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NEW BREED

NEW BREED

AUGUST

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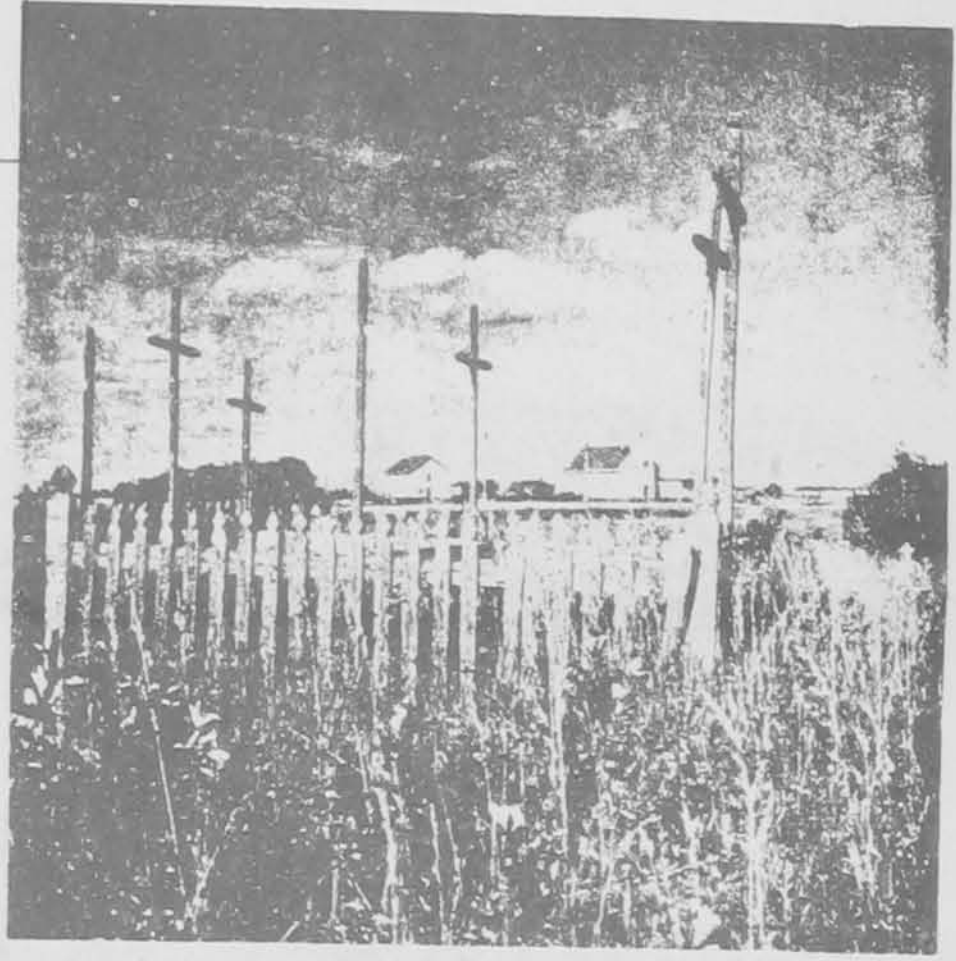
AUG 21 1972

University of Saskatchewan
SASKATOON

A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS

In 1885 Louis Riel and Gabriel Dumont were defeated at Batoche in their fight for justice. So it is only fitting that in 1972 the Indian and Metis people take up the fight for justice at the same spot. On July 17, 1972 the Metis Society of Saskatchewan presented the second annual Back to Batoche meeting and celebration.

The first people to arrive were the delegates from Saskatchewan's 91 locals. They were there representing the people of their locals for the meetings and elections. The weather did not dampen their spirit, for the temperature dropped to 35 degrees the first night. This did not have any effect on the meetings other than delay them a bit in the mornings. As the week wore on more people poured into the site bringing their own tents or making use of the 350 that were provided. Until on Saturday they surpassed the estimated twelve thousand that were expected.



The Batoche Church and rectory today, with the graves of Metis killed in the Battle of Batoche in the foreground.

BATOCHÉ '72



PRESIDENT: JIM SINCLAIR

VICE PRES. NAP LAFONTAINE



SECRETARY: RAY HAMILTON

TREASURER: JIM DUROUCHER



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Society dates back to the 1930's but only in recent years progress has been made in terms of helping native communities organize and express their problems and needs.

Historically, our legal status, subtle discrimination and isolation by the white community prevented us from participating in the mainstream of social and economic life.

The Society's approach is one of self-help, using their own resources and potential to develop and to find a better way of life.



JIM SINCLAIR

PROGRESS 1971-72

GENERAL-The growth of the Society from a small organization with a staff of some 10 people to an organization running half a dozen different programs and a permanent staff of over 100 people indicates a recognition of our needs and problems on the part of governments and a willingness to make available resources to native organizations.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED - Rapid development caused problems in finding staff with the necessary skills and abilities. Because of other more pressing programs, training programs did not receive as much attention as had been desired.

