

DOCUMENT NAME/INFORMANT: SAULTEAUX WORKSHOP 4
DOUGLAS SHINGOOSE, ANDREW
SHINGOOSE, PAT SEVERITE, JOHN
JAMES CAPPO, DOROTHY CROWE,
JAMES CROWE, ALBERT STEVENSON
KAMSACK, SASK.

INFORMANT'S ADDRESS:
KAMSACK, SASK.

INTERVIEW LOCATION:
KAMSACK, SASK.

TRIBE/NATION: SAULTEAUX
LANGUAGE:
DATE OF INTERVIEW: FEBRUARY 12, 1974
INTERVIEWER:
INTERPRETER: DOUGLAS SHINGOOSE
TRANSCRIBER: JOANNE GREENWOOD
SOURCE: SASK. INDIAN CULTURAL
COLLEGE

TAPE NUMBER: IH-429
DISK: TRANSCRIPT DISC 62
PAGES: 6
RESTRICTIONS: NONE

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Problems for present day Indians including alcoholism;
failure to educate the young in traditional ways; influence of
white education.

SAULTEAUX WORKSHOP 3
FEBRUARY 12, 1974

DOUGLAS SHINGOOSE - interpreting

We have heard what our leader had to say about our culture. He also mentioned discrimination. What we understand, about racial discrimination. Alex Kennedy mentioned how they are treated, how their children are treated in their school. How the white society dislike us, we should call them brothers, but they never take it that way. What the white society likes about us is, he likes our money, and he likes it in our country. The white society do not really understand the Indian.

He also mentioned kinship or relationship. Our young people do not know, how they are related to one another. How we can go about telling these people. How we fieldworker would go about telling our school children, relationship and Indian Faith. And gather what our old people had been given to them.

This is what our leader had to say about our children. He is

hoping you people will build some sort of structure how we should carry out our program.

ANDREW SHINGOOSE

My relatives, I am going to say a few words. Regarding what our leader had to say. It's true, we know, where to speak and whom to speak to and... it. The white man, knows what he is doing. He has been running all affairs.

Our ancestors were given, by Creator. This is what the white society is trying wreck today. What he is doing, he is turning our children to a different direction. Our young man today should try to understand what has been given to us. I have been told by the old people to try to understand what they say and remember what has been said. I don't intend to say too much. I have lots to say. I am close to eighty years of age. My grandfather told me a whole lot of things. I still have what has been told to me. I was very young at the time. We are asking the loving side of things by filling our pipe here. Our Creator is not going to fail to look into our situation.

What the white society is trying to do with our given Indian ways of life. He has interfered in many different ways, even in our social assistance. I was in Winnipeg to a meeting and was asked to speak and I spoke about these conditions.

Let us try to hold what was given us, I have always spoke to young children in our way of Indian life. I have always prayed, where I am. It's true, this is where we are going to get what we are trying to hold. All who has the understanding how we can get back and hold what was given us by the Creator. We ask our Creator for mercy to like what has been said. Has all the power. For myself, I am powerless. I am interpreting for my grandchild, my great-grandchild, what I have said, I greet you all.

PAT SEVERITE - Kamsack

I am expected to speak, this mike being set here. It's incredible what our children are today. They'll slap you if you try to tell them something. Our young people are lost, our white society has caused them to be lost. Where are we going to find a correction for our child. Many times I've talked to white people in our town, whether they are my friends or bad friends. I have spoken to them many times your white has broken everything, taken everything, you don't like us, there were two Chinese sitting one time, you kick our children out of the restaurant. Even in our homes we try to correct them, someone has to interfere. We blame school has been the real cause of it. I often wonder if liquor privilege could be taken away. I think there would be change of life. We are on welfare assistance and we drink away our assistance. Some are drunk for one week at times. Our chief has been strongly against this. He speaks or lectures to his people they listen with a deaf ear.

I have to lock my doors at night. Afraid of drunks, they even hit me for money. At times I have a car, if I don't take them to town, they usually hit my door real hard. At times I call a police but then the old man next door disapprove to this, taking up for his children.

I tell him, "Why don't you tell your children not to disrespect other people?" These people were drinking real heavy. This is the reason why I am asking, is it possible that liquor privilege could be taken away again?

This is all I'll say. I am thankful for being here with you people, hoping that I would get some valuable information to take home.

JOHN JAMES CAPPO

I am also working here with the people who are working here. I travel around, looking for someone to bring here. We look for

people who cares and knows love. These are the kind of people we bring here. You people all know what loving is, that would be the reason you being here. We understand, we all have problem in existence concerning our children. It seems the white society is taking our children away from us. Some are in distant school they forget where they come from.

When we return back home from here you are expected to look towards your child's betterment, we look forward to help you people. We all understand love.

What power we are relying on today. It has all the power. My father used to tell a lot about it. He also told me the white society would be so full that we won't be able to camp anywheres. We see that today. He also mentioned we would suffer this so called racial discrimination. In wars we would take part in it. We are asking our Father to help us, give us knowledge to carry out what's good for our children. I often wonder if our children are going to continue living on the reserves or elsewhere among the white society. I myself, I don't like to leave the place where I was raised up. All what is said by you people is all tape recorded, some day our grandchildren are going to say, "That's my grandfather speaking."

