

Shortt
E 78
S 2053
Jan
1973

NEW BREED

New Breed

January 1973

Page 1



Indian Rights for Indian Women!;
North Country Fair;
Housing Report;
Pensioners Home;
Leoville Local Meeting.
also:
Introducing the people from the M.S.S.

INDIAN RIGHTS

Chairman - Mr. Harry Daniels - Alberta

Opening Prayer - Mrs. Deschamps

Opening Remarks

Mrs. Monica Turner - National Co-Chairman - Eastern Region

Mrs. Jenny Margetts - National Co-Chairman - Western Region

Both of the above speakers just outlined the topic of discussion on Indian Rights for Indian Women.

One point that must be stressed is that this conference was not based on the Jeanette Lavelle case, but rather Indian Rights for Indian Women. Although they stated they would discuss the legal and political implication that would confront the treaty status of Indian Women.

Mr. George Manual was invited to the conference to represent the National Indian Brotherhood, however, he was unable to attend and instead he sent a white representative, Mr. Doug Sanders.

Tony Belcourt - Native Council of Canada

The issue of Non-Status Indians. One statement he made was he didn't think that the Lavelle case should be before the courts and that the Indian people shouldn't pay any attention to it at all. He said years ago, the native people had their own ways of dealing with people who married outside. They made that decision for themselves, and I think they did a good job of it. They adopted their babies from the Indian ladies from the other tribes and some of their own people they cast aside. It was their own decision and they did it for themselves. Now along come the Non Indians to this country, they mixed with our people. As a result - Half-Breeds. What happened to the half-breeds? Many of them decided for themselves to stay with their Indian mothers and tribes, to adopt their customs and heritage, adopt the laws, and live the way Indians do. Many of the half-breeds were taken away by the fathers and sent to Scotland to attend school. Many decided to marry the white women and moved into the main stream of society. Along comes a group of people who decide they wanted a country called Canada.

They established a British North American Act. The B.N.A. Act decided to give certain responsibility to provide education and administration of welfare, building of regional roads, administration of municipality and so on. The Federal took and kept the responsibility of international dealing in trade with other countries. Also there is one line in the

B.N.A. Act that states that the Federal Government will be responsible of the Indian Act. That's where the problem starts. It wasn't our problem. It was the problem of the bureaucrats. They have to deal administratively and with a convenient way with Indians so they decided to define who will be an Indian. This was the first infraction for our traditional ways. They forced on our people after 1869. Definition what an Indian was. They thought it would be administratively convenient to say that all Indian women marrying men who are not registered Indians according to their act who lose their status and get a card saying that they are no longer Indian. They thought it would be administratively convenient to disallow the rights of the children who is used to the Indian living and to marry a non-Indian. They decided to take the Indian off the list to go across the ocean to fight in the World Wars. Consequently, in 1972 we have a big population of people in this country. There are 500,000 that are not listed. Their rights are not recognized not given benefits of having the fulfillment of having their initial land. They are only 250,000 registered Indians. I think that it is a crying shame that the Indian people will accept the definitions of Government who is an Indian and who isn't.

INDIANS TOLD TO ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY

OTTAWA (CP) - The president of the Metis Association of Saskatchewan urged a conference of Indian women to forget their "petty differences" and organize themselves to fight what he called "the Indians' greatest enemies--the departments of Indian Affairs and Welfare."

Jim Sinclair warned delegates against permitting divisions between various organizations to stand in the way of effectively dealing with "the many kinds of social problems which in many cases can be better handled by native women's groups."

He called the Indian affairs and welfare departments "empires which receive large grants of money each year."

"Once you've paid the salaries of the white administrators in the department something like six percent of the money actually gets down to the people."

"These administrators are essentially parasites to our people-- they are making a living off us...the last thing they would want is for us to be given the

FOR INDIAN WOMEN

money to run our own affairs...What civil servant supposedly working on our behalf would want to lose his job in order to help us help ourselves."

