

MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION NEWS

MS L. ARNASON, PERIODICALS
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The Sixth Annual Conference of the Manitoba Metis Federation

Connie Eyolfson	UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA MAR 22 LIBRARY PERIODICALS
Ferdinand Guiboche	X
J. Angus Spence	

This ballot represents the popular opinion expressed by the 276 voting delegates who attended the M.M.F.'s Sixth Annual Conference at Oo-za-we-kwun Centre on February 1, 2 and 3.

Conference Highlights

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Undoubtedly, the Presidential election was the major item on the agenda of the M.M.F.'s Sixth Annual Conference. The political enthusiasm of some of the delegates in attendance was reflected by the following resolution which was presented, but defeated during the opening minutes of the Conference:

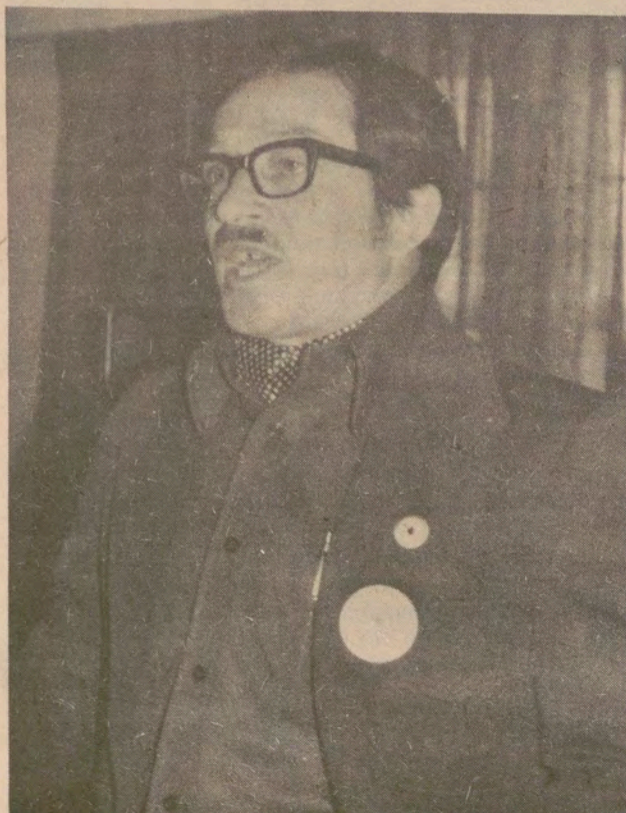
Moved by Ben Thompson that we move Friday afternoon's agenda to Saturday morning and that we move Saturday morning's agenda (i.e. Presidential candidates' speeches and elections) to Friday afternoon.

Seconded - John Morrisseau.

This resolution being defeated, the Conference proceeded with the adoption of the regular agenda which included the Presidential, Vice-Presidential, and Financial Reports.

President's Report

Mr. J. Angus Spence reported on the programming of the Manitoba Metis Federation and stated that when he first came in, there was a deficit situation of close to \$12,000 but then noted that we had "picked up" since then. He proceeded to review the organization's funding since 1971. From 1971-1973, we received \$264,000 from the Department of the Secretary of State for administration (organizational) expenditures. From the Province, we have received \$59,500 in 1971. In 1972 and 1973, we have received \$60,000 (per year).



Mr. Guiboche, the newly-elected President, whose two-year term officially begins on April 1 of this year.

Housing Repair Program (Emergency Repair):

1971-72: \$300,000
1972-73: \$600,000
1973-74: \$600,000
Total - \$1,500,000

Administration Grant from C.M.H.C. - \$50,000 for 3 staff members.

Southwestman Housing - we were to receive \$25,000; to date \$10,000 has been spent; the other \$15,000 is pending depending whether another program can be developed in the Southwest Region.

Land Grants Research - commented on its significance and that its results will prove very important to our people.

Education (Students' Bursaries and Grants)

- 1971 - \$10,000
- 1972 - \$40,000
- 1973-74 - \$71,000

Up to this date, about 400 students have been assisted through this program. For this coming year, we've asked for \$80,000.

Canada Manpower (Manitoba Pathfinders Job Placement Program)

- 9 people employed
- an extension of Canada Manpower Services conducted by the Manitoba Metis Federation
- a 3-year deal - \$146,000 per year was granted and it is re-negotiable from one year to the next (a total of \$438,000) and it could be expanded.

OFY (Opportunities for Youth)
- 1971 - \$77,000 (program conducted by youth them-

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Conference Highlights

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selves); 1972 - \$5,000 (program conducted by youth themselves); 1973 - \$4,980 (program conducted by youth themselves).

Family Planning Program
- to be conducted in three (3) communities in the Dauphin Region.

- The cheque for \$19,980 has been sent to the Dauphin Region to be administered jointly by that region with the Metis Women's Association.

Migration Program

- a million dollar program
- Premier Schreyer indicated to our Board of Directors that he would be prepared to fund the Migration Centres to the tune of several hundreds of thousands of dollars. We would like to open Migration Centres in the following places: Thompson, Leaf Rapids, Lynn Lake, Wabowden, The Pas, Dauphin, Brandon, Portage la Prairie, Winnipeg, a satellite centre in Grand Rapids.

The following are some of the programs which we have requested and are presently in the offing (they have gone through the proper departments and are being considered by the politicians):

- Communications Program - \$395,000 requested
- Sports and Recreation - \$157,000 requested
- Community Development Program - \$312,000 requested (but it went to Extension Services)
- Comprehensive Housing Program - we are one of the few organizations which has in detail a comprehensive housing program showing the government exactly what it is we want. We are supported by the N.C.C. in this respect and the government is in the process of developing a National Native Housing Program. We are requesting \$35,000,000 over a 6-year period.

Native Clan Organization

- dedicated to the rehabilitation of Native inmates.
- a halfway house has been set up in Winnipeg and more are planned for The Pas and Thompson and other points at a later day.
- 1973-74 - halfway house has operated under a grant of \$150,000.
- 1974-75 - halfway house will operate under a grant of \$250,000.
- a L.I.P. Program is associated with it in the amount of \$16,000.

Another important activity of the Manitoba Metis Federation is our participation and membership in government and private agencies whose activities can help the Metis people. We are constantly being asked to participate and sit on boards which can and do affect the lives of our people. For example:

- Special ARDA Committee - 2 representatives
- Co-ops Development Board
- C.E.D.F. (Communities Economic Development Fund)
- Welfare Appeal Board
- Human Rights Commission (appointment)
- Oo-za-we-kwun Board of Directors (appointment)
- Native Clan Organization Board of Directors
- Winnipeg Native Club Board of Directors
- Frontier School Division Advisory Committee
- Minister of Education Advisory Committee
- Community College Co-ordinating Committee
- Association of Indian and Metis Education
- Manitoba Police Commission Advisory Committee
- Norman Regional Development Corporation
- University of Manitoba Centre for Settlement Studies Advisory Committee
- Native Council of Canada
- Native Communications Inc.
- Remote Housing Program Committee

We strive to put competent people on these boards and our programs are geared to help all Metis people of Manitoba, no matter where they live. On a per capita basis, more money is justifiably being spent in the Northern regions. Some programs are more of a 'band-aiding' program than anything else but we have not stopped here.

The Manitoba Metis Federation has prepared and submitted a housing brief to government with the following recommendations:

- Change the Remote Housing Program to the Manitoba Native Housing Program and provide this program to all Metis and Non-Status people across Manitoba. This is presently under serious discussion. Government should provide the funds for administration grants to build 285 homes in Manitoba at an average cost of \$14,000 during the period of 1974-80. The total of this program would be \$17,990,000.

- We've also requested an extension & renovation program (1,025 units at an average cost of \$3,000 per unit repayable at low interest rates over a 6-year period. Total \$3,075,000).

- We've requested relocation grants for Migrating Metis families. We recommended up to \$10,000 in grants scaled to income for Metis families migrating to job centres to help in buying and furnishing homes. From 1974-80, the estimated average would be 200 families per year (\$8,000 per average grant) for a total of \$10,000,000. This program is already operated by Indian Affairs for the Treaty population of Manitoba.

- We've requested hostels for Metis youth and migrant workers. The total cost for 6 centres is \$400,000. The management and administration costs should be handled by the Manitoba Metis Development Corporation.

TOTAL HOUSING NEEDS FOR PERIOD 1974-80 - \$35,241,630.00

- Education - a great deal of study and research has been done and an education policy for the Manitoba Metis Federation will soon be announced and be made available for ratification and approval by our people. Such a policy should be developed in all other aspects e.g. employment, agriculture, housing, etc.

- Economic Development

The Manitoba Metis Development Corporation was incorporated in December of 1972. The intent of such a corporation is to ensure our future existence in the event that CORE funding ceases in 1976. This organization will administrate and operate business projects, housing, migration centres, and the communications program for Metis people. It will seek grants and loans to develop major business developments (like tourist resort) and will provide management and technical jobs for hundreds of Metis people. A brief has been prepared and is being distributed to all Locals for their study and approval.

There are many other things that are being done by the Manitoba Metis Federation to ensure Metis people a greater role in the social and economic development of this country. This work progresses from day to day. Responsibility and Accountability: I am especially proud to say the Manitoba Metis Federation has never hired a consultant to do our thinking on our work. Our Head Office staff of eight (8) people is the smallest staff of any Native organization Head Office across Canada. As a result, more money has been spent on our Regional areas. This is a general outline of the work that has been done in our Head Office and these are programs that are being developed. I would like to see more of it being done in co-operation with the people at the community level and I'm sure that, in the future, this is the way we will be working. There are certain changes that are going to have to be made within the structure of our organization before we can proceed, but this is a general outline of the work we have been doing. And we seek towards independence of the Metis people in Manitoba - a self-supporting role for the Manitoba Metis Federation. Thank you very much.

Vice-Presidents' Reports



Garry Nabess Vice-President Thompson Region

Mr. Nabess explained that for the past four months that he has served as Vice-President, he has attempted to activate more participation in our organization at the community level by meeting with the people personally in the communities and trying to take some direction from them and to put more meaning in our organization. He has found in very short order that the Metis people in the North are very strong - perhaps not strong in terms of a strong local but they unite when problems are facing them. At the executive level (e.g. at our Board Meetings), it can become quite frustrating at times. They sometimes become a place of personal and political confrontations. He has found some of the problems of people in the North to be: inadequate housing, inadequate transportation, inadequate communications, and high prices. Community Councils do not work satisfactorily in all communities. Communities are divided as a result of politics.

Our Migration Centre has three (3) programs (excluding the Emergency Repair Program).

1) Relocation Program - funded through Department of Northern Affairs. Our budget has been recently approved for \$55,000. Counselling is done on a contract basis with Northern Manpower Corps for families that are relocated to Thompson from remote communities. This program employs one co-ordinator and four counsellors.

2) Northern Education Counsellors Program - deals with problems of school truancy and social ills responsible for these problems.

- employs one co-ordinator and four counsellors.
- more than \$50,000 has been approved for this program. It is funded by: Non-Medical Use of Drugs (Major contributor) Youth Secretariat Frontier School Division.

3) Rehabilitation and Treatment Centre

- treats problem drinkers
- funded by Department of Health & Social Development to the amount of \$1500/month until such time that a better facility is provided.

- employs two persons.

Our Region is presently doing "footwork" on a Half-way Centre (House). We are fortunate in having a very competent Regional Manager and I would like to suggest to other Regions who are going to start a Migration Centre to ask Mr. Howden for some of his experience.

Alfred Head Vice-President The Pas Region



The Pas Regional Vice-President Head.

He summarized some of the activities in which he has become involved:

- Attended Steering Committee Meetings promoting the establishment of a Detox. and Rehabilitation Centre in The Pas. This has become a reality.
- Involved in getting proper accommodation for families living in a tent. I have convinced Remote Housing and Social Services in providing some people with homes. The hangup seems to be with surveying of land, especially in Brochet. Northern Affairs should be surveying all the possible lots.
- Lynn Lake has been striving to get a Migration Centre.

Housing and water supply is a main concern of the people in the North. Native people want to have a say in the kinds of houses they want. We must push for: adequate housing, drug and alcohol education in the communities, training of Native police

We must also fight against the flooding of Reindeer Lake near Brochet. Mr. Head proceeded to report on the following aspects:

- We have a LIP program in The Pas - employs 11 people
- Winter Works Repair Program is nearly completed
- We've negotiated with the Indian Band for a Metis Hall in The Pas
- We must get to the grass roots level and do something about our people because they're not getting a decent break.
- We must stay together, regardless of what political party we belong to.

Walter Menard Vice-President Dauphin Region

It's nice to stand before you people and it makes me feel good. I wish I could give you a very positive report. Unfortunately, that's not what I can do because our existence in the Dauphin Region since the last Annual Assembly has been one of fighting sort of a rear guard action within our own organization while trying to fight battles on the front. I think we've been sort of engaged in a battle of trying to clean house so as to be able to try and get the kinds of things that Angus Spence mentioned in his talk that we have put forth to the Government. Many of those things we want - I think all of the people want those things, but we haven't got most of those things. That's the unfortunate part. One of our V.P.'s here has got a philosophy in his Region. He speaks of a unity, a harmony, an organization, and I subscribe to that kind of a thing. I think what we've been doing, we've been trying to organize Locals where they wanted to organize; there's a great many of them now in the Dauphin Region (28 to date) but in order to get all of these

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to work in one direction is one thing and an important thing; then to get them to pull in the direction that all the other Locals in the Province are pulling in is a much more difficult task. That's where people like Presidents and V.P.'s and Board of Directors are so important. We only have three such individuals from each region. There's a big battle there. I guess I can say that the feeling in the Dauphin Region for the last 10 months has been one of unrest and dissension to some extent. Some people think this is good, some think it's bad. I tend to think it's not good because something should be done about it and things are not being done about it enough to solve the situation to make people feel happy about wanting to work together to achieve the kinds of things we have to achieve for Metis people.



Dauphin Regional Vice-President Menard.

So as far as the positive things, what can I say? We've been trying to hold the fort together, you might say; we've been trying to hold it for a time when we're ready to move ahead again. One of the positive things that has happened in the Dauphin Region is that a Drop-In Centre has been opened as of about a week or two ago in Dauphin. There's a place where when Metis people come into Dauphin, for any reason at all, they can drop in and find people there who are happy to receive them, regardless of their problems or circumstances.

Outside of that, what I see in the Dauphin Region is a lot of people with a lot of ability. Only they have to have an arena in which to develop their abilities further. We're trying to provide this for them but I'd like to suggest to you that it is a tough battle. I'm not saying that I'm giving up the battle but I'm saying that we ought to zero in on just what the problems are within the course of the next day or day and a half here. You'll probably come to realize in your own mind what some of the problems are and nobody has to tell you usually what to do about these things; you all have minds of your own; you can decide for yourselves.

