

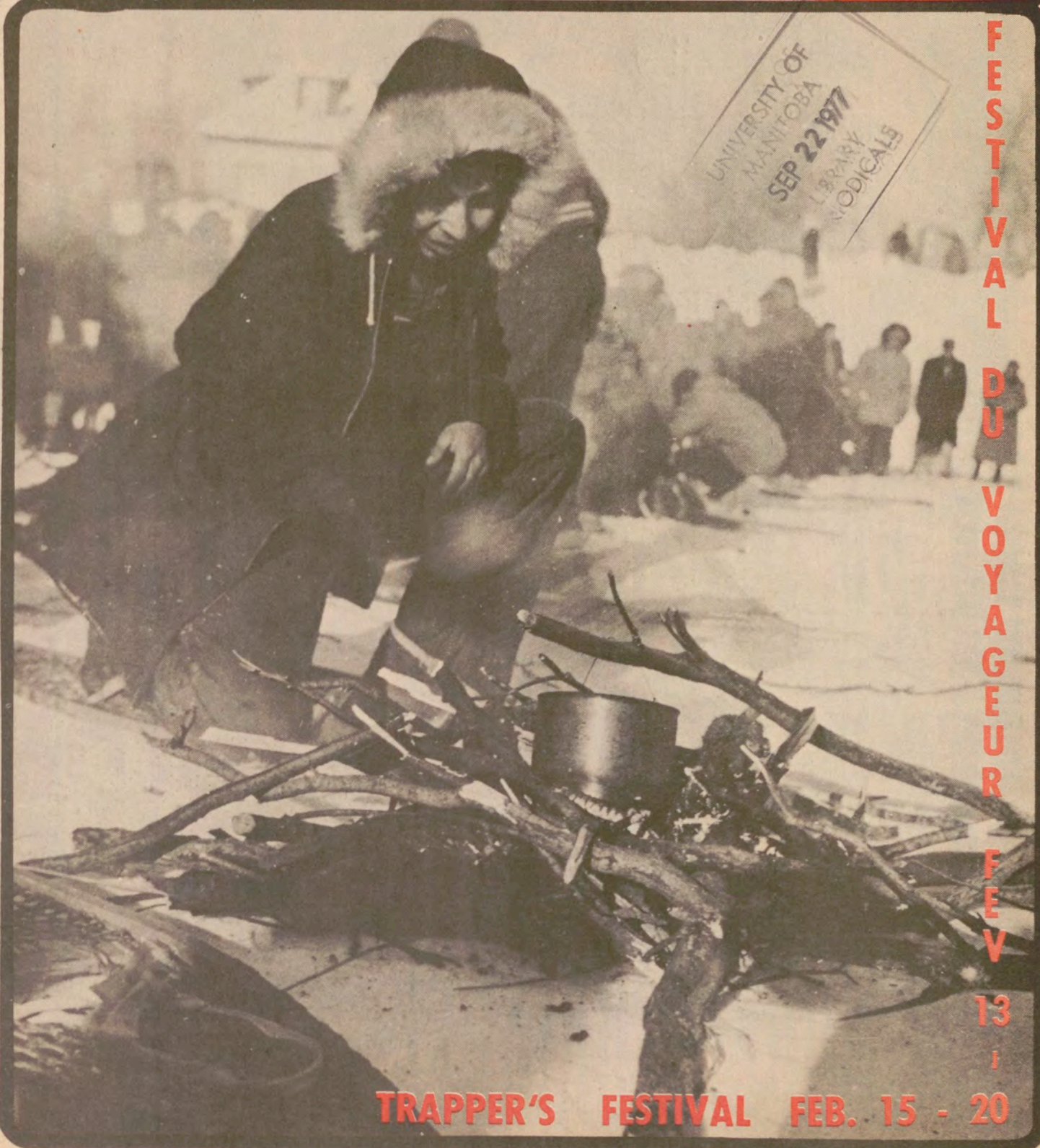


LE MÉTIS

Volume 6, No. 1

35 cents

January, 1977



FESTIVAL DU VOYAGEUR FEB 13

TRAPPER'S FESTIVAL FEB. 15 - 20

NEW OFFICE OPENS



Brandon Mayor Elwood Gorrie (left) congratulates MMF President John Morrisseau on the opening of the New Regional office in Brandon. Florrette Tataryn, regional board member (behind Mayor Gorrie) regional vice-president George Fleury (far right) and an unidentified bystander look on. Brandon Sun Photo.

by Doug Marshall

Mayor Elwood Gorrie of Brandon officiated at the opening ceremonies of the Manitoba Metis Federation's new office building in Brandon.

The official opening of the building was held December 16, 1976 at the Southwest Regional meeting. Approximately 30 people attended the ceremony.

Negotiations to purchase the building, located at the corner of Eighth street and Victoria avenue in Brandon were made last fall

with the actual date of occupancy since November 15. Cost of the building was \$20,000.

The main floor of the building has a large open area suitable for meetings, classes and recreational events and has an adjoining kitchen. The basement houses the office area where Regional vice-president George Fleury, Secretary April MacMillan, and RANCOM housing co-ordinator Alex Venne work. The new building is expected to facilitate the work of the Manitoba Metis Federation in the area.

\$38,000 L.I.P. for Life Skills work

A Local Initiatives Program grant has been awarded in the Pas Region to employ unemployable people in the community.

The basis of the program is to take people who have never held a steady job or people who have never worked before, and train them in life and family skills. The training will be supervised by The Pas local of the Manitoba Metis Federation under the direction of Dora Clark.

It is not the first time a program of this kind has been tried in The Pas. Previous attempts have taken in-experienced people and trained them sufficiently to allow them to go and work in other jobs in the community. Mrs. Clark explained the program will also aid the elderly and sick who have no one to call on to perform certain essential tasks. The workers in the program will go to the houses of

senior citizens, disabled persons or disadvantaged families and perform tasks normally not performed in or about the house.

The services will include changing storm windows, cleaning curtains, rugs and furniture or just visiting. Other groups of workers will assist in teaching young children arts and crafts work. Activities will also be aimed at teenage groups who have little to do in the area.

A hospital visitor will also be hired to provide companionship and assistance in hospitals, senior citizens homes or homes of bed-ridden people. The visitor will write letters or arrange to contact family members for the sick person in an emergency and to be a liaison with agencies that can provide care to these people.

The program is expected to begin early in February.

THE PAS FISH CO-OP SOLD

Co-operative Fisheries Limited has ceased to exist in Manitoba. Its entire assets in the Province have been purchased and taken over by the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation.

Bill Parks, president of the Marketing Corporation in Winnipeg confirmed that the transfer had taken place. No figures were revealed.

Mr. Parks said for the time being there would be no changes in operations, and that all Co-op staff members in Manitoba had been retained by the Corporation.

Mr. John Bodner of The Pas who has headed the Co-op operations in Manitoba has been appointed Northern Zone Manager for the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation. Mr. Parks expressed the Corporation's sentiments when he said that Mr. Bodnar has been carrying out an efficient operation in the past and he knew that Mr. Bodnar's expertise in the industry would continue to be felt in Northern Manitoba.

The Pas has been a major base for the Saskatchewan oriented Co-op which moved into Manitoba in 1973. Mr. Parks said the Co-op expressed a desire to concentrate its efforts in the home province of Saskatchewan and that sub-



Co-op Fisheries Ltd., of the Pas; recently sold to the Freshwater Fish Marketing Board.

