### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF INFORMATION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20240

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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### FIRST CLASS

News Editor HERALD Yakima, Wash. U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS For Release August 7, 1966 SUNDAY FEATURE MATERIAL Wilson -- 343-4306
(Area Code 202)

#### THE SENECA INDIANS GO MODERN AND LIKE IT

For those who equate reservations with tar-paper shacks and abject poverty, the first sight of the Seneca Indian Nation's Allegany Reservation in southwestern New York State is an impressive surprise. The story behind these new homes and the hopes that go with them is equally impressive.

It is a story of men who turned adversity into triumph. Most of these men are Senecas led by their forceful and articulate President, Martin Seneca.

But one, a prime mover, is a Choctaw from Oklahoma -- Sidney Carney.

Carney is in the employ of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The story of Carney and the Senecas could be said to have its beginnings in 1794.

The Seneca Nation was among the Six Nations who signed a treaty with the young United States in 1794 which guaranteed them the right to certain areas of New York. Some of the lands were later sold by the Indians. The remaining Seneca holdings comprise two reservations -- the Allegany and the Cattaraugus. The Allegany stretches in a narrow band for 40 miles along the Allegheny River. A strip of 10,000 riverfront acres was designated several years ago by the Army Corps of Engineers for a reservoir site as part of the Ohio River Basin development. The water will be backed up by the Kinzua Dam, 20 miles downstream.

When the Corps of Engineers announced its plans to dispossess 133

Seneca families, a total of 830 people, a nationwide protest ensued as the Senecas fought a losing battle through the courts to retain their land.

The Government and the Seneca Nation eventually came to an agreement whereby the Senecas would receive approximately \$3 million for the seized lands and another \$12 million for a program of rehabilitation for the distressed community.

The money was appropriated by Congress in 1964. Today, two years later, the transformation of the area is evident to the most casual visitor. Where a scattering of shanties and shacks had dotted the verdant countryside, there is now a vast reservoir to hoard the river waters. And on the highlands above are ramblers and ranch houses where 133 dispossessed families have started life anew.

Sid Carney proved to be a powerful catalyst in the rehabilitation of the Senecas, as the tribe set about developing comprehensive plans, including guidelines for investment, education and industrial development.

Carney brought a stream of consultants to the reservation to measure its potentials for industrial and tourist development. Meanwhile, the Community

Facilities Administration, the Public Housing Administration, the Area Redevelopment Administration, the Accelerated Public Works Program, the Manpower Development and Training Program, the National Park Service, and the Forest Service were also rung in on the planning.

The Quakers, friends of the Senecas since before the Treaty of 1794, sent a representative to give further assistance to the Tribe.

The first challenge was the relocation of the 133 families. Two new townsites -- Cold Spring and Jimersontown (named for a prominent Seneca family) were selected. Both are at the northern end of the reservation.

In these towns, modern homes -- both ranch style and split level -- have been constructed on lots ranging from one to three acres, some of them beautifully wooded. The homes have all utilities and many luxuries -- wood paneling, fireplaces, extra bathrooms. The tribe figures their average worth at \$12,000, excluding land, in an extremely conservative estimation.

It is easy to see that most families intend to stay put. Shrubs have been planted and the struggle to grow grass on the rocky soil has begun.

From outside, the scene is typical of suburbia anywhere.

From the inside there is a difference. The decor of these homes is strongly Indian. Pictures, paintings, pottery, baskets and countless other artifacts are in evidence as a reminder of the heritage these people share.

While many husbands work in a nearby Salamanca, N.Y., furniture factory, or for the Erie Railroad, most wives still cling to tradition at home. Weaving and basketmaking are part of the tradition.

Although most Senecas are Christian and few still fluent in Iroquois, the traditional "Longhouse," site of ancient religious ceremonies and traditional dances, was rebuilt on higher ground. Several Christian churches of very modern design are under construction in the new villages.

Even the dead share a new environment. From individual family plots scattered over the reservation 3,800 graves were relocated in two cemeteries in beautiful settings on the hillsides above the two new communities.

Although the relocation has been painful, the Senecas are not dwelling in the past. They fully expect to provide, on their own terms, all the benefits of modern society for the members of the tribe.

Tribal rolls contain 4,132 names. Roughly one-third lives on each of the reservations, with one-third living off the reservation. The Cattaraugus Reservation is the larger of the two and is made up largely of level lands equally suitable for agriculture or industrial sites. It is there that the second phase of the Seneca's improvement program can be seen.

