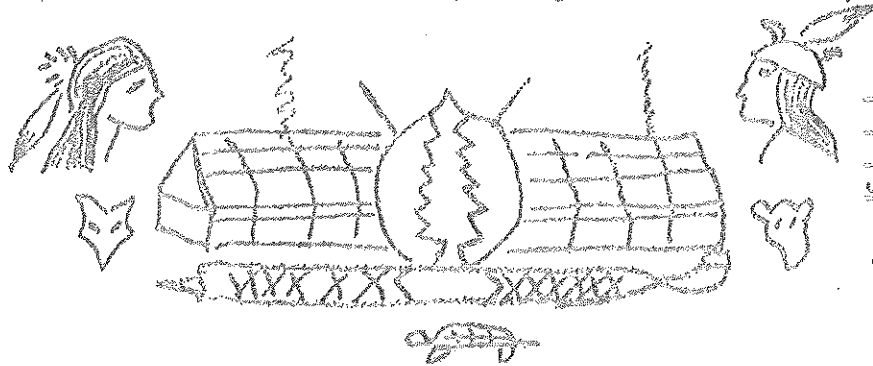


Oneida News Letter

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ONEIDA TRIBE WINS \$1.3 MILLION AWARD.

A 15-year fight by the Oneida Indians for reimbursement by the U.S. government for lands taken from them in 1831-32 has been crowned with success by a settlement of \$1,313,472. The land in question is a wedge-shaped area of eastern Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, extending from Milwaukee to Upper Michigan.

Initially the Oneida tribe claimed reimbursement of \$4.3 million the government received through sale of the land to white settlers, at the rate of \$2.50 an acre for timber land and \$1.25 an acre for agricultural land. In 1964, however, the U.S. Court of Claims ruled the Indians were not entitled to recover for timber on the lost lands.

A settlement of \$1,488,000 was approved by the Indian Claims Commission in 1963, after which the government instituted a counter claim of \$200,000 for "offsets," or amounts paid the Indians in goods over a period of many years.

All claims revolved around a determination of the value of the land in 1832, when the Oneidas were deprived of their equity in Wisconsin lands obtained through agreements with the Menominee tribe in the 1820s and subsequently approved by President James Monroe.

The litigation began in 1951 when the Oneidas filed their original claim with the Indian Claims Commission. In 1957 the commission found the tribe had been "unjustly deprived" of its share in the lands through government treaties with the Menominees which ignored the Oneida equity. Additional arguments were made before the commission in 1959 and 1961.

The basis of the claim was that, in the 1820s, the Oneidas were induced to leave their ancestral lands in New York and emigrate west. Part of the tribe, under the leadership of the Rev. Eleazer Williams, who attained notoriety a century and a half ago for his pretensions as the "Lost Dauphin" of the French Revolution, made an agreement with the Menominees for new lands in Wisconsin.

By 1824 the tide of white settlement swept into Wisconsin. Settlers at Green Bay put pressure on the Indians and on the government to deprive the Oneidas and Menominees of the lands along Lake Michigan. The result was the Stambaugh Treaty of 1832-named for the Indian Agent at Green Bay who negotiated the treaty-by which the Menominees ceded the land to the government. The government then opened the area to settlement.

The Oneidas were compelled to accept a reservation of 569,120 acres to avoid confiscation of all their lands. By later allotments to individual members of the tribe, the present Oneida Reservation has shrunk to about 2,000 acres.

Still to be determined between the Oneida tribe and Congress is the manner in which the award will be distributed to the members of the tribe. The award also included the Stockbridge-Munsee Indians living in the Bowler area. This was taken from the Green Bay Press-Gazette.

ONEIDA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Miki and Barbara have been continuing the work of the VISTA trainees that were here last fall in setting up a community library in the Parish Hall. They have organized the books that were there from last year, with the special help of some of the Neighborhood Youth Corps (NYC) boys in listing approximately 100 books donated by Mrs. Marjorie Leonard of Green Bay, and in carrying out the heavy boxes of "rejects". Artley Skenandore helped with getting lumber donated from Miller-Phiel Lumber Company of Seymour. Amos Christjohn has offered to help build the extra bookshelves that are now needed to hold the collection; he will teach Darryl Moore, Earl and Steve Poquette how to build them and will help with supervision while the boys work on them in their NYC time. Miki and Barbara plan to catalogue the books and prepare them so that they can be taken out in the near future. This is a big job, and they would appreciate help from anybody interested in the project.

