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AROOSTOOK INDIAN

Volume #1 No. 10

September-October 1970

EDITORIAL APOLOGY

We would like to apologize to all of our readers for missing a few editions the last couple of months. Things have been very confusing and busy around here. Things are now starting to settle down and we hope to get on a much more regular schedule.

The Staff
Association of Aroostook
Indians, Inc.

MEETING THIS SUNDAY!!!

There will be a meeting of the Association of Aroostook Indians, Inc. at 1:00 P. M. this Sunday, November 1, 1970, at the Old Hayes Library, Ricker College, Houlton, Maine.

There are many things which have to be discussed and this is why this meeting is very important. We must get a true representation from all the people in every section of the county. I do not think that 2 hours of a Sunday afternoon is too much to ask of anybody. Transportation is a problem. We are trying to solve this problem. In the meantime, it would be very helpful if

the people up north could help by bringing down all those people they can fit into their cars.

Among the things that we have to discuss this week are elections of officers for this year; what we are doing to try and raise money for the A.A.I.; what we can do this year, and many other important topics.

I hope to see all of our Indian People at the meeting this Sunday at 1:00 P.M. at Ricker College, in Houlton.

Tom Battiste

BURNS IN HAWAII: NEW COMMITTEE AT RICKER

Robert "Bob" Burns who was the director of the Ricker College Indian Project last year, received and accepted an offer to teach at the University of Hawaii.

Replacing Bob are Howard Bowman, Clifford Stevens, Bob Snyder, and Dick Johnston. All four are Ricker faculty members and they are formed into a Coordinating Committee. This committee will work between the AAI and Ricker College.

TUTORIAL PROGRAM

The tutorial program for Indian children from around the Houlton area will be starting again this year. Everyone from this area who had a tutor last year, or would like one this year, will be able to pick up an application at the AAI meeting this Sunday. If you do not get an application, then, please drop us a card at:

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

or call 532-2223 extension 50 Monday thru Friday between 1:00 and 4:00 in the afternoon.

We are going to see if we can get tutors from Aroostook State this year for the children from around the Presque Isle area. If you live around there and are interested in having a tutor, let us know

The Staff

On behalf of the Association of Aroostook Indians, Inc., we would like to thank the District Episcopal Churchwomen of Aroostook County for their financial support. The Episcopal Churchwomen of District 6 comprise the parishes and missions in Limestone, Fort Fairfield, Caribou, Presque Isle, Mars Hill, Blaine, Bridgewater, and Houlton.

Again, thank you very much.

The Staff
Association of Aroostook
Indians, Inc.

A.A.I. Meeting this Sunday - 1:00 P. M.
Ricker College - Houlton, Maine.

He who laughs at our people, Indians,
cry last.

Matilda West
Ashland, Maine

NEW INSTRUCTOR AND ASSOCIATE

Tom Battiste will be the new instructor for the Title I IEA (Indian Project) at Ricker College this year. Tom will be taking over the job of Bob Burns, who is now in Hawaii.

Rick Richter, who worked with the A.A.I. last year, will be working again this year with the A.A.I. as their Instructional and Administrative Associate.

You may come and you may go, but we Indians
go on forever.

TERRY RECEIVES FORD GRANT

Terry Polchies, president of the A.A.I., has received a Ford Leadership Development grant. With this grant, Terry will be traveling and studying with various Indian groups throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Terry will be traveling on and off for the next twelve months. During his travels he will be gathering first hand information on how successful Indian groups were set up and how they are running. He will be concentrating his studies in the area of youth opportunities. Hopefully, all of the information that Terry gathers will be brought back to Aroostook and similar successful programs will be started here.

Indian land's
Indian home's
Indian school's
Indian people
Indians are people
The world over.

T.W.
Ashland, Maine

THINK INDIAN THINK INDIAN THINK INDIAN

A TALE FROM "GLUSKAP THE LIAR & OTHER
INDIAN TALES" by Horace Beck
published by the Bond Wheelwright Co. in
Freeport, Maine

Two men, an Indian and a white man, were
hunting together and were good friends.
One day they sat down on a log beside a
stream. The white man sat nearest the water,
the Indian on the shore side. Suddenly
the Indian nudged the white man. "Move
over," he said. The white man moved. Again
the Indian nudged his friend and repeated
his request, and again his companion moved.

