

NEW BREED

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AMNSIS Annual Assembly Metis Heritage Days Metis and Non-Status Issues

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Letters

DOUG ANGUISH AND THE LA LOCHE RAIL LINE

Dear New Breed Journal:

In your May issue, I noted a letter to the Editor from the Honorable Doug Anguish, M.P. for The Battlefords-Meadow Lake Constituency. In the letter, he indicated that he has approached the Federal Government re: extending the rail line from Meadow Lake to La Loche. He indicates that the Federal Government would be interested in pursuing the idea. Mr. Anguish's rationale for the railway is that it would improve transportation in the area and thereby stimulate economic activity in the area.

I find it interesting that this issue is raised by the sitting member when a Federal Election is in the offing. Mr. Anguish has had five years as an M.P. to address this matter and has not raised it before. The N.D.P. Government had eleven years and didn't raise it. Therefore, I view this as nothing more than an attempt on his part to get himself re-elected. By promising a railway and some possible development, Mr. Anguish is attempting to turn people's attention away from the real issues. These include:

- unemployment as high as 80% in some of these northern communities;
- the lack of a suitable socio-economic development plan for the North;
- an unwillingness by government and the private sector to invest in the area;
- a lack of processing and manufacturing in the area;
- the need for more facilities and programs for the education, training, and leisure-time activities of people resident in the area;
- the lack of tourist development and promotion of the area tourism potential;
- foreign ownership of the corporations involved in mining and forestry in the area; etc.

I do not want to give anyone the impression that I am opposed to the building of a railway to La Loche. It may be that a railway is a needed part of the infrastructures which must be put in place for the area to develop. If I am elected as the Liberal Member, I will ask the Party to examine in depth the potential of the Northwest to determine how it can best be developed. If additional transportation is needed, I will actively support and promote a railway for the area. The construction of the railway could generate considerable employment for area residents. There would also be some jobs created in the ongoing operation and maintenance of the railway.

However, before a development such as a railway is begun, I would want to be certain that people in this Constituency would benefit from this development. I don't want to see a railway built which will make it easier for foreign corporations to haul away our raw resources, to export our jobs and to deplete resources in the area. I will insist that any development which takes place must be for local people who live in the Constituency. My conditions for promoting and supporting a railway will include:

- the development of sawmills, power plants and other industries which will use the area's soft and hardwoods in the area;
- development of agriculture potential in the area such as livestock operations, development of land to grow feed grain, market garden and greenhouse operations;
- the restoration and maintenance of fish stocks, the development of processing in the area and the development of a marketing plan. This could include a fish hatchery in the Constituency. Only residents should be granted Commercial Fishing Licences;
- the management and renewal of game resources for trappers and hunters. This would include financing and equipping local outfitters. Residents should have the only trapping rights and the first chance to become outfitters;
- the development of the tourist potential of the area in a way which does not interfere with commercial fishing, trapping and hunting. People in the Constituency should have first chance to be tourist entrepreneurs;
- the development of specialty crops such as growing blueberries, Christmas trees, wild rice, etc;

g) the development of mining by Canadian Corporations with a firm commitment to give residents of the Constituency first chance at such contracts and at jobs and to do the maximum processing of minerals in the area;

h) assurance that development will take place in a manner which will not destroy the soil, pollute the air or the waterways.

If you elect me to Parliament, I can assure you that development in the northern part of the Constituency will be a major priority of mine. As a member of the government, I will be in a position where I can do something about implementing a development study and a development plan based on the above development criteria. This is why I am asking for your support. This is why I believe we must send a Liberal Government to Ottawa. We know from experience that the Conservatives will do nothing for the North. In fact, the Provincial Conservative Government has brought development in the area to a standstill.

Support my candidacy and vote for the Liberals.

Yours sincerely
Jim Durocher

An Open Letter to Judge Samuel Toy:

Re: the sentencing of Julie Belmas and Ann Hansen for 20 years and life imprisonment respectively, for bombing of Litton Plant and other "Terrorist activities"

As members of the Women's Peace Camp at Cole Bay, Saskatchewan, we would like to express our sadness and anger at the harsh and unjust sentences given to Julie Belmas and Ann Hansen.

Firstly, it is a common belief that violence which endangers life is immoral. We believe that government-sanctioned military violence is wrong. Construction of weapons for mass murder is wrong. But sometimes destruction of something evil is necessary. For example, if someone had succeeded in assassinating Hitler, would that person deserve the severest penalty for murder? Surely many lives would have been saved, had Hitler been stopped earlier. Certainly a parallel thought must have been in Julie Belmas' and Ann Hansen's minds: to prevent construction of the guidance system for cruise missiles would also stop the missile from ultimately killing millions. It is extremely unfortunate that several people were injured in the Litton blast. It is clear their intention was never to hurt anyone.

Perhaps a couple of quotations by Emma Goldman, an anti-militarist active in the early 1900's, will enlighten your attitude towards such cases which you are obliged to judge. "No act committed by an anarchist has been for personal gain, aggrandizement or profit, but rather a conscious protest against some repressive arbitrary, tyrannical measure from above." Surely you must consider the sensitive nature of an individual, compelled to take action for the safety of humanity. "The law does not even make an attempt to go into the complexity of the human soul which drives a person to despair or insanity, out of hunger or out of indignation into a political act."

We believe the sentences for Julie and Ann are far too severe for their actions, motivated by reverence for life and a hope for world peace. Long and unfair sentences will certainly not deter the peace movement in any way.

It is always easier to condemn than to think.
Women's Peace Camp
Cole Bay, Saskatchewan

PAPER HARD TO FIND

Dear New Breed Journal:

May this letter find everyone doing well in Health and living in Harmony and peace.

I would like to get some back issues of New Breed. As you can see I'm a prisoner here in United States in from the Lakota Nation.

Good newspapers are hard to get in these parts on our struggle of our people.

I thank you if you can send back issues or up to date issues.

In the way of the Sacred Pipe
David Ray Castaway
Iowa State Penitentiary

"BEADWORK PATTERNS/WANTED"

Dear New Breed Journal:

I am at present a subscriber to the New Breed Journal and I find it both informative and interesting with its up-dated issues on government and Metis matters. I also find the sections on medical and household data an asset, therefore I would like to request some information.

Please send me some hints on how to maintain leather for moccasins or mukluks and maintenance of fur. Also, bead-work patterns for moccasins, so I can expand into a variety of patterns on my mukluks. I would also be grateful if you could re-issue the information on the tanning of hides and curing of skins.

If you could get access to my requests and publish them in an up-coming issue of the New Breed Journal, it would be appreciated.

Thank you.

Sincerely
J. Hargreaves
Melville, Sask.

Editor's Note:

If anyone has hints to the above, please write to us and we will print it.

CHILDREN ARE FOR THE FUTURE

Dear New Breed Journal:

I want to share this lovely poem with you all. The author is unknown. I had a challenging weekend with my cousin whom is a priest. We discussed many important issues. Through this experience I had shared the poem titled:

Son's and Daughter's of Future

*Your children are not your children
they are the son and daughters of the future
A life long for itself.
They come through you, but not from you
And though they are with you, yet they belong
not to you.*

*You may give them love, but not your thoughts
For they have their own thoughts
You may house their bodies, but not their souls
For their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow
Which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.
You may strive to be like them, but seek not to
make them like you.*

*For life goes not backwards
You are the bow from which your children
as living arrows are sent forth
The arches see the mark upon the path of the future.
Have you children go straight and free
To stop the arrow, It may bend
Go swift and far.*

Sincerely Metis Friend
Elaine Jessop
Saskatoon, Sask.

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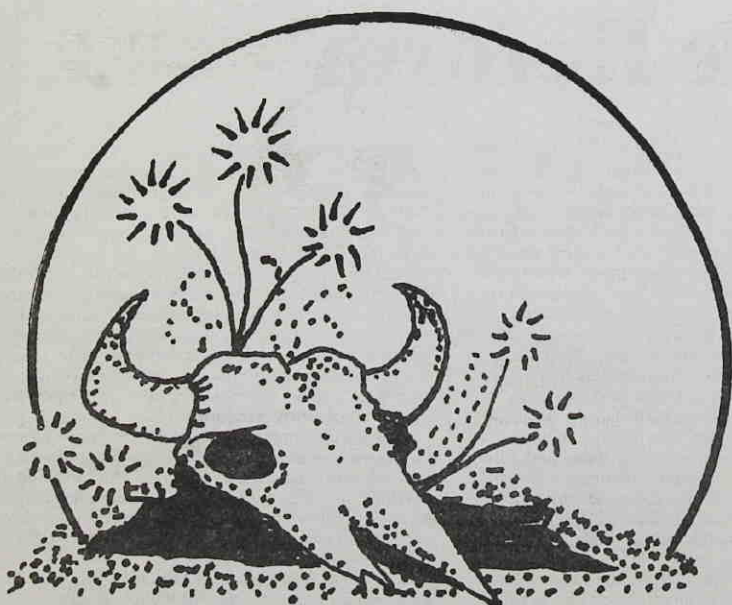
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*Happy
Birthday
Jo-Ann*

Achimowins

by Joan
Beatty

We're just about finished with summer again, a very busy one for many of us. We've just come back from our annual Metis Heritage Days and the AMNSIS annual assembly. In fact a bulk of the articles and the pictures in this issue are about the two events and maybe you'll recognize yourself in there somewhere.

I was at the annual assembly for both days but wasn't able to attend too much of the Metis Heritage Day activities as I was quite sick for awhile. Not only was I sick, so was my car! But anyway, the annual assembly was a little disappointing in some respects. Although the registration was just as high in other years, the attendance was not that great, particularly when it came to the afternoon sessions. But I guess that can be expected to some degree with the heat and all. The main focus this year again was whether AMNSIS, as it exists now, should be divided into Metis and Non-Status groups. There was a push for this to happen and force an early election. However, after the air cleared and all the facts started filtering out, a resolution was passed to remain as a united organization until 1985, reaffirming last year's motion. A vote of confidence was also given to the present Executive. We have more on this inside the paper in an interview with AMNSIS President **Jim Sinclair**, and Vice-President, **Clem Chartier**.

There was also a movement from **Ray Laliberte** to form a Metis Youth wing, excluding the non-Status Indian young people. This again did not come through.

But as I was listening there and watching the local people's reactions, I felt kind of bad because many of those people still don't understand, as many of us don't, what is the difference between the Metis and the Non-Status people. For so many years, the organization has represented both groups and many people have sacrificed and took pride in something that was

fighting for their rights. All of a sudden, even before the rights had been identified or even the people identified, or a process to put in place to do that, there is a push to divide the organization. To many of us who do not identify as direct descendants of the Red River Rebellion, it felt like we were getting a slap in the face after all the effort and work we have put into the movement. I am sure everyone understands the separation eventually has to happen but it has to be done in an orderly fashion and ensure that the people are ready for it. I looked at some of the Chippewyan people from the La Loche area and wondered how they felt like. Because when it comes to elections, that's where every politician heads for. The same goes with the other bigger communities.

The more I think about it, the angrier I get at the governments who created the problems for us in the first place. Here we are fighting and arguing with each other what legislators have done. It seems to me that we have to look beyond our noses and deal with those who created the problems in the first place and ensure that we don't hurt or step on each other's toes in doing that. Emotionally and as a group of people with no land and no rights, we are after the same things but technically, at no fault of our own, we are getting separated. I feel this is where the dilemma is for many people and I've talked to many of them who expressed these feelings. I remember, when I was about eight years old in school, I was asked who I was and with no hesitation, I proudly replied that I was a halfbreed. I still feel the same way today. At that time, there was no discussion of Metis or Non-Status Indians and everyone could identify under this term. I often wonder why we didn't stick to this term.

This leads us into the importance of electing our people into Parliament and the Legislature. These MP's and MLA's are the ones that make laws for this country and it's important that we have a voice in



there. That's why it's crucial that everyone goes and votes and has a say as to how this country is run. I don't really give a preference as to what party but the main thing is that we have representation or have some one elected who will represent our views and the concerns we have as Native people. The election is September 4th and I encourage you to go out and vote for the one you think is going to best speak for you.

Well, I am getting too carried away here. I'd like to hear from more of you and see how you feel about these different issues. So write to us and we'll make sure your comments are printed. Enjoy of what is left of the rest of the summer. □

Social Services Minister Responds to Criticism on Welfare Reform

I am responding to a letter written by Diana Ralph, an assistant professor in Saskatoon, published in the June '84 edition of the *New Breed Journal*.

It is apparent to me that Ms. Ralph is either not familiar with the entire welfare reform package announced by the provincial government earlier this year, or she has decided to ignore all the facts involved.

While spending most of her time commenting on the benefit level to single employable recipients on social assistance, Ms. Ralph states that benefits to others have increased "very slightly". However, monthly benefits to thousands of low-income single seniors were doubled as of July 1st this year - hardly a "very slight" increase. Or consider the increase to thousands of low-income families - their benefits have gone up by 10 per cent. Another major change is the \$25 increase per month to social assistance recipients in room and board situations. I would term these increases in benefits as "substantial", not "very slight".

Ms. Ralph also stated that the jobs being created under the Saskatchewan Employment Development

Program for persons on welfare "are not real jobs at all" but "are a free benefit to employers". I disagree with her assessment of the Job Creation program - these are "real" jobs. As a matter of fact, well in excess of 1,100 jobs have already been created by the Social Services Department with hundreds more being developed from other government departments. Even though the jobs may be short-term in nature, a number will work into long-term employment. This was the situation with a similar job creation program funded by my Department last year for people on social assistance. It's interesting to note that in a survey taken following that program over one-half of the employees felt they had learned a new skill to help them obtain future employment. The majority felt their present position might help them find future employment by providing job experience and a good reference. Virtually all employees felt the job creation initiative was needed in times of high unemployment and would participate in a similar program again.

Ms. Ralph also states that these reform initiatives "are just part of an overall attack on Native people,

women and worker's rights and benefits". Nothing could be further from the truth. The various job creation programs will give opportunity for over 2000 persons on social assistance -- including women and Native people -- to break the welfare dependency cycle they find themselves in.

Besides providing opportunities for Native people to participate in our job creation and training programs, our government has increased funding for Native services by 24% and has signed an agreement with the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians to enhance Indian child welfare in the province. Also, over \$1.1 million has been provided to support 12 Native family worker programs.

We are also providing almost \$2.5 million to social service agencies around the province for crisis services to women and children. An additional \$800,000 has been earmarked for several new initiatives on family violence. And the budget for day care services has increased by almost 10%. □

*Social Services Minister Gordon Dirks responded to *New Breed Journal* concerning Welfare Reform.

LaRocque Displeased with AMNSIS Assembly



Clifford LaRocque - Riel Local No. 33 President.

What was achieved at the 1984 Annual Assembly of AMNSIS? I was only able to attend for the first day, due to medical reasons, but I was very disappointed in the total business of the day.

First, a motion was floored by the chairpersons which was unconstitutional, and this was not challenged. Secondly, the chairpersons restricted area directors from making presentations to the Assembly on the motion of separation. The chairpersons did not follow up on the restrictions, however, politicians did speak to the motion. They evidently lost control of the meeting at some points.

The motion on separation was an issue which was not dealt with. It became a personality conflict between some of the AMNSIS Provincial Executive and some of the Provincial Board members. It is very evident, that not only is the membership indicating the desire for separation, but very conclusively, that this acknowledgment of a split exists within the Provincial Executive. This must be dealt with whether we like it or not.

This issue has come up at our last two Annual Assemblies and still our Provincial Executive seem unprepared to deal with it. Must it become a crisis where families, relatives, friends and communities get hurt because of the indecision of a few people at the Provincial Board level?

Our Provincial Executive say the organization is subject to change, but this issue of separation is inevitable and cannot be changed. It is an issue, and not dealing with it, will not make it disappear. It can be dealt with over the next one to two years, and this is how I propose to accomplish the task of a smooth separation.

At the next AMNSIS Provincial elections there could be the addition of one Vice-President's position to represent the Non-Status people. They would then have representation in all issues relating specifically to them, while still remaining in the AMNSIS organization. The same strategy can be utilized at the Local level. This would make for a more equitable transitional framework, and give the Non-Status

people a better chance to achieve parity within the organization.

This phasing out process carried out over the next one to two years, would certainly give the Non-Status people the opportunity of achieving a base within the community. Within this structure they could then develop their own political identity while still receiving representation from the AMNSIS organization on key issues that affect us all. This approach is preferable to dumping them as was presented at the Assembly via a motion from the floor.

This issue must be dealt with honourably and responsibly now before it becomes a crisis. In this way both parties will achieve maximum benefits from the efforts of all concerned. By working together we can both take our rightful place in the community as distinct and proud Native peoples. □

Cliff LaRocque
President of Riel Local No. 33

Opinion:

The Metis Differences

The personal conflict between Jim Sinclair and Clem Chartier is reflected in the uncertainty of our people, young and old alike. There is a division within our people.

The young, on the most part, are bitter and contemptuous of the white people and their government. This bitterness will only increase unless the Metis and Non-status can resolve their differences. Both Jim Sinclair and Clem Chartier showed their strong and weak points. Jim Sinclair is a positive go-getter who sometimes forgets the small people. Clem Chartier is intelligent with a strong loyalty to his people. How-

ever, he displays a certain lack of confidence in some matters.

The thought of separation, to me, is a farce. How can you define the Metis and Non-status people? It is not by the colour of their skin. If you are not recognized as a Status Indian then you are Metis. To separate would be like cutting off your nose to spite your face.

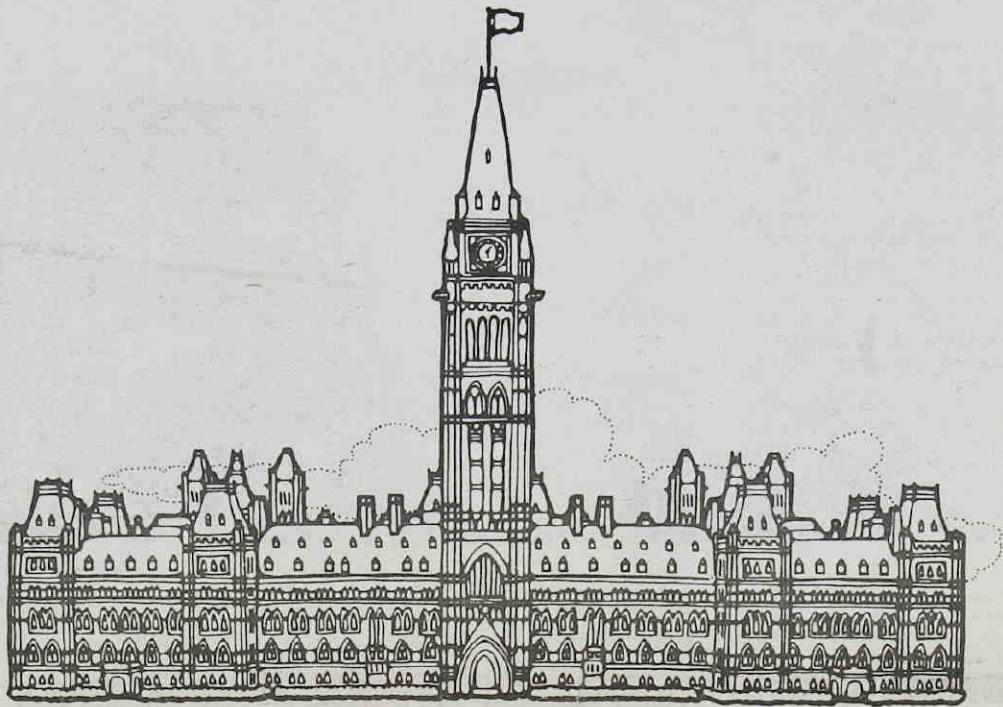
The majority of Metis people condemn the white government of racism and prejudice but, so are we towards them. The people of our nation almost automatically think that whites or their government are

out to repress and restrict them. How can we be expected to think differently when we ourselves are not sure what we want and what we will do?

