

Indian News Notes

by Vince Lovett

ANDRUS ADVOCATES INDIAN WATER RIGHTS CAUSE WITH OMB: Interior Secretary Cecil Andrus argued forcefully, in a January 24 letter to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, that a proposed Water Resources Council draft bill should include set-aside funding for Indian tribes rather than have all funds allocated through the states. OMB had rejected the Indian set-aside and Andrus was appealing that decision. Andrus rejected the OMB argument against "set-asides for special interest groups" by pointing out that Indian tribes "are not special interest groups; they are sovereign governments."

Noting that the Federal Government deals directly with Indian tribes in numerous programs, Andrus said "it is imperative that the tribes participate on the primary level rather than have to depend on funds passed on by the states, or on having their views expressed only through state governments." Andrus declared that exclusion of the tribes from such a national water program would be "both unfair and unrealistic" considering the extent of the water resources claimed by Indians. In his conclusion Andrus quoted Presidential aide Anne Wexler who told the National Congress of American Indians on January 16, 1979: "The President's water policy gives special attention to issues concerning Indian water resources."

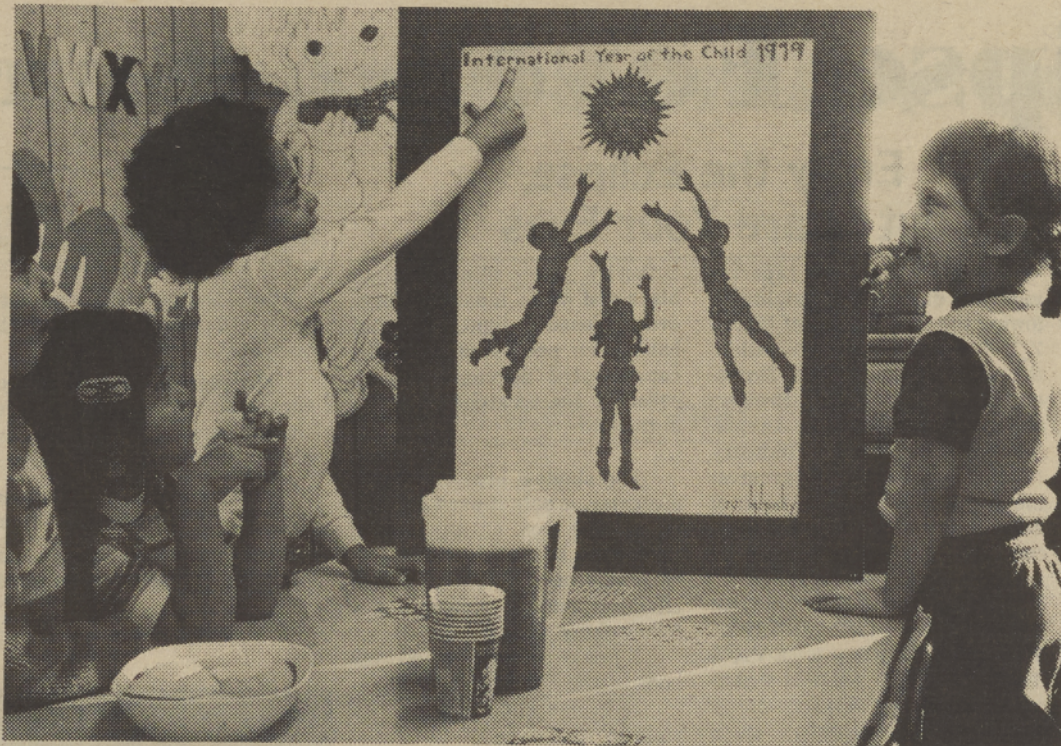
HOUSE INTERIOR COMMITTEE VOTES AGAINST INDIAN SUB-COMMITTEE: A Washington Post columnist said that the House Interior Committee voted to abolish its Indian Affairs Subcommittee "because no one would accept the chairmanship." The columnist cited the experience of former subcommittee chairman Lloyd Meeds (D-Wash.), who was almost defeated in his district after he took the Indian's side in a fishing rights dispute. Advocacy of Indian causes is now apparently considered a political liability. Interior Committee Chairman Morris Udall (D-Ariz.) said the full committee would handle Indian matters through existing subcommittees or ad hoc task forces. Democratic members of the Committee had agreed in caucus to do away with the subcommittee, reportedly because of the lack of volunteers to serve on the subcommittee and to be chairman. When the committee met January 29, however, Republican James Johnson of Colorado and others protested these plans as unfair to more than one million Indians. Johnson said that the full committee could not give the time or have the expertise to handle Indian issues such as the eastern Indian land claims or the western water rights legislation. The Republican appeal to maintain the 150-year-old tradition of having a subcommittee for Indian affairs almost carried the day, but lost by the narrow count of 18 to 17. Chairman Udall said the subcommittee staff would be retained to work with the full committee.

STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL SAYS RULING APPLIES TO CIGARET AND LIQUOR SALES: Washington State Attorney General Slade Gorton is interpreting the recent Supreme Court decision upholding state jurisdiction on reservations to mean that "state law applies to non-Indians anywhere." He asserts, consequently, that non-Indians can be arrested for buying untaxed liquor or cigarettes on a reservation. Yakima, Tulalip and Puyallup tribal representatives, according to a Seattle Times story have said that cigaret and liquor sales will continue. Roger Jim, a Yakima tribal council member, said, "Gorton would like to have everything under his control. But there is no way we're going to abide by his interpretation on this one." Doug Bell, attorney for the Tulalip Tribes, said liquor sales will continue on the reservation despite Gorton's comments. Several motorists were arrested and cited last month near the reservation for buying liquor from the Indians. Bell labeled Gorton's interpretation as "nothing but a tortured conclusion."

