

March 12, 1969

Sixty-Third Edition

SIX NATIONS NEWS

Operation Head Start, Aid for Mothers

Members of the Children's Aid Society of Brantford attended Six Nations council meeting Thursday to explain two plans for social work on the reserve.

Lance Sams of the society told council about the Head Start Program and the Neighborhood Drop-in Centre, both in operation at present in Brantford. The Head Start Program is designed to educate pre-school children and give them a head start. The youngsters are brought to the centre once a week for a half-day session.

The second plan is designed to give women with several children time to get out of the house and enjoy themselves one afternoon each week. The children are brought to a centre where volunteers provide free baby-sitting service and the mother then has time to engage in some form of educational activity such as attending a library or seeing a movie. Mr. Sams emphasized that the plans were not provided as a "glorified baby-sitting service."

Rev. Karl Hansen of Christ Church said the work he and his wife had done among Indian children on the reserve had been very satisfying. He invited the society representative to address the ministerial association on the reserve regarding the two plans.

Mrs. Rena Hill suggested council look into use of the community hall in Ohsweken to show films and slides if the programs take root.

No Free Telephone Service

Six Nations Council received its long-awaited reply from Dunnville Telephone Company Thursday concerning a free telephone exchange on the reserve.

Council approached the company last year regarding free service for customers who now pay long distance tolls to call neighbors across the road on the Bell system. At the last council meeting a letter was forwarded to the company with a 30-day ultimatum to advise council on progress on the free service or remove the company lines from the reserve.

In his letter to council, R.M. Brown, vice-president of operations of the Dunn-ville firm, said toll studies have shown the traffic does not warrant free service. It would cost the company \$44,000 to give the service demanded. Mr. Brown said the company may be interested in selling its lines on the reserve to Bell Telephone Company.

No further action will be taken until the Dunnville company reports on negotiations with the Bell Company regarding any free service. Mr. Brown said the company can offer free service to Hamilton, Hagersville and Cayuga by this summer.

Delay Act Changes

Consultations with Indians regarding the final draft of the Indian Act have been (continued)