The walls are already rising for a \$400,000 manufacturing plant, the first building on what will be a 66-acre industrial park. The factory is owned by the First Seneca Corp., an organization principally financed by the tribe. The plant will be run under contract by the U.S. Pillow Corp. and will employ more than 100 Indians.

The industrial park is but one project that the Tribal Council and Carney have devised.

On the banks high above what soon will be a reservoir 29 miles long, the tribe plans to construct "Seneca Overlook," a motel - pool - golf course facility for travelers on New York State's Southern Tier Throughway, now under construction across the southern part of the reservation.

On the waterfront, downstream, will be built "State-Line Run," a complete water-based recreation and camping facility, set in beautiful wooded hills and mountains within a day's drive for millions of recreation-seeking Americans.

The Council wants a feasibility study on its plans to build "Iroquoia."

This would be a \$9 million re-creation of several Indian villages as they were

other Bureau of Indian Affairs employee on the reservation.

The Senecas know that if they are to sustain this growth and improvement they must have a continuing reserve of trained and educated people who can provide the leadership and the skills to operate these new enterprises. In 20 years, they believe, the Educational Foundation can provide the tribe with its own Sid Carney to maintain the progress that he helped begin.

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(Editors: Glossy prints are available from Office of Public Information and Reports, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1951 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20242.)

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS For Release AUGUST 8, 1966

Hart--343-4306

NEW CHILDREN'S BOOK ON INDIANS AND ESKIMOS NOW AVAILABLE

What is it like to be an Indian or Eskimo child? It is part ceremonials and dances and colorful costumes of an era gone by, and it is part school days and rule days, too. It is sometimes life on a ranch, sometimes adventure in the big city, sometimes the life of a fisherman's family, says the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Because nearly all youngsters love stories about American Indians, the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs has just published a special picture book, "Indian and Eskimo Children."

Designed for readers in the lower elementary grades, the booklet has 50 pages of appealing photographs with simple text in large, easy-to-read type. From the child whose home is a "wickiup" to the youngster living in ranch-style suburbia, the booklet presents a series of unusual camera close-ups of the way of life that is the American Indian's today.

"Indian and Eskimo Children" can be ordered from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D.C. 20402. The price is 35¢ per single copy, with 25 percent discounts on orders of 100 or more when shipped to a single address.

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### FIRST CLASS

News Editor HERALD Yakima, Wash. IND 5

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS For Release to PM's AUGUST 23, 1966 Ulsamer--34-39431

#### NEWSBRIEFS FROM THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

NEW INDUSTRY FOR NORTHERN CHEYENNE--It may be mid-summer, but it looks like Christmas on Montana's Northern Cheyenne Reservation.

Fourteen tribal members are working to fill a large order for Christmas trees which are fashioned from pine cones and are scheduled for delivery to a San Francisco candy company.

Northern Cheyenne Originals, Inc., a new industry at Lame Deer, Mont., produces the trees in heights from 1 to 5 feet from Ponderosa pine cones gathered on the reservation. A variety of other items, including Christmas wreaths, corsages, costume jewelry and table decorations, is made from local jackpine, lodgepole pine, and spruce cones.

The young company is the joint venture of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe and Jack Rouse, a Montana businessman. Negotiations were conducted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, which plans to contract with the company for an on-the-job training program for Indian workers.

Says Rouse: "The Northern Cheyenne Tribe has created a favorable climate in which small industries can thrive, and there is a good labor pool on the reservation."

\* \* \*

NATIVE ALASKANS TRAINED AS HEAD START TEACHERS--Fifty Alaska Natives, none of whom had previous teaching experience, recently completed an 8-week training program at the University of Alaska to become Head Start teachers in their villages this fall.

Last year the number of teachers trained for Head Start in Alaska proved insufficient to meet demands of village councils seeking to establish local programs. Head Start is a program for underprivileged pre-schoolers conducted under the Economic Opportunity Act.

The special group of 50 was selected for training through elections in the villages. Although educational backgrounds range from fourth grade level to some college experience, all were selected by their neighbors as suitable persons to work with young children.

The intensive training course just completed included instruction in arts and crafts, nutrition and other subjects needed by Head Start teachers.

Periodic follow-up visits will be made to every village by teaching supervisors to assist the teacher-trainees in acquiring competence on the job.