Lack of immediate cash resources was a constant problem. In most cases it is necessary to spend money before governments would reimburse us; reimbursing claims were also very slow.

Problems of communication within the Society diverted some attention away from the people, but meetings helped re-establish good communications.

In spite of all these problems a great deal of accomplishment has been made during the past year.

SOCIETY PROGRAMS

Core Program - Core program's purpose is to inform Metis people of their rights as citizens; to understand their problems and needs; improve their accessibility and make more effective use of present services and programs. This is essentially our political organization or structure

Housing - Large grants provide some housing

housing but due to the lack of funds, only 500 of 5000 families who requested assistance were helped.

Alcoholism Program - Counselling services were set up through native counsellors, who had personal experiences with alcoholism problems. Two treatment centers are now in operation - One in Prince Albert and one in North Battleford.

Community Development - Programs will deal with training additional workers, also helping with project proposals under the Local Initiatives Program for local communities. Questions dealing with housing and economic development will be one of their tasks.

Education Research - A proposal dealing with educational problems and developing educational programs related to the needs of the Metis people was set forward.

Youth Projects - Youth Project, a center which deals with drug use and abuse and related problems was the youths biggest success.

L. I. P. -

Staff services were extended with the help of Local Initiatives Project grants, under alcoholism, community development, youth and housing programs, which will be continued until December.

In Communication - The New Breed paper is having problems with securing information which is geared to the needs of the people.

PLANS FOR 1972-73

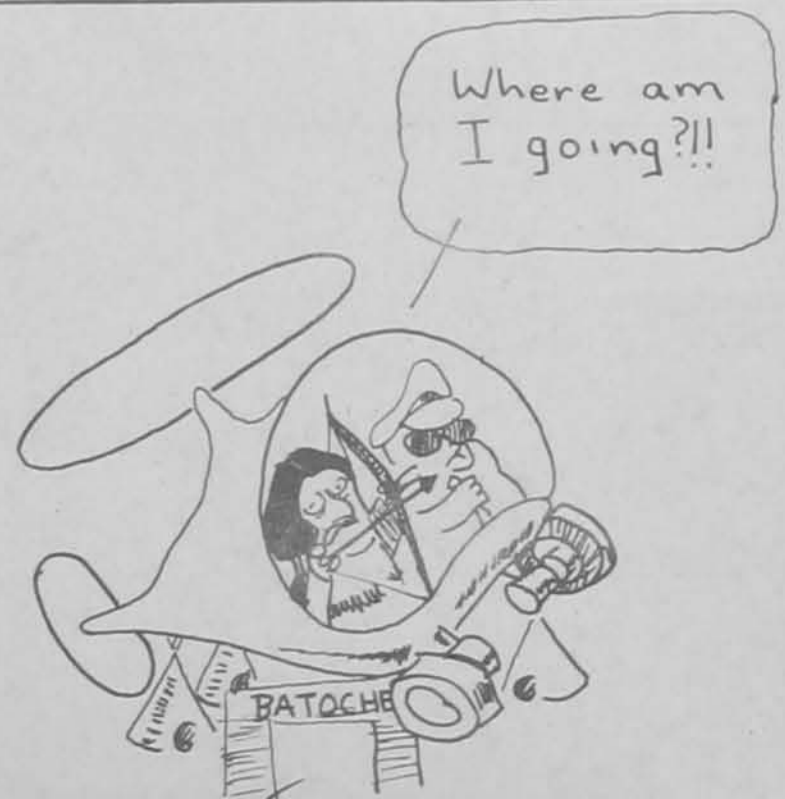
PROGRAMS - As well as continuing, expanding and improving our existing programs, we hope to start new programs such as:

- * research aboriginal and native rights.
- * housing needs.
- * economic problems and needs.
- * employment counselling program
- * family counselling.
- * probation and parole services.
- * half-way houses.
- * alcohol treatment.

ADMINISTRATION - has been improved by hiring additional administrative staff, accountants, bookkeepers and purchasing consultative services.

TRAINING - sessions and seminars will be increased to explore alternate ways of providing training opportunities for the staff..

SOCIAL ACTION - has been and will continue to be an important part of the program of the Society. We must push for social reform and change.



Treasurer's Report



I. INTRODUCTION

Honoured by acting as Treasurer for the past year, amazed at the resources which we have gained access to. Also find encouraging the Future of the organization and the Future of the people.

II. DEVELOPMENT DURING 1971 - 1972

In the fiscal year 1969 - 70 total amount of money recieved from governments was 20,000 at cost sharing between Federal and Provincial governments. In 1970 - 71, 75,000 from the Federal Government for core and research from Central Mortgage and Housing boosted it to 100,000.

