

# Manitoulin Indians to settle land claim

By Jane Armstrong  
TORONTO STAR

Ontario is poised to settle its first Indian land claim.

Five Indian chiefs from Manitoulin Island are to arrive at Queen's Park today to sign the \$8.9 million settlement.

The deal gives about \$1.7 million worth of land to five Indian bands and resolves a century-old dispute on Manitoulin Island.

Today's agreement will "correct a historical injustice" against the Manitoulin Island Indians, said Charles Ross of the province's native affairs secretariat.

The dispute dates back to 1862, when the bands of Manitoulin, Barrie and Cockburn Islands gave most of their land to the crown on the agreement they would get the proceeds from its sale.

But the Indians were never compensated.

The land claim took so long to resolve mainly because Ottawa has refused to get involved, Ross said.

The Indians named both Ottawa and Queen's Park in court action. But the federal government insists it's not responsible for compensating the bands because the dispute involves provincial crown land.

The Indians plan to take the federal government to court to get compensation.

The settlement with Ontario today will also give the bands money to buy land adjacent to their increasingly crowded reserves. And it provides \$4.5 million for economic development such as tourism facilities.

The deal resolves the concerns of non-native residents and municipalities,

which will now be able to develop roads and shoreland.

But it comes only after a major rewrite, The Star's Darcy Henton reports.

Provincial officials began reworking the deal's terms last summer when the Wikwemikong band refused to sign a tentative agreement reached in February.

"We were left with room for seven signatures, but only six signed," Ross said of the province's first attempt to sign a deal.

The initial agreement expired Dec. 1, but lawyers and band and ministry officials came up with a new formula, leaving out the dissenting band.

They were again poised to sign the second deal Monday, but a snowstorm postponed it.

Manitoulin native Madeline Wemigwans said the province had hoped to tie up all its outstanding land claims on Manitoulin Island in one neat deal.

But the plan fell apart after wrangling between members of the South Bay West band and the Wikwemikong band council, which was to sign the agreement on its behalf.

The bands amalgamated in the 1940s after South Bay West Indians were pushed off their land by settlers, she said.

Now about 100 members of the South Bay West band remain. And many oppose having the Wikwemikong council sign the agreement and accept compensation on their behalf, she said.

The dispute prompted Wikwemikong Chief Hardy Pelletier to refuse to sign the document at the last minute.

Ross said the province will place the money in trust until a satisfactory arrangement can be worked out.

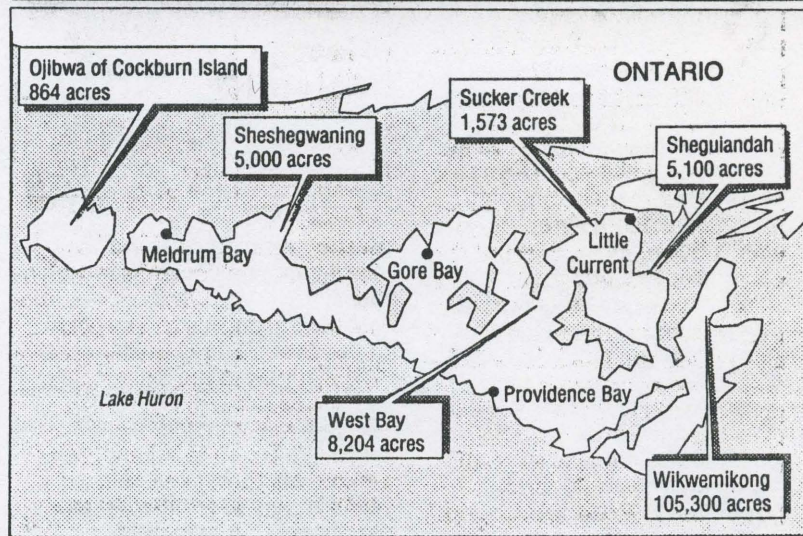


# Ontario, Indian bands settle

★ THE TORONTO STAR Thursday, December 6, 1990 A3

## 1862 land claim

### Manitoulin Island Indian reserves



By Jane Armstrong  
TORONTO STAR

Ontario has signed its first Indian land settlement, solving a 128-year-old dispute with five Indian bands on Manitoulin Island.