"Responsibility has been taken away from us...and we have to accept responsibility for ourselves and we have to fight for it, or we'll all be standing in welfare lines."

Mr. Sinclair applied the same principle to many native organizations financed by the federal government.

The organizations are in many ways looking to keep you dependent on them, so they in turn become just middlemen and you still have to deal with the governments.

He urged women to get written letters of support from their provincial organizations.

A number of Indian leaders sent telegrams to the conference's organizers asking them to disband the conference. Many expressed fears that a confrontation of political and legal issues created by the Indian Act would prove disruptive to Indian unity and security under the terms of the Act.

Central to the three-day discussion was the issue of non-status Indians as opposed to status Indians or those with treaty rights. Indian women and their children can lose their rights when the woman marries a non-status Indian or non-native. There is an objection to an arbitrary classification of people under the terms of the Indian Act whereby an estimated 500,000 status Indians have been classified non Indians by what one participant termed "the stroke of an Indian agent's pen."

At the same time, many of the 250,000 registered Indians in Canada are white women who have married treaty Indians.

"The white man has set up his own rules by which he can become an Indian," said Mr. Sinclair, "and by which real Indians can be deprived of their status."

"I defy the minister of Indian affairs and the prime minister himself to line all of you against the wall and say they can tell which of you are treaty and which are non-status...We all face the same kinds of problems and we're all Indians."

Harold Cardinal spoke on Indian rights for Indian women and gave us a summary on what we should fight for.

Fred House also gave a summary on what we were fighting for and backed us up

in our fight. He also gave us a few details on what the B.C. Association was doing.

The women delegates formed discussion groups and reports were read out from each group and they most expressed feelings of government legislation and depriving Indian status among Indian women, also poor conditions of homes and education, treatment of older people and economically.

All the women and men attending the conference and observers were invited to all Indian Chief's Conference in the Province of Alberta.

RESOLUTIONS

1. We recommend we set up a commission and task force to study the rights of Status of Native Women.
2. We recommend that the non-Indian women married to status men, not be given Indian status.
3. We recommend that the Federal Government provide funds for education of non-status Indian students, at least equal amounts they are going to provide foreign students.

After the conference ended a group of us women met in one of the rooms and expressed great feelings on how the conference turned out, from here we decided that we should pursue further and set up a national program for Indian Rights for Indian Women

Our whole principle was based on equality. The preaching of white man's religion is that they share brotherhood of all mankind, yet they have used their religion to exploit us. All that society has created for us is "greed", destroying the very nature of our past. Indian conunderrate one another, not in language, but in understanding, we are caught in a trap--trying to beat the other Indian. A handful of people control this country and the economic power lies in the control of these people "Power is two basic things, money and people."

We do have enough people and we must lay our hands on the table and try to exchange constructively and objectively and exchange of dialogue and communication.

When you criticize, don't criticize on the basic of personality. We have to make our objectives, we must have unity. We do not have the power and strength to prove what Brotherhood is all about.

The cultural tradition of the Indian people is giving and sharing. We must work toward our objective around that foundation. We must "do it together."

NORTH COUNTRY FAIR



REGINA (December 14) - NORTH COUNTRY FAIR RADIO PROGRAM

Once again this Christmas, a calendar has been published by the Regina Campus Department of Extension, to remind people of the North Country Fair broadcast every Saturday at 1:03 p.m., over 540 CBK Radio. This year the calendar features Native trappers and their dog coming into Lac La Ronge with their winter catch of furs.

Country and Western music, news and information, legends in Cree and English, powwow music -- all these are enjoyed every Saturday beginning at 1:03 on CBK's North Country Fair. Those wishing to obtain a calendar advertising this program are asked to contact either North Country Fair at CBK Radio, Regina, or the Regina Campus Department of Extension, University of Saskatchewan, Regina.