We, the Metis people and the Non-status people should settle our own differences and then get on to making our lives better. Let us ask the leaders of our nation to lay down their own personal differences and get on with helping their people. □

Adrienne Alexander
Prince Albert, Sask.

Constitutional Update



Community Consultation Process

by Bonita Beatty

In preparing for the next First Ministers' Conference, the Metis National Council is turning back to the local people for direction and support. The way they are going to do this is referred to as the Community Consultation Process.

The Metis National Council has hired a constitutional co-ordinator in each of the five prairie Provinces to consult with the communities. In Saskatchewan, that worker is my myself, Bonita Beatty. But before you local people get frightened off, let me explain what is involved in this Community Consultation Process.

Purpose:

The purpose of the Community Consultation Process is to gather local peoples' ideas on land, self-government, and political autonomy. These ideas will be taken to the Metis National Council who in turn, is responsible for combining all the ideas into one main position which can be used at the Constitutional table.

Issues to Discuss at the Local Level:

- (1) Land (Proposed for those who want to live on a land base)
 - who wants land?
 - How much land?
 - Where do you want this land?
 - Will the land be held individually or by a group?
- (2) Self-Government
 - What kind of structure is needed?
 - What is the required jurisdiction?
 - Voting methods?
 - Relationship to other Metis locals, and self-governing Councils off a land base.
- (3) Political Autonomy (Proposed for those who want to live off a land base)

- What type of Councils and Boards?
 - Relationship to Federal and Provincial governments.
 - Relationships to land-based governments.
 - What kind of self-governing institutions needed?
 - What is the required jurisdiction?
- (4) Other
- Financing through Local Land taxes.
 - How can provisions be made to make sure entrenched rights are implemented?

Identification - Enumeration:

The key to getting a land base, self-government and political autonomy entrenched in the Constitution is an enumeration process. This process will help to create a record or registrar of who the Metis are, how many there are and where they are located. Therefore, the existing governments will have a better idea of how many people they are dealing with.

Summarized Process:

Both AMNSIS and the Metis National Council have agreed that the Metis and Non-Status Indians will be enumerated at the same time. AMNSIS has suggested that there should be a national enumeration process to make sure standard definitions are used so that peoples' status does not change as they move from province to province. However, if the provinces cannot agree to a common process then Saskatchewan is prepared to continue with a Provincial enumeration pilot project along with the Provincial and Federal governments.

To begin this enumeration Process, the Metis National Council has prepared the following definitions:

Metis

- All people who are descendants of those Metis who received land grants and/or Scrip under the Manitoba Act, 1870 or the Dominion Lands Act, 1879.

- All people of Aboriginal descent who identify themselves as Metis and are accepted by the Metis community.

Non-Status Indians

- All people of Aboriginal ancestry who can register under the Indian Act, 1951 but who have chosen not to do so.

- All people of Aboriginal ancestry whose ancestor's or who themselves voluntarily enfranchised (gave up their treaty status) thereby losing their right to be registered under the Indian Act.

- All people of Aboriginal ancestry who ancestors or who themselves lost their treaty status because of the criteria set out in the Indian Act since 1867.

Other

- All people of Aboriginal ancestry who are not Inuit, or Treaty Indians under the Indian Act, and who are not Metis or Non-Status Indians according to the proposed definition.

- All people must produce proof of their Aboriginal ancestry.

Method

The recommended method for the enumeration process is to establish a task force who will be responsible for directing, planning and overseeing the whole process. The five number task force will be made up of the Federal and Provincial government, the Metis, the Non-Status and a neutral chairman.

The task force will have the duty of creating provincial screening committees, provincials appeals committees, national appeals board and a method for verifying the applications being sent in.

This report has taken a very general look at the total enumeration process but the next issues of New Breed should have more detailed articles on it. It should be noted that registration does not guarantee any rights or benefits. These rights and benefits must be defined and negotiated through future constitutional talks. □

Overview of the 1984 AMNSIS Annual Assembly

by Joan Beatty

Batoche - The 1984 AMNSIS annual assembly was termed by many as a failure but for others, it was a rude awakening as to the reality of Native politics, particularly in reference to the Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan. Jim Sinclair, President of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) said he was very disappointed with the meeting because local people didn't seem to care about the issues, they weren't informed about the issues, and were more interested in attacking him on a personal basis. "This meeting showed me that we have failed in keeping our people informed about the political issues we are working on at the national level, which has to be our priority. We have to get some land and some rights and people have to understand the difference between programs and services that we are fighting for."

Sinclair said about 50% of the provincial board is working on keeping the membership informed and one can attribute this to the interest of the people from the areas and the kind of concerns they have. "If all our area directors and the executive were working, we would have informed people attending our meetings and making concrete decisions." (See more on interview).

Medric McDougal from St. Louis said he was disappointed at the turnout at the meeting. "Here, we're only one year away from our 1985 celebrations," he said, "and look at the turnout we had. There were over 300 registered delegates."

Clem Chartier, Vice-President of AMNSIS, called the meeting a failure because the decision to have early elections had not come through although local people, through discussions, "are now more aware of the issues." Chartier believes the decision to split the organization should have been made this year. (see more on interview).

The meeting was declared open by Jim Durocher, Treasurer of AMNSIS, with about 150 people in attendance. Vital Morin and Mary L'Haureux were selected to co-chair the meeting with Morin conducting the first day's session.

Durocher gave his annual report indicating that a process was now in place for decentralizing some of the funding as had been the request put forward at a previous assembly. However, an area has to be incorporated and has to be capable of handling the funds. An area will be responsible for negotiating with the provincial government for funding and will have to be accountable for them as well.

Sinclair then gave his report saying a lot of work has been done on Constitutional matters ensuring the Metis agenda items of land and self-government were not detoured in any way. He gave credit to the past Native leaders who had done a lot of work, stating if it wasn't for them, Native people wouldn't be where they are today. The acknowledgements included Joe Amyotte, who was in attendance, Medric McDougal, George Pritchard, Alex Bishop, Ross Cummings, and Norman LaFontaine, who have since passed away, and a special reference was made to Howard Adams. "Howard and I had a lot of differences but he helped me a lot and he is responsible for bringing a new direction to this organization which eventually led us to the Constitutional table," Sinclair said.

He spoke about the upcoming federal election on September 4th and the importance of Native participation. "Durocher is running as the Liberal candidate in the Battlefords/Meadow Lake Constituency and I urge you to support him." He said it was important that Native people start getting involved in party politics so that Native issues are brought to the forefront.

He talked about the importance of getting an enumeration done to determine the Metis membership and the Non-Status Indian people. He said this has to be done first before separation of AMNSIS occurs. "We want to do this ourselves. We don't want the governments to come and tell us when to separate.



Yvonne Dumont - newly elected President of the Manitoba Metis Federation.

We also have to have plans in place for this process to happen to both groups satisfaction."

He also reported that the Aboriginal leaders of Canada will be having a twenty minute audience with the Pope when he comes to Fort Simpson. Sinclair said he will be one of those leaders at the meeting. He said it was kind of ironic that he will be sitting down with the Pope to discuss Aboriginal rights issues after being referred to as The Devil by some local Catholic bishops and sisters when organizing in the early days.

A question and answer period took place for the rest of the morning. Reports followed from Clem Chartier and Frank Tomkins, Provincial Secretary, which led into a heavy debate on whether an early election should be called. Chartier and Tomkins who both stated the time was now for the Metis and the Non-Status Indians to go their separate ways.

The Provincial Area Directors were not allowed to speak on a motion introduced by the Chairman, saying he only wanted to hear from the local people. Although the Chair was supposed to remain neutral and not make motions, the area directors were prohibited from speaking on concerns brought forward by Chartier and Tomkins which had involved decision making by the whole board. Another comment made was that the area directors are local people, elected by their area membership and should never have been stopped from speaking. However, towards the end of the meeting, one area director, who is also a local president, finally got up and spoke, followed by other board members.

Chartier, in his report, stated he had placed his emphasis on Constitutional issues, attending many federal/provincial meetings, representing the Metis National Council as Chairman of the Constitutional Committee.

He is also Chairman of the Batoche Centenary Corporation, responsible for lobbying for funds and ensuring plans are in place for Batoche '85. He reported that there is some problems with funding which has prohibited the Corporation from going ahead with many of the projects planned for.

Referring back to the Metis and the Non-Status Indian issue, Chartier said the Metis National Council was formed because their concerns were not being properly addressed through the Native Council of Canada. Much of the work done to organize the

MNC was done by Sinclair. "I simply took his word that the Metis have to and represent themselves, although I also continued to work on Non-Status issues," he said.

He also said there was no great initiative being taken by the Board to begin the enumeration process. "People seem too scared to address the issue," he said, leaving us with the problem of the next Constitutional Conference." He said the NCC continue to say they represent the Metis at the national level and leaves with a problem.

He said he was removed as Chairman of the Constitutional Committee although the Metis National Council did not remove him. "They would like to see me continue to chair the MNC," he said, adding that he shouldn't be osterized from working for his people. He said there was room for everyone to work together.

He also said nothing was ever done about establishing a senate for elders although he had made a motion that was passed at an earlier assembly.

Chartier said if the Board could not work together, then there was no option but to go to the poles. "I don't mind facing people at the poles. "If we can't work together, let the people decide who they want as their leaders."

Frank Tomkins said he too was osterized from the main office. "The only ones that will talk to me are the two secretaries," he said. He also said he was removed from sitting as a representative of the Metis National Council. He stressed the need for a separation now of the Metis and the Non-Status Indians. "The Non-Status Indians should set up their own organization," he said.

In reply, Sinclair said the whole AMNSIS Board is on the MNC. As far as being osterized from the office, he reminded Chartier and Tomkins that they had requested to work out of the Saskatoon office.

Alvin Campeau, Local President and Area Director for Eastern Region II said the decisions made at the Board level are done through motions and does not depend on one individual making decisions.

Rod Bishop, AMNSIS Area Director for Western Region I, said he has had his differences with Sinclair in the past, however, when it got down to trying to get rid of a leader because of his race, not because of issues, not because he didn't do his job, "then I got to say something." Bishop said he had

been contacted earlier by Tomkins suggesting this was a good time to get Sinclair out. He said if things can't be done up front, then he didn't want any part of it.

After extensive discussions, a motion was introduced by Bishop giving a vote of confidence and support for the present Executive, stating that they work together on all issues. It was passed unanimously. The motion also reaffirmed last year's resolution which said elections will be held in 1985.

The next day's meeting was taken up with reports from the Executive Director of AMNSIS, Wayne McKenzie, touching areas related to the Dumont Institute, economic development, communications, housing, and other areas of concern to the membership.

A youth meeting was held towards the end of the day. A separate youth group, consisting only of Metis young people, had been proposed by Ray Laliberte earlier but this failed to come about. The youth group agreed to continue to work together as Metis and Non-Status Indian people, planning for the Indigenous Youth conference scheduled for Batoche in 1985. □



Delegates at AMNSIS Annual Assembly

No Disrespect Intended

by Jean-Paul Claude

Regina - Parks Canada Regional Director, Douglas Harper, has said that the Metis flag, which was flown during Metis Heritage Days gravesite ceremonies was removed by Parks Canada employees, but only after the ceremonies were over. There was certainly no disrespect intended by that act.

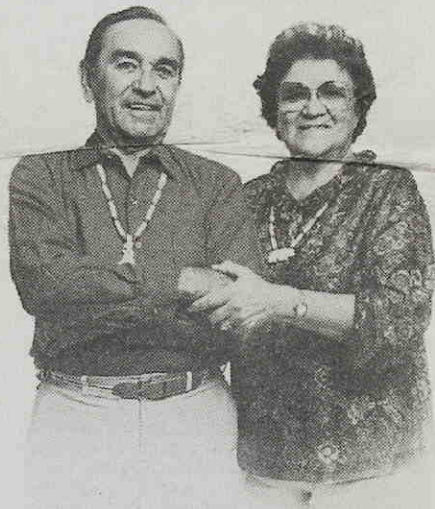
Harper called the New Breed from his Ottawa office to clear the air surrounding this unfortunate incident, after certain inquiries had been made with the regional office in Winnipeg. Harper said, that normally Parks Canada recognize the Metis people raise their flag during the ceremony. However, last year the flag pole was not used and then this year, Parks Canada was not approached for permission to remove the Canadian flag and replace it with the Metis flag.

According to reports given to him, Harper said two days before the ceremonies, Parks Canada employees found the Metis flag flying at half mast while the Canadian flag had been tied around the bottom of the flag pole. Observers at the ceremonies said Parks Canada employees did not show any degree of disrespect when they removed it.

Harper said that his department is more than willing to co-operate as fully as possible with the Metis people in respect to their special interests at the Batoche site and their Metis Heritage Days celebrations. He said Parks Canada might be prepared to erect a permanent pole for the Metis Flag at Batoche. However, prior arrangements would have to be made before it was done. □



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Sacred Metis Rites Ignored

by Jean-Paul Claude

Batoche - The highlight of the annual Metis Heritage Days celebration has always been the ceremony held at the Batoche gravesite. This is where the Metis loyalists who fought during the 1885 Rebellion are honoured by their descendants. This is a proud and solemn moment for the Metis Nation, for not only do they commemorate their fallen brothers, but also see their flag flying proudly during the ceremonies in tribute.

Although the gravesite is located on Parks Canada land, the government has always been very co-operative in regards to the raising of this flag in place of the Red Ensign which is the official Canadian flag.

In fact, it is the Parks Canada employees themselves who have raised the Metis flag during this ceremony in previous years. However, at the gravesite ceremonies at the 1984 Heritage Days, the situation was somewhat different in that, rather than raise the Metis flag, Parks Canada employees removed the Metis flag from its half mast position and replaced it with the Red Ensign. As a further insult to the Metis nation, this insensitive act occurred mid way through the ceremony itself. Many of the Metis people who were in attendance at the gravesite were grossly insulted.

Kevin Daniels, Vice-President of Riel Local in Regina stated that the incident was an insult to the en-

tire Metis nation. Especially, to those Metis people who had gathered at the gravesite of their forefathers and ancestors to participate in a solemn and sacred ceremony.

Daniels said that the only reason given by the Parks Canada representatives was that prior arrangements had not been made to fly the Metis flag as had been done in previous years.

Daniels responded by saying that he doesn't feel approval should be required at all. "I do not feel that we, as a Metis Nation should be required to make arrangements in order to raise our nation's flag. Batoche was the last stronghold of the Metis Nation in their bid to establish their Aboriginal rights on the battlefield. I feel that this alone entitles us to raise our flag anywhere at Batoche and whenever we please."

Mr. Clem Chartier said that he thought that the action by Parks Canada employees were totally unforgivable. "I feel they could have been much more diplomatic in this unfortunate incident. They should have had enough respect and tact to overlook this slight deviation from their normal practise. It really wouldn't have done them much harm," Chartier said.

Neither Daniels or Chartier intend to approach any government officials for permission to raise the Metis flag during the 1985 centennial celebrations to

be held at Batoche. They said that they made their stand clear this year and they simply intend to raise the flag next year and deal with whoever tries to remove it at that time.

Chartier stated his position most strongly when he said, "I intend to put up our own flag and say to hell with them. This is our heritage. This is where our ancestors fought and died. If they attempt to lower our flag we will have to be prepared to confront them. They may have a legal right to the land and as such they certainly have the protection of the law, but that certainly will make no difference to us. This is our nation. This is sacred soil to us and as far as we are concerned we will fly our flag however long we choose to be there." Chartier said.

Daniels said that it would be nice if the Metis nation could have ownership of the church yard where their history and heritage lies resting although he knows that the Government of Canada would never give up their control over such an historical piece of property. "I believe that the only way they would allow us to claim the resting place of our fallen brothers would be if we won it in the same way that our brothers fell. "We would have to fight for it," Daniels concluded. "We would have to go to war. I am certainly not advocating war," Daniels concluded. "This is just the way things are and I use the word 'war' merely as a figure of speech. I am not advocating a 1985 Rebellion." □

Blakeney Visits Batoche

by Jean-Paul Claude

Batoche - For the second year in a row, Mr. Allen Blakeney, former Premier of Saskatchewan has made a point of travelling to Batoche during Metis Heritage Days which is held each summer.

He indicated that Metis Heritage Days has grown over the years and is fully supportive of it becoming a major annual event for all of Saskatchewan. Blakeney says "I think sometimes we feel that history is only those things done by our elected officials, but as we are beginning to realize in Saskatchewan, it is a great deal more than that. In the last few years we have emphasized the various roots and strains of the people in Saskatchewan and particularly those of Native origin; our first citizens. "I hope that we make a major event of 1985, I think it's important for all the people of Saskatchewan to better understand the impact this historical event had in shaping our province into what it is today," he continued.

In speaking both personally and as a politician, Blakeney said that the present provincial government must do more to support the efforts of Aboriginal groups to establish their own identity and respect as valuable contributing members of the Saskatchewan community. "Government policies in Northern Saskatchewan have a disastrous impact on the Native people who live there. Especially if these policies do not give people an opportunity to work towards making changes in their lives or the changes in their communities.

Blakeney says in Southern Saskatchewan, I see government dealing with small Metis groups and bypassing the chosen and elected representatives of those people. This makes it unbearably difficult for Metis people to come together and co-operatively lobby on behalf of their distinct rights and interests. I cannot approve of or support such counter-productive policies. The Metis people have been pushed back by the Non-Native community for much too long and this has got to stop. Certainly the Metis community has a responsibility for affecting a change in the community image but governments must encourage these efforts by allowing and promoting a unified voice from the Metis people and I don't think this is happening."

Blakeney continued, "I believe that during my years as Premier of Saskatchewan, we always had a good working relationship with the Metis people and their democratically selected leaders. Certainly there were many disagreements but I think I can honestly say that we always maintained a great deal of respect for each others' point of view. Our objective was to see Metis leaders emerge with the support of their people. We also wanted to be certain that these leaders always had the resources to make necessary

changes with grants and other monies which might be available."

Blakeney concluded his statements by making a plea for greater government support for the upcoming 1985 celebrations. He commented that if he was still in power he would have ensured that Metis people were provided with all the necessary resources to ensure that the 1985 celebrations would be as impressive as they ought to be with an eye to their historical importance. □

Allen Blakeney, leader of Provincial NDP Party talks with Jean-Paul Claude at Batoche '84.



Metis Achievers Recognized

by Ray Gunville

Prince Albert - On July 13th, a large group of Metis people gathered together to honour some of their own special achievers. The award presented was the "Order of the Sash". Various telegrams of congratulations were received from provincial ministers and individuals. The event was well attended by Native politicians and extensively covered by local media.

The Master of Ceremonies was Dr. Walter Currie, who began by introducing the guests. Those present included: the Mayor of Prince Albert, Dick Spencer, Eileen Henry, President of Local, AMNSIS Area Director Roberta Kelly, Tantoo Martin, Ray St. Germain, Maria Campbell and Clem Chartier, President of the Batoche Centenary Corporation and Vice-President of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS), Frank Tomkins, AMNSIS Provincial Secretary, Angus Spence of the Manitoba Metis Federation, Paddy McQuire of the Ontario Metis Federation, Doug Cardinal, an architect of international acclaim, and Mary Trotter, Bryan Trotter's mother were also at the head table. Bryan Trotter listened in on the event by telephone from New York.

Clem Chartier spoke on the proud history of the Metis, the sacrifices, perseverance and the achievements of the Metis people. He also spoke on the symbol of the Metis Sash, and its significance. He also extended congratulations on behalf of the Batoche Centenary Corporation and the Metis Nation.

Eileen Henry congratulated the achievers and welcomed all guests. Local No. 7 did a super job of organizing the dinner and a hearty pat on the back should go to all who helped with making the evening a success.

Dr. Walter Currie then explained the significance of receiving the Metis Sash which is one of the most enduring symbols of the Metis people.

Presenting the award to Mary Trotter who accepted on behalf of her son Bryan Trotter was Eileen Henry. Bryan's sash was predominately black representing strength and perseverance. Bryan is an outstanding hockey player and began playing when he was 14 years old. His NHL awards included "Rookie of the Year" in 1975. Bryan was well deserving of this honour bestowed on him for his achievements and his hopes and dreams for every Metis hockey player.