The five chiefs and Native Affairs Minister Bud Wildman yesterday signed the \$8.9 million agreement, which gives the bands about 430 hectares (6,000 acres) of land worth \$1.7 million.

"It's been a long time coming," said Chief Joseph Endenawas of Sheshegwaning shortly after the signing ceremony at Queen's Park.

The dispute dates back to 1862, when the lands of Manitoulin, Barrie and Cockburn islands gave about 32,800 hectares (80,000 acres) to the crown. The Indians were supposed to get the proceeds from its sale, but they were never compensated.

The 2,430 hectares to be transferred back to the Indians is what's left of that crown land. Yesterday's settlement gives the Indians \$4.5

million to buy back some of the lost land at market value, as well as \$2.5 million for economic development such as tourism facilities and local projects.

Chief Norma Fox Wagosh of Cockburn Island said she hopes the successful land claim improves both Indians' standard of living and relations with non-natives.

"Every Indian across Canada is saying 'I want a better way of life' and 'Why didn't it take place years ago?'"

Patrick Madahbee of Sucker Creek said reserves on Manitoulin Island are badly overcrowded. The money will be used to improve roads, schools and housing conditions there.

"What people are accustomed to in Metropolitan Toronto, some of us don't have," said Chief Max Assinewai of Sheguiandah. "I know in our community, the infrastructure has been neglected for a number of years."

The Indians named both Ottawa and Queen's Park in their claim. But Ottawa, which

administers the welfare of status or treaty Indians, insists it's not responsible because the land is owned by the province.

The Indians plan to take the federal government to court to get compensation.

But the deal excludes the Wikwemikong band, whose members occupy the island's largest reserve. That band pulled out last summer after an internal dispute and almost finalized a tentative deal.

The initial agreement signed last February expired on Saturday, but lawyers and ministry officials negotiated a new deal without the Wikwemikong band.

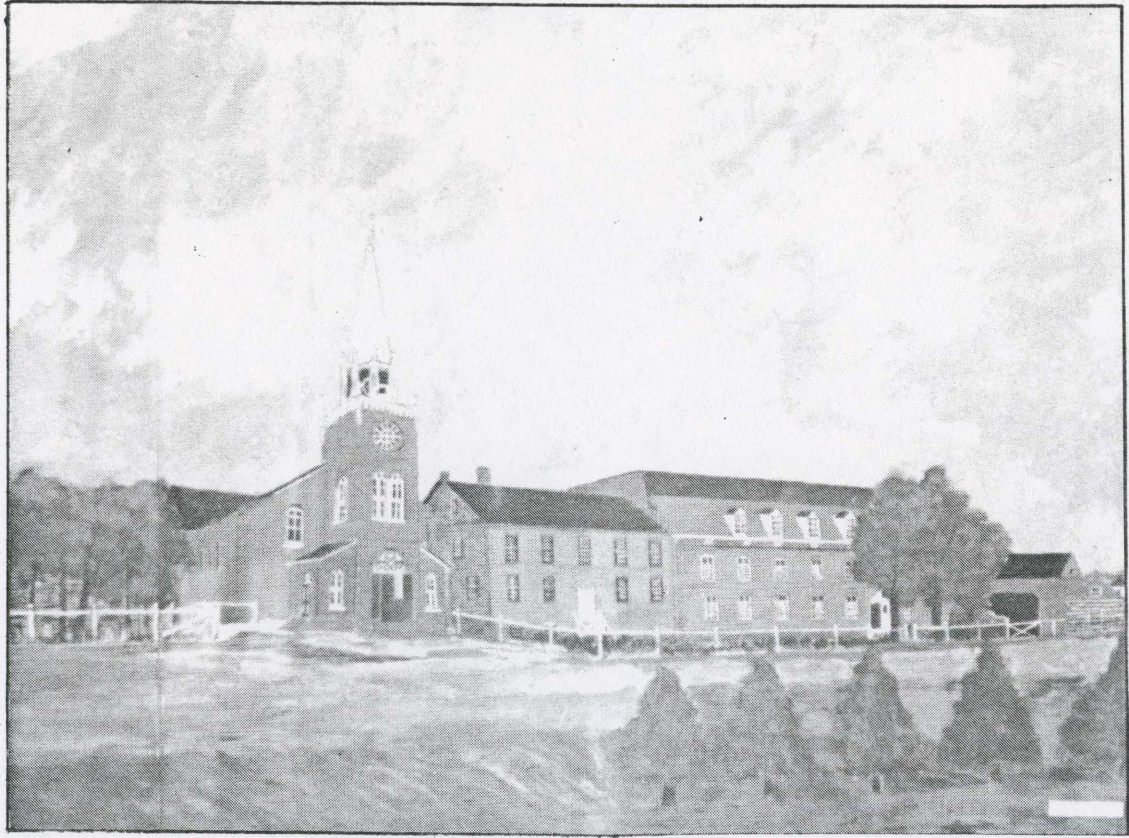
Instead, the province has set aside a \$500,000 trust fund for the band until a satisfactory arrangement can be worked out.

