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# INDIAN RECORD

September 1970

## Oklahoma Cherokee Industry Pays Off Employees Receive First Year Bonus



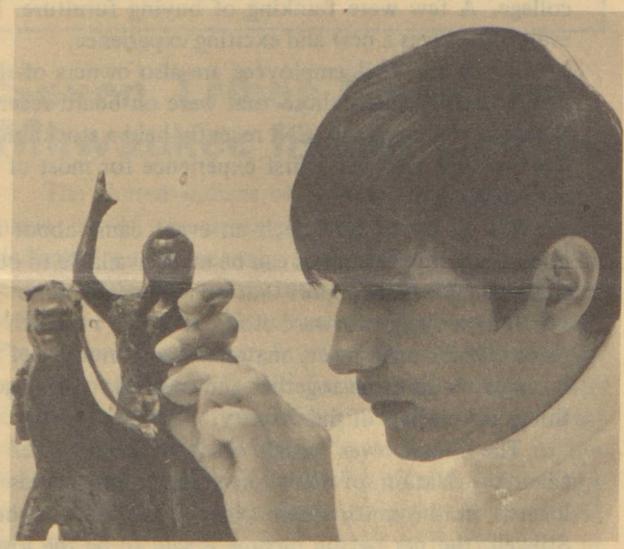
Richer by about \$17,000 in bonus wage payments, Cherokee Nation Industries employees pose for a group shot in front of their plant located at Stilwell, Okla. At left are Marvin Franklin, CNI Board member, Dave Whitekiller, general manager, and Hiner Doublehead, President of CNI.

The entire amount of this "incentive wage" totaled \$17,000 with the largest check for \$340 after taxes. All of the employees, from the general manager to the utility men, shared in it.

And what were the employees going to do with their extra money? After the first recovery from this unexpected good news, some were making plans to pay

(See CHEROKEE, p. 2)

## Blinded In War, Pueblo Veteran Finds New Career As Sculptor



Michael Naranjo, 25, of the Santa Clara Pueblo, creates objects of beauty he cannot see. Blinded more than two years ago by the explosion of a Viet Cong grenade which also crippled his right hand, the young Pueblo artist cites his blindness as the reason for his sculpting career. "I think I never would have become a sculptor if I hadn't been blind," he said. He was first hospitalized in Vietnam, then Japan, and finally near Denver, where he asked for clay and began modeling figures. He began working more seriously some time after leaving the hospital. He studied art at Highlands University, Las Vegas, N. M. before entering the service. He now lives in Santa Fe.

"We've really got something to be proud of. People from all over the country are now looking to us for assistance in how to get something like this started in their own communities."

These were the words of Hiner Doublehead, President of Cherokee Nation Industries, Inc., at a ceremony held July 27, 1970, in front of CNI's Stilwell, Okla., plant. He was addressing the plant's all-Indian employees, gathered in the bright morning sunshine, on their first work day after a two-week vacation.

They were observing the first full year of the plant's operation, and the news they had just heard was all good.

CNI, in its first year of production, had been so successful that it now had a Federal tax liability of about \$50,000. But that wasn't all. Their "diligent efforts to make CNI a good company" were now paying off. Each employee, no matter what salary he was making, received a bonus payment of 20 cents for every hour on the job.

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## Commissioner's Comments

# CNI Employees Applauded Indian Success BIA Goal

Again, I have the pleasure of congratulating a group of Indian people for their outstanding accomplishments. This time it is the Cherokee Tribe of Oklahoma who so deservedly receive our attention.

All of us like rewards. When they are unexpected, such as happened to the employees of Cherokee Nation Industries recently (p. 1-3), enjoying the getting is all the sweeter. This is a tremendous experience for you at CNI and, to underscore the words of Hiner Doublehead, Indian communities all over this country *will* be looking at you as proof positive that these kinds of good things *can* happen for them too.

We in the BIA want to be right there to help the Indian communities bring such possibilities about, not as managers and directors, but as "assistants" in the truest sense of the word.

Hard-core BIA critics may find this hard to believe, but we do want you to succeed in your goals of self-determination. Our doors too have opened to help you because now, from the President on down, we have the backing to work with you in exploring new ways to reach your goals.