This all I am going to say, but I hope that you people would give some idea what you will hear here for the next three days. That's all.

SKIPPED - Jim Canapotatoe and James Crooked Neck.

DOROTHY CROWE

May I ask your forgiveness. What I am going to say. It true a lot of our people do not understand what we are trying to achieve, and that is a way of our Indian life, towards our

faith, trying to pave a way for our young generation. We would like to see some revival of our Indian ways of life the way they were brought up years ago. It's true, what this old man had to say. Some are saying we are trying to sell our faith, some have different ideas and sayings, some say we are going around giving lectures and preaching, we, as fieldworkers, we are there to carry the message to encourage our old people to tell young generation about our Indian way of life. I have picked up a lot from these old people whom I listened to. I like listening to these old people, I am awakened by their talks.

He mentioned relationship and kinship, we are hoping that this should be carried out by our people. This was my reason bringing these people to get the understanding of our work.

I am not referring to any other visiting groups. We are all related in this group. This is all I have to say.

JAMES CROWE - Kamsack, Sask.

I am asking forgiveness from you people if my talk may not approve to you. We are all here with same feeling. I don't think any of us would feel different and think the opposite what we're trying to do today. We see what the white society is doing with our people today. We rely on the white society to raise and teach our children. This has been one of our faults. The white man is unaware how we are related to one another. He does not know our faith as religion. We have to tell our child and continue telling him or she till adulthood, what has been handed down for us to live by. I have been thinking a whole lot. How lost we are on account of our white society. He was given a different continent, we were given this continent. We feel we have to encourage our children, teach them our native language, tell them how we are related to one another, our religion. We don't have to follow white man's religion, we are heading for different heaven from the white man. This is what the Indian say. We are expecting you people to carry out to your children what we have learned from way back. I worry a lot about our children of today. I have fostered some children myself. One is living in Kenora, Ontario. She phoned the other day. Asking us for our prayers. She is worried about her two little boys. This coming summer she is going to fulfil her promise she has made herself concerning our faith. This is how it works, when we tell our children. They are not going to wait till something happens to think about our Faith, we were given by God. If we only ask for it, we'll get it, let us try and carry that out. I am very thankful to get this program carried out, I think it's a will of God. He hasn't forgot his Indian people. He will give us the power to out-talk the white man. If we work together. F.S.I. is an organization who is working for our people. We have to be heard in the white society, and was given a power to run and decide for our affair.

If we don't co-operate with one another, it won't work. It was

predicted, years ago that when white man would be all over country he will bring something that would cause us a big problem. I won't be talking very long I like talking but there are people to talk yet.

I don't want you to feel that I am giving you people lecture, and I don't say, no one knows Indian life, I am only carrying what our old people had said, this is what we are trying to comb out today. That's all I have to say. Greeting you all.

ALBERT STEVENSON - Kamsack

I apologize for any wrong word which may hurt anybody's feelings, what I have to say, I am thankful to be here with you people and listen what you people have to say. I am going to talk about the young stage of my life, our people were nomad tribe and we used to go along, that's before white man lived everywhere. We children were awakened early every morning to listen to some old man giving lectures to the children.

I still think of those times today. I often wish of those times to carry on, we benefitted from it alot. When I was of school age I have to go to school, and there, I have side-stepped from what I have learned from the old people. My grandfather did not like for me to go to school, but it was compulsory for the Indian children to go to school. If a child didn't go to school he was sent away to a distant school or a boarding school. When I left school, I married, so one day, I took sick, I was unable to walk. There I was told of our spiritual way of life would help me. It's true when I took up this ceremonial council tipi, the old people for me, and I was able to walk around the next day. I am telling my children to follow this spiritual way of life respect the people, and offering. I think it's half of our fault by not telling our young generation our Indian way of life. They have lost their language, the language which was given to us. I know one reserve where children have completely lost their language. These children were never taught to speak their own tongue.

I think this will be all for now. I am afraid I'm speaking too long.

(End of Interviews)

INDEX

INDEX TERM	IH NUMBER	DOC NAME	DISC #	PAGE #
ALCOHOL				
-abuse of	IH-429	WORKSHOP 4	62	3
ALCOHOL				
-banning of	IH-429	WORKSHOP 4	62	3
CEREMONIES				
-and healing	IH-429	WORKSHOP 4	62	6
CHILDREN				
-raising of	IH-429	WORKSHOP 4	62	3,4,5

DISCRIMINATION					
-against Indians	IH-429	WORKSHOP	4	62	2,4
EDUCATION					
-attitudes toward	IH-429	WORKSHOP	4	62	6
EDUCATION					
-residential school	IH-429	WORKSHOP	4	62	6
EDUCATION					
-traditional	IH-429	WORKSHOP	4	62	6
ELDERS					
-as teachers	IH-429	WORKSHOP	4	62	2-4,6
POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS					
-Federation of Saskatchewan Indians	IH-429	WORKSHOP	4	62	5
RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY					
-revival of	IH-429	WORKSHOP	4	62	5