The land claim, which took 10 years to negotiate, was started by the United Chiefs Councils of Manitoulin, the organization that represents Indians in the area.



198?

BLESSING OF CORNER STONE JULY 3, 1849



CHURCH BLESSED JULY 25, 1852

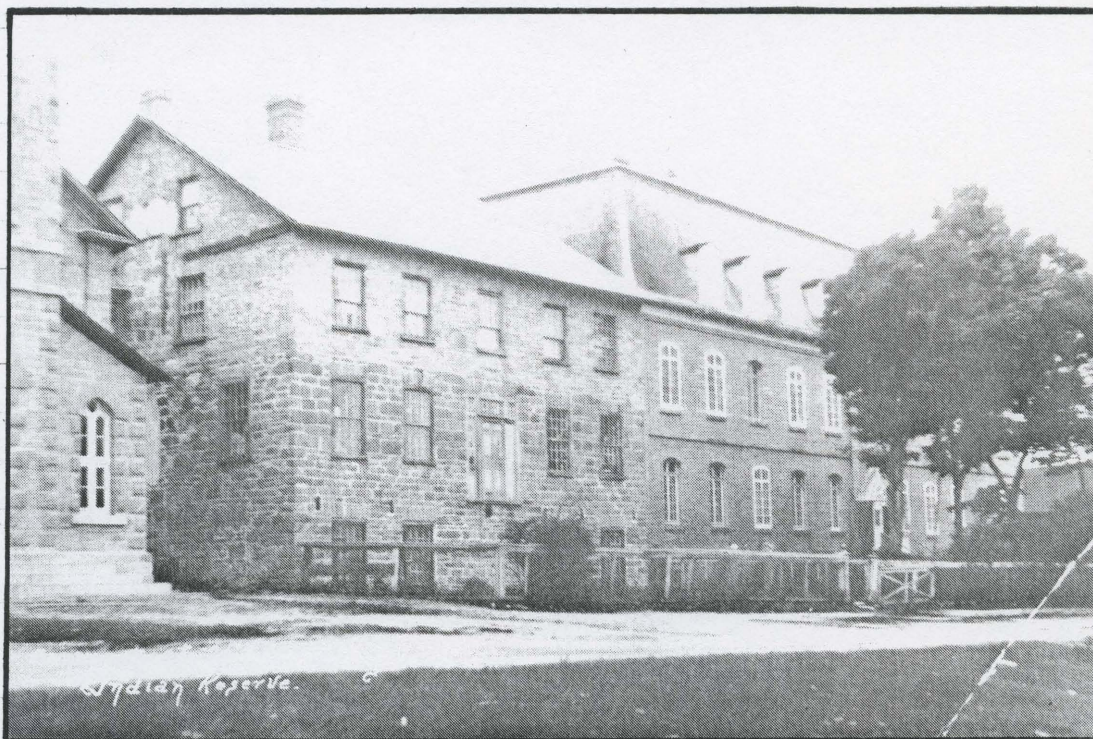
CHURCH COMPLETED DECEMBER 1853







1st CHURCH AT WIKWEMIKONG 1670  
CORNERSTONE OF THIS CHURCH BLESSED JULY 3, 1849  
CHURCH BLESSED JULY 25, 1852 - COMPLETED DEC. 1853



