 May your foundation exhibit
 The strength of our wisdom and knowledge
 For we have waited a hundred thousand years.

(The author read this poem at the formal unveiling of the scale model of the Indian Pavilion in Ottawa, Canada. The building will be erected at the Montreal Expo '67. Mr. Duke Redbird is an Indian of the Saugeen Indian Reserve in Ontario. Reprinted from the Journal of American Indian Education, Tempe, Arizona, January 1967)

MUSKIE SPONSORS STATE INDIAN RESERVATION BILL

This bill would enable Indians, such as our Penobscots and Passamaquoddies, who live on State reservations to develop their own Community Action programs to improve the quality of their lives under the War on Poverty program. Presently, our Indians can only be a part of county programs. Under Senator Muskie's bill, they would have the option of designing their own programs or of participating in county programs.

(From Senator Muskie's "Letter to Maine," March 4, 1967)

"THIS LAND WAS THEIRS"
A Study of the North American Indian

by Wendell H. Oswalt, Associate Professor
of Anthropology, University of California,
Los Angeles

The North American Indian has fascinated children and adults ever since the discovery of the continent - there have been romantic narratives, scholarly studies and stylized paintings. "This Land Was Theirs" is the first book to describe the historically changing lifeways of Indian tribes in a parallel framework.

Professor Oswalt describes ten tribes - the Chipewyan, the Beothuk, the Kuskowagamiut, the Cahulla, the Fox, the Pawnee, the Tlingit, the Hopi, the Iroquois and the Natchez - and traces their diverse ways of life from historic contact to their extinction or to modern times. In a final chapter, he summarizes the position of Indians in modern Canadian and American life.

Using a culture area approach combined with a broad geographical sampling of tribes, Professor Oswalt discusses the same range of topics about each tribe, varying the emphasis in terms of each tribe's history. A discussion of the aboriginal customs of each tribe is followed by an analysis of the changes which have taken place in it since historic contact. Professor Oswalt has stressed the basic continuities in Indian life from the past to the present and has documented the historical changes.

"This Land Was Theirs" brings to life ten geographically representative tribes by considering an actual culture-carrying unit of the tribe - it shows us the texture of North American Indian life yesterday and today.

("This Land Was Theirs" is published by John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1966)

ARE MAINE INDIANS "DRAB"?
SKOWHEGAN MAN THINKS SO!

Lyndon Huff and Harvey Dean Eaton, Jr., of Skowhegan, have suggested that the Tourist Hospitality Association of that town establish "a symbol of community identity" for Skowhegan in the form of a large statue of an Indian to be erected in the business area of the community. Eaton has stated, however, that preliminary study has convinced him it would be a disaster to use any State of Maine Indian as the model.

"They were not colorful. Tourists want glamor and color. Skowhegan is not teaching Kennebec history, but making new American history."

Tentative thinking is for a wood statue about thirty feet above the top of the base. Redwood is being considered as a material. In a March 1st report to the Skowhegan Tourist Hospitality Association, Mr. Eaton stated,

"Of course the selection of a model for the statue strictly is an art matter which you should handle. No layman should do this. But I do believe that it should be a gloriously colorful American Indian, loaded with showmanship. It does not need to be a Maine Indian. From what I have learned they were mostly on the drab side."

Reports in the Waterville Sentinel of March 3rd and 4th, indicate that the whole purpose of the statue is publicity and promotion to benefit Skowhegan. It has been suggested that Governor Curtis and California's Governor Reagan can get "national coverage" through correspondence concerning shipment of California redwood logs to Maine for the statue.

The Newsletter feels that - once again - American Indians are being used to benefit only non-Indian commercial interests, and that Maine Indians in particular are being unfairly insulted and disparaged. The Editor wonders if Senator Margaret Chase Smith shares the feeling of her fellow townspeople. Readers' comments on this matter are invited!

OREGON INDIANS PLAN TIMBER MILL
by Malcolm Bauer

WARM SPRINGS, ORE. - A century and more ago, settlers in the American West settled the American Indian on reservations. The reservations consisted of lands the white settler didn't want - at least at the time.

Chief Joseph's Nez Perce were driven out of the land they wanted - Oregon's Wallowa Valley. Much later, the Klamath Indians of southern Oregon sold a good part of their reservation for the value of the timber - about \$40,000 per tribal member.

Now the tribes on Oregon's Warm Springs Reservation are trying to make their own way - in the white man's way - free enterprise. They are in the process of setting up a corporation to market the timber on the 915 square miles of the reservation through their own mill operations.

The Warm Springs Reservation bestrides U.S. 26 southeast of Portland, just south of Mt. Hood. On its land, on the eastern slope of the Cascade Range, grow tall stands of pine. The growth is enough to supply 80,000 board feet of lumber annually on a sustained-yield program. That is adequate to maintain a major lumber-mill operation, as has been demonstrated by the white man's own enterprise in the Warm Springs stands.

