

INDIAN
and
ESKIMO
CHILDREN





The American Indians are sometimes called the first Americans. This is because they were here many hundreds of years before Columbus and other explorers found this land.

There are many different tribes of Indians in the United States today. There are more than a half million Indian people. These Indians are our countrymen. They are citizens. Once we had an Indian Vice President, whose name was Charles Curtis. Maybe, when another little Indian grows up, we'll have an Indian President some day, or maybe an Eskimo President. Who knows?

Some Indians still choose to live on reservations. Reservations are lands that are owned by Tribes. Other Indians have left the reservations and live in towns and cities.

This is a picture story book to show you how some American Indian children live today.

Indian and Eskimo Children

A little girl
from the
Hopi Pueblo
of Arizona

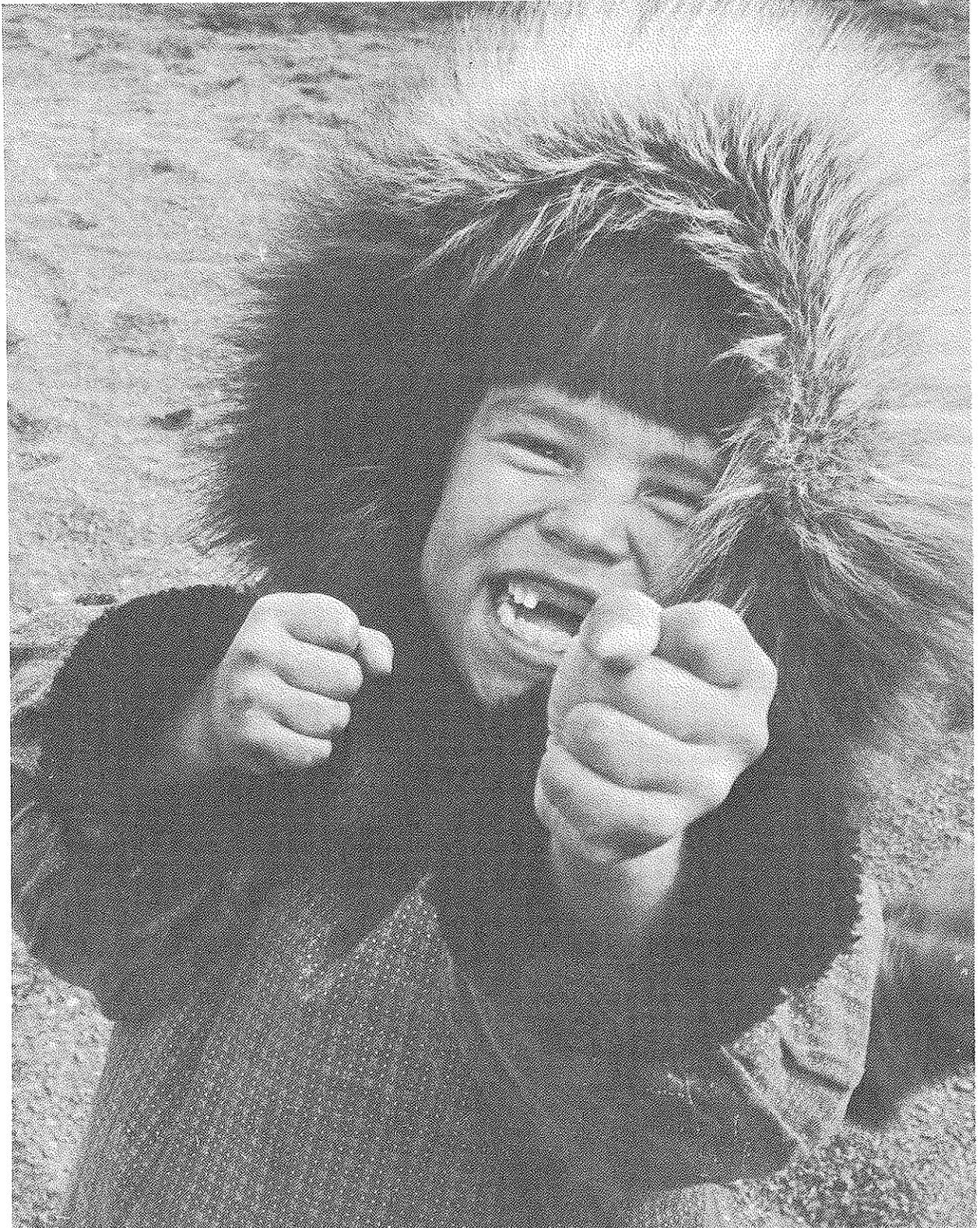


Photo by Bud DeWald

An Alaskan Indian girl in her native costume . . .



... and an Eskimo boy.



Mothers are the same everywhere.
This Alaskan mother loves her baby very much.

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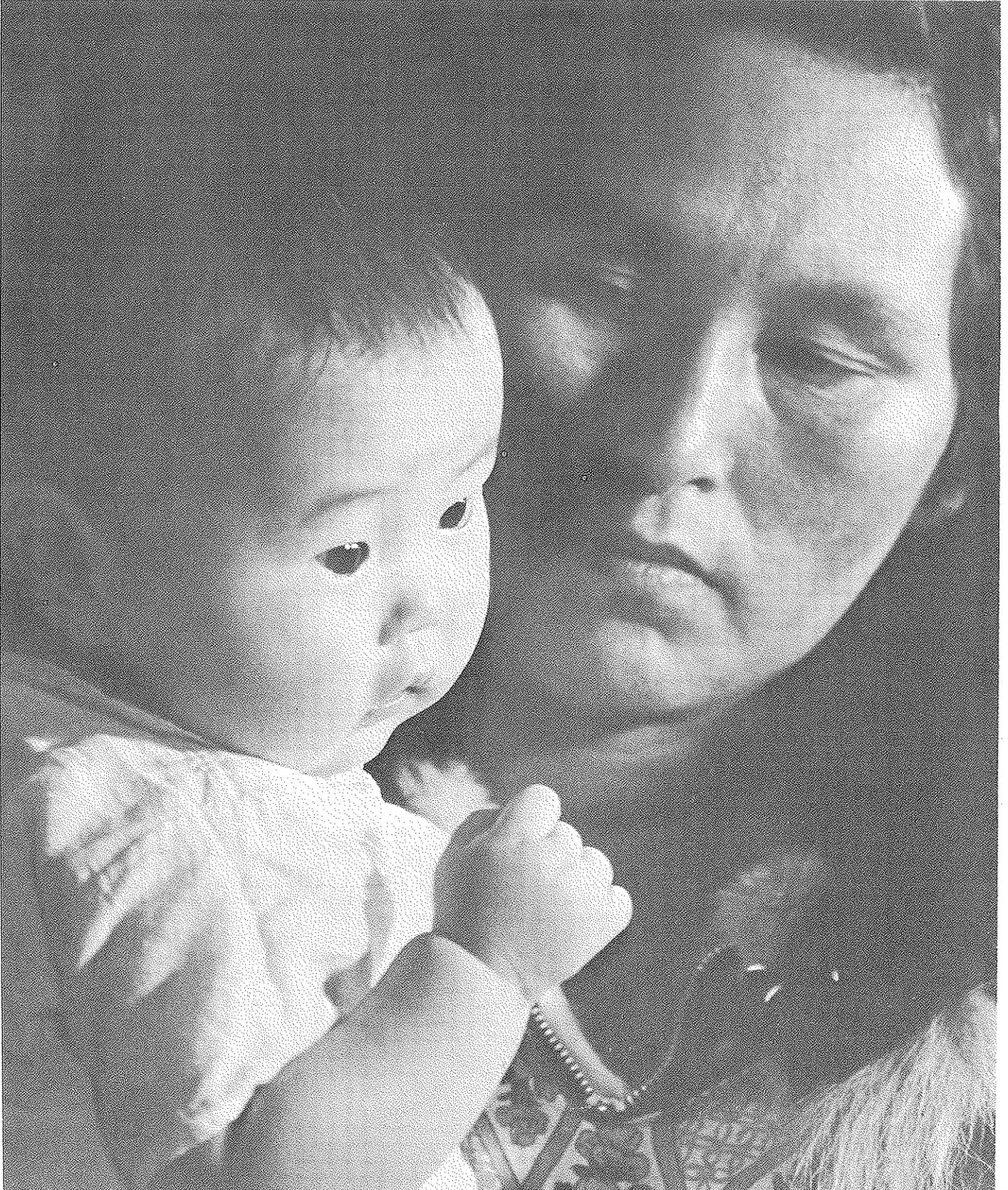


Photo by Fred Belcher

This Navajo mother holds her baby on a cradle board.
She can carry the baby on her back like a pack.
Baby can see the sights
better this way
than from the inside
of a buggy. Baby also
feels very safe in the
cradle board.



