



By DICK MILLER
Highland School Librarian

(Due to an especially heavy copy load this week, the column will merely wrap up the unpublished portion of last week's review of ISH, LAST OF HIS TRIBE, by Theodora Kroeber. Last week's report was unintentionally terminated as we were explaining that when Mrs. Kroeber was a girl, she went with Indians on horseback to visit the cliff dwellings of Mesa Verde in the northern California wilds where the last of the Yahi Indians lived as a "lost tribe" until Ish, the lone survivor, was brought to the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnology of the University of California at Berkeley, headed by Mrs. Kroeber's husband, Prof. Alfred Kroeber. Now continue.)

ISHI, LAST OF HIS TRIBE is a truly notable work--a classic. Mrs. Kroeber not only gives us the facts of the story, she makes us "feel" what it meant to be Ishi before he became "civilized" by our standards--living in constant fear of discovery and violent death at the hands of the "civilized."

"What were his thoughts, what did he do from day to day, where did he find the strength and faith--a 'savage'--to continue to live with respect for others and for his ancient code, through impossible hardship?" the publisher asks, confident that, "With tender insight into the character of Ishi, Mrs. Kroeber has re-created the boy and the man in a way that will assure for Ishi a lasting place in American history and literature." We agree.

ISHI, LAST OF HIS TRIBE, is strikingly designed and illustrated by Ruth Robbins, who has illustrated other books in addition to writing BABOUSHKA AND THE THREE KINGS, winner of the Caldecott Medal Award for 1961.

Randolph Heads White House Conference

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and a vice president of the AFL-CIO, will serve as honorary chairman of the White House Conference "To Fulfill These Rights," Nov. 17-18. In announcing the conference, President Johnson said:

"Last June, in addressing the graduating class of Howard University, I announced that a White House Conference would be held this fall and with this theme: "To Fulfill These Rights." I described its object to be "to help the American Negro fulfill the rights which, after the long time of injustice, he is about to secure."

"I am pleased to announce the conference will be held in Washington on November 17 and 18. To provide leadership and guidance for those who participate in the conference, I have asked a most distinguished American, Mr. A. Phillip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and a vice president of the AFL-CIO, to serve as honorary chairman. Working with him as co-chairmen of the Conference will be Mr. Morris Abram of Atlanta and New York City, and Mr. William Coleman of Philadelphia. Both Mr. Abram and Mr. Coleman have earned widespread respect as men of the law, and as men of deep personal commitment to the cause of civil liberty.

"WE ARE ENTERING a new and far more difficult phase of our national effort to ensure that all Americans participate fully in the benefits and responsibilities of this most prosperous of Nations.

"It is, therefore, especially fortunate that we have men with such impressive credentials willing to devote their time, energy, resourcefulness, and creativity to the Nation's most difficult domestic problem.

"Because of the gravity, scope, and importance of this issue, it is apparent that it cannot be considered in an effective way without more extensive preparations. The November conference will draw together men and women with long experience in the fields of housing, employment, education, social welfare, and the like. They will point the way toward new efforts to

include the Negro American more fully in our society. In the spring of next year, a larger conference of concerned Americans will convene in Washington to consider the conclusions and recommendations of the November meeting.

"WE LOOK FORWARD to these deliberations with high hope that through the vision of dedicated men and women in both private and public life, we may find the new avenues of opportunity for Negro Americans--confidence that those for whom we labor will one day walk down those avenues toward full participation in a great society."

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