The enterprise of the tribes based on Warm Springs has already been demonstrated. They have developed, with federal support, the commercial value of the springs that gave the reservation its name. The Kah-Nee-Ta vacation resort in the heart of the reservation is a successful tribal project catering annually to thousands of fishermen, swimmers and hikers.

Five years ago, tribal leadership began to study the possibility of developing the timber resources previously processed and marketed by others. The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs hired a consulting firm to study the prospects. The firm, Cornell, Howland, Hayes & Merryfield, advised, in effect: Go into business for yourselves, as you have at Kah-Nee-Ta.

The engineering firm's specific recommendation was to hire an operating firm, Gunderson & Associates of Washington, D.C., to develop the timber resources under direction of the Confederated Tribes.

A spokesman for Gunderson said the other day: "It's a hallmark of Indian affairs. This will make the Confederated Tribes self-supporting. They will own and operate the mills. One of the biggest responsibilities we have is an obligation to train members of the tribe to the jobs which they may be able to do. It is....a good business deal."

The Bureau of Indian Affairs supports the proposition. So do the tribal leaders, including the Confederated Tribes' executive director, Vernon Jackson, speaking for the Warm Springs, Wasco, and Paiute Indians who are members of the reservation council. Mr. Jackson's job, among other things, is to see to the livelihood of the 1400 Indians resident on the reservation.

The Warm Springs Indians' opportunity springs from the same source that gave the Klamath Indians a big-dollar heritage - the enhanced value of timber.

(From the Christian Science Monitor, 3/7/67. Submitted by a reader)

MISCELLANEOUS

OLD TOWN - Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Faumann and children, Belinda and Bevin, were recent guests of her mother, Mrs. Horace Nelson and her sister, Mrs. Watie Akins. The Baumanns have been in Arequipa, Peru, for the past 2½ years. Mrs. Baumann, the former Eunice Nelson, was the first Indian to graduate from the University of Maine and received her PhD in psychology from New York University. After visiting with Mr. Baumann's parents in Switzerland, the couple will reside in Bolivia, where she will teach anthropology.

HE WEARS TWO UNIFORMS: BOTH ARE PATRIOTIC

by T.Sgt. Richard A. Craig

LIMESTONE - AIC Stephen C. Patnode, chief clerk of the 42nd Bomb Wing ground safety office, loves to dance. Unusual? The Frug, no, but Indian style, yes. Airman Patnode, who is part Mohawk Indian, is an accomplished Indian dancer and he makes all of his own dance costumes.

A native of Massena, N.Y.,...Airman Patode began studying Indian dancing while serving as a counselor in 1958...It was during this early period of study that he began making his own costumes. He gives great credit to the chieftain of the Turtle Clan at the St. Regis Mohawk Reservation, one of the oldest of the Mohawk family groups, for guidance in creating the costumes. The elaborate and detailed costumes, made entirely by hand, are authentic copies of actual Indian pieces, and are fashioned from horsehair, feathers, bone, rawhide, deerskin and beads.

Prior to joining the Air Force, Patnode was the chief and choreographer of the Manatoanna Indian Dance Group. In 1962, at Massena, N.Y., his group took first honors in competition with nine other groups...and was awarded the coveted "Best in Indian Dance" trophy...

Holder of 38 merit badges in scouting, and an Eagle Scout himself, Patnode believes scouting is one of the finest activities in which a boy can participate...

He is married to the former Mary Rose Delima Bernard, a Mic Mac Indian from the Gaspee Peninsula, Quebec... (From the Bangor News, 3/7/67)

"DREAM OF THE BLUE HERON"

by Victor Barnouw

A transplanted Netherlander, Dr. Barnouw has written a colorful and moving book about the difficulty of transition for Wisconsin Indians.

Wabus was happy with his grandparents who lived the old ways in the northern forests as much as they were able, and he was looking forward to the time of his dream when he would receive his name and know his future.

But his father, who had been working in the lumber mills and was living like the whites, actually kidnapped him in 1905 and sent him to school - a school where the administrators had no use for "pagan" beliefs and believed the only way to impart discipline to savages was to beat them.

Wabus stuck it out and then slipped home at vacation. When his father came after him there was a tussle and the old grandfather was killed.

The authenticity of the Indian details, the description of the Chippewa lands, and the evocation of school life is matched by the insight into the mind and heart of a boy emotionally torn between two worlds.

(For the young reader. Published by Delacorte, New York. 191 pages, \$4.50, ages 12-16. Submitted by a reader)

MISCELLANEOUS

BRUNSWICK - Altrusa Club members at a dinner-meeting the week of February 13th heard a talk on the Passamaquoddy Indian Reservation. Their guest speaker was Miss Deana Francis, of Pleasant Point Reservation, who is doing post-graduate study at Brunswick High School this year. She plans to attend college and major in physical education.

