

# the NATIVE VOICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NATIVE BROTHERHOOD OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, INC.

VOL. IX. No. 5.

VANCOUVER, B.C., MAY, 1955



PRICE 10 CENTS

"This Be The Verse You Grave For Me..."

— See Page 4



"It was OK until I explained that the blessings of society included compulsory schooling, property assessment, federal and provincial taxation, employment assistance, municipal elections, A-bomb defence exercises . . ."

—Courtesy Vancouver Province

## Indian Proposed as Canadian Senator

A CANADIAN member of Parliament has proposed that the 160,000 Indian people of Canada have a direct representative in the Senate.

He is John Diefenbaker, Progressive-Conservative member for Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, who spoke in the House of Commons March 25 and during the course of his remarks suggested that the government should appoint a "full-blooded" Indian to a seat in the Senate.

On a Citizenship and Immigration estimate, Mr. Diefenbaker said that "Since the minister (J. W. Pickersgill) has been in charge of this department, he has taken a lively interest in it and in raising

the standards of those whom he serves as custodian of their rights and privileges, and also as their protector.

"There are 160,000 of these first citizens of Canada, and I have often

thought that one of the finest gestures this government could make would be to appoint a full-blooded Indian to the Senate of Canada in order that the views of the Indians might be expressed and Indians in

general would have an opportunity of having a spokesman in the parliament of this country.

"They have not that now," Mr. Diefenbaker concluded.

"The Native Voice" not only wishes to see the realization of this suggestion, but even more, would like to see men of Mr. Frank Calder's stamp elected to the House of Commons.

It remains a fact, of course, that the privilege of a seat in the Senate would be something of a paradox since Native Canadians do not as yet have the dominion vote. Voting rights with retention of aboriginal rights is the demand we would like to see pressed in Ottawa and not merely the honorary position of a seat in the Upper House.

### Iroquois Postpone Brief to U.N.

BRANTFORD, Ont.—Preparation of a brief to the United Nations by Iroquois Indians from Canada and the United States was postponed indefinitely at a meeting in April at the nearby Six Nations Indian Reserve.

Tribal representatives met in the Onondaga long house on the reserve and decided not to complete their brief until representatives of all the tribes in the ancient confederacy of the Iroquois have been consulted.

No details of the brief or the discussion, held entirely in the Iroquois tongue, were released following the meeting.

## CHICAGO LONGHOUSE CHARTERED BY STATE OF ILLINOIS

By CHAS. H. WORKMAN

The Longhouse of Chicago, Illinois is now chartered by the state of Illinois as a non-profit corporation. It is affiliated with the Sears Young Men's Christian Association. This organization meets every other week. One evening per month is devoted to business —

learning various tribal songs and rituals.

The other evening is set aside for initiation, perpetuation of craft work and a social time for all; refreshments are served.

The Longhouse meetings opened with prayer. These are not printed prayers, but from the heart, as

each individual is called on by the chaplain.

During the meeting, the Omaha Tribal Prayer is sung by all, and at the close of each meeting, an Indian prayer or benediction is given.

At the last meeting, it was voted to render all assistance possible to the National Congress of American

Indians through our very able secretary of Indian Affairs, Mrs. Irene Dixon.

It was also voted to close the Charter of The Longhouse, July 4, 1955 and raise the dues from \$3.00 per year to \$3.50 per year.

It should be remembered that "The Native Voice" is included with our membership.

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## New Native Paper Lauded

We would like to highly recommend to our readers a new Indian paper, "The American Indian Hobble," printed in Los Angeles and published ten times a year. The subscription rates are \$2.00 or \$3.75 for two years and the address is P.O. Box 35152, Los Angeles 35, California. Mr. Norman Feder is editor and publisher, and Mr. Clarence Ellsworth, artist.

The paper contains information as to Indian gatherings all over U.S.A., valuable information on Indian magazines, books both education and historical, Indian handicraft, bead and buckskin work; in fact, any information on Native work or people can be procured through this valuable publication. It is well worth subscribing to.

The "Amerindian" and "Smoke Signals" are two other Indian papers well worth subscribing to—the more printed about the Indians of the Americas, the sooner the real truth about our fine people will be known. We are tired of the lies and vicious pictures that have been painted in the past about the Noble Race, the first inhabitants of the Americas.

Only by writing and telling the facts will the real truth be known how the Natives, tortured, robbed, cheated, but undaunted have lived through the black cruel years to come into their own, strong with faith in their Heavenly Father unshaken—the world's most noble people. The greatest story since the world began. Maybe some day they will live to send out Native missionaries to make Christians of the White men.

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ROBERT CLIFTON

## Big Turnout At Alert Bay Hears President Clifton

Representatives from Indian villages all over the district from Blunden Harbour to Turnour Island to Kingcome, gathered in the Nimpkish Hall Monday night to hear reports from Robert Clifton, president of the Native Brotherhood of B.C.

Chairman Jas. Sewid, district vice-president, opened the meeting with prayer and called on Dan Cranmer, village elder, and Herbert Cook, secretary of the Native Vessel Owners, to welcome Mr. Clifton. Bill Cook was secretary of the meeting.

In his address, Mr. Clifton told of the vision of the founders of the Brotherhood, like the late Alfred Adams, former president, and Heber Clifton.

