

first ad

anxious to relieve itself of this ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ annual obligation .
The many newly-enrolled Indians were anxious to obtain not a per capita
but their share of the \$15, amounting to some ~~\$3,500~~ \$3,500.
The majority's wishes won and the money was divided, share and share alike.
Before this division the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Yakima Dailies
repeatedly warned business interests of extending credit etc. until the
division was made, but many "before money in hand" commitments were made/
And there were always the few, like in any society, who took advantage
of the new-planted psychology that the Indians had come into big money.

Many of the tribesmen acquired machinery, improved their homes etc.
with their money. Some squandered it, some like in any other society.

The share of the minors, some \$6, and against the wishes of many
part-blood Indian parents, was put in trust. It is still a matter of
contention, these part-blood parents claiming they should control the
money of their protégé. The government's position in this, as guardian,
no different from that of a bank committee exercising the guardianship
over a fund for a minor, is that the money, if released, would make the
government intern liable when the minor becomes entitled to payment and
there is no money ~~xxx~~ to be paid.

This then remains one of the deep-seated and hidden reasons for
constant sniping at tribal leadership; part-blood parents endeavoring
to break down the leadership that is preserving ~~dedddd~~ tribal resources.
And in this respect the Yakima Indian Nation is no different from many
throughout the United States/ What are held to be "local" problems are
nation-wide in scope. They are difficult, if not impossible to settle
at ~~xxxx~~ local level. Their approach is from the national level.

It is significant that the Yakimas, realizing this, and realizing
too the many pressures ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ being brought upon the Indians,
are not represented at the "Chicago meeting."

An outgrowth of the Chicago meeting, as far as policy is concerned, is renewed emphasis on an old theme; "Give us more money and we will handle our own affairs." "Give us government subsidies, etc. etc." "Please use from the restraint of the Bureau of Indian Affairs so we can go about spending this money as we want."

Congress, would be very foolish to be influenced by any back-room geared policy as to start issuing blanket checks. Congress would be more wise to look at the individual tribal needs and instances and be guided accordingly.

Re:

Yakima County sheriff's officers have made no arrests in the five-month old vandalism of two Indian cemeteries near Wiley City, and a \$100 reward, posted by the Yakima Tribe, has gone unclaimed.

Members of the Law and Order Department of the Yakima Tribe said the offer, ~~stands~~ for arrest and conviction of those responsible, still stands.

The Smartlowit or Felix Cemetery, 3 1/2 miles southwest of Wiley City and the Yeomowit Cemetery, east of Wiley City were damaged extensively by horseback riding vandals last June. Grave markers were uprooted, some were broken and other damage was caused.

And with the ~~desecration~~ desecration unsolved, Yakima Tribal Councilmen, who have time after time appealed to enforcement agencies to halt pillaging of ~~grave~~ Indian graves along the Columbia River and in other areas, pointed to 100 laws: RCW 27.44.010¹..the ~~mutilitat~~ mutilitation of an Indian grave or cairn constitutes a gross misdemeanor.

The ~~particular~~ particular statute was cited as follows:

"Any person who wilfully removes, mutilates, defaces, injures or destroys any cairn or grave of any native Indian, or any glyptic or painted record of any prehistoric tribes or people shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor."

(more)

first ad..

Watson Totus, ~~and [redacted]~~ a Yakima religious leader and vice chairman of the Yakima Tribal Council, said Yakima families have, since pioneer days, suffered humiliation by destruction of ~~Indian graves~~ the graves of their ancestors.

He recalled instances where graves had been dug into and parts of the body removed and brought into ~~Yakima~~ Yakima.

He said in later years ~~grave~~ grave digging, on the pretext of hunting relics, has continued.

~~As~~ As to the section of the law dealing with defacing glyptic or painted records, he said he assumed that pertained to Indian rock painting sites, such as Painted Rocks Historic Site near Nelson Bridge.

That site was marked by the state several years ago and has already been damaged.

Penalties for gross misdemeanors ~~include~~ provide either fines or imprisonment or both.

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first ad

Indian council

"We have an Indian center and stress education among minority groups, groups not adapted to customary education. This is coupled with youth camps and ~~programs~~ government programs sponsored by the tribal council. Adults as well as younger persons participate in beneficial work, in training. "

Spencer pointed toward the development of Charley's Pond as a recreational area as a benefit to the entire tribe.