Roberta Kelly of West Central Region AMNSIS presented the award to the international award winning architect, Doug Cardinal. His sash colours were - blue indicating dignity and white - signifying quality

Recipients of Order of the Sash



Left to Right: Mary Trotter (for son Bryan), Doug Cardinal, Ray St. Germain, Maria Campbell, Tantoo Martin.

of achievement. Doug Cardinal of Alberta is regarded by his professional peers as one of Canada's most prominent architects. One of the highest profiled creations by Mr. Cardinal will be the National Museum of Man in Ottawa.

Tantoo Martin's sash was presented to her by Mr. Paddy McQuire. The dominant colour of her sash was blue - for dignity. Tantoo Martin is an actress of world renown from Anzac Alberta. Her talents include that of playwright and film maker. Tantoo takes pride in her Metis culture and has shown this in her many productions devoted to promoting a better understanding of the Metis people. For her dedication, she was very deserving of the "Order of the Sash".

Multi-talented Ray St. Germain received his sash from Angus Spence of the Manitoba Chapter of Metis Non-Status Association. The dominant colour for Mr. Germain's sash was red - signifying "Courage". Ray St. Germain is a recording star, producer, writer, impersonator and host of his own syndicated television program, the "Ray St. Germain Show." Ray has also won many Manitoba music awards for his outstanding achievements.

Maria Campbell received her award from Frank Tomkins. The colour - gold was chosen for her sash, signifying value of achievement. Maria Campbell is best known for her talents as writer and playwright. An account of her life experiences shone through in her Canadian bestseller, "Half Breed". In her writings Maria has shared the Metis world with others and in doing so has opened the eyes of others to the Metis culture.

Dr. Currie delivered the closing remarks in an inspiring fashion. His address aroused feelings of pride in Metis heritage and was greatly appreciated by those in attendance.

Ray St. Germain and his band entertained the guests at the dance that ended the exciting evening. Accounts of the entertainment say it was "Fantastic". This must be true, because even Wayne McKenzie and Tim Low were seen doing a little shuffling!

The event which celebrated the achievements of five notable Metis was a great success. Their gains should give us all the courage to follow in their footsteps. They have shown that to attain success you do not have to forget your heritage or the Metis spirit. □

Riel Local Summer Recreation Program

by Jean-Paul Claude

Regina - The Riel Local Summer Recreation Program is an eight week program which aims to provide summer recreational activities for young people of both Native and non-Native background. Program funds are provided through the Canada Summer Works Program and allows employment for eight students. These students plan, organize and carry out a variety of recreational activities ranging from sports such as baseball and soccer to various arts and crafts activities.

Since being initiated on June 25, the program has set up a schedule of weekly films, swimming at different city pools and sporting competitions to mention only a few. The staff also works closely with the Albert-Scott Community Centre and utilizes their facilities.

The students took a number of young people to the Metis Heritage Days at Batoche in late July. The trip allowed some of the youth to participate in the Annual Assembly meetings as well as enjoy themselves at the festivities held on the weekend. This gave them a very valuable opportunity to learn more about the concerns of the Metis people both yesterday and today.

The students in the program were responsible for building a float for the Riel Local which was shown during the annual Traveller's Day Parade, at Regina's annual Buffalo Days celebrations. There is also



a planned day trip to Big Muddy as well as tours of various historical and special interest spots around the city.

The program wound up with an afternoon picnic and barbeque for all staff and their young clients on August 17, 1984.

Staff include: Co-ordinator, Robert Carignan, Joseph Eklund, Lisa Hustak, Brian Bork, Michele Klyne, Peter Durocher, Sandy St. Dennis, Rene St. Pierre.

The New Breed Journal would like to extend a hand of thanks for Riel Local and the staff of the Summer Recreational Program for a job well done in contributing a worthwhile service to their community. □

"THE SASH"

The Sash is one of the most enduring symbols of the Metis people. Although it was borrowed from the apparel of the French Canadian, the manner in which it was made and worn, made the sash evolve into a distinct Metis symbol.

The sash was often referred to as the "Tool Box Of The Prairies". For despite its colorful appearance, it has many practical uses. The first sashes were finger woven by Metis men in a design unique to a family. Only later was the loom weave sash introduced. They were often called "Assumption Sash" after the village in Quebec where they first were mass produced.

The sashes to be presented tonight, are of the original finger weave variety. The art of finger weave sash making was almost lost, only recently has it seen a revival. These sashes each unique but sharing the same colors: gold; red; black; blue; white, were made by Ron Emkeit of Saskatoon.

"The Order Of The Sash", like the "Order of Canada", is the highest honor of its kind. Former Prime Minister, Pierre Elliot Trudeau and former Governor General, Edward Shryer, are former recipients of the order. Tonight, the sash will be presented to Metis people who have made an outstanding contribution to their people and their country. This award is given to individuals who have excelled in their own chosen profession and who have served as role models for the Metis children of today and tomorrow. □

Durocher Runs as Liberal

by Jean-Paul Claude

Regina - Mr. Jim Durocher, long-time resident of Ile-a-la-Crosse, (has been selected as) the Federal Liberal candidate for The Battlefords-Meadow Lake Constituency.

"My decision to run as a Liberal candidate was prompted by the fact I find the policies and programs of the Liberal Party under John Turner to be in harmony with my own political views on the issues and with the needs of the voters of this area," Durocher said.

He feels the most pressing needs in the area include effective agriculture and resource development which would directly result in a more stable economy and a drastic reduction of the unemployment rate. Durocher added that if elected he is committed to ensuring a number of policies are introduced and adopted in the House which will realistically meet both of these needs.

"Although farmers are going to have to pay more to ship their grain under the new Grain Transportation Act, I will work on their behalf to ensure that the maximum freight rates are set at 7% of the value of the grain shipped. I will also work hard to see that the proposed changes to the Grain Stabilization Act are implemented as soon as possible."

A number of policies and programs which Durocher mentioned as being priorities to his platform were:

1. Federal Guarantees of an 8% ceiling for interest on farm loans from all lending and financial institutions;
2. mandatory provisions for lending establishments to provide credit and debt counselling to clients when necessary;

3. elimination of farm fuel tax;
4. provision of low-cost capital for resource development;
5. development of realistic and far-reaching job creation initiatives;
6. review and overhauling of the Fish Marketing Program;
7. development of more than adequate transportation services for this Constituency;
8. encourage the continuation of successful negotiations with Aboriginal Peoples in a positive effort to finalize land claim and self-government issues within the structure of the Canadian Constitution;
9. introduction of a policy whereby both imperial and metric measures would be utilized for agricultural products and supplies;
10. capital grants and low-cost capital to develop infrastructure.

Durocher feels this ten-point platform represents a view towards realistic solutions to the real problems which have been plaguing the people of this area for much too long. He said what is needed is action and the courage to enact effective policies. "Although both the former N.D.P. Government and the present Conservative Government (Provincial) have had an opportunity to tackle these problems, only the Liberal Government has had a policy for Northern Development," he said.

Durocher added, "I believe I can offer my fellow constituents the degree of expertise and honest, proven commitment they want. I also offer the type of strong and decisive representation they deserve in the House of Commons if they are to see an end to the conditions which have been plaguing their economic and agricultural initiatives in the past decade."

Durocher has lived and worked in this area all of his life. He has extensive experience both in the areas of financial management and Aboriginal representa-

tion. Durocher stated that only the Liberal Government of John Turner can offer his constituents the kind of gutsy programs and policies that are needed in these troubled times. Only the Liberals have demonstrated the courage to deal effectively with the wide range of economic and resource development problems which continue to hamper the people of the Battlefords-Meadow Lake areas from working to overcome their own problems in this sad period in our history, he said.

Durocher is especially committed to supporting the positive attitudes and progressive policies which the Liberal Government has demonstrated in their dealing with Aboriginal issues. "Only the Federal Liberal Government has taken definite steps to resolve these. The Liberals have been especially effective in overcoming the barrage of obstacles which both the Provincial Conservative and New Democrats have presented while trying to stall the settlement of these important issues. The Liberals have not only been successful in legally recognizing the Metis People and their rights, but they have also successfully concluded a number of agreements with the Treaty Indians and the Inuit of the Northwest Territories and the Yukon. These agreements have resulted in creating a brighter future for these people as well as setting the stage for more far reaching and beneficial agreements in the future," he said.

Durocher concludes his remarks by saying, "I look forward to the opportunity of serving the people of The Battlefords-Meadow Lake Constituency in the House of Commons. I can only promise that I will not be content to be another high-paid, silent backbencher. Rather, I will make certain that the voice of the people of this area is heard loud and clear, as only a fellow constituent and one who shares their everyday trials and joys can make it heard."

Durocher said he and his committee are open to further discussions on these and other issues of interest to the Constituent. He has established office in North Battleford and can be reached at 446-0220. □

Students Take Trip to Fort Black

Editor's Comments:

Eight students from Rossignol School in Ile-a-la-Crosse took a hike to Fort Black and each student wrote about their trip, and how to make trappers bannock as well. New Breed would like to thank Donna Caisse, Dawn Ewart, Iona Daigneault, Margaret Morin, Waylon Durocher, Roderick Morin, Jerry Desjarlais and Floyd Durocher, the grade seven class teacher as well for sending their essays. Unfortunately we cannot print all of them but the following summarizes their trip.

Fort Black by Roderick Morin

On June 1, 1984 some of the grade seven went for a hike. From Burnouf's Ranch to Fort Black. We walked 22 miles. The people that went were: Roderick Morin, Jerry Desjarlais, Waylon Durocher, Floyd Durocher, Iona Daigneault, Dawn Ewart, Donna Caisse, Magie Caisse, Evangeline Caisse, Margaret Morin, and Felix Merasty. It was fun and I wish to go on it again.

We arrived at Burnouf's Ranch and got out of the bus. Then we took some pictures. Then we started walking down the road. After a while we took a break. Then we started walking down the road again.

We saw and did many things as we hiked. We saw some bear tracks but not a sign of the bear. We also saw some deer tracks. Then we saw two deer later that afternoon. Then we stopped to set up camp.

We sat and waited for Bill as he came with the van, made a fire, then set up camp. Felix made our beds. Then we went to play around.

We had six axes. We cut down some trees and took some leaves. Then we got some moss. Then we put up the teepee. Then we went to eat.

We made some cocoa. We put some small marshmallows in. Then we drank it. Then we went to bed.

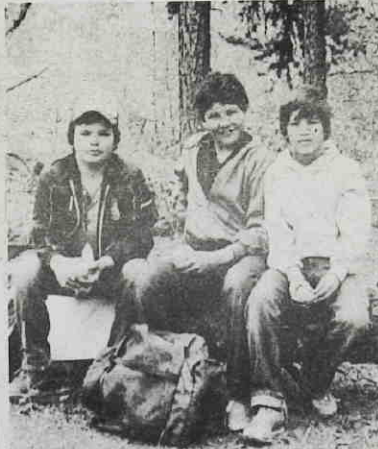
We got some coconuts then we threw them at the girls. Then went to get some coconuts off the trees. Then went to hide from the girls. Then we threw them at the girls. Then we got our teacher mad.

I went to the tent and lay down for a while, then got into my sleeping bag. Then I went to bed. I had a good sleep.

Felix made the fire in the morning. Then Magie made the breakfast. Then Felix made some coffee.



Grade 7 class of Rossignol School at Ile-a-la-Crosse. Ready for 22 mile trek.



After we packed up. We walked to Fort Black.

On June 8 we got to Fort Black and went to the beach. We walked around the water and ate supper. Then we went to look at the site of the trading post.

We went to look at the site of the trading post with my teacher. We walked around in the bush. Then we went back to the beach until the boat came.

Coming back on the boat, we put life jackets on. We went to see the other beach with the boat. Then we went to Ile-a-la-Crosse with the boat.

We arrived at Ile-a-la-Crosse, we got off the boat and walked to Iona's dad's truck. Then we got a ride to snob hill. Then we went home. □

The Class Trip to Fort Black

At Fort Black the students saw the "landing" where barges docked years ago and an old cafe. The class saw the site of the old North West Trading Post. There were three large holes. The class saw piles of rocks as well.

Daniel Daigneault lived in Fort Black for a while. His mother started to run a cafe, she used to give free food out until someone told her how to run a cafe. Daniel worked on the highway for one year, the pay was five cents a hour. He also used to haul fish for the fishermen.

Bill Mcgee used to take care of the radar. The radar station was set up along the road. The tower of the radar station was set up near Beauval. All that was set up near Fort Black was a two way radio.

Daniel found a shell which they used long ago near the Fort Black location. He also found a nail that was used long ago. The grade sevens think they saw graves at the sight of the old trading post at Fort Black.

The grade sevens said the class trip was nice, but there were only eight students, two teachers and two people to watch the students. They still had fun on their class trip to Fort Black. On the hike to Fort Black some of the grade sevens were sore when they got home. Dawn said nothing about her legs. But they told the rest of the class it was fun at Fort Black.

The students who attended the trip were: Donna Caisse, Dawn Ewart, Iona Daigneault, Margaret Morin, Waylon Durocher, Roderick Morin, Jerry Desjarlais, and Floyd Durocher. I think it was very nice for you to go. I hope you do the same thing next year. The students thank all the people who helped them go on this trip. They thank Felix Merasty and Evangeline and William Caisse for coming. They also thank the D.N.R.R., the R.C.M.P., the Hudson Bay, Daniel Daigneault, and Ovide and Iren Desjarlais for their help. □

Riel Pavillion Makes Metis Shine

by Jean-Paul Claude

Regina - The Riel Pavillion, an annual feature at Regina's Mosaic, a multi-cultural festival, was a huge success. An estimated 7000 guests passed through the doors of the Pavillion. All were served up a more than generous portion of the culture that Metis and Native People know as their own.

The ambassador to this year's popular Pavillion was Kevin Daniels, Vice-President of Riel Local No. 33 of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS). AMNSIS Local No. 33 in Regina is fast becoming known as an active and progressive organization. This is due in no small part to the enthusiasm of its young, committed and personable Vice-President.

One of the most popular drawing cards to this event continues to be the wonderful food which was presented by Norma Welsh. Norma had lots of help from her hard working friends and friends. Together they prepared and served endless

piles of mouth watering favorites like baked and fried bannock (dripping in melted butter and choke-cherry jam), buffalo burgers, Saskatoon berry pie and hot steaming coffee and tea.

Guests were also treated to Metis and Native entertainment. Winston Wuttunee touched the hearts of young and old, as he presented a listening feast, in a tasteful combination of Native history, legends, song and dance.

Jean Pelletier's Riel Cresaultis Dancers and Lilly Daniels' Rainbow Fancy Dancers were a welcome treat to all guests. They kicked up heel and toe to the age old rhythmic sounds of fiddle and drum. Many of the guests joined in the fun and flurry, as was evident by the many dancing feet of the visitors. Metis and European, Native and Asians dusted the floor to the music of Arnold Gervais and the Country Lads, Owen Okeewechau and the Regina Native Society Singers.

In addition to the ever popular music and food there was a large assortment of display booths available for viewing. Many of them advertised their wares and services at attractive prices. Most guests left the Pavillion with one of the many free or pur-

A walk through the Pavillion was rewarded by an exhibition of works by exciting Native artists like Terri Fisher and Joe Pelletier. The pottery of many Native artists were represented by the Kapachee Centre Pottery. Other arts and crafts were exhibited by Prairie, Crafts and Crazy Bear Jewellery.

You could view exhibits and receive information regarding an array of various Native corporations and service groups operating throughout the province. Some of these included the Native Alcohol Council, Wehtamatowin Corporation (Native Communications), Gabriel Dumont Institute, Native Employment Centre, Lestock Women's Center and the Central American Working Group.

The Riel Pavillion was very successful in achieving its intended goal through participation in Mosaic '84. This was, the meaningful sharing with the general community of some major positive aspects of Metis and Native culture in Saskatchewan.

According to Kevin Daniels, activities such as this will serve to create an atmosphere of co-operation and tolerance between the Native and Non-Native communities. The positive value of these events in promoting understanding between cultural groups cannot be under-estimated. This was a job well done!

On behalf of Riel Local No. 33 of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan, we wish to thank the following individuals and groups for making the Riel Native Pavillion at Mosaic '84 a huge success:

ENTERTAINERS:

- Winston Wuttunee - great show
- Winston.
- Riel Cresaultis Dancers and Jean Pelletier.
- Rainbow Fancy Dancers and Lilly Daniels.
- Regina Native Society Singers and Owen Okeewechau.
- Arnold Gervais and the Country Lads.

MASTERS OF CEREMONIES:

- Roger Ross and Rick Wagamese of Wolfson Productions.

VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Ray Hamilton, Jim Parisien, Madeline Livingston, Tom Gerard, Bev Kowalski, Charlotte Pelletier, Martin Aubichon, Norma Welsh and the Brooks family, Barbara Lloyd, Brian Tuttussi and the kitchen staff for a job well done.

DISPLAYS:

- Dumont Institute and staff.
- Saskatchewan Native Communications and Staff.
- Native Alcohol Council and staff.

- Batoche Centenary Corporation and staff.

- Marion Desjarlais Crafts.
- Prairie Crafts.
- Tansi Jewellery.
- Crazy Bear Jewellery
- Kapachee Centre Pottery.
- Central American Working Group.
- Terri Fisher's Art Work.
- Joe Pelletier's Art Work.
- Lestock Women's Centre - Wilma Tuttussi.
- Native Employment Centre and Staff.

The displays of arts and crafts and the promotion of AMNSIS pro-

grams were very well organized, informative and deserve credit for a job well done.

This year almost 7,000 people entered our doors to experience the Metis culture. Many came for a taste of the traditional Metis food that was available. This included buffalo burgers, Saskatoon pie, choke cherry jam and bannock. The Metis and Non-Status Indian people deserve full credit for the promotion of our culture which is the whole purpose of this event.

Again, on behalf of Riel Local No. 33, we thank you for a job well done. May God bless each and everyone of you.

Kevin L. Daniels
Ambassador
Riel Native Pavillion

Family Violence Examined

by Jean-Paul Claude

Regina - The Saskatchewan Women's Secretariat hosted a conference in Regina recently to discuss the problem of family violence. Among the speakers who addressed the assembly were Pat Smith, Minister responsible for the Status of Women, Gary Lane, Saskatchewan Attorney General, Gordon Dirks, Ministers of Social Services as well as Dr. Susan Painter of the National Clearing House on Family Violence.

The conference was well attended by a cross-section of the entire Saskatchewan community. Some of the groups represented faculties of Social Work and Human Justice from the University of Regina, Court of Queen's Bench, Legal Aid Commission, Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan, R.C.M.P. and Catholic Women's League.

The participants were addressed by the various speakers and met in small discussion groups to examine various aspects of family violence in our society today. Some of the areas examined were the causes, preventative measures, legal implications, and treatment of the victim and abuser. Each of the smaller groups met with the entire assembly later in the day and presented a list of service options, priorities and recommendations.

Pat Smith said that the government of Saskatchewan and particularly her department, has and will continue to take a hard line when dealing with the problems presented by violence in Saskatchewan homes. She announced a number of new initiatives approved by the government to deal with this problem. These initiatives will be funded by an \$800,000 budget which was announced in the provincial budget earlier this year.

Gary Lane re-emphasized the seriousness of family violence and recommitted himself to dealing with it more stringently in the future. He said he has in-

structed both agents of provincial police organizations and the courts that treatment and sentencing of wife batterers must better reflect the serious nature of these offences.

While defining family violence within the family, Dr. Painter said that it could include abusive violence against adults as well as children. It was interesting to note that the discussions within the conference dealt with the issue of wife battering. When asked why this was, Dr. Painter said that it is often difficult to separate wife battering from child abuse. In most cases the violence committed against an adult woman in the home will untimely affect the children in such ways as neglect, emotional abuse or even active sexual or physical abuse.