They sought to part the veil of

darkness that obscured their people, he said, and dreamed of an organization that would unite all their people in an effort to secure their rightful recognition.

That veil has been parted, he continued, but Alfred Adams did not live to see it.

Mr. Clifton listed many of the gains made through the efforts of the Brotherhood in recent years. Family allowances, old age pensions, the right to vote, beer parlour privileges and greatly improved educational facilities.

There was considerable discussion regarding the proposal to limit fishing licences and the extension of compensation to all fishermen following the presidents report on them. They had been discussed at the UFAWU convention which Mr. Clifton attended as a representative of the Brotherhood.

Refreshments were served by the Sisterhood after the meeting, and various villages made donations toward the president's expenses.

(Pioneer Journal, Alert Bay)

## Skeena River Committee Reports '55 Regulations

The Committee on management for the Skeena River Fisheries has held several meetings to secure the views and opinions of fishermen, canners, fishery officers, and scientists on the question of regulatory measures for salmon fishing on the Skeena during 1955, and has given extended study to all available records and evidence bearing on the history of this fishery.

The committee, in its initial statement, indicated that fishing for sockeye should be permitted on the Skeena in 1955, but on the basis that some additional restrictions would be necessary to offset increased efficiency of the fishing operations; this has regard to an analysis of runs and spawning escapements of 1950 and 1951 . . . the losses caused by the Babine slide in 1951; also calculations as to smolt survivals from the spawning of these two years as determined at the outlet of Babine Lake.

While there is a realization by all concerned that conservation is the primary objective in determining the essential regulations for 1955, there also is much anxiety on the part of the industry that additional restrictions should impose least possible hardship from the standpoint of economic fishing and processing operations, dislocation of long-established fishermen, etc., etc.

In the light of representations and evidence, the committee has concluded that the following regulations and arrangements should be given effect for the 1955 season:

(a) The commercial boundary for all salmon fishing should be maintained at a straight line drawn from Mowich Point to Veitch Point (also known as Point Lambert). This boundary has been in effect for sockeye and pink fishing for many years. For spring salmon and fall fishing it is at a lower point than has been permitted. This lower location for salmon fishing other than sockeye and pink is an added conservation measure.

(b) A 72-hour closure time ending 6 p.m. each Sunday shall be in effect through the year,

except as provided in (c) hereunder.

(c) The 72-hour closure time will be extended pursuant to recommendation by the committee in the event that for any week or series of weeks the 72-hour weekly closure is deemed insufficient to provide for the escapement of an adequate number of spawners.

The committee is arranging for special test fishing to determine, if possible daily progressive escapements above the commercial fishing boundary. Through statistical returns and local day-to-day catch reports the committee is able to determine daily progress and strength of the season's runs, and to compare with the daily catch records available from the sales slip records for the past five years, and from records for earlier years. Complementary to this the committee is planning continued test fishing above the commercial fishing boundary. The committee thereby hopes to be able to closely evaluate the ratio of escapement to catch throughout the season, to have a firm basis for recommendations for adjusting the period of

the weekly closed times throughout the season in accordance with conservation needs.

The committee, which consists of Dr. A. W. Needer, Pacific Biological Station Director and A. J. Whitmore, Chief Supervisor of Fisheries, has announced the membership of an Advisory Board to assist it in the furtherance of its duties. Membership of this Board has now been approved by the Honorable James Sinclair, Minister of Fisheries, as follows:

Walter Johnson, Prince Rupert; S. S. Kristmanson, Prince Rupert; Ed N. Bolton, Port Essington; R. E. Walker, member Fisheries Research Board of Canada; K. F. Harding, member Fisheries Research Board of Canada; R. T. Hager, Canadian Fishing Company; Richard Nelson, Nelson Bros. Fisheries Ltd.; E. McMillan, Cassiar Packing Co. Ltd.; Richard Bell-Irving, Anglo-B.C. Packing Co. Ltd.

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## How They Justify Theft

ONE of our readers, Sam Bear of Sparks, Nevada, sent in the following editorial which to us appears to contain all the rotten, grasping selfishness which has cost the Indian people so dearly at the hands of hard-hearted white exploiters.

The editorial, which speaks for itself, appeared in "The Independent" of Reno, Nevada, and states under the heading "Should Pyramid Lake Belong to the Indians?" as follows:

"PYRAMID Lake is unquestionably one of the most fascinating bodies of water to be found anywhere. Its eerie beauty and unusual setting is exceptional.

"A short generation ago, Pyramid was famous to sportsmen for states around for the enormous cutthroat trout that abounded.

"Progress, lack of conservation and foresight . . . and suddenly no more fish. It was considered a dead lake. Only recently the results of plantings, and Fish and Game Commission interest has shown a revival of excellent fishing conditions.

"To keep pace with increased tourist attractions, Pyramid Lake offers untold possibilities for the future.

"One deterring factor for improved exploitation, however, has been and is the Indians, inside whose reservation the lake is contained.

"There is a concerted effort right now in Washington, we understand, to turn Pyramid Lake over to the State of Nevada where it belongs. Without the Indian damper, development might increase measurably.