Louis R. Bruce

(CHEROKEE, from p. 1)

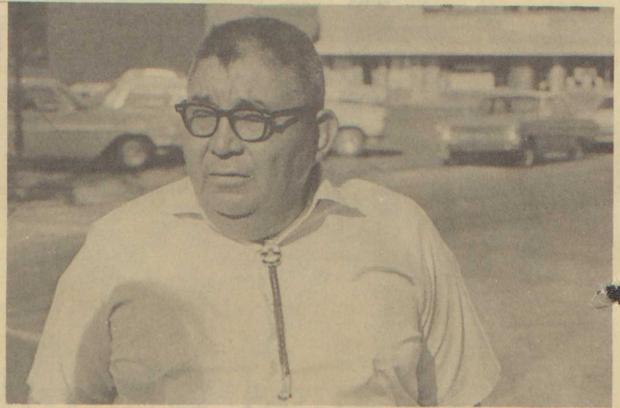
bills. Others had sons or daughters getting ready to go to college. A few were thinking of buying furniture. For everyone, it was a new and exciting experience.

All of the CNI employees are also owners of their plant. In December, those that were on board received shares in the company. CNI recently held a stockholders meeting and this was a first experience for most of the employees too.

The story of how such an event came about and how similar opportunities can be made available to other Indian people is the report that we are making here.

It is a straightforward story. It is one in which the three "M's"—manpower, materials; and money—of the business world came together and meshed to bring good things to this part of the country.

The "manpower" part was the members of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma whose homelands are located in the northeastern part of the State. Around Stilwell, the per person income is said to be the lowest of any Oklahoma County, so many of the people affected are Indians. Many of them find seasonal or part-time jobs in the area or go away to Tulsa or Oklahoma City or up to Kansas City to find jobs. Some work for the Government—usually the Bureau of Indian Affairs—which has an agency at Tahlequah and an Area



Hiner Doublehead: "The people in this community have really been wonderful to us. . .".

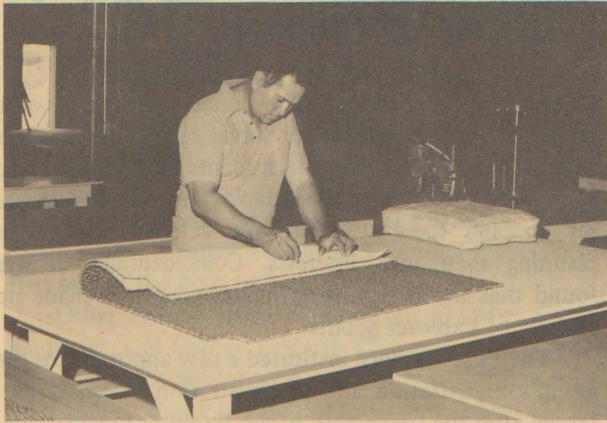
Office at Muskogee. Others work for private businesses in the area. Mostly, though, there are not too many good, steady jobs available.

Mr. W. W. Keeler, Principal Chief of the Cherokees, is with the Phillips Petroleum Company headquartered at Bartlesville, Okla. Keeler works with a Phillips staff of highly efficient American Indians on special projects and encourages them to lend their time and business experience to Indian groups—setting up businesses, assisting with Indian claims, and working with the Bureau of Indian Affairs to be in on the new BIA concept of having Indians take over and solve more of their own problems.

Marvin Franklin, a Cherokee, was appointed by Keeler to be Phillips' Director of Special Projects. He spends a good deal of his time meeting with and talking to businessmen around the country to interest them in the same kinds of efforts which Phillips has generated.



At each work area such as this, CNI employees add the various intricate components which make up each electrical relay into one final product. At the beginning, Western Electric brought in a staff to train the Indian employees. Now, new members are trained by older hands. The finished relays are tested, packaged, and boxed in the plant and shipped to Western Electric, the manufacturing and supply unit of Bell Telephone Co. The system that makes your telephone work may have been produced right at this plant.



Above: The next time you travel by American Airlines, check the carpeting. It may have been cut and finished at CNI's Tahlequah, Okla., plant. Here an employee marks cut pieces for identification. Above, left: Cherokee upholstery trainees work on refurbishing office chairs at CNI's Tahlequah plant.

