

Mary Jane Fate plans NAIWA Conference for June

Plans for the Seventh Annual National Conference of the North American Indian Women's Association (NAIWA) has been made by the National Executive Committee with members of the south central geographic region of NAIWA. The Oklahoma State Chapter of NAIWA, headed by their President, Mrs.

Willard A. (Neldean) Gallaher, member of the Choctaw tribe, from Norman, Oklahoma is host to this year's '77 conference.

Indian women from across the nation will be in attendance and NAIWA is expecting special guests of Indian women from Canada, Mexico, South America, and other countries.

Chilocco Indian School, located in north central Oklahoma, was the chosen site because of its beautiful campus and fine facilities for hosting a conference. Registration fees total \$15 for meals and lodging for the three days.

The theme, "Betterment of Health and Education," will bring health sessions to the

conference for the first time. Mrs. Hotona Roebuck, Choctaw Tribe, Indian Health Service, Tucson, Arizona will be keynote speaker, Monday morning, June 13.

National President, Mrs. Mary Jane Fate, Athabascan Indian, from Fairbanks, Alaska, state that this conference will focus on special needs of Indian women and families. Nationally known speakers have been invited to speak on mentally and physically handicapped, maternal and child care, chronic diseases, aging, trends in psychiatric practice, and varied educational processes with a youth panel.

Mrs. Deloris Karty, National Treasurer, and Miss Julia Mahseet, National Director of Health both members of the

Comanche tribe, from Apache, Oklahoma, and the Oklahoma members have been working since last June to make this conference a mixture of seriousness and pleasure which is certain it be the highlight in the lives of those who attend. Business sessions, election of officers, and tours are in the planning.

Mrs. James M. Cox, member of the Comanche tribe, from Midwest City, Oklahoma, Initial President and National

Advisor, will be honored during the conference for contributions toward a better understanding the needs of Indian people and her leadership in the program to better the lives of foster children of all races as well as her efforts toward the success of NAIWA.

Her husband, Mr. James M. Cox, is Chairman of the Comanche tribe, and is direct descendent of three Comanche Chiefs.