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Students Organize 'Save Our School' Panel
To Keep Chilocco From Being Contracted

In the following paragraphs of the journal you will be reading a story from the front page of the **Ponca City News**, which was released April 8, 1969, about our S.O.S. committee and what they are trying to do to help Chilocco.

Students of Chilocco Indian School—worried, angry, resolute—fought back Monday at critics of their school. They also expressed personal, unkind words about investigators from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Meeting at two emergency assemblies, they listened and cheered as a five-member committee outlined a campaign of letter writing to parents, hometown newspapers, Indian tribal councils, and congressmen to tell "what it is really like—how we feel about Chilocco."

Members of the committee, called SOS (Save Our School) were Gary Ten Bear, Randall Bennett, Carol Plumley, Lilly Wagner and Ruby Yellow Robe.

The students acted on their own, with no advisors and no assistance, Bennett admonished. If we don't get the truth to the people, no one else will. They don't listen to our teachers or our superintendent. They think these people are just out to save their jobs.

Chilocco's spontaneous (very orderly) and determined campaign was launched by students who were resentful and hurt by the things they have read in the newspapers from a Bureau of Indian Affairs report, which led to the decision to contract the school to non-federal organizations or individuals.

Since the decision was announced last Tuesday, newspaper accounts of the Bureau report have cited alleged acts of brutality in punishment of the students by counselors and illicit acts by the students.

Committee members, one by one, stated that there was no truth in any of the statements.

Miss Wagner said, "The slander against Chilocco was started by three people. Is the word of three people enough to condemn a school?"

Ten Bear told his fellow students, "The stories of punishment at Chilocco are not true and you know it. Write those letters. Let people know what we really think about our school."

Miss Plumley, who led off the program and made closing remarks said, "We must be heard. We have to let them know the good things that happen here. We know that many of us would never get a high school education if it weren't for Chilocco."

Miss Yellow Robe made an impassioned appeal against those who would "Turn education of Indians over to the highest bidder. We have heard they might take away our agriculture and our vocational departments, and do away with the people who care for us.

"They are turning us into an experiment. Why must Indians always be treated as experiments; why can't people help us instead?"

The student leaders asked where the students were who were beaten and why they didn't show their bruises around the school instead of telling investigators about them.

When questions were invited from the floor, one student asked, "If these boys are being beaten, why do they stay here? We came here to get an education. Why don't they get out and leave us alone?"

A number of students interviewed after the meeting made identical complaints alleging questionable conduct by some members of the investigating team from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The students also resented the investigators for "misrepresenting themselves." Several students said the investigators were there to help the school and the "student response to their questions would determine the help they could give the school."

Also the students couldn't understand where the investigators got their information for their report.

"That certainly was not the information I gave them," one girl said. Several who said they talked to the investigators, chimed their agreement.

The students were angered at generalizations by the committee about alleged student misconduct.

"All Indians are not alike. We are individuals just like students in any school," one girl stated. "Everywhere we go on field trips and on shopping trips, people compliment us on our behavior and good manners. We are proud

that we are Indians and proud to come from Chilocco."

Another said, "We 'mess up' like kids at all schools, but just because some of us do, it doesn't mean that all the Indians are mixed up in it. We have no sit-ins, no riots. Some other schools can't say that."

All those interviewed pinpointed the troublemakers to three boys who they said were taken off the student council because they got into trouble with authorities at the Arkalalah in Arkansas City. The students spoke about a boy who they said broke his hand fighting and told investigators the hand was injured in school punishment.

One boy said he was one of those who was handcuffed for being unruly when he was drunk. Asked how he felt about the punishment, he replied:

"They could have sent me home for what I did, but they didn't. I stayed and I am going to get a diploma. I haven't been drunk since then. And counselors came to see me while I was in jail."

Barbara Penn of LaPush, Wash., and Pat John of LaConner, Wash., said they came to the school at the same time one year and a half ago after they couldn't get along at another Indian school.

