

Ha-Shilth-Sa

(Nootka for "interesting news")

District take-over now a reality

By JILL LEWIS

The West Coast District Council of Indian Chiefs will take over almost all responsibilities previously held by Indian Affairs for the thirteen west coast bands, as of April 1, 1974. There will be a study made before taking over the administration of lands and leases, with the target date being April 1, 1975.

This is the realization of a dream that the chiefs of the West Coast District started talking about at the Prince Rupert Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs Conference in 1972. Discussions arose from frustrations with the Department of Indian Af-

fairs' lack of understanding of Indian problems.

The district, which has been incorporated as a legal society, has a "board of directors" kind of structure, which is the chiefs, which represent each band.

Take over means that the chiefs will be responsible for allocating monies and setting policies on funds, staff, etc. In other words, the chiefs will be responsible for what goes on in the district.

The district will be treated much the same as any other Indian Affairs branch by regional Indian Affairs and will be accountable for the funds they spend.

However, hopefully there is a difference in services. The district office is closer to the bands than the Nanaimo office. The majority of the staff is Indian -- all non-Indians are willing to train an Indian person to fill their position.

The people setting the policy -- the chiefs -- are representative of you, the people, and are much closer to the problems than Indian Affairs civil servants could hope to be.

Many of the chiefs live on reserve, while those living off reserve make the council that much more aware of the problems of off reserve Indians.

The council feels there is no difference between on and off reserve Indians -- that this is just a definition the white man has forced on them.

The monies that will be controlled by the district include the allocation of capital funds (which includes housing, electrification, water, garbage disposal, etc.), funds for economic development feasibility studies, social assistance monies, core funding (which includes staff salaries at the district office), B.C. Special monies, Band Management and Local Government monies (which includes funds for

training seminars* for band staff), small cultural grants, funds for the high school summer training program, curriculum enrichment funds, tuition grants to School Boards (payment to schools for Indian pupils), monies for day care, vocational education, Christie Residence (administration of funds), vital statistics (recording of births, deaths, and marriages), band elections, etc.

This is why there is all that staff at the Maht Mahs complex. So any questions should now be directed to this office rather than Indian Affairs.

NEXT DISTRICT MEETING

The next regular district meeting is scheduled for a Thursday and Friday, April 18-19, 1974. Items on the agenda that will be discussed are the possible formation of a district construction company, the future of the Maht Mahs complex, and possible suggestions on food fishing regulations.

The election of a Chairman and Alternate Chairman will take place, and it is hoped that an Economic Development Committee, an Education Committee (for curriculum development, etc.), and a Social Services Committee that would take care of complaints and policy, will be formed.

If undeliverable please return to West Coast District Council of Indian Chiefs, R.R. 3, Port Alberni, B.C. V9Y 7L7, Canada.



MORE TREES than humans grow in this tiny village of Queens Cove. This aerial photo was taken on a beautiful, sunny day, which is common to the west coast. -photo by Robert Gunn

DIA Core funding formula announced

Larry Wight, Regional Director for the Department of Indian Affairs, has announced the new formula to be used for Core funding, for local Indian government and band administration.

The base of the formula is the Indian on-reserve band population as of January 1, 1974, with figures compiled

from Departmental Statistics.

This formula gives a rate of \$125 per person for bands with between one and 99 members living on reserve; \$13,000 flat rate for those with on-reserve populations of between 100 and 199; and an extra \$2,000 for every 100 persons living on reserve,

above 199.

The maximum allowable core grant is \$35,000 for bands with 1,200 and over, on reserve.

In some cases, bands also are given an extra isolation allowance, depending on their distance from centres of population.

The Core Fund is

specifically intended to provide for the following, based on the band council's priority: full or part-time administrative staff; office rent, equipment, stationary and utilities; travel in the conduct of band council business; honoraria to chiefs and councillors; and professional advice.

Ha-Shilth-Sa

Office telephone Number: 723-8165 Local: 09

Reporters:

Jan Broadland
Jill Lewis
Jessie Lucas
Diane Sutherland

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Letters to the Editor

RE: GRANTS TO BANDS

I may have a solution to the Grants to Bands Program. This may be a very controversial statement and might stir up some hard feelings of some bands, and it also might start them thinking about what I am about to suggest.

My suggestion would be that every band that has enough capital coming in every year to be self-sufficient should become so.

This would leave Grants to Bands money to the bands that really need it. I think it's about time we started thinking about our fellow Indians and started giving money where it's needed most. Remember, Greed was not a way of life for Indians when Indians were Indians, not the bunch of Greedy leeches we have become today.

If this band ever becomes self-sufficient, you can be sure we are going to clean our hands of these government hand-outs.

We all don't know it, but the Government has us fighting over their money -- every year's audit pulling the Indians in B.C. further apart instead of pulling us together.

Remember: United We Stand, Divided We Fall.
Charlie Thompson
Band Manager
Nitinaht Band
Box 340
PORT ALBERNI, B.C.

Sirs:

First of all, we would like to thank-you for remembering us over here.

Yes, we think of our home in Canada. We visit once in awhile, when my husband has his vacation.

We still both work; he works steady and I work in summer-time, although we should be retired now. But we love to work and meet people.

Well, next time we write, we will tell you of our stay over here. We enjoy it over here.

We are over here because of our four younger boys (now men). They graduated from high school over here and now are in the U.S.A. Army and Navy.

