

4-1-1980

Honga : the leader, v. 03, no. 04

American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc.

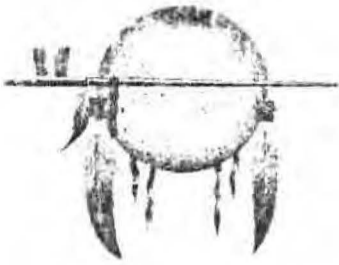
Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.unomaha.edu/honga>

Please take our feedback survey at: https://unomaha.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8cchtFmpDyGfBLE

Recommended Citation

of Omaha, Inc., American Indian Center, "Honga : the leader, v. 03, no. 04" (1980). *Honga: the leader*. 27.
<https://digitalcommons.unomaha.edu/honga/27>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Digitized Series at DigitalCommons@UNO. It has been accepted for inclusion in Honga: the leader by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UNO. For more information, please contact unodigitalcommons@unomaha.edu.



HONGA

"THE LEADER"

VOL. III - NO. 4

AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER OF OMAHA, INC.

APRIL 1981

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Indian Community & Supporters:

This month's edition of the HONGA will emphasize the importance of Indian involvement. Now that the 1980 Census is in progress and the results forthcoming, it is important that we, as Indian people, be informed by our National Indian representatives on how the population increase of Indians will enhance future increased funding of ongoing and new programs for reservations and urban Indian centers. Please call your Indian Center for Census assistance. It is important to be counted.

This year at the American Indian Center, we will be accepting "10" CETA summer youth workers. When signing up for these jobs at CETA, please indicate you are Indian and would like to work at your Indian Center. Intensive and extensive training will be offered in the administrative fields.

Presently the American Indian Center is planning to move to the Plaza for Human Resources, located at 4601 North 36th Street.

If anyone is in need of services which our Indian Center has to offer, please call for Mr. Fillmore Walker for transportation. Total outreach will start the week of the 7th to extend our services to individual homes. If anyone is in need of additional services, please give us a call to see what we can work out. REMEMBER, this is YOUR American Indian Center, have it work for YOU.

Starting next week, the American Indian Center will implement our Crisis and Intervention program for individuals who are found eligible for assistance. Total assistance is in the area of \$50.00 per family. Please come to see if you qualify for this assistance.

Meanwhile, until our next issue of the HONGA, come in to visit your American Indian Center. In behalf of the Board of Directors and staff, I would like to wish you a Happy Easter!

Respectfully,

Timothy F. Woodhull
Timothy F. Woodhull
Executive Director

American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc.



Urban Representative,
Nebraska Indian Commission

CIRCUS CIRCUS CIRCUS CIRCUS

HI KIDS,

We are pleased to announce to you that we have been given enough space to seat 100 people -- 25 adults and 75 children at the SHRINE CIRCUS on April 15 at 1:30 p.m. at the CIVIC AUDITORIUM.

If you would like to attend this grand event, please call me as soon as possible so that I can make reservations for you. If you go with our group, it will not cost you anything.

Also, I would like to announce that once again I will be coaching a softball team for 8-12 year old boys. I want to start practicing immediately, since the games start in early May. Call me if you are interested in playing softball. (344-0111) Your friend, Fill.

A NOTE TO ALL OF OUR READERS....

We have just updated our newsletter mailing list. Please keep us informed of any change in address. Thank you.

INDIAN LAND PACT STEP CLOSER

Augusta, Maine (UPI) - A historic out-of-court settlement granting two Indian tribes \$81.5 million and municipal status was ratified Thursday by the Maine Legislature, signed by Gov. Joseph E. Brennan and sent to Congress.

The settlement would end an eight-year court fight between the state and the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Tribes, which claimed 12.5 million acres of Maine land were stolen from them more than 150 years ago in violation of federal law.

The pact would give the tribes a \$27 million permanent trust fund and \$54.4 million for the purchase of 300,000 acres. In return, the tribes would give up all further land claims.

Because only federal money is committed, Congress must approve the pact.

"This is the most complex lawsuit that any state has ever been involved in," said Attorney General Richard S. Cohen, the state's chief negotiator. Cohen was skeptical of federal approval, saying Maine's congressional delegation has indicated it would be "a very tough battle."

HONGA (THE LEADER) is published monthly by the American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc., with grant funds appropriated by Administration for Native Americans (ANA) and approved by the AICO Board of Directors. HONGA (The Leader) is mailed free to native Americans and other interested persons/organizations upon receiving a written request and has a circulation of 1,500 copies. All correspondence should be addressed to: The Editor, HONGA (THE LEADER), American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc., 613 South 16th Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68102.