This continued until the white man found
himself sitting on the very end of the log
which protruded over the stream. The Indian
again requested a move. The white man protested
that if he moved again he would fall into the
brook and asked why his friend kept moving him.
Said his friend, "You are like the Indian and I
am like the white man -- always asking you to
move until there is no place to go except into
the water."

GET WELL QUICK

Miss Joyce Hill age 14, is a patient at
the Maine Medical Center in Portland, Maine.
Monday, July 13th, Joyce had heart surgery.
She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Monty
Hill of Presque Isle, Maine.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

The staff of the Association of Aroostook
Indians wish to extend their congratulations
and best wishes on the recent marriage of
Val Polchies and Miss Deborah Tomah, both of
Houlton, Maine.

SMILE A WHILE

There was this white man who came upon
an Indian who was fishing from a boat. This
white man asked the Indian what he was doing?
The Indian said fishing. The white man said
you shouldn't be doing that, you should be
looking for work. The Indian asked why?
The white man said to make money. The Indian
asked why do I need money? The white man
said so you can live and save some of it.
The Indian asked why save? And the white
man said so that you can retire and buy a
cottage by the lake. The Indian asked why
retire and buy a cottage? The white man said
so that you can fish.

Twenty-two miles we used to walk to
Amherst to see the splendor of color of the
trees and the deer in the woods, and drink
pure spring water from the spring.

Patilda West
Ashland, Maine

THE DRAFT

"The draft is whitepeople sending black people to fight yellow people to defend the land they stole from the red people."

CHILD SURVEY CONDUCTED DURING HARVEST

The American Friends Service Committee conducted a survey during the potato harvest this year. They tried to find out the kinds of conditions children have to live and work under during the harvest.

If these people saw you during the harvest I hope you gave them the information they needed to make their survey a success.

The Staff

Earth Day, we Indians are for it. Indian Land Day - nice thought.

POEM

A gentle breeze
An Indian child
7 years old
An Indian Residential school
At play was the child
A molded alter of snow
Upon a hillside
A gentle breeze
A pale blue sky
A cross appeared
7 years old was a child.

T. W.
Ashland, Maine

A.A.I. MEETING THIS SUNDAY - 1:00 P. M.
RICKER COLLEGE - HOULTON, MAINE.

Fast and fancy cars. Where are the horses for Indians? Not so very long ago, Indians used to ride horses bare back.

BORN TO GROW

When Indian mother's (ours) gave birth to a new born baby, a boy, a girl, a human life entered this world. Pink for girl, blue for boy. Its like a rose that has burst its smile on dad's face, a twinkle in dad's eyes.

Perhaps the first yawn. A clenched fist in a rose bud mouth. Babe's first year and now a first step. Most times no pink or blue baby shoes. Only a sight for parents eyes and heart. Did the worrie start now or did it start at babe's birth? Mom all ways had a tear in her eye as she looked at her babe. Dad a frown as he watched mom. What a tragic time to leave a warm nest of a home to enter grade school, again the worry of parents.

How soon will parents hear the cruel story? babe will bring hometo tell mom and dad. Mom, why am I different? Why, Mom? Ask dad he will tellyou! Dad why am I dark? Why do the children fight. Why, Mom? Dad, why? The first year endured. Time heals all wounds. We parents have wiped thegolden teardrops from babe's eyes. Our lip kissed hankies tucked in our pocket filled with babe's golden tears.

The question lingers inour minds. Why am I dark Mom? All other children at school are white. Babe comes home with a hurt every day and most times no hurt onbody. Thehurt is in the heart and soul. Mostly deep in the heart. We have found the meaning of broken hearts in the very young.

Perhaps that is the reason, wehave mature children. We have very clever Indian children. They learn at a very early age. Ways to be defensive. They build a wall of concrete around themselves. Indian school children learn more about human relations thefirst year of school than most people do in a life time. To live an experience is to learn. To learn is life. To have life is to be human. In babe's In babe's 15 - 16 - years. We as parents know only to well. Babe is growing up.

Its time to leave school. Weknow in our hearts. This tragic event will take place.
(cont'd on next page)

It takes place, at times, we are very lucky. He or she has gone on to a higher education. We need not say more. We live these events. A place somewhere needs blood to save a life. Babe donates his or her precious blood. There is no question, is this Indian blood? Is this blood white or Indian? The blood is accepted. It has saved a life. Perhaps Babe will donate a heart after death. No questions are asked. Is this an Indian Heart? Its transplanted, a person is granted life. No questions are asked. No one will ask, is this heart of an educated or a rich Indian?

