

FIC PR#3

For Release May 14 and After

INDIAN CENTER DRIVE
SHOWS GOOD RESULTS

The charter membership drive in the Inland Empire of the Friends of the Indian Center is showing excellent results in its first week, Martin Howser, chairman of the membership committee said today.

"We mailed 10,000 letters and brochures last week to individuals, business and professional people offering special charter membership rates," he said. "Results are coming in at an excellent rate."

The committee's goal is 1000 members by June 10.

The Indian Center's temporary quarters in the R. A. Pearson Building, South 12 Division, were opened last weekend to the public, and several hundred persons visited to see the Indian displays and the art galleries. It is planned to keep the Center open weekends through the summer, Howser said.

"People in this area are vitally interested in the past and the future of our American Indians. They want to help save the irreplaceable treasures which every year are being lost to fire, flood and theft, or are being shipped to Europe where the demand for Indian artifacts is insatiable.

"Membership in the Friends of the Indian Center entitles individuals to special discounts on publications, special invitations to Indian Center events and participation on a level greater than the general public will obtain," Howser said.

The Indian Center will be built on the bank of the historic Spokane River just northeast of the Division Street Bridge. It is planned as a five-story teepee-styled structure to house tribal displays and artifacts, art galleries and research materials. All is to be air conditioned, fire-proof, and designed to safeguard the priceless remnants of the American Indian culture.

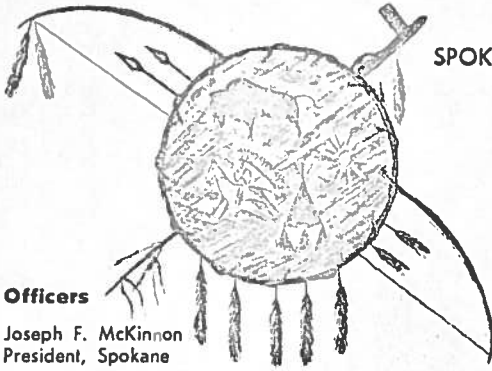
Ground breaking for the Center will be announced in the near future, Howser said.

FRIENDS OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST INDIAN CENTER

SOUTH 12 DIVISION ST.

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FIC #2

RELEASE ON RECEIPT:

Ground breaking for the Pacific Northwest Indian Center building will be held June 13, at 1:30 p.m., Joseph F. McKinnon, President of the Friends of the Indian Center, announced today.

The site, just east of Division and on the north bank of the Spokane River is in the geographic center of Spokane and in the center of the historic Indian activities in the region.

Members of the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Indian Center, the Trustees of the Indian Center and members of the Board of Technical Advisors will be present at the ground breaking ceremonies. The public is invited to attend. To reach the site, go north on Division Street to Desmet or Boone and turn east to Pearl; turn south on Pearl to the river bank.

The Center is planned as a five story museum and two story research wing to house invaluable Indian artifacts, remnants of tribal cultures and priceless Indian manuscripts, photographs and art collections.

Portions of the Center's tremendous collection is presently housed in temporary quarters in the Pearson building, South 12 Division Street.

Construction of the permanent site is to begin immediately, McKinnon said, with completion of the first phase due this fall.