"You can help. Write to Molly Malone. Write to Alan Bible. Write to Cliff Young. Tell them, in the interest of the sportsmen, that you will thank them for giving us Pyramid."

Sam Bear comments on the would-be theft that "the democratic and freedom-loving American Indian has been known as a 'redskin' but never a 'red.' First they took the water away from the Paiutes at Pyramid Lake — now they want the lake!"

Reason for Sam Bear's "red" remark is that on page 1 of the paper appears a heading which refers to the editorial on another page. The page 1 heading asks, "CAN WE GET PYRAMID LAKE AWAY FROM REDS?"

It appears that the color of one's skin in that part of the United States is sufficient proof of being a "red" which in turn justifies even the most callous proposal — expropriation of a lake which is Native aboriginal property.

## Live and Learn Together

AT THE official opening of the Alert Bay School, there were speeches about brotherhood and brotherly love and how "this magnificent new school was one where the two races will live and learn together."

Attending this school are 100 Indian children and 80 white children.

Yet in spite of the majority of Indian children and all the talk of brotherhood and "living and learning together," there was not one Indian on the platform with the Hon. Ray Williston, minister of education. The dozen invited to the platform were all simon-pure whites.

Yet Chief William Scow, the distinguished leader of his people attended. He had to sit back in the audience.

—(Vancouver Herald)

I PRINT the story of the Indian Ira Hayes, U.S. Marine, because his treatment was so similar to that received by several war-shattered returned boys I know, one a great Indian hero who has been tortured, thrown into gaol, sneered at, beaten, but thank God has lived through it all and is fighting his way back — God bless him.

He told me his whole story. He cried that he was not a hero, although he saved 1500 fellow men from certain death. He was tired and weary, disheartened and sick — the terrible wounds on his back hurt and pained him. He said almost the identical words that Ira Hayes said, "I am sick of thinking about my dead buddies."

Oh God, soften the heart of those sickening grafting political healers, stop them from robbing these fine Indian people of their lands and Indian rights. We who stayed home safe while these dear young boys, both white and Indian gave their lives for us and those who lived came back to suffer. Man's inhumanity to man, man's greed, and the young and the good go out and sacrifice all and die.

*Rock-a-bye, baby, thy Mother's heart's sore,  
 Your Father is fighting on far foreign shore.  
 We raise you in suffering, bear you in pain;  
 Then give you all back to our Country again.*

*Rock-a-bye, baby, the poor working man in Peacetime  
 He rates as the lowest in the land.  
 In war time he's donned with a hero's bright crown  
 To go out and fight for his country.*

*This be the verse you gave for me,  
 Home is the sailor, home from the sea,  
 And the hunter is home from the hill.*

—Maisie Hurley.

A final salute, an honored grave. A silent, hillside grave, locked in loneliness even as it lies surrounded by the Nation's heroic dead. It is far from the warm, dry lands of the desert from which this hero came. It is far from the barren, volcanic island in the south Pacific, where this hero knew his moment of glory.

Close by, a statue immortalizes in bronze a deed of six Marines, of which this man was one. The breath-taking image of the flag-raising at Iwo Jima is thus perpetuated in a giant memorial to all Marines who died in the wars of their country.

Thousands attended memorial services for this man, lying in state in the rotunda of the Arizona Capitol. The Governor had placed a wreath upon his bier — and yet, he was one of the least of Arizona's citizens. Until, by an accident of fate, he was catapulted to fame, he was so little known and so little heeded, that his path to manhood was a winding, downhill way, following the brink of a deep and yawning abyss.

A light snow ended as the final rites began in Arlington Cemetery. At the graveside were his parents, his three brothers, and a Marine corps of honor. The Marine Commandant, General Lemuel G. Shepherd, members of his staff, and the Secretary of the Interior were also there. Standing by was Pfc. Rene A. Gagnon, one of the original flag-raising group. Three others had lost their lives in later fighting on the island.

This was a bewildered and disillusioned hero that was laid to rest with solemn note. For him, glory was never a shining thing. It was a stone to carry . . . to drag . . . to fall upon. For, of all those who called him hero, not one had called him friend.

Ira Hayes, Pima Indian, died at 32, from overexposure in freezing weather, and overconsumption of alcohol. He was found lying dead on January 24th, on the desolate reservation that was his home. He had been found in similar drunken stupors many times before.

The shy and likeable young Pima told his friends that he could never forget either the tragedy of death on the battlefield, or the national spotlight that had played upon him from the moment the famous flag-raising picture was caught by a news photographer's camera.

Hayes and the other two Marines who survived the Island fighting were brought back to the States at the personal request of President Roosevelt. They were sent across the country on a bond tour. Hayes had not wanted to come. He kept thinking about all "those guys who were better men than me, not coming back at all—"

People like to toast their heroes. Drinks were pressed into the hands of Ira Hayes, for there is no honor, or pleasure, if a toaster drinks alone. There was little concern that Ira Hayes was a drinker who could not drink.

"I got sick," Hayes said. "Sick of thinking about those buddies. Sick of those people mouthing hero and shoving drinks. Sick of hearing about the flag-raising. Sometimes I wished that guy had never made the picture."