For the Cherokee Tribe, Keeler and Franklin working with the BIA's industrial development program have brought in the other two "M's" of big business—materials and money.

With a sub-contract from Western Electric, the manufacturing and supply unit of the Bell Telephone Company, CNI went into business a year ago to produce intricate electrical relays used in telephones.

A plant was set up in Stilwell, in a rented building formerly used by the American Legion. Beginning with a staff of about 30 Cherokee Indian people, CNI quickly expanded to its present employee compliment of 84.

The plant and its success has all of the Chamber of Commerce people in northeastern Oklahoma talking.

CNI also opened up a second plant at Tahlequah, Okla., and has contracted with American Airlines to cut finished carpeting into patterns for American Airlines luxury planes. On the same day as the dedication at Stilwell, three Indian upholstery trainees were also beginning work at the Tahlequah plant to reupholster and refurbish office chairs. CNI eventually hopes to get a contract with an airline to handle their upholstery and refurbishing needs.

In speaking of the CNI operation at Stilwell, Board President Doublehead added, "The people in this community have really been wonderful to us, and have given us all the advantages we needed." Many of the employees remarked about the difference in attitude that the CNI plant has brought about in the town of Stilwell.

Franklin, in his remarks to the employees, said "We're paying tribute to you as the ones who actually started this company. What we hope to do is create a feeling of unity, a feeling of incentive, something that we can look back upon in years to come and say, 'that's our company. We helped to get it started.'"



The Cherokee Nation Industries operations at Stilwell and Tahlequah, Okla., were developed through the combined efforts of the Cherokee Tribe of Oklahoma using its financial and people resources in cooperation with private enterprise such as Phillips Petroleum and Western Electric, and assisted by the Federal Government through the Industrial Development program of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. For further information about the possibilities of such programs for other Indian areas, write to the Industrial Development program of your nearest BIA office, or to: Branch of Industrial and Tourism Development, Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20242.

## Seven Tribes Dedicate Milwaukee Indian Center

The United Indians of Milwaukee, an organization made up of the seven largest tribes of Wisconsin, dedicated a new meeting house recently which will be known as the Milwaukee Indian Center. The new Center will serve the Menominee, Chippewa, Oneida, Potawatomi, Winnebago, Stockbridge, and Sioux Tribes.

The hall itself is the former home of the 14th Engine Company of the Milwaukee Fire Department, which first used the building in 1889, the era of the horse drawn steam engine. Until 1938, wooden planks covered the engine room floor and had been bitten into and marred by steel-rimmed wheels of fire wagons and the heavy hoofs of the fire horses. The building was remodeled in 1952, but in recent times it has been used for storage by the fire department.

The building will serve an estimated 1800 Indians in the Milwaukee area as a place to meet and dance, to formulate plans for a young peoples' group, as a job clearing center, an information center, and workshop for teaching Indian arts, crafts, languages, and culture.

# Scout Meet Promotes "Boy Power-76"

Indian tribal leaders from throughout the country recently met in Billings, Mont., for the Thirteenth American Indian Tribal Leader's Conference. The meetings, held August 4 through 7, were for the purpose of emphasizing the relevance of the scouting program to leadership development among Indian youth.

Theme of the conference was "Indian Boy Power Today—Indian Leadership Tomorrow," and speakers for the three-day conference included Senator Lee Metcalf (Mont.), Commissioner Brantley Blue of the Indian Claims Commission, Robert L. Calvert of the National Council of Boy Scouts of America, Governor Forrest Anderson of Montana, Navajo Area Director, Graham Holmes and Alexander MacNabb, Director of Operating Services for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. MacNabb represented Commissioner Louis R. Bruce.

Scouting programs open up many opportunities for youth to develop leadership qualities, and the tribal leaders met to organize and plan "Boy Power 76," the major effort through which they hope to have one of every three of their young boys and men in scouting programs by 1976.

The possibilities of scouting programs to build leadership are illustrated by two examples of successful pilot projects in which Indian scouts were involved.