Full credit should be given HONGA (The Leader) when any material is reprinted therefrom.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor-in-Chief.....Timothy F. Woodhull
 Associate Editor.....Wayne Tyndall
 Mimeograph Operator.....Renee Browning
 * * * *

REPORTERS

Alcoholism Program.....Whitman Harry
 Legal Services.....Diane Webb
 Health & Nutrition.....Linda Azuguo
 Ellen Cunningham
 Elsie Harlan
 Sherry Pappan
 Standing Bear Project.....John Pappan
 Employment.....Fred LeRoy
 Health Careers.....Josephine Clinchers
 VISTA.....Anne MacKinnon
 Volunteers.....Gene Trisch

"ONE STOP JOB SHOP"

Registration for the CETA Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) will begin Monday, April 28, 1980, and run through Saturday, May 31, 1980.

The theme for SYEP '80 is "One Stop Job Shop." Youth who are determined eligible during registration will receive a temporary job assignment. Job assignments will be confirmed after all the information on the application which determines eligibility is verified. It is, therefore, imperative that the youth have the pre-application form completed accurately before registration.

The pre-application form will be available in the public and private schools, and can be picked up at the CETA Office, 5002 South 33rd Street, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ellen Joseph, SYEP Coordinator, at 444-4862.

Listed below are the registration dates, place to register and time.

Date	Place	Time
May 11, 28, 29, 30	CETA	4 p.m./7 p.m.
May 1, 2	5002 S 33 St.	

(Next column)

Date	Place	Time
May 5, 6	Bellevu West High 15 & Thurston Ave.	4 p.m./7 p.m.
May 7, 8	North Omaha Boys Club 2200 North 20 Street	4 p.m./7 p.m.
May 10, 12, 13	CETA 5002 South 33 St	4 p.m./7 p.m.
May 14	North Branch YMCA 2311 North 22nd St.	4 p.m./7 p.m.
May 15	Bellevue West High 15th & Thurston Ave.	4 p.m./7 p.m.
May 17, 19, 20	CETA 5002 South 33 St.	4 p.m./7 p.m.
May 21	North Branch YMCA 2311 North 22nd St.	4 p.m./7 p.m.
May 22	Bellevue West High 15 & Thurston Ave.	4 p.m./7 p.m.
May 24, 27, 28, 29, 31	CETA 5002 South 33 St.	4 p.m./7 p.m.

REQUIREMENTS

- *Disadvantaged (low income) Youth only
- *Resident of Douglas or Sarpy County
- *Must have proof of age and U.S. Citizenship to apply (Birth Certificate is the only verification acceptable for these two items.)
- *Must have Social Security Card to apply. (Knowing the number is not enough.)
- *Secure pre-application card at your school or any registration site. Card must be completed by parents or legal guardian and presented at time of registration.
- *Parent or legal guardian should be at registration with you.
- *Must meet current U.S. Department of Labor income guidelines.

TOPEKA INDIAN MENS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

The Indian Center of Topeka, Inc., will sponsor an all Indian men's basketball tournament on April 19-20, 1980. For more information call or write Josette "Nugget" Wahwassuck or M. "Rocky" Jackson at Indian Center of Topeka, Inc. 407 W. Lyman Rd., Topeka, KS 66608. Phone no. is (913) 357-1811 or 357-7276. There is a registration fee of \$65.00 with a deadline of Apr 11

POW WOW IN SIOUX CITY

A pow wow sponsored by the AMERIND ALLIANCE CLUB will be held at Morningside College, Alee Gym on April 5 starting at 1:00 p.m. For more information contact Wehnona Stabler at (712) 277-5147.

IN 1924 CITIZENSHIP WAS CONFERRED ON 'ALL NON-CITIZEN INDIANS.'

NEW ARRIVAL....

The American Indian Center of Omaha is proud to announce that Linda Azuogu, project coordinator for the Health and Nutrition program, gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, Jenni Ikechi Azuogu, 7 lbs. 1/2 oz., and 19" tall, on March 16, 1980 at 1:31 a.m. Congratulations, Mac and Linda!

VISTA VOLUNTEER TO LEAVE FOR HOME

It's time that we at the American Indian Center of Omaha say "good-bye" to Miss Anne MacKinnon, our VISTA worker. Her VISTA time is up. She has decided to accept employment in her home state of Maryland. The American Indian Center is saddened at her leaving but we thank her for all the help she so willingly gave over the past year. We all wish her the best of luck in all she does. Keep in touch, Anne?

