

INDIAN CENTER NEWS

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No. 1

OUR PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Pearl Warren

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that has helped the American Indian Women's Service League in anyway. Dr. Erna Gunther, for her guidance at times when we needed it, and the interest she has taken in our efforts.

The Service League was started a year ago last August. There were only six women at our first meeting, but the six women invited other Indian women to attend the meetings. We had our first election in October and I was appointed chairman at this time. We were then incorporated, so could operate an Indian Center here in Seattle. We now have about fifty Indian women members, and about fifteen associate non-Indian members in our club. We have not had a membership drive, but would like to get as many Indian women interested as we can. Dues are one dollar per year; associate members, two dollars, contributing members (any amount). Men, as well as women, can be contributing members.

The women that belong to the Service League have all been working hard to make our organization a success. It hasn't been easy, as organizational work is new to the women, but everyone is willing.

We have a hospital committee that has worked very hard at Firlands, and the Public Health Hospital. Now we need blood donors to replace blood that is needed for Indian patients in Hospitals that have no way to replace blood they use.

The American Indian Womens Service League, Inc. is an organization for Indians that want to help each other. We need to help each other--we have depended on others too long, and must learn to stand on our own feet. We hope to bring together as many Indians as we can, regardless of where they come from, or the degree of Indian blood.

Everyone's cooperation is needed now. This is something that belongs to us as Indians. As Indians, let's do ALL THAT WE CAN!

INTRODUCING OURSELVES

by D.L.

This newspaper is the first of its kind to be published by the American Indian Women's Service League, Inc. of Seattle.

We hope we will be as welcome in your home as we are glad to come to you.

Our purpose will be to keep all interested persons informed of Indian affairs both on and off the reservations.

NOTICE OF MEETING

Ladies:

Our regular meeting of the American Indian Womens Service League Inc. will be held:

THURSDAY,

March 10, 1960

We shall publish monthly articles written by our members on various subjects. In this first issue, it seemed an appropriate time to ask three of the founding supporters of the League to write articles on how and why they became interested in the movement. These people have worked hard and diligently, giving both time and effort unselfishly in behalf of the League.

In these columns you will find news items from the reservations, notices of coming meetings, and a monthly report of the American

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Indian Womens Service League, Inc. meetings. We shall occasionally print Indian recipes, and will appreciate any you would like to send us.

Much of what you find in this paper depends upon you, our public. We want you, we ask you, we invite you to submit to us your thoughts and opinions on issues, relating to Indian affairs. We want you to feel that this paper is yours.

Stand behind us with your moral support, as United we will grow strong, proud, and tall.

CHRISTMAS BOXES

At this time we would like to thank the following people for donating their time in helping pack the Christmas boxes: Dorothy Lombard, Carol Parry, Sarah Hanbury, Leona Lyness, Meridith Mumme, Sadie Hamilton, Marion Irving, Nettie Thompson, Nettie McCloud, Rita Linford, Jenny LaFontaine, Hazel Duarte, Ella Acquina, Dorothy Ackerman, Julia LaFontaine and Sybil Blaustein.

"FROM THE TEEPEES"

Wedding bells for Leona Lyness' son took her to San Francisco this month.

Lucky Christina Taran! She will be leaving soon for Europe.

Our President, Pearl Warren, just returned from Michigan. The occasion? The graduation of her son from Michigan State College.

Judy Priestly showed up at our last meeting with some lovely new Navajo jewelry, acquired on her recent trip to Arizona.

Knowing many Indian women knit beautiful sweaters, socks and caps, we are passing along the address of a good place to get wool, carded, and ready to spin. It is the Washington Woolen Mill, 10624 17th S.W., Seattle, Washington.

A blessed event at the Levi Hamilton home--a bouncing baby boy, Philip. Congratulations to Grandmother Bertha McJoe, also to the proud new parents.

Ladies--please feel free to send in any items you have on Indian doings on or off the reservation. Come on, Gals, lets hear from you--everyone likes to see their name in print!

Cedar bark is now ready for peeling - trees approximately 17" in diameter have the best bark for baskets and mats, and are easiest to peel.