In addressing the overlap of various types of violence in the same family, Dr. Painter said, "We know that the children of battered woman are very strongly affected by witnessing the violence that occurs in their homes. We believe that children who grow up in homes where either themselves or their mothers are abused, learn patterns of violent behavior to solve problems by using physical force". She continued to say that studies do suggest that there is an inherent learning component present in the mere witnessing of violent acts. This learning is greater when violent acts are committed against oneself, or someone with the victim may have an established emotional or physical bond. The incidents of abusers who have come from homes where violence or abuse was present is as high as 80%. Dr. Painter added that when dealing with a woman who is a victim of violent abuse within the family it is important to inquire as to whether the children have been subject to any degree of abuse as well.

Dr. Messer, a prominent Regina psychiatrist felt strongly that the major cause of family violence was closely associated with incidents of alcohol abuse. Dr. Painter disagreed with that point saying, "Al-

though it sometimes seems, when you are dealing with individual cases, that alcohol seems to come up all the time, the truth of the matter is that information that we already have does not support the view that alcohol is the cause.

Work that has been done in the United States with batterers, indicate that in groups of violent men who are undergoing treatment, about 50% of them do have a problem with alcohol while the other 50% do not." In addition she said that of those abusers who do have a drinking problem, only 50% of them demonstrate their violent behavior while under the influence of alcohol.

Dr. Painter reported that Ontario is working in the area of improving services to rural women and families. They are also doing informational studies on the needs of Native and immigrant women. "I would encourage you to get in touch with the province of Ontario to determine what's happening with those research projects and what the results of them have been", she added.

Among the major recommendations to come out of the conference were:

- a call for more accessible services for rural women and their families.
- more specific training for professionals dealing with family violence.
- improved funding from governments to support research and services.
- a need to change attitudes of the justice system through education (so the emphasis may shift from disrupting the lives of women and children by removal from their homes, and instead remove the batterer)
- a call to develop new programs and realistic services to address the problem of family violence.
- development of programs should be based on sound research components which will provide statistical data upon which to build new initiatives.

Native Womens' Rights Vetoed

by Karen Sherlock

Regina - Long-awaited changes to the Indian Act which would restore treaty rights to Indian women who marry non-Natives will have to wait a little longer before becoming reality. Ironically, it was the efforts of a Native Womens' Organization that contributed to the wait.

The Native Womens' Association of Canada (NWAC) and the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) joined forces in June to block passage of the latest legislative attempt to change the section of the Indian Act that discriminates against women. They lobbied Liberal Senator Charlie Watt, an Inuit from Quebec, to vote against the proposed legislation. As a result, Bill C - 47 did not receive the unanimous Senate approval it needed to become law.

The Saskatchewan Native Womens' Association (SNWA), provincial counterpart to NWAC, explained the Association's decision not to support the Bill: "The Association felt the proposed legislation was a half-way measure which did not adequately deal with the status issue and the possible effects on future generations," said Donna Pinay, co-ordinator for SNWA at a press conference July 5 in Regina.

It is not enough, she said, to reinstate Indian women and children who have lost status. "It is equally important to ensure future generations of Indian people have their rights adequately protected." One section of the Bill which NWAC felt was unacceptable, said Pinay, would provide status to Indian children after a certain date but not to second generation children. This would create "split families" where some family members would have status while others would not.

Another objection to the Bill, said Pinay, was that the reinstatement was not broad enough. It did not consider situations where adopted children are involved or where minors lost their status without choice when their parents enfranchised them. "(NWAC) was looking for a broader reinstatement that would address not only the rights of women but of other people who were not treated fairly by the Indian Act," said Pinay.

The Assembly of First Nations and Native Womens' Association of Canada presented these objections and several proposed amendments to the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs which was reviewing the Bill. The proposals included the establishment of a general band list for Indian people not living on reserves and an "active band list" for those living on reserves, recognition of an Indian band's right to determine band membership in the future, and the provision of adequate financial resources for reinstated members.

The amendments, said Pinay, "were ignored by the Committee." She said when efforts by AFN and NWAC to improve the Bill failed, they realized "they had to stop it and hopefully have it reintroduced (later) in a better form." The decision was not an easy or popular one to make, said Pinay. "Women are caught in a difficult situation," she said. "In one way they've wanted the legislation for 20 or more years; yet in another way the legislation is not adequately reflecting their concerns." She said NWAC was under some criticism from other Native and womens' groups for delaying changes to the Indian Act.

Not everyone in the Native community is disappointed with the delays in changing the Indian Act. Many Indian bands have made it clear they resent the interference of the federal government, calling it a further example of the government's paternalistic approach to the Indian people. They say bands should have the right to determine their own membership, not have it imposed by government.

Bands have argued the legislation will result in "cultural genocide" and a serious drain on their natural and financial resources when women and children return to reserves. (Estimates have suggested up to 30,000 women and 40,000 children will be eligible to regain status, though Indian Affairs Minister John Munro predicts only 20 per cent will apply to return to reserves.)

The issue has split the Native community. The introduction of Bill C - 47 in the Commons on June 20 was followed by days of emotional and often bitter

exchange between Indian bands and Native womens' groups.

The emotional debate surrounding the legislation and the resulting negative media coverage was unfortunate, said Pinay in a recent interview, because the real issue was often ignored or forgotten.

"We have to look at the central aspects (of the issue) in that women are treated unequally and that the loss of status has effected women at a personal level," she says. Indian women are losing their rights and their status because of whom they choose to marry; some are deciding not to marry in order to avoid losing status for their children; some have changed status several times in the course of their lives due to the intricacies and inconsistencies of the Indian Act -- it is the personal difficulties and hardships of Indian women that are the real issue, says Pinay.

Pinay says she disagrees with many of the objections the bands have to changing the Indian Act. She says the argument of "cultural genocide" is unfounded because most Indian women have retained their identity as Indian people and those who haven't are not likely to want to apply for status or return to reserves. The fear of a huge flood of women and children returning to reserves is also unfounded, she says. "I don't see women giving up their community ties, their employment, to return to reserves when there's nothing there in many cases."

Some women have suggested to Pinay that band leaders and elders "may feel threatened by the potential power or influence" of women returning to the reserve with work experience, education and political skills. This fear is unfortunate, says Pinay, because the skills reinstated women could offer would be an asset to any band.

Pinay says she can understand the frustration and resentment of Indian bands toward the federal government "for legislating something when we're at a stage in Indian political development where we want self-government." But, she says, it was the government that put the legislation in place and they have the responsibility now to remove it. She says in some situations it is necessary for a government to take action because only a third party can deal fairly and effectively with the issue.

Pinay says she is afraid that if reinstatement were left up to the bands not all women who should would regain their status. One indication of this, she says, is that only about 100 of the roughly 600 bands across Canada have asked for exemption from the discriminatory section of the Indian Act since they were given the option in 1981. She says the government must take the responsibility to ensure the rights of Indian women on an equal basis throughout the country.

Though the immediate future of Bill C - 47 is uncertain, NWAC and SNWA are preparing for what they hope is inevitable -- the reinstatement of thousands of Indian women and children.

Pinay says many women do not know what the proposed legislation will mean for them. They must be informed of the changes to the Indian Act and their implications "in order to help them make an informed decision about applying for status."

In the meantime, says Pinay, NWAC will be lobbying in Ottawa during the upcoming election to urge the elected government to make Bill C - 47 a priority, and to push to have it amended "so that it is something that Native people have had some input into, something that reflects their concerns." □

Donna Pinay (R) with associate Cheryl Redsky.



Les Benjamin

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Regina - SUNTEP Graduation

by Jean-Paul Claude

Regina - Metis faces were beaming with pride recently in Regina as 17 SUNTEP students saw years of sacrifice come to a fruitful end. They were presented their Standard 'A' Teaching Certificates or Bachelor of Education Degrees.

Some of the guests attending this special celebration were Marion Desjarlais, Co-ordinator of Suntep Regina, Clem Chartier, Vice-President of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS), Dona Desmarais, Chairperson of the Dumont Board of Directors, Dr. Hellmut Lang of the Faculty of Education, University of Regina, Rita Bouvier, Director of Suntep, Liz Cooper, a former Suntep Co-ordinator, Sherry Farrell Racette, a former member of the Suntep faculty, Mr. Nap LaFontaine, South East Area Director for AMNSIS. Featured students included Karen Laroque who is a second year student and Rosie McLeod who is working on her third year of study. The valedictory speech for the class beginning in 1981 was delivered by Monica Goulet while the valedictorian representing the graduating class was Rema Alexson.

Dona Desmarais recalled the beginnings of the program and some of the real problems that have been overcome by both the Institute and the students. The program was breaking new ground in the area of Native education and there was a lot of pressure at the onset to ensure that it was a success thereby enabling it to continue. The program would also be extremely stressful to the students who would need to commit themselves fully to a successful completion. She said, "I can't help but recall a small room on 11th Avenue where Liz Cooper, Sherry Farrell Racette and myself sat to select the first students for Regina Suntep. We felt we had to select the cream of the crop. I guess it's safe to say today that we certainly did. I'd like to say that without the dedication, support and drive of these students there would be no institution. They are the foundation on which we build. If they are any indication of the type of people who are coming forward through our institution, I know that the Metis Nation will survive as a vibrant culture in the province of Saskatchewan," concluded Desmarais.

The dedication of the Suntep students was also applauded by Dr. Hellmut Lang who said that they were among the finest students he had ever had the privilege of instructing. "Not only have you been dedicated and capable students but you also possess a very special warmth, understanding and empathy that's precious. Because of this as well as your other abilities, I and the other faculty members feel confident that you will be a help to your own students and other teachers you work with."

The Suntep students will not be forgotten as they have left their mark in the education community of Saskatchewan. They are said to be a unique bunch, and a challenge. Rita Bouvier said that Suntep students are described as people who will listen patiently about the past while acknowledging its importance on their lives. They are also said to have set their priorities right because they will tell you that their future is what it's all about.

Rita Bouvier said that the students had earned the title of the one who shows the way. She said that the concept which is embodied in the Cree word which places a great responsibility on the shoulders of the students. "It has been the experience of our parents and the Native community to lose us to the masses once we have received a higher education. I challenge each of you to change that experience," Rita Bouvier said. In your role as educators, become involved, listen to the hopes and aspirations of your community. Grow with your communities. Practise patience, for change is a slow process. You, as an educator, symbolize a hope for that respect and recognition which our forefathers fought and died for a hundred years ago and which leaders in the AMNSIS community continue to struggle for," said Bouvier.

Those being honoured included four students who were presented with their Bachelor of Education degrees. They were: Rema Alexson, Darlene Deschambault, Brenda Kinnon and Melona Palmer. As well, Standard 'A' Teaching certificates were presented to Rema Alexson, Joy Amundson, David Amyotte, Darlene Banin, Leanne Bird, Lillian Daniels, Lynne Daniels, Darlene Deschambault, Monica Goulet, Brenda Kinnon, Melona Palmer, Marlene Parisien, Joanne Pelletier, Calvin Racette, Patty Lou Racette, Martina Sayer and Joyce Toth.

Rema Alexson, the class valedictorian said that their dreams have been fulfilled. "We are leaving behind our struggles and frustrations as we enter another



Prince Albert SUNTEP graduates proudly display diplomas.



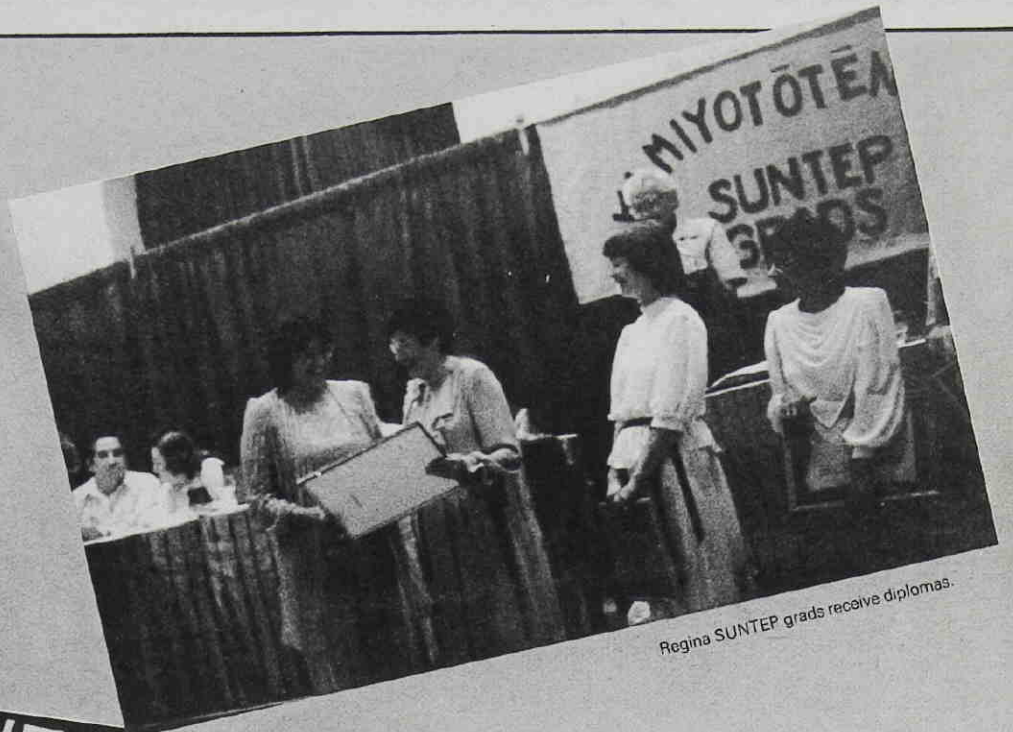
Graduates and friends prepare a celebration feast.

er phase of our lives. I'm sure, this too will be difficult in many instances because of the expectations that the community will have on us as Native teachers. However, just because we are Native teachers, we cannot solve all of the Native issues. We can, however, be positive role models for other Native children."

Monica Goulet recalled how she and her classmates spent the past four years laughing, arguing, but most of all she spoke of the support and encouragement they offered each other. "This group's cohesiveness has been a major contributing factor to our success." Monica talked about a statement in the

press that stated Native teachers are not being hired because traditionally they did not feel qualified to fill these positions.

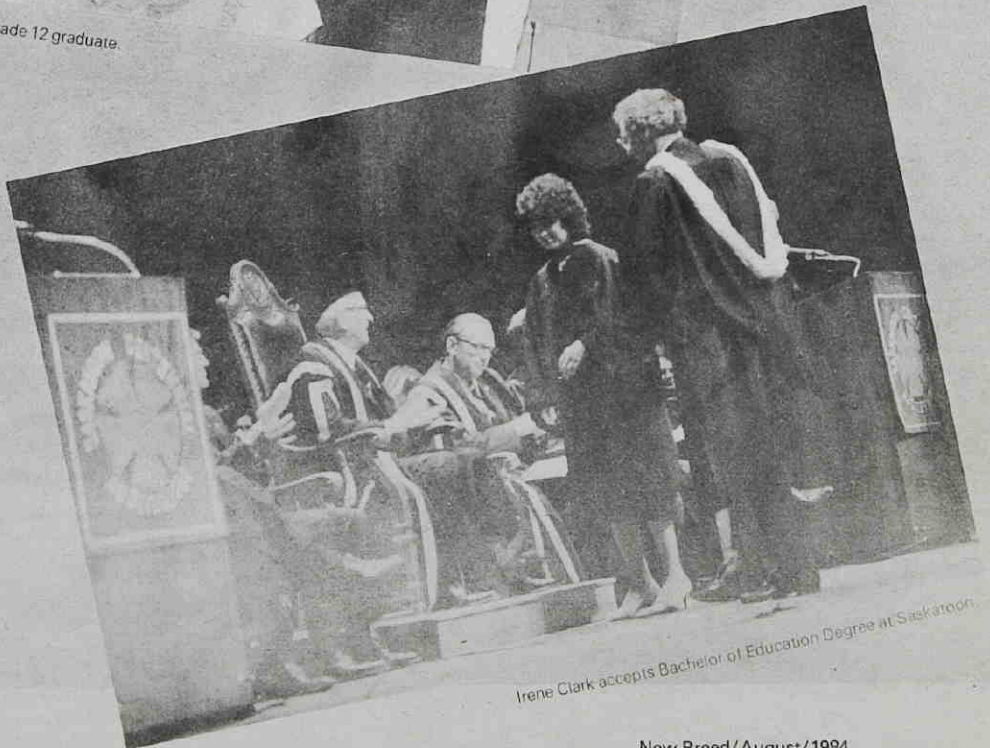
She responded by stating, "we are qualified and eager to work. We have been submitting our applications. I believe that the cross-cultural and the Native studies component of our program well enables us to meet the challenge in our schools. We expect to be hired so that we can make a positive contribution to our education system. The history of our people has been one of depression. But we are a determined people and you will yet see us emerging victorious." □



Regina SUNTEP grads receive diplomas.



Pride beams in face of Grade 12 graduate.



Irene Clark accepts Bachelor of Education Degree at Saskatoon.

Scenes From Batoche '84

Metis Heritage Days

by Jean-Paul Claude

Batoche - The 1984 edition of Metis Heritage Days was a great success with everyone who visited getting involved in one or more of the interesting events and activities that were available.

With entertainment by Ray St. Germaine and Winston Wuttunee, fiddling, jigging and talent competitions, bannock baking, tug of war, fast ball tournaments, foot races and horseshoe competitions, there was something for everyone. If you just wanted to relax, there were the usual display and concession stands, and old and new friends to just sit and visit with.

The Annual Assembly of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan was held during the two days preceding the celebrations and those meetings also drew a respectable crowd. It was more than evident that people are gearing up for the 1985 Centenary Celebrations and many of them came out to hear how plans are developing, as well as how they can get involved in the upcoming event.

Youth were well represented this year with the AMNSIS Youth Council conducting a short meeting after the Annual Assembly. There were some criticism expressed but those issues were addressed. Most individuals left, content with the answers they had received. There was a small delegation of youth who attempted to organize a separate youth league which would accept only Metis membership. They received little support.

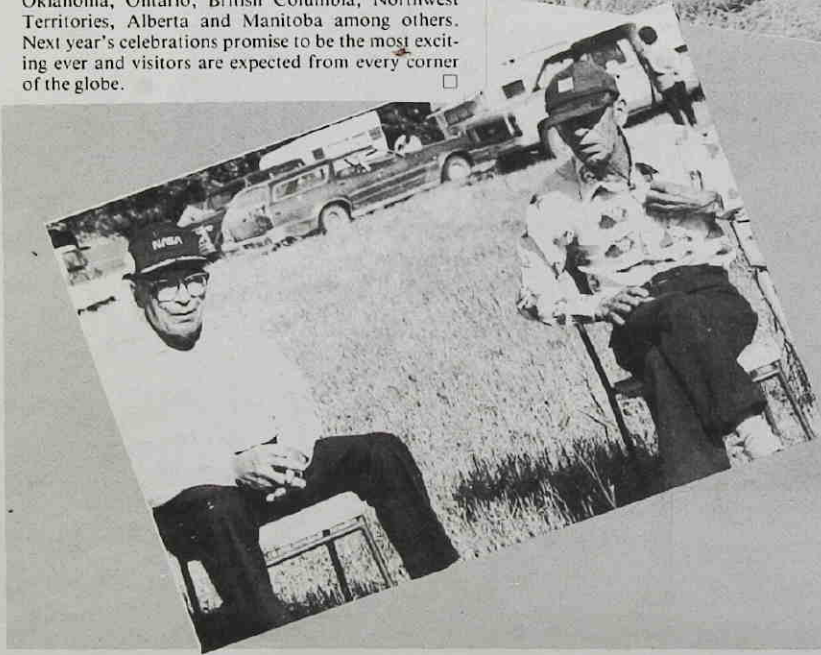
Security at this year's celebration was tight although extremely professional and well organized. Most visitors had only favourable comments to make regarding security personnel and activities. The organizers deserve a bouquet for their efforts.