NATIVE HOUSING:

'A well intentioned error'

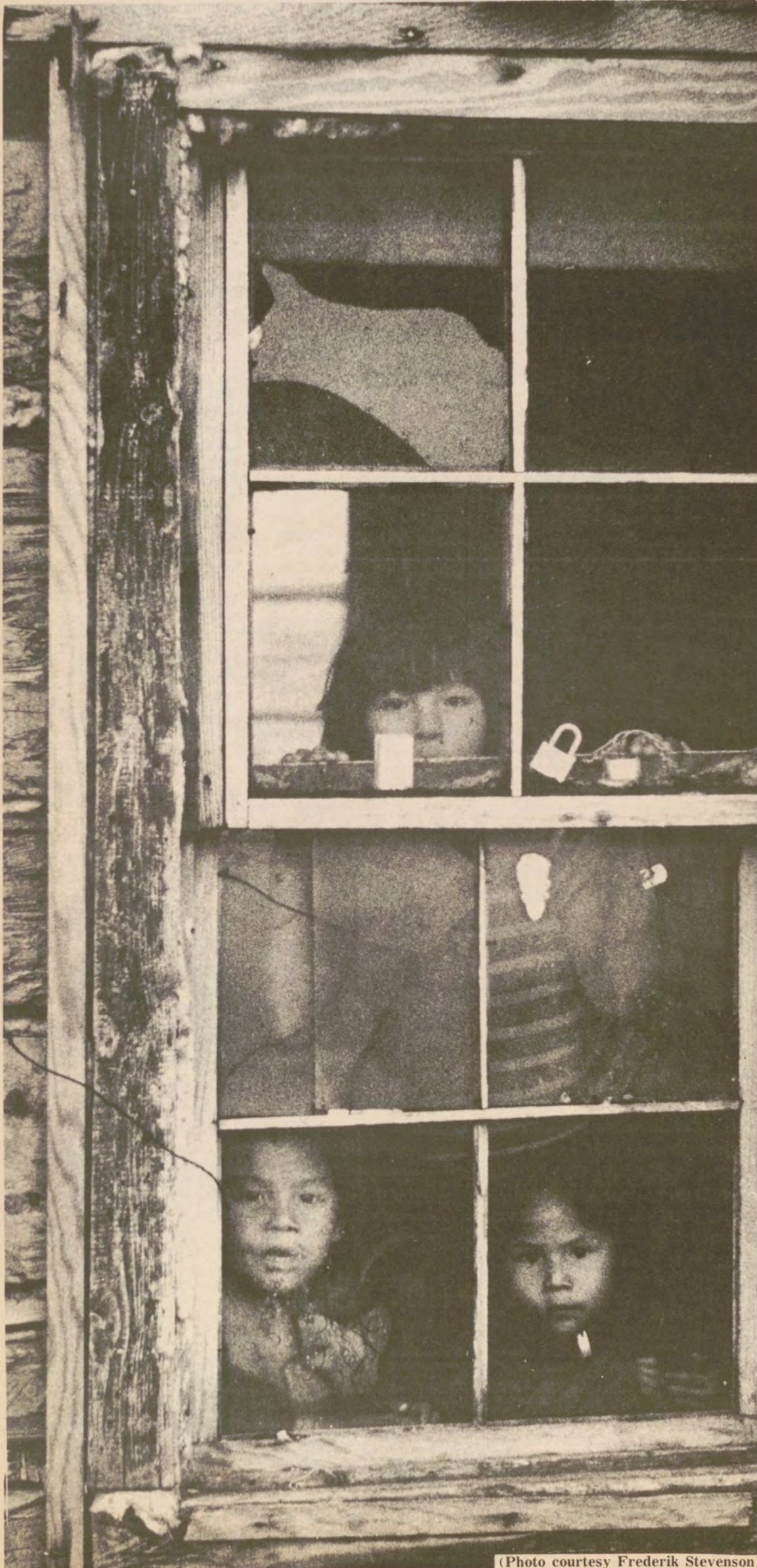
by
ROBERT MATAS
REPRINTED
COURTESY WINNIPEG
TRIBUNE

Several government built houses in rural and remote communities across the province are in need of major repairs although they are only a few years old, Industry Minister Len Evans confirmed this month.

"We're very much aware of the problem and are trying to do some-

thing about it," he said in an interview.

As well as repairing the faulty construction in many of the 600 houses it has built since 1969, the government will also likely change the direction of its rural and native housing program, said Mr.



(Photo courtesy Frederik Stevenson)



provement necessary in construction, it might as well own the place and rent it as public housing, he said.

Mr. Evans also said that despite its intent to sell the houses, the government has managed to complete mortgages for only 25 of the 600 houses built since 1969.

There is a social problem which creates difficulties, he said.

"To some people, the idea of a mortgage is a totally alien idea. They hesitate to sign anything. So



Evans, the minister responsible for housing.

Although a final decision has not been made on what to do with the multi-million dollar program, the minister said he would like to see the government stop selling houses in the rural and native communities.

The houses are now being built by the government to be sold but, he said, it is unrealistic to expect that those who would buy the houses could afford the maintenance costs.



John Morrisseau, president of the Manitoba Metis Federation, said recently that many of the new homes are already almost uninhabitable.

Most of the problems stem from construction which did not account for condensation in the houses, he said.

"In many homes, the ceilings are cracking, the walls are always running with water, doors don't close properly and floors are rotting," he said.

Even with the cracked floors and falling ceilings, the houses are better than what was there before, he said.



"But when the people living in these houses have to make mortgage payments to the government and then, on top of that, start receiving the high hydro bills, they don't want to pay for it.

"Then what's going to happen? Is the government going to move people out when they stop making their payments and leave all the houses unoccupied?"

Mr. Evans said he felt the government program was "well-intentioned but unrealistic."

The government currently subsidizes every hydro bill, he said. It is also considering the possibility of raising the \$10 monthly hydro subsidy to \$25 or \$30.

But after the government pays all those costs and does the im-



these people are renting the houses and when ownership is eventually transferred to them, their rental payments will be placed against their mortgage."

Mr. Morrisseau said the new houses, with full basements, water and sewer, are being produced for sale at a cost ranging from \$30,000 to \$35,000 each. When the program first started in 1969, each house, without basement, cost about \$10,000 each.

The high cost of maintaining the houses, Mr. Evans added, is main-



ly due to the use of electric heat. In some cases the heating bill is as high as two to three times the mortgage payment.

Electric heating also contributes to the serious condensation problems because it does not reduce humidity as easily as oil or gas heat, he said.

As a result, there is excess moisture in the air which creates the construction problems of ceilings and floors cracking and nails popping, he said.



Northern affairs Minister Ron McBryde, who recently accompanied Mr. Evans on a tour of the government-built homes, said the government is also fighting an attitude in the north that everything from the government is free.

Across Canada

INDIANS, METIS GET LAND CLAIMS FUNDS From The EDMONTON JOURNAL

YELLOWKNIFE, NWT (CNNS) -- Territorial Indian and Metis associations have won separate land claims funding from Ottawa totalling nearly \$588,000.

The NWT Indian Brotherhood will receive a \$225,000 operating loan from the Indian Affairs department to cover expenses until the end of the fiscal year (March 31, 1977).

The brotherhood will also get \$100,000 to repay the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches which funded the Treaty Indian organization's Dene Native peoples assembly at Fort Simpson in October.

A further \$20,000 will be loaned to the brotherhood for publication costs, mainly those involved in printing the Dene land claims submission presented to Ottawa more than a month ago.