The Intertribal Council of Western Washington Indians met on January 16th, 1960, hosted very graciously by the University Unitarian Church at their beautiful new church in Seattle.

Officers elected at this time were: PRESIDENT: Hank Hawkins (Snohomish); 1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Ray Charles; 2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Quinton Markishtum (Makah); SECRETARY: Barbara Davidson, (Snohomish); TREASURER: Florence Siga, (Suquamish); PUBLIC RELATIONS: Betty Trick, (Chinook); BUDGET: Forrest Kinley (Lummi).

The InterTribal Council of Western Washington's next meeting will be held at Muckleshoot. Plans are being made for a salmon bake to raise funds for attorney fees for defense of the Muckleshoot Treaty rights on hunting and fishing.

INDIAN RECIPE

"Oven Jerky"

Submitted by Gloria Freeman

Select a piece of meat as free from fat as possible (top or bottom round steak is excellent), and partially freeze in order to facilitate slicing. Remove fat. (Fat on the meat would turn rancid with time and defeat the purpose of the jerky). When meat is half-frozen, slice carefully into long, thin strips. Place the strips in a crockery bowl, and weight them down by placing a saucer or bowl which fits the bowl, down on top of the meat, topped by a quart jar full of water. Place bowl in refrigerator over-night. This tenderizes the meat.

About 8 O'Clock the next morning, remove the strips from the bowl, and season them with as much salt or other seasonings as you like (A dash of liquid smoke gives an interesting flavor). Then lay each strip on the rack in your oven, and turn the oven on to just heat, approximately 150° or whatever heat is lowest on your oven. Leave the oven door closed at the same temperature for 8 hours. Remove the strips of jerky from the rack, and store in a covered (not sealed) jar. (I have had jerky keep perfectly for as long as two years) Makes excellent "munching" food for long car trips, snacks, etc. Can also be cooked up, along with vegetables, to make soup or stew.

Please address all correspondence and inquiries to:

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INDIAN CENTER OFFERS \$500K by Harry Burks

A dream of long standing will be realized soon by the Indian women of the city of Seattle when they open the doors of an Indian Hospitality and Referral Center. Over two years ago, a group of Indian women living in Seattle formed the Indian Women's Service League to undertake service projects among Indians of Washington. These included clothing collection and distribution, scholarship counsel and assistance, and assisting newcomers to Seattle with housing, employment and educational problems. About a year ago, Myrtle Solberg invited Pearl Warren, President of the Indian Women's Service League, to speak to the United Church Women of Seattle. Great interest was aroused in this pioneering work and in the need for a building to house the growing range of services and activities.

Several preliminary discussions resulted in a decision to call together all Seattle agencies who in any way relate to Indians for examination of this proposal for an Indian Center. Meetings held through the past year determined that the needs of Indians coming into our city constituted a community problem and that broad support should be offered to anyone undertaking work in this field. As the work of an Indian Center would be confined to hospitality, social activities and referral counseling, it was recognized this would not duplicate any existing service and would in fact assist specialized agencies. With the blessing of those agencies, Community Advisory Committee was formed, with Arthur Barnett, Seattle Attorney, as Chairman.

Louise Blackham, Sybil Blaustein, Audrey Broad, Harry Burks, Frieda C. Davidson, Rev. Aron S. Gilmarin, Mrs. Walter G. Hiltner, Russel E. Jarboe, Mrs. Jessie V. Krueger, Helen Levine, Dr. George H. McCleave, The Venerable Walter E. McNeil, Jr., Marion Marshall, Rev. Chester Morgan, Dr. Russell Orr, Mrs. E. Palmer Patterson II, Lomuel Peterson, Dr. Jackson Smith, Mrs. Alvin Solberg, Mrs. James Stevens, Dr. Earl Van Doren, Talbot Wegg, and Dr. Clark J. Wood.

Through the combined efforts of this advisory committee and the Service League, contributions were received from a number of individuals and groups toward launching the enterprise. While this year's budget is only 50% in hand, it was decided to launch the project while additional funds were being sought. Several sites are under consideration and it is expected that the Indian Center will be in operation this spring.

PURPOSE OF CENTER by Myrtle Solberg

A speaker made the remark that the Indians were the only minority group in Seattle which had no place to congregate!