OLD TOWN - Officers elected of St. Anne's Sodality, St. Anne's Catholic Church, Indian Island, are: president, Mrs. Ernestine Tomer; vice-president, Mrs. Rose Tomer; secretary, Mrs. Mildred Akins; and treasurer, Mrs. Elsie Lolar.

AN ARTICLE ON MAINE INDIAN AFFAIRS

appears in Ramparts magazine, March, 1967, published by Ramparts Magazine, Inc., 301 Broadway, San Francisco, California.

DIOCESE ESTABLISHES NEW DIVISION

(The following letter was recently sent out by Rev. Romeo St. Pierre, of Indian Island - Ed.)

P. O. Box 560
Old Town, Me.

Dear Friend:

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland who, for over a century, has served the three Indian Reservations of Maine, has recently established a Division of Volunteer Services under its Bureau of Human Relations Services, to coordinate and assist to the needs of both the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Tribes.

The Committee is composed of the following members:

Mr. Neil Michaud, Administrative Director of the B.H.R.S.;
Mr. Edward C. Hinckley, State of Maine Commissioner of Indian Affairs;
Mr. John Moran, Member of State of Maine Department of Education;
Mr. Charles N. Vickery, Program Director of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, Inc.
Rev. Kenneth Hawkes, Executive Director of the Northeast District of the Unitarian Universalist Association;
Rev. Paul U. Pare, Chaplain at the Pleasant Point Reservation;
Mr. Joseph Nicholas, Passamaquoddy Indian Member of Pleasant Point Reservation;
Rev. Maurice Lemlin, Chaplain at the Peter Dana Point Reservation;
Mr. John Stevens, Passamaquoddy Indian Member of Peter Dana Point Reservation;
Rev. Romeo St. Pierre, Chaplain at the Indian Island Reservation;
Mrs. Jean Chavaree, Penobscot Indian Member of Indian Island Reservation;
Miss Donna Byers, Penobscot Indian Member of Indian Island, Secretary

Having been elected to head this committee, I have been requested to get in touch with you or the organization you represent concerning the interest you manifested in the Indian situation.

Primarily we need volunteer workers in the area of recreation, education and social work, at least for summer projects with a "pilot program" for a year-round social worker or public health nurse.

Secondly we will also need funds to subsidize such a program and probably your organization might be helpful in that area.

Already the Universalist Unitarian Service Committee, Inc., and the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland have committed themselves. We have every reason to believe that the State of Maine Department of Indian Affairs and other agencies will join in our effort to answer to the needs of our Indian communities.....

We would certainly appreciate receiving an answer from you by return mail, as to what extent we can count on your participation in such potential projects for the three Indian Reservations in Maine. May we hear from you?

Some of you might have already been in touch with Mr. Charles Vickery, who has referred you to our committee, and requested that all further correspondence be sent to this committee.

Respectfully yours,
/s/Rev. Romeo St. Pierre, Chairman

(The Editor suggests that people or agencies interested in supporting the types of programs for Maine Indians that are described in Rev. St. Pierre's letter get in contact with him directly, at P. O. Box 560, Old Town, Maine, Ph.827-2172)

LISTENERS' RESPONSE INDICATES INTEREST IN INDIANS

On March 14th, Newsletter Editor Eugenia Thompson and Penobscot Husson student Stephen Mitchell appeared with Commissioner Hinckley on the "Mike Stuart Inquiry Program" of Portland radio station WLOB. Passamaquoddy Brunswick H.S. student Deana Francis had also been invited to participate, but was unable to be present.

Following a 25-minute general interview format, conducted by Mr. Stuart, phone lines were opened and listeners invited to call in their questions. Questions and answers were both broadcast from 6:30 to 7:30. Mr. Stuart indicated pleased surprise at the amount of interest in Indians and Indian affairs evidenced by the constant succession of calls from listeners.

Questions and answers covered such general topics as Indian arts and crafts, reservation life, education, the Department of Indian Affairs' plans for future programs, tolerance and prejudice, Maine Indian history, what individuals could do to help Maine Indians, current legislation, and a few questions about western and southern Indian tribes.

In the course of the program, Editor Thompson was given several opportunities to describe the Newsletter - its purposes and content - and to invite interested listeners to send in their names to be placed on the mailing list for the monthly issues.

The Newsletter understands that Senator Richard N. Berry, Chairman of the Legislative Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, was on the "Inquiry Program" a week or so earlier, and that during the course of his participation (which was not on Indian affairs) Senator Berry received several calls from listeners supporting the current Department of Indian Affairs' budget requests.

