

HERE AND THERE - Cont'd.....

to President of the Yukon Native Brotherhood. Since his turn from the bottle he has been credited with the convincing of Ottawa to negotiate land claims of the 6000 status and non-status Indians in the territory.

Chief Smith saw the land claims negotiations as the only answer to the retention of Indian cultures.

NATIVE MP MAY NOT RUN AGAIN

Baker Lake, N.W.T. - William "Wally" Firth, a 38-year-old Fort McPherson native and the first native northerner ever elected to Parliament, might not run again.



Wally Firth

"This has been the worst year that I've ever spent in my life," says the stocky, Metis who won the vast Northwest Territories riding for the NDP last Oct. 30. Running again will depend on just when the minority Liberal Government calls a new election, Mr. Firth says.

"I don't enjoy being an MP at all. I didn't expect to. But I have an obligation to serve a decent length of time."

"I'd have to make a final decision when the time comes....but I don't want to hang around Ottawa too damn long."

He has no regrets about running for Parliament - "it's not much different than I thought it would be" - but he finds it impossible to represent a riding that covers a third of the entire land mass of Canada.

"No man could do that, unless he spent all his time travelling."

DONATE TOTEM POLE

Kingston, Ont. - The Native Bro-

therhood of Joyceville Penitentiary, Saturday, July 28, 1973, presented a totem pole to the city of Kingston for its 300th anniversary.

Charles Hill, leader of the group said that nine of the 16 members of the Brotherhood spent three months carving the 41-foot British Columbia cedar after it was brought in by railway.

The totem pole will be placed at the entrance to Catarqui Park, a new municipal golf course.

INDIANS CLAIM IN NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Yellowknife, N.W.T. - The final arguments in support of Indian claims to nearly one-third of the Northwest Territories have been presented. In a four-hour presentation to the Territories Supreme Court, Lawyer, Doug Sanders of Ottawa wrapped up the case of the Indian Brotherhood and on September 1st the closing federal arguments were heard.

The land in question consists of most of the Mackenzie River valley which contains the proposed route of a natural gas pipe line from the Arctic coast.

Justice Marrow said that he should have a decision on the Indians caveat filing by the end of September.

INDIANS TO HAVE ACCESS TO LEGAL AID

The Legal Aid committee of Upper Canada adopted several resolutions early in August aimed at improving access by Indian peoples to the province's legal aid system.

The system has been directed to accept collect telephone calls from Indians and to issue travel warrants permitting clients from isolated areas to consult legal aid staff.

FISHERMEN'S AID PROGRAM RENEWED

Ottawa - The British Columbia Indian Fishermen's Assistance Program has been renewed for another five years with a budget of \$10,196,000, it was announced by Jean Chretien, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs.