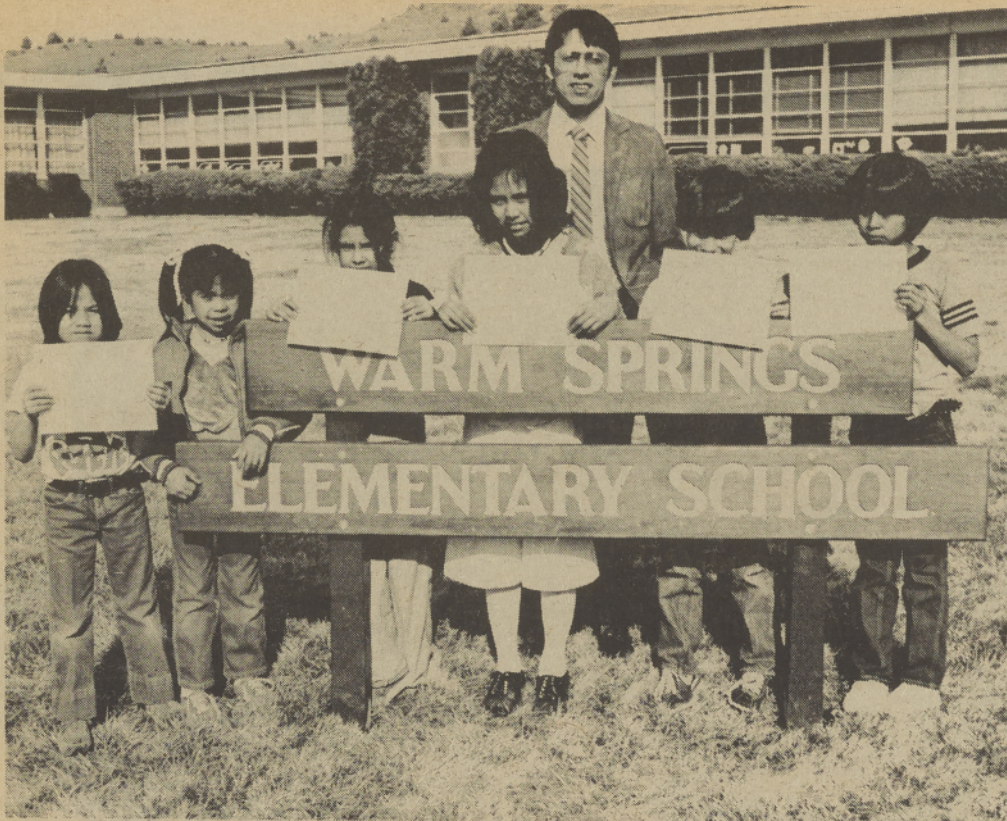


Indian News Notes

by

Vince Lovett



Washington State legislative body passes bill asking buyout of Indian treaty rights: The Washington House of Representatives has voted to ask the United States Congress to buy back treaty rights that give Indians the right to harvest half the state's salmon and steelhead. Though sponsors of the bill were accused of bigotry, the vote was 61-32 in favor. If the "memorial," as it is called, passes in the state senate, it will go before the Washington voters this fall. With voter approval, it would go to the U.S. Congress.

Representatives Homer Lundquist, the prime sponsor of the memorial said: "Federal judges are not competent to manage fisheries. It is time for the federal government to accept the responsibility for an impossible situation that is a creature of its own making. The treaty rights are a federal problem." Representative Lois Stratton, however, said the Indians gave up huge tracts of land for those rights. She said, "Racial oppression... always has, in the end destroyed the oppressors." She and others said President Reagan and Congress could not begin to afford to buy back the fishing rights and continue efforts to have a balanced budget.

According to a report in the *Vancouver Columbian*, Representative Frank Warnke glared at the supporters of the fishing measure and said, "You want it all. You don't want to live up to what you promised the Indians through your forefathers."

New area office structure announced by Smith: Interior Assistant Secretary Ken Smith announced February 19 that the present 12 area offices would be replaced by six regional service centers to be located at Albuquerque, New Mexico; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Phoenix, Arizona; Portland, Oregon and Rapid City, South Dakota. Smith said that present plans also include a field office at Juneau, Alaska to serve the Alaska Natives and a Navajo Nation Service Center at Window Rock, Arizona.

These changes are part of a major realignment of the Bureau of Indian Affairs' administrative structure, which Smith said will improve management efficiency, reduce personnel in central and area offices by 20 percent and cut overhead costs by \$16 million in fiscal year 1983.

The changes to be made were discussed February 17-18 in Washington with BIA area directors, Indian leaders and employee union officials. Deputy Assistant Secretary John Fritz told BIA central office employees February 19 a freeze on hiring, which he had imposed in December, would mitigate the impact of the coming reduction in force. "I wish I could tell you that no one will be fired in this reduction of staff," Fritz said, "but that would not be true. I do believe, however, that we can accomplish this substantial reduction primarily through attrition." Fritz said the realignment was an ongoing process and further information about specific changes would be announced as implementation proceed.

BIA will have four regional education offices in new alignment: Recent changes in the Bureau of Indian Affairs administration structure, announced February 19 by Assistant Secretary Ken Smith, include the establishment of four regional offices for the direction of Indian education programs.

The new offices will each be headed by an assistant director of education, who will have line authority and responsibility for all BIA education programs in the region. Under Public Law 95-561, passed in 1978, the Bureau's education personnel were removed from the jurisdiction of BIA area directors and agency superintendents; the law stressed local community control under professional educators.

Creation of the four regional assistant director positions eliminates an unwieldy span of control for the director of education. Under the proposed plan the regional directors will direct day-to-day operation of programs, the Central office director will handle policy, planning, budget and general program supervision.

The new regional offices will be at Minneapolis, Minnesota, for the northeast quadrant of the country; Oklahoma City, the southeast; Phoenix, southwest and Portland, northwest.

CITIZENSHIP AWARDS PRESENTED—Seven Warm Springs Elementary students were presented with citizenship awards for the month of February. They are (left to right) Lonnie Smith, first grade; Michelle Thompson, second grade; Ramona Smith, third grade; Rosanne McKinley, fourth grade; Sheldon Minnick, fifth grade and Joseph Smith, sixth grade. Kindergarten student Joshua Kalama was not present for this photo. The awards were presented to the students by Kah-Nee-Ta General Manager Garland Brunoe. Dorothy Souers, (left) secretary for the school, was presented with a plaque for the Employee of the Month award.

Photos by Behrend



Toe Ness

There was this guy who asked his friend, "Why don't you want to be reincarnated?" His friend's answer was, "With today's prices who could afford to live twice?" YIKES!!

SS SS SS

It is said that the mind is a wonderful thing. It starts working the moment you are born, and never stops until you stand up to speak in public. YIKES!!

SS SS SS

International travel has brought home a new truth: It says, "If you look like your passport photo, you aren't well enough to travel." YIKES!!

SS SS SS

CONFUCIUS SAY: "Only time woman listen is when money talk!" YIKES!!

SS SS SS

There was this guy who had his fly rod in the office with him and he was learning how to cast. He cast his hook across the room while looking into the instruction book to see what he was to do next. In the meantime the boss was putting a book on the hook which read, "how to work." YIKES!!

SS SS SS

Definition of a windshield scraper: A gadget that falls out of the glove compartment all summer long, hides under the seat in the winter, and breaks when you finally try to use it. YIKES!!

SS SS SS



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