

## ***A Book Review—***

# **Native American's Rights Under Laws**

By WALLY OLSON

✓ ("American Indian Civil Rights Handbook: A guide to the Rights and Liberties, Under Federal Law, of Native Americans Living On and Off Reservations." Clearinghouse Publication No. 33, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, March, 1972. Price 55 cents.)

The Civil Rights Commission performed a real service in gathering together the pertinent information on Native American's rights under Federal and Tribal laws. Part of the text does not apply to resident Alaskans since it is intended for Indians living on reservations.

In 1968, Congress passed an act known as "The Indian Bill of Rights" which extended to reservation residents the same civil rights and liberties in relation to tribal authorities that the Federal Constitution guarantees to all persons in relationship to Federal and State authorities.

The first section explains the basic freedoms of belief and expression. The second part deals with the rights of an accused person and the "due process of the law."

Simple explanations of one's rights such as the right to a trial by jury, the right to be pro-

TECTED from excessive fines and cruel and unusual punishments are of special importance to people living in urban areas.

The final portion deals principally with discrimination in housing, employment and education and what an individual can do about them.

Perhaps the most practical part of the handbook is a directory on the process of where, how, and to whom one should file complaints. Names and addresses of various agencies in each State are provided.

This fine little handbook ninety-six pages long should be in the files of each village council, and in the hands of many individuals. It is written in such a way that the average person with a grade school or high school education can understand it.

It might be a good idea for each village council or regional corporation to provide copies for many of the people.

If an individual wishes to purchase a copy, write to:

Superintendent of Documents  
U.S. Government Printing Office  
Washington, D.C. 20402