Where Indians Live

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Some Indians still live deep in the canyonlands.





Photo by Bud DeWald

This little Havasupai girl
lives in canyon country.

Some Indians live on the plains where the lands

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stretch far and wide.

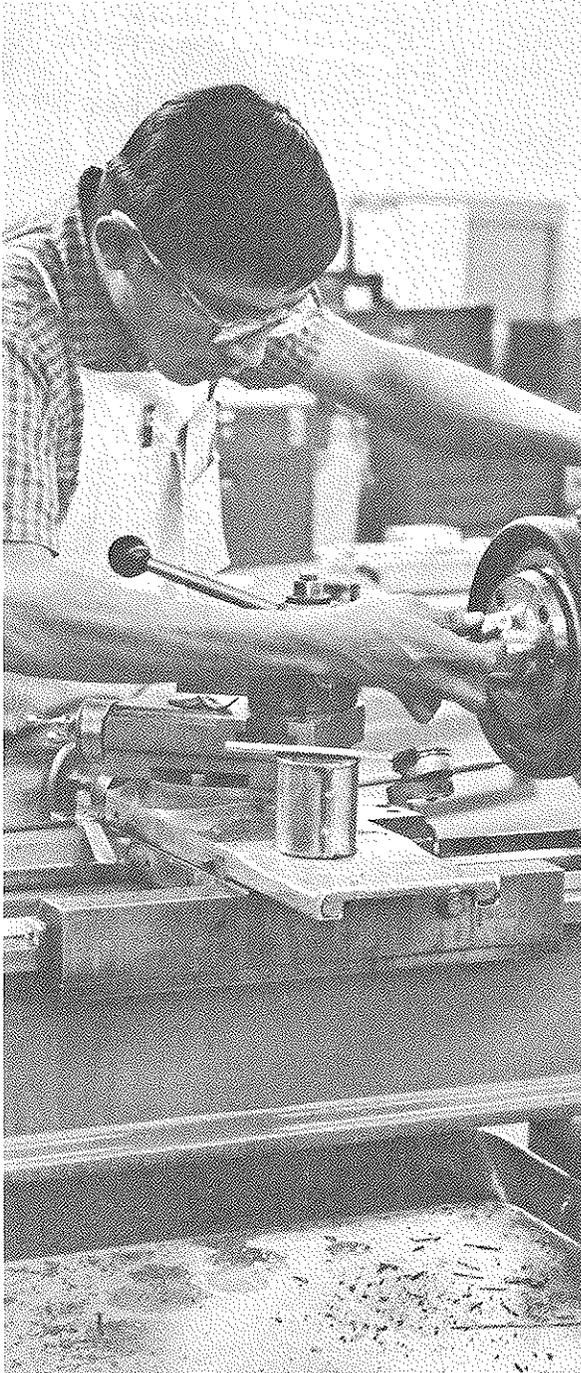
Indian children love the quiet country,
and they love horses.





Some Indians have moved to cities . . .

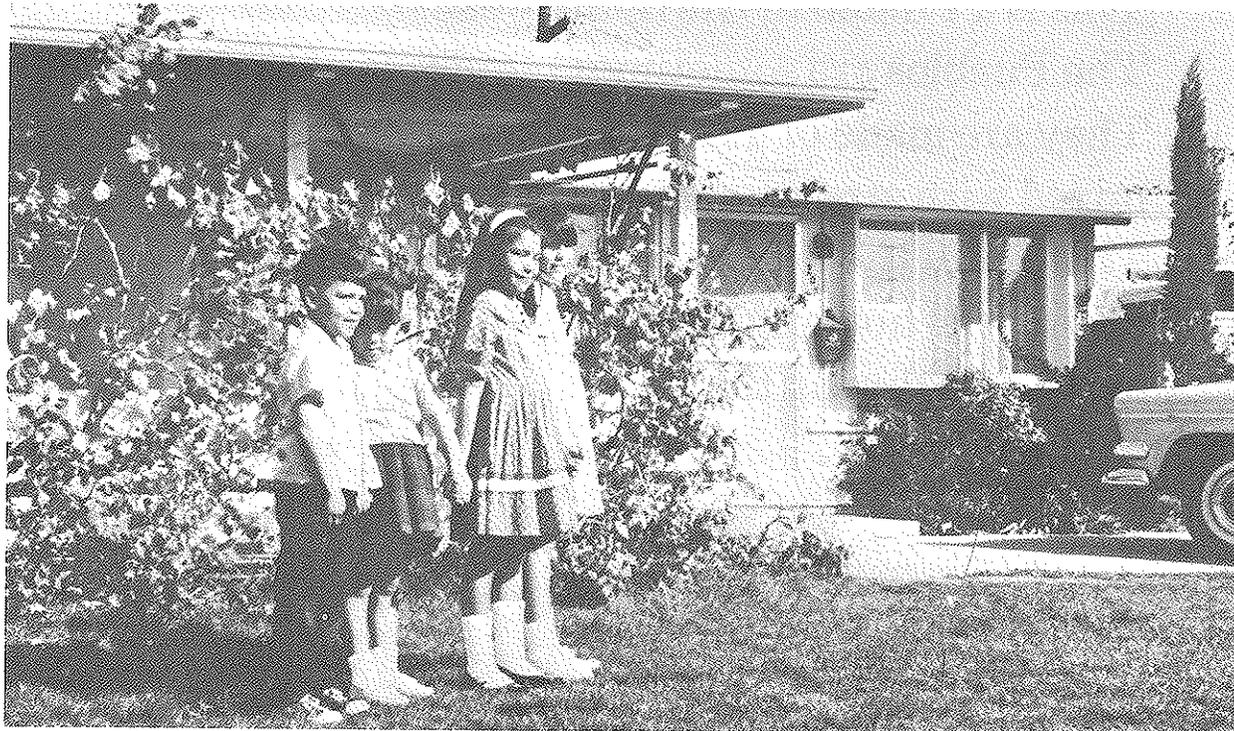
. . . where Indian Fathers work
at many different kinds of jobs.



The Government helps them to learn skills and find jobs.



Many Indian families live in modern houses . . .



. . . and little girls help mother in the kitchen.



Photo Courtesy of Vista

There are still many Indian people who live in the

This is a Pueblo in the Southwest.

The Pueblos are sometimes hundreds of years old.

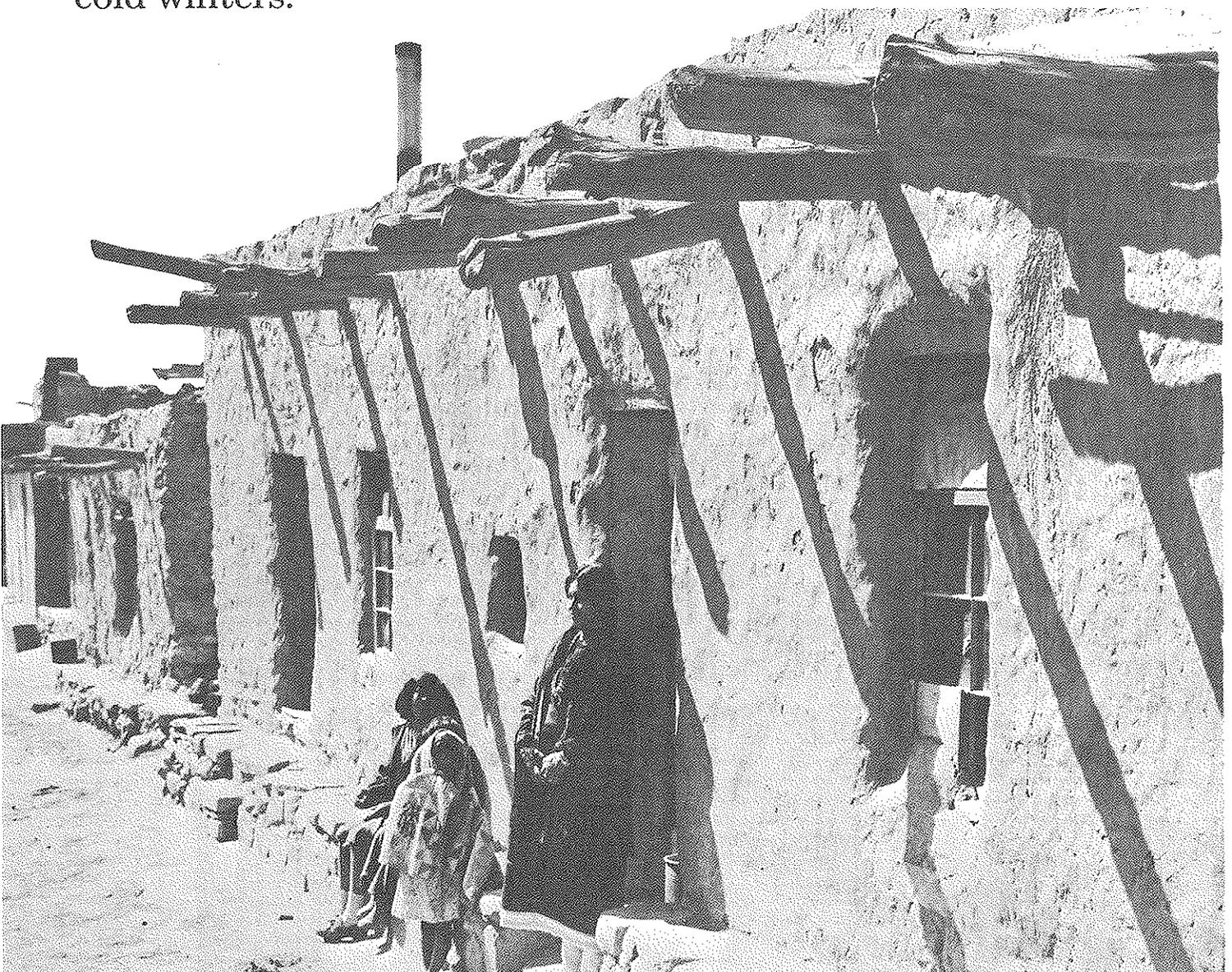
They are made of adobe, a kind of mud mixed with straw. The walls are thick.