O.K., thanks for listening, till next time,
God Bless You All,
Mr. and Mrs. Michael M. George
Rt. 2 - Box 567
Vashon, Washington 98070



Arnold Adolph

Our Courtworker-Arnold Adolph

The position for courtworker advertised in the first issue of your paper might have sounded a bit too difficult, but Arnold Adolph took the chance, which many should, and applied.

Arnold is now a very busy staff member working at the West Coast District Council trying hard to help where he can in courtrooms and out.

Making his home in Port Alberni while working for the District Council, he is originally from Lillooet. After completing his first year at Vancouver City College he met George

Watts and learned of the District Council. This eventually led to his successful application for courtworker and a one-month training course under the direction of Pat Beirne at U.B.C.

Arnold now has the skill to handle such matters as landlord-tenant problems, legal aid applications, traffic violations and small claim debts. He prefers to settle matters out of court, if possible.

During criminal and civil matters, Arnold can represent the person in place of a lawyer.

For serious problems such as criminal matters, Arnold can fill out an application and refer the person to legal aid but warns that civil matters are usually paid by the person losing the case. Since legal aid cannot help with civil matters, Arnold can then refer the person to the proper help.

Arnold finds it difficult in getting people to come in and talk. If any time anyone finds the need for a lawyer or an advisor just give Arnold a call at the District Office (723-8165).

Next Issue

The next issue of the "Ha-Shilth-Sa" will be published April 19, which gives you until April 12 to submit your letters, poetry, artwork, cartoons, stories and articles.

Your response to the newspaper has been terrific, and all your comments and criticisms have been much appreciated.

Obviously, you want the paper to continue on after the L.I.P. grant runs out in May, so the best way for you to be sure of having it continue is to keep sending in lots of written contributions.

It's up to you to keep your paper alive!



"One does not sell the earth upon which the people live."

-Tashunka Witko (Crazy Horse)

Letters

Dear People:

Just after the last issue of "Ha-Shilth-Sa" came out, we received a letter from the Hon. Norman Levi, provincial minister of Human Resources, stating his willingness to participate in the comment-response column we have been trying to set up between you people and your elected representatives.

To date, we have had no response from you -- only from Mr. Levi and Bob Skelly.

Surely there are questions which need to be answered by those who are making the laws in this province. Questions about social services, land claims, economic development, housing, or any other topic which you feel concerns the Indian people.

So let's hear from you! Address your letters to "Ha-Shilth-Sa", c/o West Coast District Council of Indian Chiefs, R.R. 3, Port Alberni, B.C., V9Y 7L7. And don't forget to note which person you would like to respond -- either Mr. Skelly or Mr. Levi.

Your reporters,
Jill Lewis
Jan Broadland
Jessie Lucas
Diane Sutherland

Staff Growth

Since the last issue of "Ha-Shilth-Sa" there has been one new staff member hired on at the West Coast District Council. Leslie Sam, who is replacing Earl Tatoosh, was hired to work on the smoke-house project.

Craftshop needs support

Since the February 19 issue of your newspaper, everything at Esowista is running as anticipated.

The preparation for the buying of the crafts is now underway, but problems are already arising.

Marie Martin has asked all the West Coast Indians, who wish to give full support to this project, not to raise the price on their crafts. Raising prices creates difficulties for, in order to run a self-sufficient store, the buyer must sell his product for 40 to 50 per cent more.

For example, if a craftsman sold his product for \$10.00, the Indian Craft Store would sell it for \$15.00.

Marie is also hoping for full support of the Indian Craftsmen within the West Coast District.

There will be no "Japanese crafts" sold at the store, and Marie is also hesitant to buy products outside of the West Coast District, but she will do so if the merchandise is genuine and of good quality.

Any person outside the Tofino area who wishes to sell his or her products could contact Marie Martin at 725-3489 or call the Clayoquot E and Office.

If sufficient quantities are ready for sale outside the area, the buyers will make a trip to the craftsman's house.

Grass roots field worker Tackles social problems

A man who believes that "utilization of all valuable persons on reserve" and "grass root involvement" are essential for the development of reserves is now the social services field worker for the West Coast District Council of Indian Chiefs.

Bob Dennis, originally from Bamfield, was hired for that position January 23. He had been working since early in 1972 with the Port Alberni Friendship Centre, where he served as Executive Director for the 15 months preceding his application with the District Council.

He describes his job as "getting out in the field and dealing with concerns regarding social services itself."

Two of the main programs he is presently trying to introduce are an alcohol program on reserves, and the building of an old age home on the Maht Mahs grounds.

Treatment and counselling would both be provided in the alcohol program, which would involve a resource person going around to reserves and trying to educate people against the spread of alcoholism.

In this program, Bob said, feedback from reserves is very important, and he would like to hear suggestions on how to cope with the problem.

Two ideas already put forth from band level were to establish an alcohol rehabilitation centre on one of the unoccupied reserves, where people with a drinking problem could go to get away from the pressures which encourage them to drink; and to make available an Alcoholics Anonymous counsellor as a field worker on reserves, to talk with the drinker and his family on a "person to person" basis.

Regarding the old age

home, Bob has been working with other staff members to try for a CMHC (Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation) grant to get the building started.

This home would be built to the specific needs of the people, who would be surveyed to find out just how many pensioners would be interested in living in such a home.

Twenty-four-hour nursing service would be provided and the rooms or suites would be designed to suit the people's needs. For example, Bob said, if an elderly lady liked to spend her time basket weaving, a special room would be provided for her just for her weaving, so that she could leave her work there, undisturbed, while she was doing something else.

