

Editorial E Coosh EEWA:

(The way it is)



Letter to the Editor Tribal jail really stinks

Dear People of the Warm Springs Reservation,

I don't know how many people know me, but that's immaterial. I just wanted you people who have a say-so about changing things in the Warm Springs jail to know that you are way behind in the times on your type of punishment.

This jail's got to be the worst one in the state. I was only here for a short period of the time, but already I can see that the days ahead are ones of sorrow and bitterness.

I feel that when I get out I want to go to someone and cuss them out. The only reason I feel that way is because there's nothing being done about this jail or the welfare of the prisoners in it.

This is the Warm Springs jail. I tell it to go to hell because that's the only world I can compare it to. You people who are on the Council should tour through this place, spend a day or so here.

I know that a good sum of people have been detoxed in the drunk tank but they were too dazed to know or realize what the hell was going on.

So one of these days, come join us at the W.S. jail. I bet you that you are a disturbed person by the time you leave. If the sight don't get to you, the smell will. I know because I experienced it.

Well, thank you for reading what I wrote.

Davis Stwyer
Warm Springs, Oregon

Civil Rights Commission says non-Indians misinformed

by Pat Leno

Native American Indians have traveled the road of Federal Indian policy from extermination, to reservation, to assimilation, to relocation, to termination, and to self-determination.

Now, the latest recommended step comes from the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights in their recently release report, *Indian Tribes, A Continuing Quest for Survival*. That recommendation is for improved protection and recognition by the U.S. Government on the civil rights and Treaty rights of Indians and Indian Tribes.

Just who is it that Indians need protection from and why is that need presented in the report? The culprit is the uninformed non-Indian who sees wealth or gains of Tribes and does not understand or recognize the Indian as having Treaty rights. Some of these individuals can be identified as the rancher seeking title to grazing lands, the sports fisherman asking Congress to have the steelhead identified as a national game fish, and the state which asserts jurisdiction over Indian Country.

The WHO come from many walks of life in this nation but their goal is the same, to limit the Indian. Most Americans understand very little about Indian history and Indian law, according to the report which was released June 11. The report is the result of a detailed ten-year study by the Civil

Rights Commission.

As stated in the letter of transmittal to the President and Congress, "The report examines the role of State, Tribal, and Federal governments in some of the major conflicts—fishing rights, reservation criminal law enforcement and eastern Indian land claims—exist between Indians and non-Indians." The results of these conflicts and the manner in which they are resolved has had an immense significance for the civil rights status of Indians.

The role of the federal government in the past leaves much to be desired, according to the report. Basically, the federal government has failed to meet its commitments to the American Indians, was the upshot of the strongly-worded study.

Many of the problems occurring between Indians and non-Indians have been the result of lack of education about and their rights as defined in treaties. The general public does not realize that in the beginning the tribes were treated as sovereign nations by the colonists and in the Constitution. This created a unique status for the Indian. This unique status makes the tribe a nation within a nation. Being a nation, the Indian cannot be classified as being the same as the rest of the people in America.

It is only through ignorance on the part of the general public that present conditions exist. The public lacks the understanding and knowledge

of treaties, tribal government, and just what these mean. It is time for the school systems in this country to update their history of this country and its dealings with the Indians, the report advised.

The Civil Rights Commission has made some landmark steps in its findings as applied to the Indian. The Commission has been working on the task of formulating the facts it has gathered in hearings held during the last ten years. The Commission was made up of Indians and non-Indians. Arthur S. Flemming, former President of the University of Oregon, was the chairman.

The 192 page report presents the findings and recommendations of the Commission. A history of the struggle of the Indian is well covered in the report. It has been suggested by Leslie Marmon Silko, an assistant professor of English at the University of Arizona, that this report be required reading in high school history classes. She feels it offers a way for the public to gain understanding.

The findings of the Commission were (1) lack of information on Indian history, Indian law and Indian cultures by an uninformed non-Indian blocks their abilities in being able to resolve issues which arise between Indians and non-Indians (2) the present federal government structure for protecting the Indians treaties and rights are limited (3) States continue to actively attempt to undermine the rights of the tribes by seeking to take rights or have them further limited.