Meanwhile the Metis Association of the NWT--which recently split from the Indian brotherhood and decided to pursue its own land claims effort--will receive a loan of \$210,000 to cover land claims operating expenses until March 31 next year.

The association will also get a further \$32,606 to cover outstanding land claims expenses.

All the interest-free loans are to be repaid from an eventual settlement covering the Native people of the Mackenzie Valley.

Total funding in 1975-76 for both groups was \$1,605,982. This covered general office expenses, land claims and related items such as the Berger Inquiry.

Meanwhile, Indian Affairs Assistant Deputy Minister Ewan Cotterill said government negotiators planned to hold the first "clarification" meeting with the brotherhood next January over its controversial proposal for a self-governing Dene state.

Mr. Cotterill said the Metis land claims proposal was expected to be ready for government consideration next spring.

FIRES ANGER METIS

EDMONTON (CP) - The deaths of 15 native people in fires in the province since November has prompted an angry statement by the president of the Metis Association of Alberta.

Stan Daniels said the deaths can be blamed partly on provincial government "foot dragging" on providing proper housing for natives.

"There have been other fires (in native homes) that have not been reported to the press," he said. "There are cases where people are living in a shed and sleeping on the floor."

HEARINGS UNDERWAY SOON

PRINCE ALBERT, Sask. (CNNS) -- The first phase of a study dealing with the Native offender and his special needs gets underway in January at the penitentiary, here.

The announcement of the project follows a recent tour of the correctional institution made by Solicitor-General Francis Fox and Harry Daniels, chairman of the Native Council of Canada.

FRIENDSHIP CENTRES REQUEST FOR MORE MONEY CONSIDERED

REGINA, Sask. (CNNS) -- A recent request for increased grants for the Saskatchewan Association of Friendship Centres has been deferred not rejected, according to a statement made by the Minister for Social Services, Herman Rolfes.

The Friendship Centres Association is seeking a 57 per cent increase in funding to cover expenses of the eight centres and their head office. The increase would total \$172,000 over last year's.

METIS STEP UP DRIVE FOR LOW-COST HOUSING From The OTTAWA JOURNAL

OTTAWA (CNNS) -- The hope of having new homes in Gloucester Township in the site of a partly demolished naval base near here, has fizzled for the Metis and Non-Status group seeking a place for rent-to-income housing.

This effectively stops any anticipated funds for such housing that was sought through the Central Mortgage and Housing Corp. because of the stipulations about population maximums and distance required to apply for such accommodation and neither conditions could be met.

POOR PREMIERE FOR NATIVE COUNTRY

OTTAWA (CNNS) -- Native Country and Friends, a Native talent show that opened here in December played to a half-empty house. But Duke Redbird and Winston Wutunee, the show's creators, will take the show on tour anyway.

It was a mixture of protest lyrics, ballads, country and western and jazz that included a couple of non-Native entertainers but it wasn't enough to warm up Ottawa for the Native talent promotion company which represents Canada's Metis and Non-Status Indians.

MMF QUEEN CONTESTANT

Good Luck Judy!

The Manitoba Metis Federation Regional office in The Pas is sponsoring a contestant in the Fur Queen contest during The Pas Trapper's Festival.

Judy Sayese, recently graduated from the Snow Lake school, is the beauty the Federation has chosen. Eighteen year-old Judy tells us she enjoys cooking but modestly says she does not do it well. Most people disagree.

Aside from enjoying her work in the kitchen she also plays the guitar and is currently seeking work in The Pas. Judy says employment is hard to find at this time of year but adds that she hopes to find work with the Manitoba Telephone system.

Judging by Judy's picture it is easy to see why we think we have a winner this year.

Good Luck Judy.



Eighteen year-old Judy Sayese is the MMF's entry in The Pas Trappers' Festival Fur Queen Contest.

M.M.F. supports New Brunswick land claims



John Morrisseau

On December 17, 1976, the New Brunswick Association of Metis and non-status Indians put a claim forward for approximately 847 acres of land.

In a reply to news of the claim, John Morrisseau, President of the Manitoba Metis Federation, has issued a statement in support of the action.

The statement was made in a letter to R.C. Boudreau, the Minister of Natural Resources in the province of New Brunswick. "We the Manitoba Metis Federation whole heartedly support the New Brunswick Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians in their claim:

"You must bear in mind that the Metis and Non-status Indians have an aboriginal right.

In Anticipation that the outcome will be positive, I remain . . .

John Morrisseau

RANCOM building in Cranberry

The Rural and Native Housing Corporation of Manitoba is building 11 new homes this winter in Cranberry Portage.

Five of the homes are pre-fabricated, ready-to-move units while the other six are being "stick built" by approximately 10 local workers.

Eric Sandberg, regional housing co-ordinator for RANCOM in The Pas says the work has been going well so far. But, he added, the recent cold weather is causing some problems.

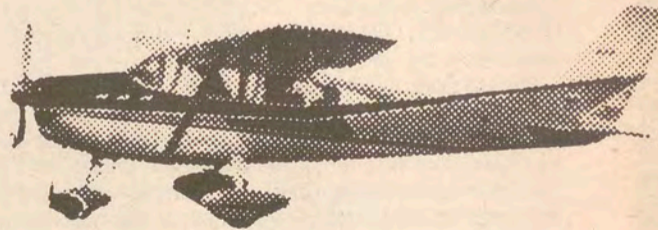
Due to record low snowfalls, deep frost has delayed installation of plumbing and basement floors.

Mr. Sandberg says that burning will begin soon to thaw the frost between the houses and underground water mains to allow installation of the plumbing.

This, he said, will allow people to move in to the houses for now and that the basement floors could be put in later in the year.

LAMBAIR

AIRCRAFT CHARTER SERVICE



Do not ask us where we fly, tell us where you want to go!

FLIGHTS LEAVING DAILY TO ALMOST ALL POINTS IN NORTHERN MANITOBA.

WITH BASES SITUATED IN THE PAS, THOMPSON, GILLAM, CHURCHILL AND RANKIN INLET

FIXED AND ROTARY WING AND SCHEDULED SERVICE.

LAMBAIR

Tel: 623-3461 (The Pas)

677-4555 (Thompson)

GUEST EDITORIAL:

Thoughts in respect to the formation of a Metis political base

BY
GEORGE MUNROE AND
ARCHIE NABESS

It should not be disputed that the native peoples of Canada require their own political party in order to ever realize social and economic parity with the dominant society. It should be easily recognized that the native peoples political involvement as a nation of people within a nation is restricted to "Club" politics.

As a nation of people within a nation we are allowed to form non-profit, non-political organizations in the sense of the term "politics." But in order for a Metis person to enter or succeed in the world of Canadian politics he must join the institution or nation that envelopes his nation. It is a lonesome occupation for the very rare Indian or Metis elect, where he is expected to represent the trapped native population as well as the white segment whom he does not understand any more than they understand him.

The native elect realizes that his people, on the average, live in poverty, socio-economic suppression, and political desperation which gives him a natural instinct to speak out for his people. But he soon realized that he is too greatly

outnumbered to have any meaningful effect. So, rather than try to squeeze blood out of a stone, he succumbs to self-economic opportunity and prostitutes himself to a prestigious and lucrative position; especially if his particular party is the present administration.

To date we can count our successful native politicians (provincial and federal) on one hand. We are constantly being told by our masters to enter into the provincial and federal political fields, but, if you consider the attempts and failures to date, you will easily arrive at the conclusion that the process of Metis individual effort is too slow.

There is no indication that in the next few decades that there will be any honest and real native representation in our legislatures under the present system of our political isolation.