Early in the 1900's on a dike along the Skagit, we had watched Indians paddling up the river in their dug-out canoes. From them we learned such phrases as "Ela-How-Yai" Even more than us, (descendants of Scandianavians) they seemed as integral a part of our Northwest as the mountains, the rushing streams, and the tall evergreens. The names, Skagit, Snohomish, Puyallup, Elwha, and Seattle, give added testimony to this belief.

I remember the impact of a large city on a young country girl. The timidity with which she first boarded a street car; her gratitude to an understanding conductor who showed her the correct way off and who gave careful instructions as to where she should stand to make a transfer. Those complex streets, cars going "every which way", the overwhelmingly large stores, and the throngs of people were bewildering. Unknown to these strangers, a king look, or a smile seemed a haven.

The American Indian Women's Service League is keenly aware of such circumstances. In a talk to the United Church Women, Mrs. Carl Warren confirmed the need of an Indian Hospitality Center which would: (1) be a friendly place for Indians to meet, (2) give assistance to Indians who are not acquainted with city ways of living, (3) refer those with educational, medical or other problems to proper channels for advice, (4) and very important) preserve our Indian culture.

Under the chairmanship of Arthur Barnett, representatives of about 20 community organizations met with members of the American Indian Women's Service League and endorsed the idea of a Center. A smaller executive committee was appointed.

Last summer this smaller group met almost every other week, visited about 20 sites to find the right location for a center, and sent out letters to inform Seattle of our plans and needed support. Mrs. Warren gave talks to many organizations.

Like all projects of this nature, difficulties and disappointments have been met and overcome. Now, we hope, in the near future that the American Indian Women's Service League, Inc., will be able to invite all interested friends to an Indian Center house warming here in Seattle.

HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE By Dorothy Lombard

The Health and Welfare Committee is composed of the four officers of the League: Pearl Warren, Leon a Lyness, Theresa Gibbs, and Dorothy Lombard. Our main purpose is to help any Indian family in need of temporary help. If we are unable to help them, they are referred to an appropriate agency. Though our budget is very limited we have given emergency help to several families.

For instance, when we are given information that a family needs aid we check the circumstances, and if it is food that is needed, two or more of the committee members tend to this. We have found that these people usually need help only once and are always very grateful and appreciative to the League for the interest and aid given them.

We did have a small shoe fund, limited to school-age children. This fund has since been used up, but we hope in the future to build it up again.

One of our biggest projects takes place during Christmas, when the League receives contributions of canned goods, clothing and toys to distribute to needy Indian families. The whole membership of the League puts in long hours to get these boxes ready for delivery. One well remembered remark, passed on to me by Mrs. Ella Aquina, who checked to see if the family was home so we could leave their box, the little boy of the family said, "We have a pretty tree, but nothing to put under it." So, if you were one of the many who contributed, you can be assured one child, among many, had a better Christmas.

TULALIP ANNUAL MEETING

By Sebastian Williams

The annual meeting and election of the Tulalip tribes was held on March 12, 1960. These positions on the board of Directors expired and three incumbents, Herman A. Williams, Charles Sheldon, George C. Jones, Jr. filed for re-election. Also running as candidates for board of directors were Harold Joseph and Ralph Jones. As a result of the election Herman Williams and Charles Shelton were re-elected. The third member elected for a three year term was Ralph Jones. Officers for the coming year are: George S. Williams, Chairman; Herman A. Williams, Vice-Chairman, George C. Jones, Sr. Treasurer; Charles Shelton, Secretary. Other members of the board are Lawrence Williams, Martin Williams, &

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DO-IT-YOURSELF IN THE ARTS By Maxine Cushing Gray

In this age of handouts and buck-passing, to discover a group that believes in "helping the Indians to help themselves" (the motto of the American Indian Women's Service League) is an inspiration to the rest of us who have no tribe to belong to.

I hope that when the Indian Service Center is established in all its glory, as the only one west of Chicago and north of Los Angeles, this same "help ourselves" idea will be extended to the arts.

Northwest residents and visitors to this area might as well find it, and pay for it, at the Center.

Go to Hurricane Ridge today and you will notice "Indian" souvenirs marked "Made in Japan".