In 1971 - 1972 our effort on behalf of our people payed off, for the first time the resources recieved from the Province exeeded 100,000 and with the monies recieved from the Federal government we had in access of 700,000 to use in the programs that was outlined in the President's Report. We anticipate considerably more money will be available to us and it could equal or exceed one million dollars.

III. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

The rapid growth of the organization and resources generated problems.

Found that bookkeeping methods used inadequate, and had to develope new ones.

Also found the staff available had to be increased because of the tremendous workload in the financial area.

Another problem is the conditions governments placed on funds available. We had a contractual arrangement and had to produce progress reports and other documentations.

In general because of the slowness in governments paying claims we were always short of money and difficulties in keeping pay-rolls and other expenses on a regular basis.

Additional problems was when the government took a long time on making a decision on a grant application and we had to go out on a limb and launch the the programs for which we had not been assured finances.

IV. STEPS TAKEN TO IMPROVE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

We worked with Mr. Roy Sparks our Auditor in setting up financial policies. We set up a adequate booking and filing system. We had to increase bookkeeping and accounting staff to keep books and files up to date.

V. CONCLUSIONS

We have learned and achieved lots. We look to the people we serve for suggestions on how we can improve.

Jim Durocher

Unexpected Guest

I would like to express my appreciation for giving me this opportunity which I didn't ask for. I have watched the last ten minutes of this meeting in action and it is tremendously creditable to all of you. I have watched those who expressed views contrary to one another in a way that does honour to them and all of you. I have always been greatly interested in in the Metis. In my opinion, no one ever equalled in the Indian race, or a descendant of the Indian race, the qualities and military capacity of Gabriel Dumont. As a result of Gabriel Dumont's field notes, today there is a realization in military circles that he was in fact, a military genius. And today we rank him as one of the greatest, if not the greatest of those who used their military genius as a result of the buffalo hunt. I congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, and all those associated with you, in this remarkable exhibition of democracy in action. The way in which motions are brought before you and voted on do honour to you. And to each and every one of you, I extend my best wishes.

JOHN DIEFENBAKER



MONEY DELAYED BY OTTAWA

NATIVE GROUP HITS \$ DELAY BY OTTAWA

All 40 friendship centres serving Indian and Metis people throughout the country will close their doors for 24 hours next Wednesday in protest over delay in implementation of the Federal Government's new \$25 million program to help such centres.

This was the decision of delegates attending the first annual meeting of the National Association of Friendship Centres. The five-day meeting in the Mennonite Brethern Bible College, 77 Henderson Highway, ends Friday.

Roger Obonsawin, the association's president announced the decision of the 80 delegates at a press conference Thursday.

He said that a telegram sent at 4 p.m. Monday to Secretary of State Gerard Pelletier had not been acknowledged yet.

"Federal delays in implementing the government's new \$25 million program to help friendship centres are forcing us into bankruptcy," he said. (Friendship Centres help native people adjust to city life.)

George Munroe, executive director of the Winnipeg Indian and Metis Friendship Centre, said Thursday in a telephone interview that his centre will be in a "pretty rough situation" if it has to wait until the end of September for funds from the federal government.

- Ray Hamilton

Once again I would like to extend my appreciation to the people who supported me in being elected Secretary of the Metis Society of Saskatchewan.

Some problems were presented to me at Batoche, one of these concerned communications. The ways we intend to improve communications will be as follows:

I. A communication committee is been established.

(1) Each department head or supervisor of the Metis Society are to meet once a week and give a written report on what they have done.

(2) These reports are compiled and sent to the Society Fieldworkers so they will know what is taking place and can pass this information to their field staff - (for example - Housing, Community development, N.A.C. - Youth etc.)

II. A proposal has been submitted to the Provincial Government regarding a grant to enlarge the "New Breed" in staff and distribution - this paper can help in getting information to the people.

III. A proposal has been submitted to Governments on holding large area meetings, so people can get together to discuss problems and give direction to the Metis Society - also this helps in getting information first hand.



IV. As Secretary I will be sending Locals information related to the pertinent business of the Metis Society (for example - Board and Executive meetings - Gov't. Meetings - meetings with other organizations)

V. We are trying to make funds available to the elected Directors to enable them in contacting the locals they represent, by this this they will be able to present issues which are of concern to the locals.

VI. The executive members will try to attend many local meetings or requested meetings as time permits.

VII. The continuation of "Back to Batoche" is an annual event - as everyone is aware this is one time we can really discuss our problems and direct our future.

As previously mentioned communications was a concern but we hope the ideas and what is now being done will help in getting information to our people.

Ray Hamilton
Secretary, M.S.S.

