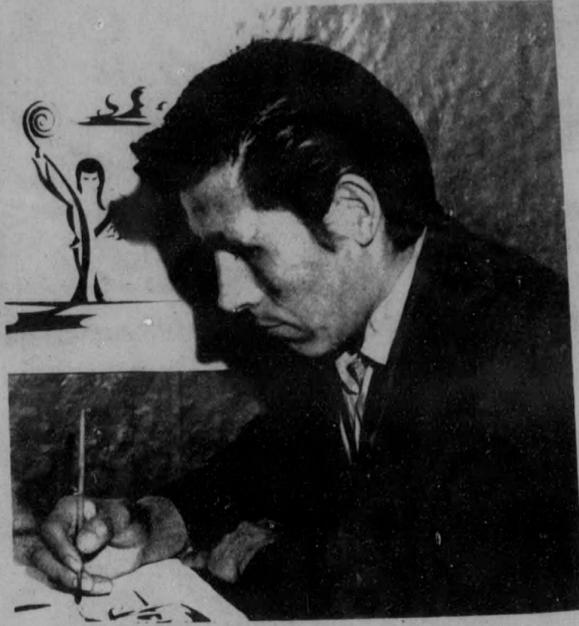


The Vanishing Race

"There is a crisis ahead for my people, the Canadian Indians", my sister Kahn-Tineta Horn has often said to audiences across the country. This crisis is the exploding population on



place in Canada's great future.

One day, Anthony Francis, Chief of the Micmacs at Big Cove came to the home of Dr. Crowell, president of the provincial government's Handicraft Department. He had come because he believed in the talent of his people and felt that this talent was going to waste. He asked Dr. Crowell to come back to Big Cove with him and see for himself. Dr. Crowell was amazed at the abundance of true talent that existed among these humble people. Courses in weaving, carving, etching, sculpturing, and wood-turning were begun for these people to develop their talent. Now a booming business exists in Big Cove.

It was during this period that Dr. Crowell discovered two very talented young men whose creativity had never been put to good advantage. These two men are now working vigorously to salvage some segment of early Micmac artistry and culture. For if the legends which have been handed down for generations and which reveal the real character of the Indians were to be lost, with them would go the first accounts of North America.

One of these men is Steven Dedam, whose talent for painting is extraordinary. He is now in Fredericton working as a designer for ceramic tiles and copper etchings. His designs are based on ancient Micmac legends and many

are placed on hasty notes produced by the Indians at Big Cove. Designs of the Micmac's legendary little people will be adapted for fine English bone china which will be made in England and sold in Canada. In the picture can be seen some of his finished paintings—the Little People feeding the pussy willows, the Little People smoking an Indian pipe, and the Little People playing the fiddlehead.



Working with the Foundation of North American Indian Culture, she will be part of a group that is to collect authentic Indian talent in order to form a troupe that will perform in the major centers of the world.

Holding a sample of cut glass made from his designs for the Legend of the Wild Goose, is Micmac artist, Mr. Michael Francis. The biggest project that Mr. Francis has undertaken is the designing of the I.O.D.E. 1965 Calendar, which consists of 12 different legends, one from each province and two from the Eskimos. He deserves a great deal of credit for his achievements, and for the prestige that he has brought to the Indian.

Many of you probably know Kahn-Tineta Horn as a model through newspapers and magazines. But she has never been satisfied with an ordinary job, and has taken on the role of a leader among the Indians. As such she has become active in the National Indian Council and the North American Indian Foundation in Bismark, North Dakota. Also she is in charge of the Indian Exhibition for the 1965 World's Fair in Montreal. She has given many lectures about the Indian across Canada and on radio.

reserves, which makes the future of the Indians very precarious. At the present birth rate, there will be 1,000,000 Indians by the year 2000 living on reserves that are already limited in area and resources. You, the students of UNB are tomorrow's Canadian leaders, and so my plea is directed toward you.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE INDIANS ARE LIKE?

Before you can help my people, you must understand them. To hear people talk about Indians as cruel, and savage, as a race that should be thankful for not being thoroughly exterminated, only shows how little you really know. Do you not remember that once the Indians were the brave, fearless and noble conquerors of this continent, who fought only to keep what rightfully belonged to them. We Indians deserve more than poverty, discrimination, and second-class rating given to us in exchange for all we lost. Pride in himself and his achievements meant more to an Indian than life itself. This burning pride has all but been snuffed out; betrayals and discrimination have made him lose control over his destiny. The Indians desperately need an educational system adapted to their culture and temperament that will help them to fit into this new and different world of the white man.

THE INDIANS' CONTRIBUTION

You might ask: "What can your people offer to Canada?" The Indians have already given the world a substantial contribution. Nearly always it is forgotten that many of the ideas in the formation and operation of the United Nations originated in the Indian Confederacy of the Six Nations begun by "The Mohawk of the Iroquois Confederacy". The orators of the Iroquois have no equal in the history of any country; the temperament of the people and the beauty of the Indian language lent themselves to the development of such eloquent

speakers as War Chief Joseph Brant and the founder of the League of Nations, Dasgandéda. The Indian has no reason to be ashamed or feel guilty about his past. The Indian has much to offer Canada, after all, their heritage is Canada's only true heritage, and using them to fuller advantage would be to everyone's benefit. What the Indians want most of all is the chance to show what they can do — to show that they can take a useful and responsible

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