WISCONSIN YOUTH COMMITTEE

On Sunday, January 7 at 2 p.m. there was a meeting of District Five of the Wisconsin Youth Committee. Those attending from Oneida were: Ruth Baird, Anna John, Kathy Stevens, Marty Skenandore, Mike Thomas, Barbara Burnett, and Miki Beane. There was a discussion of the possible projects that District Five might undertake for the year. It was brought up in the meeting that those present ought to try and make an effort to recruit more interested young people to become involved in the Wisconsin Youth Committee. If anyone from Oneida is interested in knowing more about WYC, please contact Kathleen Stevens, who is a county representative, or Miki and Barbara, Oneida VISTA workers.

FILM SHOWING

On February 2, at 8 p.m. in the Parish Hall of the Holy Apostles Church in Oneida, there will be a showing of a film entitled "MODESTED". This film depicts situations that teenagers might become involved in and attempts to emphasize how one can avoid such situations that may be dangerous or harmful. It is quite a powerful film. Recommended for adults and teenagers. The admission is free and everyone is welcome.

TUTORING AVAILABLE

If anyone would like any help in their school work, Miki and Barbara would be glad to assist in any way that they can. Their phone number is 860-2500.

RUNNING RUMOR by Brenda Hill

It's funny how rumors start. After awhile it becomes a longer story and more dreadful or it becomes funnier. Here are some rumors for example:

Today I went to work as usual and as I got to my locker a friend told me his pal had been in a car accident and it wasn't serious. Around noon I overheard two girls talking about his almost dying. Later on I heard he went to Texas. By the end of the day I was told he died and I was asked if I was going to his funeral.

This is just one example but see how they are passed on. As it goes on it is made into a big story. It goes like this, I heard, She said, They told me, etc. Here is another example:

Today I went to school and Betty said her bus just missed the ditch. In history class Jack said they had hit a tree and went plunging into the ditch. Louise said the bus had tipped over. See how rumors go on and on. This could have been a disaster, if I had listened more.

EARL: I'll race you to Oneida.
CALHOUN: O.K. I'll go by tree.

RECIPE: SNOW ICE CREAM. One bowl freshly fallen snow. Milk (preferably evaporated but regular is OK). 1/2 tsp. vanilla. Sugar. Mix all ingredients together. Eat immediately!

HEAD START

Head Start projects for Indian children on three reservations in Wisconsin have been approved by Gov. Warren P. Knowles.

This anti-poverty program will provide pre-school training for 105 youngsters on the Oneida, Lac Courte Oreilles and Lac du Flambeau reservations. The projects will be financed by a federal grant of \$112,000 and \$3,200 from the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council.

The staff members of the Head Start school which will begin soon are attending a "Headstart Training Session" at Vermillion, So. Dakota, the week of Jan. 16 to 20. The teachers for the Oneida project are: Mrs. Myron Smith of West DePere and Mrs. Mary Gillis of Green Bay. The teachers' aides are: Mrs. Maxine Wheelock and Mrs. Arletta Kurowski, both of West DePere, Route 2. The Social worker is Mrs. Pat Vandenhouten of Green Bay. The CAP Co-ordinators are also in session in Vermillion.

An enrollment of 35 children has been approved for Oneida.

GIRL SCOUTS

The Girl Scouts at Chicago Corners are now 48 members strong. Fifteen girls are Brownies. The leaders are Miss Frances Gerber, a teacher at the Chicago Corners school, and Miss Yvonne Schuyler. Brownies are in the 2nd and 3rd grades. The girls are now planting indoor gardens and making their own musical instruments.

The Junior girls are now divided into patrols named Bluebird, Four Star, Runner, and Daisy. The girls as a group are working on their cooking badges and patrols individually are working on ice skating, trailmaking, and folk dancing. There are 23 Junior Girl Scouts. The Junior Girl Scouts are Mrs. Loretta Ellis, Mrs. Merlin Cornelius and Mrs. Eldred Nicholas.