As to the dance, it should not be necessary for non-Indians to do all the pinch-hitting. We are thinking of the fine programs of authentic Northwest dances performed (for a fee) by Bill Holm, an art teacher at Lincoln High School, his wife, and associates, including at one time a young Chinese student from Everett.

Then, there is the summer situation with Greater Seattle, Inc. and its gesture toward Indian dancing during Seafair, at the noon-hour programs on Westlake "mall". Last summer the management booked a pick-up date of eager, non-Indian teenagers from Haines, Alaska, who had learned Chilkat dances as part of their recreational program and were touring them as far as the Gallup, New Mexico Intertribal Ceremonial.

We might also be reminded at this point that three of the top internationally-known are of Indian blood: Rosella Hightower, Maria and Marjorie Tallchief, plus Yvonne Chateau, formerly of Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo.

The Center could do much to bring authentic Indian music before the public. I put in a plug here for my Yakima friend Maxine Robbins, UW graduate in anthropology and a mezzo-soprano whose song recitals, given in beautiful tribal dress, are a treat.

Here in Seattle is another singer, now retired, who has a wealth of experience in the field and a large library of scores I am sure she would be glad to share with the Center: Louise Merrill-Cooper (Princess Scha-qu-guath) of 1725-46th Ave SW. She was the first concert singer to include a group of Indian music on a formal program. What a delightful affair it could be to honor her at the center!

"What Can the Tribe Do?" by Marjorie James, Health, Education and Welfare Committee, Tulalip

SEATTLE INDIAN CENTER - A "Home" of Your Own

--by Marianne Fleagle

We all need a place where we can be "at home" - where we are among our own kind of people and are able to feel comfortable. Especially when Indians come from rather isolated reservations to Seattle - a city of half-a-million people! - they need a "home away from home". After months of searching, the American Indian Women's Service League of Seattle has finally leased a building for an Indian Center at 2604 Vine Street at 1st Avenue, near the Labor Temple. The telephone number is MA 2-4980 and the Center will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This is an excellent location, fairly near the bus terminal and shopping center but not right in the busiest section where parking is always difficult. A great clean-up and paint-up is now in progress - a lot of hard work will have to be done! When ready, the Indian Center will serve as a place to which Indians may come for information and referral to community services available to them, and for fellowship. There is ample room for the clothing which is collected, ironed, sized and distributed. The Director of the Center will be Mrs. Pearl Warren who will serve without pay until the budget is able to support a salary. Contributions from organizations and individuals will be the sole financial support of the Indian Center, so if you can help, please send contributions to: The Indian Center, 2604 Vine Street, Seattle 1, Wash.

Watch for the Grand Opening during the summer! And drop in to lend a hand in the renovating.

SPOKANE POLITICAL CONVENTION FOR INDIANS OF THE NORTHWEST
Davenport Hotel, June 6

Seventeen tribes attended the first political convention for the Indian tribes of the Northwest. This meeting was called by the Coordinating Council of Western Indians to discuss political issues and hear political figures, and formulate an Indian plank or set of political principles for use by both major parties. An Indian plank or set of political principles was formulated and later submitted to the two party conventions to help in constructing a more representative plank on Indian affairs.

Speakers at the Indian convention were: Lloyd Andrews, Rep. Luke Graham, Rep. Donald Moos, Owen Panmer, Attorney for Warm Springs Tribe of Oregon, and others. It was agreed that much more active participation by the Indian people is necessary to gain a political advantage for solving reservation problems.

WASHINGTON STATE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM - 1960
On Indians and Indian Affairs

"There shall be no termination of federal support of Indians nor alteration of any Indian treaties without the consent of the tribes concerned. The federal government should aid in developing natural resources on tribal lands and recommend that a committee on Indian Affairs be established in the Washington Legislature."