NCAI DIRECTOR EBONA COMMENTS ON CARTER BUDGET FOR INDIANS: In a recent Washington Star interview Andrew Ebona, Executive Director of the National Congress of American Indians was asked "What does the Carter budget hold for Indians? There is going to be a cutback in the Bureau of Indian Affairs . . . does that bother you?" Ebona replied: "It bothers us just like any other group in the country — the blacks, the Spanish-speaking and other minority groups have banded together to try to head off whatever cuts in social related programs designed specifically for them also. And Indians are certainly no exception."

"We always said the Indians are 50 years behind the dominant culture and 20 years behind the blacks, so we're still having to play a big catch-up game in terms of trying to develop adequate economic and social programs on the reservations. So we certainly are concerned and are trying to make sure that we are not the first ones to be cut off."

Responding to a question about the 96th Congress, Ebona said: "We are viewing the 96th Congress with skepticism, maybe a little bit of paranoia, but not much. We feel that the bulk of Congressmen are pretty much in favor as long as we don't go overboard in terms of what we are asking for in claims or whatever else."



REACHING FOR RIGHTS - The local NAIWA chapter, in conjunction with UNICEF, as well as other nation and world-wide organizations are striving to improve and establish rights for the one and a half billion children in the world. The poster was done by Marcus Moseley, son of Rosella Phillips.

Spilyay Tymoo Photo by DB

Local NAIWA supporting "Year of the Child"

by Donna Behrend

A worldwide effort to confirm the rights of one and a half billion children is being supported by the Warm Springs chapter of the North American Indian Women's Association (NAIWA), local members reported.

Chapter member and state president Marie Calica was recently selected to serve on the National Board to promote "International Year of the Child 1979," a project being operated in conjunction with the UNICEF program.

This year is the twentieth anniversary of the United Nations declaration of the rights of the child, a time to recall its principles and redouble efforts to put them into practice.

Last May at the national NAIWA conference, IYC 1979 received a great deal of attention and the concerns and recommendations of NAIWA members were recorded for future action.

A 25-point list was created, listing recommendations such as helping handicapped children, wife and child abuse problems,

poster and poetry contests, workshops to help improve communication, parenting and leadership skills and many other suggested projects.

Calica has also encouraged the 509-J School District to participate in IYC activities. Rosella Phillips is also available to provide technical assistance to public service agencies and other concerned organizations that may be interested in IYC.

If there are any questions about IYC, feel free to contact NAIWA members.

No Forest Spraying Planned

The USDA-Forest Service will not spray to combat the western spruce budworm in the forests of north-central Washington this year, according to R.E. (Dick) Worthington, Regional Forester for the Pacific Northwest Region.

An insect egg survey has

shown little or no reinfestation of the budworm in areas sprayed in 1976 and 1977. The area of visible damage has dropped from about 1,200,000 acres to less than 200,000.

Entomologists report that insect populations in most of the untreated areas remained static and that some even declined by

late last year, Worthington said. Overwintering budworm populations are expected to cause moderate defoliation in the Mt. Hull, Conconully, and Cedar-Robinson Creek areas of the Okanogan National Forest and the Bridge Creek drainage of the North Cascades National Park, he said.

Forest Service and Washington State Department of Natural Resources entomologists will continue to monitor the budworm populations next summer to detect the possibility of an increase in 1980 and to measure rate of reinfestation of the sprayed areas.

The only area where the budworm remains a problem is in the Warm Springs Indian Reservation in Oregon, where foresters are still evaluating the infestation.

Spilyay Speaks

TOE NESS

THERE WAS THIS DOC who asked his nurse, "What's wrong with that patient in room 54?" "Well doc, he said he can't pay the \$6,000 for the surgery," "All right nurse, tell him to pay \$500 down and \$100 per month," "Oh! doc, that's like buying a new car," "That's exactly what I'm doing," YIKES

SS SS SS

THERE WERE THESE TWO POLACKS met just outside of a sporting store when one said, "You know I've just purchased a pair of water skis lately," The second, "Have you tried them out yet?" "Nope, I haven't found a lake with a hill," YIKES

SS SS SS

THERE WAS THIS GUY who called to his wife, "For breakfast I want one scrambled egg, and one fried over easy," After a time he arrives in the kitchen, looks at the plate and said, "Darn, you scrambled the wrong egg," YIKES

SS SS SS

"DICK, WHAT DOES YOUR father do for a living?" "Oh, he's a diamond cutter, you see he cuts the grass on the diamond before each baseball game," YIKES

SS SS SS

THIS GUY GOES TO THE DOC for a check-up and after it was over the doc gave him some medicine and said to take it all in one gulp. So he does gulp the medicine in one gulp and said "Yuk . . . this makes by blood boil," The doc said, "Well, that will be ten dollars more," "What for?" said the patient. The doc said, "For purifying your blood," YIKES

SS SS SS

THERE WERE THESE TWO Polacks who were going out to do the town one night. They met at one of the neighborhood bars when one said to the other, "Why are you wearing a soaking wet shirt?" "See here, it say's 'Wash-N-Wear,'" YIKES

SS SS SS

WHILE LOOKING FOR A GIFT FOR A MAN who has everything get him a calendar to remind him when the payments are due," YIKES

SS SS SS

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Spilyay Tymoo is Published Bi-Weekly by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.