The girls meet at Chicago Corners School on Thursdays at 4 p.m. unless a special occurrence causes a change in plans. Girls from 4 schools have joined. A joint investiture for both troops was held on December 15.

PROGRESS ON THE SKATING RINK

Heavy snow in the past week and this week has slowed the flooding of the skating rink, but we hope that soon good skating will be available for all. The Town of Hobart fire department has given two costs of ice to the two rinks (across from the White Eagle and beside the Housing Project) and Ervin Ambrosius plans to plow off the snow from the latest storm. The Community Action Program committee has been busy trying to find willing supervisors for the rink; while there are signs posted to "Skate at Your Own Risk", the committee would like to see as few accidents as possible. There should be at least 2 supervisors (one on skates) during the following times when there is open skating:

Monday-Thursday	3:30-9:30 p.m.
Friday	3:30-10:30 p.m.
Saturday	9-11:30 p.m. 12-10:30 p.m.
Sunday	9 a.m.-9:30 p.m.

Hockey will be allowed only from 8-9:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday, and Saturday morning from 9-11:30 a.m. to minimize danger to other skaters. If you would be interested in helping the committee and the community out by donating an hour or two every week in supervision, please contact any member of the CAP committee-- Ruth Baird, CAP Co-ordinator; Ernest Smith, recently elected chairman of the CAP committee; Miki and Barbara, VISTA's.

INTERTRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

The location for the monthly meeting of the Inter-Tribal Council meeting has been changed from Webster, Wis. to Lac du Flambeau on Jan. 21st at 9 a.m. instead of 10 a.m.

HOUSE SEATED IN ARIZONA LEGISLATURE

Lloyd L. House, 35, took his seat this month in the Arizona legislature, the first Indian ever to be elected to that body.

House, whose father was a Navajo and his mother an Oneida Indian, was one of four men elected in the November 8 general election to represent the three counties of Apache, Greenlee and Navajo in the House of Representatives.

Lloyd's mother, Elizabeth, is a sister of Mrs. Elsie Green of Oneida. The family of mother and four sons have lived in Arizona the greater part of their lives with the exception of about a year spent in Oneida.

House has received much publicity since the election according to an article in the newspaper, Winslow Mail. He knows that he will be in the spotlight and he wants to make a showing that will reflect favorably, both, upon himself and upon the Indian people.

"I hope to make the most of this opportunity," he said. "I expect to be the image of the Indian in the legislature, and I know that whatever I do is going to reflect upon the Indian.

"Therefore, I'm going to do my utmost to work with such diligence at my duties as a legislator, and maintain the highest standards of deportment so as to reflect upon all Indians."

For the past three years, he has been director of Social Security for the Navajo Tribe, stationed at Window Rock.

Lloyd is a product of Bureau of Indian Affairs boarding schools. After attending a public kindergarten at Winslow, his mother sent him to a BIA boarding school at Leupp, Ariz. From there, he went to Fort Defiance. Then he went on to the high school at Fort Wingate, N.M., where he was an outstanding football player and received a scholarship to Bacone Junior College at Muskogee Okla. From here he joined the Marine Corps soon after the Korean War broke out. He spent 14 months in the front lines in Korea as a forward observer for the 11th Marines. His brothers were also members of the Marine Corps. The Marine Corps Commandant sent Mrs. House a citation for giving so many sons to the Marines.

All four brothers were also boxers. Lloyd had 86 amateur fights, losing only 12 with 50 knockouts and in 1952 he won the All-Service welterweight championship.

Following his discharge from the service, he went to Northern Arizona University at Flagstaff from which he has a degree in elementary education. He taught at the university and was with the BIA at Flagstaff dormitory before going to work for the Social Security Administration.

House and his wife and four children live in Window Rock, Arizona.

INDIAN COMMISSIONER TO SPEAK

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Robert Bennett, will be in Appleton to speak on Indian problems on Friday, January 27 at 8 P.M. at the Outagamie County Bank, located on the corner of State and Lawrence Sts. (which is only one block south of College Ave., on the West end of town). We urge all who can to attend as this should be of great interest to all of us. Robert is one of our local Oneida boys who was born here and lived here in his early years. Let's welcome him by our presence at this meeting.