I'd like to say that in the Dauphin Region there's people who are trying hard. There's some that are getting hurt in the process. To me, it doesn't matter.

I'm going to leave these thoughts with you. Perhaps the next time I give a Dauphin Regional Report, I can give you a more positive one.

Howard Asham Vice-President - Interlake Region

Mr. Asham informed the delegates that he was elected Vice-President of the Interlake Region on October 6, 1973. The first detail was to get the E.R.P. organized and the hiring of a Housing Co-ordinator for the Interlake. The next program was to carry out the demographic survey for Headquarters and we are now pretty well on our way. We have conducted several seminars and we are planning for some in the future dealing with U.I.C. policies and labour relations. We've had many requests for information regarding these subjects.

We've also begun a Regional Newsletter and we've just published the second issue and we welcome constructive criticism for its improvement. We are planning a Regional Seminar in Gimli for March 10 and 11 and we hope to have many guest speakers. One of the topics will be "amendments to the National Housing Act." I've attended several meetings since my election:

- ERP Housing Meetings
- Provincial Board of Directors Meetings
- One Executive Committee Meeting
- Several Local Meetings
- Meetings at Riverton with MHRC and Interlake Manpower Corps. This was to get the Metis people involved in the housing program that is being carried out in Riverton.

I've provided assistance to people that have ap-



Interlake Regional Vice-President Asham.

plied for PEP and LIP programs and we are also dealing with an issue dealing with wells being drilled at Vogar.

Mr. Menard mentioned the basic policies of unity, organization, and harmony. I'd like to stress these points. Let's try and stick together - let's have our aims and objects all to one. And as far as our organization is concerned, the Locals are the strongest part of the organization. The size of a Local is immaterial. There's no use having unity in an organization if you don't have harmony. Once we can impress to the very important principles of unity, organization, and harmony, only then will we have a strong MMF, and this is what we are working for.

George Fleury Vice-President Southwest Region

I really don't have that much to report on the positive side. However, I would like to say that since our last Annual Assembly, we have managed to get more locals involved; to date we have 20 Locals in the Southwest Region and my aim is to eventually reach every pocket in the Southwest Region and try to bring about unity. In terms of finances, we have no programs going at the moment, apart from the Southwestern Housing Program.

We still need a better housing program and I hope eventually that we will have one. We have experienced problems where people have had fires and we have no money to support them. We must stick together and bring about changes for better housing. We have held six Regional Meetings and our people have come up with the idea of group sessions where people can get together and discuss their problems more equally. This is what I intend to keep promoting. Last month, we managed to have a joint meeting with the Dauphin Region. It wasn't as we had planned it would be.

There have been some bad experiences in the past and I hope through these two days here we can come to some conclusion as to what our problems are but let's try and stay together and discuss them in a way where we can find a solution. United we will stand but divided we will fall. Let's stay united and let's try to bring about change for the betterment of our Metis people.



Southwest Regional Vice-President Fleury.

Connie Eyolfson Vice-President Southeast Region

Since her last report, Ms. Eyolfson reported that the Southeast Region has formed five new Locals. The number of registered Locals in our Region is now 17. (She proceeded to list them). She also reported that Princess Harbour and Bloodvein are getting organized and will have established locals very shortly. She stated that they are working in a number of other communities where the Metis people have shown interest.

The programs and services provided in the Southeast Region are:

- Pathfinders Program (see President's Report); 3 job placement officers are working very effectively in our Region; they have the full support of the Regional Office with no political interference from the Vice-President.

- Project Wechiwewin - This is an escort-interpreter service funded again by Canada Manpower under the Local Initiatives Program. The project manager is Mrs. Jance Marx, originally from Norway House. The three staff members are Jim Nicholas, Rebecca McLaughlin and Merdina Korol. They are all Native people fluent in the Native languages of Cree and Saulteaux. Their job is to meet people arriving at the airports, railway stations, and the bus depot. They serve as interpreters to these people in their dealings with the different agencies in medical, legal, social and financial matters. They provide assistance in providing suitable lodging. This escort-interpreter service operates out of the Regional Office and is working very effectively.

- Pregnancy Distress Service - A completely voluntary service operating out of the Regional Office. This service came about due to a number of concerned citizens alarmed at the ever-increasing abortion rates.



It is non-denominational and non-judgmental and is not aimed at becoming involved in the abortion debate but rather to counsel the pregnant Mother in distress and in every way encourage her to carry her baby to term. We now have 15 trained volunteers who take on the responsibility of a case and following it through. A number of scheduled abortions have not taken place because of the total dedication of these people. We have about 30 resource persons. We rely entirely on donations for this service.

- People Involvement in our Region. At our Regional Committee we held discussion groups on the Constitution. After that, our Region voted on the recommended changes that we'll be asking for. The now famous letter to the Interlake Locals was distributed to the delegates and then they went into discussion groups to formulate their own opinion on the role of the Vice-President. Discussion groups were also held on the role of the Board of Directors. The value of these discussions showed when the candidates for Board of Directors came out with well-thought-out campaign speeches the following day. In a field of 5 candidates, the Regional Committee went to 6 ballots to elect 2 Board Members. The Southeast has a number of very capable potential leaders.

The Vice-President's travel claims for the past two years were presented to the Regional Committee to be examined and questioned. The two declared Presidential candidates at the time were asked to speak to the meeting. They were given time to present their views on the Federation and lengthy question-and-answer periods followed their presentations. The delegates questioned why a second Annual Conference was being called in this fiscal year.

In the Southeast Region, the Local delegates are fully informed and concerned about the affairs of the Manitoba Metis Federation as a whole.

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Financial Report

Mr. MacMillan of Dunwoody and Company read the auditor's report:

AUDITORS'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION INC. WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

We have examined the balance sheet of the Manitoba Metis Federation Inc., as at 31 March 1973 and the statements of revenue and expense and surplus for the year then ended. Our examination included a general review of the accounting procedures and such tests of accounting records and other supporting evidence as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial position of the company as at 31 March 1973 and the results of its operations for the year then ended, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Winnipeg, Manitoba
4 October 1973.

Dunwoody & Company,
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Mr. Peterson, the MMF's chartered accountant, reported on the current financial situation: We had to take up the financial position with the bank a short time ago simply because our over-drafts were quite extensive and we were faced with a \$36,000 expenditure for this Conference. Mr. Spence and I negotiated with the bank on January 11. At that time, there was a bank loan of \$40,000. We drew up the requirements of the Federation to the 11th of February 1974 at which time we expect to have the third quarter grant from the Secretary of State (\$66,000). The requirements to the 11th of February from January 11th for the general operation of the Federation were \$37,000. The Dauphin and Southwest Joint Conference cost us \$5,200 and the estimated expenses of the Annual Conference (per diems and travel) were \$29,000, which gave us a total of \$79,200. We've advanced money to the Education Program to the extent of \$10,200, so if we take that away from our estimated expenditures, we arrive at \$61,000, added to the existing bank loan at that time which presented a bank loan of \$101,000 as at February 11. We got that quarterly statement in earlier than expected; we've now deposited the \$66,000 on Friday (February 1) so we can reduce that (i.e. \$101,000) by \$66,000.

As far as the deficit position (i.e. the amount that is being spent in excess of grants to be received) was calculated this way: the cash requirement from February 12 to March 31 with no Regional Meetings provided for is \$57,000. The Annual Conference (accommodation and meal costs) is \$12,000. We advanced from the Housing Program \$20,000 which has to be repaid. Those are total expenditures of \$89,000. The Federal grants receivable for the balance of the year is \$132,000 of which the first \$101,000 would have to go to the bank to pay off the loan, which leaves us with \$31,000. So we're looking at an estimated deficit for March 31 of \$58,000. This deficit has arisen primarily because of holding this Annual Conference. It was not provided for in the budget. I understand the necessity of holding it simply for a Presidential election. But we have to give some consideration to future planning to a deficit position. CORE funding, as we know it, can possibly run out on March 31, 1976. If this estimated deficit of \$58,000 is realized out of the next two years' CORE funding, this is going to have to be provided for in the budget (i.e.) that's going to leave \$58,000 less to spend on the general CORE funding program over the next two years.

He went on to explain, in response to a question by Art Dame, why LIP did not provide labor money for the Emergency Repair Program (last year). The Audit Services Bureau did an audit and we did not receive any money as a result. There was supposed to be a 10% holdback on labor monies until such time as the audit was completed for the full year. Canda Manpower presented an audit report from Audit Services Bureau to me and it basically included criticisms of the way that money had been handled last year (prior to March 31) when the money was being handled by the Regions. Their criticisms were justifiable and they will not complete an audit of that program until such time as we can present a financial report that completely finishes off that program. After April 1, we went into a computer program and in order to tie down the relationship between the CORE funding and Winter Works monies, we could not divorce the Winter Works account and it has to go along at the same rate of speed as the CORE report.

Mr. Peterson's report was followed by a question-and-answer period and the official appointment of an auditor; Dunwoody and Company were re-appointed as official auditors for the Manitoba Metis Federation.

The remainder of the day's agenda was devoted to a question-and-answer period in which various questions were directed to the President and Vice-Presidents.

The following resolutions arose out of the question-and-answer period:

Resolution:

Moved by Art Dame that the problem relating to the St. Ambrose Local should be handled by the Manitoba Metis Federation Board of Directors and the Southwest Region (Regional Committee) and not by this Assembly.

Seconded - Jerry Roy
Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by Connie Eyolfson that the travel claims of all Vice-Presidents should be thoroughly investigated.

Seconded - Joe Thomas
Motion Carried.

Note: The chairman for Friday's proceedings was Mr. Ed Campbell

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2 Presidential Candidates' Speeches, Question-And-Answer Period, And Election

Reverend Adam Cuthand, as Chairman for the day's proceedings, announced that the Presidential Candidates' speeches would be limited to 20 minutes each, followed by a question-and-answer period. He also stated the election rules and procedures and called upon the candidates for their speeches.

J. Angus Spence



Incumbent President and Presidential Candidate Spence.

Ladies and Gentlemen, my Friends, Fellow Metis: The hour of decision has arrived; I'm not going to hold you too long; I'm not going to make election promises because election promises are a dime a dozen and we know what they're worth.

I've been with the Federation since it started and, as I stated yesterday, it seems to me we've come a long way as an organized group, a nation of people, since the day my friend Ferdinand Guiboche and myself walked out of that Indian and Metis Conference on October 16, 1967 and decided to form an organization of our own. Since that day, I have been active with the organization of the Federation pretty much on a day-to-day basis. I've given it pretty well my heart and soul and my time. As you know, I'm a married man, I have seven children; I have a cattle ranch, and I have willingly almost abandoned all these goods things to serve you people through your organization. I'm not crying the blues; I've enjoyed almost every moment of it. I am prepared, if I am elected, to give it two more years of that shot and I find the job very challenging, very exciting, sometimes frustrating. I have had 4 years of actual experience and almost one year as a field worker in the Dauphin Region. So I cannot speak in terms of theoretical or philosophical terms. What I'm talking about is actual day-to-day experience. I know the strengths and weaknesses of the Manitoba Metis Federation; I lived and worked with it on a day-to-day basis. I think you know what I believe in. I said two years ago and I'm saying now that the M.M.F. will never become a one-man show. No man should be given authority to make decisions, set policy for the M.M.F. We have many capable people among our ranks throughout the province who can and do comprise the Board of Directors who are the decision-makers between Annual Conferences. This organization belongs to you; this is a people's organization. You direct the policy through your policy-makers, the Board of Directors. You enact the legislation through the constitution which would make it possible for the president to serve you effectively. If I am elected, I will be calling on you today or tomorrow when amendments to the constitution will be made, to enact legislation which would make it possible for me to clear the log-jams which

have erupted in the Manitoba Metis Federation.

The structure we have set up is a good structure but it becomes almost obsolete through time; changes are required from time to time to deal with a growing organization. These changes can only be made by you, the membership, who are here now.

There has been talk of discontent; the discontent as I see it is because we cannot deal with certain issues because of the restraints of the constitution; when things erupt that we cannot deal with, I, as your President, am absolutely powerless to deal with these things because of the constraints of the present constitution.

I am prepared to keep this organization at the people's level because without you people we do not exist. This is the philosophy I believe in and this is the way we started out, this is the way we live today on a day-to-day basis, and this is the way we should continue, at the people's level.

I would like to see more input, a better flow of communication, with and from the people at the community level, so that we can deal with governments to enact policy or legislation which would serve our people better. And I do not pretend to know the problems of the people in Gillam or Brochet; they know and they should be telling us. So, therefore, there has to be a flow of communication from such communities so that we know what their priorities are and the priorities in each individual community lies with those people. The people have to tell us what their priorities are and then we can deal with it effectively from the community level. And a better flow of communication is what I'd like to see happen. At the present time, we are restricted by the constitution and it is very difficult to enforce or enact these kinds of things.

If you are looking for someone who believes in this type of thing, if you are looking for dedication, if you're looking for honesty, if you're looking for someone who is sincere, then I would say, my friends, that I am your man because I've provided this for you over the past four years and if I am re-elected, I am prepared to continue to give it my best shot based on experience I have accumulated over the past four years to serve you, the people. That's what I'm all about. If you believe in these kinds of things along with me, then I am your man; you should support me. If you believe in other things, if you believe in a dictatorship, if you believe in anything other than what I have said, then perhaps you shouldn't vote for me. I would like to have certain log-jams steered away so that we can keep this organization at the people's level and work practically with the government. One more thing I would like to add is the integrity and image of the Manitoba Metis Federation. This is one thing I'm extremely proud of is the image we've created with just about anyone whom we've come in contact. I've always said that a good name is better than money in the bank and I think you'll agree with me on this. If you believe in the things I believe in, then you should support me. As I stated before, we need a better flow of communication from the people at the community level so we can deal with their priorities and hopefully set policy for this organization based on the priorities and needs of the people whom we work with.

Thank you very much.

Connie Eyolfson

Ladies and Gentlemen

If you're expecting me to stand up here and give you a whole lot of political baloney about you being the cream of the crop, forget it! I'm up here for one reason and one reason only, and that's to tell you, the representatives of the Metis people in Manitoba, about the very real danger that's facing our organization today. I think that my concerns are best expressed in a letter that I wrote to Louis Riel, the real leader of the Metis people, who was hanged for his efforts:

AN OPEN LETTER TO LOUIS "DAVID" RIEL
LEADER OF THE METIS NATION
WHO WAS HANGED IN REGINA
NOVEMBER 16, 1885

Dear Mr. Riel:

I'm writing this letter to tell you that what you fought and died for, was all for nothing. You said, (I believe it was at your trial) that your spirit would rise up a hundred years hence, that the plains around Batoche would be teeming with your people, that your efforts would bring practical results.