This keeps the houses cool

¹⁴ during the hot summers

and warm during the

cold winters.



old style homes of their ancestors.



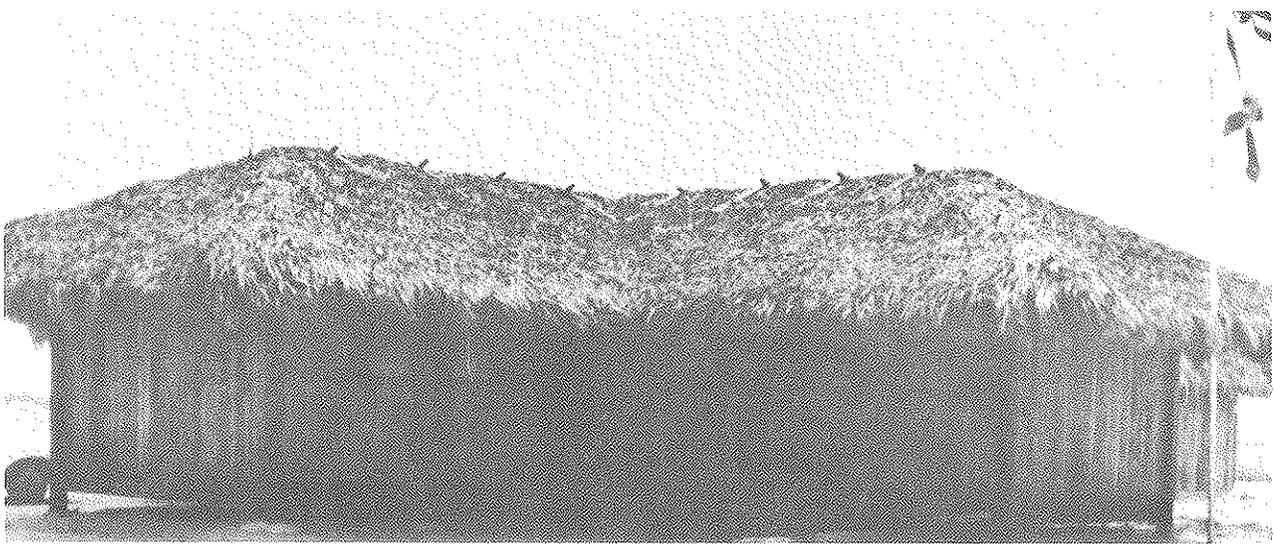
This is a wickiup, used by some Apaches and other groups who once roamed the country far and wide and made shelters wherever they went. Apaches now live in New Mexico and Arizona.

This is an old style Seminole chickee, open to the Florida breezes. Because there are no walls, hurricane winds blow right through the chickee but do not blow it down.



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This is a modern style chickee with indoor plumbing. The Federal Government helped the Miccosukee Indians of Florida build these new homes.



In Alaska most houses are made of wood.
The word “igloo” means house in the Eskimo language.
Dogsledding is part of the winter fun
—and it is also a way of traveling.
Some Eskimos also drive snowmobiles
or fly airplanes.



A hogan is home to many Navajo children.
Their reservation stretches over much of Arizona
and into New Mexico and Utah.
Hogan doors always face east.



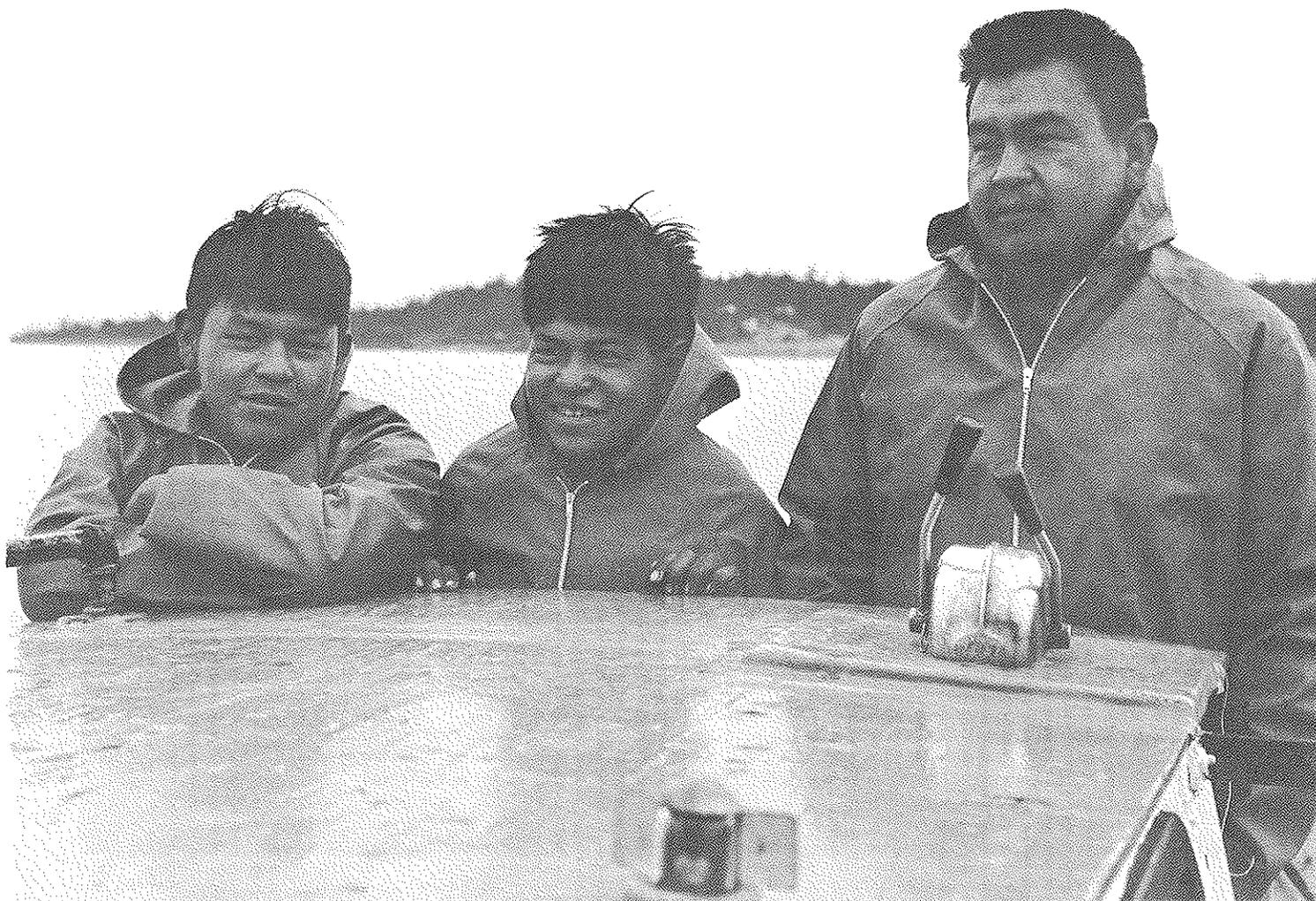
If you lived in a hogan,
you might sometimes ride to town on a horse.