\* \* \*

INDIAN CENTER AT GONZAGA UNIVERSITY -- A Pacific Northwest Indian Center is being established on the campus of Gonzaga University, Spokane, Wash. An independent corporation, it seeks to promote Indian studies and develop Indian leadership throughout the country.

Plans call for construction of a five-story museum and research building with permanent exhibits of objects related to Indian culture. The authenticity of the museum collection will be the responsibility of a board of Indian technical advisors. Clothing, food products, medicines, weapons, horse-trappings, and other articles of daily life will be featured in the exhibit.

\* \* \*

WORK PROJECT ON FORT APACHE -- A recent \$99,000 authorization from the Office of Economic Opportunity is helping the Fort Apache Tribe in Arizona provide jobs for 60 chronically unemployed tribal members by putting them to work on projects to beautify reservation playgrounds, campground areas, cemeteries, and villages.

\* \* \*

NAVAJO ARTS AND CRAFTS -- The Navajo Arts and Crafts Guild, established in 1941 to promote the sale of quality work by Navajo craftsmen, has increased the number of its Arizona sales outlets to six. In addition to the main store at Window Rock and branches at Cameron and Betatakin Ruin National Monument, there are three new shops at Chinle, Teec Nos Pos and Kayenta.

The Guild's expansion program effectively increases the opportunities for visitors to various sections of the huge reservation to purchase Navajo silver work and rugs and to view Indian craftsmen at work.

\* \* \*

COCHITI DAY SCHOOL NOW PUBLIC -- Cochiti Day School at Pena Blanca, N.M., will be transferred from Federal to local control with the opening of the school term in September. This is a further step by the Bureau of Indian Affairs to facilitate public school education for Indians. The school had served about 40 Pueblo grade-schoolers when it was federally controlled.

\* \* \*

INDIAN ON-THE-JOB TRAINING CONTRACTS--The Bureau of Indian Affairs in recent months has renewed contracts with several companies to continue on-the-job training for Indian employees. These are:

Black River Dairy Products, Inc. Eau Claire, Wis., to train 17 Chippewas in quick frozen food manufacturing processes: \$4,975.

Systems Engineering Electronics, Inc., Wewoka, Okla., to train 58 area Indians in plastic sub-assembly work, electronic printed circuit board fabrication and assembly and electrical harness fabrication: \$51,650.

Canoncito Trading Post, Inc., Canoncito, N.M., to continue training 20 Navajo silversmiths: \$21,550.

Durant Electronics, Inc., Durant, Okla., to continue training 53 area Indians in plastics industry processes: \$10,200.

Habitant Shops, Inc., Bay City, Mich., to provide continued training for 49 area Indians in processing cedar logs into fencing: \$10,425.

Mt. Taylor Millwork, Inc., Grants, N.M., to continue training 30 Indians in a multi-machine operation for manufacturing molding from pine: \$16,960.

\* \* \*

BUREAU CONTRACTS FOR BAY AREA INDIAN PROGRAM--A \$15,400 contract with the United Bay Area Council of American Indians Affairs, Inc., Oakland, Calif. has been negotiated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Council will provide recreational programs facilities for Indian youths residing in the San Francisco Bay area.

In recent years the Bureau's Employment Assistance Program has attracted many Indian families to the Oakland area, where breadwinners receive necessary paid training for jobs in various industries. Under Employment Assistance, the Bureau aids family members in adjusting to urban life and settling into new surroundings. The Council's youth program will serve children from these recently relocated families.

\* \* \*

#### INDIAN HOUSING -- Some recent developments in Indian housing include:

- ...Ground breaking for the first of 50 units of low-rent public housing for some 200 Chippewa Indians on the Leech Lake Reservation in Minnesota. This is the first of several projects to add hundreds of units of new public housing for Minnesota Indians.
- ...The Saginaw-Chippewa Housing Authority, Mt. Pleasant, Mich., is developing plans for constructing 20 units of low-rent housing approved by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Twelve units are intended for family occupancy and 8 for elderly Indians.
- ...The Bay Mills Housing Authority of Michigan's Bay Mills Indian Community has been granted 10 units of mutual-help housing. This program, created for Indians, permits would-be home owners to gain equity in their dwellings through contributions of land and labor, rather than cash.
- ... Nevada's Walker River Reservation will begin building 20 mutualhelp homes with a \$199,224 loan from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Indian residents can have rental payments to the Tribal Housing Authority applied toward eventual purchase.