Land rentals of Indianland are increasing each year, amounting to \$1,200,000 approximately a year. That is \$400,000 to \$500,000 ~~xx~~ more ~~xx~~ than a year ago. And much of this revenue," said Spencer, is available to older persons.

"Your forest income is also up and has ~~xx~~ been developed to a sustained yield of ~~xx~~ 157,000,000 board feet a year. The other day ~~xx~~ Spruce sold for \$38 a thousand and ponderosa pine \$45. This is a trend. The tribe gets an income of \$3 million ~~from~~ a year from its timber. The tribe budgeted this year two per capita payments of \$125 each. Money is available for land purchase, loans and scholarships and there is still a reserve left.

"Your claims program has gone along on schedule and word your leaders will bring you is encouraging. "

Robert Jim, chairman of the tribal council, the 14-body business administration group chosen by the tribe responded to Spencer.

(more)

second ad
Indian Council

"My people," said the tribal council chairman. "I want to say a word about our late general council chairman (George Umtuch, who died last August). He never turned against the tribe, he was always for the people. He opposed any change in enrollment and he opposed termination.

"The 250 Indian people employed in industry have 944 dependants. Since May of 1967 they have brought home over \$1 million in wages. Ten houses have been built, and 64 more will be constructed, possibly some at Rock Creek and 40 will be built at Wapato in the future.

"We have had a good superintendent, but we need to remind the government and need to remind ourselves, we have different roots. We must work together, this next year and the years to come."

Leonard Tomaskin, newly-elected chairman of the general council is the third person in the tribe's history to hold that position.

Philip Olney was the first chairman, serving until his death in the 90s '50s. George Umtuch was then elected while he was a tribal councilman and resigned because he could not serve in both capacities.

Tomaskin, who has been interpreter at the annual meetings, served four years in the war with Korea, three years overseas in Japan and then Korea. He was a paratrooper and is commander of the Andy-⁶⁹4bb Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1356 for 1968-69. (more)

third ad

Indian Council

Tomaskin is active in Boy Scout work.

Robert Wochumna, who lives between Toppenish and Satus is the newly-elected sergeant at arms, succeeding the late Walter Underwood, ~~also~~ who was a World War I veteran.

George Umtuch Jr. was accorded the unusual recognition of addressing the general council, because he is enrolled on the Warm Springs Reservation and not eligible to vote with the Yakimas.

Standing with his mother, Mrs. Rex Buck, a daughter of the late George Umtuch, he paid tribute to his late fatherx in congratulating Tomaskin:

"It is a jag job that takes a lot of patience...it takes a lot of man to understand," said the son.

A Joe Meninick, secretary of the tribal councilman, in calling on Spencer for "farewell remarks," ~~mentioned~~ said "I have been a tribal council member 25 consecutive years and have worked with you and your problems. I have served with many superintendents. When we meet again in 1969 we will have another superintendent."

Re. Indian session.

11-11-59

TOPPENISH--Tribal community meetings , preliminary to the General Council meeting Nov. 23-24, were announced yesterday by Otis Shilow, Watson Totus and Alex Saluskin.

The first of the three will be held at 7 p.m. today in the Wapato Long House. A second will be in the Satus Long House Thursday and another will be held later in the Toppenish Long House.

All members of the Yakima tribe are urged to attend the group meetings.

Seven of the 14 members of the Yakima Tribal Council---the 800 seven whose terms ~~expire~~ are expiring--will serve as a panel at the community meetings and answer questions on all tribal business.

Questions are expected to cover industrial employment, juvenile, health and land acquisition matters; ~~the~~ Dalles Dam or Celilo Falls settlement funds of minors, trust agreement, the Ahtanum ~~water~~ and water litigation, termination of federal trusteeship.

The panelists will translate into the Yakima language so ~~those~~ everyone attending will understand.

Reports will be informal and every effort will be made at the group meetings to clarify misinformation, Shilow said.

first ad...

The General Council meeting later this month, or meeting of the entire tribe, will be held in the Toppenish Long House.

Election of seven councilmen will be held when a quorum of 250 adults are present and tallied. Persons, 18 or older are regarded as adults.