Some Indians are cattle ranchers and they use trucks to travel over the rough ranch roads. Trucks are also good for taking the family to a movie in town.

In the Northwest, Indians are fishermen.
They used to travel and fish by canoe.
Nowadays most Indians use modern boats for fishing.

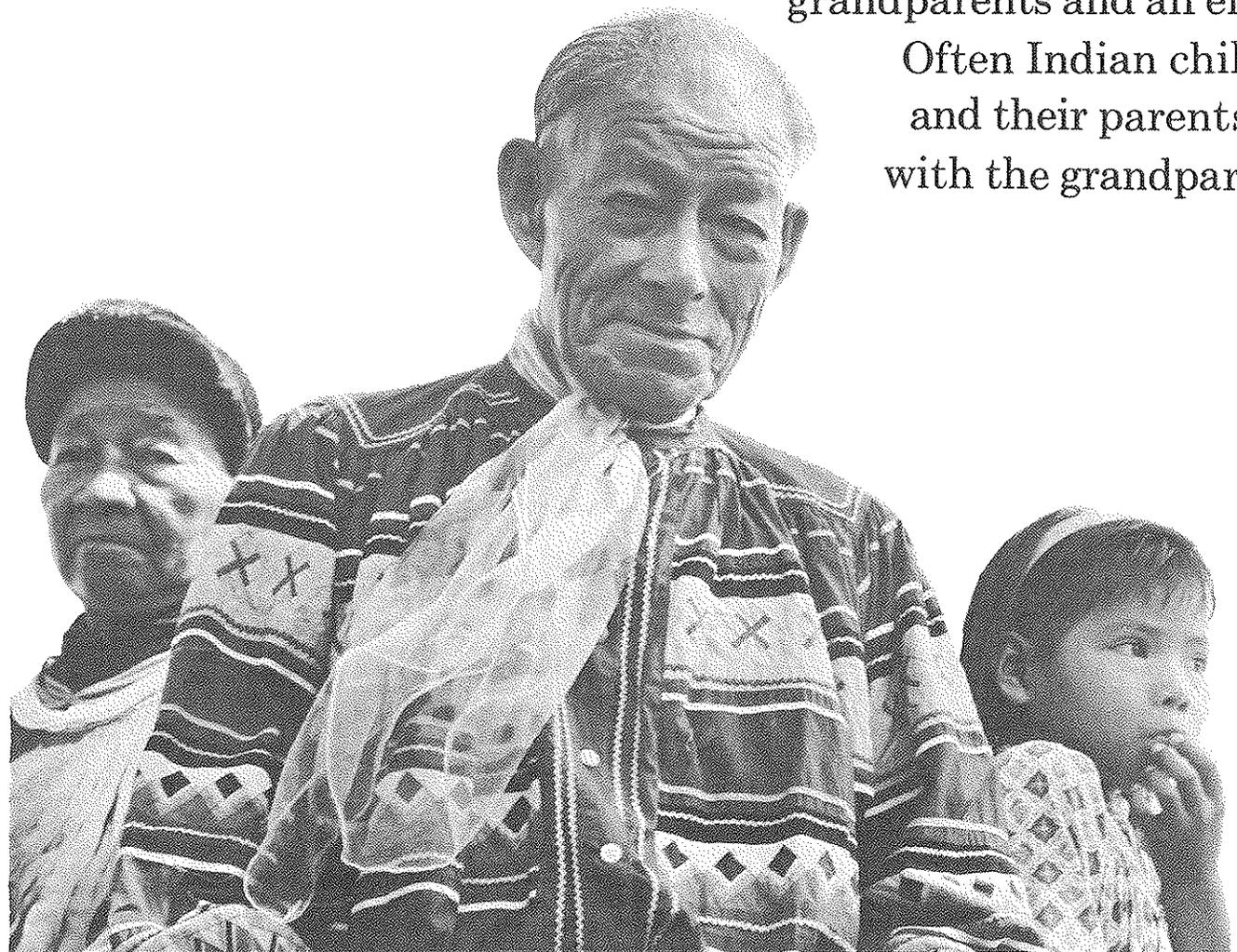


Indian Families Work Together





It is a tradition with Indians to honor their parents and grandparents and all elders. Often Indian children and their parents live with the grandparents.



