

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

the last major conflict between Indians and Whites had occurred. It settled nothing, the distrust, misunderstanding, and mistreatment continued to the present day.

Dr. Frederick J. Dockstader, Director of the Museum, comments "The Ghost Dance was basically the result of Whites not living up to treaties; the Indian's frustration at seeing land disappear, women and children starving, and the indignity of no longer being a man.

The continuing refusal of many Whites to seriously consider their problems is arousing much of the same bitter frustration among today's Indian youths which their grandfathers felt."

Wounded Knee: Then and Now will remain on view through April 30, 1973. The Museum of the American Indian is located at 155th Street and Broadway, New York, N.Y., and is open from 1 to 5 P.M., Tuesday through Sunday.

HIGH LEVELS OF MERCURY FOUND IN INDIAN GUIDES

White Dog Reserve: The Provincial government released on Wednesday, March 7th which show that several Indians in the White Dog reserve area near Kenora have mercury levels in their tissues which could be injurious to their health.

Dr. Jim Stopps of the provincial ministry of health released the figures at a meeting with about 600 Indians from this band.

Seventeen of 115 Indians tested at White Dog and Grassy Narrows, had readings over 100 parts per million. There were a couple over 200 and one at White Dog over 300.

Letters were sent to those people with a reading of more than 100 advising them not to eat fish more than once a week and if

they did eat fish, it should be whitefish, not pickerel, which has a higher concentration of mercury contamination.

Billy Fraser, an Ojibwa guide at White Dog Reserve, received a letter from the Ontario Ministry of Health telling him that the mercury reading in his body was 222 parts per million. The reading for his brother was also 222.

Most world scientists say a reading of more than 200 ppm can be injurious to the health.

Archie K. Watt, Chairman of a provincial government team examining the consequences of mercury pollution in the area, told the Indians that the mercury in the Wabigoon-English River system came from the Dryden Chemical Co. plant in Dryden.

An Indian Chief said that if the Ontario government does not provide alternate sources of income, his Ojibwa band on this reserve wants financial support for legal action against companies which have polluted the Wabigoon-English River system with mercury.

Roy McDonald, Chief of this reserve told a provincial government team that since eating of fish was banned in 1970, guides and commercial fishermen have lost their livelihood; that his people need an alternate source of meat because they can no longer eat the fish. He suggested small industry such as tanning, a chicken or mink farm, workshop to make paddles, and expanded lumber industry and others as examples.

INDIAN ARTISTRY AIMS AT FASHION

Whitefish Bay: High-style fur coats will be manufactured by an All-Indian Corporation who hopes to break into the fashion industry.