The native people of Canada are in dire need of revolutionary change. Without our own political party we cannot realize just and fair representation. We are in need of a Metis political party designed for rapid and radical innovation. Only in legislative assemblies and as

actors in these institutions can we ever hope to bring to light the very real conditions facing our people today.

Only if we have a powerful Metis party support can we ever realize a lobby, that would be an integral part of our political force. We should not be considered as a token party; we should not be considered a threat to the ivory tower of the dominant polity. Time has shown us that misery is our legacy. Misery that we will pass on to our offspring if we do not shake off the shackle of political procrastination.

In the process of our political endeavour we will be tempted to plagiarize the ideologies of other political movements; we will be accosted by lesser Canadian based parties to adopt their ancient tenants and we will be labelled by panicked dictators. But we must be firm in our plans to become a realistic, honorable party.

We must endeavour to formulate revolutionary and sound policies.

The Metis people have the enviable gift of wisdom—the most necessary attribute for sound political thought.

From the Editor's Desk

Co-operative fisheries

The sale of Co-operative fisheries Ltd., of The Pas to the Federal Government's Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation seems to have been done in a very rushed fashion.

The announcement of the takeover came early in January with little information put before the co-operative members. The marketing board announced that the take-over would retain all people employed by the co-operative. Unfortunately, the board of directors of the Saskatchewan owned co-operative did not inform its local members of the sale. Board members voted on a resolution pertaining to the transfer of the assets but the bulk of the board members live in Saskatchewan and care little for what happens to the former co-operative's 63 local members in The Pas.

This transfer of the assets and interests of the local members gives rise to some questions. John Bodnar, new regional manager for the FWFMC Corporation, says that the transfer was to protect the interests of the co-operative's members. He says that the co-op needs a great deal of capital in the next few years to remain profitable. And, that capital could be as high as \$500,000 and the Saskatchewan based Federation of Co-operatives did not want to invest that kind of money in its Manitoba operation.

The money therefore is expected to come from the federal agency instead.

But, why couldn't the fishery stay under co-operative management? Was it because the profits for the Saskatchewan Co-operative members were becoming more of a concern than the interests of the 63 fishermen in The Pas, whose efforts supply the co-operative with the fish they sell to make a profit.

That seems likely.

What can the Marketing Board do for the fishermen now that they no longer have a Co-operative? Mr. Bodnar says that the fishermen will still be able to transport their catch using the vehicles owned formerly by the fish co-op, now the property of the corporation. He says also, that nets will be available at cost to the fishermen. He says further, that the price of fish can be negotiated directly with the fishermen.

What happens to any profit a co-op makes by operating its own vehicles to transport fish for its members? It normally goes back to the co-op and is then distributed as dividends to its members. That no longer happens. There is no profit or dividend because there is no more co-operative.

The same applies to the purchasing of nets from the Marketing corporation. There is no dividend and no benefit to local members of the co-operative.

What about the price of fish? Will that be negotiated with the thought in mind that the fishermen will get only what their catch will bring, and no further income from dividends they received from the co-operative, they thought they owned? Hardly likely!

So what is the advantage?

The Fresh Water Fish Marketing Corporation is preying on the fishermen to subsidize its own operations. The cost of board officials who fly in from Ottawa to inspect the operations of the local office is now being paid by the fishermen and the taxpayers. Air fares, hotel bills, and meal expenses are now being directly subsidized by the former local members of the Fisheries Co-operative Ltd. And they don't all know about it. Yet!

So much for the advantage!

Two new members

Le Metis is pleased to announce the hiring of two people to assist in preparation of its monthly paper.

Jack Carriere has joined the paper as a reporter trainee. Jack is sponsored on his training program by the New Careers program of the Provincial Government. He will be trained in photography and reporting and will be seen regularly at events the paper will be covering.

Michèle Cormier is the second addition to our staff. She is filling the position of Associate-editor originally employed by the paper. She is bilingual and will be providing French language content in a variety of areas. Michèle also speaks some Cree and Sioux.

The addition of this staff compliment will allow us to travel more frequently to the regions and provide proper coverage of events in your area. Upcoming features will include material on the Metis Days festival in Thompson, continuation of our columns from corrections centres, and revisal of our recipe column now titled, "From the country, for the Kitchen."

We also need your contributions to help us in our drive to increase circulation and solicit new advertising so that we may become financially independant.



Le Metis is published monthly by the Manitoba Metis Federation and is available at a cost of \$3.00 per year to members or non-members.

The policy of Le Metis is to encourage members and readers to send in materials. All contributions must be signed to be published or returned. The editor reserves the right to edit articles or letters. Le Metis is also accepting classified or display advertising. Rates available on request.

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month.

Doug Marshall, Editor.

Jack Carriere, Reporter.

Michele Cormier, Reporter.

Layout: J. Hillier, Eastman Publications.

SEND LETTERS OR CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

The Editor
Le Metis
301-374 Donald Street
Winnipeg, R3B 2J2
or Telephone:
The Manitoba Metis Federation
942-2565

**CAUTION!
CORNER!**

DEBT COLLECTORS AND YOUR RIGHTS

Prepared by the Manitoba Consumer's Bureau

Debt collectors can nudge you but they can't shove you!

Under the Manitoba Consumer Protection Act, collection practices are controlled in the province. So, should you ever encounter problems with debt collectors, remember that you DO have rights under law.

Improper collection tactics are not tolerated in Manitoba. Under the act, no one can demand payment either by telephone, in person or in writing without (a) the collection agency and person making the demand identifying themselves, (b) stating the name of the credit grantor holding the debt, (c) indicating the balance owing on the account.

Money may not be collected from a debtor in an amount greater than the sum actually owing and the amount of charges allowed by law. When all late payments and default charges are paid, the debtor can then continue making regular payments according to the terms of the contract. When goods are repossessed, a debtor can redeem the repossessed goods by paying all payments in arrears and allowed costs. This right must be exercised within 20 days after the debtor receives a repossession notice from the creditor. This notice must be forwarded within 48 hours of the repossession.

Furthermore, a collector cannot send a collect telegram or make collect telephone calls to a debtor demanding payment of negotiating payment of the debt. Nor can a debt collector threaten an action without lawful authority. Telephone calls or personal calls that will harass the debtor, or his or her spouse, a family are not allowed, nor of any person in an effort to find their whereabouts.

No one can repossess goods unless a debtor, or his or her spouse, agent or an adult using the goods in question (with the consent of the debtor) is present at the time and aware of the removal. No one can repossess goods unless they are specifically charged or mortgaged or lawfully claimed by statute of judgement.

Telephone calls and personal calls cannot be made on a Sunday or a holiday; on other days, these calls can only be made between 7:00 A.M. and 9:00 P.M. Those times apply too, when goods are repossessed.

And lastly, all collectors in the province must be registered with the Manitoba Consumer's Bureau. If you need information or help, do not hesitate to contact the Bureau.

An open letter to the Premier

Honorable Edward Schreyer
Premier of Manitoba

Dear Sir:

I am 23 years of age and married with one child.

This is the second year I am casting my vote in Manitoba.

As far back as I can remember, my parents have been supporting the N.D.P. The past and present governments have not made any policy's regarding the Metis and Non-status Indians of the Province of Manitoba.

Therefore, I can no longer support the N.D.P. in the future.

Sincerely,

Glen Head

CHRISTMAS NITE OF LAST

While tucked in a wretched cell

Christmas nite of last....

This thought sprung to mind,

For a man who is a man,

Or just a body?

A zombie....?