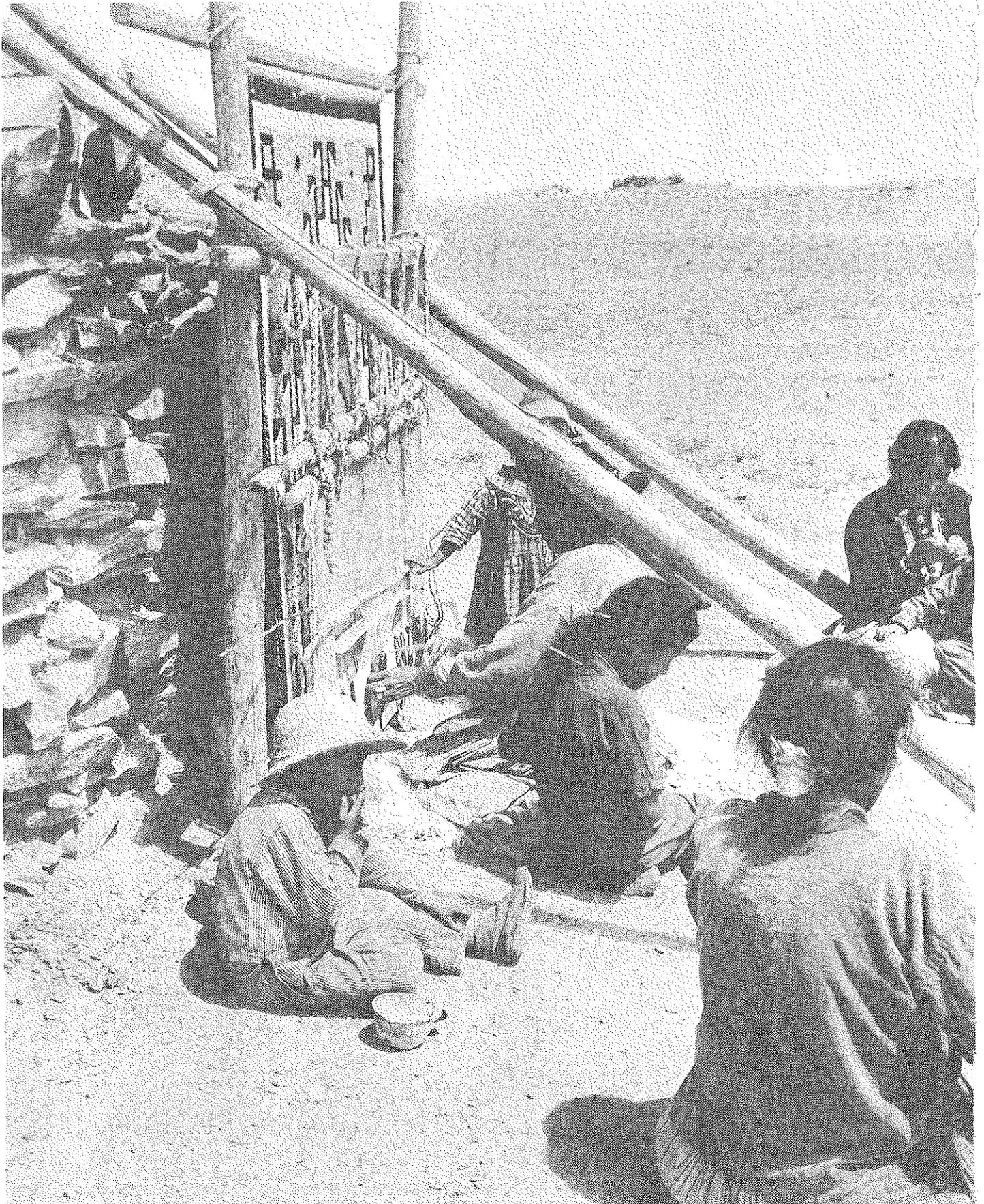
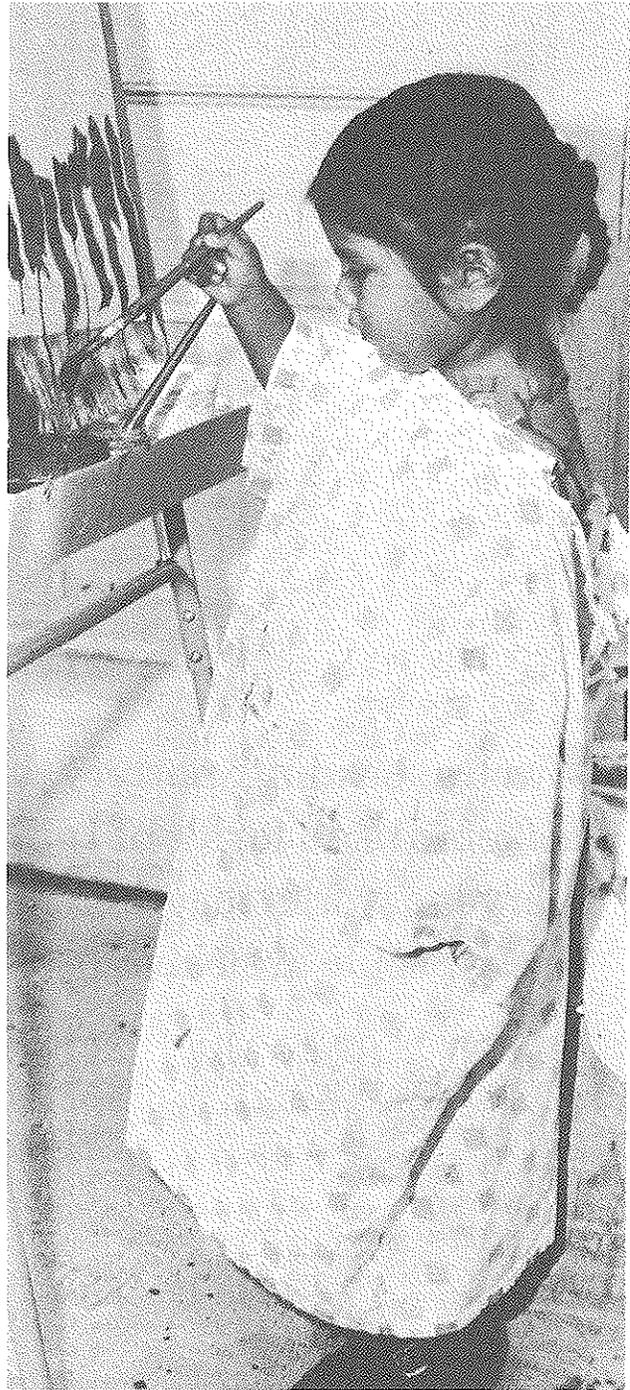
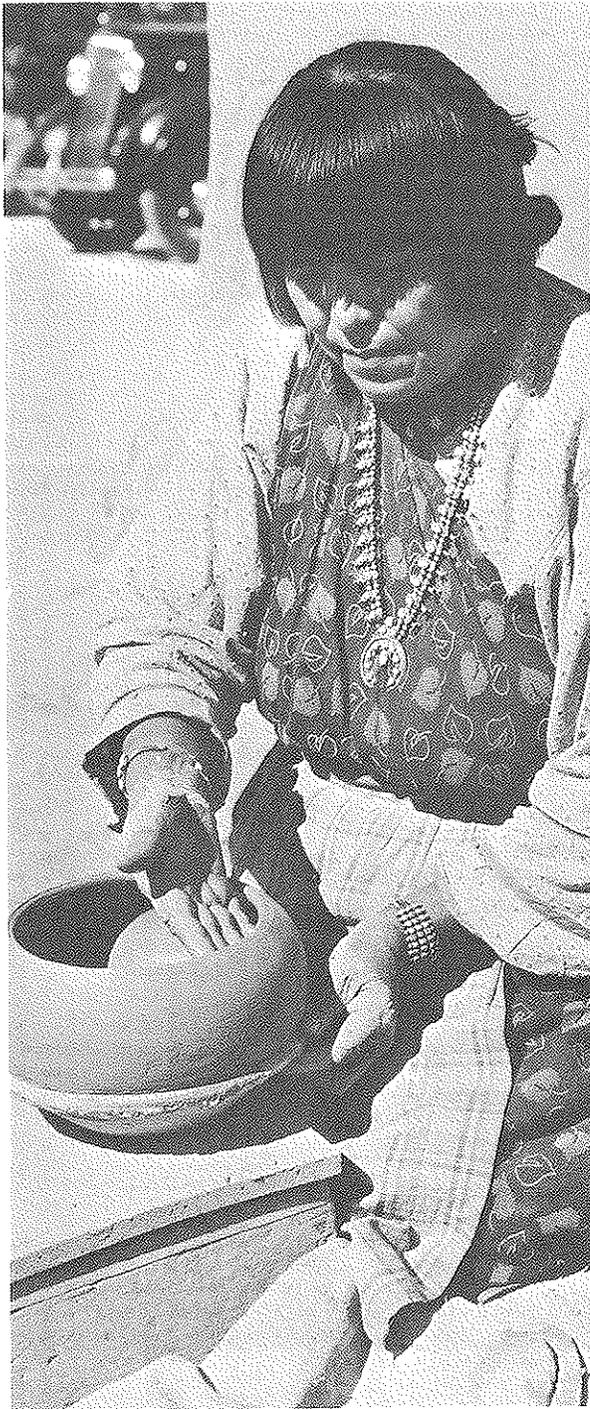


Photo: Courtesy of New Mexico State Tourist Bureau

Jewelry, beading, pottery, blankets and baskets are all forms of Indian art. In many families everyone works together to make these crafts. These people are Navajos.



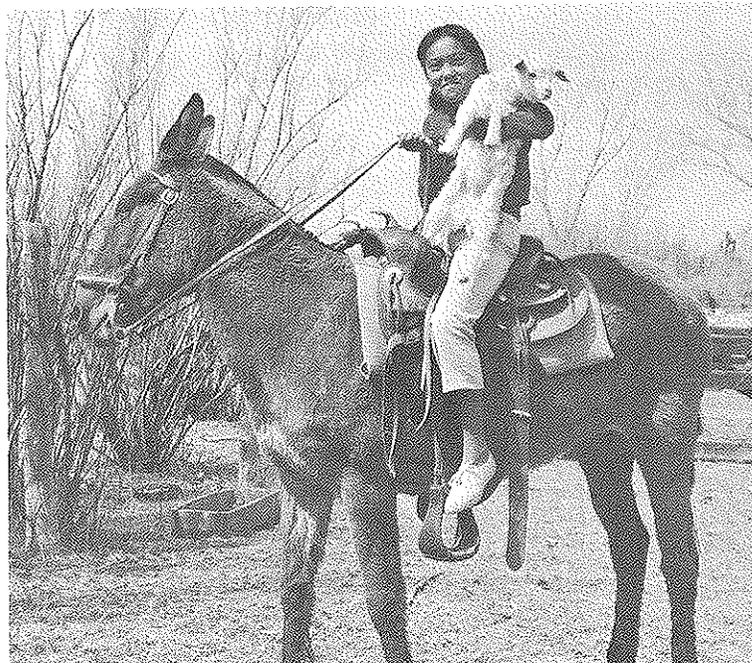
Many Indians seem to have a talent
for creating things.