North Country Fair has three hosts, all of Native Descent. Harry Bird, who farms near Balcarres, generally opens the show and is, perhaps the most often heard of the three hosts. Dorothy Francis, well known in Saskatchewan for her work in cultural affairs for the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians, brings in the woman's touch with recipes, legends and interviews. Recently, for example, she interviewed a number of Native women involved in the Handicraft Co-op at Fort Qu'Appelle. Interviews -- sometimes in English, sometimes in Cree -- as well as stories and legends in both tongues are presented by the show's third member, Stan Cuthand. Mr. Cuthand is also well known as a teacher of Cree

and is presently looking after classes in the language through the Regina Campus Department of Extension.

While North Country Fair is usually produced in Regina, occasionally it travels to other parts of Saskatchewan. In late December, it was taped in Prince Albert

While North Country Fair is usually produced in Regina, occasionally it travels to other parts of Saskatchewan. In late December, it was taped in Prince Albert and featured greetings and musical numbers by members of the Native Brotherhood in the Prince Albert Penitentiary.

North Country Fair aims to be entertaining, but it also aims to inform. Perhaps the most important sort of information to come out of the show concerns what Indians and Metis are doing to help themselves, not only in economic development, but in communications, in human rights and other areas of concern. When Dr. Howard Adams was interviewed a short time ago, he spoke forcefully to North Country Fair listeners about the emergence of the Native people in Saskatchewan as an important political force.

Information broadcast on North Country Fair appeals to a wide variety of Native interests. Individuals, as well as Indian and Metis groups, wishing to make known events that they have arranged, are encouraged to send their announcements to the show in care of CBK Radio, 1840 McIntyre Street, Regina.

Last year, North Country Fair was an early evening show each Saturday, but because of program changes at CBK Radio it has become an early afternoon show on the same day. There is some concern that Native people in the northern part of Saskatchewan will have difficulty with their radio reception at the new time and the hosts would like to hear comments from their listening audience.

It is hoped that the show will continue to grow in popularity in Saskatchewan. Letters addressed to North Country Fair in Regina are always warmly welcomed.

(Mrs.) Joyce O'Byrne
Communications Liaison Officer

HOUSING

METIS HOUSING GROUP REPORT

Since housing is high priority with the Metis people of Saskatchewan, the following will outline the program underway and how they should be administered to benefit most of our people.

GENERAL HOUSING PROGRAM

This program which we wrote to the locals about indication what areas would receive houses and how they should apply has not began. We have been negotiating with the provincial Government on two main issues.

1. no restriction as to where any of the houses should be built - we want to be able to build where our people need houses.
2. to remove the \$10,000.00 maximum cost of the house - we are unable to build houses in larger cities for \$10,000.00.

We are presently requesting a meeting with the Minister of Municipal Affairs this week to settle these issues. Negotiations are underway with a bank for interim financing during construction of the house.

WINTER WARMTH

This program is to purchase building materials for emergency repairs, unlike last year, we can only purchase building materials, not blankets, sheets, mattresses etc.

Since there are more than 100 locals and we have \$100,000.00 for this portion of the program, it would mean that each local would be limited to approximately \$1000.00. By dividing the funds this way, all locals would get some benefits. We have left the responsibility to the local's Housing Committee to select the applicants and their priority. After the applications are received, we then purchase the materials from the applications to approximately \$1000.00. Once the materials are purchased it will be delivered to the locals, where it can be either left with the local's Housing Committee or be delivered directly to the individuals where possible.

RENOVATIONS PROGRAM

This is the second portion of the Winter Warmth Program, for \$200,000.00. The house to be renovated will have to be:

1. owned by the person living in it,
2. structurally sound, so if fixed it will be livable for a number of years.

Priority will be given to those areas not receiving new homes under the General Housing Program, but exceptions will have to be made in some areas because of the large populations of Metis people in some communities.

Under the program we plan to renovate at least two houses in each local that is not receiving new houses. The proposed amount of renovation per house will be approximately \$1000.00. This means that two renovations in 82 locals would cost about \$165,000.00

As earlier stated, there would be costs for renovations in some areas that are receiving new homes along with expenses, labour and transportation. The total Renovations Program will cost \$200,000.00.