The first was an Environmental Conference on Indian Youth held at Camp Assayi on the Navajo Reservation in Arizona, late in July. The Camp was a beehive of activity as 300 Indian boys from tribes all across the country met to study the theme of the conference—conservation of America's dwindling natural resources.

The Conference chose the theme, "Conservation Good Turn," for its 1971 project, and every scout in the country will be asked to do one or more conservation projects related to this theme during the coming year.

In speaking of the 1971 project, Loren S. Loomis, Scout Executive of the Kit Carson Council, said, "With our involvement of more than five million boys in the United States, we believe we can help dramatize the problem nationally, to the betterment of our environment."

The second example of a successful pilot project is taking place at the Many Farms, Ariz., High School. Here the local scouting group, Explorer Post 585, is conducting a Pilot Project for Citizen Development. Termed a "project for potential benefit of other Indian scouts," it involved the planning and conducting of several exciting camping and hiking events by the Post during its first year of operation in the 1968-69 school year.

The following year the Post tried an experiment in living to give students more opportunities for self-

expression and freedom. The concept grew out of a series of informal personality surveys made the previous year which showed that the students in one dormitory were more mature and dependable. An Honor Wing was set up, and these students were actively involved in planning their own interests. Coincidentally, it was found that the Honor Wing membership was made up entirely of Explorer Scouts!

The Post has since instituted a new approach for the group's organization and administration which is patterned after the framework of the Explorer organization.

In a report on the Many Farms Explorer Post achievements, Program Advisor Stephen L. Allman stated that the boys in the Honor Wing were able to do many things they might not have been able to do without the scouting program. They exercised and practiced leadership and took part in decision-making. Their achievements in scout advancement were far above expectations, and their grades showed marked improvement.

These are some of the goals which scouting programs strive to achieve for the young men and boys of the Nation. Now the way is opening for Indian people to take advantage of what scouting offers to build its leadership for tomorrow.

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## Miss Indian America XVII



The new Miss Indian America XVII is an Oklahoma Cherokee, 19-year old Virginia Alice Stroud. Miss Stroud is a sophomore and student body president at Bacone College, Bacone, Okla. She won her crown over a field of 30 entrants from almost as many tribes. During her reign she will represent the over 600-thousand Indians across the country as she appears before conventions, visits Indian reservations and schools and is featured on radio, TV, and in newspaper articles.

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## Hall of Fame To Honor Carlisle School Alumni

Carlisle Indian School, Carlisle, Penna. has become synonymous with the memory of Jim Thorpe, captain of its most successful football team, in 1912 the Olympic decathlon and pentathlon champion, and in 1950 named greatest athlete and football player in the first half of the 20th century.

Other famous athletes, however, are also Carlisle graduates, and George LaVatta, Chairman of the Carlisle Monument Establishment Committee, is working to set up a Hall of Fame to honor all of them as well as other living and deceased alumni. A bill is presently before Congress to provide a building to display the records and memorabilia of Carlisle as a famous Indian school and to transform the character of the grounds from an Army base to an Indian cultural center.

The school opened in 1879, when it was abandoned by the U.S. Cavalry and donated to the Department of the Interior for the purpose of "beginning an educational institution for Indians." Carlisle was the first school to be opened by the government for that purpose and the first to receive Congressional recognition and appropriations.

When the school opened, it had 49 buildings and two farms, totaling 311 acres. About eight of the original buildings are still in good repair. Among them is the "Doll House," the practice cottage in which Indian girls showed what they had learned in the way of keeping house—setting tables, cooking, etc. Also still standing is the original bakery, now used for a post office.

Classes included harness making, shoemaking, nursing, carpentry, painting, telegraphy, and agriculture. Carlisle's industrial arts training ranked with the finest in the country.

The school had an achievement record that few other schools could surpass. During its brief existence it had wide influence on educational practices throughout the country.

The school closed in August, 1918 to make way for the wounded of the first World War. In 1962 it was dedicated as a National Landmark.

## Pala Housing Project Benefits Young and Old

For the first time in his life, Sylverio Chavez, 63, a member of the Pala Band of Mission Indians in San Diego County, Calif. has a decent place to live. Chavez, retired truck farmer, born and raised on the Pala

Reservation, was first of five recipients of a multi-agency housing project for the benefit of elderly tribesmen.