In all cases regarding social services, Bob wants "to start feeding a lot of information down to the reserves" on programs and funding available, in the hope that more people will take advantage of help available to them.

Child welfare is one of the more important areas which Bob is concerned with.

At present, he is trying to get more say for welfare workers in cases of placement and adoption, rather than have the Department of Human Resources in Victoria make the decisions.

Day-care also falls under this area. "For example," Bob said, "one reserve wants to start a day-care program."

"Their questions as individuals in that community were: 'Do we need a day-care program? Are there enough children? Can we qualify for funding? How can we find help to start a program?'"

These are the kinds of questions which Bob is qualified to help answer.

He also works closely with the District Council's

courtworker and home-school co-ordinators, providing in-home counselling for families with problems, or in referring families to counsellors.

Homemakers groups, set up on reserves by individuals who want to help people with illnesses or disabilities, are another of Bob's responsibilities.

While it is up to the reserve and the homemakers group as to what kind of service they want to provide, there is money in the social services budget for paying people who help others.

This money is available to all reserves, not just ones with homemakers groups, and is payable to all individuals who spend their time helping those less fortunate. All they have to do is to keep track of the hours they spend and send them in to Bob, at the District Council office, for payment.

All of these areas in the field of social services -- homemakers, family problems, child welfare, pensioners, and the alcohol program -- are areas which Bob can advise about.

But he urges people who are thinking of developing programs in any of these categories to retain their independence by doing as much of the planning as possible themselves.

"And only when you find you can't proceed with your program, should you call a person to help you," he said.

He is married and he and his wife, Maureen, have two children -- Robert, aged 2, and Jacqueline, 9 months.



Bob Dennis

Social news

Is there an important event coming up for your family?

Happenings such as weddings, engagements, births, reunions and trips make interesting social news items.

Just include your name and the names of those involved, your address and band, the date and place of the event, and any photographs you have, if it has already taken place. (We'll return your photos).

We're interested in you.

FAMOUS PLAYERS THEATRES

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PARAMOUNT THEATRE

March 27 - April 2	Harrad Experiment	Restricted
April 3 - April 6	Sonny and Jed	Restricted
April 7 - April 9	Fillmore	
	Concert in Bangladesh	General
April 10 - April 16	Papillon	Mature
April 13 matinee	Charlotte's Web	General
April 17 - April 20	Ash Wednesday	Mature

CAPITOL THEATRE

March 28 - March 30	Effects of Gamma Rays on Man in the Moon	General
	Marigolds	
April 1 - April 3	Kid Blue	General
April 4 - April 6	Sacred Knives of Vengeance	Mature
	Five Fingers of Death	Mature
April 8 - April 10	Sex Secrets of Love - Starved Housewives	Restricted
	Cheating Husbands	Restricted
April 11 - April 13	Charlie Varrick	Mature
April 15 - April 16	The Boy Who Cried Werewolf	Mature
	S-S-S-S	Mature
April 17 - April 20	Sonny and Jed	Restricted

subject to change without notice.

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Selling the Earth

"From the days of the earliest treaties, Indians were shocked at the white man's attitude toward land. The tribal elders laughed contemptuously at the idea that a man could sell land. 'Why not sell the air we breathe, the water we drink,

the animals we hunt?' some replied. It was ludicrous to Indians that people would consider land as a commodity that could be owned by one man. The land supports all life. It is given to all people." (Freedom With Reservation)

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THE ALL-STAR TEAMS named during the West Coast Invitational Basketball Tournament held at the Maht Mahs gymnasium February 15, 16 and 17, include (left to right): Rick Sparrow, Musqueam; Clarence Vickers, Victoria Bucks; Chuck Lucas, Hesquiat Braves; Bob Miller, Lummi; Stephen Lucas, Hesquiat Braves; Bob Parker,

Lummi; Ken Innes, Victoria Bucks; Howard Tom, Clayoquot Chiefs; John Dick, Redbone; Dave Jefferson, Lummi; Pat Parker, most valuable player in tournament, from Lummi; and Connie Charleson, Hesquiat Braves.

-Bob Soderlund Photo

Good news for your teeth

We would like to thank Dr. Bill Sinclair for recognising a true need. Largely through his efforts and support, the district now has a permanent dental clinic, located at the old residence in Port Alberni.

At present, the clinic will run in the first week of every month -- Monday to Friday from 9 to 5:30. The equipment is being provided by National Health & Welfare. Dr. Sinclair will be the dentist and with this equipment can do any work except dentures.

As in the past, priority will be given to children, but adults with emergency situations can request appointments. Appointments can be made by calling Sandra Jack at 723-8165. If Sandy is not available ask for Gloria Ross.

Island Basketball Championship

The Alberni District Secondary School Gym vibrated with excitement March 10 when the Victoria Bucks defeated the Hesquiat Braves to win the Island Basketball Championship.