In the past few years I saw this beginning to happen. A group of Metis here in Manitoba joined together to form an organization called the Manitoba Metis Federation. This was good. At last the half-breeds were starting to rise up, to speak to government with one voice. The voice of the Metis nation - The New Nation.

The other provinces have similar organizations. Your statue now stands on the grounds of both the Saskatchewan Legislature in Regina, and the Manitoba Legislature in Winnipeg, in silent testimony to the fact that what you fought and died for was good and right.

In summer, the plains around Batoche are teeming with your people; one year 12,000; last summer, I believe the figures were in the neighbourhood of 20,000 half-breeds gathered at the site of your last ditch

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attempt to get a square deal for your people.

As I stood with the crowd outside the rectory at Batoche, I thought "If Louis Riel could see us now, he would be proud of his Metis nation".

However, I regret to say that we still have a long way to go, my heart is saddened over the situation here in Manitoba.

As it happened, because our people are destitute; because they live in shacks; because of little or no education; because our people live on welfare; and because the jails are crowded with our people; the Federal and Provincial Governments give us grants so that our organization may work to better the living conditions of our people.

That's where the trouble started; because certain leaders have lost sight of the people; because certain leaders seem to be in the organization for their own financial gain, there is a constant jockeying for position.

Who can get the highest salary; who can collect the most in travel expenses, seems to be the measure of success within the organization.

The Manitoba Metis Federation is made up of six regions. With a Vice-President and two directors elected in each region. Together they comprise the governing body between annual conferences.

Now, Mr. Riel, I'm a Vice-President and I've sat on that board for the past three years and I know what's going on.

The President's salary was increased to \$15,000 per year, when there was a chance we may have had a change in presidents. There was even talk about the president working only four days a week!

Our budget called for a mileage rate of 11 cents per mile. That was increased to 15 cents per mile. That's a heck of a pile of money, when you consider the total mileage paid out by the Manitoba Metis Federation in one year.

The board called for an annual conference before the start of the new fiscal year. That will put our organization in debt to the tune of \$35,000. The only reason brought forward was to feather the nest for a new president.

The organization is losing credibility in the eyes of the public, the banker, and the governments.

Leaders have staged meetings to suit their own political ends. I saw leaders going on to another topic so that the people would not find out what is happening. I saw some of the leaders deliberately misleading the people.

For example, when I told the people the truth in language they could understand that there was a five page report of things that had been done wrong. One of our leaders stood up before the meeting pointed a finger at me and said "This woman does not know of which she speaks". He said that he checked his facts and in his own flowery phrases he went on to tell them what his "facts" were. Lost, in all that he said were the words "and there was a heck of a bad auditors report". He knows and I know that he hood-winked the people. I guess he feels good now because he really put it over those people.

That Mr. Riel is the reason I'm very concerned about the situation in Manitoba. The Metis are not aware of what is happening in their organization.

I intend to fight this out on the floor of the annual conference. I'm running for president not because I have political ambitions, but rather so that we can put this organization back into the hands of the people.

If I am elected I would:

1. Have three board members from each region. The Board members must be completely independent. They must not work for the Federation as employees because that's a conflict of interests
2. I would take the Vice-Presidents off the board of directors. Vice-Presidents would meet with department heads to form the executive committee to deal solely with administration.
3. I would speak out against any leader who attempted to mislead the people at Regional Committee meetings.
4. Tell the people the truth so that they may make their own decisions.
5. Check free wheeling expense accounts. No more staying at the Winnipeg Inn where one night's lodging costs as much or more than some families pay for one month's rent for some rat infested shack.
6. As Chairman of the board, I would make my views known at board meetings if I felt the board was about to make an irresponsible decision.

There is still a chance that your efforts were not all in vain. Not all our leaders are irresponsible. There are some darn good people sitting on that board.

Last year at the annual conference, Mr. Riel, we prayed that the Great Spirit would open the ears of governments so that they would hear our people cry out for justice. Now, I'm asking you to pray to God to open the eyes of our people so that they may see what is happening. With His help we may still pull this organization together and bring it closer to your ideals of a Metis nation.

Yours very sincerely,
Constance Eyolfson

Ask yourselves, why are we gathered here at this time of year when it's freezing cold outside and running the risk of being stranded in a blizzard on the

way home. I'll tell you why: because the Board of Directors in their wisdom called this Conference. The reasons they gave were these:

- a new President would have a chance to go over the budget before the onset of a new fiscal year
- a new President would have a chance to finish other business before taking over the position
- a new President should be available to go to meetings in Ottawa

So they wanted to convenience the new President. They felt the new President was more important than the Federation. Well, I can tell you that surely Angus Spence didn't need time and I definitely don't need time to prepare myself to take office on April 1. Then who exactly were they preparing for?

I missed two Board Meetings and things started to go rock up. However, I understand that two Directors from The Pas were not present at the time the decision was made to hold this Conference. I further understood that the Directors from Thompson and Southeast were opposed to the resolution and that the Vice-President from the Thompson Region spoke strongly against it. From that, you can figure out who decided to put our organization into serious debt. Because of the irresponsibility of certain members of the Board, we are now faced with a \$50,000 deficit at the end of the fiscal year. Some people would not call that serious debt. When the management, operation, and administration of our organization is at the whim of the bank manager, I say that's serious debt. Suppose the banker says he'll cash no more cheques? What do we do? We close up shop and the programs stop because the halfbreeds of Manitoba haven't learned yet how to handle money.



Presidential Candidate Eyolfson (Southeast Regional Vice-President).

And I'll tell you something else that's a little "screwy". Yesterday, someone got up and talked about what a wonderful deal the Metis Women's Association is. Last week I was at a meeting in the Interlake when the President of the Metis Women's Association (Rita Guiboche) was singing the praises of the Metis Women's Association and encouraging women to form women's groups. I don't follow this line of thinking at all. You get a little tired of these women that join women's groups - any women's groups and then scream to high heaven that they're being discriminated against by men. The M.M.F. does not discriminate against women. Are not close to 50% of the delegates here women? Do no women have the right to speak in our organization? If women are being held down, they're the ones that are allowing it to happen. I say they're being held down by these women who encourage them to vote to join women's groups. Am I not a woman? Did anyone say I would not be allowed to challenge the two male candidates for the office of President? No. And I would be willing to bet, because I'm certain that right here in this room are many fine women who are just as capable. I see this Metis Women's group as just another ploy to disunite the Metis people in Manitoba. The governments just love to see us fighting amongst ourselves. We were already at odds with the Metis women's group over the Family Planning Program. How do you think that program came about in the first place; because I sit on the Board of the Family Planning Association of Manitoba, and that's where we got the information that the funds were available.

If we're going to have a strong organization, a strong lobbying force, we've got to be in this thing together and that's why I don't go along with people who say "let each region do their own thing." For example, when we were asking government for a \$150,000 grant to send 150 students to university, we were shot down by one region who supported the IMPACTE Program. The total budget for that program is about \$903,000 to train 40 Native people, of whom only 20 were Metis, to become second-class teachers. So what did we get for

all the rest of the Metis kids in Manitoba - a lousy \$10,000.

And I'll give you another example: When the Executive Committee had the Minister responsible ready to pull back the I-C Program for a second look so that we could get a piece of the action, Ferdinand pulled the rug out from under us by saying that maybe all we need is a liaison. We didn't even get the liaison.

I say that the key to solving the problems of the Metis is unity but we'll never have unity within our present structure. Whenever the going gets tough for the Vice-Presidents, they immediately put the blame on Head Office. If there's unrest within the Regions, it's because the Vice-Presidents have created the unrest. The Vice-Presidents have really got it going both ways. They say one thing at Board Meetings and they say and do the complete opposite in their Region. And that's why I say that a very important thing that should be done at this Conference is to take the Vice-Presidents off the Board of Directors.

If we're big enough to identify our weaknesses and correct them then we've grown up and it's a step forward. Once we have our house in order, then we can talk about programs - not just talk amongst ourselves but hard fast bargaining with government. For instance, we could pressure the Provincial Government for more meaningful results to come out of Human Rights Commission. We could pressure the Federal Government for more meaningful results to come out of Special ARDA. Special ARDA was designed to put our people into economic development and all it's done so far is to create a few high-priced jobs for civil servants.

We have this proposal on economic development; now let's start to apply the pressure.

In regard to housing, we should aim to do the following:

- 1) tap into existing programs that are now available under the National Housing Act and contract to build better remote housing units.
- 2) We should move towards expanding the housing repair program to the point where we are actually building houses. And while we're doing these things, we come down hard on Ottawa to come across with the bucks for our comprehensive housing policy.

In education, we should be insisting on \$200,000 a year on bursaries alone to send 200 kids to university so our young people can come out of there as doctors, lawyers, engineers, and so on. If government can spend in the neighbourhood of \$900,000 for the IMPACTE Program, they can surely increase the money that is available for whatever fields our kids want to go into.

These and other programs will come if we're united. Our objective now is to whip our organization into shape by implementing the measures I've outlined in the letter and always keeping in mind that it's the guys in the shacks that we're working for.

She concluded by saying that she had begun learning Cree and said the following words which are translated as follows:

"Please understand, I don't want to be a big shot; I only want to work for people who live in shacks. You are the ones who are important."

Thank you very much.

Ferdinand Guiboche

Ladies and Gentlemen

I'd like to thank my mover, Yvon Dumont (Director from the Interlake) and my seconder Edward Head, and my campaign manager is Murray Sinclair, Special Assistant to the Attorney-General.

I want to present my "throne" speech. What I'm doing is presenting some ideas to you for you to discuss and talk about and perhaps add on or take it out altogether. And what I'm doing is presenting some ideas and I'll make promises in specific areas and I will tell you about them. I sent a letter out to you and I outlined some of the things that I felt were important.

I mentioned in the letter that I gave credit to those people that have made a contribution to the Metis development of Manitoba over the last seven years. I give credit to those people, however large or small; to the President, to all the Local Chairmen.

I also spoke in the letter about leadership change. Leadership change is necessary from time to time to revive the organization and put it on a new course of action if it is not performing the way it should be. I think that we should go into that change now.

I also mentioned the structure of the Regions. I think the provincial structure with the 6 Regions is a good system and I think it can be made to work and I would certainly work towards doing that.

I also spoke about uniting the Metis people of Manitoba. There are so many Metis people today that are involved and are not using their energies for a common purpose to use all the ability that we have for a common purpose to use that I think is essential to the development of our organization and I would certainly work towards developing that.

I also spoke about Regions moving in the area that they want to move in - moving in the direction of their choice. I don't have any hangups of letting different Regions develop programs and move in the direction of their choice and contrary to what you may have heard,

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this is not going to disorganize us; it's going to unite us and make us stronger. Competition never hurt anyone and I think you should be prepared to face that fact because in society you're going to face a lot of it.

I think the same thing about Locals. Some of them are capable of moving in the direction of their choice and sometimes they merely require the opening of a minister's office door for them.

Inspiration of our Metis culture has been lacking over the last few years. I think we should revive our culture as much as humanly possible because this is one thing that has given us pride and brought us together. When we started this organization it was based on our identity.

I also present to you my future thinking and these are my ideas. Positive practical and challenging change. We live in a time of change and I think we should move in that direction.

I would like to see the election of a President every year. If you're not satisfied with me next year, I want to get out. I'm also concerned about the financing of Presidential candidates. The way our system is today, unless you have the means to get out and campaign, you don't have much of a chance to get elected President in this organization. I don't want to see this organization become an area of fat cats or an elitist group. I think the common Metis person should have an opportunity to get in there. I'm concerned about this and I'd like to see resolutions come about to talk about those things.

I would like to see a fixed date every year for a Winter Conference. I think this is a time that many conferences are held, people can get together. We can't control the elements. I would like to see a cultural conference every summer during the summer holidays, where we can bring our families, where all the locals can do something (put on a play, skit, jig, or whatever they want to do) where we get together and discuss the things that we feel are important.

I encourage Regions to meet from time to time with each other. I think this is good and I would like to see in the near future a Northern Conference between the two Regions where you can discuss the issues as you see them, where the Board can come in and listen to what you have to say. I know you have many concerns you would like to discuss and I'm sure we can bring this about without costing the government any money because I feel the government would be glad to finance something of this sort.

I think we also need a Conference in Central and Southern Manitoba because problems here may be different and I think we have to settle them.

I also want to see a Conference in the Urban centres to bring the people together. In Winnipeg, one of the largest Metis communities, we only have one Local because that's the way the Constitution reads. But I would like to see the participation of more Metis people in the City of Winnipeg and I think it's time we tried to reach those people.

Affiliation of other Native organizations to ours: the Friendship Centres, etc. These people are funded by the government, they are not going to go away, they have an important role to play and I think we should provide an affiliate membership to these organizations to this organization if they want it. The Metis Women's Association I feel is an important vehicle that could be used within the M.M.F. The same applies to Metis Youth. There are important roles and functions that such groups can play. For example, the adoption of our children; how many of our children today are being adopted into middle class homes in Manitoba and throughout this country and losing their heritage completely because they are not getting their heritage in those homes.

We should take advantage of government programs. I would like to turn a new sheet over and start from day 1 and go on to the things we feel are important. The IMPACTE and Northern Manpower Programs and all the programs existing today are something our people can use.

Another area concerns Treasury Branches. Many of our rural and remote communities do not have banking facilities and I think we need them in these areas and we have to get involved in the finances of our province.

Budget: In a people's organization, I don't think we should be concerned about deficits or surpluses. We're not a profit and loss organization; we don't have a list of shareholders who demand a surplus so that we can pay dividends out to the people. We are a people's organization, and if we go in the hole from time to time I don't think we should let that concern us, particularly if we are doing something that is made to do something for the people that we are serving. If we decide to go in an area that we want to go then let's go in that area.

Cadets: Our Metis children don't have any place to go. I would like to talk to the Department of National Defence and provide something for our Metis boys and girls this summer where they could participate.

I think it's time we had a Human Rights Section in the Manitoba Metis Federation that would deal with the problems that are there (eg. housing, education, the law, etc) and I call them a team of Metis troubleshooters that will be prepared to assist individuals, Locals, and Regions and to expose those people who are stepping on us every turn they make. That's a promise I make to you.

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The Manitoba Metis Academy: Today, we've received \$2,000 from the Provincial Government and we have a proposal before the Secretary of State. I could have held a Conference already but because I'm involved in the politics of the M.M.F., I didn't want this to become involved, so therefore that's being tabled until this month. I will be meeting with some of you people to discuss that. So far, we've received a \$200 donation from The Pas Local of the M.M.F. and \$10.00 from Tony Belcourt, President of N.C.C. I have ideas that I'm going to throw out to you as a model where our Metis boys and girls will eventually go into.

The Native Council of Canada must be strengthened and I would work hard towards strengthening that organization because there are so many resources that we can tap and we need the support and the backing in order to get this thing out so I feel very strongly that we should do this. I want greater consultation with the other Provincial Organizations to find out how they go about doing things and to learn from them and they can learn from us.