Nominated councilmen are automatically candidates unless they decline, and any number of candidates may be nominated from the floor for each position. Voting is on each candidate. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes is elected.

Councilmen whose term expire and their ~~responsibilities~~ tribal duties include:

~~Mr~~ James Alexander, chairman timber committee.

Wapt Bassett, assistant Tribal Council secretary and secretary of timber and huckleberry committee.

Joe Meninick-Tribal Council secretary and member of executive enrollment committee. Trust fund member.

Henry Beavert-Wildlife and law and order committee.

Watson Totus-Chairman land, irrigation, ~~and~~ road, credit-education, health and tribal settlement committees.

~~adobe~~ ~~Yanya~~ ~~adobe~~

(More)

second ad..

Alex Saluskin-Secretary, land, irrigation, road, timber, mineral,
huckleberry committees; chairman tribal settlement committee, trust fund
committee.

Jacob Yahyowan-Land, irrigation, road committees.

Re:

Indian General
Council

WO/A

WAPATO-Continued and persistent harassment by the states of Oregon and Washington since ~~white~~ non-Indian fishermen first came along the Columbia River have driven the Confederated Yakima Indian Nation into a costly and long "River War" ~~in~~ the tribe is determined to carry through.

Members of the Indian nation, attending the annual General Council or tribal meeting were told how the "preliminary battles" have been shaping up in a report by the ~~Yakima Council~~ tribe's attorney and Tribal Council's Fish Committee last night.

James B. Hovis is the tribal attorney. Robert Jim is chairman of the fish committee and Joe ~~Meninick~~ Meninick, ~~Louise~~ Watson Lotus, and Tom Albert are committeemen.

After a night-long session, ~~the council~~ ~~at 10:00 p.m.~~ recessed until 5 p.m. today when the next item on the agenda. Highway 82 across the Yakima Reservation is ~~on the agenda~~ ~~6:00~~ scheduled. here is how things shaped up as General Council Chairman George Umtuch rang down the gavel:

(more)

first ad

fishing

--An injunction will be asked in ~~xxxxxx~~ U.S. Federal Court to prohibit the states of Washington and Oregon from continually harassing fishermen of the Yakima Nation.

--The Yakima Nation has won six ~~xxxxxxx~~ consecutive cases, three in Washington and three in Oregon state courts and more than that number remain. The outcome of several could be doubtful.

--In instances where equipment of fishermen has been seized by Washington and Oregon state authorities, depriving the fishermen of their livelihood, the states may be asked to pay just damages due the fishermen. ~~xxxxxxx~~

--The Yakimas wish to be squared around by next April's opening of the Chinook salmon run.

--Yakimas have successfully defended their fishing rights ~~xxxxxxx~~ from a stretch along the Columbia River extending from near Vancouver ~~xxx~~ upstream to Plymouth and Paterson, ancestral fishing grounds of the Yakima tribes and bands.

xx

~~(more)~~

--Yakima fishing rights have been upheld since first difficulties in the 1880s. ~~and xxxxxx~~ Especially significant cases were ~~xxx~~ won in the highest courts in the land during the 1930s and 1940s, but the declaration of "war on the Columbia River fishermen" by the states of ~~Od~~ Washington and Oregon has compelled the Yakimas against their ~~wishes~~ wishes for tribal-state relationships, to return to the courts.

(more)

second ad.

Meninick and Leonard Tomaskin were the interpreters.

Before the council was convened by Umtuch, Eagle Seelatsee announced the serious illness of Nipo Strongheart at Los Angeles, and the "concern for my people" expressed by the former Valley resident. Prayers were asked for him.

Walter Cloud, long-time tribal leader in an "old style" oratory, told how treaty signer chiefs and their descendants were respected and looked on for guidance in the old days, ~~and~~ And he pointed the present when dissidents contest tribal judgment, leading to ~~incorribled~~ disunity.

Re⁴~~x~~ Replying to a question about fish conservation, Louie Cloud explained that in older days the Yakimas had conservation, just as the Tribal Council is ~~not attempting to be~~ about supporting now.