The Pala housing project was made possible through an agreement of the Pala Band, the San Diego County welfare department, the U.S. Public Health Service, the Labor Department's "Operation Mainstream," and the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Division of Housing Assistance for the Riverside Jurisdiction, Calif. Bureau officials hope to complete 114 homes for Southern California Indians in the years ahead through similar projects.

The project began about a year ago, according to King Freeman, Band spokesman. The Pala Band put up the \$20,000 for the materials and the Economic Opportunity Commission of San Diego County and the U.S. Department of Labor paid the salaries of the men working on the project. The County Welfare Department will help repay the Band.

The California State Indian Public Health Service and the U.S. Public Health Service were involved to provide sanitation facilities. BIA's Division of Housing Assistance coordinated the action, provided technical advice, supervision and the necessary working tools for part of the project.

In addition to providing housing for the five elderly residents, the project also offered new hope for eight young Indian workers, who were previously unemployed. They were trained while they worked on Chavez' new home and they will continue until the remaining four homes are completed.

"After they are finished here," Freeman said, "they will be trained enough in the building crafts to seek jobs elsewhere."

For Chavez, the neat two-bedroom stucco cottage, across the street from the ancient Mission church and school, lends a special kind of hope for future tribal projects.



Father Gino from nearby Pala Mission, blesses the new house belonging to Sylverio Chavez, (left) Pala Indian, as King Freeman, (far right) Spokesman, Pala Band looks on.

# Cultural Exchange Brings Navajos, Hawaiians Together



The Navajo students paddle a Hawaiian outrigger canoe. The famous Diamond-Head crater forms the background. Freddie Begay looks on from alongside the canoe as he swims for the first time in his life.

Hoop dances vied with hulas as Navajo and Hawaiian students performed their native dances and songs for one another. It's a long way from the reservation in Arizona to the beaches of Hawaii, but a new cultural exchange project made it possible for the Navajo and Hawaiian groups to get acquainted.

The first half of the exchange project took place in March when 20 Hawaiian fifth-grade students from Leeward Oahu and their chaperones flew to the Navajo Reservation where they were welcomed by teachers and students at Toyei Boarding School, Steamboat Rock, Ariz. In April 24, Navajo students, from the fourth through the eighth grade at Toyei, landed in Hawaii, marking the second half of the Navajo-Hawaii cultural exchange program.

The project was spearheaded by two Teacher Corps members, Edward McGrath in Hawaii and Craig Thompson in Arizona, and was financed solely through donations from individuals and corporations.

Before their trips, both the Navajo and the Hawaiian students took preparatory classes to review their own language, dances, music, arts and crafts, and history as well as introductory classes in their hosts' culture and history.

For both groups, their two-week schedules were packed with new and exciting experiences. During their visit to Hawaii, the Navajo students were introduced to Governor John A. Burns, Mayor Frank Fasi, and the legislature, watched a surfing exhibition at Makaha Beach, and toured such spots as Sea Life Park, Pearl Harbor, Sky Slide, and Honolulu Zoo. Highlighting their visit was a luau at which the Hawaiian children entertained their guests and the Navajos responded with their own dances and chants.

The Hawaiian students' visit to Navajoland included a tour of scenic sites such as the Grand Canyon, Monument Valley, and Petrified Forest, a hayride, and a visit to Navajo hogans. The Hawaiians were the guests of honor at the annual Toyei Tribal Leaders Day where they demonstrated their dances along with a performance by the Indian Club of Toyei.

The trips were filled with new "firsts" for both groups. For many of the Navajos, it was their first view of the Pacific and their first swimming lesson. The Hawaiian children experienced their first snowfall, which ended-as expected- in a snowball fight, Navajos vs. the Hawaiians. Climaxing the trips for both groups was a visit to Disneyland, courtesy of Continental Airlines.

Exchanging cultures first-hand proved to be an educational experience for all concerned. The project provided the opportunity for both groups to express and share their own cultures, and to understand and appreciate each other's way of life. It is hoped that the Navajo-Hawaiian cultural exchange will become an annual event.



