

because he had been too busy to keep them! Eventually, the government stopped suing him for more than \$42,000 he had failed to account for as an Indian agent and accepted a payment of \$1,000, for the government's legal expenses. The third key person, Baptist minister Isaac Kalloch, dominated the new University from the beginning until he was finally driven from the board. Of course, honest accounts of how these individuals saw themselves are not available, but the evidence cited, much of which is contained in records of the National Archives, amply justifies the charge of fraud, as did the decisions of the Indian Claims Commission in the Ottawa case. The book is thoroughly documented, there are bibliography and index, and it contains a map locating the Kansas Ottawa reservation and photographs of key individuals and early University buildings.

The remarkable combination of religious zeal, boosterism, and chicanery is fascinating, but not very adequately explained. Indeed, the authors do not attempt much in the way of explanation at all. Nevertheless, this is an interesting and significant study, and perhaps it will, as they suggest, lessen the likelihood that similar frauds will take place in the future.

— Elmer R. Rusco  
University of Nevada, Reno

**Gina Webster, Producer. *The Black Aged: A Diverse Population*. 1985. Videotape, 11 minutes, color, \$30.00 for ½" or \$35.00 for ¾" copy. To order: Mr. Thomas D. Maher, Coordinator, Instructional Television-MRC, California State Polytechnic University, 3801 West Temple Avenue, Pomona, CA 91768.**

*The Black Aged: A Diverse Population* is an engaging eleven minute videotape documenting various lifestyles of the black elderly in Southern California. Gina Webster skillfully dispels the "all black aged are alike" myth as she highlights the current visions and lives of five octogenarians. From immigrant, laborer, writer, missionary, to social worker, each life is as varied as human experiences can be. Each individual carries a vivid past, an enriching present, and an optimistic future.

Webster, in a brief moment, has presented a picture of diversity. She integrates factual information concerning the black aged, the

problems of hypertension and sickle cell anemia which is endemic to primarily blacks and an oppressive economic situation for many black elderly, with oral interviews. Her ability to intertwine both makes her documentary a worthwhile endeavor—one which is open ended and allows for in-depth discussions of the issues raised by the participants. By focusing on the black elderly and presenting their stories, Webster brings to light a “group” which has been invisible—hidden from the public, sheltered, and ignored.

We are fortunate in having this portrayal of the black elderly. Her film moves us away from the black/white confrontation situations as seen in such novels as *A Gathering of Old Men* or *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman* and presents us with a vision of human life, human diversity. *The Black Aged: A Diverse Population* is worth viewing for those interested in developing an understanding beyond “welfare” and “subsistence living” conditions of the black elderly. The individual lives, their dignity and pride, reveal these people as separate from generalizations and stereotypes. This videotape could be used successfully in courses which focus on the family, on community, and on the elderly in society.

—Barbara Hiura  
University of California, Berkeley

**Isobel White, Diane Barwick, and Betty Meehan, eds. *Fighters and Singers; The Lives of Some Aboriginal Women.* (Winchester: Allen & Unwin, 1985) xxi, 226 pp., \$30.00; \$15.00 paper.**

*Fighters and Singers* is a collection of fifteen essays written about Aboriginal women of Australia. The authors, mostly anthropologists and all women, wrote of their “sisters,” “mothers,” and “aunts.” The pieces are all informative about tribal life, but they are also warm reminiscences of relationships across cultural boundaries. Among the contributors is Pearl Duncan, the first Aborigine to become a trained teacher in Australia and a former member of the National Aboriginal Education Committee.

What is most striking about the information contained in the essays is the similarity between Australian Aboriginal experience and American Indian experience. Subjects and practices which appear in the stories of