The games got underway Friday evening and ended Sunday afternoon with the results as follows:
FRIDAY, MARCH 8

- GAME 1 - Cowichan 68 vs Alert Bay Native Sons 69.
- GAME 2 - Nootka Natives 49 vs Sheshaht Redbone 103.
- GAME 3 - Victoria Bucks 90 vs Hesquiat Braves 72
- GAME 4 - Clayoquot Chiefs 70 vs Ahousaht Raiders 64.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

- GAME 5 - Gold River 48 vs Cowichan 100.
- GAME 6 - Ahousaht Raiders 51 vs Hesquiat Braves 84.
- GAME 7 - Alert Bay Native Sons 72 vs Sheshaht Redbone 84.
- GAME 8 - Victoria Bucks 128 vs Clayoquot Chiefs 58.
- GAME 9 - Cowichan 59 vs Hesquiat Braves 76.
- GAME 10 - Alert Bay Native Sons 97 vs Clayoquot Chiefs 64.

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

- GAME 11 - Alert Bay Native Sons 48 vs Hesquiat Braves 66.

- GAME 12 - Victoria Bucks 123 vs Sheshaht Redbone 97.
- GAME 13 - Hesquiat Braves 79 vs Sheshaht Redbone 61.
- GAME 14 - Victoria Bucks 96 vs Hesquiat Braves 70.

The all-star committee, consisting of Bob Soderland, Doug Atleo, and Edgar Charlie, then selected the first and second all-star teams. They are as follows:

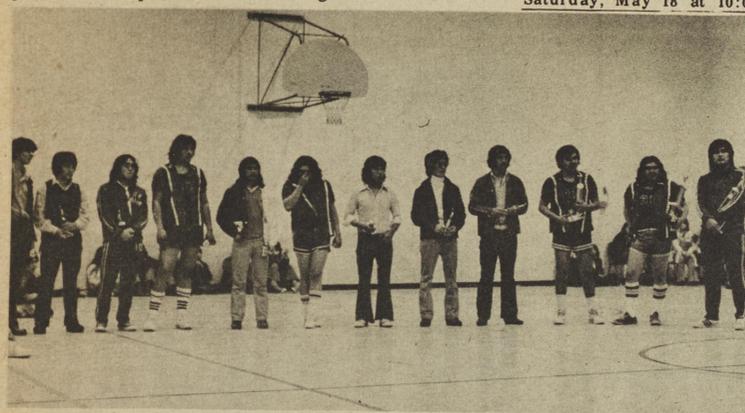
1st ALL STARS - Lee Cedwallader, Alert Bay Native Sons; Connie Charleson, Hesquiat Braves; Art Helin, Victoria Bucks; arence Innes, Victoria Bucks; John Dick, Sheshaht Redbone.

2nd ALL STARS - Clarence Vickers, Victoria Bucks; Nelson Leeson, Victoria Bucks; Chuck Lucas, Hesquiat Braves; Howie Tom, Clayoquot Chiefs; Perry Barney, Sheshaht Redbone.

The MOST VALUABLE PLAYER award went to Connie Charleson, Hesquiat Braves.

The MOST SPORTSMANSHIP team went to the Clayoquot Chiefs.

In keeping up the tradition of last year the committee asked that the Chiefs of the West Coast District Council present the trophies to the deserving teams.



THE ALL STAR team for 1974 in Island basketball is as follows: back row: left to right: Connie Charleson; Howie Tom, Clayoquot Chiefs; Nelson Leeson, Clarence Vickers, Victoria Bucks; Perry Barney, Redbone; Art Helin, Victoria Bucks; front row: Brian Amos, Chuck Lucas, Hesquiat; Clarence Innes, Victoria Bucks. Missing are: Lee Cadwallader, Alert Bay Native Sons, and John Dick, Redbone.



THE ISLAND CHAMPIONS for 1974 are the Victoria Bucks and they are as follows from left to right: back row: Mrs. Art Vickers - manager, Art Vickers, Ken Innes, Alec Dick, Reggie Gladstone, Mr. Vickers - coach; front row: Clarence Innes, Clarence Vickers, Nelson Leeson, Art Helin.

-Bob Soderlund Photo

West Coast Sports Festivities

May 18, 19 and 20

The West Coast District Council Sports Committee will soon be trying to revive an annual event as they hold a sports festival here in Port Alberni for the 13 bands of the West Coast District.

To date, track and field events are confirmed at A.D.S.S. with competition getting underway on Saturday, May 18 at 10:00

a.m. Indian dancing will be held in the evening of Saturday at 8:00 p.m. There is still a need for volunteers, so if your group is willing to perform, don't hesitate to call the sports committee at 723-8165.

The softball tournament will start at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday at Echo Park. On Sunday evening, depending on the donations of fish, hopefully there will

be a salmon barbeque. Don't forget to donate some of the early run of coho or salmon. The barbeque will probably be held at the Maht Mahs playground.

Following the barbeque will be more Indian dancing. Echo Park will be the scene of the final day of the festival as Softball will start at 10:00 a.m.

There will be a softball meeting at the Maht Mahs Complex on April 27.

The Sheshaht senior men's floor hockey team made a trip to Nitinaht for an exhibition game on Sunday, March 17. The final score of the game was Sheshaht 15 and Nitinaht 7.

The Sheshaht team would like to thank the Nitinaht Band for their generosity and great hospitality while their team was in Nitinaht.

The King Ed Eagles girls' softball team will be holding their first meeting April 8 in the Friendship Centre at 7:00 p.m. Any married women or any women 18 and over wishing to try out for the team are welcome to attend.

The Maidens beat Duncan by a score of 35-28.

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Looking after the \$\$\$

By JILL LEWIS

In October of 1973 the chiefs set up a Finance Committee in order that the accountant and staff in general would have some direction on how funds should be spent.