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM

Under this program we have received a grant of \$145,676.00 to hire men to assist with the Winter Warmth and Renovations to May of 1973. Our intentions are to hire approximately 48 men throughout the province to do the work of putting on the building materials. Once the work is completed in a local the men are laid-off, then different men are hired in other locals until their buildings and renovations are completed. This procedure will continue until all locals have completed work on Winter Warmth and Renovations.

Under the programs and procedures outlined, our intentions are to try and get Winter Warmth to all locals, renovations to locals not receiving new houses and new houses to 25 locals.

Since these programs have limitations on funds, there are going to be many of our people that will not receive benefits again.

I am sure our people understand it will take lots of money and a number of years before our housing problems are solved.

Ray Hamilton
Chairman,
Metis Housing Group

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ray Jones

Walter Schoenthal

Bob Stevenson

Frank Tompkins

Clarence Trotchie

Harold Lajimodiere

Brian Aubichon

EXECUTIVE



President - Jim Sinclair



Vice Pres. - Nap Lafontaine



Secretary - Ray Hamilton



Treasurer - Jim Durocher

DEPARTMENTS

Field workers

Bruce Flamont

Community Development

Alex McDougall



PHOTO

UNAVAILABLE

Native Alcohol Council

Art Lloyd

Housing

Ray Hamilton

**FIELDWORKERS**Dept. Description

1. Organize the people politically
2. Act as communications workers.

Core

Ernie Acoose
 Bill Daniels
 Ray Hamilton
 Marion F. Hooerbaum
 Raymond Jones
 Gerry Kamm
 Betty Laroque

HRDA

Claudia Agecoutay
 Brian Aubichon
 Rod Bishop
 Lionel Deschambeault
 Harold Lajimodiere
 Mathias Maurice
 Norm Nateways
 Vicki Racette
 Lawrence Yew

Communications

Brian Dagdick
 Cliff Bunnie
 Joyce Vandale

C D

Community Development - is the economic and social improvement of a community, eg. - recreation, educating and small businesses.

L. I. P.

BLONDEAU, Rita
 CHARTIER, Pierre
 COOK, Earl
 DANIELS, Eileen
 DEHR, Phyllis
 DILLON, Eric
 DUROCHER, Rod
 FALCON, Norman
 FIDDLER, Evelyn
 FISHER, Georgina
 GOULET, Mildred
 HOWARD, Gordon
 JANVIER, Rod
 LAROCQUE, Albert
 McBEATH, Joyce
 McNABB, Marg
 MOORE, Dwayne
 PELLETIER, Ed
 POCHA, Bud
 POITRAS, Mary
 YEO, Louise

C O R E

BALLENTINE, Hubert
 DESJARLAIS, Ovide
 MONTGRAND, John
 McDOUGALL, Alex
 LAVALLEY, Myrna
 PELLETIER, Danny

N A C

Native Alcohol Council - is organized by former alcoholics to assist practicing alcoholics to achieve a degree of sobriety and to have a full and rewarding life.

NAC House - P.A.

Rita Prefontaine
Marius McLeod
Lyle Bear
Bernice McKay
Lorraine Kennedy
Gilbert Laliberte

NAC House - N.B.

Simon Bugler
Louie Weerie
Alex B. Kennedy
Irene Albert
Grace Ouellette
Tom Opwan
John Simaganis

NAC LIP

Bea Stonechild
Isabel Dufour
Isabel Keewatin
Rod Anaskan
Lawrence Major
Joe Nault
John B. Lafond
Tom Sanderson
Henry Delorme
Roy Alexson
Mary McNabb
Edith Gryzenhou

Permant Staff

Larry Ahenakew
Roy Atcheynum
Bob Parenteau
Clarence Trotchie
Pat Bugler
Josephine Cote
Art Lloyd

HOUSING

Metis Housing Group - was formed to help our people out to have better housing conditions, they also hire native people to have on the job training in construction.