WASHINGTON STATE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM - 1960
Indian Affairs

- A. Statement of Democratic philosophy and goals:

The Democratic Party recognizes that all American Indians are citizens of the United States and of the states in which they reside. We acknowledge that the federal government has unique legal and moral responsibilities for our Indian citizens, imposed by the Constitution and spelled out in treaties, statutes and court decisions.
- B. We endorse for action or national legislation:
 1. Prompt adoption of a federal program to assist Indian tribes in the full development of their human and natural resources and to advance the health, education and economic well-being of Indian citizens, preserving their traditions without impairing their cultural heritage;
 2. No alteration of any treaty or other federal Indian contractual relationships without the free consent and request of the Indian tribes concerned;
 3. Reversal of recent policies which are tending toward erosion of Indian rights, reduction of their economic base through alienation of their lands and repudiation of federal responsibilities;
 4. Prompt and expeditious settlement of Indian claims against the United States with full recognition of the rights of both parties; and
 5. Elimination of all impediments to full citizenship for American Indians.

More and better water supplies and other improvements in the environmental sanitation of Indian reservations will be provided under Public Law 86-121-the Indian Sanitation Facilities Act- now in effect.

The Act "provides authority where by the Public Health Service can take corrective action to meet some of the most critical aspects affecting Indian Health, the high infant death rate and high morbidity rates of preventable diseases associated with grossly inadequate domestic water supplies in the Indian living environment" says Dr. James R. Shaw, Chief of the Division of Indian Health.

Sanitary engineers in every Area office are now helping Indian tribes and groups to prepare outlines of sanitation projects they want for their reservations, to improve water supplies. Forms for filing requests are available from the Area office and from Indian sanitarian aides on the reservations, who will give any help needed in identifying needs and filling out forms. Requests received will be carefully studied and discussed with State and county health officials, B. I. A. representatives, and field MOC's.

All requests from reservations will be given a priority rating based on urgency of the need, feasibility of the proposed project, and ability and willingness of the Indians to work in carrying out the plan. It is expected that Indians will install or construct household fixtures such as sinks, furnish labor as far as possible, contribute financial support and

operate and maintain the completed facilities. In Portland Area, the following projects have been approved for fiscal year 1961:

Water supply and sewage disposal system at Swinomish.

Ground water drainage and sewage disposal system at Neah Bay.

Individual sanitation facilities in Gibson area, Fort Hall reservation, Idaho. Other requests are being processed as rapidly as possible. The Sanitation Facilities Act does not

provide funds but allows for establishing a system of project priorities so that critical sanitation deficiencies may be corrected over a period of years on a planned program basis.

(From the "Northwest Indian Health" Portland, Oregon)

In today's home hardly an evening goes by without a roo'in'tootin' western blazing across the TV screen. Invariably our Indian ancestors are shown biting the dust, scalping the enemies, attacking the wagon trains apaches in Sioux war-bonnets, Cheyennes shouting their battle cries in Spanish.

Many responsible Indian leaders across the country are echoing criticism of TV treatment of Indians. They complain that little research is done by writers and producers for an honest portrayal of Indian life. Time and time again we see the renegades of our people depicted in varying stories, every plot shaped, by highly imaginative writers to what they may make an interesting story, or sell soap. Hardly an adult Indian at one time or another has not encountered countless questions some so ridiculous it's hard not to laugh, asked very seriously by people who have taken TV or the movies as the gospel truth.

We are not asking for special treatment, but we believe that justice demands the honest portrayal of the Indians rich contribution to American life.

It is good news that finally a delegation of Indians and non-Indians, is going to Hollywood and make an official protest about historically untrue and unfair portrayals of Indians in films and on television.

A BILL
S. 3310

To amend the Act entitled "AN ACT to transfer the maintenance and operation of hospital and health facilities for Indians to the Public Health Service, and for other purposes", approved Aug. 5, 1954,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the U. S. of America in Congress assembled, That the first section of the Act entitled "An Act to transfer the maintenance and operation of hospital and health facilities for Indians to the Public Health Service, and for other purposes", approved Aug. 5, 1954 (68 Stat), is hereby amended to read as follows:

That all functions, responsibilities, authorities, and duties of the Department of the Interior, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Sec. of the Interior, and the Commissioner of Indian affairs relating to the maintenance and operation of hospital and health facilities for Indians, and the conservation of the health of Indians, are hereby transferred and shall be administered by the Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service, under the supervision and direction of the Sec. of Health, Education,

Even in middle age most men are ready for anything----- provided they can do it sitting down.