The committee's job is to present recommendations to the district council, and to look into financial matters in more detail than the chiefs would have time to do.

However, the chiefs vote on any recommendations the committee makes, and each financial report has to be adopted by the chiefs.

The guidelines adopted at the October meeting were that the committee (1) meet once a month with the accountant; (2) insure that funds are being spent according to policy; (3) help draw up budgets for presentation to council; (4) have the accountant as a member; (5) have no other staff members on it; (6) should be open to any Indian person from the west coast; and (7) should present a monthly statement to the council.

The committee members, until the March district meeting, were Randy Fred -- accountant, Lillian Mack of Toquaht, Howard Tom of Clayoquot, and Marjorie Touchie of Ucluelet. However, since Marjorie Touchie has joined the staff as a home-school coordinator, she was replaced at

the March district meeting by Edgar Charlie of Ahousaht.

The committee asked that they be provided with an explanation on each fund, a personnel list explaining payment sources (some people at district work on L.I.P. or other sources), copies of contracts, and a whole list of information that would help them become familiar with the financial situation.

Once the committee became aware of the financial situation they made several recommendations which were adopted at the March meeting.

For instance, the district cafeteria has been losing money -- the committee suggested that someone should look into ways of making the cafeteria self-supporting.

Starting April 1, the district will be handling a lot of money along with the new responsibilities. At present, the funds are in a chequing account. The committee suggested that since all this money would not be spent all of a sudden, that some of the funds could be put into short term deposits.

The interest could then be used for items not covered in the budget, or whatever the chiefs felt was most important.

Since the telephone bill is quite large, (though it is not over the amount allowed in

the budget), the committee suggested that staff members keep a record of their long distance calls. Then if the staff member is questioned on the length of a call or why they called, they will not have to rely only on their memory.

There was a considerable amount of money left in the Curriculum Enrichment Fund which will go towards video equipment.

Another important suggestion approved was that expenses between \$25.00 and \$250.00 had to be approved by the Executive Director, while anything more than \$250.00 had to be approved by at least two of the Finance Committee members.

Closer track of mileage is to be kept both in the use of the district vehicles and the use of staff cars in field trips.

If anyone is interested in further information on the finances of the district, the books are open for any member of the 13 west coast bands to look at. Please give the accounting staff 48 hours notice though, so they can be ready for you!

Speaking of Streaking

Have you heard about the little old couple seen walking down the street stark naked? Well, the reporter rushed up to them and asked if they were STREAKING. "Oh, no," said the little old lady, "we're much too old for that. We're SNAILING!"

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Ucluelet Ladies Host Tournament

Tofino was the place to go for action on the weekend of March 15 and 16. The Ucluelet native ladies held their first annual tournament at Wickaninnish School Gym in Tofino. The results of the tournament are as follows:

- 1st place - Tillicum Haus
 - 2nd place - Lady Redbone
 - 3rd place - Ucluelet
- The most sportsmanlike team award went to the ladies of Clayoquot, while the most valuable player went to Vina Robinson, Tillicum Haus.

The first all-star team results are as follows: - April

Thomas; Betty Thomas; Vina Robinson; Liz Little; Karen White.

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Card of Thanks

We wish to thank the many friends, relatives, and neighbors who shared with us in our sorrow over the sudden death of our wife and mother, Minnie Wafts. The sympathy shown in person, through cards, flowers, or contributions of food or money have been deeply appreciated. We would especially like to thank the nurses at the West Coast General Hospital, the ladies who put on the tea after the funeral, Rev. McKay for his words of comfort and the pallbearers.

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Basket Weaving

A photostory by Diane Sutherland

-- How the ladies gather materials

Have you ever wondered how and where those ladies that make baskets and Maquinna hats get their grass? Well, a visit with Daisy Haiyupis helps to understand a little more about the art of basket-weaving.

Most of the ladies that make baskets gather their own grass and reeds and many days are spent preparing the materials before weaving can begin.

There are not many places on the coast where these reeds are found growing.

Around the beginning of August, the reed patch is the scene of much activity, as the reeds are pulled out of the muddy sand and the thin

skin pulled from the root. The reeds are then spread along the beach to dry in the sun.

Reeds take about five days to dry. If reeds and grass are not thoroughly dried they will go mouldy when stored.

The grass used in basket-making is found in swampy areas. At the end of August the grass is about three feet high and ready to be cut at the root.

The grass is split down the middle, gathered in small bundles and tied at the top, then spread to dry in the sun.

When the grass is dried, which takes about two days, the dark green color has bleached out to a white and

pale green shade that is seen on basketwork. Grass can also be dyed to obtain the many colors used in the patterns.

Daisy remembers how her grandmother used to dye her grass down on the beach with an open fire heating water in big gallon cans and using dyes which she got from Neah Bay.

In cold weather the grass gets brittle and is hard to work with if it is not soaked in warm water first.



HEY, IS THIS how to do it? Sandy Sutherland is almost hidden as she gathers reeds. Some reeds she has already picked are floating in the water beside her.

-Morris Sutherland Photo



CLEANING AND DRYING the reeds takes many days and is a good excuse for the family to get together for a picnic. The reeds are covered at night so that the West Coast mists don't wet them too much.

-Morris Sutherland Photo.



DAISY HAIYUPIS stands beside some bundles of reeds she picked that morning. The deer are very fond of the juicy reeds and they can eat out a patch overnight.