As hard as he tried, he could not relinquish that spotlight of fame. An avid public would not be deprived of its vicarious glory. The drinks kept coming—the arrests for intoxication increased. Once he was found on Chicago's Skid Row, wandering without shoes, incoherent. A fund was started by a local paper to pay his way out of the House of Correction, to which the public heavily subscribed. He was sent with considerable fanfare to California, where a job as chauffeur to a movie light awaited him. He didn't — he couldn't — last.

Back to the reservation, this lost Indian lad went, to try again to fight a losing battle. The fickle public was no longer interested. Emotions had been fed, the galleries had been played to. The one thing that might have saved him — hospitalization — had not been thought of. Heroes, it seems, must be on public display.

Sleep well, Ira Hayes! To be both Indian and hero was a double burden too heavy to carry. For these are legendary figures in the public mind, and legends cannot cope with reality. Sleep well, Ira Hayes!

# Ceremony At Alert Bay Unites Leading Families

Christ Church, Alert Bay, was the scene of a wedding of wide interest last month when the Rector, the Rev. J. Hayhurst, united in marriage members of two prominent families of the Kwakwaka'wakw people.

The bride was Hilda Faithe, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sandy Billy of Cape Mudge. The groom, Harold Robert James, is a son of Mr. and Mrs. James Sewid of Alert Bay. Mr. Sewid is associate editor of "The Native Voice" and a vice-president of the Native Brotherhood of B.C.

The crowded church was appropriately decorated with spring flowers and the bridal procession, led by the choir, entered to the strains of a wedding hymn with Mrs. E. Kenmuir presiding at the organ. The bride looked radiant in white satin with bouffant overskirt of nylon net and fitted long-sleeved jacket of nylon lace over a low decolletage. Her veil, of nylon net embroidered, cascaded from a tiara of stiff net. She carried a bouquet of orchids and Stephanotis.

The seven bridal attendants were gowned in an identical shade of light blue, with each gown of a slightly different design. Miss Joy Lewis, of Cape Mudge, was the maid of honour, wearing floor-length bouffant nylon net over taffeta with fitted nylon lace jacket over taffeta. A tiara of starched

net and blue nylon net gloves completed her costume.

The four bridesmaids were dressed in similar attire. They were Gertrude and Virginia Billy, sisters of the bride, Louisa Sewid, a sister of the groom, and Bessie Alfred of Alert Bay. The bridal attendants all carried white prayer books.

Little Emma and Mabel Sewid, twin sisters of the groom, were enchanting flower-girls in floor-length dresses of light blue net over taffeta and wearing wide-brimmed bonnets of nylon net to match. They carried posy bouquets in old-fashioned holders with lace frills.

Phillip Alfred was best man and the ushers were Daniel Billy, brother of the bride, and Robert Price of Cape Mudge, Oswald Sewid, brother of the groom, and Norman Brochie of Alert Bay.

Mrs. Sandy Billy, mother of the bride, and Mrs. James Sewid, mother of the groom, carried out the light blue motif in their lace gowns. They wore corsages of roses. During the service Mrs. Wm. Cook, sister of the groom, and Mrs. Arthur Alfred, his aunt, sang "O Perfect Love" in solo and in duet.

Following the wedding ceremony a reception was held in the Community Hall, which was tastefully decorated almost entirely in white. Mrs. Dora Cook made a splendid dance announcer, and following the bridal waltz, many novelty dances were enjoyed by the guests. Mr. James Sewid, father of the groom, spoke from the stage to welcome all the assembled guests. He appointed Mr. Herbert Cook as master of ceremonies with four others to assist him.

Tables were arranged downstairs for a sit-down supper. Around midnight the bride and groom, and Rev. Hayhurst were called to the stage where the five-tiered wedding cake reposed on a white table beneath a huge floral wreath.—Pioneer Journal, Alert Bay.

# Turnour Island News

Native Brotherhood had a meeting election for new officers and Alex Smith was elected Branch President and Harry Joseph, secretary.

They also sent in their fees and Brotherhood and Sisterhood jointly sent money for their negotiation Committee for 1955 fish prices.

A big wedding was held on Turnour Island, April 19th. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Speck's daughter, Mary was married to Mr. and Mrs. Bill Joseph's son, Lawrence, both from Turnour Island. People from Alert Bay where invited and the Alert Bay Orchestra, Village Island, New Vancouver were all there. At the same time they opened their new hall. They named the Hall Beware Pass Hall. Many prizes were given out.

Mr. and Mrs. James Sewid received the prize for the first couple to enter the new hall. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Whonnok also received the prize for the first boat to enter the Village. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Dick of Village Island received a prize for being the last boat to arrive in the Village. They had a wonderful time. Different speakers from different villages took part. The little village was flooded with lights as there was a new lighting plant. Best wishes to the Turnour Island people and their new hall.

# Alcan Destroys Traplins

Dear Mrs. Hurley:

Your Indian friend, Chief Paddy Isaac, along with his people, are now in very serious trouble at Burns Lake, B.C.

The Chief's people out in the Ootsa Lake area are seriously hit because of the complete destruction of their registered traplines by the flooding caused by the Aluminum Company of Canada (Alcan).

As you know, Mrs. Hurley, traplines up in those areas, are absolutely the only dependable grounds, to those Northern Interior Indians, along with their children, whereby they rely upon to obtain their living in order to survive during each winter month.