COMMUNITY WORKERS INSTITUTE

A Community Workers Institute was held in Aberdeen, S.D., the week of Jan. 3rd to the 7th. The CAP Co-ordinator of Oneida, Mrs. Ruth Baird, represented our community.

The training schedule included topics such as, Work Relationship between BIA and CAP, Community development, Parliamentary procedure, Communicating effectively (public speaking), Cultural psychology, and Poster making.

Twelve different reservations from North and South Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin were represented by 67 community workers. "It is indeed an education in itself to meet and speak with our fellow Indians from other reservations," Mrs. Baird said.

HOME LEVELLED BY FIRE

Two days after Christmas on Dec. 27 the home of VanRoy Thomas was burned to the ground. The family of eight are the first occupants of the Oneida Housing Project after workers hurried to complete one of the units for them. They moved into a two bedroom elderly unit as an emergency measure. They will qualify for a three-bedroom family unit when one is completed.

The VFW held a card party for the Thomas family on Jan. 14 at the clubhouse and cleared about \$65.00 for them. All concerned wish to thank everyone for the fine turnout.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Oneida Helpers Society and VFW combined efforts for a Christmas party held at Schuylers Hall on Dec. 25. Due to the efforts of Mrs. Mary Greendeer of Chicago there were toys for all children attending. There were approximately 80 children receiving toys and candy donated by various merchants in Oneida, Green Bay and DePere. The two organizations wish to express their appreciation for all donations and those helping out with preparations.

KENARDORE AND WHITERABBIT TO WASHINGTON ON PROPOSED OMNIBUS BILL

Representatives will go to Washington as delegates on behalf of the G.L.I.T.C. as voted on at the meeting held in Lac Du Flambeau Saturday, Jan. 21. The Omnibus Bill which will be drafted for final presentation is the subject which district meetings have been held throughout the United States with Tribal leaders. It pertains to making a more useable possibility of Bureau of Indian Affairs in making ready the Indians to govern themselves and make available loans, programs, and land management. It is one of the most important developments of legislation affecting the American Indian and one of the most important changes in Bureau Of Indian Affairs policy. Much time was devoted to the changes and view points of the meeting were expressed. It was pointed out that changes could be invoked but the final draft will be studied to suit the Indian people.

This legislation is to satisfy congress and the Indian people that progress will be made to ready the Indian people for the "Main Stream of American Life". Representatives will come from Minneapolis, Billings Montana, Washington, Spokane, Oklahoms, Albuquerque, Las Vegas and will meet with Commissioner Bennett on incorporating the notes taken at these district meetings.

As an observation, it is the first time the Indian will have a hand in setting his own rules and regulations to live up to and which makes this piece of legislation a great step toward the betterment of the American Indian.

Oneida Housing News:

Tenents are now being selected from applicants and at this point two families already reside. Van Roy Thomas, and Edith Post were the first to move into the project. An open house was held on December 31, and a very good turnout resulted in a lot of praise for the wonderful houses that are about to be moved into. Applications are still being taken and the remaining Elderly units will soon be occupied. The family units will be ready in a short time and many a family are waiting to move in. A sample unit was furnished by the Keny Brunette Architecture Company of Green Bay for the showing and looked very good. If you are interested, file an application as soon as possible to any one of the Housing Authority or stop to the Housing office on the site.

CIVIL SERVICE

A proposed school for Civil Service Postal trainees may be set up in the near future. Study is now being made to see what vacancies may exist and the training program will be outlined to train Oneidas for Post Office positions. The study is made based on needs for a study program and interest of local people. This is based on a joint effort by the B.I.A. and the Civil Service Commission and the Postal Department under the direction of George Farch, Green Bay postmaster.

M.T.A. to graduate the first class of Machine Tool Operators on Feb. 11, at the Green Bay Vocational School. Class includes 2 Oneidas and 2 Menominees.

VFW CARD PARTY JAN. 28 SAT. AT CLUBHOUSE