



LE MÉTIS

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1st. Annual Metis Winter Festival

Oozawekwun Centre in Rivers, Manitoba was the site of the 1st Annual Metis Winter Festival, sponsored by the Manitoba Metis Federation. The Festival was held on the weekend of January 31 - February 2, 1975. Overall the Festival was a success.

At a press conference held on January 28th, M.M.F. Executive Vice-President, Yvon Dumont said: "This is the first time in the history of the Metis that such an undertaking has been tried with aid from the federal government." "In the past, we have never received aid from the government, while our native brothers have received aid". "What we are trying to do here is make the public aware of our culture".

The highlight of the Festival was the crowning of the Winter Festival Queen, held during the dance on the evening of February 1st. This honour was bestowed upon Miss Priscilla Pilon, representing the Southeast Region. Miss Pilon is formerly a resident of St.-Laurent and now lives with her parents in St. Vital, Manitoba. She is employed by the Manitoba Metis Federation as the Secretary of the Southeast Regional office. Miss Pilon said that she was honoured to be chosen as Queen and that she will wear her crown with esteem and pride. The runner-up to Miss Pilon was Miss Georgina Fleury, representing the Native Clan Organization. Other charming contestants in the Pageant included Miss Myra Hart representing the Manitoba Pathfinders, Miss Irene Desjarlais and Miss May Desjarlais, both from Rivers, Manitoba.

The girls were judged on the basis of appearance, personality, and congeniality. A very distinguished table of people was given the difficult task of judging the pageant. They were, Mr. Yvon Dumont, Executive Vice-President, M.M.F. Mr. Lorne Atkinson, Vice-President, Southwest Region, Mrs. Connie Eyolfson, Vice-President, Southeast Region. Mr. Howard Asham, Vice-President, Interlake Region and Mrs. Ardele Parisian of Winnipeg.

After the crowning of the Festival Queen, Yvon Dumont presented her with a trophy and spoke on behalf of the President, Mr. Ferdinand Guiboche. He said he was glad to see the Festival progressing well and that he hoped there will be many more to come in the years ahead.

The people in attendance were also treated to a jiggling contest, with a total of 12 contestants. First place went to Charlie Flett of Rivers and 2nd place to Brenda Fontaine, also from Rivers.

A real crowd attraction was the three-day hockey tournament which had a participation of six teams. They were: Oozawekwun, Lockport, Winnipeg Friendship Centre, Scanterbury, Youth Opportunities Unlimited, Winnipegosis. The championship game was played on Sunday, February 2, at the Rivers' Arena between the Winnipeg Friendship Centre and Scanterbury. The

first two periods of the game were a lopsided affair on behalf of Scanterbury as they held a 7-1 lead. However, in the third period, Winnipeg made a strong comeback but were still on the shortend of a 8-7 final score. At the end of the game both teams lined up on their respective blue lines for the presentations. As Queen, Miss Pilon presented the captain of Scanterbury with the championship trophy.

The referees stated that the final game was the best intermediate game they had seen or officiated in a very long time. They were also glad that both teams had stuck to good, clean, hard hockey.

In the B section of the Intermediates Lockport defeated Oozawekwun 8-3. The midget championship saw Rivers defeat Winnipegosis 8-1.

Congratulations to Scanterbury and Rivers for winning the championships in their respective classifications.

Scanterbury Team Members

Cecil Olson - G, James Michaud - R, (captain), Alfred Michaud - C, Sid Michaud - L, Brian Johnston - C, Leon Johnston - R, Jim Bear - L.

Raymond Bear - C, Stewart Falster - R, Bernard Wood - R, Terry Prince, Carl Daniels, Jim Prince, Leonard Lecoy, Larry Johnston, Harvey Bear, Bill Prince - Coach.

Ken Eastman of the Winnipeg Friendship Centre was voted the most valuable player with 6 goals and 5 assists during the tournament.

The Winter Festival curling bonspiel was also a successful event. A total of 17 rinks competed for a total of \$170.00 in prize money. The "A" event final saw two local rinks battle it out, with an extra end 11-10 win for the J. Lavellee foursome over E. Mardell, both from Oo-za-we-kwun. The Lavellee rink took home a total of \$70.00 in prize money while the Mardell rink picked up \$40.00 for their efforts.

In the "B" event it was the B. Zeman rink from Wheatlands with a 9-8 extra end victory over a rink skipped by Mayor W. Donald, representing the town of Rivers. Zeman picked up \$50.00 for his efforts while the rink from Rivers won \$30.00.

Another area of the festival was the various sporting clinics (x-country skiing, curling, hockey) which enabled all participants to increase their knowledge and skill in their specific sport. The clinics were given by professional instructors and were free of charge to all who wished to attend. The x-country ski clinic was held Sunday at Oo-za-we-kwun with approximately 20 participants. General consensus of the participants was that it was very informative and fun orientated. The curling clinic was also a success with approximately 10 participants; everyone enjoyed themselves and the session

was very educational. The organizer of the festival feels the area of clinics and workshops is very important and will be developed in more detail next year.

G.B. Sealey

Secretary of State Announces Summer Programs for Youth

OTTAWA - More than 115,000 young Canadians are expected to benefit from summer programs sponsored by the department of the Secretary of State in 1975.

Secretary of State Hugh Faulkner has announced renewal of three programs for young people: Student Community Services, Youth Hostels and Travel and Exchange.

The Student Community Services Program, introduced on an experimental basis last year, has been expanded this year to give summer employment to 2,100 students. This program is designed to support and encourage the activities of such organizations to employ young people. Increased emphasis will be given this year to attract more native youth to the program. With a budget of \$4 million in 1974, this program funded projects through established voluntary organizations which provided a wide variety of jobs for approximately 2,000 students and more than 10,000 volunteers.

Budget of the 1975 program, which will operate from May 5 to September 19, is \$5.7 million. Interested voluntary organizations can obtain application forms which will be available at regional offices of the department in early February. Deadline for receipt of applications is March 15.

Under the Youth Hostels Program, approximately 100 hostels will provide accommodation and cultural activities for more than

100,000 young travellers at a cost of \$1 per day. Those who wish to work as they travel will have access to jobs through a notification system operated in co-operation with Canada Manpower Centres.

This program will operate with a budget of \$1,300,000, an increase of \$200,000 over last year. Application forms will be available to hostel operators from regional offices of the department of the Secretary of State and must be received by the department by May 1 or six weeks before the proposed opening date of the hostel.

The Travel and Exchange program with a budget of \$1,756,000 for travel by voluntary groups has been increased by \$325,000 to assist young people to learn about traditions and ways of life in different parts of the country through group travel. Preference is given to student groups from low-income areas or those who are handicapped or geographically isolated. The funds pay for travel expenses but participants do not receive payments under the program. Application forms for interested groups are again available from any of the department's regional offices.

These programs are components of the \$67 million Federal Summer Student Employment and Activities Program.

Reference: Joan Potvin
Ottawa (613) 992-6243

Dauphin Regional Meeting Highlights

The delegates of the M.M.F. Dauphin Region attended a one-day meeting and workshop in Dauphin on February 8. In addition to regular business, the meeting provided an opportunity for the delegates to express ideas or views and to ask questions to the various guests heading the workshops. Areas such as Legal Aid, Metis Women's Association, Education, Rancom, M.H.R.C., Manwap, Manipogo Information Center and Porcupine Information Centre were discussed in a workshop atmosphere.

The Guests representing the above were also invited to speak on the activities of their organization.

During the course of the one-day meeting M.M.F. President Ferdinand Guiboche announced that he would resign as of March 31st. Mr. Guiboche intends to dedicate his time completely to the Manitoba Metis Academy, believed to be the first of its kind in Canada. His announcement was followed by an invitation from Vice-President, Maureen Lynn, for speeches from potential candidates attending the meeting.

The only candidate announcing his running for Presidency of the Manitoba Metis Federation was Mr. John Morrisseau, a well known Metis of Crane River. Mr. Morrisseau has been involved with the M.M.F. since 1968 and also ran for President three years ago. In his speech, Mr. Morrisseau emphasized the fact that the M.M.F. candidates should not have a "tearing each other apart"

Cont'd on page 2

Job Opportunities Discussed

The Thompson Region of the Manitoba Metis Federation and the Northern Manpower Corps (N.M.C.) held a joint meeting on January 25, 1975 in Thompson, Manitoba.

The conference was attended by 28 participants representing the Manitoba Metis Federation and the Northern Manpower Corp and was aimed at ironing out job information communications between Canada Manpower Corps Centres and the remote communities, as well as to look at the effectiveness of training programs available to Northern people.