The same goes for land. Land is like a child. Right from the beginning its born. As years pass it grows, as years pass it continues to grow. Land will give same as babe will give and continue to give. We shall continue to live and love our Indian babe's and our Indian lands.

T. W.
Ashland, Maine

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

A 10lbs. 1 ounce baby girl was born August 10, 1970 at the Arthur Gould Hospital in Presque Isle. The proud parents, Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Tuplin of Easton, Maine, have named their little girl Pauline Grace Tuplin.

"For Your Information"

HOW AMERICAN CHILDREN GET RACIST IDEAS

From Story of our Land and People, by Glenn W. Moon, and Don C. Cline. Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, N.Y. 1964:

"American Indians were doomed by the coming of the whiteman...The number of Indians was small because they did not know how to develop America's natural resources--- that is, the soil, minerals, water power and other natural riches of the land. They might have gone on and developed great civilizations that could support a large population. But they moved too slowly. Their way of life

was doomed when another group of immigrants appeared in America. The white man from Europe brought with them knowledge and skill far greater than that of the wisest Indians."

From "Our America", by Herbert Townsend, Allyn and Bacon, Inc., 1958:

'Big Chief Sitting Bull Goes on Warpath: Sitting Bull was a big chief in the Sioux family. He spent his spare time sitting around hatching up new ways to bother the pale-faces. Sitting Bull hated the white men. Most of all, he hated the United States soldiers. They were driving the Sioux from their hunting grounds. One day, in 1876, Sitting Bull and his warriors painted their faces and went on the warpath. General George A. Custer and a few soldiers were camped at Little Big Horn River in Montana. The Sioux surrounded them and killed every man.

Years later, our government found a way to keep the Indians happy. They even gave Sitting Bull a job. Each one was given land to do with as he wished. He was also given the right to become a citizen of the United States and a lot of the Indians took us up on that. Today the red man and the white man live at peace."

A.A.I. MEETING THIS SUNDAY - 1:00P.M.
RICKER COLLEGE - HOULTON, MAINE.
BE SURE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING.

T.R.I.B.E.

T.R.I.B.E., the all-Indian educational corporation now located in Acadia National Park (RFD #1, Bar Harbor, Maine) has received an offer of \$70,000 in first year support from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

T.R.I.B.E.'s directors represent the Micmac, Maliseet, Passamaquoddy and Penobscot tribes living in Maine and in Canada --- all members of the Abnaki Confederacy. The grant will go toward development of a Humanities curriculum for an Indian-directed Learning Center.

'NO PLAN TO OUST INDIANS'
(Reprinted from ARKESASNE NOTES)

The General Services Administration, responding to a published report about a planned Navy-Coast Guard move against the Indians on Alcatraz issued a qualified statement of policy about the island yesterday.

The administration, which noted it has responsibility for Alcatraz, said if the Indians refrain from interfering with efforts to restore navigational aids, "there is no present intention to remove the Indians from the island by force."

Naval spokesmen flatly refused to comment on the report which quoted from a "confidential" message from the commander of the 12th Naval District here.

As outlined in the report the invasion would be staged from Treasure Island and involve landing barges. Code name for the action is Operation Parks.

(cont'd top of page)

A leader of the Indian community occupying Alcatraz said disclosure of the plans was "nothing new to us... we've always been expecting it."

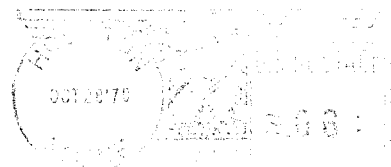
Laneda Means added that the more than 30 Indians on Alcatraz "will not resist violently."

If you have any comments, (criticisms or otherwise), old Indian tales, recipes, current news, poems, cartoons, or any other news item that you would like to see printed in the AROOSTOOK INDIAN, write them down and send them to P.O. Box 223, Houlton, Maine 04730. We want to hear from all of the Indians in Aroostook County, Canada, and the rest of Maine.

A.A.I. MEETING THIS SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 1
OLD HAYES LIBRARY, RICKER COLLEGE, HOULTON,
MAINE

The Association of
AROOSTOOK INDIANS
P. O. Box 223
Houlton, Maine 04730

RICKER
College
of the
Northeast



Mr. Frank Hagan, Coordinator
216 Auburn Hall
University of Maine
Bangor, Maine