

later this year to initiate a similar program.

ALBERTA INDIANS FIND HOLY OBJECTS NOW HELD BY WHITE MEN

Calgary - Indians of Alberta upon returning to their native religions find that holy objects in connection with their religions are often in the hands of white men who are reluctant to return them. The Indians have been negotiating to retrieve the artifacts.

Bruce Starlight of the Sarcee Reserve in southern Alberta, one of the leaders of the repossession movement, said, "The Indian people know that the Indian religion may be the key to saving our people from drunkenness and illnesses that plague the mind with self-doubt".

Medicine bundles which are a very important part of Indian religious ceremonies, are becoming increasingly rare - to the point that there are hardly any left on the Blackfoot reserve.

Until about five years ago, white "pawnbroskers" roamed southern Alberta reserves offering small loans to the Indians in exchange for their cultural heritage. One such white dealer was reported to have picked up a medicine bundle for \$10 and sold it in Europe for \$28,000.

Indian elders, fearing their young people were abandoning the native ways, turned many of their most valuable artifacts over to museums for safe-keeping.

Doug Light, director of collections at the Glenbow Museum said that Indians had approached the museum about getting their bundles returned but so far no action had been taken.

"I think where religion is concerned, the idea, not the objects, is important."

But Mr. Starlight said that without the medicine bundles, "there is little significance to these (religious) ceremonies."

NEGOTIATES LAND CLAIMS

Yukon - In the Yukon Chief Elijah Smith went from a man who drank too much

HERE and THERE

INDIAN PRINCESS OF CANADA CHOSEN

Hobbema, Alta. - Clara Anderson, a 20-year-old Shuswa from William Lake,

B.C. was chosen Indian Princess of Canada and given the name Blue Sky.

Miss Anderson, one of seven provincial Indian Princesses, from B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, who competed for the crown.

Miss Anderson is an accountant with a

Williams Lake firm.

She won a \$500 scholarship, a set of luggage and a trophy.

Betsy Beardy of Red Lake, Ontario, was second and Jennifer Fox of Cardston, Alberta was third.



Clara

INDIAN CULTURE DEMONSTRATION

Ottawa - Alanis Obomsawin, an Abenaki Tribe member, is operating on a noon-hour basis, demonstrating various forms of Indian culture. Included in her demonstrations are Native songs and films as well as a Native lunch

Miss Obomsawin, a model, beautician, composer, interpreter, singer and a producer-director with the National Film Board, plans to go to the west coast