

# Indians Demand Action, Trudeau Called 'gutless'

"I was at the demonstration and saw some ugly things that saddened me. Looking back on it, it looks like provocation on the part of the police. When you see police lined up five deep and soldiers armed with bayonets, it looks like provocation. The reaction on the part of the demonstrators was natural but I'm sure that not all the people there wanted what happened," said Wally Firth, NDP Member of Parliament for the Northwest Territories and a Metis himself.

"I've been involved in the native movement in the North all my life and it hurts to see this happen. I have mixed emotions. It looks like I'm behind the wall being protected by those same soldiers and police but I want to be out there with my people."

In the House of Commons on Tuesday (Oct. 1) Firth raised a motion seeking the unanimous consent of all parties to have matters of social and economic conditions of the Indian people put before a special meeting of the Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development. But the Liberal majority did not go along with the motion.

He also asked Judd Buchanan, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, what he was going to do about the depressing housing conditions on reserves. Buchanan told him that Indians would have to accept greater responsibility for their housing.

Firth also blasted the government for not making any reference to native problems in the Throne Speech. He sees this as a clear indication of the priority the government attaches to these issues.

"When asked what the government intends to do in response to the legitimate grievances of the native people, the government abdicates its leadership role and claims that it is up to native people to help themselves."

He also lashed out at government cuts in aid to native people. (The government has reduced its budget for native economic development from \$8 million in 1973-74 to \$4.95 million in 1974-75.)

"This will have a drastic effect on native people who would like to see practical solutions to problems," he said.

Firth says the natives grievances are justifiable and points to housing as the major problem of native people. He says it effects all other aspects of their lives. If they don't have adequate housing they can't worry about getting a job, about school or even day to day problems. Housing he said, is a major area of human need.

Firth says he doesn't have all the answers but the Indians and the government should get together to discuss problems.

"The government should meet with the natives. They've come a long way to present good grievances. What is the Department of Indian Affairs and Judd Buchanan there for if not to help native people," he said.

Clive Linkletter, vice-president of the Native Indian Brotherhood, says "it is an unfortunate event that violence erupted. There are many conflicting reports about what happened and while I wasn't there for the whole thing I'm sure it isn't as clear cut as what is coming across in the newspapers."

He says the grievances the caravan presented are legitimate claims and are the same as native organizations across Canada have been making. They have no quarrel with the position of the natives on the caravan.

"While the caravan doesn't represent all the natives in Canada they have never claimed to. They represent a particular point of view but the demands are the same and no one is going to quarrel about them," he said.

He also wonders about the attitude of Buchanan who refused to attend a meeting of Indian chiefs in Quebec in August.

Meanwhile, Buchanan has attacked the credibility of the native caravan saying it has worked "to the disadvantage of Indians across the country".

He said he will meet with the caravan but refuses to see them in the carbide mill that they have occupied since their arrival.

Buchanan says that if Indians want to solve their problems they should cooperate more with the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and other programs.

Prime Minister Trudeau, in

## Leary Tells All

Timothy Leary, one of the men responsible for popularizing LSD in the 1960's, is reportedly ready to tell all to authorities in return for a parole.

Part of the information he might disclose was reported recently in an article in New York's Village Voice, which suggests that the drug aspect of the counter-culture was a sophisticated corporate enterprise which netted its financiers millions in tax-free dollars.

The article described a trans-national LSD manufacturing operation, complete with a chemical research de-

partment, bank connections, tax-free corporate status, and most important a capitalist to bankroll the industry. Leary reportedly functioned as its advertising arm.

The finance capital for the enterprise, which virtually cornered the LSD market, came from William Mellon Hitchcock, heir to the Mellon family fortune. The operation disintegrated when Mellon, Hitchcock and other backers were indicted for tax evasion.

Leary pledges that he will go on "to bigger and better things" since he is released from prison, and anyone he has antagonized "will understand."

Kenora Indian Chiefs warned against further violence to the Indians in Ottawa and said this demonstration could lead to others "which may not turn out to be so peaceful".

Ken Dennis, an Indian spokesman said the whole affair could have been avoided if the Prime Minister or other officials had come out to hear the protest.