RAY JONES - INDEPENDANT

Raymond Jones - Uranium City

Last March, I became a member of the N.D.P. Party and my eye was on Parliament for Native people. But apparently it didn't work that way. The N.D.P. Executive in Uranium City did not want me. There are approximately 439 and out of this, I sold 240 and I had 40 other supporters elsewhere. The evening before the election, they called me up to the Athabasca Executive and they read statements of allegation against me, my family, and my friends. They wanted to press me out. I said no way. I just told them good night and went home and went to bed. On the same evening at 2 a.m. before the election they called me up and said, "there is no election today." They were just going to have a general meeting. And I said that's fine. On the same day at 7 p.m., I wrote a letter to the Athabasca Executive advising them that I refused my name to stand as possible candidate in the next Athabasca Provincial by-election. The reason I did this is because there is white racist activity and the N.D.P. is involved in this, the Athabasca Executive and members of the Provincial Executive. That really hurt me because they didn't want a Native person in there. I fought back. I went to Regina and had a press conference. I told the people all about what has happened in Northern Saskatchewan. I am now an Independant. I am no longer N.D.P. I am now asking for support from the people here. Thank you.

The documetary

"BACK TO BATOCHÉ"

will be shown on the CTV network,

as part of the

Quality of Life

series on

Thursday, August 17 at 9:30 p.m.



NAP LAFONTAINE
VICE PRESIDENT

EDITORIAL

Super-Numer Program

The Super-Numer program as it now stands does nothing in the majority of cases for people its supposed to serve and is nothing more than a source of cheap labour for the government. The Super-Numer is a person being trained and is not essential for the operations of that particular Department. But in the majority of cases this is not how it works, for they have to accept the same responsibility as the regular staff and the same workload.

The super-numer has nothing to look forward too, for there is no increments no matter how long he stays as a super-numer, which in most cases is where he stays because of the lack of positions, and because the government does not have to pay the wages a permanent person would get in that position.

When a half-breed or Indian person is placed in a Dept. through this program the supervisors look down on him as an inconvenience and the white staff resent him being there and feel he is a threat to their jobs or promotions. Other attitudes by the supervisors is The Credit To Your Race thing. It seems that the super-numer is not an individual but a statistic or some sort of pilot project, and if he can prove to the white bosses that he wasn't going to get drunk on the job or take off after the first cheque they are going to open up the gates and let the Indian and Metis come in and work for the minimum wage for as long as they like.

When a person on the super-numer program tries to get justice whether it be trying to get equal pay for equal work or raising in his Dept. the attitude of the bosses are that they think you are lucky have the job and they are doing you a favor by keeping you off welfare.

I do not believe an Indian or Metis person can function with any dignity under these circumstances. If the government feels so surely they will have to that the Indians and Metis people must obtain equality and justice. Then let me suggest that they keep on with training programs but under native control and guidance for native people have special problems and concerns which only native people can understand.

Ray Jones Ousted by Racists

In March of 1972 Ray Jones joined the New Democratic Party. Ray felt at the time the N.D.P. were a grass roots organization. It is easy to see why Ray would feel this way, the N.D.P. present the image to the public that it is the political spokesmen of the poor, down trodden and minority groups. But as Ray was to find out that when you are dealing with white establishment parties, no matter what name they go under they are only willing to pay lip service to native equality and justice.

On June 16th, of this year in Uranium City he was nominated and he let his name stand as a possible candidate as an N.D.P., there were seven other contestants. (At that time Ray had sold 240 memberships out of approximately 439 total memberships) Ray was the obvious leader and was going to take the candidacy and then with Ray's popularity with the people of the north, that this native leader had a better than even chance of winning the constituency. This would put the government in the awkward position of having a native northern N.D.P., M.L.A. They would have to give him a position in the Dept. of the north and this would be a direct threat to Mr. Bowerman and his friends.

No, it seems the N.D.P. wanted Ray Jones in the party and as a contestant in the candidacy but only to use him to get the native population to vote N.D.P. they never intended him to win. But Ray is a dedicated man and he worked to win. So on June 26th at approximately 11:30 p.m. they held a kangaroo court with the Provincial President and Secretary, and said they had signed allegations of irregularities against him they never showed him these statements. They then phoned him and said the election was off.

With Ray's dissolution with the party he refused his name as a nominee, but Ray is not giving up the fight he is now going to run independant.

I feel all native people owe him our full support.

Ray Jones is running as an independent candidate in the Athabasca constituency.

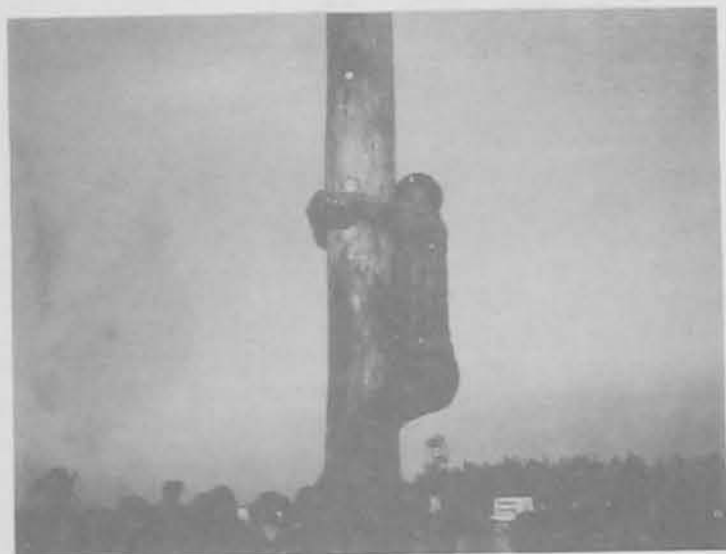
He is asking for your support in the coming by-election send all donations to :