He said that when ~~do~~ ~~nder~~ ~~or~~ ~~head~~ ~~man~~ ~~d~~ ~~for~~ ~~sh~~ ~~o~~ ~~began~~ ~~to~~ ~~dd~~ salmon began to run, fishermen waited, sometimes an hour and a half, until the head man came out of his lodge. "He was the first to go to the fishing station, and the first to fish, and no one fished until the head man ~~old~~ ~~ed~~ ~~ed~~ ~~ed~~ ~~ed~~ ~~ed~~ approved. There was no fishing at all on Saturday or Sunday and no night fishing. What we are talki g about today is gill net fishing, not drop net hoops or your set nets.

third ad

"And when there was a death in the village, there was no fishing,"
said Cloud.

Meninick spoke soon significantly.

He reminded the tribesmen that what is being done is based on
years of research.

"In the many Northwest and other scientific and other meetings I have
attended, it was never said the Indians were responsible for
destroying the salmon. They knew it was the
white man himself, through his dams and pollution of rivers.
Yet they go ahead ruining the rivers so badly nothing
will be able to live in the streams.

"We will continue to fight. We can't just sit around and say 'we
have treaty rights, nothing will ever bother me.'
If we had done that, we would be dead and buried."

"The Yakimas have built the Klickitat River run and now
the white men are going to snag the fish there instead of taking them
on bait."

Meninick warned that the fight by the southwest to divert water from
the Northwest was a major problem to be confronted by the tribe, seeking
to preserve Columbia River fishing for families who know no other
labor but that of fishing for salmon.

4th ad

Jim, the chairman, summarized the fishing report with the statement that regulations, research, looking to the future, and the ~~Tred~~ Treaty, and relationship with the committee and the tribal members were essential.

"And it is not much use in having this right if we can't sell fish," declared Jim.

80003000

Re

General Council

Wo/A

SATUS LONG HOUSE-The Yakima Indian Nation 's General Council has been called into special session tonight by Chairman George Umtuch, to finish business on the agenda ~~for~~ of a three-day session which ended last night.

Heading the business when a 175 quorum is reached after 4 p.m. will be a report by Paul M. Niebell, claims attorney from Wash., D.C. on a ~~government~~ proposal for settlement of the southwestern boundary dispute.

This involves a possible change of the boundary to its original line, across the ~~100,000~~ ~~100,000~~ ~~100,000~~ center of the top of Mt. Adams, recovery of 21,008 acres ~~southwest~~ to the southeast, now in Gov. Pinchot National Forest, and a money settlement of ~~\$2,250,000~~ \$ 2 1/4 million in lieu of land belonging in the original reservation. This has been settled, ~~and~~ includes the community of "lenwood, and involves ~~about~~ about 98,000 acres.

Last night before adjourning at the mandatory 10:30 p.m. hour the tribe accepted a recommendation of a negotiating committee which has been seeking settlement of the distribution of a \$3,319,627 money award with the Colville Tribe.

(more)

Progress, through development of resources and tribal programs was summarized by Charles S. Spencer, superintendent, at one part of the traditional annual meeting.

These included 30 units of tribal housing, completed and occupied; 10 self help units, closed in for winter work, land enterprise activity "in a modest way, returning a rate of interest for your money you could not get in other ways."

The superintendent said 170 Indian workers were employed at the White Swan Industries tribally sponsored furniture factory near Wapato and this represented a payroll of around \$10,000 a month or a little more. "Thirty-five are employed at the ~~god~~ tribal owned garment factory at Toppenish.

" Education work in the kindergarten and adult fields, ~~education~~ tribal council initiated activity programs under the Rev. Edgar Fox, training programs leading to employment," and other projects, he said, are all contributing to raising "the annual income of families on the Yakima Reservation to a larger figure than any time since I have been your superintendent.

"This type of going ahead cannot be accomplished without the guiding forces of ~~the~~ the Tribal Council and tribal leadership," said the superintendent. "You should be grateful to them for their efforts."

first ad

"A survey shows the average income of the Yakimas has increased considerable during the past year," the superintendent commented.

He pointed to the ~~Outstanding~~ visit of ~~Mr.~~ Robert Bennett, U.S. commissioner of Indian Affairs as a highlight of the year.

The commissioner toured the reservation and was shown sites for irrigation and flood control dams in the White Swan ~~and~~ Medicine Valley and the Satus districts. He expressed the confidence that construction of dams , which would bring additional reservation land under irrigation, would be ~~benefit~~ another contribution to the economy of the Yakimas.