More on Tribal Flag Contest

For those who are working on a design idea for the Tribal Flag Contest, there is good news. The deadline for entries is September 30, 1981 and not July 24, as previously reported in Spilyay Tymoo.

Since the Confederated Tribes are in need of an official flag, the Tribal Council decided a contest among enrolled members would best serve this purpose. The contest is open to any tribal member, with only one entry per person allowed.

Entry forms may be picked up from Winona Strong who is management receptionist at the administration building. She also has a supply of 11" x 17" standardized paper which must be used in the contest. Forms and paper can be picked up at the same time.

All flag design entries, which must be turned in by September 30, will become the property of the Confederated Tribes.

If you are interested in submitting your idea it could be worth money—plus the recognition of being the tribal member who designed the reservation's official flag.

Cash prizes will be awarded as follows:

1st—\$100 plus a framed portrait of the winning design

2nd—\$80

3rd—\$60

4th—\$40

5th—\$20

Judging will be based upon the design, creativity (use of color), visibility of design, and symbolism. Designs depicting special meanings or stories should be accompanied by a type-written narrative.

Design requirements are that each entry must symbolize the three tribes, colors must be limited to three to five colors (of your choice), the tribal logo may be incorporated, and all entrants must use the standardized 11" x 17" paper supplied when entry forms are picked up.

The top five drawings will be publically displayed October 5-15 in the tribal administration building.

For further information call Orthelia Miller, Maxine Clements or Winona Strong at 553-1161.

Water board position open

Tribal Council will be considering an appointment to the Water Board to fill the vacancy left by resignation of Bruce (Mickey) Brunoe.

It is important that any person interested in submitting their resume to be considered be familiar with the Treaty and our water rights or be willing to learn as much as possible in a very short time. Both matters are crucial and cannot be

treated lightly.

The appointment is made by and the duties and responsibilities are governed by Ordinance No. 45, the Tribal Water Code. If you are interested, please submit your resume with home address and telephone number to the Tribal Council office.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Tribal Council secretary, 553-1161, extension 258.

Tribal building permits now required

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs are initiating a building permit system on the reservation beginning August 1, 1981. This is a mandatory system for those who plan construction of any buildings or any major alterations on already-constructed buildings. A permit is free of charge.

Bureau of Indian Affairs facilities management officer Bill Cassel commented about the permit system saying, "In the past the Tribe found that people hired contractors and they haven't gotten what they paid for. The people had no recourse." With the permit system, Cassel says, "Inspectors will see that the people get their money's worth."

As it reads, with the addition of the new permit system, the housing code states: "No housing shall be erected, constructed, remodelled, enlarged, altered, repaired, moved, improved, removed or converted without first obtaining a building permit issued by the Inspector's Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, unless it falls within one of the enumerated

exceptions set forth below."

Those exceptions include: (1) "One-story detached accessory buildings used as tool and storage sheds, playhouses and similar uses, provided the projected road area does not exceed 120 square feet. (2) Fences not over six feet high (6) Cases, counters and partitions not over five feet in height. (4) Retaining walls which are not over four feet in height measured from the bottom of the footing to the top of the wall unless supporting a surcharge or impounding flammable liquids. (5) Water tanks supported directly upon grade if the capacity does not exceed 5,000 gallons and the ratio of height to diameter or width does not exceed 2 to 1. (6)

Platforms, walks and driveways not more than 30 inches above grade and not over any basement or story below. (7) Painting, papering and similar finish work. (8) Prefabricated swimming pools in which the pool walls are entirely above the adjacent grade and if the capacity does not exceed 5,000 gallons.

The Department of Building Inspection and Permits, located in the utilities building, will provide answers for any questions about the permit system. Applications for building permits may be found there.

For additional information concerning these permits interested persons may call Bill Bennett at 553-1161, ext. 311.

Tribal Council Agenda

July 27 Tribal Council Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

1. 10:00 a.m. IHS-Dr. Stitt/Garet Soules

2. Jack Donaldson, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife

July 28 Tribal Council Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

1. 10:00 a.m. Tribal Court

2. 2:00 p.m. Management Reports