Mr. Ed Campbell, a Metis of Norway House who is the Northern Manpower Corp liaison officer in Thompson, explained the structure of Northern Affairs and the function of the Employment Services Section within the Northern Manpower Corps.

The Employment Services Section is concerned with assisting northerners take advantage of training and/or employment opportunities. It helps unemployed people resolve problems which may have interfered with obtaining or retaining employment or training. However, the participants of the conference expressed their concerns on the communication system they have to announce available jobs. It is a problem in some cases because a 48-hour time limit is imposed on anyone wanting to apply for a specific job.

In most of the communities, communication is by two-way radio, which is often weathered out or difficult to understand.

It was also suggested that the trainers would learn more from an instructor that spoke their own language and knew the difficulties of learning the trade.

Other proposals made during the conference were:

- a) That special liaison officers be appointed to look after the "human development" aspect of northerners employed on Manitoba Hydro sites, in the mining industry and government departments.
- b) The development of training programs which go beyond the limitations of the New Horizon type-project which is confined to assisting a person who is assured of obtaining a specific job on completion of a course.
- c) Instruction be given in management and administration.

Gavin B. Sealey

Dauphin Cont'd from Front Page

campaign but a campaign that will unite the people instead of disunity. He said, "We are an organization, we have a choice to make, we will make the choice on the candidates' platform, and on who we think will get the job done."

Mr. Morrisseau is presently employed as Program Director of the Manipogo Information Centre of the Department of Northern Affairs at Toutes Aides.

The other political event of the meeting saw the election of Mr. Wesley Leaske, a Metis of Pelican Rapids, as Director of the Board. Mr. Leaske has been actively involved with the Manitoba Metis Federation for the past 3 or 4 years, and was Chairman of the Pelican Rapids Local. Mr. Leaske said "If there is anything I can do to help the Board, I sure will and any communities that need help, I will try to do my best to assist them."



Newly elected Board of Director Wesley Leaske.

Other noteworthy announcements during the Meeting and workshop included:

- leadership workshop to be held in Brandon
- a proposed foster home and maternity care home for the area.
- a detox centre to be located in Dauphin.
- the making of the Metis sash.
- a 15 minute Metis radio program every 2 weeks from Dauphin.
- election of the Dauphin Regional Vice-President to be held in the middle of March.
- the Metis Women's Association annual conference to be held in April. Election of M.W.A.'s President and Board of Directors will take place at that time.

B. Bruce-Linnemann

Board of Directors Meeting Highlights

The Board of Directors of the Manitoba Metis Federation attended a four-day Meeting and Workshop in Winnipeg on January 9-12. In addition to regular business, the above-average length of the meeting provided an informal opportunity for the Board members to express their ideas and exchange views on their individual areas of priority which ranged from such subjects as economic development, health and welfare, human development, housing, culture, finances, alcoholism and drugs, fishing and trapping, and employment. As a result of the discussions that transpired, a request was made by resolution for a meeting with the Province of Manitoba and Cabinet. This request arose from a number of fundamental areas of immediate concern, including education, housing, co-ops, The Pas Metis Development Corporation, and the Communities Economic Development Fund. As yet, however, no acknowledgment has been received from the Premier's Office regarding a meeting date.

During the course of the four-day meeting, M.M.F. President Ferdinand Guiboche also announced his intentions of resigning as of March 31. In doing so, he informed the Board that he would be focussing his attention in the areas of culture and education and on the development of the Manitoba Metis Academy. He also indicated that he would be still available to the Federation as a "trouble-shooter" on a part-time basis. His decision to resign necessitated the calling of an Annual Conference early in the fiscal year and it was decided by resolution that it would be held in Gimli during the first weekend in May.

Other noteworthy developments during the Meeting and Workshop included:

- designation of the town of Winnipegosis as the site of Metis Days '75 under the co-ordination of George Brown.
- the feasibility of setting up a Metis Pilots Training Program that would accommodate 20 trainers for a 4-month period at Keewatin Community College.
- the possibility of establishing a Native Nurses' Training Program on a similar basis as the Impact Teacher Training Program.
- creation of the Order of the Sash, an honor to be bestowed by the Manitoba Metis Federation on those persons who have contributed to the betterment of the Metis people of Manitoba.

J.P. Burelle

BOARD MEMBERS CHALLENGE PRESIDENT'S DECISION

Several members of the Board of Directors challenged President Guiboche's decision to fire several key employees of the Manitoba Metis Federation two weeks ago and demanded his resignation at a special Board meeting held in Dauphin on the 13th of February.

The employees who were fired from their jobs were:

- Larry Amos - Accountant
- Julie Wilson - Secretary
- Denis Lamirande - Manager of the Manitoba Pathfinders Employment Program
- Stan Somerville - Director of the MMF Sports and Recreation Program.

The Board members demanding Guiboche's resignation were angered at the manner in

NATIVE COUNCIL OF CANADA

has opening for the
The liaison Program

following newly formed positions
ONE (1) SENIOR LIAISON OFFICER
THREE (3) LIAISON OFFICERS

Salary Negotiable to \$18,000

The Liaison Program will be responsible for liaison activities with selected Federal Government Departments and the dissemination of information to Member Associations regarding Federal Government programs for native people.

Liaison Officers should be familiar with the native movement in Canada. Knowledge of a native language and culture will be a definite asset. He or She should possess adequate writing skills.

Job descriptions are available from each Provincial and Territorial Metis and Non-Status Association in Canada.

Interested persons should apply to: -

NATIVE COUNCIL OF CANADA,
Liaison Program,
Suite 1010,
77 Metcalfe Street,
OTTAWA, Ontario.
K1P 5L6
Telephone: (603) 238-3511

Applications should include resume of work experience.

Successful applicant will be required to report for duty in Ottawa March 17, 1975.

Closing date for applications - March 7, 1975.

which the employees were dismissed.

On Monday morning 3rd of February, Mr. Guiboche handed a letter to each one of the employees as they reported in to work which stated "that the Manitoba Metis Federation was being re-structured and there was no place for them in it (the re-organization)".

One Board member who was outraged by Guiboche's action declared "this is the most inconsiderate and inhuman act that I have ever seen".

"There was no reason for this callous act. Both Larry Amos and Julie Wilson had been with the Manitoba Metis Federation for several years and had worked very hard and conscientiously. And it was just a short while ago that the Executive had congratulated Denis Lamirande and Stan Somerville in a job well done and then suddenly they are fired because they did not fit into Guiboche's 'restructure'."

The resolution demanding Guiboche's resignation was defeated with five votes in favor and eight against.

It was later reported that Mr. Denis Lamirande stayed on the job as Manager of the Pathfinders Employment Program because under the agreement signed by the Manitoba Metis Federation and Canada Manpower, Mr. Lamirande could not be fired without the approval of Canada Manpower.

Mr. Guiboche then wrote a letter to Canada Manpower that the Manitoba Metis Federation was giving up the Pathfinder's Program and had nothing to do with it. If other Metis people wished to support it, that was up to them, wrote Mr. Guiboche.

It was also reported that Mr. Guiboche called the Minister of Manpower in Ottawa and advised him of this decision.

Mr. Lamirande reported that the Manitoba Pathfinders Program with employment counsellors for Native people in Brandon, Dauphin, Portage la Prairie, Winnipeg and Selkirk will be continued under sponsorship of concerned Metis people.

The Board of Directors also discussed the problem of housing. Stan Guiboche, the Minister of Housing for the Manitoba Metis Federation, reported that housing development was at a stand-still and that the situation was very serious. Only two houses have been built in St. Ambrose, since the Housing Program started in April 1974.

The President, Mr. Ferdinand Guiboche, recommended to the Board of Directors that the housing program should be handed back to the government.

Board Member

Native Education Branch ? ? ?

Much concern has been expressed towards the Native Education Branch and its definition of the word "Native". The following letters are the correspondence between the Manitoba Metis Federation and the Manitoba Provincial Government regarding this concern.

January 14, 1975

Honourable Edward Schreyer
Premier of Manitoba
204 Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0V8

Dear Sir:

As a New Year begins, it is a worthwhile exercise for leaders to reflect upon the overall objectives of the programs and whether these objectives are indeed being met. You are the leader of the people of the Province of Manitoba - approximately on a million in population. I am the leader of a minority group within it - approximately 80,000 in number. My impressions as to the success in meeting the objectives of certain programs concerning the Metis people may be of value to you in determining the thrust of these programs in the new year.

I am particularly concerned at this time with the education programs being operated by your government and specifically with the Native Education Branch.