I would like to see the election of one Provincial Vice-President who would work along with the President. I think it's important to have elected people conferring and discussing things rather than discussing things with staff. I'm not saying that staff members should not be consulted, but there is an important role for employees to play and for the elected people to play. If that doesn't come about, then I would like to see a Special Assistant for the President over the next term.

I would also like to see a Cabinet Structure where M.M.F. Vice-Presidents and Board of Directors have a direct responsibility much like the Cabinet structure in the Province today where one Vice-President could be in charge of housing; that person could negotiate with C.M.H.C., would hire the Housing Co-ordinator and would facilitate the movement and direction within the Regions. The same would apply to Education. We have to delegate authority to the people we elect. We call ourselves a Metis Nation; then I say let's govern ourselves accordingly. Why not have Metis politics? Why not a Metis capital? Why not a Metis legislature? Why not a party system?

I would also like to see Local elections held at the Local level eventually. Maybe we could even adopt the Provincial system of Constituencies.

These are some of the ideas we have to throw out now; they may not happen this year or next year, but we've got to start talking about them now. There's no parallel in this country for the kind of thinking that I'm telling you among the Native organizations today. And I think it's time we showed the lead in doing these things.

My concern in these areas would be that I didn't push too fast or too hard but I feel you have the ability and the capabilities of doing those things.

We've had enough gloom and doom in this organization and I don't mind painting a rosy picture. Where have your ideas been? I don't think there have been enough ideas coming out from people. There's been far too much discussion at the top level. If we develop an important program I think it should be thoroughly discussed by the people to make sure because if I'm your president, I want to know I have your backing, not necessarily just the Board's. I want to receive backing from the people at the Local level; that will give me strength to move.

When we talk about monies there's always concern. I would like to see a Salary Review Committee made up of an independent structure that would give us an idea of how we should go about paying; how our transportation should be paid and to take an objective assessment of it.

Whatever your choice is going to be, I'm going to respect it. I'm not here begging for votes and I don't want any sympathy from anybody, because I feel I can go quite a few places in this country and do the things I want to do. I want to make my contribution to this organization and then I want to get out of it and let somebody else take over it. I don't believe in perpetuating something when I have no more to offer. I can offer you what I can and that will be it.

Thank you.



Victorious Presidential candidate Guiboche and wife, Rita.

The speeches were followed by a brief question-and-answer period in which questions were directed to the Presidential Candidates.

This was followed by the election and the results were as follows:

Ferdinand Guiboche -	152
J. Angus Spence -	78
Connie Eyolfson -	46

The Chairman declared Mr. Guiboche as the new President on the first ballot since he had received over 51% of the total number of votes.

Mr. Guiboche thanked those delegates for supporting him and expressed his anticipation in working for the organization.

Resolution

Moved by Bruce Sealey that J. Angus Spence be made Honorary President of the Manitoba Metis Federation.

Seconded - Ferdinand Guiboche.

Motion Carried.

During and after the election, the following invited guests presented brief addresses to the Assembly:



N.C.C. President Belcourt as guest.

- Mr. Kermot Moore, President, Laurentian Alliance of Metis and Non-Status Indians.
- Mr. Ferd Ewald, Regional Director, Secretary of State.
- Mr. Ken Dillen, MLA, Thompson Constituency.
- Mr. Tony Belcourt, President, Native Council of Canada.
- Mr. Harvey Moats, Executive Director, Human Rights Commission.
- Mr. Vern Harper, Vice-President, Ontario Metis and Non-Status Indian Association.
- Mr. Fred House, President, B.C. Association of Non-Status Indians.



Kermot Moore, Laurentian Alliance of Metis and Non-status Indians President.

The Chairman (Rev. Adam Cuthand) proceeded to present a progress report on the Land Grants Research Program of the M.M.F., of which he is Co-ordinator. He described the background of preliminary research before the program was funded and outlined the achievements that have been made to date. He emphasized the significance of this research as a basis for future funding because it will support our appeal to the governments for a legal and moral claim to economic development when CORE funding expires.

Mr. Stan Fulham, Executive Director of the M.M.F. spoke briefly on the importance of economic development to the M.M.F. He explained the role of the M.M.D.C. to get into business projects. He mentioned

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that a brief had been prepared by Head Office which indicates what the M.M.D.C. is all about. It would deal with 4 major aspects:

- housing
- economic development of projects
- Migration Centres
- communications

He concluded by re-emphasizing the importance of economic development to the future of the Manitoba Metis Federation.

Mr. Al Chartrand, Education Director of the M.M.F. explained about the bursaries available from his office. He also explained some of his other functions:

- conducting education seminars informing Metis people about involvement in education.
- publishing of information materials.

Workshops

During the remainder of the afternoon's agenda, five workshops were conducted as an information source for the delegates present. The workshops consisted of the following subjects of interest:

- 1) Land Grants Research - chaired by Rev. Adam Cuthand.
- 2) Education - chaired by Al Chartrand.
- 3) Housing - chaired by Harry Pomfret.
- 4) Economic Development - chaired by Stan Fulham.
- 5) Metis Days - chaired by Maureen Lynn.

Sunday, February 3

Constitutional Amendments

Brian Orvis, as Chairman, described the procedure for Constitutional Amendments - by going through each Article individually and if there would be no discussion or introduction of amendments, the Chair would declare the item carried and there would be no amendments.

He proceeded to go through the Constitution and the following resolutions were introduced:

Resolution

Moved by Joe Thomas that we add to Article III, Paragraph 1, the following item to become Item (e):

- (e) "Members at Large".

Seconded - John Munore

Motion Defeated.

Resolution

Moved by Walter Menard that Paragraph 2, Item 6 of Article III be amended to read:

"Any non-Indian person who is married to a person of Indian descent and is over 16 years of age shall be eligible for **associate** membership in the Manitoba Metis Federation."

Seconded - C. Eyoifson.

Motion Defeated.

Resolution

Moved by Ferdinand Guiboche that we add to Article III, Paragraph 6 to read:

6. Affiliated Membership

Affiliated membership may be provided for incorporated provincial native organizations in Manitoba who request such affiliation to the Board of Directors of the Manitoba Metis Federation, and they could include:

- Manitoba Metis Academy
- Friendship Centres
- Metis Women
- Metis Youth

and that they be provided three (3) votes at our Annual Conferences.

Seconded - Ben Thompson.

Motion carried (82 to 17).

Resolution

Moved by Howard Asham that paragraph 2 of Article IV be deleted in its entirety.

Seconded - Ted Govereau.

Motion Defeated.

Resolution

Moved by Ferdinand Guiboche that paragraph 5 be added to Article IV to read:

5. Affiliated Membership

Affiliated provincial organizations shall pay a membership fee of \$25.00 per year.

Seconded - Jerry Roy.

Motion carried.

Resolution

Moved by Mary Guilbault that Paragraph 1 of Article V remain as is.

Seconded - Joyce Popiel.

Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by Jerry Roy that the following be added to Paragraph 3 of Article V:

"All elections at the Local level be held in March so that all the returns may be sent to the Regional and Head Offices by April 1 (the beginning of the fiscal year)."

Seconded - Ted Govereau.

Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by Edward Head that Paragraph 6 of Article V be amended to read:

"A member who is transferred to another region must reside in that region for a period of **one** month before he is eligible to hold an elected position. This restric-

tion does not apply to members who transfer from one Local to another Local within the same Region.

Seconded - Lily Wokes.

Motion Defeated.

Resolution

Moved by Jerry Roy that Item (1) be added to Paragraph 6 of Article V:

6. (a) Provincial Transfers

Any person moving from another province to this province requires a six-month waiting period before being eligible to hold any elected position at any level within the Manitoba Metis Federation.

Seconded - Alex Lavallee.

Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by Edith Fleury that the following be added to Paragraph 6 of Article V:

"This restriction (6 months) does apply to members who transfer from one Local to another Local within the same Region.

Seconded - Ted Govereau.

Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by George Fleury that "or their proxies" be deleted from Paragraph 3 (a) of Article VI.

Seconded - Joyce Popiel.

Motion Defeated.

Resolution

Moved by Connie Eyoifson that if Paragraph 1, Article 3 will be amended to delete Vice-Presidents, then Paragraph 3 (a) will be amended to read "3 members of the Board of Directors".

Seconded - Mary Guilbault.

Motion Carried.

Note: Paragraph 1, Article 3 was later defeated.

The Chairman introduced Mr. G.E. Christopherson of the Department of the Secretary of State.



Secretary of State Representative Christopherson

Mr. Christopherson spoke on his Department's experiences with Native associations employing its Board Members. He pointed out that the Manitoba Metis Federation is faced with two main problems: deciding what to do and then doing it. The first is policy decision and the second is administration. Policy decision is most properly functioned by the Board of Directors. In effect, the Board is to give direction to the Federation to ensure that it performs in the interest of all Metis and it is to assume overall responsibility for the actions of the Federation. The administration is supposed to carry out the decisions ordered by the Board of Directors. Now the question is this: What happens when the two duties are combined? When a Board member also becomes an administrator, there's a strong likelihood of conflict of interest. This conflict is likely to come when a person uses his position on the Board to run a program the way he likes and then this person also uses his administration moneys to re-enforce his position on the Board. For example, I know of cases when employed Directors have pushed their Board decisions which do not benefit Native people, but which do benefit themselves financially. I also know of cases where Board Members have used their accessibility to association funds in order to conduct perpetual re-election campaigns for themselves. Additionally, cases have come to light where Board Members who administer programs hire only those people who can further their own political ends. These incidents can and have led to the situation where Native Associations cater to two interests: those of the people and those of the Board Members.

While the Secretary of State has generally discouraged the practice of hiring Board Members, it must nevertheless be stated that there is one advantage to this system. That occurs when there is such a lack of available talent that the Association is forced to have its Directors administer funds because there's nobody around who can qualify for the job. This, however, is rarely the case. In summary, then, I must state that the Department does **not** like to see Associations hire their Board Members because of the possibility of conflict of interests.

In our experience with other Native Organizations, none of the Board of Directors get paid except per diem rates, **except** the senior Executive (i.e. Provincial President and Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer).

After a question-and-answer period, the meeting continued with Constitutional Amendments.

Resolution

Moved by Walter Menard that Paragraph 4, Item (e) of Article VI be amended to read:

(e) "Vice-Chairmen of all Regional Locals" and that Item (f) be added to read:

(f) "Secretary-Treasurers of all Regional Locals".

Seconded - Ted Govereau.

Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by Connie Eyoifson that Paragraph 1, Item (a) of Article VII be amended to read:

(a) "The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Regional Vice-Presidents, the Executive Director and the Department Heads of the Manitoba Metis Federation:

eg. Education Director

Accountant

Any other provincial program co-ordinator (all voting).

Seconded - Sylvia Thomas.

Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by Connie Eyoifson that Paragraph 1, Item (c) of Article VII be amended to read:

(c) One-half of the members of the Executive Committee plus one shall form a quorum.

Seconded - Ted Govereau.

Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION

Moved by Connie Eyoifson that sentence (2) be deleted from Paragraph 1, Item (g) of Article VII.

Seconded - Irene Pilon.

Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by Garry Nabess that the following be added to Paragraph 1, Item (j) of Article VII:

"When a vacancy occurs for the position of accountant for the Provincial Head Office of the Manitoba Metis Federation, only persons with Chartered Accountancy qualifications be considered, and that this position be filled by appointment only."

Seconded - Torrence Byers.

Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by Connie Eyoifson that the first sentence of Item (k) Paragraph 1 of Article VII become paragraph 8 of Article VIII.

Seconded - Walter Menard.

Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by Connie Eyoifson that the previous motion be rescinded and that item (k) remain where it is now.

Seconded - Irene Pilon.

Motion Defeated.

Resolution

Moved by Jerry Roy that we add Item (d) to Paragraph 1 of Article VIII:

(d) No appointed paid employees of any program within the Manitoba Metis Federation except the Executive Committee be allowed to sit on the policy-making Board (i.e. the Board of Directors).

Seconded - George Fleury.

Resolution

Moved by Connie Eyoifson that the previous motion be tabled.

Seconded - Arsene Spence.

Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by George Fleury that the above-mentioned motion be tabled indefinitely.

Seconded - Walter Menard.

Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by Irene Pilon that Item (c) of Paragraph 1, Article VIII be deleted.

Seconded - Blair Patzer.

Motion Defeated.

Resolution

Moved by Jerry Roy that we add item (d) to Paragraph 1 of Article VIII:

(d) No appointed paid employees of any program within the Manitoba Metis Federation shall be permitted voting rights on the Board of Directors.

Seconded - Howard Asham.

Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by Alfred Head that the following paragraph be added to the Constitution:

"Any member of the Manitoba Metis Federation holding an elected position within the organization must first resign that position before accepting nomination for any other elected position within the organization."

Conference Highlights

Continued from Page 7

Seconded - Howard Asham.
Motion Carried.

★ **NOTE** - The Chairman declared that the location of this proviso within the constitution would be determined by the Executive Committee.

Resolution

Moved by Joyce Popiel that Items (b) and (c) should be added to Article XV:

- (b) No employee of the Manitoba Metis Federation shall hold an elected position either locally, regionally, or provincially.
- (c) No full-time or part-time appointed employee shall be allowed to get involved in the politics of the Manitoba Metis Federation.

Seconded - George Fleury.
Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by Garry Nabess that the following paragraph should be added to Article XXI to become Paragraph (3):

- (3) "All Provincial program budgets of the Manitoba Metis Federation shall be submitted to the Federal and Provincial Governments in October prior to the next fiscal year".

Seconded - Ed Head.
Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by George Fleury that all resolutions passed by this Conference shall be in effect as of this day (Feb. 3, 1974).

Seconded - Cecil Asmus.
Motion Carried.

At this point, George Fleury expressed thanks to all those who assisted in co-ordinating this Conference.

Conference Resolutions

Resolution

Moved by Alfred Head (on behalf of the Brochet Local of the Manitoba Metis Federation):

- (1) Whereas the fish population has been depleted by the flooding of Reindeer Lake, and

Whereas, the muskrat population has been destroyed, thus resulting in the loss of a trapping livelihood for the people of Brochet, and

Whereas, the flooding has resulted in the needless flooding of a cemetery, and

Whereas, the health of the Native people of Brochet has been jeopardized by the contamination of the water, and

Whereas, the flooding has resulted in the destruction of fish camps and docks close to shore, and

Whereas, fishing is the major and only resource readily available to the people of Brochet,

Be it resolved, that the Annual Conference delegates of the Manitoba Metis Federation support the people of Brochet and stand together in their fight to prevent future flooding and to ensure that the people of Brochet are not deprived of their livelihood.

- (2) Whereas, the numbers of Caribou have been steadily decreasing in Northern Manitoba, and

Whereas, the Caribou are necessary to feed the people of the North and in many cases prevent the possible starvation of many Native people,

Be it resolved, that the Annual Conference delegates of the Manitoba Metis Federation give full support to the establishment of a caribou farm to domesticate the barren ground caribou.

