

Date 10-22-67

# Shriver Asks Businessmen To Assist in Poverty War

## Indians, Girls From Job Corps In Need of Aid

By Linda Maule  
Staff Writer

NORMAN — Sargent Shriver, national director of the Office of Economic Opportunity, asked Saturday for assistance from approximately 60 leading businessmen from throughout Oklahoma in the war on poverty.

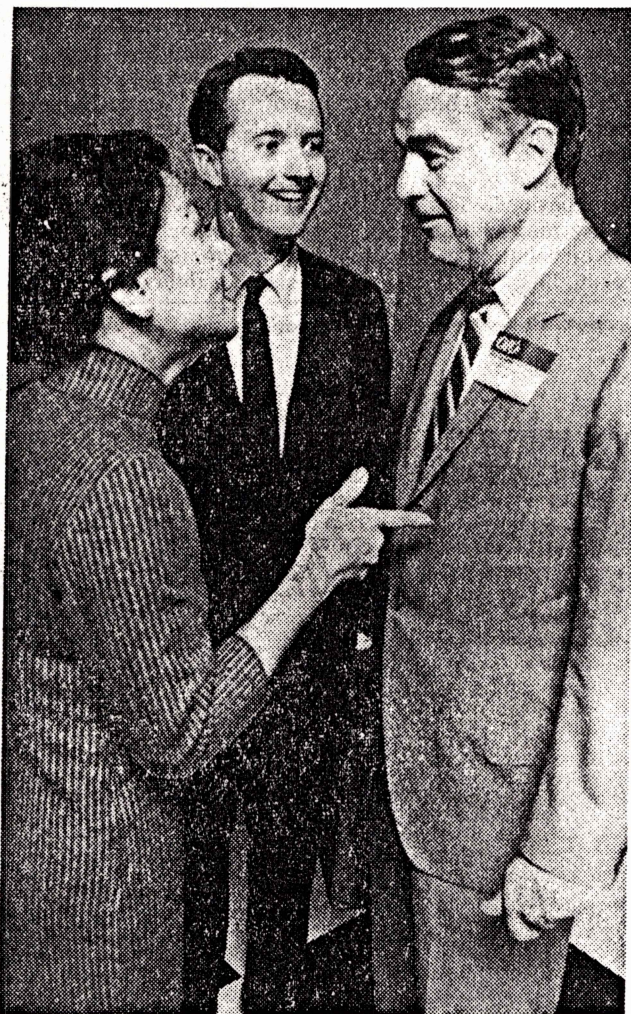
In Norman to address nearly 800 persons at an Indian Achievement Week conference luncheon, Shriver especially encouraged the businessmen to employ Job Corps graduates.

He called on them to "band together" so that any Job Corps graduate could "in a sense be guaranteed at least a promise of a job."

"There's not a worse thing than to encourage them to join the Job Corps" and then not be able to find employment.

Following Shriver's remarks to the businessmen, a member of WICS (Women in Community Service), Mrs. K. C. Mui, made the same plea.

Mrs. Mui, formerly a resident of Singapore, and now a resident of Oklahoma City, fascinated the group with remarks about the Job Corps graduates, with which WICS does its major work.



Sargent Shriver, right, talks with Mrs. K. C. Mui. Jed Johnson, center, special assistant to Shriver and former U. S. representative, looks on.

She said many of the women graduates can type 90 words per minute and take 120 words per minute in shorthand. "They're good looking too, what more do you want?" she asked.

She said her organization is the only one which screens the Job Corps trainees.

"Thank God we can give our time," she told the men. "I can't fight the war, but I can fight poverty," she added.

"If you men will take my telephone number, we'll be glad to fill the bill," she told the businessmen after Shriver asked her to come to the front of the meeting room and tell more about her organization.

Shriver told those attending the Oklahomans for Indian Opportunity sponsored luncheon the white man's former treatment of the Indians reminded him of a song: "It Ain't What You Do But the Way That You Do It."

Shriver received enthusiastic applause from the group when he said he hoped the Indian problem will soon become "no longer an Indian problem but a human problem. When we no longer need BIA any more than we need a bureau of Italian or Irish affairs."

He said he felt "shock" and "shame" when he learned there are approximately 30,000 Americans "who are not getting justice."

Shriver, who holds a law degree, said "we're not bringing justice to the poor."

At a press conference, Shriver said that even if the Republicans win in the next elections, he feels that OEO will continue to grow.



DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

1918-67

*Project  
Hugo Indian Center*

Would Be Available For Community Use . . .

# Hugo Has Chance At Large Indian

A shining new jewel in Hugo's potential ascendancy as a transportation hub, a recreational gateway, and as a regional educational, cultural and technical development

center was made ready for orbital status Tuesday afternoon when plans for a \$300,000 to \$400,000 community facility building here were unveiled before a group of local cit-

izens representing many important facets of local and area community life.

ALL THE CREDIT for this totally unannounced "bonanza" for providing Hugo and

the region with a fabulous new facility calculated to be adequate for 10 to 50 years in the future belongs to the Housing Authority of the Choctaw Nation.

## Center

Col. Leonard Fuller, Tahina, executive director of the authority, told the meeting of local citizens that because of the "unique status" of the project he was of the opinion the project had odds of 90 to 10 of becoming a reality.

Selection of Hugo as a preferable site for the center was a result of many conferences and discussions in which Hugo attorney Lon Kile was a major force in selling many interests in the logic of locating the near-half million dollar project in this city.

THE PROJECT was conceived several months ago when the Choctaw Housing Authority conceived the idea that a community building situated near the geographic center of tribal interests had strong and meritorious justification.

Kile, who is both chairman of the Choctaw Housing Authority and tribal attorney, said his group has visited several times with officials of the Housing and Urban Development agency in Fort Worth and had found this agency "receptive" to such a project.

IN ADDITION to Colonel Fuller, important details of the planned project were furnished

to the local group Tuesday by Rex Ball of Hudgins, Thompson, Ball and Associates, an architectural firm.

Emphasized at the meeting was the importance of strong, manifested local interest in the proposal. Area citizens will be asked to lend strong, written support to the project, reports in which the benefits of such a project are justified by local and area need.

It was pointed out and emphasized by visiting officials that governmental agencies touched by the project may be expected to clear the deck for a frontal and all out effort to project the Hugo community facility building safely into a justifiable classification.

MAYOR JOE PIERCE told visiting officials and local citizens in attendance that a square block of city-owned property may be available as a site for such a project, subject to ratification by members of the city council. The property referred to lies on Jefferson Street between Second and Third Streets in the area of the old Chamber of Commerce building.

Value of the property was broadly estimated to range between \$35,000 and \$50,000. The availability of this property in itself was considered a major breakthrough toward satisfying the community's obligation in furnishing 25 per cent of the cost of the total project, either in land or services or money.

WHILE MANY important details remain to be worked out, it was made clear that the proposed facility will handle several small meetings at the same time, but will have the flexibility of being converted into a major meeting center. Many other potential uses of such a community center were pointed out and will be explained to the public through news media as the project advances.