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Wilson - 343 - 2168

For Release SEPTEMBER 17, 1966

#### REGIONAL INDIAN MEETINGS SET TO PLAN NEW LEGISLATION

Commissioner Robert L. Bennett of the Bureau of Indian Affairs announced today plans for a series of regional meetings with Indian tribal leaders to discuss proposals for legislation and other matters of general interest to the Indian people.

Commissioner Bennett said the nine meetings would "help us to prepare and present to the Congress proposals that represent the best of Indian thinking on how to attack Indian problems.

"We need to take advantage of the favorable climate in Indian affairs created by the President, the Secretary of the Interior and the Congress, which is reflected in the news media, to present a forward-looking program to the Congress," Bennett said.

The Commissioner said he would attend all of the nine meetings. He has asked the Indian delegations to come to the meetings prepared to discuss: "(1) the present conditions of your people; (2) the <u>major</u> problems as you see them; (3) your ideas and recommendations about meeting these problems through your own and other resources."

The date, place and area involved in each meeting are as follows:

<u>Date</u>

#### Places:

Oct. 3-5, 1966 Minneapolis, Minn. - All tribes in the States of:

Michigan Wisconsin Iowa Minnesota North Dakota South Dakota Nebraska Except:
Devil's Lake
Standing Rock
Ft. Berthold
Turtle Mountain

Oct. 5-7, 1966 Billings, Mont. -

Devil's Lake Turtle Mountain Standing Rock Ft. Berthold

and all tribes in the States of Wyoming and Montana except:

Flathead and Blackfeet

Oct. 9-11, 1966 Washington, D. C.

Cherokee and Seminole

Oct. 17-19, 1966 Spokane, Wash. -

Blackfeet and Flathead

and all tribes in the States of:

Washington

Idaho

Oregon

Oct. 19-21, 1966 Juneau, Alaska - All native villages in the State of Alaska.

Oct. 31, 1966 <u>to</u> Okla November 2, 1966 an

Oklahoma City, Okla. - All tribes in the State of Oklahoma and:

and.

Choctaw, Miss.

Potowatomi, Kans.

Nov. 2-4, 1966 Window Rock, Ariz. - Navajo

Nov. 21-23, 1966 Albuquerque, N. Mex. - All tribes in the States of:

New Mexico

Colorado

Nov. 28-30, 1966 Las Vegas, Nev. - All tribes in the States of:

Nevada Utah California Arizona

Except Navajo

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BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Wilson - 343-2168

For Release to PM's, SEPTEMBER 19, 1966

INDIAN TIMBER SALES INCREASE BY \$2 MILLION IN ONE YEAR

Timber harvest and sales on Indian reservations set records in the fiscal year which ended June 30, the Bureau of Indian Affairs announced today.

Annual receipts from stumpage sales totaled \$14.3 million, nearly \$2 million over the previous fiscal year. The volume harvested was approximately 848 million board-feet, an increase of 100 million board-feet over fiscal 1965, the Bureau said.

An additional 100 million board-feet was cut by Indians under free permits for fuel and home and farm use.

The Bureau estimated that the timber cut created 6,000 year-long jobs in the woods and in sawmills, plywood plants and other wood industries located on or near Indian reservations. Increasing numbers of these jobs are being filled by Indians, the Bureau said.

Indian tribally-owned sawmills are located on the Fort Apache, Ariz., Navajo and Jicarilla, N. Mex., and Blackfeet, Mont., Reservations. The Indianowned Red Lake Mill in Minnesota, which burned in December, after 40 years of operation, is being rebuilt with Bureau assistance and should be completed this fall.

In the last five years, the volume of timber cut has increased 375 million board-feet and stumpage receipts have increased by \$6.2 million, the Bureau's report stated. This year's increase included most Indian forested areas, except in California, where the cut has remained about the same for several years.

All Indian forests are managed in accordance with sustained-yield principles in order to maintain the productive capacity of the lands and to assure an even flow of the harvests.

Indian forest resources contribute directly to economic stability and reservation improvement by providing income from stumpage receipts, the advantage of increased employment opportunities and, on an increasing number of reservations, the profits and benefits of the processing industries, the Bureau said.