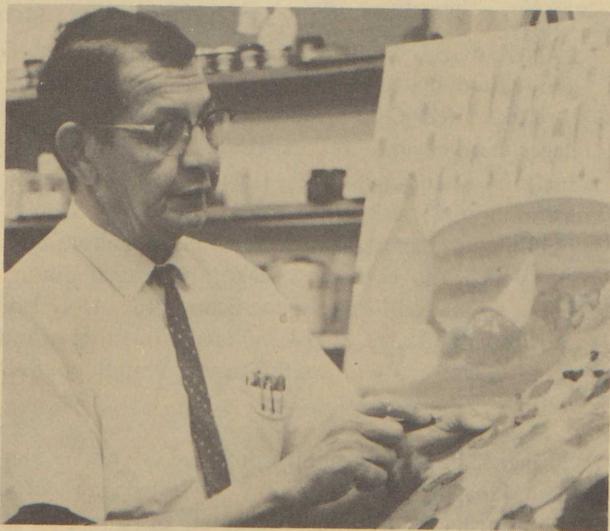
Toyei Boarding School students performed the Friendship Dance with Hawaiian partners at Makaha Elementary School. They performed at five schools throughout their Hawaiian stay.

## Famous Cheyenne Artist Named to Haskell Post

W. Richard "Dick" West, 58, internationally known Cheyenne artist and sculptor, recently was named instructor of art at Haskell Indian Junior College, Lawrence, Kan. West had been associate professor and assistant to the dean of students at Bacone College, Bacone, Okla. since 1947.

A graduate of Concho Indian School, Haskell Institute, and Bacone College, West completed his Bachelor's degree in art at the University of Oklahoma, Norman, Okla. in 1941. He served four years in the U.S. Navy during World War II, leaving the service as a Lieutenant.

He completed his master of fine arts degree at OU in 1950, becoming the first Indian to receive an MFA from that university. In 1963 he was awarded a degree of



W. Richard "Dick" West, noted Cheyenne sculptor and painter, whose works have been exhibited throughout the United States and Europe, was recently named instructor of art at Haskell Indian Junior College, Lawrence, Kan.

doctor of humane letters (LHD) from Eastern Baptist College, St. Davids, Penn.

His work has been exhibited throughout the United States and Europe. He received in 1960 a citation from the Indian Arts and Crafts Board for "outstanding work as a teacher and artist." That same year he was invited to become a fellow of the International Institute of Arts and Sciences, Zurich, Switzerland.

In 1968 he was named outstanding Indian of the year by the Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribal Council and the following year "teacher of the year" at Bacone College.

## Southern Plains Museum Features Rance Hood

An exhibition of paintings by the Comanche artist, Rance Hood, is being held through October 3 by the Southern Plains Indian Museum and Crafts Center at Anadarko, Okla.

Hood, whose Indian name is AUT-TUP-TA (Yellow Hair), was born in 1941 at Lawton, Okla. and is one of the youngest and most successful of the self-educated Indian artists in the United States today. His grandmother gave Hood his initial encouragement in art and his grandfather taught him the tribal customs and religious practices which provided cultural background for his paintings.

Hood received a first award in the 1970 annual Indian artist's competition held by the Philbrook Art Center of Tulsa, Okla. The present exhibition is the first one-man showing of his recent paintings.

A four-page, illustrated brochure entitled "Paintings by Rance Hood," has been published by the Museum and Crafts Center. Free copies are available.



"Charging Comanche,"  
by Rance Hood

## Hail To The Chief

Wallace "Chief" Newman, a Mission Indian of California and former coach at Whittier College, Calif. recently presented an admiring friend a Whittier College football letter.

The "friend," President Richard M. Nixon, served four years on Coach Newman's football squad at Whittier. He told a group of visiting Pueblo Indians that he owed much to the Indian people because of the inspiration and guidance of Mr. Newman.

"Chief" Newman, as he is called by his many friends, was born on the La Jolla Indian Reservation, San Diego County, Calif. He is a graduate of Sherman Institute, Riverside, Calif. and went on to the University of California where played tackle on the 1923 Rose Bowl team that beat Penn State, 14-3.

He won three varsity letters in football and three in baseball at USC.



