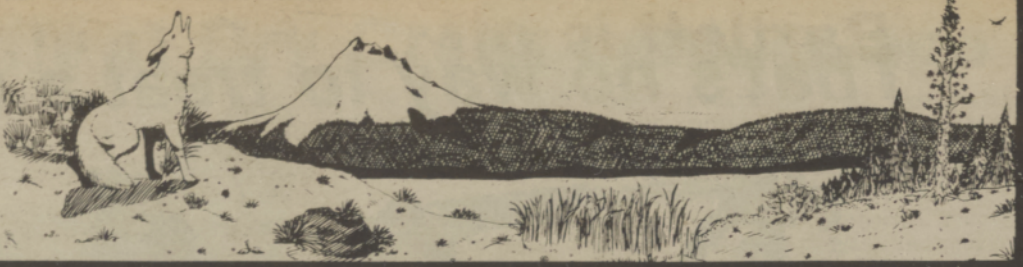


Editorial

E COOSH EEWA:

(The way it is)



Letters to the Editor

Inmates appreciate donations

To the editor:

The Tribe of Five Feathers Indian culture group of Lompoc Federal Prison in California would like to thank all the people up there for the 45 pounds of salmon that was donated and sent here for our traditional Indian Ceremony

on September 14, 1979.

We would also like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Kenny Calica for driving all the way down here and delivering the salmon.

Thank you very much.

Tribe of Five Feathers
Indian Brothers
(Merlin Branham)

Thanks for being kind

The Leonard Polk, Jr. family would like to thank the many people who were so kind and thoughtful during our sad time, especially all our relatives who pitched, right in and made things go so smoothly.

We would like to thank everyone who donated food that was taken to the Indian

Shaker Church in White Swan, especially the people from Warm Springs who donated all the salmon. Much thanks to whoever helped with the cooking and clean up.

The flowers and cards were much appreciated also.

The Polk family

Reward offered for information

I am offering a \$300 award to anyone having information about the break-in of my house on September 22. Please contact me by mail or in person; please don't phone.

There must be something wrong when people do this kind of thing to their own people.

Alvis Smith, Sr.
Warm Springs

Return wallet, no questions asked

Bunny Werner, who works for Tribal court, has lost her beaded wallet. The wallet, which is black, orange and turquoise on white background, had very little money

in it, but it did contain important documents.

If the wallet is found and returned, there will be no questions asked.

See you later

It's past midnight on the eve of publication. If this was an old movie I'd be hunched over a manual typewriter, my tie loosened, a cup of cold coffee at my side, with the cityscape lying outside the window. But this is 1979 in Warm Springs—I sit at a new-fangled typesetting machine in my Simnasho T-shirt with a bottle of Diet Pepsi tucked under my arm and horses munching on the lawn below. What a delightful set of contrasts!

I can feel the sentimentality creeping up and I suspect I'll give in to it. I can always blame the late hour. But this is, after all, my 90th and last issue of *Spilyay Tymoo* and I guess I have the right to reflect a bit.

There's no need to dwell on the growth and maturation of *Spilyay* in the last 3½ years. Reading old 1976 issues never fails to embarrass me—we have certainly come a long way, baby. I feel fortunate to have been part of that growth. It has meant a few gray hairs for me but it has afforded me a closeness to this community that few "outsiders" experience in four years.

My camera and note pad have enabled me to join in events and talk to people with an intensity that my natural shyness would otherwise prevent. (Of course my camera and note pad have also excluded me from certain gatherings, but I'll forgive the Tribal Council sooner or later.) So dependent on my paraphernalia have I become that I intend to continue on in a similar capacity. I will be covering Warm Springs for *The Oregonian* and in my spare time assembling a book about the reservation—my whole reason for coming here in the first place.

So for those who thought I was going to "take the money and run," I must assure you that I'm not leaving Warm Springs—not yet. I'm just weaning myself from *Spilyay*. From my mushy midnight vantage point I salute the newspaper and the tradition of tasteful, accurate journalism it has established on the reservation. I commend the Tribal Council for their generous financial support, to which they never attached strings, and for their willingness to roll with the punches. And I hope that the remaining and future staff of *Spilyay* will be gutsier than I was, a bit more organized, a lot less wordy—and above all, I hope you will care as much as I did.

YIKES

Cynthia Stowell
CDS

Legislature '79

Welfare reform cuts costs

(Editor's note: This is the third part of a series in which our State Senator, Ken Jernstedt of Hood River, analyzes the major action of the 1979 Legislature. In this installment, Jernstedt discusses welfare reform.)

by Ken Jernstedt
State Senator

One of the most frequent complaints any legislator hears concerns our public welfare system.