And as you know, according to the history, an Indian trapline is the only inherited historical property rightfully belonging to the Native people as being descended to them from their ancestors; in other words, an aboriginal historical claim.

Now 22 registered traplines are completely destroyed by flooding. Those Interior people have requested that on their behalf, I appear as their representative in the investigation meeting proposed for May 6 in Burns Lake, B.C., in the Civic Centre Hall. Mr. Robin Kendall will be there at the meeting and other Local Department Officials are invited.

This will be very important as I am told in the letter from the Chief that all villages in the Interior will be gathered.

I intend to leave here for Burns Lake, B.C., May 4, for the big meeting, and I certainly remembered you since you are the great mother of our Indian people and I know you will sympathize with those people.

I only wish that you would be there. However, I shall do my level best for them, in negotiations and investigations.

HAROLD SINCLAIR.

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CONTINUED

# Tecumseh and the War of 1812

By NEWELL E. COLLINS

"On Saturday, the 15th, about one o'clock a flag of truce arrived from Sandwich, bearing the summons of General Brock, for the surrender of the town and fort of Detroit, stating that he could not longer restrain the fury of the savages. To this an immediate and spirited refusal was returned. About four o'clock their batteries began to play upon the town. The fire was returned and continued without interruption and with little effect until dark. Their shells were thrown until eleven o'clock.

"At daylight the firing on both sides was recommenced — about the same time the enemy began to land troops, at the Spring Wells, three miles below Detroit, protected by their two armed vessels.

## Sechelt Raffle Winners Named

Dear Mrs. Hurley:  
This is to inform you of the winners of the Convention's seven raffle prizes which were drawn on the 17th of April.

The winners are as follows:  
First prize — Mr. H. Burroughs, 436 West Pender, Van., B.C.; second prize — Mrs. Vera Wells, Bella Bella, B.C.; third prize—Mrs. Mary Blaney, Church House, B.C.; fourth prize — Mr. F. J. Mills, Sechelt, B.C.; fifth prize — Mrs. Viola Gladstone, Bella Bella, B.C.; sixth prize — Mrs. Charlie Matlepie, Minstrel Island, B.C.; seventh prize — Mrs. Seraphine John, Sechelt, B.C.

Also to let you know that our branch has donated \$45.00 to the Brotherhood office.

We had our usual Easter Annual Bazaar on Easter Monday, which unfortunately did not turn out so well.

There are only seventeen paying members this year, the rest promised to pay at a later date.

All the Sisters of this branch send you their best regards, and wish every success in your work.

May God Bless you always.  
MRS. ERNIE JOE,  
Secretary,  
Native Sisterhood,  
Sechelt, B.C.

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Skeena  
River, B.C.

Between 6 and 7 o'clock they had effected their landing, and immediately took up their line of March. They moved in close column of platoons, twelve in front, upon the bank of the river.

"The Fourth Regiment was stationed in the fort,— the Ohio Volunteers and a part of the Michigan

Militia, behind some pickets, in a situation in which the whole flank of the enemy would have been exposed. The residue of the Michigan Militia were in the upper part of the town to resist the incursions of the savages. Two 24-pounders loaded with grape shot were posted upon a commanding eminence,

CONTINUED

By KARONTOWAMEN

## SHADIAH - - - The ARROWHEAD

Strict silence was ordered, and our ponies were muzzled so they would not give us away as we approached the village.

We were so close that we could smell the wood smoke, and now the chief raised his hand to halt the party. He looked about to see that every one was ready, then putting his hand to his mouth, he hooted twice. Far off came faintly the answering call. Bawi-shi-ka raised his huge war club, and giving a savage yell went thundering through the underbrush, with our party close on his heels.

Our party took the Sioux completely by surprise, they not sus-

pecting a party as large as ours anywhere near. They ran for their ponies, but before they could get to them, were stopped by our second party coming from that direction. The old chief who had ridden ahead of the main group was soon cut off, by shouting Sioux. A big fellow rushed toward him. I was already on my way, and as my master released me, I knew that I would never see him nor my brothers again, for I had found a new home. Where? In the chest of a brave Sioux. What happened to me? I was pulled from the chest of this dying man, and cast aside, where I was trampled underground by the weight of men and horses. Many must have died that day, but I to this day do not know the outcome.

Maybe it is for the best, for I had lived a full life and knew many men. Then, you, my friend came along and found me. My sleep was interrupted, but now that my eyes are once more open, I wonder what I shall see? Will you be my last master, or will there be others?

I am Shadiah, the arrowhead. I must wait and see.

(The End)

## Indian Graves Desecrated

Saanichton, B.C.  
To "The Native Voice."

An article in the "Victoria Colonist" paper on April 20th, 1955, regarding the desecration of graves on Valdes Island by the so-called educated people. People should have more sense, should not trespass on any cemetery, regardless of what race.

This Valdes Island Indian cemetery is not ancient, my beloved parents and sister have their resting place there. And no words can express my grief at this horrible desecration.

Maybe if an Indian was found loitering on the grounds of the Royal Oak cemetery he would be put in jail.

There is so much to say, but it would not make matters right. It is not enough they took our land from us. They have to do that to our cemetery.