**Ray Jones campaign fund
BOX 895
Uranium City
Sask.**

CONNED

The Native groups never said that the Indian and Metis Department should be done away with but rather it should have been improved and given more native control. The Government thinks by giving us the Human Resources Development Agency it has CONNED us. It hasn't!!

ACTIVITIES



ACTIVITIES

Besides the meetings at Batoche there were other activities such as: Fast ball, Canoe Racing, and Bingo. The bingos held every night, according to man in charge were a huge success.

Winners of these events were:

- Men's Fast Ball-----Regina Natives
- Women's Fast Ball-----Ft. Lacombe
- Boy's Fast Ball-----Kamsack

The Canoe Racing was won by Cumberland House.

Other activities such as Fiddling Contests, Step Dancing, Amateur Show and the open air dancing for the young and old which was held every night, and was a huge success under the directorship of Bill Daniels, of La Ronge. Cash prizes were also given out to the people who were in the Pow Wow.



Beauty Queen



Eileen Daniels
WINNER
 of
 the
BEAUTY QUEEN
CONTEST



NEW BREED

a monthly paper

Subscription rates:

\$3.00 yearly

\$1.50, 6 months

1935 Scarth Street
Regina, Sask.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

Comments on paper: _____

DUCK LAKE PENSIONER'S HOME

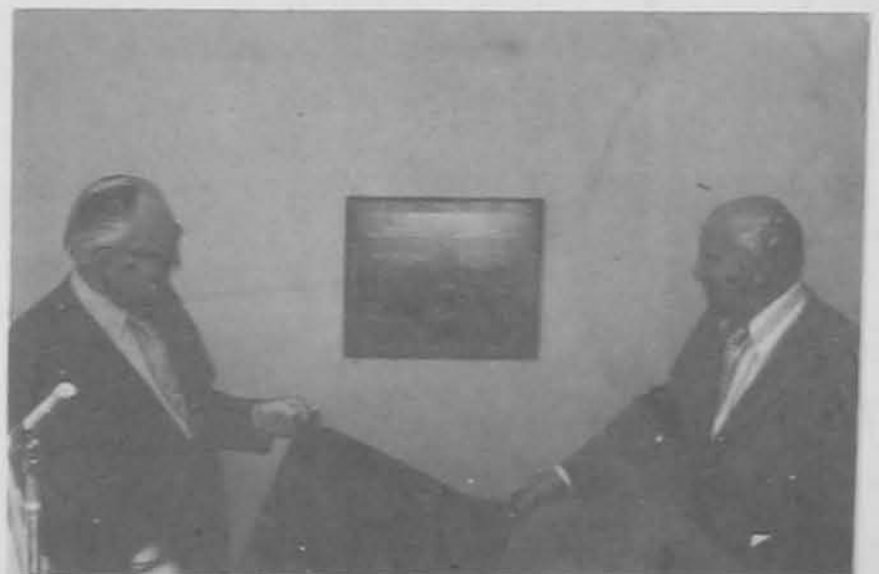
In June 1971, the Metis Housing Group began building the Duck Lake Pensioner's Home. On July 20th 1972, the Home was officially opened by Jim Sinclair, President of the Metis Society, Ron Basford, Federal Minister of Urban Affairs, and E. I. Woods, Provincial Minister of Municipal Affairs.



RON BASFORD



E. I. WOODS



Elected to Board of Directors

Northern Region - Ray Jones

Address - Box 895, Uranium City, Sask.

Uranium City
Elake Lake
Wallaston
Stoney Rapids
Camsell Portage

Elected to Board of Directors

North West - Brian Aubichon

Address - 1935 Scarth St., Regina, Sask.

Green Lake
Ile-A-La-Crosse
Meadow Lake
Beauval
Jans Bay
La Loche
Turnor Lake
Cole Bay
Big Fiver
Buffalo Narrows
Chitek Lake
Dillion - St. George Hills
Dore Lake
Dorintosh
Pierceland
Livelong
St. Walburg
Makwa
Rush Lake
PineHouse
Water Hen
Patunak
Leoville

Elected to Board of Directors

North East - Frank Tomkins

Address - Metis Office, Box 465, La Ronge, Sask.