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BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Hart - 343-4961

For Release SEPTEMBER 27, 1966

FEDERAL SUPERVISION TERMINATED AT BLUE LAKE RANCHERIA, CALIFORNIA

Federal supervision over the Indians of Blue Lake Rancheria in Humboldt

County, Calif., has been terminated with their consent, the Bureau of Indian

Affairs announced today. Notice is being published in the Federal Register.

Blue Lake is the 30th rancheria in California to be removed from Federal trust supervision, in accordance with legislation enacted in 1958 and amended two years ago. More than 100 small Indian rancherias are affected by the law.

Consisting of approximately 26 acres, Blue Lake Rancheria has been occupied by 26 Indians. Termination precludes their receiving further services from the United States Government by virtue of their status as Indians.

The Rancheria Act provides that a plan for disposition of assets be completed before termination. The Blue Lake plan provided for completion of road construction by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and conveyance of the road to Humboldt County; a survey of the land, recorded in Humboldt County; distribution among the Blue Lake group of funds held in trust; and conveyance to the distributees of unrestricted title to the land.

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BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

**Ulsamer - 343-2168** 

For Release OCTOBER 3, 1966

NEW BOOKLET SERIES DESCRIBES AMERICAN INDIAN LIFE

The Bureau of Indian Affairs has prepared a 13-booklet series suitable for use by classroom teachers, youth groups and others interested in the story of the American Indian.

The illustrated publications describe the culture and eventful history of tribes whose past is linked with various States or regions of the country. The reader is brought up to date with facts about Indian life today and the Federal programs that serve reservation dwellers.

Ten booklets now available deal with the <u>Indians</u>, <u>Eskimos and Aleuts</u>
of Alaska; the <u>Indians of Arizona</u>; <u>California</u>; the <u>Dakotas</u>; the <u>Gulf Coast</u>
States; <u>Montana and Wyoming</u>; <u>New Mexico</u>; <u>North Carolina</u>; the <u>Northwest</u>;
and <u>Oklahoma</u>.

Three remaining booklets, soon to come off the press, will discuss

Indian tribes of the <u>Central Plains</u>; the <u>Great Lakes</u>; and the <u>Lower Plateau</u>

areas of the United States.

Publications may be purchased at 15% a copy from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402. A discount of 25 percent is allowed on quantity orders of 100 or more, if mailed to one address.

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Three remaining booklets, soon to come off the press, will discuss Indian tribes of the <u>Central Plains</u>; the <u>Great Lakes</u>; and the <u>Lower Plateau</u> areas of the United States.

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Northwest Regional Information Office, Portland, Oregon

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

P. O. Box 3621, 1002 N. E. Holladay Street, 97208--234-3361

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

October 13, 1966

For Immediate Release

TRIBAL LEADERS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO MEET IN SPOKANE OCTOBER 17-19
TO SEEK CURES FOR INDIAN PROBLEMS

Pacific Northwest Indian tribal representatives and officials of the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs will meet in Spokane, Washington next Monday through Wednesday (October 17-19) to lay the groundwork for legislative proposals to help solve Indian problems.

Dale M. Baldwin, director of the Portland Area of BIA, said the three-day meeting will get under way at 9 a.m. Monday in the Ridpath Hotel.

Expected to be present are delegates from Indian tribes in Washington, Idaho, and Oregon along with the Blackfeet and Flathead tribes of Montana.

Also attending will be Robert L. Bennett, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C., and several members of his staff, as well as BIA area officials and superintendents of the various Indian agencies in the Northwest.

Commissioner Bennett said that the meeting is designed to "help us to prepare and present to the Congress proposals that represent the best of Indian thinking on how to attack Indian problems."

"We need to take advantage of the favorable climate in Indian affairs created by the President, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Congress, which is reflected in the news media, to present a forward-looking program to the Congress.

Commissioner Bennett has asked the Indian delegations to come to the meeting prepared to discuss:

- "1. The present conditions of your people;
- "2. The major problems as you see them, and
- "3. Your ideas and recommendations about meeting these problems through your own and other resources."

The Spokane meeting is one of 10 such conferences being held throughout the nation this month and next.

Baldwin announced that Commissioner Bennett will address the opening session of the Spokane meeting Monday morning. After election of a conference chairman, tribal delegates will present their views as to their problems and recommendations for solutions.

The second day of the meeting will be devoted to work by various committees on specific issues. On the third day, it is planned that the committees will make reports to the general meeting.

Baldwin said the meeting is open to the public.