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ready to sweep the advancing column. In this situation the superiority of our position was apparent, and our troops in their eager expectation of victory, awaited the approach of the enemy. Not a sigh of discontent broke upon the ear, nor a look of cowardice met the eye. Every man expected a proud day for his country, and each was anxious that his individual exertion should contribute to the general result.

"When the head of the column arrived within five hundred yards of our line, orders were received from General Hull for the whole to retreat to the fort and the 24-pounders not to open upon the enemy. Our universal burst of indignation was apparent upon the receipt of this order.

(To Be Continued)

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# BELLA BELLA SPONSORS BASKETBALL TOURNEY

## Local Teams Champions Of Northern-Central League

By OSCAR PEERS

The culmination of the Northern Central Basketball League Tournament saw Bella Bella finish as champions in both the Senior and Intermediate divisions during the Tourney held in Bella Bella March 8 and 9 of this year.

The opening of the tournament was rather a gala affair.

With all due prior arrangements and solid co-operation from seine boat owners Paul Brown of Three Aces, Vivian Wilson and Wally Brown, co-owners of the "Otter Bay," the contenders from Ocean Falls and Bella Coola were able to arrive on schedule, the Klemtu aggregation having arrived the previous day.

A reception banquet was given in honor of all contenders in the Community Hall at which the performance of the Bella Bella Concert Band was highly appreciated.

A commendation should be mentioned here as to the president of the band, Mr. Johnny Humchitt, also Mr. Bertie Humchitt, conductor.

Mr. Caleb Williams, chief councillor, supplied the welcoming address on behalf of the community and the Bella Bella basketball club, to which Mr. Jack Bushel of Ocean Falls gave a reply on behalf of all visiting teams.

Dr. G. E. Darby, superintendent of the R. W. Large Memorial Hospital, situated here at Bella Bella, gave a resume of all games played on this circuit prior to the tournament. And for the information of those in ignorance of the league standings, Dr. Darby also expounded on the merits and donors of cups and trophies involved.

He especially stressed the fact that Mr. Henry McKay, president of the Bella Bella basketball club, at this time presented his sixth trophy donation for open contention.

Mr. S. Morris of Ocean Falls was asked to officiate in the drawing for the night's games which would rule the games' schedule on

a sudden death elimination basis.

### TOURNAMENT STARTS

The starting whistle at 7 o'clock saw the tournament on its way with Ocean Falls vs. Klemtu in the first stanza of the Intermediate playdown. Klemtu's played in good style, finishing strong to with with a safe 51-39 margin.

Although the Ocean Falls team were favored to win the Intermediate trophy this year, the Klemtu aggregate, who won the championship last year and were here to defend their title and trophy, played like the champs they were. Both teams were fast but Klemtu's were more aggressive and finished with lots of power left. Which put Klemtu in the playoff and still a chance to retain their title and trophy.

The second game saw the Bella Bella Intermediates take the Bella Coola Intermediates in a cleancut game. Both teams played a very fast and spicy stanza. Bella Bella, ending up with a 65-59 score over Bella Coola, put them in the playoff against Klemtu.

### SENIOR PLAYDOWN

The first of the senior playdown schedule was booked for the next game between the Bella Coola Eagles and the Bella Coola Moose Lodge aggregate. Despite the six-man team the Bella Coola Moose sent to represent the Valley, they put up a very good game, and a surprisingly strong accounting of themselves. The Bella Coola Eagles' 49-40 win over Bella Coola Moose put them in contention for the playoff.

The second senior game, between Ocean Falls and Bella Bella saw a different brand of basketball. It was basketball as it should

## Cap. Pow-wow May 22, 23

Preparations for the forthcoming Capilano Indian Pow-wow on May 22 and 23, 1955 are now in full swing. Our meeting Sunday night, May 1 put the finishing touches to our program. Committees elected for each post are as follows:

- |                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Prizes for sports              | Priscilla Baker             |
| Bingo                          | Steve and Tex Charlie       |
| Master of Ceremonies           | Chief Louie Miranda         |
| Sports events                  | Alfred Jacobs and Joe Baker |
| Salmon Barbecue                | Dominic and Josie Charlie   |
| Ice cream                      | Pat Band                    |
| Hot dogs                       | Ann and Louie Baker         |
| Refreshments                   | Vi Rivers                   |
| Arts and Crafts                | Willie Lewis                |
| Programs                       | Wimpy Baker                 |
| Indian dance and entertainment | Si Baker                    |
| Treasurer                      | Emily Baker                 |
| Chairman of all the committees | Dan Baker                   |

We Natives of this Capilano Community have been busy as bees this last few weeks. With the kind and generous donations from our white friends we will be able to do big things for our Pow-wow.

We would like to say Kla-How-Ya to all our friends up and down the coast and hope to have their best athletes take part in our Pow-wow.

be played. Watching the plays lace and interlace, you realized that these teams knew what they were doing and had basketball savvy. This game put Bella Bella in the playoff final with a handy margin of 67-45 over Ocean Falls.

### FINALS NEXT NIGHT

The finals, played the following night, was pretty much a repetition of the games played the previous night, Bella Coola Intermediates winning the consolation from Ocean Falls Intermediate 42-39. Ocean Falls Seniors won their game against Bella Coola Moose 70-30 for the senior consolation trophy.