Prince Albert
Hudson Bay
Molanosa
La Ronge
Timber Bay
Melfort
Cumberland -
Kinistino
Emma Lake - Christopher Lake
Love
Creighton
Sandy Bay
Pelican Lake
Sturgeon Landing
Deschambault Lake
Stanley Mission

Elected to Board of Directors

West Central - Clarence Trotchie

Address - 310-20th St. East, Saskatoon

Saskatoon
Lloydminister
Cochin

Elected to Board of Directors

East Central - Harold Lajinodiere

Address - c/o Metis Housing, Lestock, Sask.

Lestock
Yorkton

Livelong
St. Wallburg
Makwa
Rush Lake
Pinehouse
Water Hen
Patunak
Leoville

Elected to Board of Directors

West Central - Clarence Trotchie
Address - 310-20th St. East, Saskatoon

Saskatoon
Lloydminster
Cochin
St. Louis
North Battleford
Cando
Kindersley
Edjennie
Allan
Crutwell
McDowall
Leask
Shell Lake - Mt. Nebo
Debden
Rosetown
Batoche
Biggar - Springwater
Duck Lake

Elected to Board of Directors

South West - Walter Schoenthal
Address - 1935 Scarth St., Regina, Sask.

Maple Creek
Willow Bunch
Regina
Moose Jaw
Assiniboia
Big Beaver

Elected to Board of Directors

East Central - Harold Lajimodiere
Address - c/o Metis Housing, Lestock, Sask.

Lestock
Yorkton
Melville
Punnichy
Wadena
Archerwill
Caragana
Dysart
Lady Lake
Langenburg
Crescent Lake
Gerald

Elected to Board of Directors

Elected to Board of Directors
South East - R.J. Stevenson
Address - 1935 Scarth St., Regina, Sask.

Abemethy
Crooked Lake
Qu'Appelle
Indian Head
Fort Qu'Appelle
Estevan
Craven
Welwyn
Lebret
Moosomin
Balcarres

POETRY

APOLOGY

Low rumblings
far above the black storm clouds
and far below
the surface of the earth.

The clouds apart;
the earth splits,
and a vision of
the deliverer appears.

He scowls at the whites
as they sit pinkly
in their plush lairs,
drinking martinis.

Moses plunged against
wind and dust
as he lead the Jews
to the promised land.

So will the prophet
of the Native people
when he makes his
presence known.

If the Jews are God's
chosen,
then surely the native people
are the chosen of the earth,
for they did not use the laws
of nature as their own?

When a buffalo
was killed
all of it was used
and the beast was blessed.

But the whites took only the hides
and then,
as the Spanish had taught them,
they took the hair of their other victims,
the Indian,
and abandoned the bodies of men
with those of the beasts
to rot on the stiff prairie grass,
food for the flies.

It was my people,
the whites,
I am ashamed
to be one of them.

We whites
prey upon those
of deeper colour.
We must resent
the warmth of the skin
of our enemies.
None of those slaughtered had
pale cold skins
they were black,
or yellow,
or red.
(Oh, the Jews' skin was almost white,
but his ideas were strange.)

I am ashamed of my people
and I would like to make it up to you,,
the people to whom I should be paying
rent.

"WILL WE EVER SEE"

How will we ever know
When WE'ER wanted or not?
Will we see?
Or do we have to show them
What we mean by "EQUALITY?"

N. Gardiner

I have thought of self-immolation
as redemption;
burning myself like the Buddhist Monks
who protest the wars,
leaving a letter
close to the can of gasoline
apologizing for the misdeeds
of me and my people.

What if I shot Pierre?
What if I knifed Nixon?
How about robbing a bank,
and turning the money over to the
over to the people?
What if I blew up
all the Welfare Offices,
and blackmailed all the workers?

Then would you pardon my race
for "atrocities committed at Sand Creek"
and for atrocities being committed now?

I don't think so.
I wouldn't.

Yesterday.
Dust haze sifting down
over a red sun
as red men water their proud ponies.
Before my people came, things made sense.

A warrior was shot by soldiers
on the plains, and
he sang his death song:
"nothing lives long;
only the earth and the mountains."

A Prophet??

Carol Bell

He Who Wanders or The Wander

He who wanders everyday,
Will enjoy the beauties on his way.

He who wanders and marry's a wife,
Should be happy even in times of strife.

He who wanders along the track,
Will never come back.

For he who wanders and goes to bed,
Never wakes up for he is dead.

By Patsy Morin

Races

There are many kinds of races
Red and Yellow and Black and White
And all have different faces.
Is that why we must fight?

Some people are afraid to admit
Who they really are,
It's like wearing a mitt
Trying to be afar.

My mother taught me to be polite
And love them all.
And I think we'd reach a better height
If we learned not to be prejudiced at all.