-Morris Sutherland Photo

Anything woven with grass is not waterproof or sunproof and special care should be taken to keep the article away from direct sunlight or the dyes will fade.

Cedar bark, which is thicker and stronger than either grass or reeds, is used in making baskets.

Years ago, cedar bark mats were made for feasts. These mats were as long as the longhouses the potlatches were held in and the people sat on them while they feasted. After the feasts the mats were wiped and rolled away for the next one.

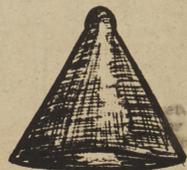
Because cedar bark is waterproof, men wore cedar bark capes to protect them from the rain when they were out hunting.

The colorfully-woven Maquinna hats that we see today are a dressed-up version of the cedar bark rain hats that were once used on the coast.

Unfortunately it is difficult to gather cedar bark, as permission to strip trees must be granted from MacMillan-Bloedel.

This is just a brief beginning to the story of a basket.

Most of the Indian Nations in North America made and used baskets, but the skill and craftsmanship found among the basket-makers of our West Coast is widely known.



How the materials are woven

Plaited baskets are made in a most simple way.

Two materials cross each other, passing over and under to make a checker-board effect.

Different patterns can be made by changing the number of strands crossing each other at a time and by using colored strands.

Sometimes spaces are left between the splints, producing a lacey pattern.

Most of the baskets on the West Coast are made by twining grass in and out around reeds or cedar bark.

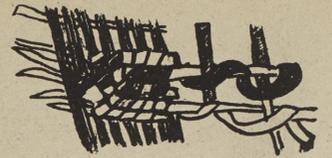
A very tight, firm weave could be produced using this method, so many utility baskets such as fish traps, berry baskets, trays, containers, and clam baskets were made like this.

Decorating baskets were done in various ways.

Some designs were painted on.

The finest work was done by embroidering with colored grasses. This strand is added during the making of the basket and shows only on one surface.

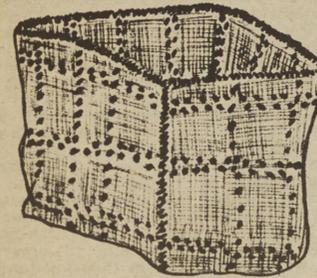
The loops of colored grass look like twining but slant in the opposite direction from the twined stitches.



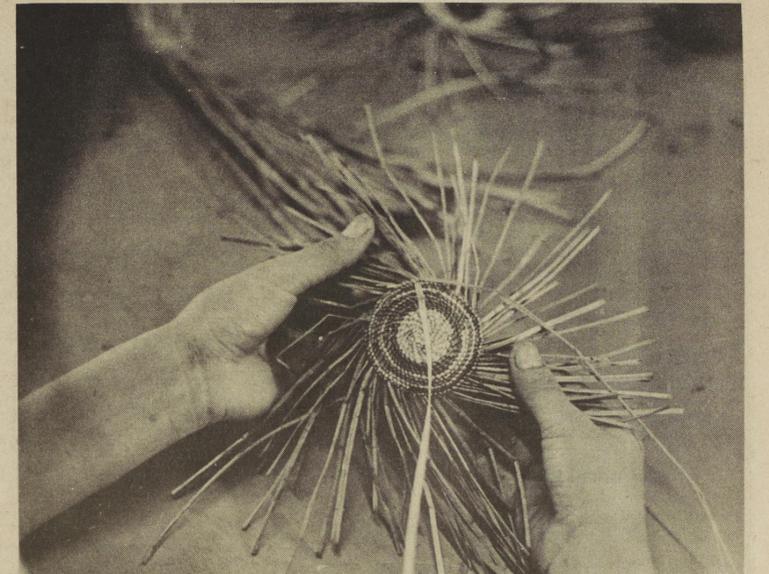
TWINING



PLAIN PLAITING produces a simple, regular checker board appearance. This technique is usually used for mats.



NOOTKA CEDAR BASKET



PEARL DORWOOD shows us how her mat looks as she works on it. The reeds make the frame of the mat and the grass is twisted around the reeds. Different colored grass is used to make designs.



DAISY HAIYUPIS is showing some of the girls in her class the basics of basketweaving. With reeds, grass and a basin of water all you need are patience and nimble fingers to create a beautiful mat or a woven bottle cover.

Basket

Weaving



THESE ARE a few samples of the basketwork done by Daisy Haiyupis. In the foreground is a cedar mat, a small version of the type used for pot-latches. Behind that is a covered glass float and a large grass mat showing a canoe design and also an open-work lacey stitch. Two shopping baskets are seen in the background. The one on the left is a finished basket with a canoe and a whale design. The finishing is done by working raffia around the top edge and braiding the handles. On the right is an unfinished basket still on it's wooden frame which can be seen through the strips of cedar bark.

Ahousat School Presents

What Electrification Means to me

Electricity means we won't waste as much fuel in plants than electricity, cause of the energy crisis. And often when I'm doing something and the plant goes out. And at night it won't be as dark. Also you can stay up later than usual. You can have washing machines, record players and all sorts of things, and you can have parties as late as you want. And you can do your homework anytime. You can also do your wash when you want. And at dinner it is often dark and sometimes you end up putting spaghetti on bread or peanut butter on pudding or something like that. You also can cook toast in a toaster and you can play games later than usual. You can have fridges and hairdryers and many other things.