Seconded - Maureen Lynn.
Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by Maureen Lynn (on behalf of the Winnipegosis Local of the Manitoba Metis Federation):

Re: Mesh size of nets

Whereas, the government is taking away the livelihood of over 400 licensed fishermen and hundreds more that are affected by the change in mesh size. Mr. Green, the Minister of Mines and Natural Resources, wants to change the mesh size of nets, and 10 of the 11 fishermen present were opposed. Mr. Green stated that he had the authority to change the mesh size and the proposed change is to take place in the fall of 1974.

Be it resolved, that the Annual Conference delegates of the Manitoba Metis Federation give full support to the fishermen in their opposition to this proposed change in the mesh size of nets.

Seconded - Connie Eyolfson.
Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by Joe Sayese (on behalf of the Masqua Native People's Migration Centre Board):

"Due to the serious need for a Native people's migration centre, to be controlled by the Native people themselves in Lynn Lake and also due to the serious lack of adequate housing for people of all races in Lynn Lake, including Treaty, Metis and Inuit people,

Be it Resolved that:

- (a) This conference go on record today as giving full support to the Musqua Native People's Migration Centre Board to acquire the former Indian Hospital and property back from the Federal Government for use as a migration centre in Lynn Lake with the following services: hostel, job and family counselling, cafeteria and recreational facilities, nursing facilities for migrating patients, drug and alcohol treatment and any other useful Services that may be needed;

- (b) This conference go on record as supporting the Lynn Lake Tenants Association in its fight for a Co-op Trailer Park to be established in Lynn Lake at costs that all people can afford, and open to all people, regardless of race, colour or creed.



Joe Sayese

If both these projects fail to come about, the Lynn Lake Tenants Association recommends the calling of a conference of all Northern people later this year to plan further protest actions against the various levels of government, municipal, provincial and federal to force the point home that we want and need these projects this year, not some time in the distant future.

Seconded - Ed Head.
Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by Howard Asham (on behalf of the Interlake Region) that in future Conferences, the revising of the Constitution shall not be left until the last day, when most of the delegates have left for home early. These are important decisions and should be put first on the agenda so that the majority of members are present to discuss their views on the amendments.

Seconded - Margaret Head.
Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by Joe Venne that the minutes of the Board of Directors Meetings be sent to the Chairmen of each Local.

Seconded - Celia Klassen.
Motion Defeated.

Resolution

Moved by Ida Montroy that the workshop on economic development has discussed the proposal for the Manitoba Metis Development Corporation, and recommends that:

- (a) this brief should be studied and discussed at Regional Committee Meetings as fully as possible, so that all Local Executives will know and understand what this proposal is about; and
- (b) that these Regional Meetings should be held as early as possible; and
- (c) that the proposal on economic development should be the main topic of discussion for the Regional Meetings.

Seconded - Joe Venne.
Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by John Munore that whereas the anglers take most of our spawning pickerel out of our spawning rivers every spring, be it resolved that the angling stop in the Sclater River at Duck Bay during the spring run of pickerel.

Seconded - Peter Richard.
Motion Carried.

Resolution

Moved by Alfred Head that we advise the government that guides in the North and in all parts of Manitoba be provided for all anglers due to the many dangers involved.

Seconded - George Brown.
Motion Carried.

Before the adjournment of the Conference, Ferdinand Guiboche, the newly-elected President, addressed the General Assembly. He explained that he had intended to pass more amendments today but that there were some comments that he had to discuss with the representatives from the Secretary of State in

regard to CORE funding. He reported that there is a proposal out to be discussed by the Board of Directors over the next while and a decision will be made. He didn't feel a decision could be made here today regarding this proposal; it would have to be discussed in detail, an intelligent decision has to be arrived at, and some deep thinking has to go into it and we will reply in due course.

He stated that his term as President would not become effective until April 1, but until that time he would become as much involved as possible. Furthermore, the highlights of his campaign speech (e.g. cabinet structure approach, Northern and urban conferences, cadets, Treasury Branch, etc.) would soon be circulated to all Locals so that they could discuss it in detail.

He expressed his anticipation in working with the Board of Directors to come up with a working structure for the Manitoba Metis Federation, taking points of view from every individual in the group right down to the Local level. He concluded by reiterating that in his campaign speech, he threw a challenge to the delegates, they gave it back to him, and he hoped he would be worthy of their decision.

Mr. Guiboche's address concluded the proceedings of the M.M.F.'s Sixth Annual Conference.

Social Events of the Conference

Every evening of the Conference provided the opportunity for those in attendance to forget about the hectic daily proceedings and to dance to the music capably provided by the "Country Cuzzins" from The



B.C.A.N.S.I. President Fred House entertaining.

Pas. Members of this talented orchestra include Ahab Constant, Lloyd Sayese, Butch Fleury, and Leonard Constant. Their music catered to the interests and enjoyment of young and old alike since it appropriately consisted of Red River jigs, square dances, and modern country and rock sounds. Among the guest entertainers that performed with them was Mr. Fred House, President of BCANSI, who proved to those in attendance that his talents are not restricted to those of any ordinary politician.



"Jig-fiddling" Lawrence Houle with a "Country Cuzzin".

The grand winner of the jiggling contest was Billy De La Ronde of Dauphin. All contest winners are to be acknowledged for donating their prize money in aid of the Metis Days Fund.



Poetry

The following poem was written by Leonard Carriere from Cranberry Portage, Manitoba:

Reflections

I can remember myself as a child
Life on the reserve being quite mild
But being a half-breed as I know
From the reserve we soon had to go.

I had to enter a Catholic school
To learn English and many a good rule
It was then I soon forgot
The native tongue I spoke a lot.

There a change did take place
Which made me lose face
When my native friends called me "White"
And the "Whites" called me "Indian -- Who is right.

It was then I began to learn
That in two society's I was born

But I grew up wise and strong
Soon to find out where I belong.

For I grew up to be
A very proud "Metis".

Butterflies

Butterflies float over the sky,
Over the sky, they swiftly fly.
Swimming through the air without a care,
To where they flow or where they go.
Beauty is what they hold, swinging in the air
carefree and bold.
Skillfully landing upon a flower.
Hypnotizing nature with the gracious power.
To be free,
Butterflies have to pay no fee.

AUTHOR Kim Carriere,
Winnipeg, Man.
Age 12

Pritchard House Officially Opened

The Native Alcoholism Council of Manitoba's halfway house (Pritchard House) at 456 Pritchard Avenue in Winnipeg was officially opened on Sunday, October 28th. Approximately 65 guests attended the "open house" which was an informal affair; a tour of the house was offered to those interested, followed by lunch and a showing of the film entitled "Changes" which has been jointly produced by the Native Alcoholism Council, the Manitoba Indian Brotherhood, and the Non-Medical Use of Drugs Foundation. The film was followed by a discussion led by the Council's Acting Director, Earl Duncan.



Council's Acting Director, Earl Duncan.

Pritchard House accommodates seven men and six women. Programmes at the house are designed to ease the transition to community life for Native people who have just completed hospital treatment. Only people who have been detoxified or undergone medical treatment from a physician may be admitted. Their average stay is four to six weeks. The House has been in operation since midsummer and over 40 people have been looked after and released since this time. Two full-time employees are on staff; an attendant, Jack Nabess, and a cook, Bertha McCorrister. In addition, seven counsellors employed by the Council alternate daily as group leaders for the morning sessions which are geared to teaching the residents "how to face life without alcohol". Afternoon sessions focus on social and cultural factors related to Native people and the pressure of alcohol. Pride in their identity is stressed with representation of Native people's organizations participating and ex-



Pritchard House - how to face life without alcohol.

plaining how they can help. Evening discussions feature Indian and Metis members of Alcoholics Anonymous. Alanon, an organization composed of relatives of alcoholics and problem drinkers, also holds weekly meetings at Pritchard House.

Basically, the structured program offered at the House is an unlearning experience. The residents are encouraged to unlearn their compulsion and desire to drink and they learn to discipline themselves by observing regular eating and sleeping habits.

The staff of the Native Alcoholism Council of Manitoba is to be commended for the hospitality provided at their "open house" and the Manitoba Metis Federation wishes to take this opportunity to wish them success in the future operation of Pritchard House.

Seeks to expel Angus Spence

NOTE:

Subsequent to a Board of Directors' Meeting in Winnipeg on Sunday, March 3, the following article appeared in the March 4 issue of the Winnipeg Free Press. Since the contents of this press release are currently still under debate, the "M.M.F. News" is unable to present further details at this time.

The president-elect of the Manitoba Metis Federation took action Sunday to expel federation president Angus Spence three weeks before the end of his term.

The validity of the move to expel Mr. Spence, who is out of town on vacation, was challenged soon after president-elect Ferdinand Guiboche announced his intention to take over the presidency by Monday.

Connie Eyolfson, acting president in Mr. Spence's absence said the expulsion is constitutionally invalid.

Mr. Guiboche, who was to succeed Mr. Spence April 1, said Sunday that he planned to "take over" the federation's Donald Street office Monday morning.

Mr. Guiboche of Camperville, Man. said Mr. Spence was ousted under a clause of the federation constitution which says an officer can be expelled if the board considers his actions to be gravely detrimental to the interest or welfare of the federation.

He said Mr. Spence had no authority to appoint Mrs. Eyolfson acting president without board approval.

He particularly criticized Mr. Spence for calling a regional election meeting Saturday which saw two board members lose their seats in a loss-of-confidence vote.

"They're all wet," Mrs. Eyolfson said Sunday, referring to the board's weekend action.

She said Mr. Guiboche won't be allowed to take office Monday.

The vote Sunday was invalid because the meeting didn't have a legal quorum she said. Furthermore Mr. Spence wasn't notified of the meeting or given notice that expulsion was being considered, as required by the federation rules, she said.

She said two of the men voting at the Sunday board meeting George Fleury, and Torrance Buyers had lost their board memberships the day before in a landslide-loss-of confidence vote held at Brandon in the federation's south-west region.

She said the regional membership asked Mr. Spence to call the meeting because Mr. Fleury regional vice-president would not. At the meeting a regional committee decided that the election won by Mr. Buyers and Mr. Fleury last January had been improperly carried out, and called for a vote of confidence.

Mrs. Eyolfson criticized Mr. Guiboche for his "dictatorial" attitude and further questioned the "cosy little set-up" he and his relatives occupy on the special ARDA board, a federal government program to assist native people in commercial ventures.

"If this is the attitude of the president-elect, I wonder what will happen in the next two years (of his term)?"

"There are a lot of things happening that the Metis people in Manitoba are not aware of," she said.

"Angus Spence is a very honest man. It's unfortunate I can't say the same about all of the rest of the people on the board..."

Why didn't Mr. Spence appoint Mr. Guiboche as president-elect since the position will be his in a matter of weeks?

"Ferdinand has the next two years to implement his ideas - if the board of directors set that as policy. Mr. Spence is finishing his term and he'd like the federation to continue the direction he has set."

Dauphin Drop-In Centre

The doors of the New Drop-In Centre in Dauphin opened on January 21st, 1974. The Centre is located at 21 - 3rd Avenue N.E., Dauphin, right next door to the M.M.F. Regional Office. Funded by a L.I.P. grant, the Centre is co-ordinated by Laverne Morrisseau.

Laverne is by no means new to this type of work, having worked as a Research Worker prior to taking on this position. She has 5 other people to assist her in carrying out the following responsibilities:

1. Counselling on alcohol - family problems, child welfare, etc.
2. Referral Centre - for people looking for houses, jobs, government agencies, etc.
3. A waiting place for people coming from the country who have to wait for appointments with doctors, dentists, lawyers, etc.
4. A general information Centre. The centre will open from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. midnight.

The centre will have its doors open for anyone living, coming in, or passing through Dauphin.

The coffee pot is on. You don't need to have a problem to drop in to the centre and talk with Laverne or her staff to find out how the centre operates and how it could be used by people from your own home town.

We also have an information referral programme, which refers people to the various agencies that can help them, such as Department of Health and Social Development, Indian Affairs, Canada Manpower, M.M.F., etc.

We also are working towards opening a "Friendship Centre" to take over when our L.I.P. project ends.

-Laverne Morrisseau
Drop-In Centre Co-Ordinator

Santa Claus Parade at Bacon Ridge

- A Smashing Success

The first annual Santa Claus Parade was held in Bacon Ridge (Dauphin Region) on December 15, 1973.

The idea to have the Parade was first brought up at one of our Local meetings. Everyong wanted to see it take place, but actually very few thought it would ever materialize. The Local Executive started the action, but it wasn't until the morning of the parade that the fever hit "the Ridge."

A variety of floats participated in the Parade, including "Three Men in a Tub", "Frosty the Snowman", "Reedy Creek Prospector", and a live Pow-Wow. Sorry to say that one of our floats had a flat tire on the way to the Parade and was too late for the judging. But accidents will happen; better luck next year, girls!



Santa with Bacon Ridge friends.

After the Parade, Santa, who was drawn by horse and cutter, gave out his Christmas treats in the school, while outside a brigade of ski-doo's was offering the children free rides around the school yard.

At 5 o'clock, we sat down to a hot banquet supper served by the ladies. We would like to thank Mrs. Eva Shuttleworth for supervising this part of our day. It's been a long time since a supper has been served in Hillridge and the food was simply delicious. We took a few minutes before the meal to announce the winner of the trophy for the best float and to crown "Miss Snow Queen '73." The teachers of Hillridge school received the trophy for their colorful float. We still have our suspicions that the parincipal "bribed" the judges (ha! ha!).

Rox Anne ('Roxy') Shuttleworth won the Snow Queen Contest with Kathleen and Marjorie Houle as runners-up. A big thanks to all the girls; their participation in the parade helped to make it so successful. Roxy, through moist eyes, thanked everyone for supporting her and requested that she might keep her robe and crown until next year to pass on to the next "Snow Queen." It wasn't until this time that we realized the community expected and wanted the parade to be an annual event.

After dishes were cleared and tables put away, the dance got into full swing. There was music for every age group -- everything from the "Banana Split" to "Frops of Brandy" and winding up with a real old fashioned Square Dance. While the dancers were catching their breath, Walter Flett entertained us with a few jigs from his dancing puppet, "Charley." Charley sure brought roars of laughter and applause from everyone. Thanks a lot, Walter!

Although this was our first parade and we made our mistakes, we can only promise that our next one will be bigger and better. Hopefully, the guests we invite next year will take us more seriously or at least let us know of their intentions in advance; it was rather embarrassing to have a head table for the Guests of Honour and to have only a few show up.

So we'll see you all at the Santa Claus Parade in December of '74!

- Thelma Houle
Sec. - Treas.
Bacon Ridge
Local.