The final Intermediate game between Bella Bella and Klemtu, last year's champs, was very fast and furious. The last quarter saw the crowd up and down in their seats like automatic Jacks in the box.

Bella Bella took a tremendous lead in the first half with a 37-26 lead over the Klemtu's. The second half saw Klemtu play basketball like champs.

Gaining steadily on the home team, Bella Bella began putting on the pressure, but Klemtu gave them play for play and kept gaining, right up to the last three minutes they gained until there was only 2 points, or one basket for them to make the tying score. Bella Bella went all out then and so did Klemtu.

It was a fast, furious and spectacular three minutes. Both teams threw caution to the winds and made it a wide open game. I'll bet this was the longest three minutes some of the fans have spent during their lifetime. What a roaring finish. Some of the fans probably forgot they'd paid for reserved seats as they were still on their feet during presentation of the championship trophy. The final score, Bella Bella 60, Klemtu 58.

**BELLA BELLA**—Ed Brown (F) 19; C. Windsor (G) 13; G. Humchitt (CF) 19; Glen Humchitt (S); M. White (G) 1; B. Harris (G) 2; J. Windsor (G); G. Gladstone (G) 2; L. Humchitt (S); B. Mason (G); H. Humchitt (G) 3; R. Windsor (S) 2; J. Moody (S).

**KLEMTU**—I. Hopkins (F) 32; R. Robinson (F) 19; S. Robinson (G); J. Starr (S); G. Collinson (S); M. Barton (G) 3; P. Starr (G) 2; H. Robinson (S); A. Robinson (S); J. Green (S).

### SENIOR FINAL GAME

The final Senior game between Bella Bella Comets and Bella Coola Eagles was not as spectacu-

lar in that they played a more controlled and polished game. Although theirs was a faster game, they looked slow because their passing plays were more precise, fast breaks well timed and shooting more accurate.

Right from the start, the Eagles played a strong defensive game, shooting only when opportunity presented itself, whereas the Comets made their opportunity and played both a strong offensive and defensive game.

In this game the spectators, packed to the proverbial rafters, were quiet, realizing that they were watching master ball handling and play making with a purpose.

At half time, the tenseness in the packed hall eased off; the fans knew that the local team were going to win. And they did, with a decisive margin of 72-49 over Bella Coola Eagles.

(Bella Bella had come back to its own. They are champs again in both divisions. Here it must be stated, greater credit should be given Oscar Peers, the senior coach, who worked tirelessly with his team, night after night, whipping the boys into shape. When he was asked to take over the bridle of the senior team, he had only six weeks in which to shape his team. After a short lecture on this occasion, he told the boys that they'd win back the championship trophy if they co-operated and worked hard, which they did in both cases.—Selina Campbell.)

It also must be stated that Freddie Reid did a fine job with the Intermediates in mastering them to the Intermediate Championship. After the games, the hall was thrown open for dancing, and sure, the populace would like to have celebrated otherwise, but, there are restrictions you know!

**BELLA BELLA COMETS**—Andy Peers—capt. (CF) 22; Ed Newman (G) 6; Wally Brown (G) 2; Percy Campbell (F) 17; Reg. Moody (F) 8; Pete Mason (F) 6; Don Vickers (F) 3; Allen Wilson (F) Clarence Martin (F) 2; Carmon Humchitt (G) 6. Total, 72.

**BELLA COOLA EAGLES**—L. Edgar (F) 4; A. Hans (F) 15; A. Siwallace (G); J. Hall (CF) 17; P. Snow (G) 1; A. Saunders (G) 8; P. Hall (G) 4.

### FINAL WORD

The basketball club executive: Henry McKay, president; Andy (Continued on Page 8)

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## Masset Lad Loses Life

By PHYLLIS BEDARD

Easter holidays ended very sadly when 19 year old Vernon Yeltatzie, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Yeltatzie, lost his life in Delkatla Slough, New Masset late Easter Monday night.

He was going ashore on a skiff from his dad's seine boat "Masset Maid" when the skiff capsized. His older brother Horace dived in to rescue him but failed to reach him in time. Horace was saved by only a matter of minutes when Lee Edenshaw and Walter Perlstrom heard him cry for help. Horace was unconscious for many hours. Nurse Mrs. Frost looked after him.

Many good friends of New Masset gave a helping hand. All the men of Masset were at New Masset searching and dragging for the missing Vernon all night while women stood helplessly at the waterfront.

Though it was a very cold dark night, everyone stayed and did their best. The body was picked up at 8 a.m., by Chester Adams of Old Masset. It was a shock to everyone.

Bill Tucker, assistant manager of Nelson Bros. Fisheries, Port Edward, chartered a plane to take Mrs. Lorena Gray, sister of Vernon, to Masset for the funeral. Relatives from Skidegate, Albert Derrick and Mrs. Alfred Moody and Francis and Joe Tulip also came to Masset for the funeral. The boat "Laverne Marie," skippered by Douglas Edenshaw, uncle of the deceased, brought over a lovely blue casket from Prince Rupert.

Funeral was Thursday, April 14, biggest ever held in Masset.