There is no question that this type of support can be very useful, either directed to members of the Appropriations Committee or to individual Senators and Representatives. This will be true even after the March 16th budget hearing, as the Committee must first consider the budget requests of all State departments, in executive sessions, and then the House and Senate must consider the entire budget document. The Newsletter understands that final legislative decisions on Departments' requests for supplemental funds (Part II - new services and construction) are not made until quite late in the legislative session. All readers and interested persons are urged to contact their legislative representatives and express their opinions regarding the Indian Affairs budget.

LIVERMORE GRANGE HEARS ABOUT INDIANS

The Livermore Grange, on February 25th, heard "an impressive and educational talk on Maine Indians from the early 1700's to the present time" given by Mrs. Carlton Scott, of Wilton. She spoke of the Abnakis, Algonquins, Penobscot, Kennebec and Micmac Indians. Many Indian relics were displayed by members of the Grange.

INDIAN COMPOSER TO WRITE OKLAHOMA STATEHOOD BALLET

SANTA FE, N.M. - Louis W. Ballard, Quapaw composer, has been commissioned by the State of Oklahoma to write the music for a ballet to be presented during the 60th anniversary of Oklahoma statehood in 1967. Governor Henry Bellmon has personally invited five internationally famous ballerinas of Indian heritage to participate. Ballard is chairman of the Music and Performing Arts Department of the Santa Fe Institute of American Indian Art.

(From Indian Progress, Central City, Nebraska, March 1967. Taken from The Amerindian. Mr. Roger Gabriel, (Passamaquoddy) is currently a student at the Institute - Ed.)

DOWN THE RIVER
(Continued from last month)

The Dead River winds through this neck of land, connecting the lake and the Androscoggin River seven miles away. Sometimes the Dead River flows from the lake into the Androscoggin, and when the great river is a flood stage, the Androscoggin flows back into the lake itself. In my youth, I made this canoe trip several times, and was always filled with the thrill of meeting the bright face of danger on the Dead River...positive that around a bend we would meet a party of Indians on those dark glassy waters. Once we really did...but they were not Anasagunticooks, the fierce and war-like tribe of the region whose home base was Canton Point. They were just three Indians from Old Town selling baskets at some resorts along Thirty Mile River.

Not long ago, two geologists took a trip down the Androscoggin in a canoe, and came to the Dead River. There in those dark waters they found something unusual in marine biology. Unknowingly they came into the Dead River unaware of the strange creatures they would find there...they saw hundreds of fresh water jellyfish pumping themselves through the water. It was the first reported occurrence of the fresh water hydroids, Genus Medusa (name given to all jellyfish), Species Craspedacusta Sowerbii, in Maine.

There are two kinds of fresh water jellyfish of which the Crasp. Sowerbii is the only form ever found in North America. It is very common in China especially in the Uangtze Basin, and may have been introduced to this country on some of the oriental water plants. The remarkable thing is that these forms do not seem to be able to spread from one body of water to another without the help of an outside agency. From all indications, the jellyfish could not possibly survive in the Androscoggin nor Lake Androscoggin. This is a question for some Marine biologist for research. How did they ever get to the Dead River?

Leaving Lake Androscoggin and the Dead River with its strange creatures, drive along Route 133 to Beech Hill. And here is another unusual geological phenomenon. Here is a real desert. Fields of drifting sand have covered trees, pastures, farms. And early writer of Wayne History, C.F. Leadbetter, who did the introductory chapter for the book published in 1898, stated: "In the northwestern part (of Wayne) are sand hills of considerable extent which are the development of comparatively recent years. The territory they occupy was originally the most fertile and productive in town...until whole hilltops and sides have become vast areas of yellow sand. Most of this geological work has been done within the memory of people now living, and its progress has been observed from summer to summer." That was in 1898.

A more recent study has other reasons for these shifting sands. Geologists now think the sand in the Wayne area came from sand deposits bordering the Androscoggin River, 3-4 miles to the west. "It seems likely that this sand was wind-transported to its present location shortly after the area emerged from the sea some 12,000 years ago.

After it was deposited, the development of soil and vegetation may have stabilized the and until about 100 years ago.

The desert of Wayne is there regardless of how it came to be, and it is growing yearly. There is no evidence that the Indians of the Valley knew of it so it is probable that the sand was not exposed when they left for Canada...about 200 years ago. The branch of the Anasagunticooks who did spend much of their time from Lake Androscoggin north were called Caghnangas...the family center was in the present town of Leeds. Their tribal affairs were conducted at Canton Point.

They were said to have been populous and thrifty, and were a powerful division of the Anasagunticook nation. They were skilled fishermen and hunters, nomadic in nature. Some of their artifacts have been found all along the waterway and many in the great burying ground on the Lake Androscoggin itself.

(By Helen Caldwell Gushman)

RICHARD BOUNDING ELK KNOWS HOW INDIANS FEEL

Editor of the Press-Herald:

Rome, N.Y.