The Manitoba Metis Federation approved, reluctantly, the establishment of a Native Education Branch. Our policy is, as a rule, not to endorse apartheid policies but because of the desperate education problems confronting us, we believed a different approach might be of value. It was assumed that Native Education would include the Metis and the Indians not on reserves.

Certainly the education of Indians on reserves is clearly a federal responsibility. Indeed, any interference in Indian education by the Province threatens the rights of Indians enshrined in the treaties. We assumed the Native Education Branch would concern itself mainly with the Metis, but would offer assistance to Indians if they were in attendance in integrated public schools.

Secondly, we assumed the Native Education Branch would be concerned with all the Native people in the Province without an emphasis upon a particular area.

The Manitoba Metis Federation is dismayed at what has happened. I submit the following concerns for you to reflect upon.

1. Not quite, but almost exclusively, the Native Education Branch is concentrating upon the educational problems of Indians, with an emphasis upon Indians on reserves. The Metis are almost completely ignored.
2. At the date of writing the Native Education Branch is composed exclusively of non-educators. They do not appear to have objectives nor the ability to set objectives for the branch. This leads to the third point.
3. Lacking an understanding of education and the ability to set objectives and then implement them, the personnel of the Branch apparently seek to fill the vacuum by indulging in romanticism. By that, we mean the fables of the noble Indians, the Indians in the North and the glories of beads, buckskins, bannock and the old culture.

Thus, there seems to be an emphasis upon the Indian north of 53.

The first fact is that out of a Native population of 115,000 (80,000 Metis and 35,000 Indians), only 15,000 live north of 53.

The second fact is that the Metis (and very likely the Indian but I do not speak for them) want to live in the 20th century. Stone Age skills and thinking patterns are of little value in a technological society. We want the best of a 20th century life and education for our Metis children. That does not mean we reject our past. A knowledge of it will give our children a better self-concept and thus better enable them to compete successfully in the 20th century.

WE DO NOT SEE THE NATIVE EDUCATION BRANCH REALISTICALLY THINKING ABOUT THE PROBLEMS IT WAS FORMED TO CONSIDER I.E. THE PROBLEMS FACING NATIVE CHILDREN IN THE MANITOBA PROVINCIAL SCHOOL SYSTEM. THE MAJORITY OF NATIVE CHILDREN ARE METIS AND THEY HAVE BEEN LARGELY IGNORED IN DISCUSSIONS TO DATE.

The only time the Native Education Branch should be involved with schools on Indian reser-

ves is when problems arise with Metis children (the responsibility of the Province) who are in attendance at such schools,

If the Native Education Branch is not prepared to devote its efforts towards the betterment of Native children (mainly Metis) attending public schools, then it should be reorganized with new objectives and staff.

I submit to you, Mr. Premier, that the Metis people of this Province are sick and tired of being used. Used in the sense that in theory everything is Native, but in its implementation, Native becomes Indian. We Metis are the majority, but are too often being used as meaningless stooges by your civil servants who wish to romanticize about Indians.

In terms of the Native Teacher Training Programs (Impacte, Pent, etc.) the following comment is necessary. If government is going to continue these programs and if they are to meet their objectives, they must ensure that a group of Metis people form a Board to oversee and direct the students. The obvious intent of school divisions today is to utilize these students to supplement their teaching staff and general administration purely and simply with no real desire to satisfy the need of what the training of these students was meant for - our Metis students and children of Manitoba. The opportunities provided these students through their respective programs is worthy of praise, but we must not lose sight of the fact of why these programs came into being.

In your reflections, Mr. Schreyer, I suggest you consider the straight forward facts I have put to you.

As a politician at a Provincial and Federal level, I realize the games that sometimes must be played. Yet always I have kept an ideal in mind and realized that many compromises must be made before the ideal can be reached.

Thus with the Metis, we are the major underprivileged group in Manitoba society. Our employment rate is high. Our housing is deplorable (so deplorable that the C.B.C. goes to Metis communities to video tape poor housing in order to inflame the public concerning the poor housing for "Indians"). The poor educational achievement and associated drop-out rate for the Metis is shocking.

Let me draw one other point to your attention. When the Prince of Wales and Princess Anne visited our Province in 1970, the government upon the advice of their civil servants, created a Prince of Wales/Princess Anne Bursary for Native peoples. To the Metis was given \$10,000 for university bursaries. For the Indians was given another \$10,000. It was a generous gesture and created warm feelings in the hearts of Manitobans. They were helping Native people. Yet not one nickel of this money was ever given out by the Manitoba Indian Brotherhood to an Indian person. Any Indian person, is through the Federal Government, given free education with board, room, fees, books, clothes and spending money as a treaty right. They never asked for or used any of the money. The M.I.B. has generously transferred the money to the M.M.F. in a spirit of fairness and justice. The provincial government has gained politically from helping the "native" people. (We'll help them (the Indians) even if they don't need help.) I feel this matter of the bursaries must be rectified.

I am a blunt man. I do not want to play games which make my people appear as poor cousins who get the crumbs from the tables of rich relatives. If I followed such a procedure the dignity and feeling of worthlessness of the Metis would be further degraded.

I ask you, Mr. Premier, to reflect upon the plight of the Metis in educational terms. We want to be a part of society and make a contribution to it. Yet we realize that before we can make the contribution we need help - help not needed by the ordinary citizen who has "made it" or the Indian who has special rights.

The Metis are no longer prepared to play the "Indian Game". We are Metis and wish to make that clear. We want to be equal partners in the civil service game known as the "Native Problem". No longer will we allow "Native" to be translated as Indian.

For years we have witnessed the discussion of Native content and development in Manitoba and it is now very apparent to we Metis people than when Native participation is encouraged or discussed, governments, church organizations and society refer to the Indians and we find ourselves left to pick up whatever is left that is not required by the Indian population. We have had our fill of this kind of Native talk when we know damned well that it doesn't include us. We wish to make this very clear that, when you refer to the Native population of Manitoba, if we are not considered equal partners in debates, discussions, and programs then leave us out entirely. Your government must be prepared to make known to

the Federal Government that you recognize us as the other half of the Native population and request your federal counterparts publicly that they make available to the Province of Manitoba large outright grants to be administered jointly with Metis people in this Province to meet the needs and desires for a suitable and practical education program with Metis content in our education system today.

In 1973, you met with the Board of Directors of the Manitoba Metis Federation. At that time, you promised to help the Metis to the best of your ability. We believed you then and believe you now. We have not, however, that same faith in your civil service. We feel that they have been playing the "Indian Game".

At that time, you asked for our patience and suggested that if criticisms were warranted, that we deal with you personally rather than going to the Press or T.V. This request we have honoured. We only ask, Mr. Premier, that you and your Ministers reflect and consider the following points and reply at your earliest convenience to the Manitoba Metis Federation:

1. Is the Native Education Branch qualified educationally to tackle or even define the problems involving Metis people.
2. Does this Branch have the expertise to (a) determine the problems in both short and long range terms? and (b) implement a series of steps to modify/solve the problems?
3. Is the Department of Education prepared to state that its responsibility is with children in the Manitoba School system and it serves Federal schools in an advisory capacity only and even then upon request?
4. Is the Department of Education prepared to research the educational problems and attempt to modify the problems of is provincial Metis citizens who in educational matters are the sole responsibility of the Provincial Government?
5. Is the Provincial Government prepared to agree in principle, that the majority of the Metis people, being educationally and economically deprived, need special educational assistance to overcome these handicaps?
6. Is the Provincial Government prepared to enter into dialogue with the Manitoba Metis Federation to discuss the ways and means by which equality of education might be most reasonably assured?

Mr. Premier, I look forward to a reply at your earliest convenience. I trust that your good health and that of your wife and family will be continued in the New Year.

Yours sincerely,
Ferdinand Guiboche
President
Manitoba Metis Federation

c.c.: All Cabinet Ministers
M.M.F. Board of Directors

Mr. Ferdinand Guiboche, President
Manitoba Metis Federation, Inc.
301 - 374 Donald Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3B 2J2

Dear Mr. Guiboche:

In the absence of the Premier, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 14th, with copies to all Cabinet Ministers, complaining about the lack of education for Metis in Manitoba.

I am referring your letter to the Honourable Ben Hanuschak, Minister of Education, for his response.

To assist the Minister to understand the problem you describe in your letter, you may wish to further inform him in what way Metis are "being used"; in what way the Department of Education has forced the Metis to play the "Indian Game"; and in what way the Metis people "are being used by civil servants who wish to romanticize about Indians".

Sincerely,
Herb Schultz
Assistant to the Premier

cc: All Ministers

Editorial

Dear Editor:

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Effective 29 January 1975 Mr. Ferdinand Guiboche, President of the Manitoba Metis Federation, announced that said Federation, "is no longer associated with the Manitoba Pathfinders in any way shape or form".