AICO ALCOHOLISM PROGRAM NEWS...

The AICO Alcoholism Program is making immense progress as it grows to better help the Native American people to fight alcohol and drug abuse. Staff are working daily with clients/residents. Treatment sessions go on daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., as well as group sessions and enrichment/outings, and around-the-clock counseling services.

Enrichment and outings are planned through the week. One of the more important aspects of the program for American Indian recovering alcoholics and their families is cultural enrichment, including 1) arts and crafts, 2) recreation, and 3) spiritual growth.

Many of the resident/clients possess artistic talent/ability in the performing and visual arts. They are able to express themselves through doing these things.

Please assist us by making tax-deductible in-kind contributions of equipment, supplies, and services for 1) painting, pottery, jewelry, sculpture, photography and graphic arts; 2) basketball, softball, baseball, volleyball, tennis, golf, camping, chess, billiards, etc.; 3) music, books, magazines, newspapers, and other educational materials.

Alcoholism is the Number One health problem among the Native American community. Your positive assistance in treating the disease by donating equipment and services will be greatly appreciated.

Meetings are held at the Transitional Living Center every Friday night at 7:00 p.m. Those interested are invited to attend. If there are any questions or you are interested in our program, please contact the AICO Alcoholism Program at 451-3714. + + + + +

DO NOT GET TO FILL OUT YOUR CENSUS FORM.

OVERWEIGHT ONE OF MANY FACTORS ADDING TO DIABETES AMONG NATIVE AMERICANS.....

By Elsie Harlan, Nutrition Education Specialist

It is estimated that almost three-times as many adult Indians have diabetes as do white adults and that if present trends continue, diabetes could eventually affect as much as one half of the adult Indian population, according to the following article written by Dr. Kelly M. West, Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center and Consultant

Diabetes is a condition in which there is too much sugar in the blood. All people have a sugar in the blood called glucose. As gasoline is necessary for a motor, glucose serves normally as the fuel for body cells. However, the body functions best when there is only a small amount of sugar in the blood. When there is too much sugar in the blood, some of it escapes through the kidneys into the urine. If the blood sugar is very high, it causes an increase in the amount of urine and leads to an increase in thirst.

The medication used to control a diabetic are tablets and insulin injections. Insulin injections are usually given once daily by the diabetic himself or herself. The medication depends upon the condition of the diabetic. In some cases a carefully planned diet followed properly will be all that is needed.

Two main causes out of numerous factors why Indians are affected by diabetes are obesity and heredity. Although more research is needed, there are some clues that offer some answers. Diabetes is not common in all tribes, and in all thin tribes diabetes is uncommon. For example, rates of diabetes are low in certain lean tribes of Alaska, Canada, and Central American. Diabetes was rare in Arizona and Oklahoma tribes before obesity became a problem.

The risk of getting diabetes is 20 times greater in very fat people than in lean people. However, thin people may get diabetes, too. This supports the hypothesis that overweight attributes to diabetes among Indians.

The effects of diabetes cause certain kinds of problems; without good treatment trouble is more likely.

Diabetics have about twice as many heart attacks and strokes as those without diabetes. Gangrene requiring amputation is about 30 times more common. Blindness is about 20 times more frequent.

Those with weight problems should eat less and exercise more in order to combat diabetes. Dr. Kelley, also recommends to those who are diabetic not to smoke. Since smoking increases the risk of heart attacks and gangrene. + + + + +

In 1954 Jim Thorpe, the great athlete, was buried in the town of Jim Thorpe, Pennsylvania.

SPRING POW WOW WAS SUCCESS

The American Indian Center and the Orphan Aides sponsored a spring pow wow at Fort Omaha on March 22 which drew over 400 people from Sioux City, Iowa, Lincoln, Omaha, Kansas and Macy, Nebraska. Plans are being worked out to have another pow wow later in the spring.

In Standing Bear related events, the grant for the promotion and editing of the video tapes looks promising. Plans are being made for the Orphan Aides and Indian Center to participate in the upcoming Ethnic Festival to be held on June 7 and 8, 1980.

Standing Bear Souvenir Posters and booklets are still available so if you are interested in purchasing these items please contact John Pappan at the Center.

HEALTH CAREERS

Have you considered a Health Career? Do you feel your high school education is inadequate to enter college for a health career? If this is all true, "HERE IS THE ANSWER TO YOUR PROBLEMS."