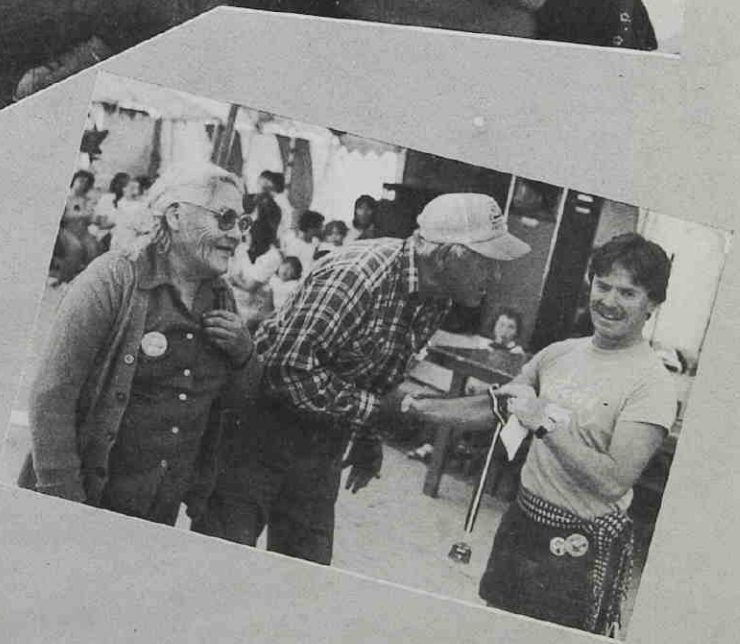
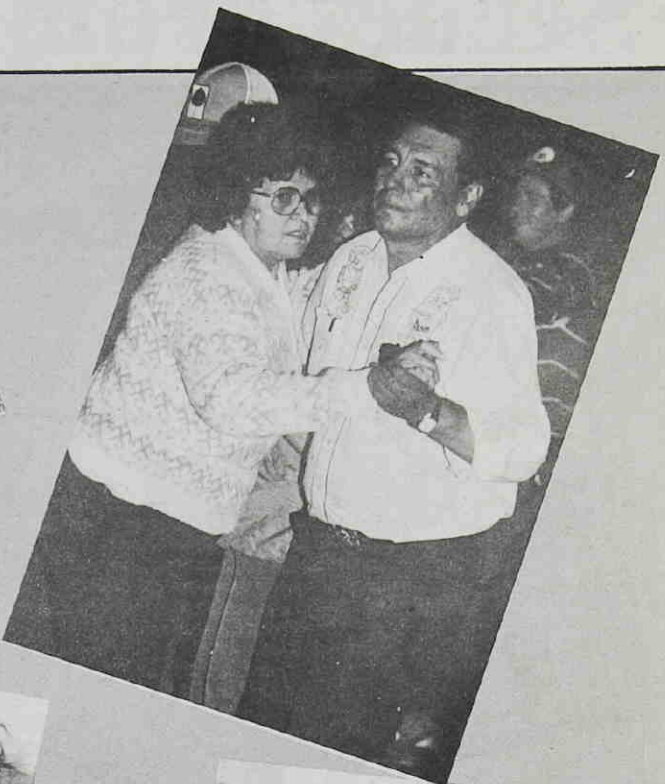
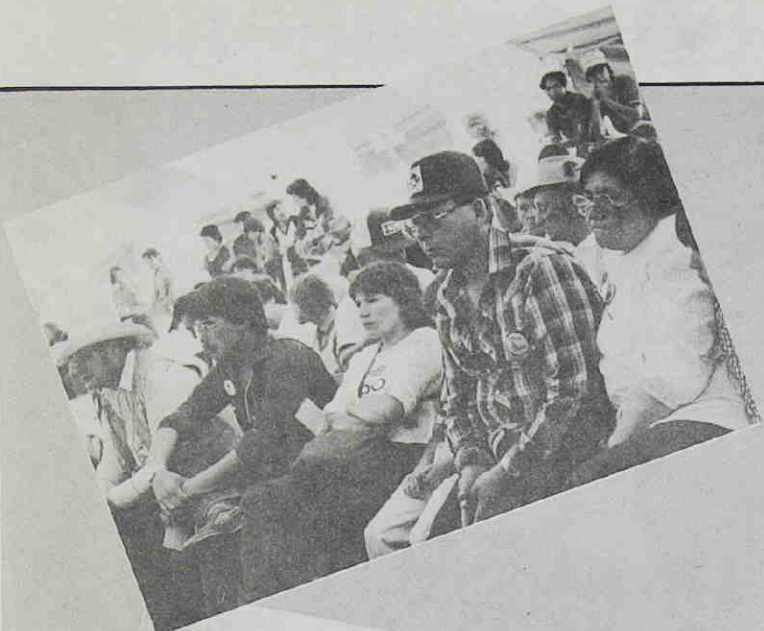
This year's Mr. and Ms. Batoche were George and Germaine Murray of Ile-a-la-Crosse. George proved to be a man of the world, who was ready to get up and jig for everyone, when he heard he had been chosen as Mr. Batoche. Germaine was somewhat more shy. Although obviously pleased to be selected as Ms. Batoche, it took her husband to get her up and dance. Once she was on the floor however, she proved just as capable a toe-tapping champion jigger as her outgoing husband.

The highlight of this year's celebrations were again the commemorative gravesite ceremonies where many of the veterans of the 1885 rebellion lie at rest. The services, although solemn and inspiring were marred by the lowering of the Metis flag in the midst of the ceremony by Parks Canada officials.

The 1984 Metis Heritage days were a huge success with everyone going home with a smile on their face and a feeling of pride in their hearts.

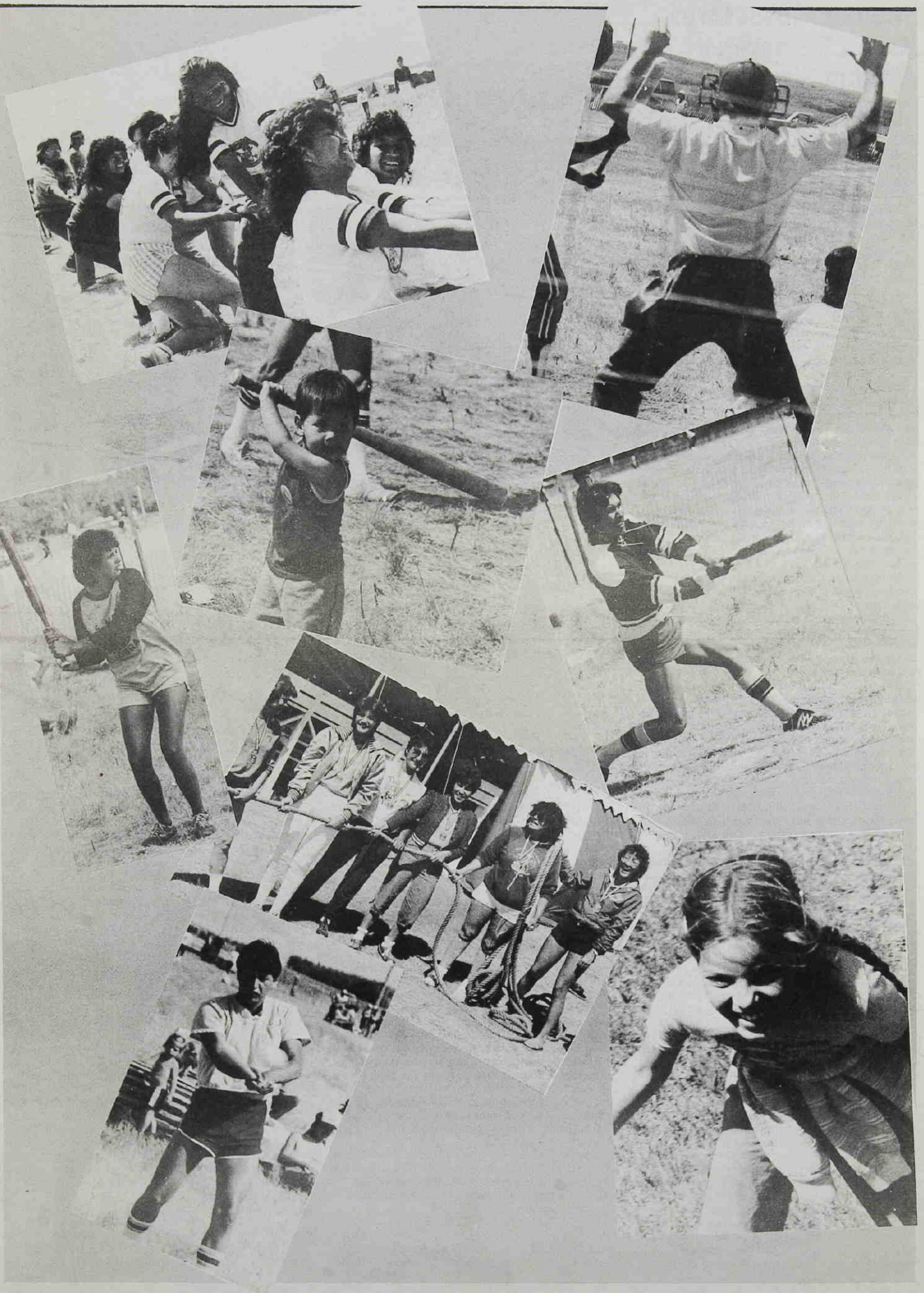
This year's celebrations also had a continental and international flair with visitors coming from as far away as Japan and Yorkshire, England. Other distant areas represented were California, New York, Oklahoma, Ontario, British Columbia, Northwest Territories, Alberta and Manitoba among others. Next year's celebrations promise to be the most exciting ever and visitors are expected from every corner of the globe. □





Scenes From Batoche '84





Sinclair Upset Over Racist Remarks at Annual Assembly

by Jean-Paul Claude

Each summer the members of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS), come together at an annual assembly. This meeting is the one opportunity when the general membership can address their leaders and call them into accountability for their activities over the past twelve months. It is the one opportunity when the elected leaders can receive the direction they need from the members whom they represent with all levels of government. The 1984 AMNSIS Annual Assembly was perhaps more important in this regard than ever before. There were many things to discuss which would permanently affect the very existence of the Metis Nation in Canada. 1984 was a year of decisions for the Metis people and they came to the Annual Assembly anxious to find out how and why certain decisions were made. They came to tell their leaders what decisions they wanted made in the coming year. They came to be informed and offer direction and wisdom in a process which would mold their futures, the Constitutional Process. Yet when the meetings ended, they left with nothing more in the way of information and input than they had received from the media reports.

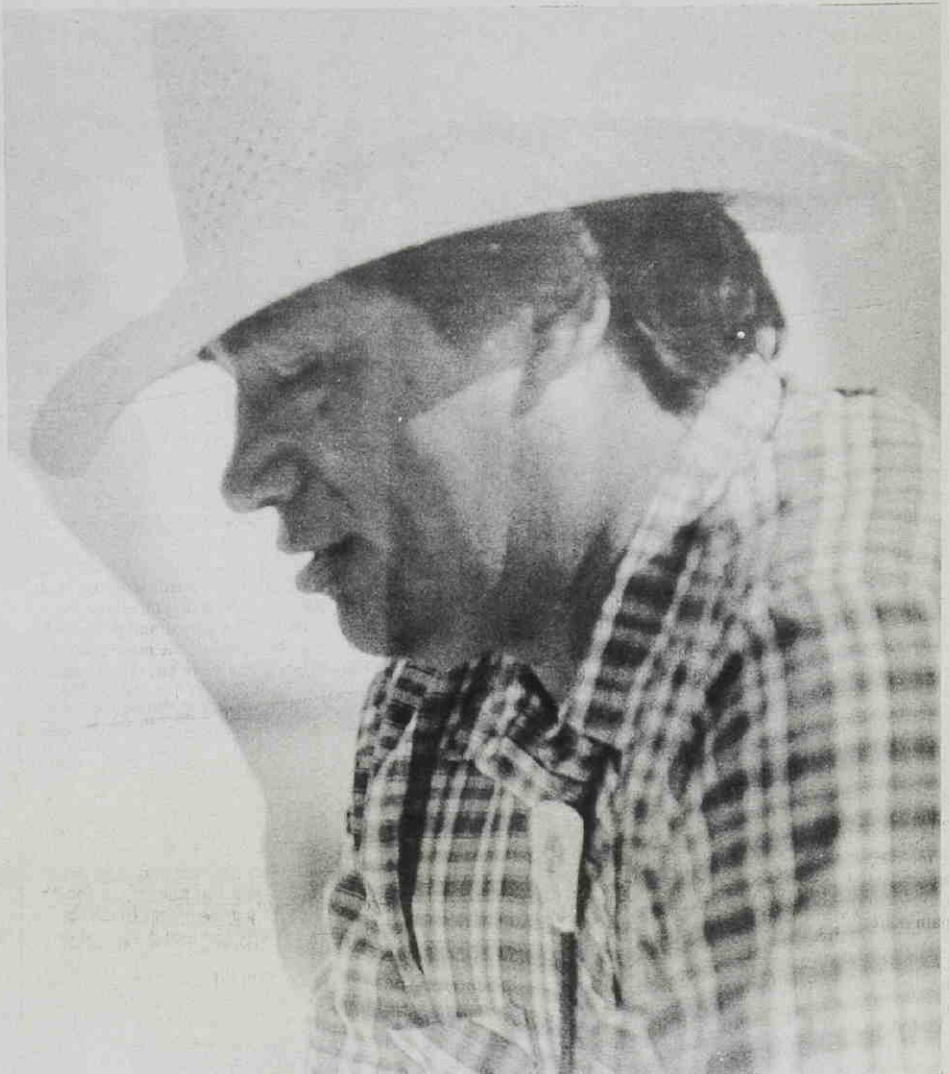
In one respect, the Metis people were not disappointed for one of the events which usually occurs at the annual assembly took place again this year just as it does every other year. Jim Sinclair, elected President of AMNSIS was again attacked and forced to justify his retaining the office which the membership had elected him in. As usual, he receive an overwhelming call to continue for another year. "In regards to the Annual Assembly," Sinclair said, "I usually have to go through a motion of confidence to determine whether I have a mandate to lead for another year or not. This year, however, I receive the most blistering attack since becoming leader of the Metis and Non-Status people of Saskatchewan. But something bothers me even more than that. Not once during two days of straight meetings, did the people deal with the actual issue of whether we took the right approach at the Constitutional table or whether we fulfilled our mandate in any other areas."

Sinclair said the work which was done on Constitutional issues was well prepared and presented at the meeting and he had hoped that it would have been scrutinized very carefully. "We were to have been accountable for our work over the past year," he said, "and I was very disappointed that the meeting wasn't used for that purpose."

Instead of the anticipated Constitutional discussions, the meetings were dominated by discussions concerning the future of the Non-Status Indian, within AMNSIS. Sinclair said that when this happened, the meetings took on an uncomfortable racist atmosphere. "It seemed to me that the meeting was based strictly on racial terms in as far as whether or not the Non-Status Indians should be allowed to remain in the organization and whether a Non-Status Indian should be allowed to continue to lead the organization."

Sinclair said that he is just as aware as anybody that the issue of Non-Status Indians within AMNSIS is one which will have to be looked at if we are to deal effectively with the independent issues of each group. He said that this is part of the Constitutional issue and one which he has not ignored. He said that if people would have dealt with the important Constitutional issues they would have seen him lay out a plan which was devised and put forward last year and which would phase out the Non-Status Indians by 1985 and have in place the makings of a new organization.

He said that during the assembly he did begin to explain this plan when he mentioned turning down the governments offer of funds for a Non-Status Indian organization because those funds were to be taken from funds already allocated for the Metis. He said rather than allow him to explain the rationale behind that decision, he was attacked and the whole situation was turned around. He said that people were not presented with the true facts only because certain political leaders were acting in a very irresponsible manner. Sinclair said that this has become a serious problem and one which cannot be allowed to contin-



Jim Sinclair ponders his next move.

ue.

"I think people are simply not prepared to accept the responsibility that goes with leadership. I think they are in for some serious problems in the future in terms of leaders if they do not begin to accept responsibility. At what point do leaders stop blaming others for the problems. If I leave, I will probably be attacked for the next five years for all the mistakes I made as leader. In the meantime that doesn't get rights for the Metis and that doesn't get those rights entrenched in the Constitution. This will only happen when leaders accept responsibility, deal with the issues and rally their people around those issues. However if they want to deal with racism on racial terms, then they will have some serious problems, not only with governments but amongst themselves as well."

"I am used to racism from governments and Non-Native people," Sinclair said, "but it's hard for me to deal with racism from Metis and Native people. What bothers me most is the fact that we've accused the Federal government of stepping on the rights of minorities in Canada and especially the Non-Status, who are probably the smallest minority in the country. Now people within our own organization are making an issue and calling for the removal of Non-Status Indians from an organization that they helped to build."

Sinclair said that he was proud to be a member of AMNSIS and he has always worked hard to see that the Metis were identified within the Constitution. "I saw that happen and it makes me, a Non-Status Indian, happy and proud."

Sinclair said that a lot of smaller issues were presented to cloud and confuse the really important ones. He said that the meeting was turned into a personality conflict between Clem Chartier, AMNSIS

Vice-President, Frank Tomkins, AMNSIS Provincial Secretary and himself. He said the way this was done was to focus in on one or two isolated incidents which in fact had very little substance or truth and make it appear as if he was against them. Then they stated that since Sinclair was a Non-Status Indian and they were Metis that Sinclair was pro-Non-Status, he could not honestly or effectively fulfill his mandate to the Metis people. He said that the people were cheated at the meeting because, first, they were not allowed to have the important questions answered, and secondly, because they were not presented with the true facts. At that point Sinclair began to address each of those issues and hoped that it would help to clarify matters.

He said that the first allegation made was that he somehow forced the removal of Frank Tomkins and Clem Chartier from the Metis National Council. Sinclair said he was chosen to represent his people at the Metis National Council by the majority of the people who elected him. Because of that he will continue to take his rightful place at the Metis National Council table regardless of what anyone else says and until such a time as the people themselves send another leader to that table through the ballot box. "Saskatchewan has used the ballot box approach for some years now and I don't think people are prepared to deviate from the democratic system that we have in place at this time," Sinclair said. "If someone is to take my place at the Metis National Council table then they will have to first get the O.K. from the people who sent me. Saskatchewan has always been well represented at the Metis National Council with over 250 Saskatchewan delegates present at the last Metis National Council Annual Meeting. People must understand that the Metis National

Council deals with only one issue at this time and that is the Constitution. It doesn't get involved with any other programs or the day to day operations or politics of the individual provincial organizations. That is the role of the Metis National Council; to deal with the Constitutional question alone.

Under that mandate there are two issues which have to be addressed, those of self-government and a land base. Saskatchewan did their homework in this regard and the input of Clem Chartier in preparing our position papers was certainly invaluable. His background and expertise in the area of Constitutional law enabled us to present our position much more clearly and convincingly than if he had not been involved. But those position papers have now been prepared and tabled and we have a new task ahead of us. A task that became necessary as a result of the excellent work done in preparing those position papers. That new job is the process of enumeration, of identifying the people who's future is represented in those same position papers. It is an ongoing process and we are moving on. It was not a question of kicking Clem off. It was just that his job at this stage was done. His input was valuable and appreciated. But if the hard work he did is going to count for anything, then we have to move on and deal with the enumeration question. Also there is a Federal election in process and none of us are involved at the national level except for the purpose of handing information back and forth and continuing to reaffirm our position. Clem is no more in limbo at this time than any of us. It's more a matter of not having anyone to meet with right now because of the Federal election. This lull will probably last till around the middle of October."

"Nobody had been kicked off of the Metis National Council. Some people are not being used as much as they were or as much as they would like to be perhaps but they are still part of the organization. You've got to remember that even when a decision is made to accept or refuse somebody's input, that too, is done in a democratic way and I only have one vote at the table. Anybody who says that I have kicked them off the Council is not being very realistic as our total Board belongs on the Council and they will remain there."

