

CARE

OTTAWA - CARE of Canada is within \$60,000 of reaching the goal of its Fall 1971 "World of CARE" campaign, set at \$750,000. Thomas Kines, National Director of CARE announced to-day that there had been unprecedented response from certain sectors of the Canadian public, notably Miles for Millions committees in Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal, Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver, Kitchener and Kingston and Lions Clubs in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia. The Lions not only contribute funds to special CARE programs but provide the manpower to carry out Walk registrations and man checkpoints on CARE's behalf. Contributions continue to flow in at an average rate of \$4,000 per day from among 230,000 Federal Government employees in the capital and across Canada and the majority of CARE's 80,000 regular donors who are particularly generous at this time of year.

Mr. Kines also expressed gratitude to the electronic and print media for the substantial contribution of air time and column space donated to CARE during the year, estimated at more than \$200,000.

Demands on CARE's resources overseas, however, have been unusually heavy with earthquakes, tidal waves, floods and war adding to human misery in areas where most families already live on incomes of about \$100 per year. CARE International has spent over \$2,000,000 on the Pakistani refugees in India of which CARE Canada's share was over \$200,000. Should peace be restored in East Bengal by year's end, a massive rehabilitation scheme will have to be launched and CARE's experienced staff will be in the forefront as they have been continually for the past 20 years. While world attention is focused on East Bengal, CARE must continue to support its feeding and self-help programs in 32 developing countries throughout Asia, Africa and Latin America. "We are therefore most grateful" Mr. Kines continued, "for the on-going support of so many Canadians who realize there is still so much to be done and we wish them all a very Merry Christmas and a good New Year."

Indian Act should be kept

By Peter Moore.

The Indian Act should be retained for the protection of Indian Reserve lands, and whatever changes might be forthcoming for the Act need only be slight modifications, Norman Lickers of Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians told the Indian Affairs Branch recently.

Alarmed by the news that Jeannette Lavell has retained her Indian status in contravention of Section 12 of the present Act, the Iroquois Association and other Indian federations saw the decision as a possible first step in the abolition of the Indian Act and the implementation of the White Paper on Indian Affairs Policy of 1969.

It was decided by the federation to incorporate its collective opinion on the Lavell case in its sixty-six page reply to the White Paper, the third such reply since the Department's publication.

Briefly, the Iroquois position is this: 1) that the Indian Act itself is not at fault with regard to whatever problems the Indian population has, but rather administrators of the legislation have been less than adequate; and 2) that education systems in which Indian children are taught should be on or close to reserves, that the curricula reflect Indian values where possible, and that Indian parents should be involved in choosing teaching staff.

Regarding the Lavell case and its repercussions, Nina Burnham, also a member of the Association, stated that the decision by the Court of Appeals poses more problems for the children of such marriages (Indians to non-Indians) than it solves. The Act, according to the Association, should be revised so that individual band councils can decide their own membership, an important point to consider in that Indian customs among different cultural groups often had radically different ideas on the status of Indian/non-Indian marriages.

Thunder Bay area Ojibwas, for example, according to one archeologist, created two totally new clans for non-Indian males who married Indian females, and their children were invested with these clan titles; this in itself was against legislation which occurred later.

The Association also wants to see payments to those who voluntarily give up their Indian status taken out of federal funds, not capital funds of individual bands, which, Miss Burnham stated, "should be kept intact for posterity". Presently, anyone who chooses to enfranchise is entitled to receive "one per capita share of the capital and revenue moneys" held for the band, and what his share would have been for the next twenty years (15, 1a and b), and that lands to which he held title, cease to be reserve lands (110,3). Earlier franchisees under present legislation have dealt crippling blows to band funds, and children of enfranchised adults have been, in Miss Burnham's words, "made to suffer by parents becoming enfranchised". "In these cases, it can truthfully be said that their inheritance was sold for a 'mess of pottage'" (presumably referring to cases in which capital funds proved to be, according to treaty wording, little more than token payments.

Indian Affairs Minister Jean Chretien was present at the meeting, and concurred with the Association's mood of disquiet over the Lavell case, stating further that he hoped that the decision would be appealed. He added that the Department would be willing to help any group that wished to launch an appeal. "Perhaps this should be corrected and provision made for such children so enfranchised to be allowed to apply for reinstatement into the membership of the band, subject to band council approval."