A walking statistic,

Just another face in the crowd,

Added spirits, that we have not,

Do not a Christmas make...

The love was out of Christmas,

No wonder...!

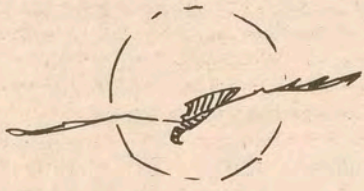
My heart was made of stone

Christmas nite of last.

- Clarence Smith-Cassill '76

NON-STATUS INDIAN

by Robert Kakaygeesick





Ci-haut Mr. Alex McKenzie dansant la "Gigue"

Festival du Voyageur Février 13 - 20

PAR: JACK CARRIÈ ET MICHÈLE CORMIER

Le Festival du Voyageur sera de nouveau parmi nous avec toute la gaieté et la splendeur que nous connaissons depuis déjà longtemps.

L'ouverture se fera lors du défilé annuel où les spectateurs auront la chance de se familiariser avec la culture, la musique et le déploiement artistique qui nous entoure au Manitoba. Comprennant Chars Allégoriques, Groupes à Cheval et à Pied, Orchestres, Danses et attractions spéciales, tel est un événement à ne pas manquer.

Le Festival renferme en plus les suivantes attractions: "Concours de Barbus," auquel se présentent ces messieurs qui ont abandonnés le rasoir afin d'imiter nos Voyageurs d'antan. "La Journée Familiale" où nous verrons des familles entières, des plus vieux aux plus jeunes, danser, chanter et se divertir ensembles. "La Soirée des Danses Carrées" comprenant des Violon-eux sans pareils serait une des plus populaires attractions permettant à tous de jouir d'une soirée in-oubliable.

"Aux Pays de Bois Brûlés" Un spectacle à ne pas manquer présente par les étudiants du Collège St. Boniface, vous donnera la chance d'être exposés à la culture des Métis Franco-Manitobains dans toute sa ferveur et sa noblesse.

"La Course de Raquettes" offre plusieurs catégories auquel se présentent ces gens courageux qui entreprennent des distances allant 1/2 mile jusqu'à 16 miles sur la Rivière Seine et ses entourages.

"Marathon de Ski Cross-Country" qui l'année dernière remporta un énorme succès saura nous l'espérons vous attirer en plus grand nombre cet année pourvu que les conditions de la neige le permettent.

"Le Couronnement de La Reine" est un événement que nul ne doit manquer. Les jeunes filles qui se présentent à cette compétition sont toutes charmantes et toutes dignes de remporter la victoire soit d'être couronnées Reine du Festival, mais le choix tant que difficile doit se faire car, malheureusement il n'y a qu'une Reine qui peut jouir de cet honneur. "Le Bal du Gouverneur" et le Couronnement de la Reine sera comme auparavant une soirée mémorable avec tout son Gala et ses Costumes magnifiques.

Le Festival apporte beaucoup de "Joie de Vivre" et d'amitié à tous c'est une occasion de courte durée qui demeure dans notre mémoire d'année en année et qui comprend beaucoup plus d'événements que ceux que j'ai listé ici. Laissez votre curiosité vous emmener dans ce monde en fête et amusez-vous bien.

Compétition de Sculptures sur Glace

Cette année les compétitions de Sculptures sur glace prendront place aux endroits suivants: Le Parc Provencher, le Boulevard Provencher et le parcours de l'Hôtel de Ville.

La compétition sera divisée en trois catégories. - (1) Compétition au Parc Provencher soumise par les étudiants de plusieurs écoles ayant comme premier prix la somme de \$100 qui sera versée à l'école gagnante afin de subventionner un projet, ainsi qu'un trophée. - (2) Cette deuxième compétition aura lieu sur le Boulevard Provencher et est ouverte à tous les résidents du Manitoba avec un premier prix de \$250, ainsi que de divers prix en forme d'argent et de trophées qui totaleront \$475. - (3) Cette dernière se fera entre les Collèges et Universités et se tiendra sur le parcours de l'Hôtel de Ville. Les sculptures présentées seront de proportions plus larges que les deux premières et aura comme premier prix la somme de \$275, et d'autres prix pour un total de \$500, ainsi que le trophée "Décernement Molson"



Magnifique Sculpture de Glace sur le Boulevard Provencher.

The Pas Trapper's Festival, Feb. 15-20

Each winter the streets of The Pas come alive in mid-February with the fun and frenzy of Trappers' Festival.

The festival, dubbed Mardi Gras of the north, is a five day celebration highlighted by contests demonstrating crafts and skill that shaped the north. The Pas has played host to this annual event since 1948, and the festival now attracts visitors from all over Canada and the United States.

Special awe is accorded to the winning musher in the three day, World Championship Dog Derby, and competition is also keen for King Trapper, the man named most proficient in northern abilities. Sporting contests, exhibitions, races, pageants, national entertainment, and a variety of social events provide activities for towns-folk and visitors of all ages.

For The Pas, Trappers' Festival is a much needed break in the long months of winter. For visitors, the Festival offers a unique display of northern activities in the friendly and welcoming atmosphere of a frontier town.

A series of novelty events is also sponsored for those who want to participate in traditional trappers' events, but are reluctant to compete with the professionals. The events include a 100 yard snowshoe race, a three-legged snowshoe race, tea boiling, and a giant snowshoe race using snowshoes that are 20 feet long!

SOCIAL SCENE

Trappers' Festival is not all brute and brawn. The beauties get their turn at competition in the Fur Queen Pageant which attracts girls from across the North.

Besides competing in poise, talent, and personality. The Queen contestants are active participants in the social scene. Each day starts with early morning pancake breakfasts (featuring bands from across the nation), afternoon teas and fashion shows, fiddling and jigging contests, beard growing contests, coffee houses, childrens'

shows, senior citizens program and evening stage shows with top variety entertainment.

No one is forgotten at Trappers' Festival. Whether your taste is boogie or a bit more traditional, you will find your kind of music, your kind of dancing, and your king of people at Trapper's Festival '77.

KING TRAPPER

In the King Trapper contest, competitors test their skills in the traditional tasks necessary to the trapper and his livelihood.

Points are awarded in events such as trap setting, canoe packing, muskrat skinning, pole climbing, log sawing, flour packing, snowshoe racing, and moose, goose and frog calling.

Trappers are also tested on their culinary skills with contests in tea boiling and bannock baking.

The contestant receiving the most points is awarded the coveted title of King Trapper. Just as the husky is a special breed of sled dog, the King Trapper proves to be a special breed of man -- a man adept at handling the rigorous life of a northern outdoorsman.

The contest of these endeavours is judged in part by an appreciative and awed audience.

EXHIBITIONS TOO

Between the numerous outdoor events, visitors have an opportunity to warm up--in terms of both heat and hospitality--at the many indoor exhibitions. The Pasquia Art Associations sponsors an extensive arts and crafts display featuring local artistic talent. A favorite with school children is the arrangement of stuffed animals from the Manitoba museum of Man and Nature.

Trappers' Festival gives everyone a chance to join the fun. Viewing the different events is easy as most of the activities take place right in the downtown area and at the edge of the Saskatchewan.

For fun and excitement indoors and out, The Trappers' Festival is definitely the place to be.



Snowshoe Racing -- the King Trapper of 1976 takes the lead.



The Trial of the stomach comes in the raw fish eating contest. But none of these King Trapper contestants are about to let it show.

**Feb.
15th
to
20th
attend
The
Trapper's
Festival
at
The
Pas**

Sports and Recreation

A 'square' start for a new year

by Ken Desjarlais

Well the good old festive season has come and gone and once again, the square dance clinics are taking place in various locals.