Sinclair, in answering another allegation that was made against him said that all elected representatives of AMNSIS have always been allowed in the AMNSIS provincial offices in Regina. As far as he knows, they have never been made to feel unwelcome there. He said that both Clem Chartier and Frank Tomkins requested and were allowed to work out of Saskatoon. He said that this would have allowed them to work even closer with the grass roots people of the organization but they even failed in this regard. "I would say that these people have been in an excellent position to remain in touch with the grass roots people and keep them informed of the relevant issues. If that was done, there would have been some excellent feedback from the membership at the annual assembly. That wasn't the case and there simply was very little work done in the field that would deal with the issues of the Constitution and the rights of the Metis."

Sinclair said that as far as he can see, the only work that was done in the field over the past year was in how to devise a plan to kick the Non-Status members out of the organization and he said that all Aboriginal people will lose if people continue to have that sort of an attitude.

Sinclair said that it is obvious to everyone that the Non-Status and Metis will eventually have to end the close political affiliation they have enjoyed for so many years. As the Constitutional issues become more focussed, the independent issues of these two Aboriginal groups become more distinct and different, the time will come when they will have to seek separate political solutions to the problems which face their people. Sinclair said this cannot be accomplished through a committee within the structure of AMNSIS. "I don't think that would be possible if you were to set up a committee within the Metis organization because a committee is just that a committee. It has no elected leaders, it has no political status and it is always accountable to someone else. No one knows yet what type of an organization the Non-Status will need to form in order to deal with the vital issues which lie ahead. We don't know yet whether it will be short-lived or long term. All we do know is that it will have to be a politically based organization. In order to set up a political organization there is a lot of ground work which has to be done first. This has

not been done. People are calling for a split and they haven't dealt with any of the ground work necessary to make a split work. They are avoiding the real issues. They are avoiding the work that has to be done. They are not being realistic and facing up to the responsibilities to the people who will be affected by that decision."

Sinclair also commented on the very nature of the meetings at the annual assembly and the way in which they were conducted. "What I didn't like about the meeting and the way it turned into an anti-Sinclair campaign. The chairman himself raised motions asking for first a split and then an election and then proceeded to deal with those issues. He created a situation of personal conflict between Clem, Frank and myself. This came out looking very racist and that is wrong and not in the best interest of the people who we were elected to serve."

Sinclair said that a lot of people are not thinking very clearly about the future. He said that a lot of serious questions arise when we start talking about an election especially if those elections are for an independent Metis organization. "It would leave the Metis in a very difficult situation if I were to step down at a crucial time when the elections have not been held," he said. "However, even if elections were held tomorrow or sometime in the future before an enumeration process had been completed, who is going to vote in these elections and how do you elect a leader? These questions have to be raised and discussed. The longer I see them unanswered, the more I see the Non-Status people getting the dirty end of the stick. The Metis will be left in limbo with a very difficult and long battle before them before they will ever see any rights for their people entrenched in the Constitution."

Sinclair added that it would seem from the way people are talking that the Non-Status are the one group of Aboriginal people who are going to be left out of Canada's Constitution. He said that people should remember who they are and where their roots are. "Non-Status is a legal term created by the government. I think it is perhaps even unfair. What we have to remember is that these are Indian people without rights. An Aboriginal people in Canada without Aboriginal rights, the same as the Metis have been for so many years. This is the common front that brought us together to work and fight together. Now that the Metis have gained some ground through that co-operate effort, it would seem that they want to forget how they won that battle by throwing the Non-Status out in the cold. I think people should remember that during the annual assembly there were no Non-Status Indians who came to the microphones to argue that the Non-Status should leave AMNSIS or to make any racial remarks against the Metis. I think that came out very clearly."

Sinclair said the true tone of the meeting became very evident when (a young man) rose to attack his leadership. At that point, the young man said that he had no respect for Sinclair's leadership simply because he was an Indian, not because he didn't deal with the issues but because he was an Indian. He said such racist attitudes are a direct result of a breakdown in communications at the grassroots but even more, that certain elected people are not doing their work. He said while they have 15 elected representatives, only half of those are doing the work. "We know that in governments and other areas of our community, about 70% of the people are carrying the work load. But in our organization, it is more like 50%." Sinclair said the reason why people had to draw attention to irrelevant issues was so that people would not see that there was a lot of good work done in the past year. "This would have shown who had been working and who hadn't been and they couldn't let that happen," Sinclair said.

Sinclair challenged any one person to step forward and explain at what point he began to sell the Metis down the tube or at what point in time he reneged his responsibility as leader on any program or issue. He said that is something he has never done and yet the Metis leaders who are involved in these racist arguments are taking a chance on doing just that. "I see that this organization could be on the brink of crumbling into the ground because of the arguments that are taking place and because people are not prepared to deal with the relevant issues. I've worked too hard building this organization up to sit back and see that happen."

Sinclair spoke about other dedicated leaders who have helped in that struggle and who have been able

to see the future results of their hard work. "I have to talk about some key leaders like Rod Bishop, Nap LaFontaine, Alvin Campeau, Wayne McKenzie, Donny Ross and Jim Favel, those people who came forward at a crucial time and offered their support. These people were able to see the ramifications of the problems we faced together far beyond our own times. I have disagreed with these people at many times. We argued and discussed these issues and eventually we came up with workable solutions. Sometimes those arguments were quite bitter but they were always about the issues and I don't remember once when racism ever entered into it. Everybody is confused at this point because this is something new to us. I am lost. I don't want to deal on the grounds of racism. I'm getting drawn into an argument that I don't want to be in."

Sinclair indicated that the only solution for him, other than stepping down immediately, would be to go back and do the job in the field himself. "I think I'm just too old to be doing the job in the field as well as representing the people at the national and provincial level. It is too big a job for any man and I don't think I should be faced with those options."

Sinclair said that there is obviously strong support for separation. The Metis clearly want to go their separate way and he will not deny them that. He said before that can happen, AMNSIS must establish and complete an enumeration process. This process will not only identify the Metis and Non-Status but will clear the way for a peaceful solution for the financial split that will have to be a part of that separation. When the Non-Status leave, they will leave the Metis with a number of established institutions that will help them in their struggle. The Non-Status will (take) nothing. They will ask for perhaps half of the Core funding available but that he said, was nothing in comparison to what the Metis already have in respect to programs, institutions, and facilities.

Sinclair said he will never ignore his mandate or betray the trust which the people have placed in him at the polls. "I will not leave them in a position where they are without a leader even if it is only for a matter of a few months. Two or three months could be crucial in terms of the Constitutional dealings," he added. "Saskatchewan is without a doubt, the cradle of Native politics and Federal people are watching to see what happens here. If a breakdown should occur in Saskatchewan, it could cause a breakdown at all levels. It could cause a breakdown at the Constitutional talks and all Aboriginal people would be cheated. Even if people are ill-informed, they don't deserve that. Even though I personally feel hurt about some things, I would not allow that to interfere with the rights of the Metis. I am going to have to find some way of dealing with those issues in a positive manner. I am going to have to get the job done. I have to find some way of putting these people who are doing all the complaining to work. That is going to be the hardest task because I don't think they want to work."

"I want people to remember that it was the Non-Status people as well as the Metis who have worked to build this organization up to where it is today. It was the Non-Status people who have put these leaders in power by electing and supporting them. Now these same leaders want to kick the Non-Status out in the street. To my way of thinking that is wrong. That is not the way you treat people. The meeting we just came through, with its racial slurs and calls for my dismissal as well as the removal of the Non-Status people from the organization, was planned. It failed but only for the moment. There will be a regrouping and it won't stop anybody. The mandate I received from the people means nothing to these people. After my mandate was delivered they said they still wouldn't accept or respect my leadership because I was an Indian."

"I hope that the Metis do not blow their chances to pursue their rights and aspirations through this Constitution. The people have to begin to get involved themselves. If they are going to send delegates to these annual meetings who are only willing to deal in racial terms, than I believe we are facing some very serious problems."

Sinclair concluded his comments by re-affirming his commitment to the people who he was elected to represent. He also offered a warning as to the kind of organization that may result in the next few months. "I've said it before and I'll say it again, a brown bureaucracy is no better than a white bureaucracy, it is still an oppressive bureaucracy." □

Feature Interview:

Clem Chartier, Vice-President, AMNSIS

by Jean-Paul Claude

JPC - At the AMNSIS Annual Assembly, obvious to everyone in attendance that there was tension within the elected representatives. What is really going on?

CC - The main point would have to be the focus of the Metis Nation, the need to get on our own feet as a people and start putting forward our rights vigorously rather than continuing to have someone else speaking on our behalf. That brings us to what would be a leadership question. It brings us to the question of what are we going to do to an organization that has developed over the past number of years, an organization that has been short lived in comparison with the actual Metis movement which has been around for a very long time. In the past we, have allowed our doors to open to other Native groups who were being denied certain basic rights and who we could form a common front with. But now, as we become more specific and deal with direct rights and with the rejuvenation of the Metis Nation, there is a clear distinction then between the two constituencies within our organization.

It is an association of two people, the Metis and the Indians. Some of us feel, and I am one of them, that in order for us to put forward strong, vigorous argument, we have to be clearly identifiable as a distinct people, a people that have a direct political consciousness and as a people that want to move ahead as a people. As long as we continue to have some obscurity between Metis issue and Indian issues and we don't make a strong stand in a specific direction, we are going to be viewed as, perhaps not weak but certainly vassalating.

Governments can deal and manipulate us easier in terms of funding, and in terms of rights too. It's more reflective though at the national level than at the provincial level. The Federal government still funds the Native Council of Canada to represent Metis people while I'd say almost 90% of the Metis people are now represented by the Metis National Council. The issue there is the Native Council of Canada was started by the western Metis organizations which had Non-Status Indian members. Because it was open to Non-Status Indians on the prairies, it was open to Non-Status Indians in Eastern Canada. It came to the point where the Non-Status Indian population by province, dominated the Native Council of Canada and Metis issues were submerged. That brought about the need for the acquiring of our own seats at the Constitutional Conference for the Metis.

That came about in March of '84 and alot of that movement was spearheaded by Jim Sinclair, the President of AMNSIS. He maintained that he was an Indian and the Metis people have to organize themselves and select their own leadership and should do that after the conference which was in March of '83. I as Vice-President and Metis put faith in what he said. I took him to task and I started going in that direction. I began talking more forcefully on Metis issues while saying, yes, the Metis do have to get organized. Mr. Sinclair, since that time, has continued to say the Metis have to get organized and organize themselves while the Indian people would have to seek out their own destiny whether it's back with their former bands and on their original reserve or forming reserves of their own. I agreed with that. The problem remains at the National level. The Native Council of Canada, from which we withdrew and formed the Metis National Council to represent strictly Metis issues, is still viewed by Federal politicians as being representative of all Natives and Metis except those within the Metis National Council. Because we cannot, at the provincial level, make



Clem Chartier relaxes at Metis Heritage Days '84

a clear distinction between our membership, the distinction at the Federal level is also not made. When we say that we represent only Metis, it makes our position weaker because we still have both within this province. It makes us alot weaker at the Constitutional table.

The other issue is the provincial organization itself. We have tended to become centralized and we have sort of left the Locals and the local people behind in the structure that we have created. It's good. We have made alot of progress that is clear. We have the Dumont Institute, we have our communications systems, we have our alcohol rehabilitation programs, we have good provincial programs. However we are a bit weak in terms of the politics and the administration. We have tended to stray a bit from the local people. There is not enough involvement at the local level. Not that the opportunity to be involved isn't there, it's just that we are not pressing it and we are not being accessible enough. That has to change. That though is a more easily solved issue that I believe we can resolve in the next few years.

The Metis have a certain pride in the Metis heritage and culture. The Metis people want to

see the Metis Nation step forward as a Metis movement. Not that there is any need to have a separate existence from Indians and Inuit and Aboriginal people. There is still a desire that the political connections are there. There is a desire to have a clear and unique Metis existence recognized and respected, then you can start dealing with the other Indian people. But we have to open the doors to the Non-Status Indian people because of the common issues that we face. We have never discriminated in the past with respect to jobs, education or availability of programming. There was never that distinction. But when you start dealing with long term rights and you start dealing with the sense of nationalism and nationhood, that is when the distinction comes in. The Non-Status Indians, although they did have access to the programs, have not benefitted from the political aspect of organizing for Indian rights. The emphasis has always been on Metis. In a sense that was wrong and to rectify that I think the easiest and clearest way to go is for the Non-Status to organize and identify themselves, identify their movement and clearly set out what they want.

JPC - There seems to be a definite sense of urgency in creating the Metis and Non-Status split as soon as possible.

CC - It's going to take place whether we want it to or not. Those Non-Status Indians are either going to accept being part of the Metis Nation or they will at some time fit into the Indian society somewhere if that is what they desire. But the problem here is that if we allow it to take place naturally, it is going to harm the Metis in that the Metis have not had a Constitutional or any form since 1885. We have now exhausted two Constitutional conferences and we only have two left. We have only two and half years to put forward our arguments as to a land base and self-government and to convince the Canadian public of that. Unless the Metis organize themselves, come out strong and argue forcefully in the next two and half years, that there is a distinct Metis people with a distinct culture and distinct rights, we are not going to be granted those rights. We cannot allow things to occur haphazardly and according to the time tables of the government and other Aboriginal groups. We have to set our own time tables and achieve our rights as quickly as possible.

JPC - During the debates at the Annual Assembly there were some comments made in respect to yourself and Mr. Frank Tomkins being excluded from the Metis National Council. What is behind those allegations?

CC - I can't speak on behalf of Frank Tomkins and at the same time I don't appreciate people attributing statements that Frank Tomkins makes to me. I'm my own person and I make my own statements and I don't necessarily agree with statements made by other people whether they are Frank Tomkins, Jim Sinclair or Jim Durocher. But, yes it is true that when we formed the Metis National Council, I was depending on statements by Jim Sinclair concerning the need of the Metis to form their own organization. I had viewed the Metis National Council as that organization at the national level. And yes, there was some conflict there. Frank Tomkins was removed from the Council last fall, and of course, I wasn't because I had things to offer. I was Chairman of the Me-

tis National Council Constitutional Committee. However, in the last several months since the last Constitutional Conference in March, I've been informed that my role was no longer necessary and I no longer have a seat on the Council. Now that is a conflict for me because I've trained and studied this area and I feel I have a contribution to make. I have very strong feelings for Metis rights and I press strong for Metis rights. I'm not saying that I'm always right in the kind of strategy that I propose but at least I feel that I have some knowledge that's relevant to the topic and I think useful. Yes, I have been frozen from that work both at the national and provincial levels. I think that's not right. I think that's an issue but if that's the way it's going to go politically this term, then that's fine. I at no time said that Mr. Sinclair cannot speak, cannot do anything but he was operating from the Executive level and I was operating at a second tier on the Constitutional Committee which was to advise the rest of the Council and to carry out the work of the Council in respect to the Constitution. At the last conference, it decided that the Executive Committee would have one seat at the Constitutional table and the Constitutional Committee would have one seat. The Executive Committee is the leaders of the Metis organizations. Those that were working on it all year were there to speak on the technical aspects. The Presidents were there to speak more on the political aspects because they don't have the indepth knowledge of what is taking place, although you don't always need that but there are times when you do.

I know that I will be totally frozen out this year. I won't be participating in the Constitutional process leading up to the next Conference even though I would like to. I think that is too bad and that was one of the reasons why I felt we should have early elections so we could determine who the people really wanted at that Conference.

There was a statement that we were elected in May of 1982 to represent the Metis and Non-Status Indians and that is true. But is also true that these issues, these political developments of the Metis National Council developed at a later date and that should have some impact on when the organization gets a new man-

date or when the people get an opportunity to express themselves. The people have spoken and we won't be going to elections until perhaps April or May of next year. At that time people will have a choice of whether they want to form a Metis movement, have a strong Metis leadership or whether they want to continue their association with the Non-Status Indians. I see my role as making myself available to the Metis people at that election and working towards Metis rights in the 1987 Conference. I don't see any role for myself in the 1985 Conference. In the interim, I would hope to make myself useful to the Locals and the area directors and conduct workshops to let people know what we've accomplished over the past couple of years on the Constitution and get their ideas and pass those on.

JPC - Part of the nature of a leaders work is confrontation and debate and know one could deny an elected leader to work out problems in this way. However, a leaders' most basic mandate is to work together with other elected officials for the benefit of those who elected them. Are these internal disputes having a detrimental effect on your fulfilling that mandate to them?

CC - The meeting we just went through saw alot of debate and saw the people say we want you people to work together. You have to work together and it also saw me saying, yes, I am prepared to work with the total Board and in fact prepared to work with the total organization. I am prepared to do that but at the same time I am not a fool. I know this meeting really did not accomplish anything except to prolong the internal conflict that's going on in respect to the major issues. I stand firmly for Metis rights and the need to form the Metis Nationalist movement and to have the Metis have their own organization, not only provincially but nationally.

I know that I will be isolated. There is no doubt about that. Nothing was gained at this Conference except starting the debate which will probably be the focus of the next election. For me, nothing was accomplished but for the membership quite alot was in that there was a lot of discussion and people will have an opportunity to make better informed decisions next time we go to the polls. □

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On Far Lake (Part II)

by Vye Bouvier

APRIL 13, FRIDAY!

(Written in the early afternoon)

Janet has dropped off to sleep. I've just closed the door, to stop flies from coming in. It is still not warm enough for the wonderful creatures to be comfortably alive. I killed flies on the front window which is warm and sunny. Jesus, I must be getting quite bushed, talking about the flies I killed.

There's another one! on another window. I'm eating the muffins I baked yesterday and cheese and an apple. We store our fruit, cheese, peanut butter and bread in a small root cellar underneath the house. A little door opens into the kitchen, it is about 3 feet by 2 feet.

Janet and I have just returned from another exploratory walk and wood haul. This time we walked further than we did yesterday. We walked across a bay at the southern end of Far Lake.

We started our walk across the bay on a point not far from Hope and Sam's cabin. While crossing the point to the south shore, I got very close to a spruce grouse sitting on a low branch. I took a slide photo. A friend, Val Drummond, who watches birds would appreciate such a photo. I would later wonder whether this easy target should have also been food.

We walked across the bay to the start of a portage. Janet called "Winter portage". Most of this portage was in burn. A forest fire had gone through about half of Janet's trapline. Halfway through this portage there is a small lake, about one third of a mile in diameter. Janet called this lake, Lake Edmonton, because of a joke she and her daughter had shared. We found a trap which was not set to go off. Along the portage we found old snares which had been hung high enough on branches that no animal would be snared. Janet, John, Hope and Sam had left these snares. We could not continue on the portage which included a walk across a creek on which the ice could not support our weight.

Janet had heard from Hope and Sam about an overhang on a rockface, under which Sam had found an old coffee tin and an old chest. We decided we'd give up on the portage and look for this old shelter

instead. We walked back to the beginning of the portage and then walked along the lake shore until we spotted a likely spot for climbing up the rockface.

We walked through a bit of frozen swamp until we found a place from which to start climbing. On our way up, we stopped to eat cranberries from the many cranberry bushes on the south facing slope. While I was bent over with all my attention on a cranberry bush, from the corner of my eye I spotted what I think may be a little chipmunk shelter with its little stash of cranberries. I took a picture of this and thought of my seven year old nephew and the stories I make up for him. While I was lost in this little home, I heard Janet yell, "I found it!"

I ran up to find her standing underneath an overhang, carrying an old rusted tin can, on which you could make out the words "Old York Coffee - vacuum packed." These things aren't very biodegradable but it couldn't have been the voyageurs. There was an enamel plate which still wasn't as rusted as the coffee can and the lard cans. There was the top of a small wooden trunk with rusted handle and locks. There was a wooden crate which Janet thought was an old butter crate. Sam had also found an old axe head and handle which he had taken home.