What I think about Indians

What I think that they are nice people. Indians can do most anything they want. They can fish, they can hunt seal. They can also drink beer. One thing I hate about beer is everything goes crazy. People are hurt. I also hate the smell of beer. Maybe the alcoholics enjoy it but I don't. I also think that Indians eat mostly fresh food. They eat hy-ish-toob (muscles) and tu soop (sea urchins) Indians also smoke fish. They smoked fish is very delicious. Indians also have way of whiteman. They have televisions, stereos, recorders and electricity. We also have some whiteman on our reserve. They are our school teachers. One is a carpenter. Yes whiteman has helped us, they helped us build our schools, our two churches. But I still think Indians are best. Indians language comes first (so does food). That is what I think of Indians

What I would like to see in Ahousat

I would like to see a new gym with new things in it because there is nothing in the old hall. I would like to see the white people give back our lands. So we would be able to go to live there or have a vacation there.

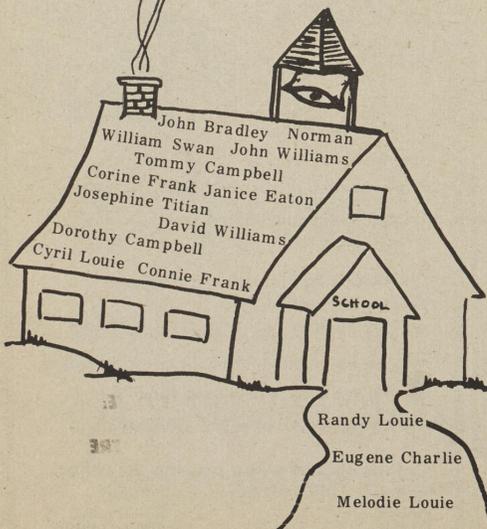
I would like to see cement roads in Ahousat. Because so we wouldn't step in puddles.

Sports

Gives you exercise and makes you feel good and strong When you travel you learn about other people you see all colors of people you haven't seen in your life It makes you co-operate with other teams and people and you learn sport-smanship

Snow.

Snow Snow is very bright. Snow Snow is very white Snow Snow is very light Snow Snow do you mind getting out of sight because you aren't so very nice You make us turn to ice



AHOUSAHT DAY SCHOOL PRESENTS

AHOUSAHT DAY SCHOOL PRESENTS

Minstrel's Muse The Wishing Days

By DAHLBERT C. GEORGE

The Sun was laughing down upon the mountains and on their steep slopes did its light tributes play The dancing green and the mirth of fountains blue with the sky's horizon stretching into the day

And did my smile, inside, go shining with it all The winters, the springs and the summer These past days I can see with total recall Days when I was smarter, days when I was dumber And now I can laugh with a joy uncomparable "I am living! I am living!" Knowing that if only I could have loved Even for just one minute of my life It would have been enough for me And my soul would be like a shining shore Spreading out and saying, "Give me more" And all this I can see without any sorrow Because I keep thinking, "Maybe tomorrow."

A Poem

By LYDIA MICHAEL

YOU are an Indian! Why run from reality? No matter where you go You will always be an Indian.

The truth is in one phrase, You are an Indian! Don't be ashamed of it, Don't deny it, be proud of it!

Hold your head up high, Face the world with the truth; I am an Indian And am proud of it!

Why Has Indian Dancing Stopped?

By EMILY TOUCHIE

Why has Indian dancing stopped? Where did all the happy Indians go? I know they were there Songs and dancing everywhere Only a moment ago.

I only blinked my eyes And now the world I used to know Is changing on me Why can't it be, Only a moment ago?

Hey, mister dream come true Why did you go and walk out the door? Why can't it last, only a moment more?

Only a moment ago It was spring and I was singin' I could see where the road would lead And what tomorrow was bringin'

Why has Indian dancing stopped? Where did all the happy Indians go? I know they were there Songs and dancing everywhere Only a moment ago.

Johnnie

By HAROLD AMOS

What is... freedom? Is it anything... And everything... That you want?

Freedom from what, where, who and why? Freedom from responsibility? Freedom as a crude excuse? Freedom with no responsibility Was never, is not, or ever will be any good!

Freedom from reality? Freedom from society? Freedom from oneself? Just a glance at the surface of people ... then quickly forgetting.

Freedom to exercise your rights? Depending on how, when, where and why it is used. Or how it will be classified.

When you state that you are free Do you really know what you are saying? Give it some thought. You may not be as free as you'd like to be. You may not be as free as you think you are. You may not be... free At all!

Port Alberni City Museum

By DIANE SUTHERLAND

Visiting John Sendy, the director of the Port Alberni Museum, is an eye-opening experience. There are many beautiful old and new things to greet you as you walk through the big doors.

John Sendy is a man who is aware of the culture that was here before the white man first came. He is aware of the harmony that took place between Indian and Nature.

He is aware that the Indians lived thousands of years in this land without wasting the resources around them but, instead, through their skill and inventiveness, using what they had to fulfill their needs.

He is trying to show this through the new display he is setting up in the museum about the Indians of the West Coast.

As an example, he mentioned the deer and the ways in which the Indian used everything that they could use.

The skin was tanned for hides, the meat was used for food, the fat of the deer was boiled down for "himmex," the hooves were boiled and dried and used for rattles, the antlers were used for carving dice and bones. A use was found for everything.

There was no over-hunting of the deer and elk, not to mention over-fishing, as there is today. Animals and plants were used as food and shelter and, amazingly, the balance of nature didn't suffer. Today the logging outfits cut down large amounts of timber, leaving the animal herds no winter food.