Dancers from Lundar and Deerhorn took part in a new years dance at the Saint Olaf Hall on January 5.

January 6 saw the Lord Selkirk Park local holding their first clinic of the year at the St. John Bosco

Centre on Isabelle street in Winnipeg. A little later in the month the Minnedosa local moved to Brandon for its first New Years clinic on January 16.

Sunny Bay square dancers are holding their square dance clinic this week on January 28 at the Peguis High School centre in Peguis, Manitoba.

We will keep you informed in "Le Metis" on upcoming activities.

Arts and Crafts groups producing very well

Mrs. Mildred Vint, instructor for the Minnedosa Local's arts and crafts, reports the group is doing very well with their knitting and crocheting.

The Powerview group has also resumed its program and is producing beautiful work. Mrs. Ida Dean and Mrs. Annie Clark have been providing excellent instruction for the group in that area.

With the new building in the Southwest Region, many programs

and activities are now carried out under our own roof. The regional vice-president, George Fleury, has informed us that they have intentions of beginning crafts programs in the very near future.

The Minnedosa local has also been making use of the new building for some of its activities. We congratulate the region on its efforts to take advantage of the potential of the building.

Cold can't stop the hockey

The coldest days do not prevent the minor hockey players from enjoying their sport.

They have been taking up as many games and practices as possible over the past weeks of uncomfortably cold weather. On Sunday, December 19, Lord Selkirk Park travelled to Winnipeg Beach and defeated the host team with a score of 7 to 5. Boxing day at Lord Selkirk Park, St. Laurent scored 3 goals against Lord Selkirk Park's five.

Following the minors' games, the "little guys" provided entertainment for the fans. They ranged in age from four and one half to seven years old. St. Laurent and Lord Selkirk Park each formed a team of anxious youngsters. The game lasted a solid fifteen minutes. The rink was specially designed to accommodate this calibre of hockey.

The teams played cross-ways on the rink using spectators as the boards. There was an excellent show of fans cheering on the players.

Winnipeg Beach was at Lord Selkirk Park on January 2 of the New Year. They played a high scoring game putting 6 goals into L.S.P.'s net. However, L.S.P. shot 9 goals into the opposition's net.

At Warren Arena on January 6, St. Laurent edged Selkirk 3 to two. In the biting cold of January 9, Selkirk was defeated by Lord Selkirk Park.

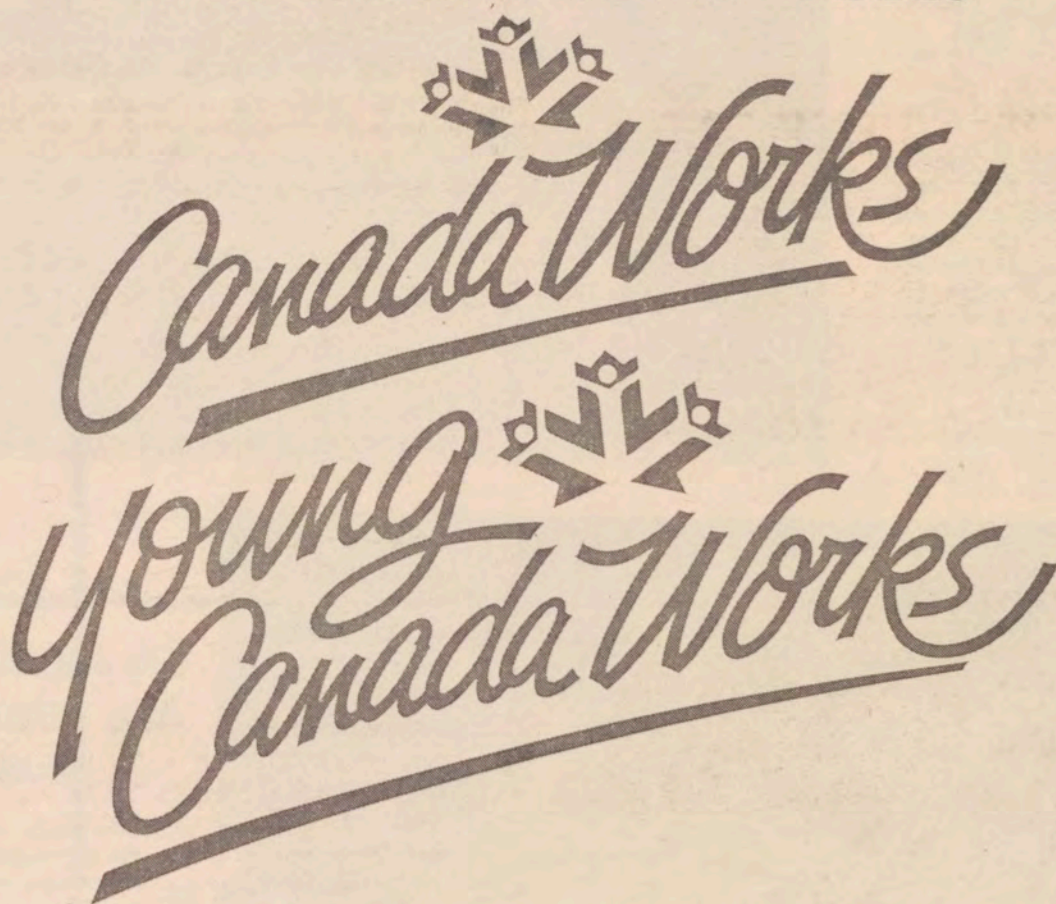
THANK YOU!

To Everyone, for the tremendous donations of clothing and other articles.

Also, a Happy and Prosperous New Year to all.

August Delorme
Human Resources
Development Worker.

CREATE NATIVE COMMUNITY JOBS NOW. GET YOUR APPLICATION IN BY FEBRUARY 4TH.



The restoration of an historical site, improving housing in your area, the replacement of an outdated water system. If you stop and think about it there are probably many good projects that could create jobs and be of great benefit to your own native community.

This year, a new job creation program called Canada Works will help fight unemployment by providing funds to groups and organizations including native associations, for worthwhile community projects.

If you have a project that can provide a minimum of five jobs for unemployed people in your area, submit your application to Canada Works.

But do it now. The deadline for applications is February 4th.

Right now, your Canada Manpower Centre has application forms and a Canada Works "Guide to Applicants" that describes the program and how to apply.

Visit your Canada Manpower Centre or Native Outreach office today.

Canada Works: Make it work in your community.

This summer Young Canada Works will help reduce student unemployment by creating jobs in your community. The students will work on projects of community benefit that will enable them to test their career aspirations.

Any established organization can submit an application to Young Canada Works.

Your proposal should provide a minimum of three student jobs for six consecutive weeks. Projects can operate for up to 14 weeks between May and September. Your local CMC or Native Outreach office, has a Young Canada Works "Guide" and application form.

Submit your application now. The deadline for Young Canada Works is February 4th.

Young Canada Works for students in your community.



Manpower
and Immigration
Bud Cullen
Minister

Main-d'œuvre
et Immigration
Bud Cullen
Ministre

IT'S GOING TO WORK FOR YOUR COMMUNITY.

Employment opportunity

Applications are invited for the position of Director of the Indian Teacher Education Program at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon.

This is a unique program for the education of Indian teachers, offered by the University of Saskatchewan College of Education, in cooperation with the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians.