1st RESIDENCE BUILT 1846-47  
(in the middle)

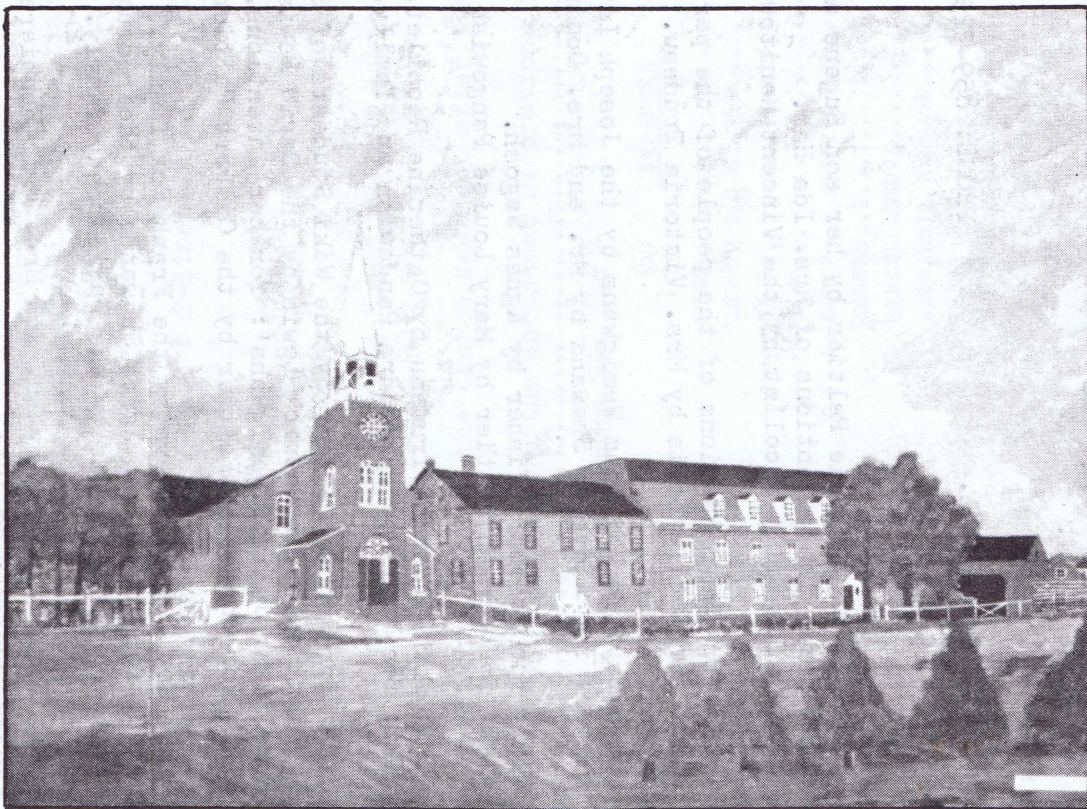
2nd RESIDENCE BUILT 1886-1888  
(on the right)

## HOLY CROSS MISSION

WIKWEMIKONG, MANITOULIN ISLAND, ONTARIO P0P 2J0



BLESSING OF CORNER STONE JULY 3, 1849



CHURCH BLESSED JULY 25, 1852

CHURCH COMPLETED DECEMBER 1853

# HOLY CROSS MISSION

WIKWEMKONG, MANITOULIN ISLAND, ONTARIO P0P 2J0







TIME FOR UP-DATE ..... on..... WIKWEMIKONG RESOURCE CENTRE BUILDING FUND.  
TO DEC. 31, 1980.