The Indians invented things they needed. For instance, a box was made out of one piece of wood and bent by steam into a four-

sided box. The modern-day halibut hook is patterned after the Indian fish hook that was used for thousands of years.

"The way most people think of the life of the West Coast Indian is so warped by TV and movies. Maybe this Indian display is easier to do than some others because not much has been written about them."

Although the opening of the new display is in September, five months away, all the planning and research are finished and the actual building of the display cases has now started.

Specially designed humidifiers will be installed so that some masks and other articles can be borrowed from the National Museum in Ottawa and from the Provincial Museum in Victoria.

In the work area of the proposed new display and looking at it one can see all the different areas of Native life that will be shown.

At the entrance is the Hunting, Fishing and Gathering displays.

In these displays will be found the preserving and preparation of foods which last out the winter months.

Mr. Sendy wants this to be a learning situation and wants things to be not only looked at but touched and tasted as well.

He also plans to set up a display of racks as if in a smoke house.

In the clothing display will be a real yellow cedar bark outfit. There will also be some sea-otter pelts and other furs. Ornaments of all kinds will be seen, some made of shells and others made from things traded with the white man such as glass trade beads and metal

earrings. In the woodworking display area there will be a section set aside for a housepost to be carved by the school children when they visit the museum. This will then be used in the display when it is finished.

Also in the woodworking display will be found canoes, boxes, dishes and the tools that were used. Mussel shells were used for carving out red cedar to make canoes. Many of the tools, such as chisels, knives and adzes, were made from bone, stone or shell.

From the woodworking we come to transportation. Different types of canoes, from the whaling and war canoes to the two-man canoes in which they travelled short distances, will be displayed. Also to be seen will be different styles of paddles and canoe bailers.

Hundreds of pictures of the Indian people of various parts of the West Coast can be found in this museum's collection.

Many of the people and places in these pictures have not been identified. By showing people the photographs Mr. Sendy hopes that more will be identified. He sends out an invitation to anyone interested in looking at these old photos to feel welcome to drop into the museum.

Mr. Sendy is aware of the fact that there is a feeling today that much of the Indian things should be kept within the Indian community. He has talked to some of the people working at the District Council and to some of the chief councillors to see what the feelings about the display might be.

For more information, contact him at Port Alberni Museum, 1001 Wallace, Port Alberni, B.C.

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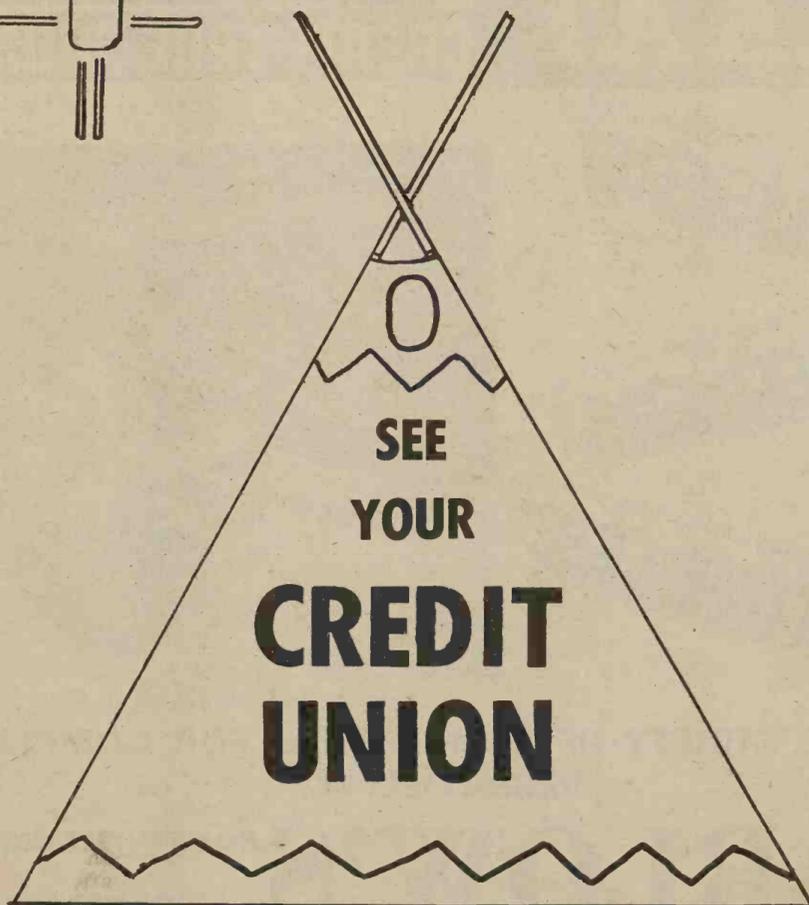
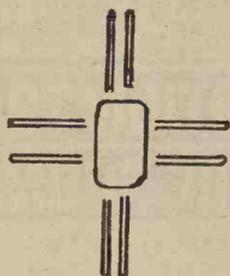
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OLD-AGE PENSIONER, Mabel Yukum (centre front), enjoys her meal, at the monthly Old-Age Pensioners dinner. It's a "Come One, Come All" affair, to give the pensioners a chance to visit and talk over "old times." The dinner is held at Peake Hall and is free of charge. If you are interested in coming to the April dinner, please contact Mena Fred at 723-8165 for further information.

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