Camperville's Second Annual Winter Carnival

Camperville's Second Annual Winter Carnival, sponsored by the Camperville Metis Association, was held on Saturday, February 23. The highlight of the Carnival was the crowning of the Carnival Queen - "Miss Metis of Camperville '74". The M.M.F. President-elect, Ferdinand Guiboche, was asked to crown the queen, Vanda Lafreniere, and to present her with a wrist watch.

The first, second, and third princesses were Ramona Guiboche, Barbara Klyne and Yvonne Guiboche who were also presented with wrist watches by Walter Menard, Art Dame, and Cliff Pangman.

Other events included Ski-doo Races, a Singing Contest, Fish-eating Contest, and Jigging Contest.

First-prize winner of the Ski-doo Race was Ben Thompson of Thompson, who donated his \$25.00 prize to the "Metis Days Fund". Second and third-prize winners were Lawrence Desmarais of Duck Bay and Frank Richard of Camperville.

Stanley Parenteau of Duck Bay took first prize in the Singing Contest. Second-prize winner, Gasper Zoldy of Camperville, donated his prize to the M.M.F. Local. Eleven-year-old Gail Ledoux won third prize, appropriately choosing the M.M.F. "Metis Song".

A total of 10 contestants took part in the fish-eating contest with first prize being awarded to James Chartrand of Camperville (very few bones were left!!). Second and third prizes went to Jack

Fleming of Winnipegosis and Clarence Guiboche of Camperville, respectively.

Twelve-year-old Cynthia Delaronde of Camperville was awarded first prize in the jigging contest for the second year in a row. Meanwhile, Clifford Pangman, the M.M.F. Chairman from Camperville won the second prize, with third prize going to George Richard, also from Camperville.

In the evening, a banquet was prepared and served by the Camperville Metis Women's Association.

This was followed by a grand ole time dance with music provided by the San Clara Band.

Last year, the Camperville Metis Association made a profit of \$600.00 which was contributed to the construction of a playground. This year's profit of \$100.00 was donated to the Sports Committee.

The Camperville Metis Association and the Camperville Metis Women's Association wishes to thank all those who contributed to the success of our Carnival; particularly to the members of the Winnipegosis Metis Association who volunteered to look after the bar and to Collin Richard for donating the delicious white fish for the Fish-eating Contest.

- Maureen Lynn,
Camperville, Manitoba.

In My Own Words

-by Albert Leplante, as told to Annie Short, (Chairman, San Clara Local)

I'm a halfbreed. We came to Canada from North Dakota by train and settled in the San Clara district in 1911. There were ten children in our family; five boys and five girls. My dad came a year before the family did. By the time we came, most of the homesteads were taken up but my dad managed to get one. We lived in a log house plastered with mud. We were very poor; we got an odd job here and there. We had very little schooling. We lived on moose meat, deer, rabbits and fish. Our main source was rabbits as they were plentiful. We snared them and we survived. We had no stock of any kind and the clothes we wore were things that were given to my mother and she made over for us. Our moccasins and mitts were made of old overalls and grain sacks.

When we came, there was no such place as San Clara and Boggy Creek. There were two post offices about ten miles apart. Walkerburn is now San Clara and Grand Prairie is now Boggy Creek.

When us boys were old enough to go to work, we worked in a logging camp for fifteen dollars a month. The workers were mostly halfbreeds; it was hard work but we were a happy bunch. Even with very little to eat everyone had a sense of humor that kept our souls alive. If anyone was in need, everybody rallied around and helped whether we knew them or not. There was a happiness that lived in our people; it still does, but as people began to be better off they found less to

laugh about. When we came, there were no roads - only trails, swamps and water all over. We made roads by "corduroying" over wet spots.

I married a girl from Shortdale, Manitoba; we had a family of five boys and two girls. Times were pretty rough. We lived in a log house with a sod roof which leaked an awful lot. I recall one time when the family got bigger; I built a bedroom with a sod roof and slab floor. Then the rains came. The sod was soaked and the poles broke so we put up posts to hold up the roof.

We bought a cow to have milk for the children but the cow got into a straw stack and ate a lot of chaff, got bloated and died. That's the way our luck went from year to year, but I managed to get some kind of work to feed my family.

On New Year's morning we would go from house to house, eating, singing and making merry. I recall one place we would go to; we would have a good time celebrating until the bottle was empty. Then we'd get kicked out but we went back year after year and go through the same thing over again. When I drank I didn't care about any one or any thing. I was always looking for a scrap because I could never keep my mouth shut.

As time went on, my boys grew up and went to work (which helped us, as wages were better). Now things are much better. We live with our son, but the deep-down happiness is gone; he is good to us but there is no one to reminisce with. We are on pension so we sit and dream of happier times.

Changes In Welfare Legislation

The newly-formed Women's Rights Committee of the National Capital Civil Liberties Association proposes to tackle a number of issues that are of vital significance to women from different economic backgrounds in an attempt to redress some of the inequities that are built into the legislative and social systems. Our approach is action-oriented (as opposed to research-oriented) and we would like to deal with one problem-area at a time.

The first issue we are attempting to grapple with involves changes in federal and provincial legislature with respect to welfare. Current legislation often denies welfare to women who desperately need help on the grounds of their sex or severely infringes upon the privacy of women who are on welfare. We therefore plan to bring pressure to bear on the appropriate authorities to ensure that:

- (i) The "head of the household" clause be eliminated. As the law stands at the present time it assures that a male (related or unrelated, responsible or not to the women or children concerned) is responsible for their economic survival. This clause has often been invoked to deny welfare to women.
- (ii) Equal benefits are provided to welfare recipients regardless of their sex.
- (iii) There should be no "man in the house"

clause. (Readers will note that neither provincial nor federal legislation contains a "woman in the house" clause that allows for invasion of a man's privacy or causes him to be ineligible for welfare benefits!).

Such pressure can obviously not be generated by this group, collectively or as individuals, alone.

We are therefore asking for your support, the support of every group concerned with welfare, women's rights or liberation, and social change to send us a letter specifying your support for these changes. Also, if you are a Woman and have trouble receiving welfare benefits because you are a female or because you are living with a man, we would appreciate hearing the details of your story and if you are interested in being interviewed by the media (radio, television, newspaper reporters) please contact us.

We have a tiny (almost non-existent!) budget at the moment, but we intend to fight for these changes despite such handicaps. We need your help desperately. Please send out a letter to the following address as soon as possible!

Civil Liberties Association
National Capital Region
P.O. Box 2541, Station "D"
Ottawa, Ontario. K1P 5W6

Attention: Women's Committee

Project Wechiwewin

Wechiwewin is a Cree word whose English translation is "come with us" and it suggests or connotes "a helping hand". The word has been appropriately adopted by a Local Initiatives Program which has been operating out of the Southeast Regional Office of the M.M.F. since January 7 of this year. It is basically designed to provide an escort-interpreter service for Native people arriving in Winnipeg who require such a service.



Project Manager Jane Marx.

It is presently staffed by three Native people: Jane Marx (Manager), Jim Nicholas, and Merdina Karol. All are fluent in either the Cree or Saukteaux language. Their main function is to "MEET" incoming Native people arriving at the airport, railway station, or bus depot in Winnipeg. The majority of the people that are met are coming to Winnipeg for medical reasons and since they require transportation, accommodation and various other types of additional assistance, it is the responsibility of the project members to see that the needs of their clients are met.

Though it is difficult to generalize about the type of client that the project members cater to, the following might well serve as an example. A 40-year-old Cree-speaking lady from a Northern community becomes ill and is referred to Winnipeg for medical treatment. Since she speaks very little English and may have never been to Winnipeg before, she will inevitably be faced with many problems and frustrations in addition to her illness. The Provincial Department of Health and Social Development makes arrangements for her plane transportation to Winnipeg and a project

member is informed as to the details of her arrival.

Meanwhile, the project member makes arrangements for her temporary accommodation at the Indian and Metis Reception Lodge on Selkirk Avenue. On her day of arrival, the project member greets her at the airport, makes her feel welcome to the city, drives her to her temporary place of accommodation and eventually to her medical appointment(s). If she is hospitalized, the project worker does not forget about her; he will make regular visits and see to it that she receives whatever basic necessities she may require during her stay (eg. toothpaste, toiletries, stationery, etc.). And if she cannot write, the project worker will write letters home for her. In fact, the project worker may well be the only regular visitor that the lady will ever see during her stay in the hospital. Upon her release from the hospital, she may still require temporary lodging before her return trip home and again she can rely on the helping hand of the project worker.

While the majority of the cases handled by the project are medical in nature, the project members have also become increasingly involved in assisting migrating Native families who are relocating to Winnipeg and seeking housing. This is mainly because no other agency exists in Winnipeg which specifically provides this much-needed service. The Project has also dealt with the occasional case of individuals who travel to Winnipeg for legal purposes. The majority of its original contacts are through liaison with the Provincial Department of Health and Social Development, but as the project has progressed, its existence has also become publicized through "word of mouth" by former clients who have found the Project to be an effective source of assistance to them in Winnipeg.

Through her experience with the Project, Ms. Marx has noted some of the following observations:

- there is still a surprisingly large number of younger Native people throughout the Province who speak only their Native language
- many Native people arriving in the city are lost and afraid and obviously find it difficult to adjust to a much more rapid pace of living
- there exists a real need for providing more adequate services for migrating Native people who are relocating to urban centres
- up-to-date, our clients come from a variety of communities ranging from the more Northern regions to the more central regions
- our clients constitute an equal representation from both the Status and Non-status Native population

Project Wechiwewin's termination date is June of 1974. Meanwhile, the project members are looking into the possibility of extending the program by seeking alternative sources of funding. If the Project continues to succeed in providing the kind of services it offers, it will obviously have a strong case to present to potential funding agencies.

NEW LOCALS

The M.M.F. News is pleased to announce that a New Local has been formed in the Thompson Region -- the Red Sucker Lake Local. Also, the Southeast Region has recently formed 2 new Locals in Balsam Bay and Belair.

BOARD BRIEFS

Maureen Lynn and Art Dame were re-elected to the M.M.F. Board of Directors (Dauphin Region) at a joint Regional Meeting of the Dauphin and Southwest Regions held on January 12-13, 1974 in Dauphin. At that same meeting, George Fleury was re-elected Vice-President of the Southwest Region.

At a Southeast Regional Meeting held at Pine Falls on February 23, 1974, Herman Burston and Mary Guilbault were also elected to the M.M.F. Board of Directors, replacing the two former Southeast members, Ernie Guilbault and Bruce Sealey.

Card of Thanks

The members of the Head family wish to extend their sincere thanks to all their relatives and friends for acts of kindness, messages of sympathy, and floral offerings during the recent loss of their father, Tom Head, of Cranberry Portage. Mr. Head passed away on January 1st at the age of 69 years. He was predeceased by his wife Mary, in February of 1973 and is survived by seven children. He was a long-time resident of Cranberry Portage where he was employed by CN until his retirement. His son, Edward, is a member of the Manitoba Metis Federation Board of Directors (Thompson Region).

CARNIVAL QUEEN CANDIDATE

Best wishes are extended to Marie-Rose Spence of Eddystone who is busy "campaigning" these days as a Queen Candidate for the Ste. Rose Carnival to be held on March 9th and 10th. Ms. Spence is sponsored by the Ste. Rose Knights of Columbus and is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. J. Angus Spence.

Trappers' Festival Queen



CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

Congratulations are extended to Carolynn Sayese, 19, of The Pas who was crowned Miss Fur Queen at The Pas Trappers' Festival on Wednesday, February 13th. Ms. Sayese was sponsored by the M.M.F. Local of The Pas.

THE PAS LOCAL

The Pas Local of the M.M.F. has received a L.I.P. Grant of \$33,040.00. This will be used to fund a social service project in The Pas to assist handicapped persons, old-age pensioners, and one-parent families. The project employs eleven persons for a six-month period.

NEED HELP FINDING A JOB?

Contact A

NATIVE JOB COUNSELLOR

- ★ WINNIPEG 943-8107 or 943-1143
- ★ BRANDON 727-8874
- ★ PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE 857-4749
- ★ DAUPHIN 638-5023
- ★ SELKIRK 482-6345

Manitoba Pathfinders (Outreach) Program

Manitoba Metis Federation
And Canada Manpower

HEAD OFFICE:

356 Hargrave Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba



The Organization of Metis Women in Manitoba



A popular issue that exists in today's society is that of women's rights. Women everywhere have begun to realize that they could play a more significant role in society - a role that they have generally been deprived of since the beginning of time in many cultures. This increasing awareness has also become characteristic of some Metis women in Manitoba.

A group of Metis women has been organized as the Manitoba Metis Women's Association (M.M.W.A.) since April 14, 1972 at a founding meeting in Dauphin. It was here that a group of 57 delegates assembled (primarily from the Dauphin Region along with a few representatives from the Southwest Region of the M.M.F.) to discuss the whys and hows of organization. For instance, some of the following ideas presented at that time were:



M.M.W.A. President Rita Guiboche.

- Metis Women should be more informed about their culture since it is their responsibility to relate this culture to their children
- although some women are Local Executives within the M.M.F., a Women's Group could do more in such fields as education, housing, children's aid, etc.
- women can express their thoughts more freely when in a women's group
- Metis women are not fairly represented and do not receive the proper recognition within the Native Women's Movement whose primary focus is towards the problems and interests of status Indian women.
- a Women's group should continue to work in harmony with the M.M.F. while at the same time maintaining its own identity.

As a result of this founding meeting, an interim executive was established with the following persons elected:

- President - Louise Stoneman (Kinisota)
 - Vice-President - Matilda Tanner (Roblin)
 - Secretary-Treasurer - Dorothy Moar (Dauphin)
- Since the time of its founding, however, the Manitoba Metis Women's Association has undergone a change in executive, and the present executive consists of the following persons:
- President - Rita Guiboche (Camperville)
 - Vice-President - Grace Menard (Sclater)
 - Secretary-Treasurer - Dorothy Munore (Duch Bay)

Shortly after its inception, the Association drew up the following list of immediate objectives:

1. TO ORGANIZE METIS WOMEN IN EACH COMMUNITY WHERE METIS WOMEN EXIST.
To date, 5 Locals have been established within the Dauphin Region of the M.M.F. in the communities of Camperville, Duck Bay, Spur, Dauphin and Cayer. Other Regions have also expressed some interest in organizing. Also, the Organization requested and was granted three votes within the M.M.F. at a Dauphin Regional Conference in November of 1973. This is considered to be one of its greatest achievements so far.
2. TO LOOK INTO WAYS OF RAISING FUNDS TO PROMOTE PROGRAMS THAT WILL ASSIST METIS WOMEN IN THE FIELDS OF CHILD-CARE, HEALTH EDUCATION, ADULT EDUCATION, AND WELFARE.

At present, the Association has no operation funds as such except for financial support from its Locals which conduct such fund-raising activities as bingos, raffles, record hops, rummage sales, cribbage tournaments, etc.