Allow me to retrace the events that led to Mr. Guiboche's decision to sever all relationships with us.

Monday, 27 January 1975, four employees; the undersigned; Mr. S. Somerville, Director Sports & Recreation; Mr. L. Amos, Accountant; Mrs. J. Wilson, Secretary; were given two weeks pay in lieu of two weeks notice that our services would no longer be required. The reason given for our dismissal was that, "The M.M.F. is creating a new structure, and moving in new directions, and we are sorry but you will not be a part of this team".

His statement referring to a new structure is false because he appointed interim people to fill the vacancies of; co-ordinator Manitoba Pathfinders; Director Sports & Recreation; the M.M.F. accountant; and the secretary at M.M.F. head office.

The new "direction" that Mr. Guiboche speaks of is approximately 300 miles North West of Winnipeg at a place called Camperville. Mr. Guiboche would like to see Camperville as the hub of Metis activity, and I might add that it wouldn't hurt his business any if it were.

Special Programs, Canada Manpower, upon hearing of my dismissal, reminded Mr. Guiboche that there was a contract in effect signed by him, Special Programs, and myself. The contract further specified that all hiring and firing was to be done by prior consultation with Special Programs, and their concurrence, if any. Special Programs further reminded him that at no time did he express any shortcomings on my performance, on the contrary, it was said my performance was excellent. It should be further added at this point that at no time did Special Programs ever entertain the idea of dismissing me as co-ordinator.

Mr. Guiboche, upon hearing of Special Programs' adamant stand on my remaining as co-ordinator, told them they could have all monies back, that the M.M.F. no longer wanted to be associated with the Pathfinders. Special Programs suggested that a meeting be held to resolve the matter and to give everyone a chance to air their differences in the open. Mr. Guiboche consented to attend a meeting at 1:30 P.M., 29 January 1975, at 777 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Editor's Note: The President has informed me that all questions relating to his term of office will be answered at the annual conference.



Barbra Bruce-Linnemann
Gavin B. Sealey

"Le Metis" 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

Publication date of next issue of "Le Metis" will be Friday, March 21, 1975. Therefore the deadline for receiving articles for that issue will be Friday, March 14, 1975.

The policy of "Le Metis" is to encourage members and readers to send in materials. You must sign your letter if you want it published, and they will not be returned. The Editor reserves the right to edit letters for space reasons.

At the appointed time, the following persons were in attendance awaiting Mr. Guiboche's arrival; Mr. Cornelius Heiricks, Chief Special Programs; Mr. Jerry Sopko, Consultant, Special Programs; Mr. Doug Brochet, Special Task Force, Canada Manpower; Miss Diane Maisonneuve, Federal Outreach Co-ordinator, Canada Manpower; and the undersigned.

At approximately 1:40 P.M., Mr. Yvon Dumont, Executive Vice-President, M.M.F., entered the room and handed Mr. Heiricks a letter. Mr. Heiricks proceeded to read the letter handed to him, and Mr. Dumont departed as soon as the letter was read. The whole process took approximately five minutes! The people at the meeting let it be known that they were grossly insulted to think that Mr. Guiboche didn't have the common decency to appear in person to explain his position. Mr. Guiboche, on a whim, gave up approximately a \$130,000 program, and had no second thought of the possibility of doing thousands of Metis a disservice - all because Mr. Guiboche wanted me dismissed and Manpower wouldn't condescend.

It should also be noted that Mr. Guiboche overstepped his authority on two other counts, aside from breach of contract, in that he took a course of action without a majority vote from the Board of Directors; and secondly Mrs. C. Eyolfson was appointed as the Board Member **directly** responsible for the Pathfinder program, and she was not consulted, but rather she was told what was to happen; needless to say Mrs. C. Eyolfson did not agree with Mr. Guiboche.

It is unfortunate that Mr. Guiboche took such a stand on a matter that could have been resolved with little effort on his part. His desire to see me dismissed blinded him from any amiable course of action, and as a result his credibility and reputation has been deeply tarnished because of this infantile retaliation. Where discretion and diplomacy should have been exercised, autocratic and despotism action came to holding the office of President of the M.M.F. I sincerely hope the Metis people will not suffer because of Mr. Guiboche's actions.

The end result has been that the Pathfinders are now under private sponsorship, and will continue to work for native peoples of Manitoba. The amicable relationship enjoyed with Regional Vice-Presidents in the past, I hope, will continue, for whatever has happened or transpired, we are still all working for the same cause.

Yours truly,
Denise Lamirande,
Co-ordinator,
Manitoba Pathfinders,
Outreach Program.

Dear Editor:

At the recent Board of Directors meeting held in Dauphin. The President of the Manitoba Metis Federation informed the board that this issue of "Le Metis" would carry complete rundown of the Metis Academy. This letter will help to inform your readers further, as to what is taking place with the Metis Academy.

First of all, let's get one thing straight, I do not oppose the concept of a Metis Academy and in reality I have no intention of attempting to tear-down the work that has gone into establishing one.

All I'm saying is the article covering the Academy in this issue, no doubt points out that it has been legally incorporated under the companies Act of Manitoba. Does it point out that the three principal officers of the corporation is the Director General, Ferdinand Guiboche, Deputy Director General, Rita Guiboche, Comptroller, Maureen Lynn. A nice little family set-up.

The by-laws of the Metis Academy say that any Metis person in the province of Manitoba may be a member of the academy. However you must apply for membership in writing to the Board of Directors of the academy. The very telling point is the item that says any member who speaks against the academy will be refunded their membership fee. Thereby effectively cutting off the voice that raises to express and opinion contrary to the Director-General.

So change the by-laws' you say? That, I'm afraid will be easier said than done. There is another clause already incorporated that says the by-laws can be changed only at a special meeting called to deal strictly with amendments to the by-laws. The meeting must deal with that alone and include no other item of business.

What in fact is the Metis Academy? It would be a private school. For almost one hundred years the question of public aid to private schools has been a hot political issue in Manitoba. Premier Ed Schreyer picked it up a few years ago and had his fingers burned. The truth is, I am in favour of public aid to private schools. However, all the Province will provide is text books to private school. The parents must pay the rest of the costs.

So who will attend the Metis Academy? The children of parents who can afford to send their youngsters to a private school. Most of us have financial problems just to send our children to public school.

That's fine you say, so let those selected few wealthy members of the total Metis population in our province send their children to a private Metis school. Well I say that is up to the individual parents to decide. The question I ask is this, does it make sense to devote one year of the Manitoba Metis Federation's time and energy to establishing a Metis Academy for a selected few? What about the concerns and the needs for the vast majority of Metis people?

The area where we should be devoting our time and energy is in Economic Development, housing, education, jobs, training, the problems of migrating native people etc. The M.I.B. have two corporations established to deal with Economic Development and they are moving right ahead more and more of our Indian Brothers who are setting up their own business establishments. Our brief on The Manitoba Metis Development Corporation after it was approved at our last annual Conference, was thrown into the garbage can because the President of the Manitoba Metis Federation wanted a Metis Academy.

Now we're turning our programs back to government. Can you blame me for being angry?

Yours, truly,
Connie Eyolfson
Vice-President S.E. Region
Manitoba Metis Federation

Dear Editor:

To Whom It May Concern:

Ferdinand Guiboche was elected by the people, for the people! But it seems he has already forgotten this. Take for example his firing of the following people:

Mr. Denis Lamirande, Co-ordinator Manitoba Pathfinders Outreach Program.
Mr. Stan Somerville, Director, Sports and Recreation
Mr. Larry Amos, Provincial Accountant
Mrs. Julie Wilson, Secretary.

These people I feel were doing a great job, yet they were fired without good reason. I speak for the locals in this area when I say they were doing great.

Thanks to the Pathfinders' we now have upgrading in Lac Du Bonnet. And the people from Great Falls are involved in this too.

Thanks to Mr. Stan Somerville we are also getting an Arts & Crafts Clinic started here. This too is for the whole community and these programs are greatly appreciated by all.

What gives Ferdinand Guiboche the right to do this? He should remember that it is not entirely up to him to make these decisions! He is also doing the Metis people out of money we could make good use of.

Take for example the \$130,000 program he gave up, without a word to all the people concerned, and I mean we Metis people!!

I think he did a disservice to all Metis people and he certainly had no right without even going to the Board of Directors with this first.

To me this proves that we need a new president now! One who will work for the people and with the people, not one who works alone.