TO SPEAK OF BUILDING PROJECTS IN WIKWEMIKONG, IN ADDITION TO HOUSING, 1980 WAS QUITE A YEAR. WE SAW THE ADDITION TO THE NURSING HOME GET OFF TO A GOOD START - ALL CLOSED IN. THANK GOD FOR THE GOOD WEATHER FOR THIS, WHAT A CREDITABLE ENTERPRISE! HATS OFF TO ALL RESPONSIBLE! IT WILL BE A REAL ACCOMPLISHMENT TO SEE IT COMPLETED IN 1981.

Our hopes for 1981 --- INCLUDE ANOTHER NOTABLE PROJECT. OUR LANDMARK - FOR 27 YEARS IT HAS STOOD BLEAK AND BARE. THE RESTORATION OF OUR STONE BUILDING BESIDE THE CHURCH CAN BE REALIZED ..... IF :

- + WE HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO COMPLETE IT.
- + WE HAVE PEOPLE WORKING TOGETHER.

THIS MEANS WE NEED FULL SUPPORT FROM ALL QUARTERS.

#### HOW DO WE STAND AT PRESENT.

RIGHT NOW WE ARE WAITING FOR APPROVAL FROM THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND RECREATION FOR APPROVAL OF A \$9,000.00 GRANT TO COVER 9/10th OF THE COST OF AN ARCHITECT. THIS SHOULD COME IN 5 or 6 WEEKS. THE MINISTRY, ONTARIO HERITAGE AND THE INDIAN COMMUNITY SECTION OF CULTURE AND RECREATION GAVE POSITIVE SUPPORT TO OUR APPLICATION AFTER APPROVAL OF BAND COUNCIL SUPPORT WAS RECEIVED.

PLANS ARE A MUST BEFORE WE CAN PROCEED TO APPLY FOR FURTHER GRANTS.  
( WE WILL NEED ABOUT \$200,000.00 )

YOUR SUPPORT TO DATE HAS MEANT A GREAT DEAL. WITHOUT IT WE WOULD NOT HAVE MOVED NOR COULD WE HAVE SECURED ASSISTANCE FOR GETTING PLANS MADE.

