

Sitting Bull died for your sins

As part of Indian Culture Week, a pow-wow will begin Friday featuring Indian dancing and food. The pow-wow will continue through Sunday.

For the event, Indian student organizations and tribal councils have been invited from Nebraska and five other states.

The fact that this is the first such Indian Culture Week in Nebraska perhaps best illustrates how the state of Nebraska has neglected the indigenous Indian population. Or, if that correlation doesn't seem to be compelling, try this one: the University of Nebraska has had only one Indian graduate since 1867. She is Alice Neundorf, Indian counselor in the Office of Student Affairs. She studied at the University for a masters degree. The University has never had an Indian graduate from the undergraduate level. For those who are not familiar with the problems Indians face and those unconvinced of the need for a commitment to the Indians by the University of Nebraska, consider the following data from the U.S. Senate Sub-Committee on Indian Education.

1. The average educational level for the Indian is the fifth grade.
2. Drop-out rates range anywhere from 40 to 100 per cent, depending on the reservation.
3. Only 16 per cent of the teachers who teach Indian children are of Indian extraction.
4. 25 per cent of the teachers who teach Indian children admit that they "don't like" teaching Indians.
5. 40,000 Navajos, nearly a third of the entire tribe, are "functional illiterates" in English.
6. Only 18 per cent of the students in federal Indian schools go on to college. (The national average for whites is 50 per cent).
7. Only 3 per cent of Indian students who enroll in college will graduate. (The national average for whites is 32 per cent).
8. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) spends only \$18. per year, per child on textbooks and supplies. (The national average is \$40 per child).
9. Only one of every 100 Indian college students or graduates will receive a master's degree.
10. Despite a Presidential directive two years ago, only one of the 226 B.I.A. schools is governed by an elective school board.
11. Approximately 16,000 Indian children are not in school at all.
12. Indian children, more than any other group, feel themselves to be "below average" in intelligence.
13. Indian children in the 12th grade have the

poorest self-concept of all minority groups in the country.

The above material is only a small part from the most tragic chapter in American history. And by and large, it is also the most distorted chapter in American history books. But that is no excuse to mistreat our Indian brother.

Likewise, neither the state legislature, nor the governor, nor the University of Nebraska is under any obligation to believe the lies and distortions of the past. It is unfortunate that we haven't listened to more truthful accounts of Indian life, like some of the literature of Nebraska's own poet laureate, John Niehardt.

The University now has 18 Indian students. It should be hoped that the University can make a more meaningful commitment than that. Next year the University will be offering three courses in Indian American Studies-the need for expansion in this area is best illustrated by our ignorance of the peaceful people we call "savages."

Also, as evidenced in the above data, there is a crying need for teachers qualified to teach Indian students. Teachers College does not now fulfill that need. Teachers must learn to understand the Indian culture before they can teach anything to the Indians.

This weekend will be an excellent opportunity to learn about the Indian culture at the pow-wow. Learning is only the beginning. The Indian needs educated white men to help him in his struggle, to help him until he has his own Indian lawyers and doctors.

This very day, the Winnebago Indian Tribe of Nebraska needs your help. The tribe is now in a legal battle with the Army Corps of Engineers. The Winnebagos are trying desperately to block an attempt to create a recreation complex along the Missouri River. A recent resolution of the Winnebago tribal council has expressed the determination of the tribe to "oppose any efforts to take this last possession from us."

Right here in Nebraska, folks.

(For information on the Winnebago problems, talk to tribal representatives at the pow-wow. For more general information, and for excellent reading about the Indian culture, purchase a subscription of the Warpath newspaper. The Warpath, United Native Americans Inc., P. O. Box 26149, San Francisco, Calif. 94126. Editor Lehman Brightman was one of the speakers at the University for Indian Culture Week. Copies of his speech are available in the office of the Daily Nebraskan.)



Mankiewicz and Braden

Down the Judiciary

WASHINGTON--In his 1968 campaign, Richard Nixon called for "a new attorney general with a new attitude, a new awareness and a new determination." It was an odd theme: Nobody expected him if elected, to reappoint President Johnson's attorney general. But the events of last week suggest that maybe he should have.

The events pitted former Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark against President Nixon's new team. They had their origin last March when John Kerry, antiwar veterans' leader, approached Clark to see whether his organization could get a permit for a week-long Washington demonstration. Clark secured agreement from Justice that the veterans could use public facilities during the week from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

BUT ON FRIDAY, April 16, the last working day before the demonstration was to begin, the Justice Department notified Clark that it would seek an injunction that afternoon prohibiting the veterans from camping all night on the Mall. Clark hurriedly prepared his case.

The thrust of his argument before District Court Judge George Hart Jr. that afternoon was that an injunction was improper.

In no event, he said, could the "irreparable harm" which an injunction is intended to prevent be demonstrated.

Hart ruled against him, and Clark took the case to the Court of Appeals. Unanimously, the three-judge court

overruled Hart. The decision came at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, permitting the veterans to spend the first night on the Mall.

THE NEXT DAY, the Justice Department appealed to Chief Justice Burger who acted promptly to reverse the three-man Court of Appeals. His decision came at 6 p.m., and the veterans were now in violation of a court order. Solicitor General Erwin Griswold called upon Clark to get them to move.

ONCE AGAIN, the Justice Department stepped aside. It took no measures to enforce the injunction it had gone to such pains to secure. It was then that Judge Hart, keeping abreast of the court's interest by radio and newspaper, decided to act. If the government didn't want to enforce an injunction, it should ask that it be vacated. If it didn't, he would vacate it anyhow.

And so he did, the next afternoon, with a blistering attack on the Justice Department for "degrading the judiciary." Three courts, including the highest court in the land, had been called into sessions to deal with the problem which the Justice Department at first did not wish to deal with on its own, and eventually did not wish to deal with at all. It was hardly an example of the "law and order" the President likes to praise or of the "strict constructionism" he avows. It was political; it was erratic; and it revealed an Administration constantly testing the winds of public opinion in order to determine the law.

COMING SOON...

The Godfather

Now it can be told (sort of)

★ Starring:

PUNJAB MAHAL
JOE MOROZOWSKI
LEM TSE WONG
OTTO VON FRITZVAGON
KATRINA TROTSKY
PIERRE LA FLUME
HELGA SYEALAND
GEORGE WASHINGTON BROWN
SIR CHEDWICK PETTIPOINT
LEMUAL SCRUGGS JR.
IRVING GREENBERG
PATRICK O'REILLY

Filmed on location
in Nome, Alaska

With cameo appearance
by Tony Valacel

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