If I sound discouraged, it is because I am, and I would like to express myself loud and clear. After all this is a free country and this paper is for letters from people who care!

Even presidents have to account to their people for their stupid actions. So lets hear from the president why these people were fired!

There is also another item I'm asking about: Why does the President want the Metis documents, etc. at Camperville. If for this length of time they were kept where they are now, why the move? I can see his Academy there but not all Metis property! After all the people of Manitoba,

Cont'd on page 6

Cont'd from page 3

February 7, 1975

Mr. Herb Schultz
Assistant to the Premier
Office of the Premier
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0V8

Mr. Schultz:

In the absence of the President I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated January 28.

I believe that another letter under separate cover was sent to the Premier requesting a meeting with himself and a group of his cabinet ministers, "to assist them to understand the problems that are described in our letter:

Furthermore, Mr. Schultz, in his letter of January 14, Mr. Guiboche is not "complaining about the lack of education for Metis in Manitoba". He is merely expressing what we feel are legitimate concerns about some fundamental problems that exist with the Native Education Branch, and for that matter the Department of Education as a whole.

In my opinion the letter does not warrant such an arrogant acknowledgement.

Yours truly,
W.Y. Dumont
Executive Vice-President

cc: Premier Ed Schreyer
All Ministers
M.M.F. Board of Directors

February 7, 1975

Mr. Ferdinand Guiboche,
President,
Manitoba Metis Federation, Inc.
301 - 374 Donald Street,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.
R3B 2J2

Dear Mr. Guiboche,

The Premier has referred your letter of January 14th, 1975 to me for reply to questions you raise regarding education policies within my Department.

As you indicate, your organization did approve the establishment of a Native Education Branch. Although you qualify this by inserting "reluctantly", I nevertheless consider this approval as an achievement and it was my hope that you would so consider it.

As we both know, continued negotiation and co-operation is desirable in that it may possibly lead to more constructive action, but we also must both agree, that negotiation and co-operation takes time. The tone of your letter might be construed as containing some negative criticism. I hope that I am mistaken in this.

I do not wish to deal specifically with the points you raise about the Native Education Branch. Firstly, may I draw your attention to our perception of this Branch. It is seen as a responding mechanism within the Department and as such is able to bring to bear, on most of the problems the total resources of the Department. Thus, I am confident that educational expertise will be utilized to the fullest.

You must have noticed that many of the people selected in the Branch, were community oriented people. They were deliberately selected with this purpose in mind; so they could respond to community needs.

At present, my Department is working on a set of goals and objectives to be developed within the next four or five years. As well, there is an Advisory body to the Native Education Branch, on which your organization is represented as discussed earlier in this letter. It is to be hoped that the co-operation and the expertise which your organization can offer will benefit the goals and objectives mentioned above.

Sincerely yours,
Ben Hanuschak

c.c. Honourable Edward Schreyer
Mr. Herb Schulz

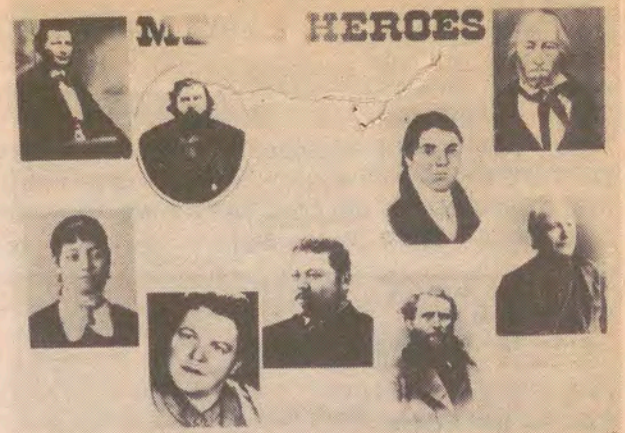
Metis Contribution

The Metis Contribution is one of several travelling exhibits put out by the Museum of Man and Nature. It deals with the history of the Metis people in Manitoba, and their contribution to the development of the Province as well as to the entire country. Those responsible for assembling the display should be congratulated as the task they faced was no doubt enormous.

Although it is possible to get hold of several small works on the Metis people, it is usually difficult to obtain any substantial amount of material together at one time. For teachers and schools who are interested in developing a program of Metis history or simply one of early Manitoba history, the museum staff have overcome the greatest drawback. The display which includes a kit of work sheets and teachers' guides, as well as resource material for each topic area, overcomes the paucity of materials which usually hinders a successful unit on an ethnic group.

It has to be realized that this display is primarily a teaching tool. It indeed does contain a great deal of information. However, it would be wrong to assume that the kinds of lessons taught through this kit are ones that have cut and dried answers. Many of the activities, if not all of them are designed to get the students to think and to delve into the history of Manitoba's Metis. They are not designed to label everything neatly. It is perhaps this aspect of the display which make it the most useful.

Rather than having the students go off on a fact-finding expedition as is so often the case in history classes, the kit poses serious questions about which the students must make value judgements, evaluations, and reach their own conclusions.

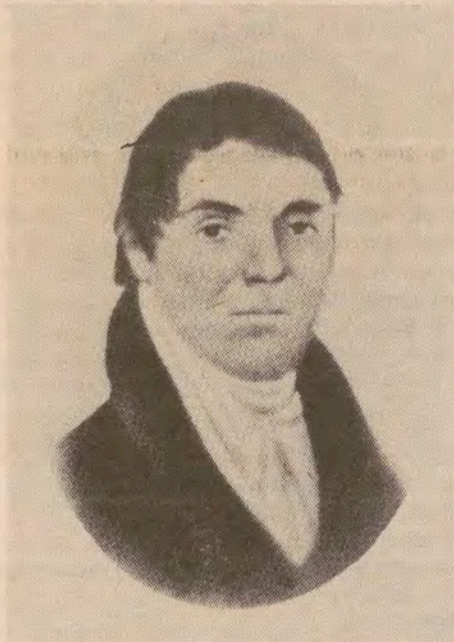


Metis people also have heroes to be proud of.

The kit is divided into three areas: Elementary; Junior-High; and Senior High School. The activities are of course graded accordingly. So well are these activities graded to age levels that accordingly. So well are these activities graded to age levels that I have seldom seen any piece of educational material which not only holds the children's attention, but which stimulates them on to further research. It would seem to me that any school with a goodly number of Metis students in it, and interested in developing a positive self image and sense of pride within these students, should attempt to get hold of the display for their school. Bookings for The Metis Contribution can be arranged through:

Brenda Birks
Extension Program Developer
Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature
Kenneth Woodley
Principal
Camperville School

Historical Notes



-courtesy of Provincial Archives

CUTHBERT GRANT

Born in 1793 of Cree-Scottish parentage, Cuthbert Grant was destined to become the acknowledged leader of the future New Nation of the Metis. He was sent at eight years of age to Montreal to begin his formal education, and then to Scotland to live with his Scottish relatives to obtain a higher education. Returning to his homeland, he became, at nineteen, a clerk and valuable member of the North West Company. As the Selkirk Settlers began to build homes at the forks of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers, the North West Company viewed the situation with disfavor. Fear arose that the settlement would interfere with the movement of supplies. The North West Company realized that Grant was a leader of the Metis people, so manipulated him and the Metis into the position of defending the fur trade by harrasing the settlers, hoping to drive them away. Realizing this at a later date, Grant decided to dedicate his life to the Metis and indeed to build a strong New Nation.

In 1824, eight years after the Battle of Seven Oaks, which arose over the problem of pemmican shipments, Cuthbert Grant founded a settlement at Grantown (now St. Francois Xavier, Manitoba) in the heart of the White Horse Plains, a few miles west of present day Winnipeg. The land was divided among relatives and many buffalo hunters (eighty to one hundred people in all) some of whom had been involved in the Battle of Seven Oaks. However, by this time Grant had influenced his people toward friendly relations with the settlers of Red River. The Grantown Metis became

protectors of the Red River Settlement against the warring Sioux. Also at this time he instigated friendship between Assiniboines, Crees and white men. It was through this leadership and because these people trusted him fully that the Metis accepted the Red River Settlement and eventually became a part of it.

The site chosen for the Grant Settlement, though on the border of the traditional Sioux hunting ground was ideal as the land by the Assiniboine was fertile, with plenty of wood which was required for building homes and ox carts as well as a source of fuel. The settlement was set up with Grant's holding of land in the centre and when a call went out, all the men reported and from there the Metis began their advance - to attack or to hunt.

Buffalo hunting, which was highly organized, was still one of the major ways of making a living. Grant was instrumental in bringing these nomads of the plains to settle and pioneer in some farming. This was a drastic change of life style for voyageurs and hunters. From Grantown some men still worked with their leader as freighters of goods to points as far away as York Factory on the Hudson's Bay.