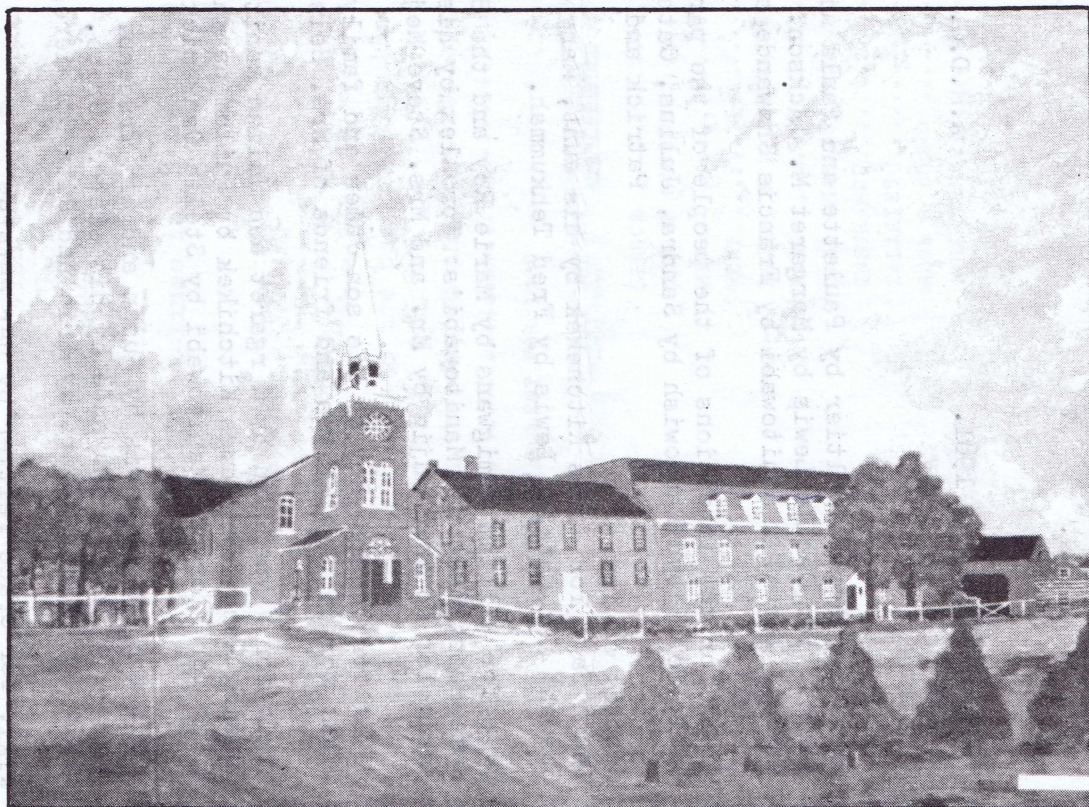
HERE IS THE FINANCIAL PICTURE UP TO DEC. 31, 1980: (Expenses to date Lumber & Bingo prizes \$1,130.00)

INCOME FROM WIKWEMIKONG (PLEDGES MAKE \$18,000.52) // DONATIONS FROM OUTSIDE

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Donations from Wiky people = \$ 7,409.35 | 1. Jesuit Houses† - \$29,050.00                       |
| 2. Wiky Bingos(Nancy S. group)= 2,657.55    | 2. Church Extension= 10,000.00                        |
| 3. Justine E. & girls = 1,577.95            | 3. Interest on Sav.= 4,848.76                         |
| 4. Homemakers..... = 798.85                 | 4. Non Indians = 3,937.50                             |
| 5. Rabbit Island Centre... = 560.35         | 5. Indians = 2,527.99                                 |
| 6. Dances(David, Henry, Colemanetc)= 443.60 | 6. Friends who do not want names mentioned = 1,567.50 |
| 7. Murray Hill ..... = 324.40               | 7. Sisters..... = 380.00                              |
| 8. Rebate donation Wiky Band. = 300.00      |   |
| 9. Magic Clown Act(Rose. P.) = 289.20       |   |
| 10. C.I.F. Raffle(Agnes W.) = 236.00        |   |
| 11. Kaboni..... = 157.80                    |   |
| TOTAL..... = 14,745.03                      | TOTAL ..... + 52,131.72                               |
|   | GRAND TOTAL \$ 66,846.75                              |



BLESSING OF CORNER STONE JULY 3, 1849



CHURCH BLESSED JULY 25, 1852

CHURCH COMPLETED DECEMBER 1853

# HOLY CROSS MISSION

WIKWEMIKONG, MANITOULIN ISLAND, ONTARIO P0P 2J0



SUNDAY OF CHRISTIAN UNITY: JANUARY 18, 1981.

A.M.D.G.