It was a pleasure to read Thelma Rollins' letter to the editor published on February 20.

Too long have the Maine Indians been misunderstood, together with the North American Indians generally. The Maine Indians have no wish to become "white men" with darker complexions, but wish to remain Indians. The Indians of this country are in this way different from the Negroes.

Of Maine Indian descent myself, I bemoan the fact that my children understand only the few words of the Wabanaki language that I have been able to teach them, and that they think of themselves as Indians only when they dress up to go to a "pow-wow." They do not perceive their Indian heritage, growing up in the non-Indian community.

Indians should be allowed to maintain their sense of tribal identity if it is their wish and not have thrust upon them that which they do not want. "Though I may wear a white man's tie, I'll be a red man till I die," sang Marvin Rainwater, an Oklahoma Cherokee.

Thus I sign myself Richard Bounding Elk, reporter for the Rome Sentinel, and also known as:

Richard M. Gaffney

(From the Portland Press-Herald, 3/1/3/67)

LANGUAGE OF POLITICS

by William M. Clark

..."The party lines crossed on the first effort to help the Indians help themselves," he said. "The pompous Republicans who ordinarily cut their own lunch allowance to protect the public purse decided to unbelt and give telephone and gasoline money to the Indians."

"Give nothing," I said. "You mean return some of the plunder from past thefts."

"Whatever you call it, the Democrats that are supposed to be working for the rights of common men voted against it."

"What's startling about that? Haven't you learned yet that inconsistency is non-partisan?"

"If I were the Indians in Augusta," he said, "I'd build a big fire on the State House lawn and start sending up smoke signals. If anyone stopped me I'd tell them that I had to have some way to communicate with the folks back home." "That's a good idea," I agreed. "That would make the AP wires."

"I wouldn't be so mad," he said, "if this weren't the gang that went up there shouting that a new day was about to dawn for the Maine Indians."

I let that one go past me. If the professor hasn't learned in 50 or 60 years that every statement by a politician has to be translated, than the professor is too innocent to argue with....He should know that when a politician says, "A new day will dawn for the Indians," the politician means that the sun will rise in the morning as usual, touching the Indians but bestowing its most brilliant beams on the politician's constituents.

(From the Portland Press-Herald, 3/9/67. This item from Mr. Clark's regular "Some Logrolling" column, refers to some political fumbling that went on during passage of a joint legislative resolution to reimburse the tribal legislative representatives for mileage and postage, described on Page 6 - Ed.)

INDIAN TO SPEAK

FARMINGTON - Stephen Mitchell, a student at Husson College, Bangor, will speak on Indian culture at the Thursday evening meeting of the Franklin Chapter, AAUW. Mitchell, last summer, attended the 11th annual Workshop on Indian Affairs at the University of Colorado and has participated in many panel discussions and on radio programs on Indian problems and affairs. (Sentinel, 3/14/67)

A MODEST REQUEST

Thursday, March 16

Speaking before the Legislative Appropriations Committee in Augusta attorney Don Cotesworth Gellers of Eastport stated the Indian Commissioner's budget was actually a very modest one.

Gellers told how the Passamaquoddy fear that although the 102nd Legislature made a good start two years ago when the Indian department was created, everything may stop there. "This budget is an initial vote of confidence," Gellers said.

Gellers told how Indian children living at the Princeton Strip (a part of Indian Township) develop sores on their bodies in the summer from swimming in the lake. (Governor Curtis' recommendations would continue to ignore the pressing need for water and sewerage facilities at the Strip.)

Gellers quoted from a Bangor paper describing how the Old Town fire department recently arrived too late on Indian Island (Penobscot Reservation) to save a burning building and the small child still inside. Both were lost because there was no fire fighting equipment readily at hand. (At one time the Penobscots had sufficient equipment but while under the jurisdiction of Health and Welfare several years ago their equipment was taken away from them and given to the fire department in Old Town and the Penobscot volunteer fire department was disbanded.)

Gellers also reminded the Committee that Commissioner Hinckley is the lowest paid Commissioner in Augusta. (An increase in Hinckley's salary was also included in the requested budget.)

Earlier Commissioner Hinckley pointed out that every one of his recommendations for services have been recommended by various private and state organizations for the past 25 years. And today the need for water, sewerage, housing construction and a social worker still head the list.

Hinckley told how the Indian welfare cases are 111 to one worker while the Federal standards allow 60 to one. To Representative Louis JAlbert's statement that Indian welfare workers would not have to travel while Health and Welfare workers do need travel time, Hinckley pointed out that the two Passamaquoddy reservations are some 60 miles apart so some travelling time would be necessary.

As Passamaquoddy Governor John Stevens of Indian Township told the Committee, "We are sick of being surveyed. We've been surveyed for years and what we need now is action."