Janet's explanation was that old Adam Ennenu had used this as a campsite on his travels through his trapline. Janet and I had been discussing trappers being alone in the bush, men that is, and going crazy. We had said hermits or extremely non-social types were people of mostly European ancestry. But Adam Ennenu who had trapped alone and lived alone most of his life was an Indian man from La Ronge. There is always one to blow your theory. Janet said this old man used to avoid people. He would get together with people only to play poker. Although he couldn't speak English, he would travel south to sell his furs. Janet remembers his visits to her parents and how he would eat with his hands, which he hardly ever washed, if he did. Only his finger tips were strong to be able to eat meat without cutting it. This had been no ordinary guy.





his finger tips were clean from licking them while eating. Janet commented that his teeth must have been strong to be able to eat meat without cutting it. This had been no ordinary guy.

From this perch, we were still not as high as the bald eagles, but we had a good view of Far Lake. We climbed further up the rock to see what we could find. On the way up, I spotted mossy slopes from which water was trickling down the rock. On Ektachrome film, I tried to capture a water droplet falling on moss and tiny ferns. We descended to head back across the lake.

Our walk had been under cloud until now, the sun came out, making it very warm. We went back to the point, across the point and along the lake to Hope and Sams' in front of their cabin. Hope and Sam had erected a little teepee structure under which they made outdoor fires and smoked meat. We made tea, sitting by this structure looking out over the lake. We had crackers, muffins and cheese for a lunch. We talked about the rights of treaty women who had married Metis and non-Native men. Janet had belonged to the La Ronge Indian band and had lost her rights as an Indian woman when she married her Metis husband. We also talked about movies. She told me, that many years ago, she had asked the local theatre to bring in "The Robe" but that she had missed it when it came to town. I told her that "Gandhi" was one of the better films I had seen in the past year. I described Gandhi as a man who had helped his country achieve independence without violence.

Earlier in the morning, while Janet had waited for me to catch up with her, she had chopped down a tree. I am rather a poky person and she had left ahead of me. On our way back, she chopped down another tree, which I sawed. Janet has a lot of energy and physical strength. It must be from coming out here to live, when life in the town of La Ronge hits a dead end. She loves this kind of life, away from central heating, running water and radio and TV.

We dragged our wood loads on the ice, shedding our layers of clothing as the sun was much warmer than it had been yesterday. Janet was way ahead of me, as I had to

stop when I started to leave behind my load of wood. I retied the bundle on the toboggan. Where a creek empties into the lake, there was a soft spot where we had to walk or the shore and pull our toboggans by a pole across this soft spot. Today, I was daydreaming as I came to this place, and stopped when I realized I should have already been there. I realized I was in the middle of it and in a minute, I'd be up to my knees in freezing water if I didn't move like the flash. I made it.

Back at the cabin, I took another layer of clothing off (my sweater) which left me with an old green army wool shirt and white cotton stanfield undershirt. I hauled the wood from the sled and toboggan and piled it across two poles to keep it off the ground and dry. This pile was beside yesterday's pile. Piles of wood can be the most exciting thing to happen to you some days.

Now, here I sit on a sunny afternoon thinking of washing my hair, which is becoming clumps. I decide to take an "afternoon nap". My mother and sister would roar if they knew I was taking "afternoon naps", but I'd like to see them get up at 5 and stay awake until 10 p.m.

When I got up, I made soup with adzuki beans (small beans from Japan) and carrots and celery. (don't know what happened to the broccoli). I've been the cook since I got here when I fried steak for the birthday supper. Since then it's been quite vegetarian. Janet wants meat and that is necessary because we couldn't have a balanced enough meal with the vegetables we have. We will soon run out as it is.

In the early evening, Janet went rabbit snaring and I tagged along lugging two cameras, one over each shoulder. We walked over the path (which is a portage) behind the house and stopped along the way whenever there was a rabbit path criss-crossing the human path. This portage had been made by old Tanou. Janet found two old rabbit snares of hers which had been set up high so as not to snare an animal while she was gone. These she resets. She sets five other snares. She said these new ones are shiny and rabbits can see them, especially these nights when it is almost the full moon. It is the full moon tomorrow. Next full moon we'll be headed home.





Dialogue on Education

Report to the 1984 AMNSIS Annual Assembly

by Dona Desmarais, Chairperson of
Dumont Institute

The past few years have been years of growth, expansion, and stabilization. From a humble beginning in 1980, when only a handful of staff were in place, and only 30 fresh new and scared SUNTEP students were beginning their studies, we have expanded to a dynamic Educational Institute with over 60 staff members and over 200 post-secondary (professional and technical) students. At least 70 more students will begin their studies in 1984.

Every new organization suffers growing pains, and we have had our share of these over the past year. But the result has been one of positive growth and development.

This growth would not have been possible without the tremendous support and dedication of the Institute's Board and staff members and, of course, the entire AMNSIS-Dumont network. In particular, we would like to acknowledge the excellent support and hard work of Wayne McKenzie who was always there when we needed his help.

Highlights of our Accomplishments

1. Expansion of SUNTEP to 3 centres with 135 students. A new 3-year agreement negotiated this Spring will provide stability. The first graduates received their Bachelor of Education Degrees this year.
2. A 5-year agreement was signed this Spring with the Department of Advanced Education and Manpower to fund the core programs of the Institute. This agreement increases the mandate of the Institute.
3. Establishment of the first phase of the S.T.E.P. Program, with training centres in 3 AMNSIS Areas. S.T.E.P. II, approved this Spring, will establish training centres in 4 more AMNSIS Areas. The S.T.E.P. Program provides 130 post-secondary educational training seats. Programs include Human Resource Development, Recreation Technology, Child Care Development, Business, Farm Machinery Mechanics, and Radio-T.V. Electronics.
4. Operation of a Native Studies Instructor's Training Program.
5. Agreement has been reached with the Universities of Regina and Saskatchewan to make the Dumont Institute an affiliated college.
6. A comprehensive mandate for the Gabriel Dumont Institute was developed and ratified by the Annual Meeting in North Battleford in February.
7. Gabriel Dumont Institute Scholarship Fund - negotiations continue and prospects look good for implementation by early 1985.

These accomplishments have provided the wherewithal for the Institute to stabilize and develop its research, curriculum, library, Native Studies, administrative and program development functions.

The recent approval of \$644,000 from the Federal Government's Skills Growth Fund means that we are a recognized training institute. This, along with the new SUNTEP agreement and the new Core Program agreement, ensures that the Institute has a positive future as the educational arm of AMNSIS, uniquely suited to meeting the needs of the Metis and Non-Status Indian People.

The Dumont Institute is a vital component of the province-wide AMNSIS educational network. While we do not yet have satellite centres in all AMNSIS Areas, we are confident that, in the near future, every Area will have a centre.

We are proud of our accomplishments and pleased to have had this opportunity to serve our people. We will continue to support our Institute in whatever capacity we can. The future belongs to all of us!

Effective July 23, 1984, Toll Free Services will be available. The number will be: 1-800-667-9851. □



Four Regina Suntep Students Receive B.Ed. Degree

Regina - There were smiles and tears among the friends and relatives of the first Regina Suntep students who graduated with a B.Ed. degree at the University's Annual Spring Convocation at the Centre of the Arts.

The four Suntep students who received B.Ed. degrees were, Melona Palmer, Indian Head; Darlene Deschambeault, Fort Qu'Appelle; Rema Alexson, Regina, and Brenda Keewatin-Kinnon, Regina.

Before the Suntep students stepped onto the stage to get their Education degrees, Dean Bryce of the Faculty of Education explained to the assembled audience the uniqueness of the Suntep program. He pointed out that it is a teacher training program affiliated with the University of Regina, administered by the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians through the Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research.

He pointed out that Suntep began in 1980 with an in-take of 15 students in Regina, and that these students follow the University of Regina's Bachelor of Elementary Education program. They are taught by

the University of Regina's regular instructors or approved staff. The opportunity exists for specialization in Native Studies or Cross-Cultural Education or other disciplines.

In concluding his remarks, Dean Bryce called on Marion Desjarlais, the Suntep-Regina Co-ordinator, and added that she was seated on stage as a representative of the dedicated staff of the Suntep centre.

The Suntep centre in Regina is one of three Metis and Non-Status Indian Urban Teacher Education centres in the province. Marion Desjarlais said that its goal is to ensure the adequate representation of Native teachers in the city.

For the four graduates who began their training in 1980, three and one half busy years have come to an end. All agreed that it took a lot of hard work to complete their training in such a relatively short period of time.

The Suntep teachers will be seeking employment in the city of Regina, or elsewhere in the province. As one of them put it, "a teaching certificate isn't a ticket for a job, but its a good start. □

From the Shelves of Dumont Library



An Intimate Web

by Dwayne Brenna

Silko, Leslie Marmon. *Ceremony*. New York: Signet, 1977.

Reviewing *Ceremony*, seven years after Leslie Marmon Silko finished writing the novel, is like being a dramaturge at a Shakespearean festival. "This *Hamlet* is a good play," you tell the actors; "Let's do it." *Ceremony* ranks with the best of modern American novels; it is already recognized as a classic. The scholarly publication *American Indian Quarterly* has devoted an entire issue to critical analyses of the novel. N. Scott Momaday calls *Ceremony* "extraordinary" and Frank MacShane of *The New York Times Book Review* maintains that Silko's novel establishes her "as the most accomplished modern American Indian writer."

There are many things to write about such a novel. The best I can do, by way of a short review, is to comment on the title. Silko's masterpiece is a ceremony for everyone involved -- for protagonist, author and reader.

Silko's hero Tayo participates in several ceremonies, all in an effort to redeem himself and his land (a Laguna Pueblo reservation in New Mexico) after returning home from the U.S. army and from the horror of World War II. He has lost his psychological balance during the war. In order to get it back, Tayo must learn about the concrete reality of thought. In Laguna tradition, Grandmother Spider created the earth merely by thinking about it; her thoughts and actions are one. As Tayo learns to perceive his own thoughts as real and important, he is gradually cured of his disorder.

The image of Grandmother Spider is multifaceted. Her activities are often associated with storytelling. Spiders spin webs; novelists spin tales. In one of many poems scattered throughout the novel, Grandmother Spider is referred to as Thought-Woman:

*Thought-Woman, the spider,
named things and
as she named them
they appeared
She is sitting in her room
thinking of a story now
I'm telling you the story
she is thinking.*

When mere mortals tell stories, they are involved in a ceremony. The story-teller imitates Grandmother Spider by creating a world in his imagination; the listeners, united in a common action, seeing the same imaginary world in their minds' eye, commune with one another as Thought-Woman wishes them to.

The communication between author and reader, in this novel, is paralleled by a communication between author and hero. In an interview in *The Third Woman*, Silko tells of her own personal ceremony:

*Writing the novel was a ceremony for me to stay sane
My character is very sick, and I was very sick when I was writing the novel. I was having migraine headaches all the time and horrible nausea that went on and on
And as Tayo got better, I felt better.*

Silko's health and Tayo's are intricately related; the novel is a ceremony to cure both of them.

The reader, whatever his race and creed, is drawn into the ceremony as well. He worships Grandmother Spider by reading this persuasive book. He is attracted to Laguna customs. As Alan R. Velie remarks, "Whatever white -- or Indian -- readers think of medicine men, we want Tayo to go to one instead of to a psychiatrist."

Curiously, a Navajo medicine man effects Tayo's cure. The Navajos and the Lagunas are traditional enemies, waging wars against one another as recently as one hundred and fifty years ago. Tayo himself is of mixed blood which puts him in a unique and powerful position; he is chosen to unite all human beings against a common, mysterious "witchery". At the end of the novel, Silko guides us home to the Jemez mountains, and to the Trinity Site, where the first atomic bomb was exploded. This bomb is the witchery's ultimate weapon, and from the day it was detonated, "human beings were one clan again, united by the fate the destroyers had planned for all of them, for all living things ..." (p. 258). In *Ceremony*, novelist, hero and reader are united in an intimate web of espionage, trying to save the world. □

ENDNOTES

- 1 Kathleen M. Sands, ed, *American Indian Quarterly*, 5(1979).
- 2 Frank MacShane, "American Indians, Peruvian Jews," in *The New York Times Book Review*, 12 June 1977, VII, p. 15.
- 3 Dexter Fisher, ed, "Stories and Their Tellers -- A Conversation with Leslie Marmon Silko," in *The Third Woman: Minority Women Writers of the United States* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1980), p. 20.
- 4 Alan R. Velie, "Silko: A Laguna Grail Story," in *Four American Indian Literary Masters* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1982), p. 113.

Dwayne Brenna is an English teacher with the Step Program of the Gabriel Dumont Institute.

AUTHORIZED BY RON WHEATLEY, OFFICIAL AGENT FOR M. McCORRISTON, NEW DEMOCRATS, MacKENZIE

Recipes

Joan Smith, a food consultant at Agriculture Canada, has perfected a Blueberry Shortcake based on the traditional strawberry version. The cake can be made with highbush or lowbush blueberries, fresh or frozen. The choice is yours.

BLUEBERRY SHORTCAKE

1 L fresh blueberries OR 2 packages
(300 g each) frozen blueberries

100 mL sugar

500 mL all-purpose flour

25 mL sugar

15 mL baking powder

15 mL lemon rind

2 mL salt

75 mL shortening

125 mL milk

1 egg

10 mL butter

1 container (250 mL)
whipping cream

15 mL sugar

Combine blueberries with 100 mL sugar and let stand 30 min. Combine flour, sugar, baking powder, lemon rind and salt. Cut in shortening until mixture resembles coarse bread crumbs. Combine milk and egg. Add to dry ingredients. Mix until soft dough forms.

Knead 10 seconds. Press half of dough in a 1.2 L round cake pan (20 cm). Brush with butter. Top with remaining dough. Bake at 220°C until lightly browned (about 20 min). Split apart. Whip cream, gradually adding 15 mL sugar. Cover bottom layer with two-thirds blueberries and one-third whipped cream. Replace top layer and cover with remaining berries. Garnish with whipped cream. Makes 1 cake.

THE ART OF MAKING TRAPPER'S BANNOCK

The trappers carried few supplies with them on their traplines. The supplies they did carry included ingredients for bannock. The trappers had to get a pot used for boiling water to mix it in. Their ingredients came next, like the lard, baking powder, salt, sugar and flour. The first thing the trappers did to make a tasty trappers bannock is to mix the dry ingredients first, like baking powder, sugar, salt and flour. Mix it well. The salt is put in the trappers bannock to make it cook better. The sugar is put in to make it a little more tasty. When making trappers bannock you have to cook it slowly. The best way to cook it is over coals. When the trapper puts the trapper's bannock in the pan they did not put too much dough because it took longer to cook. When the trappers flipped the bannock on its second side, they added lard to the top of the first side then flipped it so the bannock wouldn't burn. Trappers bannock was a staple for the trappers for months and months on end.

Tina Laliberte

ROAST PORK TENDERLOIN WITH RHUBARB

1 kg (2 lbs.) trimmed whole pork tenderloin, cut into serving-size pieces of uniform thickness (about 140 grams or 5 ounces, per person)

375 mL (1½ cups) diced rhubarb

60 mL (¼ cup) finely diced onion

3 pieces side bacon, halved

5 mL (1 tsp.) butter

5 mL (1 tsp.) brown sugar

Brandy

White wine

Sear pork tenderloin on all sides in butter over medium heat. Flame in brandy. Place in shallow roasting dish and top

with bacon. Roast at 180°C (350°F) for 30 to 40 minutes. Discard bacon. Saute rhubarb, onion and raisins in 30 mL (two tablespoons) butter over low heat. Add 15 mL (one tablespoon) brandy, the brown sugar and white wine, and cook until rhubarb is tender but not too soft.

SAUCE

375 mL (1½ cups) beef stock

15 mL (1 tbsp.) Madeira

30 mL (2 tbsp.) Marsala

10 mL (2 tsp.) cornstarch

Salt

Cayenne

Place the beef stock, Madeira, Marsala and cornstarch in a heavy saucepan. Blend well with a wire whisk. Place over medium heat and cook until thickened. Season to taste with salt and cayenne.

To serve, arrange slices of pork tenderloin over the rhubarb mixture and top with the sauce. This is good with a wild rice casserole made by mixing cooked wild rice with a mixture of sliced mushrooms, diced celery, diced cooked bacon and raw pistachio nuts, all sauted in a small amount of bacon fat. Recipe serves six.

Recipes Wanted

New Breed Journal is looking to print your favorite recipe. We are especially interested in traditional recipes that our ancestors may have used long ago, using different kinds of wild meats, fish, berries, herbs, etc., using the various methods of cooking available to them. Of course, we are also interested in modern recipes using both traditional and modern foods and methods of cooking. Send them c/o Editor, New Breed Journal, 210-2505-11th Avenue, Regina, Saskatchewan, S4P 0K6.

Poetry

YOUR JOURNEY

A ship leaving shore

With no destination

Only the four winds

Will decide

The sails are full

The four winds are strong

The ship will only sail

Where you wish

If you are unable

To sight land

Perhaps you need a

Port O'call

To rest awhile

Before you set sail

Taste the drink of serenity

And decide where your

New Port will be.

Dave Pelletier

Moose Jaw, Sask.

(Moose Jaw Friendship
Centre, Newsletter)

SAVAGE JOE MONTRAIL

A man he'd in admiration

Mighty and strong, of the Metis Nation

His name, Savage Joe Montrail

Long and hard he carried the mail.

He travelled in summer

On his trusty runner

But sometimes over the river blue

He packed his mail in his canoe.

During the biting cold winters,

He'd hitch up his sled

With his fast four footed curs

And over the snow fled.

He was most typical of the hard Metis

And it was common and very plain to see

That adventure was always a part of his life

And his life was never torn by strife.

He would travel by day and night.

Using only the dim moon's light

To guide him always along the same trail

Since fourteen year old, he carried the mail.

Author Unknown

(Submitted by Elaine Jessop)

MY MAN

As I sit here in thought

I see you as you once were

Happy, carefree and healthy

The kind of man I needed.

As I sit here deep in thought

I see you as you really are

Lovable, scared and mysterious

The kind of man I need.

The more I think of you

The more I love you

And the more I need you

For strength and courage.

As the last thought leaves

I find I am very lucky

To find such a man as you

The kind of man I need.

M. Billy

Moose Jaw, Sask.

(Moose Jaw Friendship
Centre, Newsletter)

Batoche Activity Results

INTRODUCTION:

The following is a partial list of the winners of the various events which were held at the 1984 Metis Heritage Days celebrations at Batoche. Some of the winners received their awards prior to the official presentations. As their names were not recorded at the time of the award ceremonies, we were unable to publish them at this time. We sincerely apologize for this and ask that you write and let us know if your name has been omitted from the list below. We will then print the other results at a later date. Congratulations to all the winners and participants!

FASTBALL

Men's 'A' Side

Cole Bay Saints - First
Beauval Blazers - Second
Muskeg - Third

Ladies 'A' Side

Cote Supremes - First
S.N.P. Cobras - Second
Gordon Flyers - Third

Men's 'B' Side

Highway No. 36 Raiders - First
Regina Braves - Second

Ladies 'B' Side

Muskeg Juniors - Third

TUG OF WAR

Barry Amyotte - Men's First
Flying Dust - Ladies First

HORSESHOE TOSS

Fernand Bouvier - Men's First
Gertie Montgrand - Ladies First

BANNOCK BAKING

Rose Boyer - First
Delilah Carriere - Second
Hilda Falcon - Third



FIDDLING

Kelly Ateheymum - First
Abraham Gerade - Second
George Genaille - Third

JIGGING

Bob Caplette - Men's First
Louis Cardinal - Men's Second
George Genaille - Men's Third

Irene Caplette - Ladies' First
Corrine Standingready - Ladies' Second
Elva Badger - Ladies' Third

TEN KILOMETRE RUN

Lionel MacKenzie - Men's First
Julia Harrison - Ladies' First
Paul Morin - Junior Men's First

*All winners received cash prizes as well as "Batoche 1984" commemorative medallions. □

Let Us Introduce Ourselves

by Jean-Paul Claude

In our continuing series of staff profiles to establish a more personal relationship with our readership, it is our great pleasure to introduce to you the lady who holds the purse strings at the New Breed. Yvonne Nagy has only been with Saskatchewan Native Communications for five months, but that has not prevented her from gaining the trust and confidence of everyone who has had an opportunity to work with her.