Creighton University offers a Summer Institute, held on the Creighton University campus to prepare high school graduates for a successful pre-health study in college. The six and one half week summer institute which begins on June 18 and ends August 1 is designed to build reading, writing, and vocabulary skills and also improves basic mathematical skills for elementary basic science college courses.

You will be eligible if you are a high school graduate, you plan to pursue a pre-health curriculum in college and are a U.S. citizen. Required materials are: 1) A summer institute application, 2) Two (2) letters of recommendation from 1) a high school counselor or community agency counselor, 2) a high school science instructor, and 3) a high school transcript.

Summer Institute students are housed on campus in the dormitory and participate in the meal plan. APPLICATION DEADLINE is May 15, 1980. This project is funded by a Health Careers Opportunity Grant from HEW and Creighton University. It is offered at no cost to the student who is accepted. Summer Institute applications are available at the CENTER. Please call Josephine Clinchers at 344-0111 or come into the AICO office.****

TWO OMAHA INDIAN WOMEN SELECTED FOR DIRECTORY OF AMERICAN INDIAN ALASKA NATIVE WOMEN

Diana P. Walker of Omaha and Pauline Tyndall of Macy, Nebraska, both Omaha Indians, have been selected by the Board of Consultants to be included in the first comprehensive Directory of American Indian-Alaska Native Women. AICO is making arrangements to them both.

SIOUX TO MEET OVER SETTLING OF LAND SUIT

Pierre, S.D. (UPI) -- When Sioux Indians talk about "the treaty," they mean the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868 -- an agreement they say was broken by gold, greed and Custer's final stand.

They stand to collect \$105 million from the federal government for taking of the Black Hills in the 1870s in violation of the treaty, but many tribal leaders today want part of not all of their rightful land back instead.

The multimillion dollar payoff will come if the U. S. Supreme Court upholds lower court rulings that the United States illegally took the Black Hills from the Sioux after the discovery of gold. The court will hear oral arguments in late May, with a decision expected later this year.

HILLS RESERVED

Delegates will converge in Pierre for a meeting of the Great Sioux Nation of Indians to discuss accepting or rejecting the settlement. In June members of the Black Hills Sioux Treaty Council will meet in Ft. Laramie, Wyo.

The Black Hills were reserved for "the absolute and undisturbed use and occupation" of the Sioux in the 1868 treaty.

But following, "Custer's last Stand" in 1876 Congress approved a rider to the Indian Appropriations Act that cut off all rations for the Sioux until they terminated hostilities and ceded the Black Hills. The hostilities arose, the Indians claim, because of the government's failure to keep gold miners out of the area.

Less than one year later, Congress approved what the Indians call "the Black Hills Act." It was an agreement, signed by 240 Sioux, which ceded the Black Hills.

However, Article 12 of the 1868 treaty stipulated no cession would be valid unless it were approved by "at least three-fourths of all the adult male Indians occupying or interested in the same." Council spokesman John King said only 10 percent signed it.

ANOTHER ISSUE

Even if the Supreme Court upholds the lower court decision, whether the Sioux will accept the money is another issue altogether.

Bob Burnette, a former Rosebud Sioux tribal chairman, said the money is not enough and the Sioux want at least a portion of the Black Hills back.

King contended, though, the government should pay reparations totaling about \$60 billion in addition to any other settlement.

In 1929 Charles Curtis, of Osage and Kaw Indian descent, began his term as vice-president under President Herbert Hoover.

* * * * *

FEDERAL JUDGE URBOM: TRIBES ELIGIBLE FOR FOOD TAX CREDITS

Lincoln (AP) -- Reservation Indians in Nebraska may stand to gain more than \$190,000 in food sales tax credits that the State Department of Revenue apparently has been denying them illegally for three years.

In a class action lawsuit filed nearly two years ago, Chief U.S. District Judge Warren K. Urbom has ruled that the department has abridged those Indians' constitutional right of due process since January 1977, when it began denying the \$20 credit to them.

Urbom's order also enjoins the department from continuing the practice.

Deputy State Tax Commissioner John Decker said the denial was based on the fact that no sales tax is imposed on purchases on the reservations, "and we didn't think they were entitled to a refund when they don't pay the tax in the first place."

But the Omaha, Winnebago, and Santee Indian plaintiffs in the case said they buy most of their food in off-reservation stores where the sales tax is charged, and that the Revenue Department was unfairly denying them the right to deduct it from their income tax.