By Patsy Morin

PHOTOS CON'T



+WHEN THE INDIAN HAS FORGOTTEN THE MUSIC OF HIS FOREFATHERS,
 WHEN THE SOUND OF THE TOMTOM IS NO MORE, WHEN NOISY JAZZ HAS
 DROWNED THE MELODY OF THE FLUTE, HE WILL BE A DEAD INDIAN.
 WHEN FROM HIM HAS BEEN TAKEN ALL THAT IS HIS, ALL THAT HE HAS
 VISIONED IN NATURE, ALL THAT HAS COME TO HIM FROM INFINITE SOURCES,
 HE THEN, TRULY, WILL BE A DEAD INDIAN. HIS SPIRIT WILL BE GONE,
 AND THOUGH HE WALK CROWDED STREETS, HE WILL, IN TRUTH--BE DEAD +

- TO THE EDITOR

Metis Society of Saskatchewan
Local No. 31
Meadow Lake

July 27, 1972

The New Breed
Editor
200 - 1935 Scarth Street
Regina, Saskatchewan

Dear Sir:

I wish to thank all the workers that worked for me at Batoche. The workers that I had from Green Lake, Meadow Lake, Rush Lake, and Pierceland. These people did a real wonderful job on rations. This would never have been possible if it was not for these people.

A real big thanks to you all.

Yours truly,

Dwayne Moore

Metis Society of Saskatchewan
Local No. 31
Meadow Lake

July 27, 1972

The Editor
The New Breed
200 - 1935 Scarth Street
Regina, Saskatchewan

Dear Sir:

Thanks to all the people that did a real wonderful job of setting up Batoche. These people did a real wonderful job.

Yours Sincerely,

Dwayne Moore

Metis Society of Saskatchewan
Local no. 9
Regina, Sask.

The Editor
The New Breed
200 - 1935 Scarth Street
Regina, Sask.

Dear Sir;

On behalf of local no. 9, I would like to thank all the people who made Batoche such a wonderful success this year.

Yours Sincerely,

Georgina Fisher
President,
Metis Society of
local no. 9

Yorkton, Sask.
Aug. 1 st.

Yorkton, Sask.
Aug. 1st. 1972

Sask. Metis Society
Regina, Sask.

To the Editor-

Dear Sir,

I'm writing this note, on behalf of my members, and as President of this Local, we want to thank the leaders of the Metis Society for having (had this "Back to Batoche") again this year. They sure did a good job.

We hope and wish them well in all their ventures, we hope they do as well in housing for our Native people, as this is the most important item now.

Special thanks to Jim and Bruce.

Crescent Lake Local No. 47
Pres. - Eliza Pelletier

Staff of the NEW BREED

would like to congratulate
the Metis Society on the
success of BATOCHÉ

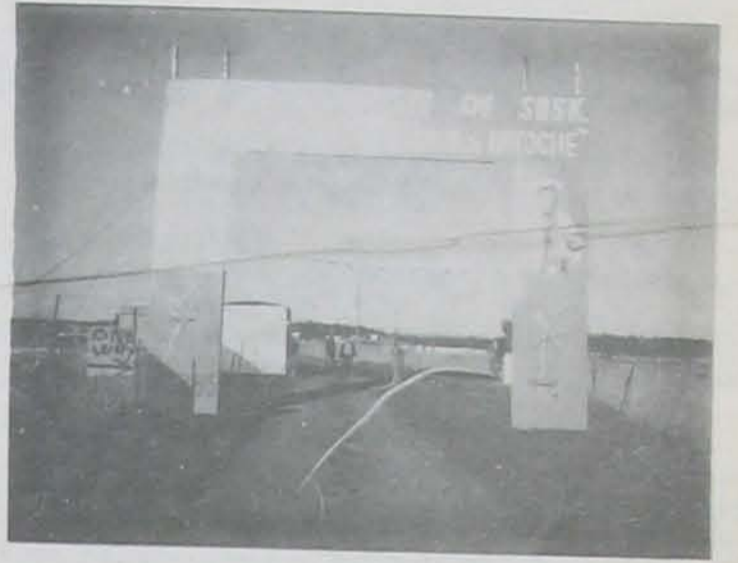
Metis Society of Saskatchewan
Local No. 31
Meadow Lake

In the past we have sponsored Doreen Morin as our candidate for the Winter Festival. Doreen was our crown Snow Queen in 1971. The following year Yvonne Ross was nominated and elected to run for Winter Festival Queen, and she was Princess. Later the Metis Society was asked to sponsor a candidate for the Stampede Queen Contest. Six girls were nominated to run for Stampede Queen and our local voted in Doreen Morin to represent our local in the Queen Contest. Doreen Morin was crowned Stampede Queen for the year of 1972.

On behalf of the Metis Society Local No. 31 we wish to express our deepest appreciation to the Metis Society of Saskatchewan and also to the sub locals and also the ones from the other provinces who bought tickets to help out our local. Thank you.