Nominations, applications and resumes should be submitted no later than January 31, 1977 to Mr. Albert Bellegarde, Executive Director of Indian Education, Federation of Saskatchewan Indians, Box 3085, Saskatoon, or Dean R. H. Farquhar, College of Education, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, S7N 0W0.

Fiddlers Contest was a foot-stomping delight

by Doug Marshall

Some 4,000 spectators and countless numbers of Saturday shoppers took in the First Annual Old-time Fiddlers' contest sponsored by the Garden City Merchants association.

The contest, with 14 entries, took place January 15 at the Garden City Shoppers' Mall in Winnipeg with a total prize money of \$225. Mall manager John Renaud, who arranged the contest, said he was quite happy with the turn out in spite of the fact it was not well publicized. He expects the event to become an annual affair with more entrants every year.

The contestants however, were not too concerned with the organizational aspects of the afternoon. They were out to fiddle up a storm and maybe learn a few new tricks from their fellow fiddlers. The tricks of the trade were a treat for the audience too. Young and old alike crowded around to see the action and it took most youngsters only a few minutes to squeeze in under the ropes holding the crowd back. The smaller you were the better your seat!

The contest was hosted by CHMM radio announcer Mike Reid and extra entertainment provided by Reg Bouvette and The Roadhouse Band. Reg is known for his many fiddling championships and it seemed fitting that his wife Beryl Bouvette should be one of the judges of the contest. Alongside Beryl was Jean Brettecher, recording artist and member of the Roadhouse Band.

The first set of fiddlers moved along rapidly.

But the action did not slump at the intermissions. Freddie and Norbert Flett took the spot light to dance the jig to an appreciative audience. Norbert and Freddie displayed the skill that put them at odds last year when they competed against each other in several jigging contests. Not to be out done by the oldsters, Melody Flett who is ten years old, showed us that jigging was not only for the older generation. In fact she put on such a show she probably had the Flett brothers worried about her as competition.

With the entertainment of such a fine quality, the shoppers did not have much problem standing still.

Even at the breaks without entertainment, during the one and one-half hour contest, they refused to move from their places for fear of missing the outcome of the contest. Passersby also crowded up to the concourse stage and it was tough to go on about your shopping without stopping at least for a minute.

The crowd grabber came when a play off was announced between fiddlers Walter Kuzuk and Carl Plohman. It seemed to be a tie for first place. What the crowd did not know was the tie was a playoff for second place.

A few more minutes of silence. The announcement. The Winner? Gail Neduzak of Beausejour. Almost in a daze Gail accepted her prize on stage and took her place next to Reg Bouvette of the Fiddlers' Hall of Fame. Second Place winner Wally Kuzuk came up next to claim his \$75 prize followed by Carl Plohman who earned \$50 for his third place position.

Then the grand finale. The three winners and The Roadhouse Band, played a reel to close the First Annual Old-time Fiddlers' Contest and assure the future of the second.



Mike Reid from CHMM radio in Winnipeg, congratulates Gail Neduzak of Beausejour on her first place finish in the First Annual Old Time Fiddlers' Contest sponsored by the Garden City Merchants Association.



The contest winners fiddle up a storm with Reg Bouvette and The Roadhouse Band. From left to right: Second place winner Walter Kuzuk, Jean Brettecher, Reg Bouvette, Jim Flett, Third place winner Carl Plohman and Gail Neduzak, the champion.



A little jigging was thrown in at the fiddling contest too. Freddie Flett moves his feet in fine fashion showing us how it is done.

New Breed Leading

*New Breed Leading
from the Sawridge Motor Hotel
past the Blood Shopping Centre
The Pas Shopping Centre
and the Sept. Isles Shopping Centre
to the Abenaki Motor Hotel
All across our land
New Breed Leading
for progress with progress for still more progress
but where is all this progress
leading the Indian
who loves to hunt and fish
or just camp-out
where his father like his grandfather
and his grandfather's father before him
used to pitch camp
after a long hard day on the trail
His freedom
to live the life
that of his own and his forebearers
and not the life now asked of him to live
by his White Brothers
through the short sightness
of the New Breed Leading
Are we making progress for progress' sake
or are we making progress
in a state of trance
induced
by The Indian Affairs Branch Assimilation
Process Strategy Fund
Whatever
Think Indian
And be the Indian that you are
Progress---
but retain your culture
for without your cultural identity
you are left groping
Thus said
New Breed Leading
as it should lead.....*

-Clarence Smith-Cassill '76

Entertainment

Woodsmoke and Sweet Grass now on CKY Television . . .



In December 1976, Sherry Theobald interviewed Manitoba Premier Ed Schreyer on the slow withdrawal of Indian Affairs fund by the federal government and the province's subsequent protest to Ottawa jointly with the M.I.B.

The program is a combination of two distinct fragrances; the first reminding us of the Metis or Bois Brules; and the second, the ritual burning of sweetgrass, standing for the Indian. On the program, all topics of interest to or about Native people are discussed.

In past, guests on the show have been; John Morrisseau-president of the Manitoba Metis Federation, Joe Keeper of the Northern Flood Committee, Jackson Beady--Native artist, and Emile Pelletier, author of "A Social History of the Metis," as well as many other interesting personalities.

Each week, hostess Sherry Theobald talks candidly with her guests in a setting of artifacts from the St. Boniface Museum, replete with a genuine buffalo rug.

"This has been a very challenging series," said Sherry, "and I have enjoyed meeting so many people."

Some interesting highlights evolved when Gilda Wilson, head of the Indian Womens' Organization, suggested she direct some of her

discussion to the women viewers in Cree. On another program, Mrs. Elizabeth Fontaine will be addressing the audience in Saulteaux on the topic of Alcohol.

Woodsmoke and Sweetgrass is seen each week on CKY Television on Sunday at 3:30 p.m. Because of extended coverage, this year, CKY is available in many areas in northern Manitoba.

Sherry Theobald welcomes your comments and suggestions about the program. She asks that all letters be addressed to her in care of "Woodsmoke and Sweetgrass", CKY Television, Polo Park, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Sherry is also well known in other areas. She was one of the authors of "Metis Pride." and has also hosted the Manitoba Metis Federation's early version of her current program; it appeared on Public Access Television in Winnipeg for 3 years.

She is currently a music teacher in Winnipeg and is working on a study of Metis music.

Reg Bouvette . . . of the Fiddlers Hall of Fame

by Jack Carriere

Reg Bouvette holds three fiddling championships; the Manitoba title, the Red River Valley championship, and the Grand National US Champion title.

In fact, most local contests will not even allow him to enter anymore. It is not fair competition for the other entrants.

All is not really so remarkable when you consider that Reg has been involved with music since he was fourteen. On the other hand, it is unusual...Reg does not read music.

In spite of the hundreds of songs he has written, Reg has never had the need to learn to read music. He learns most pieces by ear. When writing a new song, he first hums it, then grabs his fiddle, and plays it.

He first started writing songs at 16 when he was driving trucks. While lying in the bunk tunes would come into his head and, in order not to forget them while completing his trip, he would hum or whistle the tune until he got home. He would then rush in and play the song to capture it on his tape recorder. Even when his material comes to him now at four or five in the morning, he still does the same thing.

There is a story that Andy Desjarlais once wanted to use one of Reg's songs so he took it to a professional musician who was an expert at writing music from songs that were not already written. The musician was amazed when he wrote out the music. "The man who wrote this," he said, "is a

genius. Every note is perfect and in exactly the right space."

Such is the genius of Reg Bouvette.