The girls said they frequently ran away from the school because they were allowed to do anything they wished.

"They are stricter here; they care what you do," Barbara said.

Pat added, "It's like one great big family—everyone looks after everyone else."

Both girls said they were worried about what would happen to the school under the contract system, because if something happened to Chilocco, "We would have no place to go."

Another who spoke strongly about how teachers and administrators at Chilocco care for the students was John Oher Medicine, a senior from Crow Agency, Montana.

John said, "I know most of the students here and I want them and others to always have this school, so they can get the breaks that I did."

After attending Indian grade school at Pierre, S.D., John said he

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INDIAN SCHOOL JOURNAL

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and 12 Indian friends tried attending Hardin (Mont.) High School, a public school. "They made dirty remarks at us because we were Indians. We got into a lot of trouble, and finally we dropped out and most of us came to Chilocco."

John added that when they came to Chilocco, they got into more trouble, but this time there was a difference. Here, somebody cared. Instead of trying to break them, John said Chilocco counselors tried to help them.

John said he was so impressed with his treatment he and the others got permission from a counselor to form what they called a "safety committee" to help the other boys in trouble.

Invite Inspection

The student SOS committee invited persons who want to observe first hand the conditions at Chilocco, to "come anytime and see for yourself."

They hoped news representatives would be included among the visitors, "so they can help spread the truth about the school. And we hope they will give the same front page coverage they have given all the false reports."

They framed a resolution for the news media as follows:

Resolution

"We, the students of Chilocco Indian School, hereby resolve that statements made by newspapers against our school and superintendent, Dr. Leon Wall, were false and misleading, in that they were based on quotations of a few students, and in no way, represent the thinking of the student body as a whole.

"We resolve to prove these statements wrong and do our best to save our school and pride of the Indian students."—SOS Committee.

Besides conducting the letter-writing campaign, the SOS committee is communicating with student councils of all other Indian schools. They are hoping the

GARY TEN BEAR HEADS FOUR MEMBER PANEL

A four member student committee, which was organized to try to save Chilocco and headed by Gary Ten Bear, called a general assembly on the afternoon of April 7, 1969.

Gary, an 18-year-old Crow Indian from Crow Agency, Montana, and a senior here at Chilocco, has taken a very active stand against the unfavorable publicity our school has received. This is his fourth year at Chilocco.

Randell Bennett, a 17-year-old Nez Perce from Lapwai, Idaho, is also a very active member of the newly organized committee. It was at this meeting that he said, "If we don't get the truth to the people no one else will. They won't listen to our teachers or our Superintendent. They think these people are out just to save their jobs.

Ruby Yellow Robe, an 18-year-old Assiniboine-Gros Ventre Indian from Havre, Montana, is another of the four member student committee. She made an appeal against those people who would "turn our education over to the highest bidder."

Carol Plumly, an 18-year-old Ponca-Otoe Indian from Ponca City, Oklahoma, and the president of the Student Council, is the spokesman for the committee. At the assembly she said, "They just want to close our school because of bad publicity. We are the only hope now that can save this school, and we can and will be heard."

TWO GRADS MARRIED IN PAWNEE CHURCH

Irene Jose and Harold Feather, two Chilocco graduates, were married in the Pawnee Indian Baptist Church, Pawnee, Oklahoma, on March 17, 1969.

Harold graduated from Chilocco in 1965. He was from Jay, Oklahoma, and left for the service immediately after school.

Irene is a 1967 graduate. She was selected Indian Princess in 1966 and in 1967 was Trades Sweetheart and Miss Chilocco.

They were both here and attended the 1969 School Bazaar to renew old acquaintances.

other student groups will send representatives to Chilocco for a conference.

"Chilocco is the biggest and best Indian School," Gary Ten Bear said. "If they can do away with this one, it will be easy to get the others."

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POET'S CORNER

WHAT IS UGLY?

by Donald Black

Ugly are things that don't fit in the right places,

The way people walk, dress, or their faces.