Hinckley told of receiving some ten letters from out of state visitors last summer who asked why nothing was being done at the Strip to help the Indians. (All projects at the Strip, visibly the worst off, were all placed low on Gov. Curtis' list of priorities.)

Indian Gov. John Stevens told the Committee, "the money we ask for today is justified because of the neglect of Health and Welfare over the past."

At this point Senator Richard Berry, Committee Chairman interjected that we should not overlook the major step forward taken by the 102nd Legislature when more money than ever before was granted the Indians.

Sen. Berry was assured this was not overlooked and that the Indians were grateful to the 102nd Legislature.

Governor John Mitchell of the Penobscot Tribe pointed out that since the Penobscots are in an industrial area they have over 90% employment. Their greatest needs are for water and sewerage for some of their members,

(A MODEST REQUEST, cont'd from Page 16)

and a Community Building in which to carry on tribal functions and to house Indian arts and crafts which now are being lost because there is no place to preserve them.

Gov. Joseph Mitchell of the Passamaquoddy reservation at Pleasant Point said his reservation's greatest need is police protection. (It was at Pleasant Point 16 months ago that Peter Francis was beaten by several Massachusetts hunters and left dying on the ground. When an outside policeman was called to the scene he did not want to "get involved" and left to investigate a "tip" he had "received" on a crime being committed some miles away. Later one of the hunters was indicted for manslaughter and was acquitted.)

Deanna Francis, niece of the late Peter Francis told the Committee that young people on her reservation at Pleasant Point need a social worker for guidance. "Young people are getting into trouble and need someone who is interested in them to help them get a better start in life."

Passamaquoddy Representative George Francis told the Committee to "send a delegation down and just see how we live. Talk to the people and see their conditions."

Ray Binkley, a business man from the Portland area spoke in support of the Indian budget as did Representative Warren Cookson who introduced the legislation two years ago forming the new state Department of Indian Affairs.

Doris Davis, Assistant Director of the Upward Bound project at Bowdoin College told the Committee that Indians should not be merely objects of charity. In light of this she supported the Commissioner's budget.

Father Paul Pare, Chaplain at Pleasant Point, stated that the Catholic Diocese of Maine supported 100% the Indian Budget. The Church is as concerned for the Indians' material welfare as well as for their spiritual welfare, Father Pare said.

Father St. Pierre of Indian Island commended the 102nd Legislature and clearly stated he hoped everything would not stop there.

George Stevens Jr. stressed that now is the time to act; not two years from now.

Other Penobscot Indians supporting Commissioner Hinckley's budget were Representative John Nelson, Penobscot Lt. Gov. Fred Nichola, Nicholas Sappier and Eugenia Thompson. (See this month's editorial on page three for a summary of the editor's statement before the Committee.)

More than 50 Indians and other interested people attended the Committee hearing.

* * * * *

RESERVATION SUMMER PROJECTS

Old Town - The Advisory Committee of the newly established Division of Volunteer Services of the Roman Catholic Diocesan Bureau of Human Relations Services will hold its first meeting here Monday at the Penobscot Indian Reservation.

The volunteer committee was set up in January by Bishop Peter L. Gerety, apostolic administrator of the Diocese of Portland.

The Rev. Romeo St. Pierre, Catholic chaplain of the Indian reservation and chairman of the committee, will meet with the 11 clergy and lay members of the committee.

A summer project on the reservations involving Maine seminarians, members of the Christian Family Movement and college students will be discussed. (Continued on page 18)

(Penobscot Summer Project, cont'd from page 17)

Indian spokesmen told the diocesan organization that among the immediate programs they would like to see started are cultural projects for Indian children.

These would include trips, remedial reading and recreational activities.

The long-range programs suggested by Indian leaders include public health and social work projects such as hygiene and family life education programs.

(From the Portland Sunday Telegram, 3/19/67. See related story on Page 12)

* * * * *

NAVAJO GOVERNMENT IN DANGER

Information recently revealed to attorneys in the Legal Department had vital significance respecting the question of the continued existence of the sovereign government of the Navajo. The report to the Navajo Tribal Council, in effect, showed that the intent of the Department of the Interior was to do away with sovereign Navajo tribal government. The situation began in an attempt by Udall to fire the Navajo tribe's attorney. The Secretary of the Interior said he was considering this action on the grounds that he had created the Council by Secretarial Order in 1938, and therefore could dissolve it.

The Secretary's Office also considered the possibility of taking over the tribe if it deemed necessary. But the Tribal Council says it has operated in an orderly manner, and besides, the Navajo Tribe has retained its sovereignty since the Treaty of 1868.

It is the Secretary's opinion that the Tribe has no sovereignty, that it is in the nature of a nation dependent upon the U.S.

The report indicated that in the event of any take-over of the tribal government, the function of the Council would be advisory.