In ruling in the Indians' favor, Urbom noted that while the tax commissioner can adopt rules and regulations deemed necessary to carry out the duties of his office, those rules and regulations cannot be inconsistent with either state or federal law.

Pointing out that the Nebraska statute dealing with the sales tax credit doesn't exclude reservation Indians from receiving terms, and those persons are entitled to rely upon it.

"That reliance cannot be undermined without due process," he declared.

According to Nebraska Indian Commission estimates, the state's Omaha, Winnebago and Santee reservations had a combined, total population of 9,544 for 1977, 1978 and 1979. If all are now entitled to the tax credit that's been denied, the reimbursement could total \$190,880.

The HONGA EDITOR called the Nebraska State Department of Revenue and was assured that the Revenue Department was getting in touch with the tribal councils and would dispatch specialists up to the three reservations to assist members in filing their amended claims to the State Tax Commission for refunds. When this action begins, we will place an article in HONGA providing procedures for those who may wish to file their claim for refunds.)

In 1890 about three hundred Indians, mostly women and children under Chief Big Foot, were massacred at Wounded Knee Creek, South Dakota, by the U. S. Seventh Cavalry on December 29. Charles Eastman, Sioux, an American Indian physician, was the only doctor allowed into the camp to minister to the Indians.**

CENSUS AND YOU

Frank Walker, Census Taker, has his office at the American Indian Center to help you with your census form. His hours are from 8 to 5 daily, Monday thru Friday. If you do not have forms available, he will provide them. The important thing is that you be counted in the 1980 Federal census. If you have misplaced your forms or they were thrown away, come to the Indian Center and have Frank assist you in filling out new census forms. It is important that each and every Indian be counted in the 1980 census since federal allocation of funds to defined agencies is based on number of people being counted. In this case, the number of Indians living in Omaha will determine how much federal dollars we get from Washington for the next ten years. Be counted and help us get a true count of Indians living in Omaha. We owe this to each other and will all benefit from it. ***

LINCOLN INDIAN CENTER WILL HOLD DEDICATION CEREMONIES OF NEW OFFICE AND CULTURAL BLDG.

The grand opening of the Lincoln Indian Center will take place in Lincoln on April 20 - 27. The theme is NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE WEEK. Some highlights of activities include author Ruth Beebe Hill of HONTA HO. With her will be Chunksa Yuha, co-author of the controversial best seller on the Sioux Indians. These events are cosponsored by the Council of American Indian Students of Lincoln. A pow wow will be held. For further information contact Janna Ashley, 402 477-5231.***

POW WOW TO BE HELD AT LINCOLN CORRECTIONAL CENTER

The Native Americans and Mexican Americans incarcerated at the Lincoln Correctional Center will hold their 6th Annual Pow Wow on Sunday, April 20.

April 8 is the deadline to get permission to attend the pow wow. If you are interested in being invited, please send your name and the names of family members who will accompany you to: Daniel Denney, President, Native American Culture Club, Lincoln Correctional Center, P.O. BOX 2800, Lincoln, NE 68502. To attend the pow wow, you must arrive between 10:00 and 11:00 a.m. Bring your dishes for the feast.

THE TREND IS TO LOSE WEIGHT

The Weight Control Group will meet April 10th and April 23rd at the MULTI-PURPOSE CENTER, 2211 Paul.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 1:00 p.m. and will end at 3:00 p.m. Transportation and baby sitting will be provided. For more info call Elsie Harlan, at 344-0111.***

In 1969 Alcatraz Island was occupied by Indians who called themselves "Indians of All Tribes."

CRISIS INTERVENTION ASSISTANCE

The American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc., is now able to provide crisis intervention assistance to eligible clients as a result of the severe winter we just experienced.

These services include providing eligible clients with food items, children's shoes, and blankets. All clients in need of these services are hereby directed to come to the Indian Center to make application. Clients must meet the criteria for eligibility. This should not, however, discourage you from coming in to see if you qualify. More than likely you will qualify. Other services include helping clients to qualify for fuel payments from the Douglas County Welfare Department. Please call the Indian Center for more info. (344-0111)***

LEGAL DEPARTMENT NEWS

MANY Native Americans are not yet aware of the Indian Child Welfare Act. This federal law went into effect in May of 1979 and lists criteria under which Indian Children may be removed from their parents. The child's tribe and Indian agency may become actively involved in any court proceedings for child abuse, neglect or germination of Indian parental rights.