Ugly are those apes and gorillas in the zoo.

Which people watch and laugh and say, "THAT'S YOU!"

Ugly is a brat, the black-sheep of the crowd,

With his mother "on his back" and yelling his name aloud.

Ugly is the war of Viet Nam where our soldiers are,

Across the Sea and way off far.

Ugly are those who die for us overseas?

While we're having fun being hippies.

Ugly are kids taking POT and LSD,

Getting caught and spending time in a penitentiary.

Ugly are the younger generation's KICKS:

Taking drugs and pills and getting sick.

Ugly are things that people think and do,

Worthless, lazy and not sending their kids to school.

Ugly is the word for stinker, rat, or sadist human.

Ugly is the word whose true description can't be written.

Remember this poem? It was sent to Mr. McCulley by Loretta Begay but we do not know the author.

THE STUDENT'S 23rd PSALM

The monster is my teacher
I shall not pass

He maketh me face the blackboard
He destroyeth my love notes

He putteth my gum in the trash can

He maketh me quiet and taketh away my candy

He waketh me from sleep and leadeth me to the office for conduct's sake

Yea, though I walk through the halls of knowledge, I fear to fail,

For I have forgotten my homework

His face hardens before me
He maketh me write six hundred words

He filleth the blackboard with homework

My book runneth over
Surely mischief and misfortune

shall follow me all the days of my schooling

And I shall dwell in the halls of this school forever.

POST GRAD'S VISIT FOLEY TRACTOR CO.

Grades 13 and 14 of the Heavy Equipment class visited the Foley Tractor Company, the caterpillar distributor for this area recently.

Arrangements were made for the students to visit the facility at 10:30 a.m. Their host, Mr. Mike Murphy, guided the classes through the various areas such as; the repair shop, the truck repair shop and the new products warehouse. The classes were given the opportunity to ask questions and inspect all of the equipment in the storagehouse and the warehouse.

Pamphlets were available on all the new equipment, and the students were encouraged to take what they wanted. This proved to be a very valuable part of the tour.

After eating the sack lunches provided by the school kitchen, they had an appointment with the Berry Tractor and Equipment Company of Wichita, Kansas. This company is the Heavy Equipment distributor for the International Harvester Company.

Despite the damp weather conditions, the people under the direction of Mr. Andy Holt proceeded to operate and demonstrate some of the various types of new earth moving equipment.

Mr. Holt encouraged some of the students to operate the equipment. The students operated and maneuvered the equipment in the yard which was one of the highlights of the trip.

Madras High Tries New Honor System

The following is a report of what a speaker told the Madras High School Indian History class. It was taken from the Madras, Oregon, high school paper.

"Indian values and how they affect the modern Indian was the subject of a talk given to the Indian History class on February 19, by Rudy Clemens, Warm Spring community center director. "Mr. Clemens explained that the Indian of today is not becoming non-Indian because he doesn't learn the language but because he doesn't need it to be accepted in his culture. He praised Indian and white students alike for taking the Indian History class because it will enrich their culture and broaden their background.

"The reason the Indian's culture can be traced back 20,000 years is because of its strong sense of values according to the community center director.

"Another value stressed was



SATURDAY, APRIL 12

Movie and Dance—7:30 p.m.

Athletic Picnic

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

9:45-10:40 a.m. Sunday School

10:45-11:30 Worship

7:00-8:30 p.m. Evening Services

MONDAY, APRIL 14

Student Council 1st period

Home Econ. Teachers meeting

4:00 p.m.

Home Training

TUESDAY, APRIL 15

General Education meeting

4:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

9th & 10th Grade Dept. Staff meeting—4:00 p.m.

Trades Dept. Staff meeting

4:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

Art Club meeting Room 8

4:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

Aggie Party 7:45-9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

Movie and Dance—7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

9:45-10:40 a.m. Sunday School

10:45-11:30 Worship

7:00-8:30 p.m. Evening Services

2:00 p.m. Movie

MONDAY, APRIL 21

Student Council 2nd period

FHA meeting—4:00 p.m.