Metis Housing Group

LIP

Alfred Durocher
George Vilbrunt
Einar Pedersen
George Malbouef
Paul Amyotte
John Desjarlais
Angus Thomas
Ernie Vandale
George Daigneault
Norman Durocher
Selma Gamble
Lawrence Polsfut
Morris Amyotte
Frank Ouellette
Eldon LaFontaine
Magliote Desjarlais
Peter Simpson
Ernest Vandale
Morris Racette

Metis Housing Group

Core Budget

Ray Hamilton
Madelynn Cyr
Barry Brown
Isadore Thibodeau
Mike Pocha
Eugene Campene
Ralph Morin
Arnold Dufour
Harry Vandale
Don Hamilton
Gordon Brown



LESTOCK LOCAL MEETING

On Wednesday, December 13, the Metis Society local along with other concerned parents had a general meeting in the Lestock school gym. The purpose of the meeting was the concern the parents had with the administrators of the school and the teachers. There was complaints of brutality in the school and excessive use of the strap, mostly to native children.

Mr. McMurchy, Minister of Education, the school board and the Superintendent were told of native children being strapped every day for a week, also of a boy being strapped till his hands bled.

There were other complaints as well such as the drop out rate at the school and the poor marks the children got if the parents complained about anything. Another thing was the poor moral standards the teachers set outside of classes and

It seems that somewhere the teacher parent relationship has turned around and the teachers are now in command and the parents have little or no say at all in the schools. Maybe if there could be more local control of the schools this could be remedied, the school board system does not seem to be the answer.

If there could be a local school board made up of parents of the children going to school who did the hiring and next the policies, rules and regulations of the school in their community. This would include all parents who have children going to school.



"McDONALD MEMORIAL HOME"

This project at Cumberland House was officially opened on September 14, 1972. Attending the ceremony were the local people, residents of the building, Mr. John Comer, M.L.A. Nipawin, representatives of the Metis Society of Saskatchewan and the Metis Housing Group. Mr. Comer cut the ribbon officially opening the building. This was followed by a fowl supper in the Town Hall. The building was named by the Cumberland House Local in respect to Mr. Doug McDonald who supervised the project for Metis Housing Group.

"LESTOCK LOUIS REIL LODGE"

The December 14, 1972 opening at Lestock was attended by the local people, representatives of Central Mortgage and Housing, Mr. Calder Hart, Mr. E.I. Wood, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Metis Housing Group and the Metis Society of Saskatchewan. Ceremonies began with presentations by various guests, Mrs. Gibson, President of the Lestock Local and Ray Hamilton, Chairman of Metis Housing Group unveiled a plaque dedicating the building to the metis people. Next, Mr. & Mrs. Thibeau cut the ribbon officially opening the building.

Mrs. Georgina Fisher, originally from Lestock received the prize for naming the building.

"MISSION LODGE"

This project at Lebret held its opening on December 15, 1972. People from surrounding locals were in attendance. Presentations were made by Jim Sinclair, President, Nap Lafontaine, Vice-President of the Metis Society, Ray Hamilton, Chairman, Metis Housing Group, representatives from Central Mortgage and Housing, Bill Sturby, Municipal Affairs, Mr. Maloney, Acting Mayor of Lebret.

Ceremonies began with Mrs. Celina Poitras and Jim Sinclair unveiling a plaque dedicating the building to the metis people. Father Dubrais, then blessed the building.

Mrs. Margaret Moran received the prize for naming the building.



Gifts were presented to the people of the building, including, pictures from the five surrounding locals, flowers from Mr. & Mrs. Rink, a plant from the workers on the job, also announced was that the Canadian Legion would be giving a color television.

The events which took place, the success in construction for the buildings, the involvement and pride the metis people took in the projects, the response in occupying the premises and the setting up of local Housing Authorities to manage the buildings are answers to the anticipated questions.