Members of the Masset Athletic Club, wearing their club colors, black and gold ribbons on their left sleeves, looked after everything. The church was packed with a big crowd outside. Rev. M. Young officiated at the funeral service. The choir sang one anthem. Choir members Emily Williams and Peter Jones sang a lovely but sad duet, "Oh, that I had Wings." Organist was Vinton Jones. The casket was taken to the graveyard on a truck owned by Henry Alexander of Masset, with twelve members of Masset Athletic Club standing on both sides of the casket. The band walked ahead of the truck; family of the deceased walked behind it and about a hundred or more people following, most of the women carrying flowers. Pallbearers were fellow members of the Masset Athletic Club.

Surviving are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Yeltatzie, two sisters, Mrs. Lorena Gray, Prince Rupert and Mrs. Janet Bellis, Masset, and one brother, Horace, Masset. We wish to express our deepest sympathies at their great loss. "May the good Lord bless and keep you."

\* \* \*

On April 18th a dinner was given in the old Masset Community Hall in honour of our late Vernon Yeltatzie. There were three hundred guests, with about twenty waiters and waitresses. There were many speeches by relatives of the deceased. Ernie Yeltatzie also gave a speech expressing his thanks for all the kindness shown them in their darkest hour. The church army, too, have been doing their best to comfort the sad parents and their family.

## MINISTER FOR JOINT SCHOOLS

In a speech at Victoria last month, Canada's Citizenship and Immigration Minister, John Pickersgill, said:

Federal policy was to integrate Indians into the community as possible and he advocated use of the same schools for both whites and natives.

The Indian problem in B.C., he said, was likely to be solved faster than elsewhere in Canada as coastal Indians were highly developed, and non-nomadic, contrary to settlements in other sections of the country.

On liquor for Indians, he maintained that the sooner the same law applies to them as to others, the better, "if they want it that way."

## Death Removes Alberta Natives

By HENRY STELFIX

Rocky Mountain House, Alberta

At the O'Chiese Chippewa Indian Reservation, Nordegg River, Rocky Mountain House Agency, Alberta, on Monday, April 11th, the death took place of Mrs. Kakeyaskik Kakopetamok Natawa at the great age of 92 years. Her father's name was Sohispenek who was born at the Brazeau River.

Mrs. Natawa is survived by her son, Watup Natawa, also known as Joe Strawberry, who was born July 15th, 1885, seven miles south of Wainwright, Alberta, near a lake which Chippewa Indians refer to as "Lake Covered with Bullrushes". Also another son, Necoohak, also known as Simon Strawberry, and a daughter, Mrs. John Beaverbones who lives at Foothills, Alberta.

Mrs. Natawa was well-known all through Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Most of her life was spent in the foothills region in the vicinity of the Nordegg River.

My good friend Killian Wildman, Stoney Indian, called in to report to me today, April 5th, that two of my old Stoney Indian friends of the Big Horn River, southwest of the mining town of Brazeau, Alberta, passed away during the month of March, 1955.

They were Philip Poucette, died March 1st, 1955, 80 years of age; his wife died in 1950.

Peter Beaver died March 21st.

## BELLA BELLA

(Continued from Page 7)

Peers, manager; Mark White, treasurer; Godfrey Williams, personnel; Oscar Peers, coach and factor, wish to extend their sincere appreciation to the various individuals and organizations who helped make this tournament a huge success.

Mr. Charlie Moody, chief of this modernized tribe, certainly merits a citation locally for his untiring efforts. If it wasn't for the co-operative help and single mindedness of purpose from the people of this humble village, where would we be? THANK YOU ALL.

## SALMON NEGOTIATIONS

President Robert Clifton, Mr. Charlie Peters of Comox, Cape Mudge and Mr. Reginald Cook, Mr. James Sewid of Alert Bay and business agent of Vancouver, Mr. Ed Nahanee and Executives of the Native Brotherhood of British Columbia are representing the Brotherhood at the Fish Price Negotiations for 1955 in Vancouver.

## Toronto Indian Club Sets May 27 For Annual Affair

May 27 will be a banner day for the Toronto Indian Club since that is the date of its fourth annual banquet and dance which this year will be highlighted by the installation of the 1955 Toronto Indian Club Princess.

At the moment, club president Jasper Hill reports, "We hope to have Chief Charles L. Big Canoe of the Ojibways of Georgia Island, Lake Simcoe, Ont. as our master of ceremonies.

"We are working on a good program and hope to have an outstanding guest speaker with us. We have booked Chief Howard Skye's troupe of Iroquois Indian dancers — they are the best in this part of the country."

Indian people from surrounding reservations have been invited to come out and enjoy the day. The banquet and dance will be held May 27 in the main auditorium, Central YMCA, 40 College Street, Toronto. For ticket reservations, write anyone of the executive on the Toronto Indian Club. President Jasper Hill's address is 285 Glenhill Avenue while secretary-treasurer Miss Delores Van Every resides at 19 Chiltern Hill Road, Toronto.



BIG WHITE OWL  
Eastern Associate Editor

1955, age 72. His wife died during the 'flu epidemic of 1918. His second wife died in 1943. Another old friend, Joshua Wildman, 71 years of age at the same Stoney Indian Band, is now very ill at his home

at the Big Horn River. I have had the pleasure of knowing these lovely God-fearing Indian friends for almost half a century and was always proud to hear them refer to me as their brother.

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