(Many Smokes, First Quarter, 1967)

* * * * *

COURT UPHOLDS NAVAJO SOVERIGN IMMUNITY

The Federal Court for the District of Arizona has granted a summary judgment which states that the Navajo Tribe is a sovereign entity within the U.S. Judge Walter Craig stated in the decision "the position of General Counsel of the Navajo Tribe, regardless of the manner of his employment and regardless of the title of his position is comparable to the Chief Legal Officer of the United States, and states thereof, or any political subdivision."

"It is the opinion of the Court that the position of General Counsel for the Navajo Tribe falls within the scope of the doctrine of absolute executive privilege."

(Many Smokes, Reno, Nevada, First Quarter, 1967)

* * * * *

RAMPARTS, a seventy-five cent magazine published in San Francisco, California has an interesting article in the March, 1967 issue. It concerns The Passamaquoddy Indians, and is written by David Welsh. In the April issue of the Newsletter a portion of the story will be presented along with an editorial concerning the article. But those of you who can't wait and would like to read history, truth, and fiction all interestingly interwoven should purchase Ramparts and read the story now. For the most part it is pretty good.

GOP SEEKS TO CLARIFY INDIANS' LEGAL STATUS

(AP) - Legislative majority Republicans instructed their leaders in caucus Wednesday to search for ways to clarify the tortuous complexities of the legal status of Maine Indians.

"I don't want to deprive the Indians of their tribal rights," said Rep. William E. Dennett of Kittery, "but I don't want to see the legislature so confused about this that it doesn't know where it's at."

Dennett made a lengthy caucus speech, centered on a pending bill to give the non-voting Indian representatives of the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Tribes the same pay and expense allowances as regular members of the legislature.

The Indians, he said, "are not as stupid as some people would have you believe." He said they invoke obscure "treaty rights" when it suits their purpose but they also obtain benefits others do not have and which are far beyond any treaty agreement that may exist.

Dennett said he has done considerable reading on Maine Indian affairs over the years and is willing to concede that the Penobscot Tribe does have a valid treaty with Maine.

But he said it provides only for "so many bushels of corn, so many bushels of wheat, so much gunpowder, so much shot, and a supply of calico, one year of red and one year of blue. In other words, it has outlived its usefulness."

If the Passamaquoddy Tribe has a treaty with Maine, "I would like to see it," he said. Dennett said that in 1794, which was 26 years before Maine statehood, commissioners from Massachusetts entered into what was "at the most a compact" under which they granted Indian Township and the Pleasant Point reservation to the Passamaquoddies.

"The sole consideration," he said, "was that the Passamaquoddies would cease from molesting their white neighbors."

Dennett said that over the years, the Indians have been treated as a foreign element for some purposes, but not others. In 1953, when they got the vote, they were allowed to vote for most officers but not legislators.

"Without doubt," he said, "in the past the Indians have been finagled to quite an extent. Apparently they were deprived of certain lands, transferred to white men under terms that were not exactly ethical."

"And yet I can't go along with the idea that they took away Indian ownership of land. The Indians didn't own any land as we understand ownership under our Anglo-Saxon concepts."

"When an Indian sold land to a white man for a three-cornered hat or a handful of beads he probably laughed up his sleeve, because he didn't own the land. He didn't even claim to own it."

Dennett said the Indians want to preserve their "ethnic position as a people apart," and this probably can be done. But before much new legislation is passed, "something has got to be done about the laws already on the books," he said.

"Although I might be derided by the press as squirming out of a responsibility, I think this should be sent to a study."

(From the Kennebec Journal, Augusta, 3/30/67)

PASSAMAQUODDY COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE

The newly-formed Passamaquoddy Community Action Committee, which will administer the Tribe's recently-funded "war on poverty" consists of Mr. Francis "Red" Sapiel, Mrs. Rita Altavater, and Father Paul Pare, of the Pleasant Point Reservation, and Mr. Archie LaCoote, Mr. George Stevens, Jr., and Father Maurice Lemlin, of the Indian Township Reservation. Mr. Sapiel was elected chairman

(Continued on Page 20)

(Continued from Page 19)

of the committee and Mr. LaCoote the vice-chairman. Governors John Stevens (Indian Township) and Joseph Mitchell (Pleasant Point) are members of the committee ex officio.

The committee has had several meetings to review and screen applications that have been received for the position of Passamaquoddy Community Action Director.