"Chief" Newman and admiring friend.

After graduation in 1925, he coached from 1929 to 1950 at Whittier College, where he met the future President. In 1958 he was elected to the collegiate Football Hall of Fame.

Newman has long been interested in Indian people and he has been active in Indian affairs in Southern California for many years. He was instrumental in organizing the Mission Creek Band of Indians, Mission Creek, Calif. in 1957. He has participated in meetings all over the state of California and at Las Vegas, Nev.

He retired in 1964 and is presently living in Whittier.

## Recent Publications

**AMERICAN INDIAN AUTHORS: A REPRESENTATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY**, by Arlene B. Hirschfelder, New York: Association of American Indian Affairs, 1970, 45 pages, paperback, \$1.00 prepaid. Lists 157 books by 120 American Indian authors from Chief Joseph to 1969 Pulitzer prize winner, N. Scott Momaday. Material ranges from narratives of tribal origins and early histories through conflicts with the white man to the present. Order from the Association of American Indian Affairs, 432 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016.

**UNCOMMON CONTROVERSY: FISHING RIGHTS OF THE MUCKLESHOOT, PUYALLUP, AND NISQUALLY INDIANS**, a report prepared for the American Friends Service Committee, Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1970, 215 pages, cloth back \$5.95, paperback \$2.50. The book advocates acknowledgment of the Indians' side of the fishing rights conflict, focusing on attitudes of three tribes who have clashed with State agencies and sportsmen's organizations over rivers near the southern end of Puget Sound.

**CATALOG OF HASKELL INSTITUTE 1970-71**, contains general information about the junior college, student activities, and academic schedules for the fall and spring semesters, and outlines available courses. The colorful 162-page booklet, printed and bound by Haskell students, is available free to interested students by writing Haskell Indian Junior College, Baker Street and Indian Avenue, Lawrence, Kansas 66044.

**HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS OF THE INDIANS IN NEW ENGLAND**, by Daniel Gookin, Spencer, Mass: Towtaid, 140 pages, hardback, indexed, \$10.00 prepaid. Reprint of original source book on New England Indians, from the 1792 text of the 1674 manuscript. Gookin, Superintendent of the Indians of the Massachusetts Bay Colony from 1656 to 1687, outlines life of the New England Indians, as well as numerous accounts of attempts to civilize and convert them to Christianity. Available only through Towtaid, 246 Main Street, Spencer, Mass. 01562.

**DICTIONARY OF THE TETON DAKOTA SIOUX LANGUAGE**, compiled by Rev. Eugene Buechel, S. J. and edited by Rev. Paul Manhart, S. J., Pine Ridge, S. Dak.: Red Cloud Indian School, Inc., 1970, 852 pages, hard cover \$9.00 prepaid. In cooperation with the Institute of Indian Studies, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, S. Dak., the Red Cloud Indian School has published a Lakota-English and English-Lakota dictionary which also contains a Lakota Grammar Summary. Order from Red Cloud Indian School, Inc., Holy Rosary Mission, Pine Ridge, S. Dak. 57770 or Institute of Indian Studies, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, S. Dak. 57069.

"Financial Recordkeeping for Small Stores," "Starting and Managing a Small Motel," and "Steps in Incorporating a Business" are three of a variety of pamphlets useful to the Indian small businessman, published by the Small Business Administration (SBA). Some are free; others are modestly priced. For titles and prices of these publications write to your nearest SBA office or to Small Business Administration, 1441 L Street, NW., Washington, D.C. 20416. Ask for leaflets SBA 115A and 115B.

## Determination Plus Hard Work Earn Degrees For BIA Employees



Night courses, educational leave, and a lot of hard work have earned five employees of the Shawnee Agency, Shawnee, Okla. their Master Degrees. Most of these employees accumulated the majority of their graduate work through part time effort, each staying with his particular self development program until an advanced degree was earned. Pictured above, left to right are Carroll T. Slack, agency social worker, master of education and master of social work; Joe B. Walker, agency program officer, master of social science; John E. Taylor, agency superintendent, master of public administration; Levi Beaver, agency employment assistance officer, master of education; Jerry L. Bridges, agency social service representative, master of social work.