If it's been heard once, it's been heard a thousand times: "Why don't you do something about those deadbeats and welfare cheats?"

Well, one thing we should immediately understand is that the cheats and deadbeats are in a decided minority. Most of those who seek public assistance are in genuine need: The blind, the aged, the disabled. The majority of these people turned to public assistance as a court of last resort—and many of them had to swallow their pride to do it. It's important that we not confuse the legitimate areas of public assistance with those programs which have been abused by those who seek to cheat the system.

Our welfare system began out of necessity, during the dark days of the great depression. It was a system of temporary aid to people who, through no fault of their own, were unable to meet their own needs and the needs of their families.

There's nothing wrong with that. But somehow, without our quite knowing how it happened, this system of temporary aid has reached the point where we now have third and fourth generation welfare families populating the public assistance rolls. There are people to whom living on public assistance is an ingrained way of life, not a temporary hand-up to get back on their own feet.

Past efforts

What to do to solve this problem has been with the State Legislature for a number of years, but we've generally been frustrated in our reform attempts by the federal government, which provides much of the money and most of the say.

The Legislature, nonetheless, makes a serious run at welfare reform about once every three or four sessions. Prior to the recent sessions, the last time was in 1971—and the results were immediate.

A special House Committee at that time issued a report which scathed the administration of the State Welfare Division, and caused a general tightening-up in all programs.

The year prior to the committee's report, Oregon fell just shy of leading the nation in the growth of welfare caseload.

The year following the report, Oregon led the nation in

the decline of welfare caseloads.

One of the recommendations of the special committee—one which would have reduced the burden even further—was dismissed out-of-hand by the federal government. The recommendation was that the state be permitted to require able-bodied welfare recipients to accept employment.

Our new policy

The federal government blocked the way to that path—but the idea remained on the back burner, and this session, eight years later, the Legislature has embraced the policy—even though it may mean a loss of federal largesse.

The results, this time, were just as instant as the results in 1971.

On July 1st, some 5,000 recipients were dropped from Oregon's welfare rolls and another 15,000 recipients saw a sharp decrease in their benefits.

The new policy is simple: It requires that one parent in a household with two able-bodied parents be required to get a job.

No one was tossed out into the streets on July 1. The State, prior to the deadline, stepped-up its counseling and job placement efforts for those who would be affected.

An estimated 20 percent of those to be dropped from the rolls had been placed in jobs before the cut-off.



Senator Ken Jernstedt

There is no shortage of available employment. There were an estimated 85,000 new jobs in Oregon in July alone—through expansion, new business and turnover. The jobs run the range from low-skilled to well paying high-skill jobs.

The savings in taxpayer dollars over the next two years is estimated at more than \$30 million and, in the long run, we may be saving more than dollars.

We may be saving in another sense, because the Legislature said something else with this new policy—something which perhaps has needed saying for quite some time.

The Legislature said that the individual has the major

Continued on page 5

Tribal Council Agenda

October 8 Tribal Council Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

1. 10:00 a.m. Pelton Negotiations-Owen Panner
2. 2:00 p.m. Insurance/Deferred Compensation—Dick Hoy

October 9 Tribal Council Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

1. 10:00 a.m. Local Housing Authority-Elton Greeley
2. 2:00 p.m. Gold Case-John Weddle, BIA, Portland
3. 3:30 p.m. Housing-Ed Manion

October 15 Tribal Council Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

1. 10:00 a.m. Contracts:
Attorneys
Rankin
Dibble
1st National Bank
2. Mill Resolution

October 16 Tribal Council Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

1. 10:00 a.m. Charley Canyon/Indian Head Canyon water system
2. 2:00 p.m. Enrollments/Adoption/Resolution

October 17 Tribal Council Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

1. 10:00 a.m. Field Trip-Dam Site

October 22 Tribal Council Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

- WSFPI Board Meeting/Kah-Nee-Ta

October 23 Tribal Council Meeting

1. 8:30 a.m. Field Trip/Forestry

October 24 Tribal Council Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

1. 10:00 a.m. 509-J- Darrel Wright
2. 1:30 p.m. Realty
3. 3:00 p.m. Credit Union-Bob Finch

October 29 Tribal Council Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

1. 10:00 a.m. Education Needs Assessment
2. 3:00 p.m. 1980 Administrative Fees Budget-Ken Englebreton

October 30 Tribal Council Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

1. 10:00 a.m. Management Report

To be scheduled: Veterans Memorial & Committee Task Force Report (November)

General Councils to be scheduled:

- Fish & Wildlife
- Health & Welfare
- N.C.A.I. Delegates Reports