Yvonne brings with her 20 years of bookkeeping experience during which time she has had the responsibility of handling literally millions of corporate and government dollars.

Although Yvonne is relatively new at Wehtamatowin she has proved herself not only as a dedicated and competent worker but she has also taken upon herself the role of den mother at our offices. She never shies away from telling you when you are out of line. She always knows what is the best course of action in rectifying any problems that may have been created. This is always done in a caring and understanding manner. She developed these skills during the twenty years she spent at the helm of her family as a single parent. Her four grown children have shown their appreciation for her years of sacrifice by providing her with six grandchildren which are her very special joy.

Apart from being a reliable worker, Yvonne has many interests away from the office as well. She enjoys knitting, crocheting and paper tole, all of which she is quite masterful in. She enjoys playing bingo

during the summer, but the colder winter months are reserved for one of her more special joys ice skating.

Yvonne believes in keeping abreast of new innovations in her profession and she is presently enrolled in a course of computer programming. She says computer skills will be essential in the job place within a

very few short years and she finds computers to be an exciting and complex challenge.

Yvonne says she finds it exciting working at Wehtamatowin. One of the special fringe benefits she appreciated is being able to read our paper before her neighbors do. □



Yvonne Nagy smiles while calculating her next raise.

List of Election Candidates in Place

(CP)

Regina - Following is the list of candidates in Saskatchewan's 14 federal constituencies for the Sept. 4 federal election. Nominations for candidates in all ridings closed Tuesday. The bracketed material after the riding name lists the party of the winning candidate and the majorities obtained in the federal election Feb. 18, 1980, or subsequent byelections.

Legend: L—Liberal; PC—Progressive Conservative; NDP—New Democratic Party; COR—Confederation of Regions Western Party; Rhino—Rhinos Party; Green—Green Party; Comm—Communist; Ind—Independent; x—member of the last house.

Assiniboia (PC 1,084) - Bill Adamack (NDP), Ted Coffey (COR), x-Len Gustafson (PC), Lonny McKague (L).

Humboldt-Lake Centre (NDP 1,652) - x-Vic Althouse (NDP), Jim Dosman (L), Gary Holtorf (COR), Ray Meiklejohn (PC).

Kindersley-Lloydminster (PC 4,631) - Roy Atkinson (NDP), Lyl Fox (L), Henry Guillaume (COR), x-Bill McKnight (PC).

Mackenzie (PC 359) - Garfield Lutz (L), Mel McCriston (NDP), Harold Schultz (COR), Jack Scowen (PC).

Moose Jaw (PC 3,689) - Brent Boechler (COR), Bill Gottselig (PC), Larry Hart (L), Glenn Kindrachuk (NDP).

Prince Albert (NDP 682) - Gordon Dobrowsky (PC), Clyne Harradence (L), x-Stan Hovdebo (NDP), Tony Panas (COR).

Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain (PC 5,804) - Ray Bailey (IND), Mike Bauche (L), x-Alvin Hamilton (PC), Allan Mousing (COR), William Sauter (NDP).

Regina East (NDP 1,028) - Dave Bouchard (L), x-Simon de Jong (NDP), Emanuel Fahlman (COR), Brian Keple (PC).

Regina West (NDP 3,979) - x-Les Benjamin (NDP), Kimball Cariou (Comm), Fred King (COR), Stephen LaRose (Rhino), Steve Mazurak (L), Dan Stephens (PC).

Saskatoon East (NDP 612) - Hugh Arscott (Rhino), Colin Clay (NDP), Germaine Neefs (COR), Don Ravis (PC), Doug Richardson (L), Roy Rogala (Green).

Saskatoon West (PC 2,784) - George Adilman (Rhino), Robert J. Bonsor (Ind), Maureen Darling (L), Ron Fisher (NDP), Dayle Goodine (COR), x-Ray Hnatyshyn (PC), Keith Morvick (Green).

Swift Current-Maple Creek (PC 4,579) - Don Beveridge (NDP), Lorne Larson (COR), Jack Wiebe (L), Geoff Wilson (PC).

The Battlefords-Meadow Lake (NDP 476) - x-Doug Anquish (NDP), Jim Durocher (L), John Gormley (PC), Connie Langley (COR).

Yorkton-Melville (NDP 2,790) - William Cruzko (COR), Arliss Dellow (L), x-Lorne Nystrom (NDP), Ken Wasylshen (PC). □

Reply Sought to Fish Conservation Discussion Paper

(From the Northerner)

Regina - A discussion paper on sport fisheries conservation options is now available from Saskatchewan Parks and Renewable resources.

The department wants input from sport fishermen on a conservation strategy for 1985. Interested people are invited to review the paper and submit written comments to the department by the middle of August. Comments will be used to help develop a conservation strategy by end of September, 1984.

"Time limits are imperative if regulatory changes and subsequent revisions to legislation are necessary," George Couldwell, director of the department's Fisheries Branch, said. "This means we need to agree on a strategy by September so changes can be made in time for the 1985 angling season."

The discussion paper outlines four proposed options with respect to angling management zones, season dates, and limits. Other possibilities include the designation of trophy lakes to promote high quality angling experiences, catch-and-release provision, and

the designation of certain waterbodies for the exclusive use of fly fishermen.

Couldwell said, "we are open to all suggestions, if anglers or any other group can come up with an alternative that will further the conservation of our sport fishery, we'll certainly give it full consideration."

The development of a sport fishing conservation strategy is in keeping with the Fisheries Policy-Action plan approved in February. □

Outreach Agreement Signed

Prince Albert - John Edwards, Associate Deputy Minister of Employment and Immigration Canada, and Mary Jane Kasyon, chairperson of the board of directors of NorSask Native Outreach Association Incorporated, signed a new agreement in May to serve the employment needs of northern Saskatchewan residents.

Mr. Edwards and Ms. Kasyon, signed the NorSask Native Outreach Agreement at a meeting of the Board of directors in Prince Albert.

The agreement replaces a previous agreement and is the largest Outreach Agreement in Canada. The project uses programs and services offered by Employment and Immigration Canada and by other levels of government to help all residents of northern Saskatchewan find employment. "This project fulfills a need in delivering employment services to northern residents," said Kasyon.

Edwards continued, "this project is an effective means of serving a geographic area as vast as northern Saskatchewan. The 28 thousand residents are less than three percent of the province's total population, yet they live in almost half of the province's total land base.

Residents are primarily of Native ancestry. The project has nine service points at Stony Rapids, Southend, Sandy Bay, Pinchouse, La Ronge, La Loche, Ile-a-la-Croise, Green Lake and Cumberland House to serve those communities and surrounding areas.

The Outreach program was recently changed to allow a permanent funding base for projects, faster approvals for projects and a review of funding every 12 months. □

Western Canada Acid Rain Activities Annual Report

Regina - An intergovernmental report on acid rain and atmospheric pollutants in western Canada was released recently by the participating environment departments.

The third annual report of the Technical Committee on Acid Rain and Long Range Transport of Air Pollutants (LRTAP) summarizes monitoring and research activities conducted in 1983.

The report outlines the extent to which all the priority areas were addressed in the second year of a three-year agreement. In December, 1982, the deputy ministers of the participating agencies signed an agreement for a three-year research program covering the period 1982 to 1985.

"The work to date has confirmed that Saskatchewan does not have an acid rain problem," Saskatchewan Environment Minister Neal Hardy said. "However, because the northern part of the province is highly sensitive to acid rain effects, I have doubled the funding for acid rain activities in 1984-85."

The LRTAP Technical Committee comprises senior officials from Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Northwest Territories and Environment Canada and was established to co-ordinate monitoring, research and other activities related to acid rain and air borne pollutants.

Saskatchewan's major activities during the past year included a snowpack chemistry survey, a chemistry survey, a chemistry survey of small lakes, and a rain event monitoring program, all in the northern part of the province. Acid precipitation sensitivity maps of lakes, soils and geology were also prepared.

Saskatchewan will continue to work closely with the other western provinces to develop a strategy to prevent acid rain problems from arising in the future.

La Ronge Plant Produces Jerky and Peperoni

La Ronge - One of La Ronge's major industries is Northland Processors, which produces beef jerky and peperoni snacks for Canadian and foreign markets.

Manager Terry Helary says sales are increasing by 20% to 30% each month and he anticipates more than \$1 million in sales in the current fiscal year.

Helary said very little of the production is marketed locally, but they do export to Japan, and market coast to coast. The company recently participated in Canadexpo '84 in Hong Kong, and hopes to establish a permanent market as a result.

The plant produces two types of peperoni snacks, and three types of beef jerky, packaged under the Hero Bro's Home Grown and Luigi's labels. The Luigi's varieties are hotter than the Home Grown.

The business is a joint venture between the La Ronge Indian band and Mike Gustus of Saskatoon, who retains the controlling interest. "We had some government grants to help the initial cash flow, but now we're operating on our own," said Helary. The plant employs 15 local people whose duties include cutting up meat to drying and smoking, packaging and weighing. Expansions are planned for this summer and Helary expects to need a minimum of 30 employees.

The meat comes from large meat-packing plants in the south. "We're a federally-inspected meat plant, so we have to buy our meat from other federally-inspected meat plants," said Helary.

The company also does private labelling for some other companies, such as Old Dutch. They are also working on a deal with Nutty Club. Helary concludes there are other plants producing similar products in United States and Canada, but "we feel we're starting to take over the market in many areas." □

145 Northern Saskatchewan Workers Laid Off

Regina - The same day that Premier Grant Devine appeared on prime time television across the province to claim that job creation was his government's top priority, he served indefinite layoff notices to 145 workers in Northern Saskatchewan, the New Democrat MLA for Athabasca, Fred Thompson, revealed Thursday evening.

"These large layoffs in the forest industry will be devastating to the economy of Northern Saskatchewan, where unemployment is already running at 80 to 90 per cent in many communities," Thompson said.

"The Devine government's actions simply expose the Premier's prime time television show as PR hype of the worst kind.

"The Saskatchewan Forest Products Corporation, owned by the provincial government, has issued indefinite layoff notices to about 145 workers at the SFPC sawmills in both Big River and Carrot River," Thompson said.

"At Big River, between 15 and 20 workers were out of jobs on July 2nd, while another 75 to 80 workers have been given layoff notices for various dates throughout the summer.

"At Carrot River, another 50 or so workers were issued staggered layoff notices which took effect between June 29th and the end of July, depending on the employee's seniority.

"If SFPC goes ahead with all of these layoffs, the impact on the communities of Big River and Carrot River will be devastating. In addition to the workers at the two sawmills, a number of private sector truckers and contractors who supply those operations will be out of work," Thompson noted.

"The Premier would have spent nearly \$80-thousand buying prime time television space to brag about his government's performance. Better that the money would have been spent to maintain jobs in the North," Thompson concluded. □

Native Economic Development Program Under Fire

by Martha Ironstar

Alberta - The \$345 million dollar federal economic strategy for Native people has favourable support from Canada's Native leadership thought it's not what they expected.

While it's premature to measure the operational success of the program, a number of Native leaders appear willing to admit that the Native Economic Development Program (NEDP), though drastically underfunded, is a viable source to strengthen Native business.

Sol Sanderson, Chief of Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) is content that the NEDP is offering Native people a chance to develop, "it's an offer Native people can't afford to refuse", says Sanderson. He says the fund marks the first time Native people have received federal funds designated for economic development. "There's a principle established now", Sanderson continued, the fund will provide "seed money" for a variety of Indian developments.

But the funding program has not escaped controversy. Certain Native spokesmen are afraid NEDP will promote "Indian business" which doesn't necessarily reflect the interests of their communities.

Marie Smallface Marule, a veteran observer of Native politics, calls the NEDP a "slush fund" to be distributed to Native people who favor the Liberal government. Marule says the NEDP formula reflects some of the ills of international aid. She fears the external control of economic development finances will lead to further exploitation of Native people.

A secret federal cabinet discussion paper indicates that Native Liberals were anxious that the NEDP advisory board be restricted to those who are liberals.

The cabinet document says the Native Liberal caucus suggested that the fund "should under no circumstances be used for social development measures such as housing. Members feel that the board should consist of Native people who are Liberals, experienced in business, and not representatives of Native political organizations."

But Sanderson, who has chaired the federal Native Liberal Caucus for the past two years, denies that he or any other Native Liberal ever suggested that the NEDP Board should be comprised only of Liberal Native people.

Cam Mackie, federal co-ordinator of the Winnipeg based NEDP secretariat, says he's tired of hearing charges that there is partisan politics involved in NEDP. Mackie, a former assistant deputy minister with Indian Affairs, says the federal cabinet document used to fuel charges against the program contains false information. He says creditable business people were selected for the NEDP board without regard to their personal political preference. "It's hard for me to imagine a less politically tainted organization", concluded Mackie.

Murray G. Smith, a senior policy analyst with the C.D. Howe Institute of Toronto, says his experience as a member of a 1976 Indian economic development workforce helped him understand the "complex problems" associated with Indian economic development.

He says further study is needed to design a Native oriented corporate whole that will allow Native communities to better share in the benefits of eight successful Native corporations. In the larger Canadian society a wealthy corporation will return some of its profits to the rest of society through tax systems, but most of the profits from a corporation based in a Native community flow to outside interests. There is no corporate tax systems of reserves and therefore there is no benefit flow back on the community. Smith says the limited advisory role of the NEDP board and the direct influence of the federal government in the program "clearly leaves the potential for political involvement", concluded Smith.

The continuing struggle between the federal government and Native political organizations over control of economic development dollars helped force a three-year delay in proceeding with NEDP. The \$345 million fund was earlier labelled the "phantom fund" by Native people who had to wait until 1984 to hear details of a plan they had been asked to prepare

for since 1981.

There has not been any distributions from the fund but NEDP spokesman says the program may consider funding irrigation projects on southern Alberta Indian reserves.

Provincial, territorial and national Native political organizations are denied direct access to the \$345 million fund under the terms of the NEDP program.

NEDP negotiates directly with business interests from within Native communities and will explore possible joint ventures involving Native and private business groups. The 20 member advisory board, headed by Don Moses of the Lower Nicola Band in British Columbia, oversees the program under the Ministry of Regional Economic Expansion. Moses was a defeated Liberal candidate in the 1979 election. Wayne McKenzie, Executive Director for the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan also sits on the Board.

The program is applicable to all Native people: Indian, Metis and Inuit but no specific amount has been designated per group. NEDP has also left unanswered how the fund will be divided among regions of Canada and how much can be spent per year during the four year term of the project. □

Aboriginal Trappers Federation of Canada Formed

by Martha Ironstar

Toronto - Native trappers from across Canada met in Toronto recently to establish the Aboriginal Trappers Federation of Canada. The primary objective of the new body is to affirm the traditional and legal rights of Aboriginal people to harvest animals for food and fur, and to counteract the increasingly militant animal rights and anti-fur campaigns.

Over half of Canada's estimated 100,000 trappers are Aboriginal people, Indian, Metis and Inuit all who depend on fur income for a living.

In a press release, Jim Bourque, Deputy Minister of Renewable Resources for Northwest Territories said, "people must begin to understand that animal rights groups are not interested in developing more humane trapping systems, but only in banning the killing of any animal anywhere."

A Bill for the U.S. House of Representatives, H.R. 1797, that would ban the use of leghold traps or commerce in furs caught with such traps, has begun public hearings in the United States. If adopted, this Bill would have disastrous effects on the Canadian fur industry and on Native communities, Bob Stevenson, who chaired the Trappers first meeting stated.

The Aboriginal Trappers Federation becomes a member of the newly formed Fur Institute of Canada, (FIC) which held its first meeting in June. The FIC includes members from Native groups, Trappers Associations, Industry and government. The FIC's role is to continue research on improved trapping systems begun by the Federal-Provincial committee on humane trapping, and inform the public about the importance of the Fur Industry in Canada.

"The Aboriginal Trappers Federation wants to be sure that the special importance of fur-trapping to Aboriginal people is recognized, said Bob Stevenson, the Federation gives Aboriginal trappers their own voice for the first time. People in the south and in Europe who are concerned about animal welfare fail to understand that thousands of Aboriginal people in Canada still depend on hunting and trapping. Our right to hunt, fish and trap is for most of our people nothing else but our right to survive."

Delegates to the meeting pointed out that current attacks on Aboriginal hunting and trapping rights threaten the very survival of traditional culture and communities in northern Canada.

Member organizations to the Aboriginal Trappers Federation already include the Native Council of Canada, representing Non-Status and Metis Indians in Canada, the Inuit Tapirisat, the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, and the Northwest Territories Trappers Federation.

The delegates resolved to actively fight the anti-trapping movement, and to inform the public about the true role of trapping in the culture and economy of Aboriginal peoples. "So far the public has heard only a twisted one-sided version of the trapping story", concluded Stevenson. □

Native Olympian Honoured at Last

(Kahtou)

Vancouver - The Jim Thorpe memorial benefit dance held at the Odd Fellows Hall in Vancouver, June 30, raised \$800 to send runners to the Jim Thorpe Memorial Pow Wow and Native Games on July 1 to 19.

The games purpose is to draw attention and support to the returning of Thorpe's medals to his family. In 1913 Thorpe's medals were taken back when it was found that he played professional baseball earlier in his career which conflicted with his amateur status. The Amateur Athletic Association revoked his amateur status and the International Olympic Committee followed suit by taking away his Olympic medals.

Thorpe was one of the world's greatest athletes winning both the pentathlon and decathlon at the 1912 Olympic Games in Sweden. Thorpe left Sweden with \$50,000 worth of trophies. A month later the American sports idol was toppled from his pedestal when the Union filed charges of professionalism against him, accusing him of receiving pay for playing summer baseball with the Rocky Mount Club in the Eastern Carolina League.

In 1950 Thorpe's athletic abilities awarded him as the greatest football player in an Associated Press poll of sportswriters and broadcasters. Thorpe became recognized while attending the famous Carlisle Indian School in Pennsylvania where he participated in lacrosse, baseball and football.

He was born, James Francis Thorpe, on March 28, 1888. He was Algonquian Indian and Irish.

His mother gave him the Indian Tribal name of Wa-tha-huck which means Path lit by Lightning.

After his retirement, Thorpe fell upon hard times. After an operation for cancer of the lip, Thorpe was discovered to be flat broke, so groups throughout the country raised money to help him.

He settled down in Hawthorne, California working as an extra in western serials and football features. In 1949 Warner Brothers started work on a motion picture entitled "Jim Thorpe, All American" with Burt Lancaster playing the lead role.

On March 28, 1953, Thorpe suffered a massive heart attack and died. □

Metis Woman Hits Campaign Trail

Edmonton - Muriel Stanley-Venne, a Metis originally from Whitford, Alberta, will run in the next Federal election, scheduled for September 4, as the New Democratic Party (NDP) candidate for the Edmonton East riding.

Venne, 46, is married to Keith Stanley and they have three sons and one daughter. Vennie is currently the director of the Carpentry Training Program of Settlement Sooniway Corporation. She is vice-president of the Canadian Native Friendship Centre in Edmonton and sits on the Provincial Apprenticeship and Trades Certification Board.

At the nomination meeting held on July 17, which confirmed her candidacy, Venne said her main objectives were increasing employment opportunities, lowering the high interest rates on loans, and equality for women in all areas of Canadian life.

Venne believes the NDP is the only party that offers a "positive alternative for change and progress", whereas the Liberals and Progressive Conservatives only offer generalities.

On the subject of equality for women, Venne gave the example of women under 65 years old. "They have little money, and fear for their lives. This is true for men also, but not to the extent as these women, the forgotten poor," said Venne.

Venne has worked with Metis Association for ten years and is a past executive director of Native Outreach. From there she was employed with Canadian Bechtel, on the Alsands project, designing affirmative action programs. She was a member of the Alberta Human Rights Commission for four years. Venne sat on the Regional Legal Aid committee.

In 1978, Venne won the Outstanding Young Woman Award for the Canadian Merit Association and received the City of Edmonton's International Women's Year Award in 1976. □

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