

Indians want free education

LETHBRIDGE (CUP) - The federal government is challenging the right of Canadian Treaty Indians to government-sponsored higher education. University and college education has always been considered a Treaty right by Indians and the Department of Indian Affairs has been paying for it, but "now that it is starting to cost money the Department wants to back down."

This is the view of Lynda Little Child, President of the University of Lethbridge Native Students Association.

In the spring of 1975, the Department put out a "draft for discussion only" policy paper, the E-12 Circular, which proposed changes and new policy for the native higher education program.

The section of the paper which is the most controversial suggests that Indians should pay part of their educational costs, 15 percent of single

student's gross earned income should pay part of education costs, is the policy suggested in the circular. The Department would continue to finance the other 85 percent of the cost.

Little Child commented that 15 percent may not seem like much, but that if a precedent is set, this percentage could be gradually increased. Indians view the government sponsoring of education as part of the Treaty agreement and that there should be no division of educational expenses.

According to Little Child, the E-12 Circular is one attempt by the government to gradually implement a 1969 White Paper on Indian Policy, which was strongly protested by native people.

Chiefs from Indian bands throughout Alberta have written to Judd Buchannan, the Minister of Indian Affairs, protesting the E-12 Circular and they are of the opinion that post-secondary education is

included as a right guaranteed by the Treaties.

Little Child says the Minister responded by way of a form letter which stated the Department did not view the Indian student financing program as a Treaty right. Rather, it is out of the generosity of the Department that the program exists, Buchannan claimed.

In fact, she said, all the Treaties made in Alberta, by which the Indian peoples signed away their rights to the land, have clauses about education directly between the clauses dealing with Winchester rifles and axes.

"Her Majesty agrees to maintain schools for instruction in such reserves hereby made, as to her Government, the Dominion of Canada may seem advisable, whenever the Indians of the reserve shall desire." This is a part of Treaty Six which in 1896 signed over most of Central Alberta from the Wood Cree and other tribes to the government.

When the E-12 Circular was put out in the spring of 1975, the government planned to make it Department policy by the fall of that year. Many native groups protested that there had not been enough consultation with Indians and consequently the implementation of a policy was deferred until April 1976.

Little Child said, "The government's actions have put us in a position of reaction, not consultation." In December of last year the National Indian Brotherhood Association selected a committee of 15 native students from across Canada to prepare a counter-proposal.

Reed, continued from page 1

sociologists hold - that the only source of political power comes from the strength of arms and since females do not bear arms this somehow proves them inferior.

The inability of a patriarchal society to conceive of power in other than coercive terms was also reflected by the confusion of Europeans confronting matriarchal societies in the new world, Reed contended. But there were other societies existing on an egalitarian basis and recognizing females as persons with as many rights as males of the society, she reaffirmed.

Reed said that the first agricultural period represented the peak of female power. There the women carried on the

essential productive tasks which required endurance while the males were armed, primarily for hunting. This egalitarian matriarchy was "overcome by the necessary social forces which it created," Reed asserted. With the need to increase production it then became necessary to make the producers of wealth (women) into private property.

Reed, using a Marxist analysis, saw this as leading to the creation of the family, the property rights over women (associated with the family) and the development of a class structure. "Although the family arose within a matriarchal, matrilineal system ... the line of descent from father to son could not be assimilated" and thus the matriarchy died, Reed said.

Reasserting her theme that "biology is not destiny," Reed said the degradation of women and the brutalization of men "is a result of a brutal social structure blighted by social competition." What we need today is a more collectivist society. Anthropology has neglected the evolutionary school of thought used by such thinkers as Morgan, Taylor and Engles, she said, for the less controversial descriptive view. "Placing things in historical sequence is necessary to understanding" she said, "and the emphasis on physical strength is a diversion from the real causes of female degradation ... which we Marxists know to be capitalist society."

Reed began her research into "incest taboo" in 1950 and soon found herself involved with the broader question of roles women have played in the development of society. Her analysis is left-wing and she sees a reading of F. Engles' *Origin of Family, Private Property and the State* as "essential" for a proper understanding of the historical forces affecting women.

She speaks in SUB Theatre today (Tuesday) at 12:30 p.m.

Do not stick things in body orifices

OTTAWA (CUP) - A Toronto based group has asked that if the British Columbia Education minister has any plans to "stick it", it should not be in his ear.

The Canadian Hearing Society warned Dr. Pat McGeer in a recent letter of "the potential danger to his hearing" if he follows the advice he has received recently.

The advice, offered by demonstrators in response to sharply raised B.C. auto insurance premiums was "Stick it in your ear, McGeer."

McGeer is responsible for the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) which runs the Autoplan insurance program.

"Because sticking anything in your ear can be dangerous to your hearing," the society suggests "that you might find somewhere else to stick it."

Aging women under study

Beginning on March 16 and taking place every Tuesday for 5 weeks is a series sponsored by Edmonton Women's Place.

This series entitled "Women and Aging - Alternatives in Growth" will begin on March 16 with a session entitled "Childhood - Our Subtle Socialization." Each of the following 4 sessions will examine in-depth the changes which occur to women as they enter each phase of life - from childhood through to old age.

Session 2 on March 23 discusses "Alternatives to Adolescence." Session 3 on March 30 is entitled "Young Adulthood - Becoming Your Own Woman." On April 6, the 4th session "Middle Age - Reassessment and Rebirth" will be discussed, and on April 13th the series will end with a session entitled "The Grande Old Woman - What Do You Know About Your Grandmother."

Each of these discussion series will be held in the Music Rooms of the Central Library beginning at 8:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

PORTRAITS of DISTINCTION

Goertz

STUDIOS

OFFICIAL CAMPUS PHOTOGRAPHER

NOW LOCATED IN 9012 HUB

Make your appointment NOW

PHONE 433-8244

SPECIAL STUDENT PRICES

"For me, good food and a good beer go together. That's why I ask for Heineken. It's all a matter of taste."



Heineken

It's all a matter of taste.

EUROPE

less than 1/2 economy fare

60 day advance payment required

707 Jetliners (314) 885-3311

UniTravel Charters

Box 508, Cuba, Mo. 65453