The Act was passed in order to keep Indian children within their own culture. As our community is quite aware, too many of our children have been lost to us in the past.

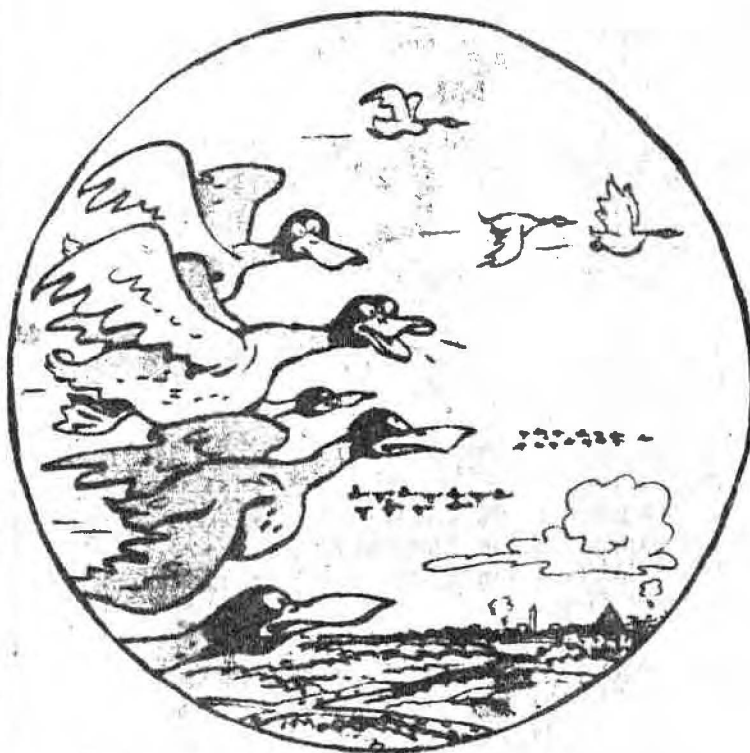
In order for an Indian parent, tribe or agency to enter any court proceedings, the child must be a member of his/her tribe or be eligible for membership in a tribe. Custody proceedings which are part of divorce proceedings are not dealt with by this Act.

The Act is long and cannot be printed in its entirety in our HONGA. If anyone has any questions concerning this subject please feel free to call our legal department (344-0111). Our attorney, Diane Webb will be happy to explain this Act to you.***



Easter!

"INDIAN BUREAUCRATS"



"WE'RE APPROACHING WASHINGTON, D.C....GET READY FOR A STRONG HEAD WIND."

SACRED RITES OF THE OMAHAS

In the Omaha Tribe each male member went through the sacred ritual at puberty to find his vision and song in life. The sacred legend is quoted:

The people felt themselves weak and poor. Then the old men gathered together and said: "Let us make our children cry to WAKONDA that he may give us strength." So all the parents took their children who were old enough to pray in earnest, put soft clay on their faces, and sent them forth to lonely places. The old men said to the youths: "You shall go forth to cry to WAKONDA (SOURCE OF ALL). When on the hills you shall not ask for any particular thing. The answer may not come to you as you expect; whatever is good, that may WAKONDA give." Four days upon the hills shall the youths pray, crying. When they stop, they shall wipe their tears with the palms of their hands and lift their wet hands to the sky, then lay them to the earth. This was the people's first appeal to WAKONDA.

After the first time, the youth could repeat the rite until he was old enough to marry and had children; by that time his life was fixed, and he prayed no more unless he was a priest, then he could continue to fast and pray. In the sacred ceremony it was further explained "the appeal was to WAKONDA, the great power." There were other powers -- the sun, the stars, the moon, the earth -- but these were lesser; the prayer was not to them. The appeal was for help throughout life. Although the youth was forbidden to ask for any special favor. The rite called "NONZHINZHON" was always observed in the early spring, never in the summer or winter. Putting clay on the head symbolized humility. * * *

Only Your Census Taker Will Know

NOT The F.B.I.

NOT The Welfare Dept.

NOT The I.R.S.

NOT The Food Stamp Office

NOT The I.N.S.

NOT The Employment Service

NOT EVEN Jimmy Carter

NO ONE Can Find Out What You Tell

The Census Taker Or Put On Your Census Form

THAT'S THE LAW!

one that works!

REMEMBER **IF YOU AREN'T
COUNTED
YOU DON'T COUNT**

**CENSUS
'80** APRIL 1