Health Committee meeting

4:00 p.m.

Home Training

TUESDAY, APRIL 22

Dept. Heads meet with

Principal—2:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

Chilocco Arts & Science Fair

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

11th & 12th Home Room

Assembly

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

9th & 10th Home Room

Assembly

Guidance Dept. meeting

2:45 p.m.

Movie and Dance—7:30 p.m.

good ideas and good actions rather than material wealth. The Indians believed in wisdom and took great effort to tell their children exactly what was expected of them.

"The Indian History class has divided the United States into seven cultural areas and are doing research on them. They have sent letters to different reservations to learn more about the areas.

"Future plans include having several people from Warm Springs come to talk to the Indian History class."

ATTENTION

Attention! Juniors and Seniors who would like to reserve tables at the Prom can do so. If you would like to reserve a table, see Robert Lewis, Linda Simpson or Pius Savage. Remember: the Prom is set for May 2. The theme will be "Some Enchanted Evening."

45 Art Students Enter Stay In School Contest

Forty-five Chilocco art students entered posters in the recent Stay In School Poster Contest sponsored by Art Instruction Schools of Minneapolis, Minnesota, in cooperation with Scholastic Magazine.

Ten \$795.00 Art Instruction Schools Scholarships, twenty-five professional drawing tables, and twenty-five cash prizes of \$10 each will be awarded.

Students who entered the contest are: David Young, Marcella Vallo, Judy Hunter, Richard Kochuten, Eliza David, Lee Ballot, Viola Fisher, Darrell Nagashoah, Margo Pacheco, Priscilla Melton, Edison Begay, Gale Louie, Shirleen Bad Bear, Jon Boney, Jacob Ahgook, Juanita Spencer, William Bailey, Rick Pokibro, Anna Francis, John Peterson, Mark Tall, Mary Little Dog, Simon Eagle, Benjamin Nakaidenah, Lou Carter, Janine Lone Wolf, Jean Cline, John Little Dog, Harry Hicks, Lorena Wasuli, David Toledo, Clarence Chee, Tony Phillip, Roger Benally, Stanley Gray, Larry Tobacco, Melford Antonio, Nicholas Paul, Johnny Littlefish, Leslie Nez, Michael Jimmy, Joe Begay, Alvin Wall, Larry Brown and Willie Yazzie.

Six Students Attend OIPA Conference

Six juniors and their sponsor, Mr. Edward L. Dunagan, attended the Oklahoma Interscholastic Press Association (OIPA) spring conference in Norman, Oklahoma, today.

Leon Myers, president of the OIPA, addressed the students after they registered. The students then attended various class conferences in which they obtained data concerning journalism. These classes were conducted by various professors and teachers that were invited to attend the conference. Conferences which the students attended were for yearbook staff and advisers, photographers, and the All Star reporters. OAJD Scholarships were also awarded.

WHITE ELECTED DRUM MAJOR

Wayne White, a senior, has been elected as Chilocco Drum Major for the rest of the 1968-69 school year. Wayne is now president of the Trades Club and year book King for the 1968-69 Chiloccoan.

Wayne has been active in several organizations and sports activities during the years he has attended Chilocco. He has competed and excelled in sports, such as; football, basketball and track. Wayne was chosen Drum Major by popular vote of the band members. He will be leading the band in the parade at Guthrie, Oklahoma, on April 22, 1969.

STUDENTS, BE CAREFUL OF ALL WILD ANIMALS

Many animals—domestic and wild—are carriers of serious diseases, the most serious being rabies. Animals which may be carriers of this deadly disease include; squirrels, rabbits, cats, dogs, skunks, bats, rats and even cows. So leave those little furry animals alone.

Rabies is a disease that infects the brain and spinal cord. The virus which causes the infections is a germ too small to be seen by an ordinary microscope. This virus enters the body through a bite or scratch by an infected animal.