INTENTIONS:

- SAT.: 17: 7.00 p.m.: Wiki: for Norman Peltier by Paulette and Paula Aiabens.
- 7.00 p.m.: Manit.: for Cecile Lewis by Margaret M. Jackson.
- 8.00 p.m.: Kaboni: for Alex Manitowabi by Francis Shawande and family.
- SUN.: 18: 9.00 a.m.: Wiki: for the intentions of the people of the parishes.
- 11.00 a.m.: Wiki: for Lloyd Pangowish by Sandra, Julius, Catherine, Denise, Michael Patrick and all the family.
- 10.20 a.m.: Kaboni: ad int.
- 12.30 p.m.: South Bay: for James Kitchek by his aunt, Mary Osawabine.
- 4.00 p.m.: Buswah: for Patrick Lewis by Fred Tehkummah.
- MON.: 19: 8.00 a.m.: Wiki: for William Wemigwans by Marie Roy and the Boys.
- 4.00 p.m.: Home Mass: Victoria Manitowabi's: for Alex by his wife and family.
- 7.00 p.m.: Wiki: for Dominic Odjig by Mr. and Mrs. Steve Mejaki.
- TUE.: 20: 8.00 a.m.: Wiki: for Onesime Roy by his son James and family.
- 7.00 p.m.: Wiki: for dec. relatives and friends of Mrs. Helen Trudeau.
- WED.: 21: 8.00 a.m.: Wiki: for Wayne Bush by Margaret and Julian Manitowabi.
- 3.30 p.m.: Nursing Home: for James Kitchek by Philomene Wakegijig.
- 7.00 p.m.: Wiki: for Florence Manitowabi by Stella Osawamick.
- THU.: 22: 8.00 a.m.: Wiki: for Edmund Lewis by Susan and Eli Trudeau.
- 1.30 p.m.: Rehab: for George Shawande by his sister, Grace.
- 7.00 p.m.: Wiki: for Julian Rivers by Eric and Rita Corbiere.
- FRI.: 23: 8.00 a.m.: Wiki: for Grace Peltier by her estate.
- 9.20 a.m.: Pontiac School: ad int.
- 7.00 p.m.: Wiki: for Billy Recollet by Hilda and Larry Courtney.
- SAT.: 24: 8.00 a.m.: Wiki: for Aloysius Shawana by the David Bondy family.

= = = = =

CHURCH CLEANERS: for 17th.: Wiki: Mary Louise Pangowish : Mrs. Francis Wemigwans and families.  
 Kaboni: Tina Mandamin : Georgina Enosse.  
 South Bay: Julia Wemigwans and family.  
 Buswah: Lucy Shawana and family.

BINGO: Sun.: Wiki: Blackout in 53 for 180.00 : 2-lines in 18 for 80.00.  
 Mon.: Nursing Home: 60 200.00 : 22 120.00.  
 Tue.: R.I.C.C.: to be announced.  
 Wed.: Buswah: 52 170.00 : 17 70.00.  
 Thu.: C.I.F.: to be announced.  
 Fri.: T.B.S.C.: 55 190.00.

SOUTH BAY: Many thanks to all who contributed to the bake sale on the first sunday of the month.  
 January sale netted \$5.55.  
 =Thanks to all who helped clean the church and for the lovely decorations.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1980

SOUTH BAY:

| <u>INCOME</u>                   | <u>EXPENSES</u>                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| BINGOS..... \$ 178.20           | BINGOS ..... \$ 83.00            |
| COLLECTIONS..... 974.33         | CHURCH GOODS..... 4.10           |
| FROM JESUITS..... 115.63        | HYDRO ..... 385.81               |
| BAZAARS & RUMMAGE..... 1,749.33 | HEAT..... 242.62                 |
| FROM SAVINGS..... 2,041.36      | EQUIP. & MAINTENANCE..... 581.71 |
|                                 | WAGES..... 298.25                |
| TOTALS..... \$ 5,058.85         | BANK CHARGES..... 15.12          |
|                                 | INSURANCE..... 210.00            |
|                                 | SALARIES..... 1,205.67           |
|                                 | ROOM & BOARD ..... 756.50        |
|                                 | BULLETINS..... 300.00            |
|                                 | TOTALS..... \$ 4,082.78          |

BANK STATEMENTS NOT AVAILABLE  
 FOR BALANCE REPORT. THESE WILL BE  
 GIVEN IN NEXT BULLETIN.