SECOND INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HEARING

On March 23rd, the Legislative Indian Affairs Committee held its second public hearing of the current session. Five bills were brought before the committee, all sponsored by Representative Warren Cookson. They were:

L.D. 1066 "AN ACT to Revise the Maine Indian Housing Authority Law"

L.D. 1067 "AN ACT Relating to Clerks of Indian Tribes and Excise Taxes on Motor Vehicles Paid by Members of the Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indians"

L.D. 1068 "AN ACT Relating to Biennial Elections of Penobscot Tribe of Indians"

L.D. 1094 "AN ACT Relating to Special Offices for Indian Tribes"

L.D. 1095 "AN ACT Relating to Biennial Elections of Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indians"

Among those people testifying at the hearing were Penobscot ex-Governor Francis Ranco, Penobscot Tribal Councilwoman Violet Francis, Penobscot Legislative Representative John Nelson, Passamaquoddy Legislative Representative George Francis, Passamaquoddy CAC chairman Francis Sapiel, and Penobscot Lt. Governor Fred Nicola.

As of March 31, the Newsletter understands that the two tribal election bills (L.D. 1068 & 1095) which would amend existing election laws of the two Tribes, were reported from the committee with "Ought to Pass" recommendations and are continuing normal progress in the legislature. The other three bills have not yet been reported out of the committee; some amendments are being sought for L.D. 1067 to make it more inclusive.

AMPHENOL DEDICATES NEW PLANT ON LAND LEASED FROM SEMINOLES

The Seminole Indian Tribe of Florida, which once sent all its messages by runner, soon will become landlord for a plant that will be the world's largest manufacturer of electronic connectors for the tele-communication industry....A 32,400 square foot plant building was constructed on the ten-acre tract of land leased by Amphenol Corporation of Chicago from the Seminoles in an agreement signed last June. About one-half the initial work force of 200 will be comprised of local Indians, the company announced....

(From the U.D. Department of the Interior, 3/15/67)

TRIBAL SELF-RULE IS CLOSER IN CANADA

By Jay Walz

OTTAWA, March 4 - The Canadian Government committed itself this week to sweeping changes aimed at giving wider freedom of decision to the country's more than 250,000 Indians and Eskimos.

When the steps under way are completed, the Indians on reserves, numbering about 215,000, will be able to make their own decisions on local matters.Large numbers of the Indians remain skeptical, but others take hope that the Government, 100 years after the founding of the Canadian confederation, will surely back up its promises with deeds.

(Continued next month)

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Readers, either Indian or non-Indian are urged and encouraged to send in news items, stories, articles, letters, suggestions, jokes, comments, cartoons, complaints, legends, etc.

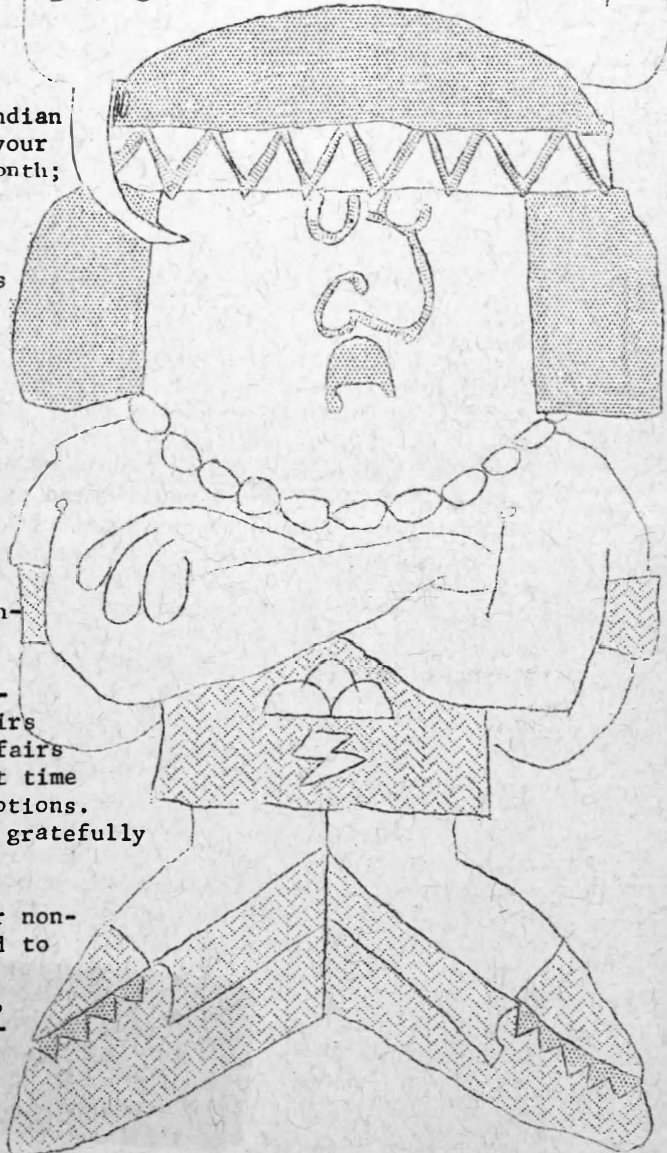
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