Symptoms include a tightening of the nervous system. The victim feels thirsty, but the muscles of his mouth and throat tighten when he tries to drink water. Hydrophobia, a fear of water, is another name for rabies. The muscles of the nervous system change, the victim becomes excited and saliva appears around his mouth and death comes when the muscles go into spasms.

A series of serums injected into the abdomen to act against the disease before it spreads to the brain is the medical treatment for this. The average number of injections is 14 and have been reported to be extremely painful.

The best way to avoid this disease is to leave the animals which may be carriers alone, especially wild animals. So, animal lovers, think before you handle or pet seemingly harmless innocent animals. Wash the infected area with soap and warm water if you are bitten or scratched by a carrier of rabies and contact the Health Center promptly for medical attention.

Sure this may sound familiar as the previous warnings you've heard before, but it helps to be warned, and it doesn't hurt to know. So, be careful and leave those furry little creatures alone, no matter what.



THE ANNUAL King and Queen of 1969 are Wayne White and Brenda Smith. They were elected by the senior class from a number of candidates who were nominated by the Chiloccoan Staff.

Yearbook Royalty Named For 1968-69 Chiloccoan

The Annual King and Queen for 1968-69 are Wayne White and Brenda Smith. They were elected by the senior class from a number of candidates who were nominated by the Chiloccoan Staff.

Brenda, an 18-year-old member of the Ponca tribe, is from Ponca City, Oklahoma. During her four years at Chilocco, she has served as treasurer of the student council for one year and has been a representative for two years. She was also an attendant for Miss Chilocco.

Wayne, a 19-year-old member of the Navajo tribe, is from Flagstaff, Arizona. He is a member of the Lettermen Club, Dry Cleaning Club, Band, president of Trades Club, and vice-president of the Indian Dramatics Club.

THIRTEEN RECEIVE WRESTLING LETTERS

According to Coach Horace Taylor, the following thirteen boys have earned a letter in wrestling. They are Mike Savage, Paul Manygoats, Leslie Nez, Clarence Chee, Pius Savage, Eric John, Tommy Leavitt, Richard Suvlu, Randy Ahmaogoah, Robert Suvlu, Leroy Billiman, James Watt and Cecil Dick.

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18 SENIORS MAKE THIRD HONOR ROLL

Eighteen seniors made the honor roll for the third nine weeks. They represent the top ten percent of the senior class for this quarter.

Beginning with the highest average we have Jeannett Green with an average of 3.864 of a possible 4.00. Others are: Richard Wakolee, 3.680; Gloria Francis, 3.627; Steve Benally, 3.540; Sandra Charles, 3.518; Colleen Gardipee, 3.500; Mira Creeping Bear, 3.482; Lewis Selam, 3.480; Myrcine Buffalo Meat, 3.464; Roger Pierre, 3.455; Phyllis Speak Thunder, 3.445; Francis Rose Begay, 3.400; Joe Mellon, 3.380; Betty Jane Bahe, 3.320; Wallace Farley, 3.260; Alfred Thomas, 3.260; Kenton Dick, 3.233; and Roberta Harding, 3.233.

Twenty-four juniors make up the honor roll for the third quarter. Johnny Descheny has the highest average in his class with a 3.818 of a possible 4.00. Others are Solomon Oeola, 3.745; Leonora Laughlin, 3.736; Rhonda Ellis, 3.733; Stella Morigeau, 3.680; Nick Dull, 3.673; Peter Green, 3.583; Paul Manygoats, 3.545; Martha Evon, 3.500; Delores Clah, 3.438; Hilda Hickman, 3.400; Louise Stien, 3.400; Lucinda George, 3.336; Clarence Chee, 3.318; Mary Tigertail, 3.315; Paul Crane, 3.300; Jim Tohtsoni, 3.285; Marilyn Mills, 3.233; Robert Lewis, 3.191; Mark Tall, 3.191; Linda Merculief, 3.167; Martina Hugo, 3.150; and Stanley Gray, 3.145.