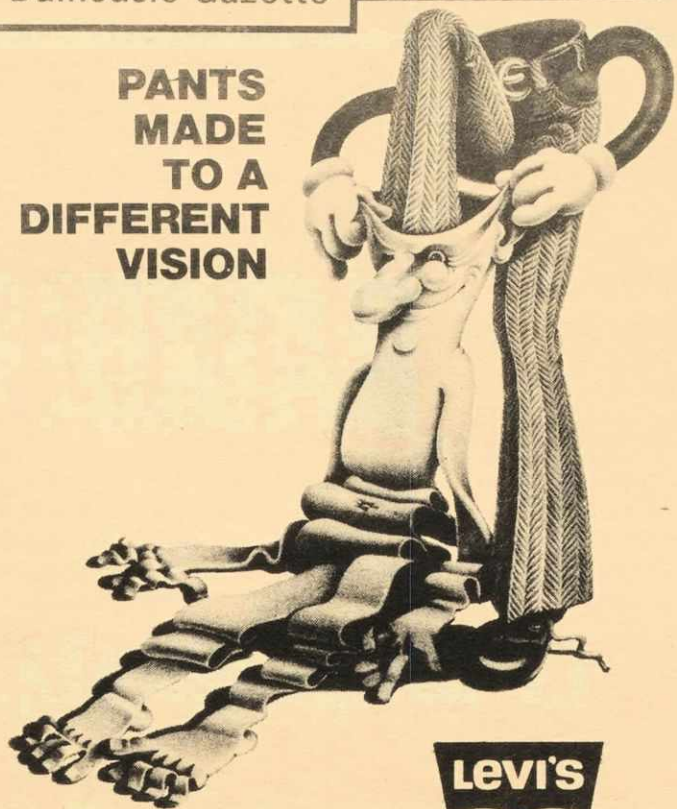
"It was a pretty gutless thing for Trudeau to do. It would never have become violent if he had come out and he knows it."

The Union of Nova Scotia Indians said it did not endorse the action because "of extremist groups behind the leadership". However, they were not unsympathetic with the demonstrators.

"We have always taken the stand that peaceful negotiations are the best way. However, this does not say there will not be violence in the future as there are many frustrations among the Indian people."

OTTAWA (CUP)...Reaction to the violence displayed during the demonstration of the Native People's Caravan on Parliament Hill and the demands of the Indians has been swift and varied. Native leaders have condemned the action of the R.C.M.P. while government leaders have said it was necessary. Native leaders say the demands of their people are legitimate while the government says it will negotiate only under its own terms.

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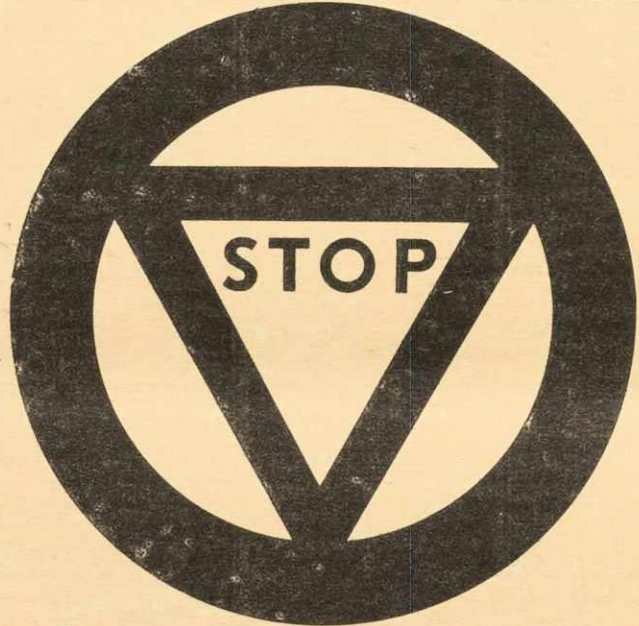


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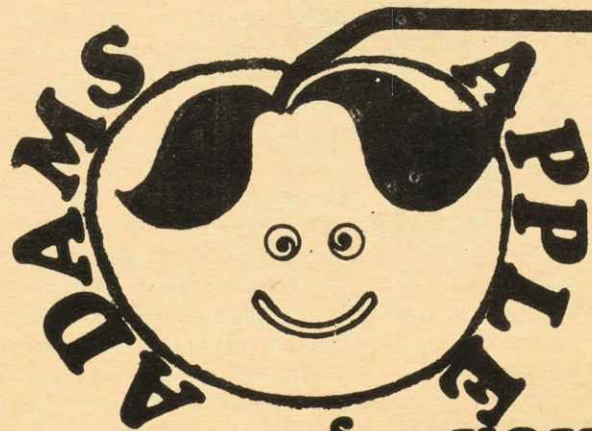


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