But musicians are not the only people dazzled by Reg Bouvette's talent. He met his wife Beryl on stage, in fact. She was singing and he had come to play. Beryl fell in love with his fiddle playing and him, although not necessarily in that order. Reg and Beryl have now been married nine years, and although they have no children of their own, they enjoy the company of younger relatives. Their own baby though, is still music.

Reg is now making records for Sunshine Music. He has two albums out. One is called "Home Brew" and the other "Reg Bouvette and the Red River Jig." He also has a song that is number seven on the country and western hit parade. It is called "Burning Diesel" and draws on his early experiences with semi trucks.

Among his other popular hits are: "Reginald's Waltz," "The Peguis Reel," "St. Laurent Reel," and "Route 15."

Music even influences Reg's hobbies. He collects antique fiddles and his pride and joy boasts with large sections of inlaid Mother of Pearl.

For all his success, Reg is not hard to approach. His wife Beryl makes working with him even more of a pleasure. They work together as a team.

But the genius musician who is now so popular is even more exceptional. For all his fame, his success and his honors, Reg Bouvette remains a down to earth, soft spoken man.



Reg Bouvette enjoys the company of his niece, Melody Flett, during a quiet period of the recent Old-time Fiddlers' contest.

"For the kitchen — from the country"

from 'The Northern Cookbook'

Variations on muskrat

STUFFED MUSKRAT: Clean the rats well. Put in a roaster and put bread stuffing on the top of it. Roast in an oven until the muskrats are soft.

BOILED MUSKRAT: Clean and wash the muskrats. Cover with cold water and add salt. Boil for an hour or until they are soft and will fall apart easily. H. P. sauce is good to eat with this.

MUSKRAT TAILS: Cut off the tails and dip them in very hot water. Pull off the fur. One can either cook them on the top of the stove, turning them after a few minutes, or boil them. They are very sticky to eat.

MUSKRAT SOUP: Clean and wash the rats and take all the fat off. Cover with cold water, add salt and bring to boiling point. Add dried onions, rice and continue boiling until the muskrats are soft.

A date to remember

The deadline for filing 1976 Manitoba Pharmacare claims will be April 30, 1977, Health and Social Development Minister Laurent L. Desjardins has announced.

Pharmacare, which began January 1, 1975, provides for reimbursement of 80 per cent of eligible prescription drug costs over \$50 incurred in a calendar year by a person or family.

TURN ONS

Fine Trade

A couple of old friends ran into each other on a city street and began discussing the cute little dog one gent was taking for a walk. "Oh, what a cute little pup," commented the first. "I got it for my wife," beamed the other. "How'd you ever manage a fine trade like that?" was the incredulous reply.

Co-op sold

Cont'd from page 1

sequently negotiations were started a few months back for the sale of the Manitoba assets. The formal transfer became effective on January 1.

In addition to The Pas, major operations have been centered at Wabowden and Leaf Rapids.

Reprinted Courtesy The Pas Herald

Salads and Greens

Dandelions, pigweed, wild mustard, or bracken are just a few of the wild ingredients for an excellent salad.

HERE ARE A FEW SERVING SUGGESTIONS:

SPRUCE TIPS: Pick young twigs and leaves from the black or white spruce. Wash, then steep in boiling water for a drink high in vitamin C.

WILLOW TIPS: Pick the wil-

low leaf buds, just after they show green in the springtime. Serve in a bowl with milk and sugar.

DANDELION: Choose only tender young leaves. Wash well, rinse, then cook in a small amount of water just until tender. Drain and serve with butter, salt and pepper. For variations, use the young leaves as salad greens. They should be clean cold and crisp.

Using cranberries

Use cranberry sauce or a combination of cranberry and apple sauces as a filling for sweet rolls.

Cranberry icing--add whipped cranberry sauce to standard recipe for butter icing.

Add chopped fresh cranberries to Waldorf salad.

Place drained pear or peach half on lettuce and fill the center with whole cranberry sauce.

Add sweetened, chopped cranberries to vanilla pudding.

How about a cranberry / apple pie. Use equal amounts of the fruits and proceed as with a regular apple pie.

Cranberry Upside-Down Cake--substitute cranberry for whole pineapple slices.

In a meatloaf, substitute cranberry sauce for the liquid required in the recipe.

Good Eating.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT NATIVE OUTREACH

We know it isn't always easy to get into the job world. That's why Native Outreach is here to help. We're funded by Canada Manpower and because we are part of the entire Manpower system we can help you get into a good work situation.

We can help you apply for training, mobility grants, job creation projects and many other Manpower services. In fact, getting good jobs for native people is our full-time job.

All our counsellors are native people who

speak one of the native dialects of the area. We can meet you at the bus depot or airport if you are arriving in the city and help you find your way to a job and a place to stay.

Above all, the counsellors know the work scene and can help you before and after you get a job. We know all the other agencies as well, and can show you where to go and who to see.

So phone or drop by the Native Outreach office in your area. It might be the first step to a good job.



Manpower
and Immigration
Bud Cullen,
Minister

Main-d'œuvre
et Immigration
Bud Cullen,
Ministre

Canada Manpower Centres: Let's work together

WHAT IS IT?

The Special Mature Student Program is offered to those people who might desire a University education but who, because of life circumstances, have not had the opportunity to attend.

WHO MAY QUALIFY?

Life circumstances which may have previously prevented someone from attending University are many and varied. People may lack formal schooling requirements; they may lack financial resources; family responsibilities may be large; living in an area isolated from educational services often is a problem; single parents bear a special load. Other personal and social factors often have prevented people from attending University.

WHAT MAY I STUDY?

Students may study for any degree offered by the University. There are several: Bachelor of Arts, Science, Music, General Studies, Teaching. Successful work towards these degrees increases the opportunities for careers and/or further training and education in fields such as education, civil service, community work, social services, and possibly the professions (law, engineering, agriculture, social work, dentistry, etc.)

HOW WILL THE PROGRAM ASSIST ME?

The program offers support in many ways. Financial support is given to meet the living costs of students and their families. Costs for courses and books are also paid. Medical expenses and moving costs are also paid by the program. Students are given help in selecting courses for study that will assist a student in reaching his goals. Special help will be given in courses when students feel the need. Assistance is available in the area of study skills for those who need it. Support is also available in helping people find housing and become familiar with the community and its services. In fact, the program offers help and assistance in any way that will benefit the student as he pursues his work at the University.

WHAT MUST I DO?

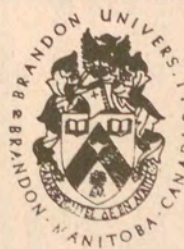
A student accepted into the program must have a strong desire to obtain a University education. One should be prepared to move one's family to Brandon for a period of several years. This means that a person must be willing to undertake quite a change in his life and be able to cope with all the problems such a change might bring. Needless to say, hard yet exciting work is also required. Desire, commitment and effort describe the kind of person we are seeking.

WHEN MIGHT I START?

The program for new students begins in August. A special month long program helps people prepare for the beginning of formal university courses in September.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Please fill in the brief application and send it to the University BY THE 1ST OF MAY. We will then get in touch with you about your possible acceptance into the program.



"For those who never had the chance"

THE SPECIAL MATURE STUDENT PROGRAM

S.M.S.P. APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY: _____

POSTAL CODE _____

GRADE REACHED IN SCHOOL _____

OTHER TRAINING _____

NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS _____

MARITAL STATUS _____

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY: _____

SEND TO: THE DIRECTOR
S.M.S.P.
C / O MMF
463 - 8 ST.,
BRANDON, MAN.

Address:

Second Class Mail
Registration Number 3151