MISSION LODGE
LEBRET

PENSIONERS HOMES

Two years ago the Metis Society of Saskatchewan undertook a \$1,000,000.00 program to provide housing for its senior citizens, the first of its kind by metis people in Canada.

Like any new program the organization was confronted with many questions such as, would the native people live in these dwellings which is contrary to their culture? Were there qualified metis people to supervise this type of a program? Would the local people give full participation? Could local labour do this type of construction? Who would manage the buildings after completion? Could professional people be hired to get involved with the projects with intent to work for the benefit of native people?

With these questions in mind the Metis Society began the first stage of its housing program for the metis people.

DUCK-1A

"DUCK LAKE PIONEER PENSIONERS HOME"

Official opening was held during the "Back to Batoche" days. Attending were the metis people of Saskatchewan, metis organizations from other provinces, the Hon. Ron Basford, Minister of Urban Affairs, Hon. E.I. Wood, Minister of Municipal Affairs. (The opening was photographed in the August issue of the "New Breed.")



Ray Hamilton



Jim Sinclair



Nap Lafontain

LEOVILLE LOCAL MEETING

Leoville Local Meeting - Thursday November 23, 1972.

In the theatre at 2:00 p.m.

President - Bob Larocque - present,
Alex Primeau - Fieldworker of the Metis Society of Saskatchewan acted as chairman.

Guests present included:

Jim Sinclair - President, Metis Society of Saskatchewan,

Don Neely and Brian Anderson - H.R.D.A.,

Harry Vandale - Metis Housing Group,

Vicki Racette - Fieldworker - Metis Society,

Ernie Vandale and Charlie Scott - Debden Local,

Alex Primeau - Fieldworker - Metis Society.

Discussion on a chip mill project for poplar was the first item of business. Mr. Neely and Mr. Anderson spoke to the people present on the cost of such a project.

They suggested a meeting of all the experienced bushmen could be called to discuss this further. A committee could be established and a proposal could be drawn up and presented to the government. Possibly a subsidy could be obtained from the government to assist the people in the area.

Bob Larocque said, a special meeting will be called and a committee set up to deal with the project. Also a C.D.O. worker from the Society could come in and help with the proposal.

Jim Sinclair, President of the Metis Society, spoke to the people present. He urged the people to get into politics, deal with welfare problems, change our image, we are not friendly with governments. Get into projects such as cattle raising and lumber projects. Discussed the Pritchard hunting case. Decision in our favor. Grants to do research on land and rights.

Jim answered a number of questions from the floor. He thanked the people for coming to the meeting as it was the first time he was able to be at a meeting in Leoville.

The next item of business was a discussion on an old folks home. The members were told that they could not have the five houses which were allotted to them by the Metis Housing Group if they decided to apply for an Old Age Pensioners Home.

Harry Vandale of the Metis Housing Group, answered questions from the floor.

After considerable discussion a motion was moved by Fred Morin seconded by Joel Dumas that the Leoville Local accept an Old Age Home in place of five houses. Carried.

Ray Paul moved adjournment at 4:00 p.m.

We are hoping to have Jim Sinclair soon at our Local Meetings, our Local really enjoyed having him here in Leoville.

Bob Larocque - President

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY MANAGER FOR NORTHERN HANDICRAFT CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED LARONGE, SASK.

QUALIFICATIONS:

The applicant must have some store business experience and also must be able to speak cree.

APPLICANT WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- The production of leather handicrafts.
- Selling handicrafts at retail and wholesale.
- Buying handicrafts from native people.
- Working with native people in the LaRonge area.
- Working closely with the Board of Directors.
- Doing daily and monthly bookkeeping.

The applicant may need some training before he becomes manager.

Salary dependent on qualifications and experience.

Send detailed application to:

Mrs. Janet Feitz,
Northern Handicraft
Co-operative,
LaRonge, Sask.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The NEW BREED, wish to thank the people who helped, and also wish their continued support in the coming New Year.