In 1828, Cuthbert Grant was appointed Warden of the Plains by the Hudson's Bay Company and held the position for twenty-one years. Duties of the office were to police the fur trade and to prevent illegal trading. With a salaried job he was able to spend more time at home (except during periods of buffalo hunting). Since he had had some medical training, Grant became the local pharmacist and physician. Within a few years of each other, two more roles were assigned to him; that of Justice of the Peace and then sheriff of the area.

Deeply concerned for the welfare of his people at all times, he endeavored to build a watermill, but after great personal financial loss and no success, he abandoned the idea and built a windmill for the grinding of the community's grain. The settlement was firmly established by now with neat white-washed homes along the river bank as well as a church and school under construction.

At sixty one years of age, Cuthbert Grant, though still working for his people, considered once again becoming a licensed free trader. However, injuries incurred from falling off his horse brought an end to the life of a man of great talent and organizational ability. Sorrow blanketed the community, for the friend, advisor and leader would no longer inspire the Metis people. He was buried beneath the altar of the church he had helped found. This was a man who truly fulfilled his role as leader of the Metis and their New Nation, and historically, a leader and protector of the Red River Settlement.

Margaret Sealey

Editorials Cont'd from page 4

the Metis I mean, need their property in other areas too. Not that I have anything against the people of Camperville but really I think we should leave the documents, etc., where they are.

So I say to the Metis people, especially at the local level, take notice just what is going on in the M.M.F. and speak up now. Before we lose our hard earned place in society!!

Mrs. Joyce Gus
Chairman of the
Lac Du Bonnet Local

P.S. To the Editor

Please put this letter in the February paper. If not I'll write and find out why. I do believe we should be able to express our feelings, regardless of what or whom it concerns, right?

Thank you
J.G.

Dear Editor:

I'm writing this topic, I wonder if you'd call it a topic, or merry-go-round. When our dear president, Mr. Ferdinand Guiboche, first was elected or, was question period in River's conference. The Annual Assembly, I, Mrs. Bernice Fontaine, of Great Falls, asked the question, what is the Academy going to do to help the rest of the regions? I still didn't get an answer; but now, it sure struck me, when all this firing and hiring is happening, and everyone is getting fired, damn good people for instance; Larry Amos, Stan Summerville, Julie Wilson. Why are these people fired? Isn't there a reason for anything that comes out of Fernie's big long tongue? Why so secretive about his Academy? I could see right through him. All he wanted the name President was for getting into Ottawa and setting his hands on a lump sum. All for his own purpose, and still not satisfied, wanting all his staff to move to Camperville, the new staff I mean. Well, he sure doesn't think very strongly about the Metis people and other regions, local and etc. I always knew little men were wiry and cagy, but he sure beats them all. I hope you publish this as we poor Metis are sick with worry. If it isn't one thing or another, he sure messed up the M.M.F. pretty damn good. It couldn't be better. God! Help me if he believes in unity, that means getting the people united together. That's sure not showing it. Well, when he resigns, I hope we get a president to go and talk to when we want, not one all for himself. Especially working one year and spending the funds for himself, not thinking about all the Metis, not only one, if he is Metis I think he's part ___ and ___. His attitude, he took when any board meetings was held. He changes faster than a wind storm. Please forgive me if I put words in this letter. I couldn't sit back and let my feelings stay within me.

Mrs. Bernice Fontaine
Great Falls Local
Great Falls Manitoba

**An Indian Remembers
by Tom Boulanger**

Born in Oxford House in 1901, Mr. Boulanger spent the next twenty one years of his life in Norway House, Manitoba, in Ontario as a lumberjack and in Winnipeg where he attended a barbering school. In 1922, he moved to Berens River, the center that remained as his home.

Tom Boulanger was truly a "Man of the North". He spent most of his life freighting by canoe for the Hudson's Bay Company, fishing, trapping, hunting and on occasion, acting as guide and cook. For the most part he worked for himself so was alone the majority of his days.

His book was written as memories were recalled. Not only does he tell of his won experiences, but those of family and friends as well. In his younger years, services such as airplanes, were seldom found in the north. Hardships were endured and many early deaths resulted.

He gives instructions for coping with the elements (building a camp, for example) and the preservation of food (how to keep fish fresh in the summer in icehouses and in winter, in snow houses where the fish remains fresh, but not frozen).

Mr. Boulanger was married and had one son, Wilson. He had eleven grandchildren.

Margaret Sealey

New Publications

The Manitoba Metis Federation Press
Proudly Present A New
Publication
**THE METIS: CANADA'S FORGOTTEN
PEOPLE**
by
D. Bruce Sealey
Antoine S. Lussier

This is the first modern history of the Metis people from their origin to the present.

Written by two Manitoba authors, the book traces the history of the Metis from their origin through to a Golden Age when they ruled Western Canada, through two rebellions to their resurgence today.

The book should be in the home of every Metis, Indian and white person in Canada. The reader will thrill to the excitement of the buffalo hunt, subjugation of the Sioux, the refusal of the Metis to be sold like cattle in 1870 and their subsequent rebellions, defeats and dispersions. Anger will rise as they learn of the poverty of many Metis today in relation to the rest of society. Pride will develop as the story unfolds of how the Metis organized provincially and nationally to help themselves.

**A LIMITED NUMBER WILL
BE PRINTED**

Publication date is April 15, 1975. Ensure you receive your copy by ordering NOW!

Manitoba Metis Federation Press
301 - 374 Donald Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3B 2J2

Yes, I wish to guarantee that I will receive a copy of the history book, THE METIS: CANADA'S FORGOTTEN PEOPLE (approx. 300 pages with maps).

Please send me _____ copy(ies) of the book at \$6.00 per copy.

I understand that it will be mailed to me on April 15, 1975.

Enclosed is \$_____ by cheque cash money order.

NAME: _____ (please print)

ADDRESS: _____

Metis Women's Association

The Metis Women's Association held their founding meeting in April 1972. The aims of the association are to unite, educate, inform and activate Metis Women. Our association had the usual growing pains but with typical Metis perseverance, we are forging ahead with enthusiastic plans for the future.

This past year we had a Provincial Metis Women's Conference in Dauphin, we dealt with law, education, drug and alcohol abuse and family planning. We have a successful Family Planning Programme in Duck Bay, Pine River and Camperville, we are hoping to extend this programme to other regions.

We are presently operating with a grant received last October. This money will be used for another provincial conference and organization.

Our future plans are:
a training programme for Family Counsellors commencing January 1975.

regional and community Leadership Workshops.

Provincial Women's Conference in April 25, 26 & 27, 1975 there will be an election of officers our draft constitution will be presented and ratified.

Family Planning Workshop at Brandon March 12-13-14 - 3 women from each region.

In order to achieve our objectives, we stress the importance of individual involvement in your community, region and province.

**METIS WOMEN UNITE!
BEST WISHES FOR A SUCCESSFUL YEAR**

Rita Guiboche

The Manitoba Metis Federation has published a new book called "A Social History of the Manitoba Metis" written by Emile Pelletier. The following will brief the readers on our new publication.

Past experience with the general public has convinced us that 90% of Manitobans have not the slightest idea of the contribution of the Metis to the social development of our province. Furthermore, what is most shocking is that the new generation of Metis is not aware of the history of their ancestors. The book was written for all Manitobans regardless of their background, hoping that a better understanding could be achieved of "who the Metis are."

Does it contain a special message? Yes. By seeing how the Metis Nation acquired aboriginal rights through the development of a very special life style and how these same rights were lost the message is one of 'rebuilding'. The Metis people need to have stronger feelings of identity and unity as a people to rebuild and develop as a meaningful group.

The Manitoba Metis Federation employed Mr. Pelletier as a researcher to study the Metis Land Grants under the Manitoba Act of July 15, 1870. This study contained all the elements relevant to the Metis social structure of the past. University students are directed to our office for various information on Metis history. Social workers and news people come in regularly to collect notes on Metis programs. Schools are requesting our services in class animation.

Therefore we realized that the public should have a book that would contain answers to their quest for information.

The books are available in various bookstores in Winnipeg as well as at the office of the Manitoba Metis Federation.

Emile Pelletier was born in 1917 in Ste. Agathe, about twenty miles south of Winnipeg. He attended St. Boniface College and later the University of Montreal. After two years of teaching, he worked for a business company in Winnipeg.

His hobby has always been historical research. He finally gave up business administration and devoted his time to history, preferably social-history.