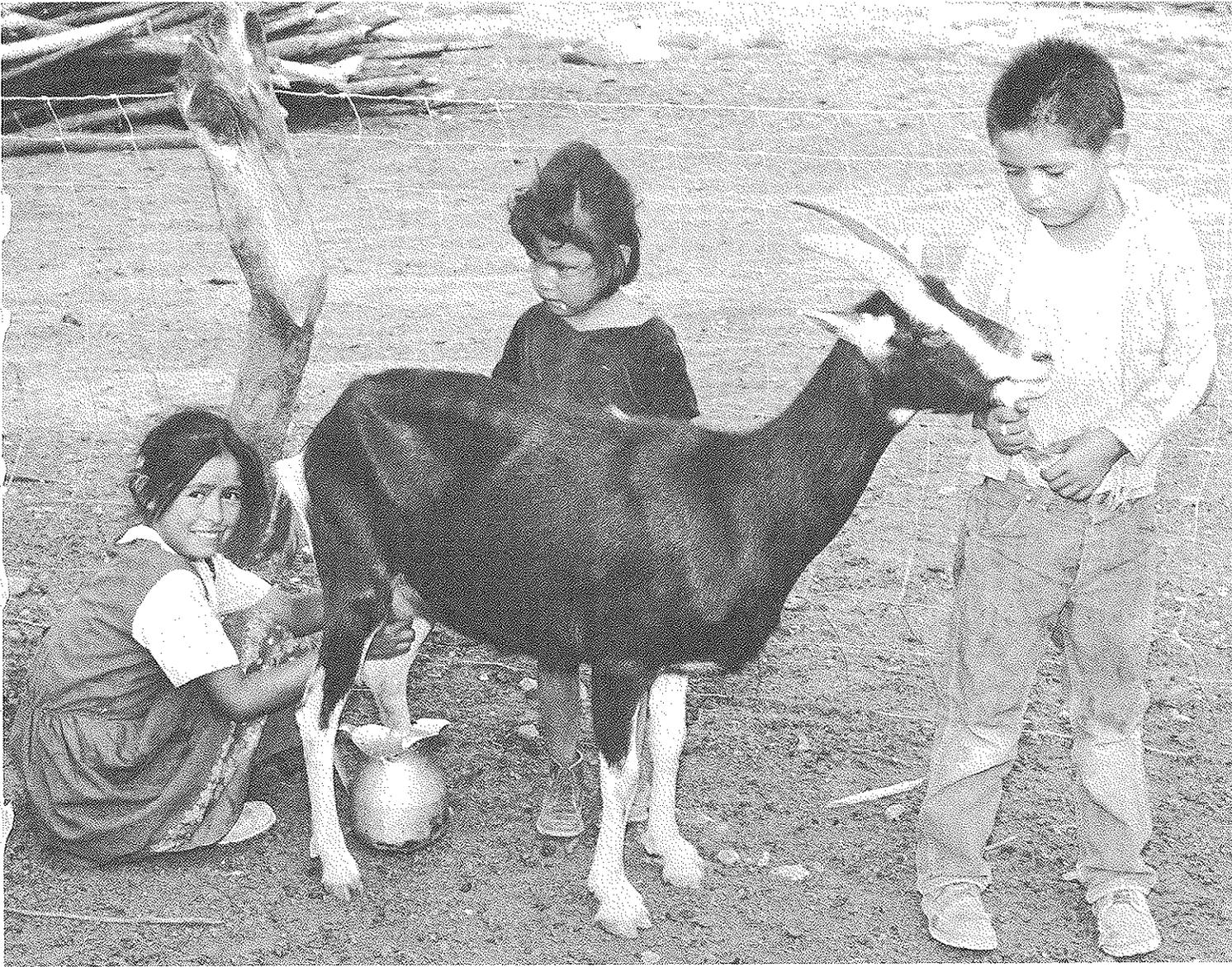
These children help plant trees to make a “shelter belt” for the family farm. The Federal Government helps Indian families develop farms and ranches and other kinds of businesses.

Many Navajos
raise sheep.
From the wool
they make
their famous rugs.





This boy lives
on the Pacific coast
and helps his father
catch fish.



Milking the family goat can be fun.

Fun Is
Where You
Find It

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You can shoot an arrow into the air . . .





... or try to fly ...

... or you can ride your beloved horse
to the quiet of the forest's edge.

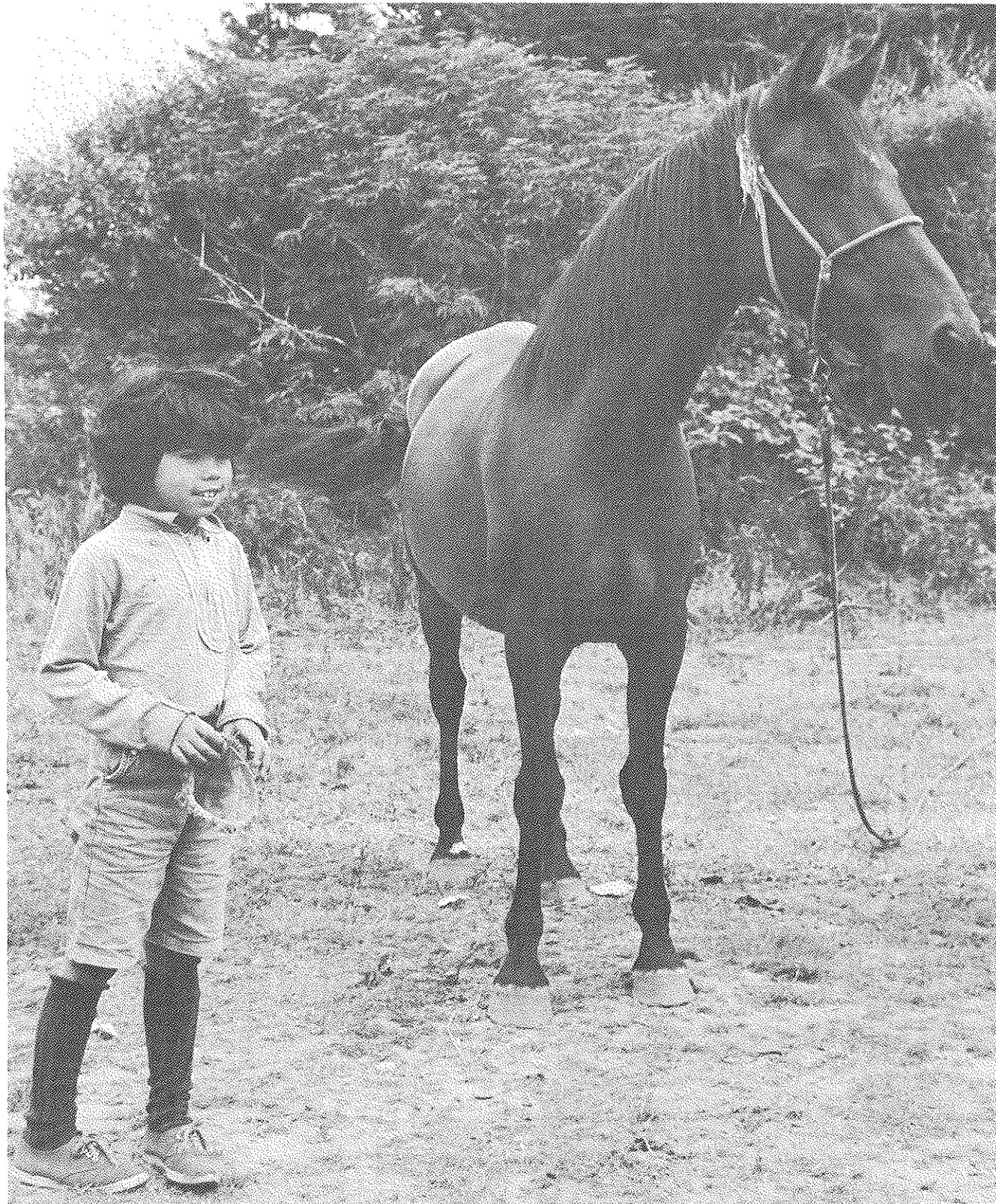


Photo by Martha Roberts

A Seminole girl
in Florida
listens for the call
of a wild bird
in the everglades.
Flamingos
and alligators
and bullfrogs
are part of
her everyday world.



Photo by Buck Fisk



Everyone loves a parade.



Indian children and their parents are no different. All through the year they have special ceremonial dances and festivals. This Chief of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Iowa and the little boy are both dressed in the manner of their forefathers for a ceremonial event.

Crow Indians of Montana ride to their fair which is a big event every year.



These are Apache dancers.

Photo by Harvey Caplin



Dances tell a story. The costumes the boy and these men are wearing are symbols of the history of native Alaskans.