The Association has also been involved in working towards improving liaison and communication with the various social agencies (eg. the Department of Health and Social Development).

Recently, the Association received a grant of \$19,972 through the Provincial Head Office of the M.M.F. from the National Department of Health and Welfare to administer a Family Planning Project jointly with the Dauphin Regional Office of the M.M.F. This project will serve the three Metis communities of Camperville, Duck Bay, and Spur. The project is scheduled to begin in the immediate future.

3. TO LOOK INTO WAYS OF HAVING METIS PEOPLE ON SCHOOL BOARDS AND HAVING METIS COUNSELLORS AT EACH SCHOOL ATTENDED BY METIS CHILDREN.

In 1973, the Camperville Local of the Association conducted an education service funded by the Local Initiatives Program. This program was entitled MESS (Metis Education School Service) and it employed 13 women whose function was to participate with the teachers and students to promote better parental-teacher involvement. The women worked as "school aides", providing individual help as well as group involvement and they assisted the teachers in putting across necessary concepts in school work, if needed.

4. TO MAKE US AWARE OF THE POTENTIAL FOR LEADERSHIP OF OUR METIS WOMEN OF MANITOBA.

5. TO DEVELOP A GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF OUR GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE AT BOTH FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL LEVEL.

6. TO HELP PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THEIR PROBLEMS ABOUT ALCOHOL AND DRUGS. ALSO TO COUNSEL ALCOHOLICS.

7. TO COUNSEL AND HELP UNWED MOTHERS.

8. TO DEVELOP WORKSHOPS - E.G. SEWING CLUBS, NATIVE CRAFTS, COOKING CLASSES, LAUNDERING, HOME REPAIRS, FIRST AID, ETC.

9. TO COMPILE A LIST OF AVAILABLE AUDIO-VISUAL AIDES OR AGENCIES WHERE THESE MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE.

10. TO LOOK INTO WAYS OF FINDING A PLACE TO KEEP METIS CHILDREN BY METIS PEOPLE INSTEAD OF HAVING THEM ADOPTED INTO OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.

Among some of the Association's additional achievements to date has been recognition at the national level. Grace Ross, an Education student at the University of Manitoba and originally from Fairford, has been involved with the Association since its beginning; in January of this year, she represented the Association at the National Native Women's Conference in Ottawa where she was elected to the positions of Executive-Treasurer and member of its Board of Directors. Ms. Ross has also made preliminary efforts towards establishing a Metis Women's Local in Winnipeg.

The Association has also recently received funds from the Department of the Secretary of State to hold a Native Women's Conference. This Conference will be provincial in scope and is tentatively scheduled to be held in Camperville in April of this year.

As with every newly-formed organization, the Association has become subject to some opposition and criticism. The basis for this criticism originates from those who feel that such an organization is unnecessary since the M.M.F. does not discriminate against women; evidence to support this argument is that approximately half of the M.M.F.'s membership consists of women, many of which hold executive positions at the Local level. Furthermore, such critics consider the Association to be a threat to further disunite the M.M.F.

Whether or not such criticisms are justifiable, the fact is that the Manitoba Metis Women's Association has become an organized force within the M.M.F. Perhaps, the enthusiasm and determination of its members might best be expressed in its "Founding Poem" which was written by Eleanor Anderson of Valley River, Manitoba:



Grace Ross - recognition at the National level.

Come on now, Metis Women! It's time that we unite,
To work as one great body for what we know is right.

From East to West, we're growing within each Province fair,
and in the Territories, folks know that we are there.

We have a firm conviction about our great desire,
To help each Metis Woman to aim a little higher.

To take a keener interest in reaching for our goal,
To work hard on a project, where each one will have a role.

We'll have to prove we're capable of handling the reins,
But look toward the future, and all that it contains.

There'll be a lot of real hard work before the job is done,
And yet there will be many times for us to have some fun.

There'll be a time of proving that we really have a cause,
While everyone around us is looking for the flaws.

So let's all join together for everyone to see,
That the METIS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION is the greatest place to be.

METIS Social - Political Movement and LOUIS RIEL - Humanitarian

The two booklets are the first in a series. Projection is for two more by the fall of 1974. Retail price is \$1.00.

Text is not colourful reading but then it was not meant to be. It was intended that the booklets be more informative and educational in context.

The fleur-de-lis will be the identifying design on all booklets. This design originated at Fort Garry, Manitoba when it was adopted as the first design of the Metis and half-breeds and imprinted on the flag of the Metis Provisional Government at Red River.

Copies can be obtained by writing to:
Mr. Terry Lusty
Box 351
Calgary, Alberta T2P 2H9

NOTES ON AUTHOR

For a number of years Mr. Lusty has been an active member of the Calgary local of the Metis Association of Alberta. He is well known for his self-styled songs which he writes and sings over radio, television and in public. His song "Back to Batoche" won first prize at the "Back to Batoche '73" celebration.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH NOTES FOR APPLICANTS APPLY NOW MARCH 15TH IS THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

NOTES FOR APPLICANTS

Opportunities for Youth is a program which invites youth to participate with government in serving the major needs of their communities. Young people are asked to work together to plan and implement creative and useful community service projects which assist participants to support themselves and finance their education.

The program primarily provides salary money to participants. While projects are urged to seek support for extra expenses from the communities, OFY will also provide limited funds for operating costs.

Opportunities for Youth will give priority to applications which stress community service and social benefit. The program will also give preference to proposals submitted from those areas of the country which provide the fewest employment opportunities for young people. Youth are encouraged to investigate and identify major needs in their local communities and to propose projects which satisfy these needs. Careful consideration must be given, however, to ensure that proposed projects do not duplicate or disrupt local programs.

While Opportunities for Youth is designed to give young people a chance to help improve their communities, the program also gives youth the chance to prepare themselves for new careers in a rapidly changing society; to apply their education to the problems of both today and the future; and to learn, through direct experience, how to work with other community organizations, local resource people, and government departments.

PROGRAM CRITERIA

Opportunities for Youth has established 6 criteria for the selection of projects:

1. Community benefit
2. Youth involvement
3. Benefits to participants
4. Innovation
5. Feasibility
6. Project costs

Applications which meet all or most of these criteria will be considered for selection. In 1973, Opportunities for Youth received over 12,000 applications, but was able to fund only a small proportion given the budget available. Accordingly, the selection process is extremely difficult and many worthwhile projects, which meet the basic criteria, must be turned down.

1. COMMUNITY BENEFIT

Projects should demonstrate positive benefit to the community. They should meet some of the needs of the community or Canadian society, offering realistic answers to community problems and showing clear evidence of local support.

2. YOUTH INVOLVEMENT

Project should be planned, administered and evaluated by young people aged 16 to 25. As many participants as possible should take part in the planning and preparation of the application. Applicants must assume full responsibility for the operation of the project although they are encouraged to seek assistance and advice from specialists, other organizations or OFY Project Officers.

3. BENEFITS TO PARTICIPANTS

Preference will be given to projects submitted by young people who need assistance in financing their education, who are members of low income groups, ethnic or racial minorities, native peoples, handicapped, or who are from isolated communities, or areas offering few employment possibilities.

Project activities should normally be such as to provide the opportunity for participants to develop their skills.

4. INNOVATION

Project applicants are encouraged to submit

projects which offer new responses to community needs.

5. FEASIBILITY

Applicants should demonstrate the ability to complete their project, taking into account available human resources, knowledge and time. In many cases, provision may have to be made for the utilization of local community resources and skilled experience. Projects will have to pay particular attention to safety standards and procedures.

6. PROJECT COSTS

Project participants may request payments up to \$70.00 per week for secondary students and \$90.00 per week for post-secondary students and non-students. In special cases projects can be funded for a maximum of 16 weeks between May 13 and September 1, 1974; however, on the average, projects will receive funding for a maximum of 13 to 14 weeks.

Administration expenses should not normally exceed 10% of the total salaries budget, but in exceptional cases, administration expenses of up to 20% may be considered. Applicants should consider seeking additional support for expenses from other sources.

RULES AND GUIDELINES

1. Youth are encouraged to seek assistance and advice from community groups, such as private associations, citizens groups, social agencies, municipalities and government departments; however, projects relating to the activities of these organizations should be planned, submitted and administered by young people themselves.

2. All participants must be Canadian citizens or legally entitled to work in Canada.

3. A person may participate in only one project.

4. The purchase of capital goods is normally not permitted, and any exceptions to this must have prior written approval. Any capital goods, which may by exception be purchased, must be sold at the completion of the project and the proceeds applied against the costs of the project.

HOW TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION

1. In order to submit a project to Opportunities for Youth, it is necessary to complete the application form and reply to all the questions contained in it. If you feel it necessary, you may enclose other supporting documents.

2. The application must include the names of two members of the group who will act as contact persons. These individuals may be contacted by the Opportunities for Youth for further information about the submission and one of them will be notified as to whether or not the application is accepted.

3. Applications should include letters of support from two persons who are familiar with the aims and objectives of the project and the needs it is designed to meet. Letters of support should indicate how the project will benefit the community and whether or not it duplicates existing community programmes. These endorsements will have extra impact if the individuals concerned are willing to provide resource help or assistance should the group need it.

4. March 15, 1974, is the deadline for submission of applications.

All applications must be mailed before midnight and sent to your provincial O.F.Y. office. The addresses of the provincial office is:

460 Main St.
3rd Floor
Winnipeg, Man. R3B 1B6

WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR APPLICATION

1. When your project is received by Opportunities for Youth, an acknowledgement will be sent.

From March 15 to April 26, 1974, OFY will analyse and select projects. Project officers will contact those whose applications are not sufficiently detailed. All projects will be evaluated with respect to a combination of the six general criteria outlined earlier. Community resource persons will be consulted to help establish existing priorities and to avoid duplication of services. All applications will be reviewed by provincial officials and Members of Parliament.

The final selection will take into account program budget allocations favouring areas of low employment possibilities. Provincial government priorities, educational level of students, the financial needs of participants, and male/female ratios will also be taken into consideration.

2. After April 26, 1974, the Minister of Manpower and Immigration will advise groups of the results of the selection phase. Groups whose projects have been accepted will receive contract forms which will indicate the administrative and financial terms under which the project must be carried out.

3. Upon return of the signed contract to Opportunities for Youth, the project's first payment will be made.

4. The group will be given the name of an Opportunities for Youth project officer who will monitor the progress of the group over the summer and provide assistance when necessary.

5. Groups must be prepared to keep accurate financial records, to have their records audited, to complete necessary questionnaires and to submit a final report on their activities. Upon receipt of a final report and financial statement from the project, Opportunities for Youth will send the last payment.

FOR ASSISTANCE - CALL YOUR NEAREST OFY OFFICE MANITOBA

Winnipeg
460 Main Street,
3rd Floor,
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Phone: 985-2691

Thompson
Unit 39
Thompson Plaza
Thompson, Manitoba
Phone: 778-6041

Please Note: Application forms are available from these 2 addresses.

PLEASE NOTE: APPLICATIONS MUST BE SENT TO THE PROVINCIAL ADDRESS:

460 Main Street
3rd Floor
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3B 1B6

Sports Notes

- Community Relations

Saturday, February 9th, 1974

Mr. Arthur McKay, acting Sports Director of the Native Home, had been in touch with the Sioux Valley Hockey Club, and as a result the Native Clan received a verbal invitation to participate in the Hockey Tournament.

Our first game was scheduled for 12 noon against Long Plains.

We left Winnipeg at approximately 7:30 A.M. and we arrived in Sioux Valley at about 11:15 A.M. We had stopped for coffee along the way.

As there was no entry fee for the teams competing, everyone (players and fans) had to pay the \$1.50 admission.

Long Plains vs. Native Clan was the second game scheduled, and needless to say, the Long Plains Hockey Club was heavily favoured. As a matter of fact, when they made their appearance on ice, they looked more like robots than humans.

Some of the more religious fans predicted that this was one time that Goliath would emerge victorious over David. For the squeamish and emotional fans, blindfolds were handed out so they wouldn't have to witness the massacre. For the loyal hockey supporters, the only questions left unanswered were "Is the score board big enough?" "Will the Native Clan get a shot on goal?"

Continued on Page 14

Sports Notes

Continued from Page 13

But did all this bother the Native Clan? Not a chance! We were too dumb with fear to realize what was happening.

Our attack was a bit shaky at times, but we had the heart and desire and we skated like hell. At the final whistle, the cheering and excitement was reminiscent to the Canadian-Russian hockey series:

NATIVE CLAN 5 LONG PLAINS 4
Truly a sports spectacular!!!!

Following our victory party which consisted of hardboiled eggs, sandwiches and cokes, we were told that we would be facing Sioux Valley at 6:00 P.M., the winner to advance to the finals.

We were still bubbling over with excitement over our victory against Long Plans and never gave much thought about our 6 o'clock encounter with Sioux Valley.



Sports Reporter Ducharme.

Had we known the conditions and physical abuse that our team would be facing, I'm sure that we would have been content with our victory over Long Plains, and left.

The Sioux Valley Hockey Club made Attila the Hun look like a choir boy. We can only thank God that they didn't have any guns or knives. If they did, we didn't see them.

Final Score:

NATIVE CLAN 3 SIOUX VALLEY 6

I would like to point out that had there been an award for a team displaying not only courage, but sportsmanship, the Native Clan Hockey Club would have won it hands down.

The entire Native Clan Hockey Team extends a big "THANK YOU" to Mrs. Dawn Fontaine and Mrs. Tina Cook. These two wonderful ladies spent a great deal of time and effort in preparing a lunch for fourteen hungry hockey players.

Here is a list of names of the men who made the trip to Sioux Valley:

Herman Burston	Frank Bruyere
Rolland Le Clair	Pat Bruyere
Curtis Fontaine	Dan Cote
Mel Abraham	Richard Cook
Art McKay	Ray Mousseau
Kelly Goulet	Ron Ducharme
George Mousseau	

-- Ron Ducharme Native Clan Organization, Inc. Liaison Counsellor.

M.I.B. ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT

Dr. Ahab Spence was elected President of the Manitoba Indian Brotherhood during the Chief's Conference which was held at the Maryland Hotel from February 18-22nd. He replaces Dr. Dave Courchene, who retired in order to devote his time to work for the economic and resource development on behalf of Native people in Manitoba.

Dr. Spence joined the M.I.B. staff in 1970, did research in arts and crafts for two years, served as executive director for one year, headed an educational project on the Fort Alexander Reserve for five months and had been director of educational liaison programs until his recent election.

Letter To The Editor

The Editor
Manitoba Metis Federation News
301-374 Donald Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Dear Sir:

Over the past several months it has occurred to me that perhaps someone should write in and describe the type of person who would be an ideal leader of the Manitoba Metis Federation Inc.