A SOCIAL HISTORY OF THE MANITOBA METIS
Sub-title: The Development and Loss of Aboriginal Rights

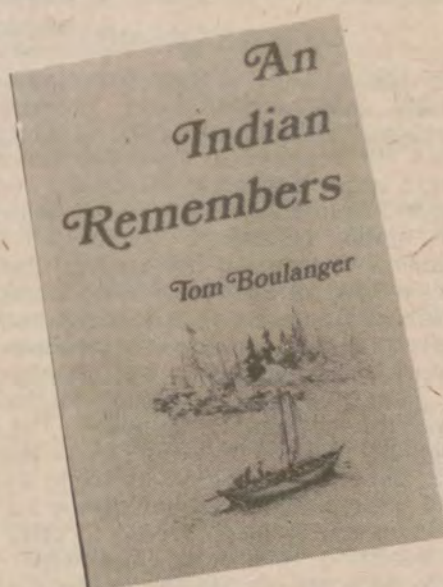
Author: Emile Pelletier
General Editor: Bruce Sealey
Published: 1974

Illustrations, drawings and maps by Real Berard

A well documented book on the historical activities of the Metis people in their share of the opening of Manitoba and the North West Territories. An explanation of the Metis acquisition of aboriginal rights through their way of life.

Easy reading for the general public. Recommended as quick reference book for High School and University students as well as teachers.

160 PagesPrice: \$4.00



The book may be purchased for \$2.00, from:

Peguis Publishers Ltd.,
462 Hargrave St.
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3A 0X5

Mary Scorers Book Ltd.
214 Kennedy St.
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Odjig Indian Prints & crafts of Canada Ltd.
331 Donald St.
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Project Canada West

There is a book of materials in schools concerning the Indian and Metis. An interview with a member of a team developing school curriculum indicated that materials are now being developed in Manitoba.

Le Metis - (What is Project Canada West (P.C.W.?)

Mr. Theissen - P.C.W. is a project funded by The Canadian Studies Foundation and consists of groups of teachers from the four western provinces, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba with teams in each province to devise Canadian curriculum materials with Canadian concerns.

Le Metis - What is the curriculum being developed?

Mr. Theissen - The entire theme of P.C.W. was with the problems of urbanization or with various Canadian concerns. Each group of teachers with a concern that they felt was needed in the curriculum. Our team, which has the Indian-Metis project consists of Professor Bruce Sealey from the Faculty of Education, University of Manitoba, Phil Altman, the Educational Co-ordinator at the Museum of Man and Nature, Flora Zaharia, a teacher at Hugh John MacDonald School and myself from Varennes School.

Le Metis - I believe that in your topic you have developed a kit known as 'Tawow'. What is this?

Mr. Theissen - The Tawow Kit is a kit of written materials, AV (audio-visual) materials, books, student work, games, maps and other resource materials. It is written for the upper elementary level and deals with the Metis.



L-R Al Theissen, Phil Altman, Margaret Sealey Bruce Sealey Missing Flora Zaharia.

Le Metis - Why was the name Tawow chosen? Why not call it 'Indian - Metis Multicultural Kit'?

Mr. Theissen - The word Tawow is from the Cree language meaning 'welcome' or literally translated 'there is room for you'. Basically, we felt there was a lot of room for information on the Indian and Metis peoples in the school curriculum especially at the elementary level. What there is, is along the lines of bows and arrows, scalping and all this nonsense.

Le Metis - Why did the team decide to combine the Indian Metis together and not do them separately? After all, they are two separate people.

Mr. Theissen - We wanted to make known in the kit that the Indian and the Metis are really two different people with different cultures. We felt this could best be done by comparison methods.

Le Metis - Has the Tawow Kit been introduced to some schools on an experimental basis?

Mr. Theissen - Yes, very much so. We've used it in many schools for our field testing.

M.M.F. Press

In 1973, the Board of Directors established the M.M.F. Press and appointed Bruce Sealey as Editor and Manager. The purpose of the M.M.F. Press was to provide a service to the M.M.F., and the various programs carried out under its auspices.

The M.M.F. was able to persuade the Minister of Education that there was a need for materials to be written and published for use of the teachers and students in the schools of Manitoba. A small sum, \$3,000, was given by the Minister for this purpose. Upon production of the first publication, the following year the Minister subsequently increased the publishing grant. Other programs also paid for the publishing of books relating to them.

Most copies of the publications were given away. Monies from any sold went into the general funds of the Manitoba Metis Federation. In most cases the costs in terms of paper and machine use were absorbed by the Manitoba Metis Federation. In most cases the costs in terms of paper and machine use were absorbed by the Manitoba Metis Federation.

The progress to date has been the publication of the following: Stories of the Metis, Questions and Answers, Assorted Brochures, Six Metis Communities, In Search of a Future, Famous Manitoba Metis, A social History of the Manitoba Metis.

However, certain problems have arisen in the past year that need to be attended to⁴

1. As the publication of the Press becomes larger and more sophisticated, a greater amount of money is needed for each publication. Capital expenditures for publishing has always been heavy but inflation has worsened the situation. Basically, a Press invests money, yet that money may be returned only over a period of 2 or 3 years as books are sold. There is, therefore, a desperate shortage of capital.

2. Understandably, the M.M.F. gave away thousands of copies of publications. Apparently the books were in demand and fulfilled a specific purpose in giving Metis people an understanding of their history and heritage. All to the good, but financially disastrous for the Press. We spent money but received little in return. This has led to the third problem.

3. The Educational Budget has invested money in, for example, "Stories of the Metis". This has been a publication that was well received by students and teachers. We are now out of stock. To reprint (not possible before the new education

grant comes in, approximately June of 1975) will require at least \$3,000 to reprint 1,200 copies.

4. A similar situation will soon exist with the Land Grants program. The Press has published the book "A Social History of the Manitoba Metis". Soon to be published is "Statutory Land Rights" and a History of the Metis. Someday the Land Grants money will cease. Under the present set-up, the republishing of the books will also cease. This should not be so. "A Social History", for example, should continue to be published long after the Land Grants Research fund has ended.

5. A major problem has been the lack of publicity and inadequate distribution facilities of the Manitoba Metis Federation Press. Little effort has been made to sell these materials commercially.

In order to overcome some of the above stated problems, the following suggestions are put forward:

1. The Manitoba Metis Federation Press will continue to operate as a service agency to programs, i.e. it will accept ideas or manuscripts from programs and through careful editing, rewriting and critical analysis, prepare the materials for publication.

2. The Manitoba Metis Federation Press should begin to develop books on its own initiative.

3. That all work on the Manitoba Metis Federation Press be done free of charge by all Metis people involved.

4. Programs within the Manitoba Metis Federation will continue to submit ideas and manuscripts to the Press for preparation of materials for publication. Such publications to be paid by the program involved.

5. Monies from commercial sales would be used for (a) republication of books sold out and (b) publishing new books.

The Manitoba Metis Federation Press should move aggressively into commercial distribution of the books presently in stock. This will entail contacting libraries across Canada; book stores in Manitoba, and entering into contracts with book jobbers who will publicize books to Departments of Education and book stores across the country.

The General Editor and English Editor is Bruce Sealey, French Editor is Emile Pelletier, Director of Land Grants and the Business Manager is Gavin Sealey, Co-Editor, "Le Metis".

For further information please write to:
Business Manager
Manitoba Metis Federation Press
301-374 Donald Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Le Metis - Has the kit been restricted to the schools in the city or has it been used in the northern Native communities also?

Mr. Theissen - We have used the kit in the inner-city area, suburban areas, rural areas, Metis communities and in strictly Indian communities.

Le Metis - What has been the general response?

Mr. Theissen - I'd say that the response has been fantastic. We used an evaluation procedure where we had on going evaluations from teachers and students. We used written evaluation forms in which the teachers told us what they liked and didn't like about the kit. The students also told us their feelings. Following these evaluations we accordingly revised it.

Le Metis - Was there any difference of response in the city schools to the northern schools?

Mr. Theissen - I'd say it was generally the same. The main response from both teachers and students was that there is a definite need for these types of materials. They were very happy that materials of this nature were being made.


Le Metis - Since there has been such a favourable response to the kit, are you going to be developing other materials.

Mr. Theissen - We are in the process of developing a series of film strips for the high school level. There was also a book written which will act as resource book for teachers. The editors of this book are Bruce Sealey and Verna Kirkness. The book is about Indian and Metis people and was written by Indian and Metis people. This book will be added to the kit.


Le Metis - How do you see this kit as being used in the future?

Mr. Theissen - The Book Society of Canada, in Agincourt, Ontario, is presently publishing the material! It should be available to the schools and to the public by June, 1975.

