

Professor, Indian Translating Texts (continued)

The original Onondagas text contains about 525 pages of phonetic Onondaga script. The script is taped in Onondaga by Dr. Fenton, translated onto tape by Mr. Skye in English and is later transferred to paper by Dr. Fenton.

Professor Fenton translated another version of the history in 1941 and Dr. Fenton says there are some variations to the two stories. The work of translation is supported through a grant from the research foundation at the state university. Mr. Skye will travel to the university in October for further work on the translation.

Dr. Fenton said about three or four weeks of work is needed to complete the present job. The various versions of the legend of Deganawidah and Hiawatha (concerning the confederacy) came about because in addition to Gibson, the chief committee of the Iroquois also set up a group to write their version of confederation. "This produced the different versions," explained Dr. Fenton.

According to legend, Deganawidah the prophet and Hiawatha, a Mohawk chief, labored to end the feuding factions of five tribal villages. They tried to have the five villages (Cayuga, Seneca, Onondaga, Mohawk, Oneida) accept the principles of righteousness, civil authority and peace. Dr. Fenton said the first known reference to the legend was made in the year 1740.

The Great Law or commonwealth that ensued lasted until the Six Nations emigrated to Canada in 1784 and formed the basis of their local government on the reserve (hereditary system).

Indian's Voice Will Be Heard: Yaremko

John Yaremko, Ontario's minister of social and family services, Sunday concluded a tour of Indian communities in the Kenora area and left behind a promise that the Indian voice will be heard.

Summing up his tour, Mr. Yaremko said: "I have never seen more positive actions, more positive thinking or more positive intentions than I have among these Indian communities."

He said the common factor in all the communities is a desire for employment, increased self-help and economic development.

Can Study Heritage Of Natives

A Canadian Indian studies program will be offered this year at Trent University in Peterborough for the first time. The program is designed to provide instruction in and a deeper understanding of various aspects of the life, history and culture of native Canadian Indians, Metis and Eskimos.

Officials at the university hope the program will attract students wishing to have a better understanding of their Indian neighbors in addition to Indian, Eskimo and Metis students.

Professor Kenneth E. Kidd will be chairman of the department and will be assisted by Harvey McCue, an Indian from the Snake Island community at Lake Simcoe and a recent graduate of the university with a sociology degree.

The first course will be introduced this fall and it is intended that the course will eventually be expanded to offer related courses leading to a bachelor's degree.

The program will outline achievements of American Indians in Canada, the United States, Central and South America in the realm of food production, architecture, art, mathematics, practical crafts and trade.

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