Mr. Jules Morin
President
Metis Society
Local No. 31
Meadow Lake

PHOTOS



Native Groups Hit by \$ from Ottawa

"We're the best off of the seven Manitoba centres but we're operating under a severe handicap and wouldn't still be going if we hadn't gotten an advance from the provincial government under the old Federal-Provincial agreement.

"All our other funding sources, including the United Way, are holding out since the announcement of the \$25 million funding program."

Mr. Munroe's centre will join with all the others in the oneday Wednesday closure.

The five-year program to reinforce the collapsing network of centres was announced June 27 by Mr. Pelletier. It still has to be approved by the federal treasury board and an interdepartmental affairs committee.

A. H. (Butch) Smitheram, of Ottawa, assistant chairman of the native citizen development group for the secretary of state's office, had told the meetings opening session Monday that the money "might be available Sept. 30, but probably in mid-December," a federal election notwithstanding.

While all friendship centres will close for one day next Wednesday, many of them will permanently close because of the heavy indebtedness, Mr. Obonsawin said.

He said that the centre in London, Ont., had already closed about a month ago, that the Edmonton centre can't pay its staff after next week, that his own centre at Red Lake, Ont., probably would close within a month and that the Calgary centre would close too within 30 days.

"Because of Mr. Pelletier's failure to respond to our appeals launched here this week a delegation from our national body will go to Ottawa Tuesday to negotiate immediate release of funds, will park themselves in front of Mr. Pelletier's office until we get the money."

Provincial knowledge of the federal government's plans to set up a new friendship centre financing scheme has also been hurting friendship centres, Mr. Obonsawin said.

"Armed with the information that the federal government was planning a new deal for us, the provinces have been withholding additional support. This has multiplied our problems."

Premier Ed Schreyer of Manitoba told the delegates earlier this week that the new federal government plan was "forthcoming in a matter of weeks if not days."

Mr. Schreyer added that "the need for friendship centres transcends provincial boundaries."

The New Breed would like some communications with the locals. We would like to know what your problems are and what kind of programs you are trying to get started. Maybe we could be of assistance in communicating to you what other locals in the same situation have done. We would like you to elect or appoint someone from the local to write to us and keep us informed.

Editor.

Mr. Obonsawin said, "One third of the country's one million people of Indian ancestry live in cities and towns. And, by the government's own admission, they require personal counselling services and information about social services agencies, jobs and cultural and recreational facilities which are provided by friendship centres.

"It is clearly the responsibility of the federal government, as expressed by the cabinet's approval of the \$25 million program, that the continued operation of friendship centres is insured."

In addition to the Manitoba government's support, Mr. Obonsawin said that backing for the association's efforts to obtain drastically needed money have come from numerous private agencies and from members of provincial legislatures and members of parliament.

BASFORD AT BATOCHÉ

Basford at Batoche

Ron Basford, Federal Urban Affairs Minister who is also responsible for housing was at Batoche on Thursday to answer questions on housing.



During the day Mr. Basford was taken to Dillon 400 miles north of Saskatoon and was shown the deplorable conditions the Non Treaty and Metis people had to live in. He then went on to Duck Lake for the opening of the Duck Lake Pensioner's Home a Metis project run by Metis people. He then went to Batoche to answer questions for the 600 delegates assembled there.

Mr. Basford announced that Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation research grants totaling \$87,100 will be given to native groups.

- (1) 13,100 for the Manitoba Metis Housing Corporation to hire a provincial housing co-ordinator.
- (2) \$54,000 to the Metis Society of Saskatchewan for a pilot project so the Metis people in their own communities can find and try to solve their own housing problems.
- (3) There will be \$20,000 for the Alberta Metis Association for improvements on 110 dwellings in 21 northern Alberta communities.

Mr. Basford also stated about the Winter Warmth Program, "by hook or by crook we'll get it to you again this year."

Also in answering some questions he said that the programme wasn't good enough and a permanent program must be developed for Native Housing.

McDOWALL -FOREST DYING



McDowall

Meeting August 24, 1972 8p.m.

When we were out at Batoche we met Bud Pocha, the President of the McDowall local at this time he asked us to go to McDowall and see what Domtar is doing to the forest in their area. They have a twenty year lease and there is a few more years left. They also have an option on another twenty years. He said when the Metis people worked in the forest they took what was needed and left the rest standing but now that this big company is in there they cut what they need and also cut other trees so their big machines can get to them. They leave these trees to waste.

Also McDowall was built on the forest industry and some of the people were 5th generations working in the bush. Now that Domtar took over the town has been dying because the company uses their own men. They have been trying to get some results from Mr. Bowerman but to no avail. So on August 24th at 8 p.m. they are having a meeting and would like all interested parties to attend.



◎ ◎ MEETING ◎ ◎

AT McDOWALL

AUGUST 24, 1972

8 PM

ALL INTERESTED
PARTIES ARE WELCOME
TO ATTEND



PHOTOS ON LEFT HAROLD LEJIMODIERE