G.B. Sealey



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Richer local news

We did it! Our Valentine dance drew over 200 people to an evening of dancing and fun. Many members of our local worked to make this dance our most successful to date. Our thanks to all the wonderful people who participated in a true team effort. Way to go!

The door prize, a red heart-shaped box of chocolates was won by Mrs. Fern Saindon of Richer. Secretary-Tres. of our local, Mrs. Dora May Gauthier presented a \$100.00 cheque to the Richer Community Club from our local fund. Mrs. Yvette Rickard, President of the Club gratefully accepted our donation. Also during intermission, we held the draw for our Valentine raffle. Winners of the prizes were:

1st - \$100.00 to Mr. Gilles Ouellet of Niakwa Park. 2nd - Texas Mickey to Mr. Pat Tourond of Richer 3rd - Steam Iron went to Mr. Philippe Pelletier of Ste. Anne.

There was a trophy offered to stimulate our members to sell raffle tickets. Our surprise came when we had a tie for champion ticket seller of our Local: Mrs. Adelaide Garand and Mrs. Laurette Larocque having each sold 32 books of tickets will both receive an engraved trophy.

Our chairman, Phil Gauthier presented a trophy to the Richer School, accepted by the Principal George Prescott. This trophy will go to the youngster showing the most effort to improve himself as a student, not necessarily the one with the highest average.

Other activities of interest being sponsored by the M.M.F. Sports & Recreation program are:

Folk dancing clinics, for all who would like to learn, are now being held at the Richer School each Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. Everyone welcome. Our instructor, Ron Hochman is a member of the Gai Manitobains troupe.

Crafts Workshops are being held periodically at our Craft Club meetings on Tues. afternoons. Our instructor, Vera McLean is a member of the team at the Leadership Centre in Gimli. She will be in Richer on March 4. For further information phone Mrs. D. M. Gauthier.

Six members of the Dawson Trail Craft Club had the privilege of participating in the first Arts & Crafts Level Course being offered in Gimli. Laurette Faucher wrote the following account of our weekend adventure:

"Weekend at Gimli

The nice people at the Gimli Camp certainly don't let you waste any time. Upon arriving Friday night for registration, classes were held till midnight. Of course they wouldn't let you sleep late either. At 7:30 a.m. you could hear the roaring from Janine, the puppet man, and off you'd go for a day of crafts and fun, fun, fun.

I wouldn't have wanted to be the cook for all the 90 people there, but might I say that it was delicious and plentiful.

I think I speak for all when I say that we are looking forward to the next course."

The folks in Richer and surrounding area are invited to drop in anytime to see all the pretty and practical articles hand made by the members of the Craft Club.

Our little Craft Shop is a non-profit gift shop operating as an outlet for the Craft Club with volunteer help. Your patronage would encourage local workers.

Richer Local members are urged to come to meetings on the 1st Tues. of each month. The next meeting on March 4 at 8:00 p.m. in the Richer School is very important as you will have the opportunity to cast your vote in support of your Local Committee. We look forward to seeing all of you there.

Remember March 4 - Local elections.

D.M. Gauthier

Point of Interest

The members of the Silver Bay Local would like to extend a big thank you to all those who helped us in our Christmas Cheer campaign for raising funds for our Christmas Box. We raffled three home-made fruit cakes (made by Violet Price - a big thank you to her). With these funds we bought gifts for nineteen needy children. We would also like to thank the welfare department, particularly Marcia Thomson for aiding us in finding these children.

We hope to be able to keep on doing this in the future.

Secretary Treasurer
Silver Bay Local of the M.M.F.

Stoney Point local news

Stoney Point M.M.F. Local held a bake-sale at the Community Hall the evening of 20 January. As usual the good ladies of the community turned out with delicious looking pies, fresh baked bannock, cakes, cookies, preserves etc. A land-office business prevailed for sometime until the last item was sold.

A reporter for "Le Metis" was on hand for the highlight of the evening, the drawing of the winning tickets. Draw winners were as follows.

1st. Prize - 40 oz. Perfume, Gordon Hourie, Stoney Point; 2nd. Prize - Bone Necklace, Mr. Burgoyne, 242 King Edward St., Wpg.; 3rd. Prize - 26 oz. Perfume - Joe Zaratski, Libau, Man.; 4th. Prize - 26 oz. Perfume - Mitchell Ervine, Stoney Point; 5th. Prize - Jug & Glasses, Jim Longbottom, Scanterbury; 6th Prize - Pair Pillow Slips, Richard Nixdorf, 215 Ried Ave., Wpg.; 7th. Prize - Towel Set, Gail Monkman, Scanterbury; 8th. Prize - Coffee Mugs, Agnes Prince, Scanterbury; 9th. Prize - Set of Ash Trays, Andre Henderson, Powerview; 10th. Prize - Ornaments, Michael Ervine, Stoney Point.

M.M.F. Local Chairman, Irene Viznaugh announced the total proceeds realized to be for the event was \$202.50. Mrs. Viznaugh thanked everyone who helped make the evening a success including all those who supported Stoney Point Local by buying tickets.

Each year at Christmas time the M.M.F. Local sponsor's a Christmas party with gifts, plus candy and nuts for the children from the community and surrounding district.

In the summer the Local sponsor's a community picnic with participation from adults as well as children.

Teen dances, meetings etc. are held in the Community Hall which the students renovated last summer. The renovation project was funded by an O.F.Y. grant from the Federal Government. In co-operation with Stoney Point Local, who supplied materials.

Stoney Point local

Reedy- Creek local news

Dear Editor:

Please add these names to the mailing list of The Kinosota-Rudy Creek M.M.F. Local.

Charlie & Ida Campbell, Kinosota, Man.; Roy Asham, Alonsa, Man.; Lucy Moar, Kinosota, Man.; Miss Joy Ruddick, Kinosota, Man.; Mr. & Mrs. Jack Ross, Kinosota, Man.; Mr. & Mrs. Glen Campbell, Alonsa, Man.; Mrs. Vi Ross, Kinosota, Man.; Mr. & Mrs. Delmar Anderson, Alonsa, Man.; Mr. & Mrs. Jack Furrie, Silver Ridge, Man.; Mr. & Mrs. Fred Sizemore, Alonsa, Man.; Mrs. Gracie Bruce, Silver Ridge, Man.; Mr. & Mrs. Irvine Anderson, Alonsa, Man.; Mrs. Peggy Ducharme, Kinosota, Man.; Mr. & Mrs. Eldon Campbell, Kinosota, Man. These are all new members in the last few months.

We think that's really something, if you wish to mention it in the "Le Metis".

We have a total membership to date of 43.

We started a Senior Citizens group and held a Christmas Party for them. We were very pleased with the turn out, there was approx. 60 with helpers included.

We organized in 1971, in 1972 we received a L.I.P. grant to rebuild Manitoba House which was called The Hudson Bay Post approx. 102 years ago at that time. It sits on the Lakeshore of Lake Manitoba.

We received an O.F.Y. project in 74 to build picnic tables, barbecue pits, plant trees & flowers and general landscaping at the site.

At this time we have 9 employees on another L.I.P. grant building a dock in Lake Manitoba right at the Manitoba House Site in Kinosota.

We are a very happy Local. Everyone gets along with everyone else.

We would like everyone to know what our Motto is -

**Coming together is Beginning,
Thinking together is Unity,
Working together is Success,
Keeping together is Progress."**

Thanking You
Louise Stoneman
Secretary-Treasurer
Kinosota - Reedy Creek Local

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Coloring Contest-Winners

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1st. prize Mildred Paul
Jack River School
Frontier School Division

2nd. prize Barbara Sabistor,
Meadow Portage, Man.
Rorketon School

3rd. prize Cathy Lynn,
Box 57,
Camperville, Man.

2nd classification

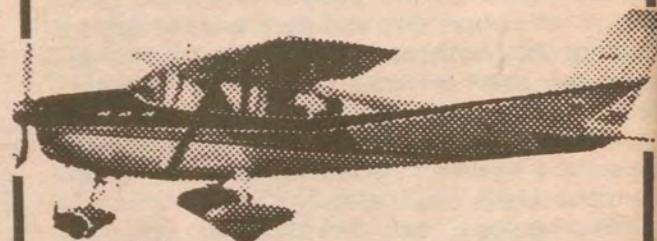
1st prize - Mary-Lou LeClair
Box 236
St. Lazare, Man.
St. Lazare, Elementary

2nd prize - Pamela Zeemel
Lac du Bonnet, Man.
Park Avenue School

3rd prize - Janet Mowat
Matheson Island, Manitoba
Matheson Island School

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