This ideal leader, I might add, does not refer solely to the position of President but also to anyone who holds an elected position; be it Vice-Presidents, Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen, Secretaries of Locals or what have you.

The Federation, as a growing organization has done the best it could and some of the things it has done have been done not too badly, perhaps - but in the process some things have been neglected.

For instance, there are some holes that have got to be plugged, and soon, if the Federation is to survive. What I am referring to, of course, is Vice-Presidential authority, elections and travel claims; the extent of responsibility of the Board of Directors, and the matter of who has authority to call Board meetings.

These holes could be plugged by amendments to the Constitution, the passage of certain by-laws or a combination of the two.

What follows then is what type of people who, I believe, are required to lead the Manitoba Metis Federation.

We need people who are honest, honest with the fierce intolerance that considers a lie contemptible and a broken promise a disgrace.

We need intelligent people - people who can gauge probabilities, make judgments, and take action.

We need people who are bold, who can take a calculated risk and lose, if necessary - lose everything but the willingness to take that risk

again for something that they believe is right.

We need people who are patient.

We need people with a passion for work, not just to acquire fame or money or security, but for the simple satisfactions that come from achieving the difficult, or even attempting the impossible.

We need people who have an awareness of the things going on in the world about them.

We need people with imagination, humor, curiosity and love of the beautiful and what is right.

And we need people who are proud of their organization because in pride there is confidence and in confidence - achievement.

Where do such people come from??

They come out of the heart and soul of any organization or nation that remains capable of judging itself, of shrugging off its lunatic fringes, of demanding sacrifices when necessary, of insisting that its members and leaders keep trying to be better than they are.

There have been such people who have come forward before to work towards the difficult goals of justice, honour and service to the Metis people, but now there must be more than ever before who come forward, because the tides of history run faster and the need is much greater for such people than ever before.

To those persons who have been elected as leaders or in the future will be elected, I will say, bring with you all the courage, vitality and determination you can muster. You're going to need them because the people are going to demand that you use them.

Sincerely,
S. Joseph Thomas
Secretary-Treasurer
Traverse Bay Local

Association For Indian Metis Education (A.I.M.E.)

BACKGROUND:

During the past few years, the Manitoba Teachers' Society has formed a committee whose main function was to study the matter of integration of Indian and Metis education within the public school system. As a result, the Manitoba Teachers' Society has made numerous recommendations to the Government and to universities with regard to flexibility in the curriculum and teach education programs. Some of those recommendations have now been implemented.

In June, 1971, the committee recommended that the Association for Indian-Metis Education (A.I.M.E.) be formed and become a Special Area Group (S.A.G.) of the Manitoba Teachers' Society; this recommendation was approved by the Provincial Executive.

The Association sponsored a conference during the fall of 1971, provided Division Associations with resource personnel for in-service programs, and planned a number of short courses in association with the Society.

In the Fall of 1972, the Association initiated plans for a Conference to be held during the Spring of 1973. This Conference was held at the North Star Inn on March 22, 23 and 24. The Conference theme was "Happenings in Indian Education". Its agenda included a guest speaker, a panel discussion on Native Education, and a series of workshops dealing with the following topics:

- Books on Indian Culture
- Local Control
- Project Canada West
- Confluent Education

A.I.M.E. has also published a newsletter for those involved in some aspect of Native education. The purpose of the newsletter is to provide a means of communication and coordination in this field.

OBJECTIVES:

- to promote and advance the education of people of Indian-Metis origin throughout the province of Manitoba.
- to provide the means of exchanging ideas and act as a source of trends and new developments.
- to promote cultural enrichment; and
- to furnish recommendations and advice to the

Manitoba Teachers' Society on matters affecting education in a cross-cultural milieu.

MEMBERSHIP:

Membership is open to any person provided that a majority of members are also members of the Manitoba Teachers' Society.

FUTURE PLANS:

Plans are presently being made to hold a Second Annual Conference which is tentatively scheduled for May 17-18.

The M.M.F. News will keep our readers informed as to the specific time, location, and details of the agenda of the Conference once they are finalized.

It is also hoped that another A.I.M.E. Newsletter will be published by early Spring of this year. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Association for Indian-Metis Education
c/o Special Area Groups
The Manitoba Teachers' Society
191 Harcourt Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3J 3H2

Manitoba Metis Federation News

John P. Burelle - Editor

Volume 1 Issue 10 February-March - 1974

The MMF News is distributed to all MMF Members and subscriptions from non-members are invited at the yearly rate of \$3.00 and are available at the following address:

Man. Metis Federation News
301 - 374 Donald Street
WINNIPEG, Manitoba
R3B 2J2

Accident! - Did You Have One?

You and probably some of your friends and relatives were recently involved in an automobile accident.

You were surprised that you have received some monies before the case has been settled or maybe you have been under the impression that with the monies received your claim came to an end.

All this problem arose because the automobile insurance law in the Province of Manitoba has changed considerably from the 1st day of November, 1971.

The Manitoba Government has introduced legislation which became law on the 1st day of November 1971. The main effect of the new law is that "no fault" principles have been introduced in Manitoba.

What does the "no fault" principle mean?

It means simply that the Insurance Company (The Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation) pays for the repair of your car whether you are at fault or not.

If you are at fault, then you will have to pay the deductible (\$50.00 or \$100.00) in accordance with the terms of your policy when you purchased the policy and the balance of the cost of the repair of your automobile will be paid by the Insurance Company.

If you are not at fault, and this can be determined immediately, then the complete repair account is paid by the Insurance Company.

Where the other claims are concerned in respect of the expenses which occurred as a result of your accident (hospital expenses, doctors' expenses, out-of-pocket expenses and so on) they are paid by the Insurance Company if you are not at fault.

In the event that you are to be blamed for the accident then the Insurance Company does not pay these accounts.

A big change has been introduced in respect of payments for pain and suffering for which you are entitled to put in the claim in the event you are not at fault.

Here again the Insurance Company pays from the second week after the accident a flat amount of \$50.00 for each and every week until the claim has been settled.

Many persons believe that once they receive the \$50.00 every week they have no further claims to make.

This understanding is wrong. If you are not at fault you are entitled to claim over and above the weekly \$50.00 a fair compensation for your injuries sustained and/or your survivor for your wrongful death.

What has to be done is to put forward your claim showing the injuries and the effect of the same. The Insurance Company is obliged to pay a reasonable compensation for pain and suffering notwithstanding the \$50.00 payments.

You have to realize, however, that for one injury no double payment can be made. If you are entitled to receive the monies, then the Insurance Company will deduct the advances paid \$50.00 weekly.

You have to be careful when presenting your claim that the same has been supported properly with evidence and proof in order that you can get the proper compensation.

The best thing to do following the accident is to contact immediately a knowledgeable person who can give you the necessary information, or if you wish, you can write or phone your Regional Office and they may be able to put you in touch with a good and reliable lawyer.

Another change of the new insurance system is that the claim has to be presented to the Insurance Company within fourteen days following

the accident because the Insurance Company is entitled, if it wishes, to refuse the claim.

Therefore, if you or anybody else of your friends are involved in an accident, you should report it immediately to the proper authorities.

File your claim and once that is done, the collection of the monies for the injuries and for the suffering can be enforced.

8 TRACK TAPES REPAIRED

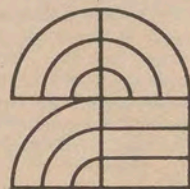
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- ANY PROBLEM!

\$1.99

RETURN PREPAID

MAIL TAPE ALONG
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**ALTECH
ENTERPRISES**

Box 180, St. Vital P.O.
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R2M 4A5

**ALL REPAIRS COMPLETED
WITHIN 24 HOURS**

Raffle

The Turtle Mountain Local of the Southwest Region is holding a raffle to raise money to send two children from each Local in their Region to a one-week summer camp at Turtle Mountain. The draw will be held on June 1st and the prizes are as follows:

1. 3-piece luggage set
2. Portable record-player
3. Hand-made lamp

If anyone is interested in contributing or assisting the Turtle Mountain Local in such a worthwhile fund-raising effort, tickets may be obtained by writing to the following address:

Ms. Celia Klassen
P.O. Box 6,
Deloraine, Manitoba
R0M 0M0

WANTED IMMEDIATELY: JOB TITLE: PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

JOB DESCRIPTION:

- co-ordinate through the Board, overall project planning of M.A.C.
- Public relations for Manitoba Centres
- In conjunction with the President between meetings the Board during Association meetings to act as official liaison with the National Office - the N.A.F.C. Governmental and private agencies.
- To feed information to individual Centres regarding the unused resources of the Community and how these can be utilized by the Centre.
- To assist individual Centres in program & project preparation, the administrative set-up, and whatever may be deemed by the Board of Directors of M.A.C. as necessary.
- To assist the Executive of the Board in carrying out its responsibilities.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Proven administrative ability
- Experience & knowledge of Friendship Centres and/or Native organizations & Government programs for Native people.
- knowledge of workings of Governments.
- knowledge of Government & private agencies.
- knowledge of communities in which Friendship Centres are located.
- understanding & appreciation of concerns & aspirations of Native people
- ability to help others establish & define goals, assist in formulating & carrying out plans to achieve such goals.
- must be free to travel.

SALARY:

Salary to be negotiated

**CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS:
MARCH 15, 1974**

SUBMIT RESUME & REFER TO:

Stan Guiboche
President
Manitoba Association of Friendship Centres
Box 2638
The Pas, Manitoba

Winnipeg Native Club

150 River Avenue

Ph: 452-5159 or 452-3937

Open 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

March Activities

DAY	ACTIVITY	AGE GROUP	TIME
MONDAY	1. Karate	boys & girls (14 & over)	3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
	2. Winnibeeg Theatre	boys & girls (15 & over)	5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
	3. Boxing	boys (7 - 14 years)	7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
	4. Karate	boys & girls (14 & over)	8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
TUESDAY	1. Boxing	boys 16 & over	7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
	2. Gymnastics	boys, girls & adults	7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	1. Nursery	Friendship Centre (4 & 5)	9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
	2. Badminton	boys & girls (14 & over)	12 noon - 2:00 p.m.
	3. Karate	boys & girls (14 & over)	3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
	4. Winnibeeg Theatre	boys & girls (15 & over)	3:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
	5. Brownies	girls (7 - 12 years)	5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
	6. Wabagoneen Streamliners	single & married women	7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
THURSDAY	1. Badminton	boys & girls (14 & over)	12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
	2. Free sewing classes	single & married women	1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
	3. Soccer Club	Fort Rouge team	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
	4. Boxing	boys & girls (14 & over)	7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
	5. Pow-Wow practise	all age groups	8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.
	6. Beadwork	Native Women's Group	7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
FRIDAY	1. Badminton	boys & girls (14 & over)	3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
	2. Karate	boys & girls (14 & over)	3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
	3. Social	Hall rentals	8:00 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.
SATURDAY	1. Karate	boys & girls (14 & over)	1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
	2. Winnibeeg Theatre	boys & girls (14 & over)	3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
	3. Social	Hall rental	8:00 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.
SUNDAY	1. Bingo only	Anyone 16 & over	8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

SUPPORT LOCAL NATIVE TALENT!!!

OLD TIME FIDDLING

by **EMILE SPENCE** & Ranville Inc.



Emile Spence, who was 59 years old in 1973, has been fiddling old time music as a pastime since a very young age. Although his musical talents allowed him to reach a level in which he could perform with the best, he never looked at it as a possible career and spent a hard working, contented life raising a large family at Eddystone, Manitoba. Only recently his closer friends and relatives were able to convince him that it was his moral duty to share with the public his beautiful talents in fiddling some of the sweetest sounds of Old Time fiddling heard. Many believe that it is with this humble attitude that he presents to you, the public, his first album recorded at Century 21 Studios in Winnipeg, Manitoba. The program arrangements are made up of some of his own originals and also include melodies passed down through generations. The feeling of determination to reach perfection is noticeably expressed in the sounds of this album and we believe that anyone in possession of this album has access to some of the finest old time fiddle music ever recorded.

Stirling Ranville & The Ranville Inc.

SIDE ONE

1. WIND THAT TURNS THE MILL - Traditional
2. OLD MAN AND OLD WOMAN - Traditional
3. CHICKEN REEL - Traditional
4. EMILE SPENCES REEL - Emile Spence
5. SEVEN MILES CHASE - Traditional

SIDE TWO

6. CROOKED STOVEPIPE - Traditional
7. BUFFALO GIRL - Traditional
8. DEVILS DREAM - Traditional
9. TRIBUTE TO EDDYSTONE - Emile Spence
10. PONY EXPRESS - Traditional

STEREO ESR-1 Fiddle - Emile Spence Rhythm Guitar - Stirling Ranville Lead Guitar - Jim Flett Bass Guitar - Wally Ranville Drums - Donald Ranville



This fine quality album has just been released and is available by mailing a money order for \$5.00 to the following address:

**M.M.F. News 301-374 Donald Street,
Winnipeg, Manitoba. R3B 2J2**

NOTICE OF MEETING

The Winnipeg Local will be holding a meeting at the

**Winnipeg Native Club
150 River Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba**

on Monday, March 11th at 8:00 p.m. Included on the agenda are executive elections. All Local members and potential members are urged to attend.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

Summer Employment is available for a male or female Native student of Law or Business Administration (preferably having completed 2nd year) from end of May to end of September, 1974. Qualified candidates may apply to the following:

**Mr. Russ Moses
Office of Native Employment
Tower A
Place de Ville
Room 2004E
Ottawa, Ontario
Tel: (613) 992-4824**

EDITOR

The Native Council of Canada needs an Editor for "The Forgotten People". We prefer a person with some experience in journalism, lay-out and photography. A good general knowledge of the activities of the Metis and non-status Indians would be a definite asset. The person we hire must be able to operate independently, be imaginative and have lots of initiative. The salary is negotiable.

CONTACT: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NATIVE COUNCIL OF CANADA
77 METCALFE STREET, SUITE 1010,
OTTAWA, ONTARIO K1P 5L6
TELEPHONE: 1-613-238-3511

STARTING DATE: IMMEDIATELY

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WANTED

PROJECT MANAGER FOR AN INDIAN ENTERPRISE IN CONNE RIVER, BAIIE 'D ESPOIR, NEWFOUNDLAND.

The Conne River Native Council is developing a wood harvesting, sawmill, and housing programme in Conne River. A project manager is needed to oversee the overall development and operation of the project. Employment will be on a year-to-year basis.

QUALIFICATIONS: Applicants should have some knowledge and experience in wood operations. He should be ready to carry out Negotiations with Federal and Provincial Departments concerning the operation of the project. Some knowledge of market development for the sawmill and carpentry shop products would also be helpful. Send applications or resume to Jerry Wetzel at the following address:

Native Association of Newfoundland-Labrador

**P.O. Box 1195
393 Water St.
St. John's, Newfoundland
Telephone (709) 753-2286
Telex 016-4753**