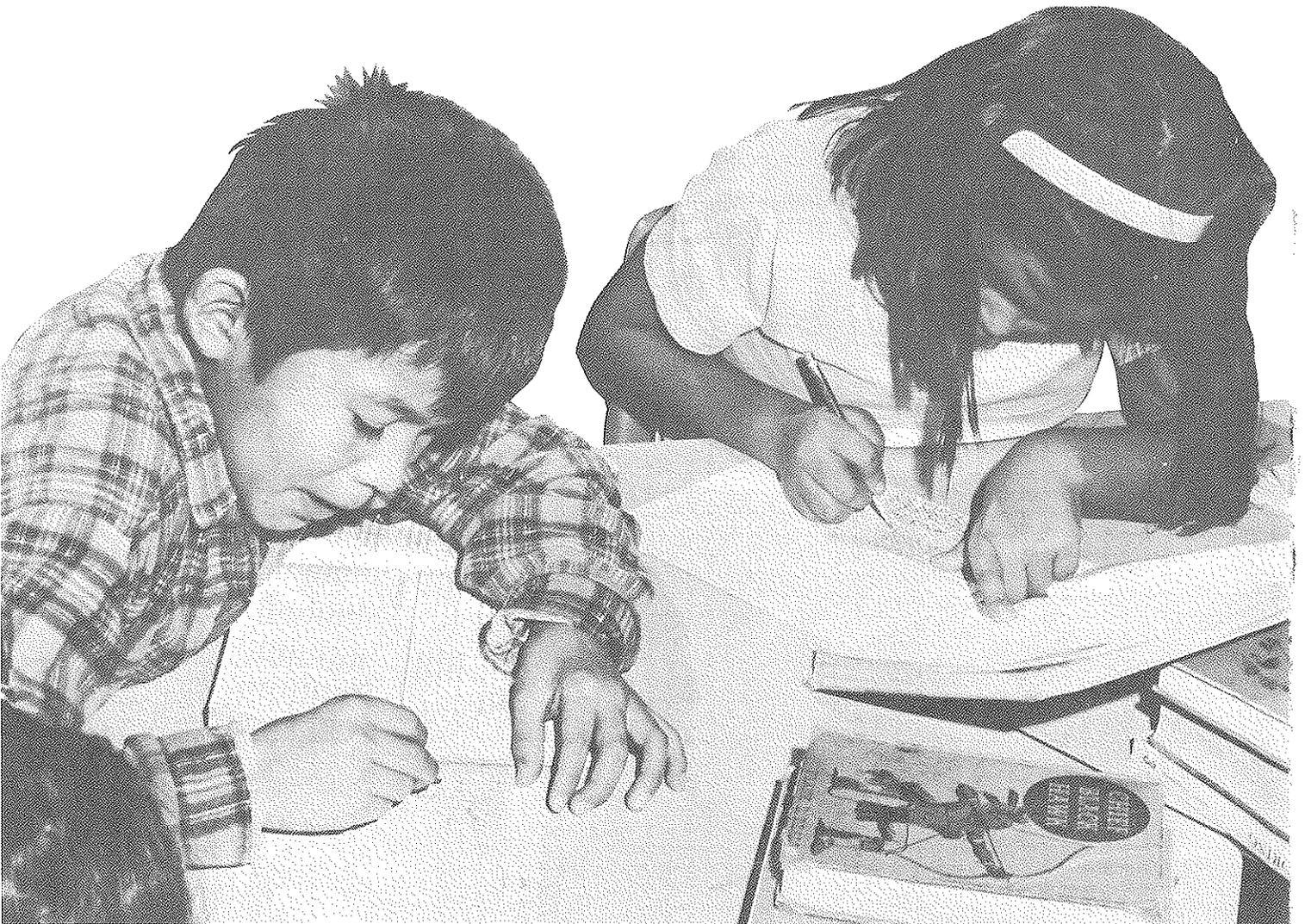


Indians in School

Indian children go to school every day just like other children. Most of them go to public schools. The Federal Government also operates day schools or boarding schools for some of them.

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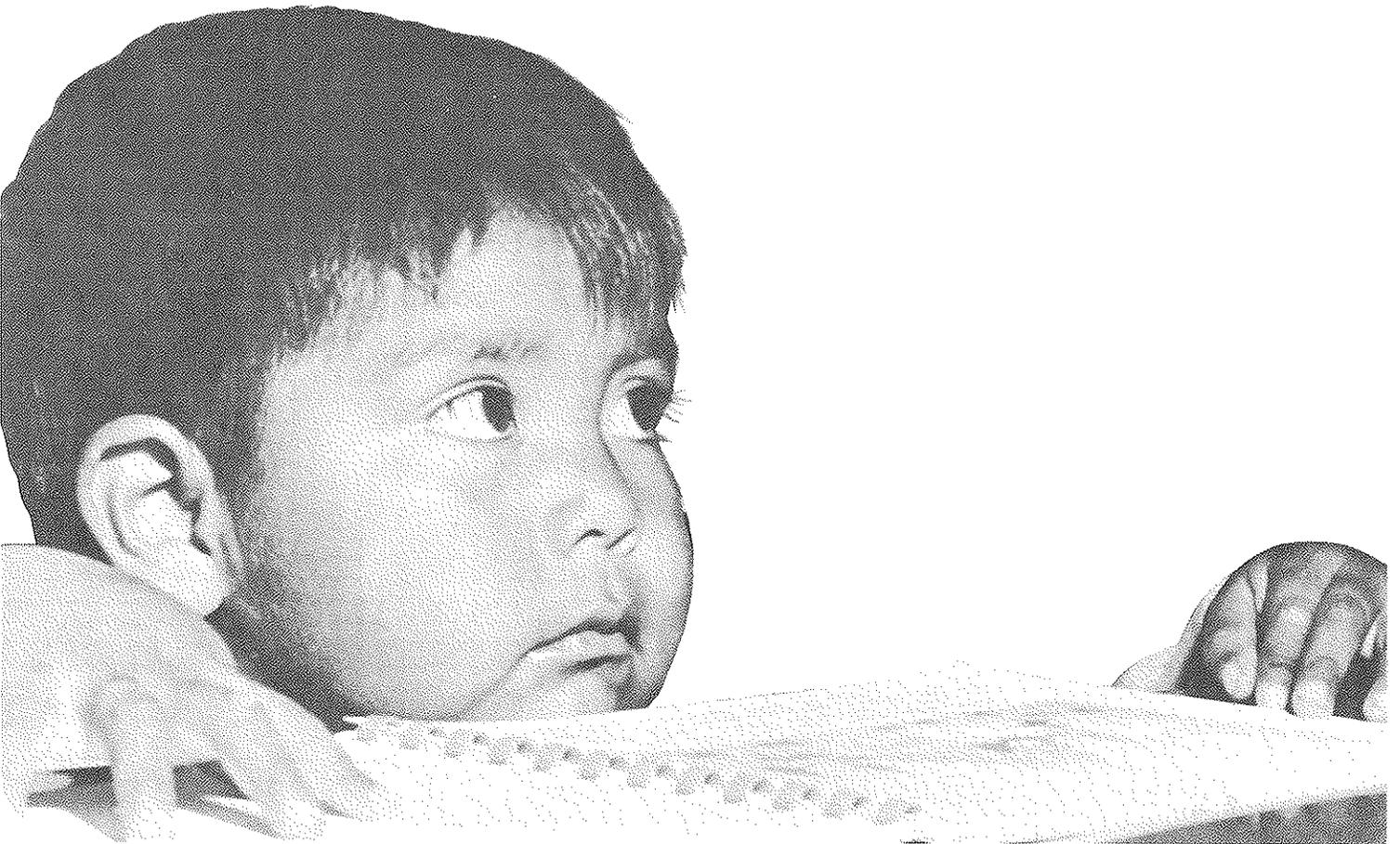
These children, in a Federal school at Minto, Alaska, are having a lesson in arithmetic.

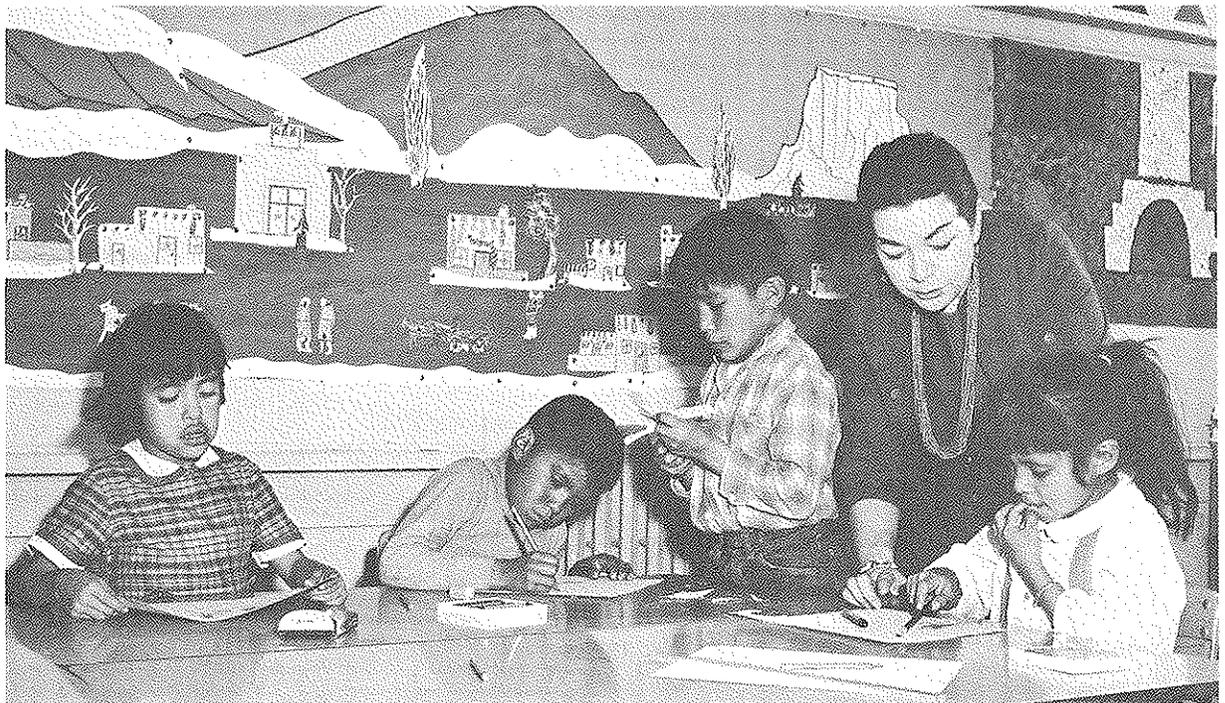


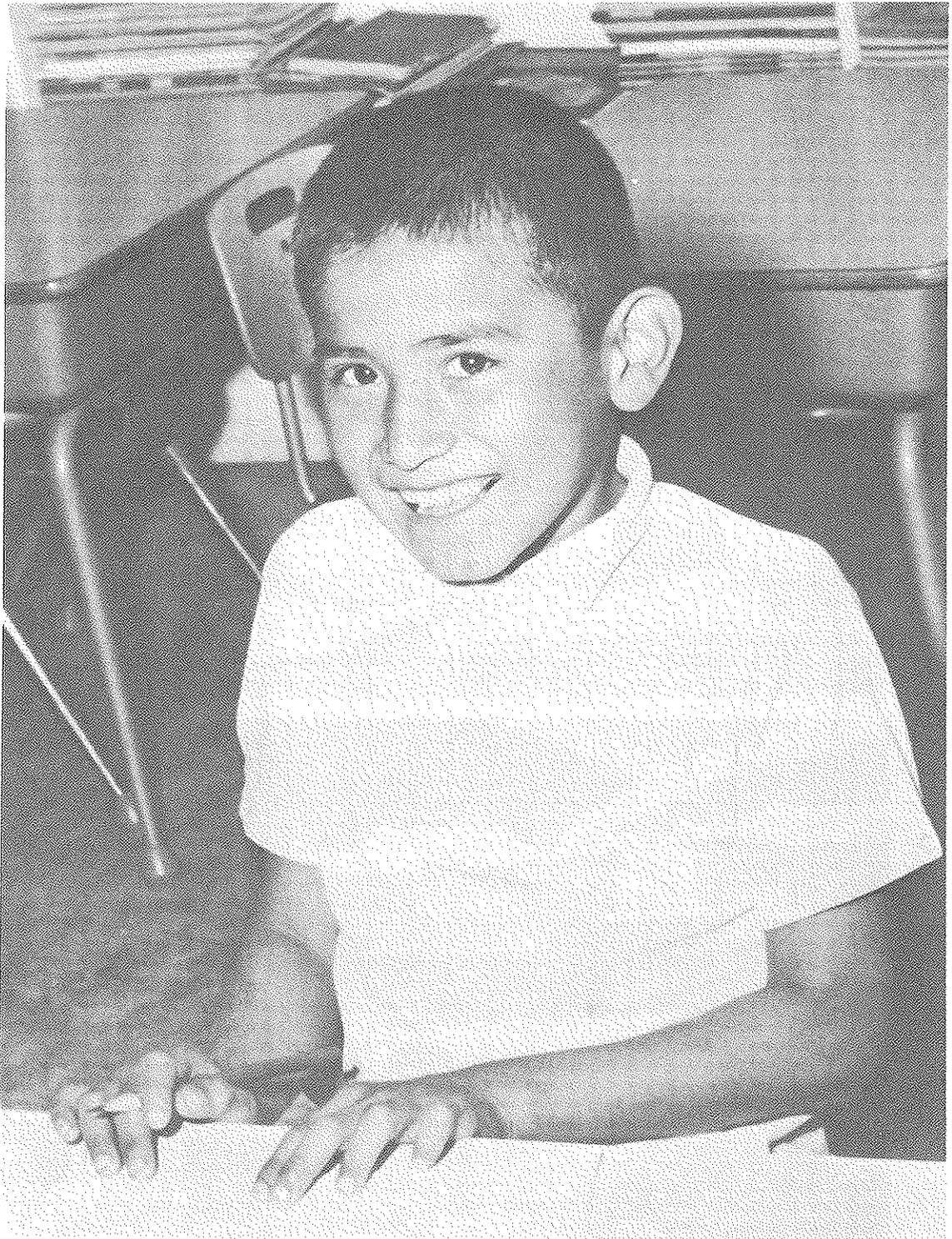


These children are in a Federal school in New Mexico.

Some Indian children speak no English at home.
They learn English in school.
At first it seems hard to learn.
But practice makes perfect.







Usually things go well at school . . .

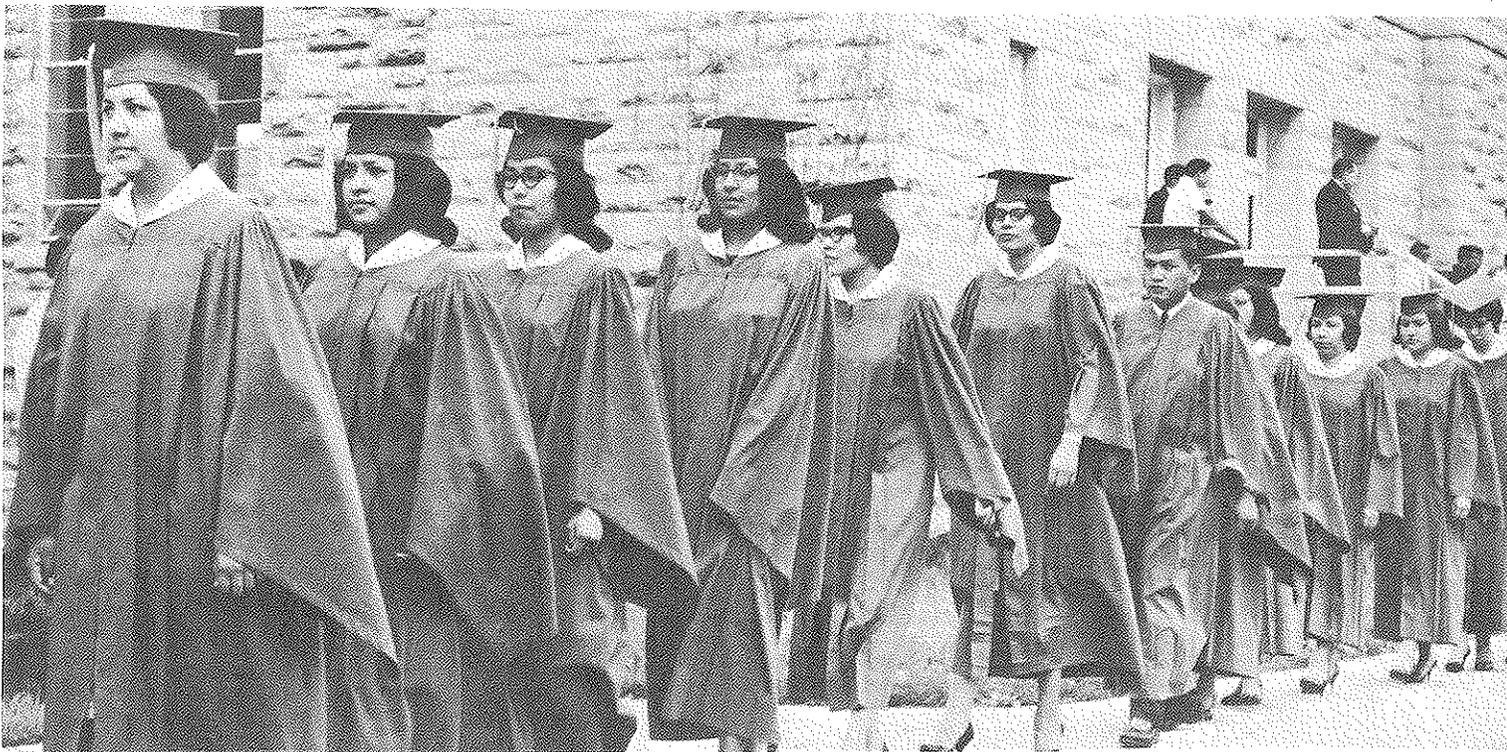
... but once in a while
someone becomes
unhappy.

Photo by Bud DeWald





And, as the Indian and Eskimo boys and girls grow up,
our story ends.



What have we learned about Indians and Eskimos? We certainly know that there are many of them, and that they came from a far-away land to this country many hundreds of years ago. They are now scattered all over the United States.

There is much we all can learn from the Indians and Eskimos. They are proud people, with fine traditions and arts and beliefs. We hope this picture story book helps children everywhere to know each other better.

