

FOREWORD



IN THIS book is told about my life. All through America where have been my riding and roping shows people ask me: "How does Indian fit into today's world? What about you, Red Eagle?" All through World War II boys and girls when I give U.S.O. Shows say same thing to me. This is answer to all. Red American, white American, today all brothers.

RED EAGLE

INTRODUCTION



This story is more than a biographical narrative of the little Indian boy who became the adopted son of "Buffalo Bill" Cody, that intrepid buffalo-hunter, daring scout, brave soldier, glamorous showman and ideal of most of the frontiersmen and cowboys of the old Western Plains. It is a colorful page of human history—the saga of the American Indian's difficult struggle to adapt himself to a world in which his conquered race had been deprived of practically everything held dear and important.

We are far too apt to forget that this great domain which we proudly call the United States—its plains and forests and mountains—is the Indian's own native land and ours only by conquest. It is true that he fought back, desperately—but why shouldn't he? We have given far too little consideration to the Indian's own side of the story.

Red Eagle was a typical Indian boy, with an inherited spirit as free as the eagle's, a deep love for his native land and a sincere respect for the ideals of his ancestors. His childhood experience with an unfortunate type of the conquering white man was enough to have made him an outlaw. But fortunately his adventures also brought him in contact with other white men, and one in particular, who gave him faith in the future—a faith which even the most cruel of circumstances could not sweep away. This story of his life not only tells of his adventures, but what he

thought about, his dreams and his sorrows, as he walked down the trail of history-in-the-making.

The realistic charm which the reader is sure to find in this book is due to the important fact that Red Eagle himself has had a large part in the background of its writing. The Reverend T. J. Barkle, who has a museum in one of California's cherished old Monterey adobes, and who is a long-time friend of Red Eagle, was responsible for Mabel O'Moran's undertaking to put this fascinating story in book form. The author had the benefit of discussing all the details with Red Eagle, as his story was being written, as well as the cooperation of members of Buffalo Bill's family. She also did much original research for its historical accuracy and background.

Seldom before has a narrative of this kind so simply but forcefully caught such real feeling and understanding. It gives new dignity and stature to the "noble red man"—which he so rightfully deserves.

HAROLD McCracken

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CARMEL'S OWN INDIAN WINS NICHE IN VILLAGE HISTORY

Alleyway Named for Red Eagle

By Jerry Root

Red Eagle, who was Carmel's own Indian until he died eight years ago, became an indelible part of the village history yesterday.

A narrow, sandy, nameless thoroughfare that runs between San Carlos and Mission Streets, just to the rear of the Ocean Avenue shops, was transformed into Red Eagle Trail.

Countess Claude Kinnoull, long-time friend and benefactress of Red Eagle, nailed a carved wooden sign over the alleyway through which the elderly Indian passed daily going to and from his cottage in the back of the old Murphy lumberyard.

She had planned to say a few words in tribute to Red Eagle, but it began to rain and a chill wind set some two dozen spectators to shivering so she simply nailed up the sign.

"Red Eagle," she planned to say, "could read only very little and could write no more than his name. He had no formal schooling, yet he was wise in manyways, civilized in his simplicity and he possessed education of the heart.

"For those of us who were honored with Red Eagle's friendship it will be lasting satisfaction to see his name, inscribed on this attractive sign, enter the list of Carmel's outstanding citizens and become an honored part of our city's legend."

The sign, similar to Carmel's sea gull and squirrel street signs, is decorated instead with the head of an Indian, wearing the colorful feathered headdress. It was posted at the west end of the lane, directly across San Carlos street from the Carmel Craft Studio whose manager, Fred Klepich, was one of the contributors, with Countess Kinnoull, to the cost of the sign.

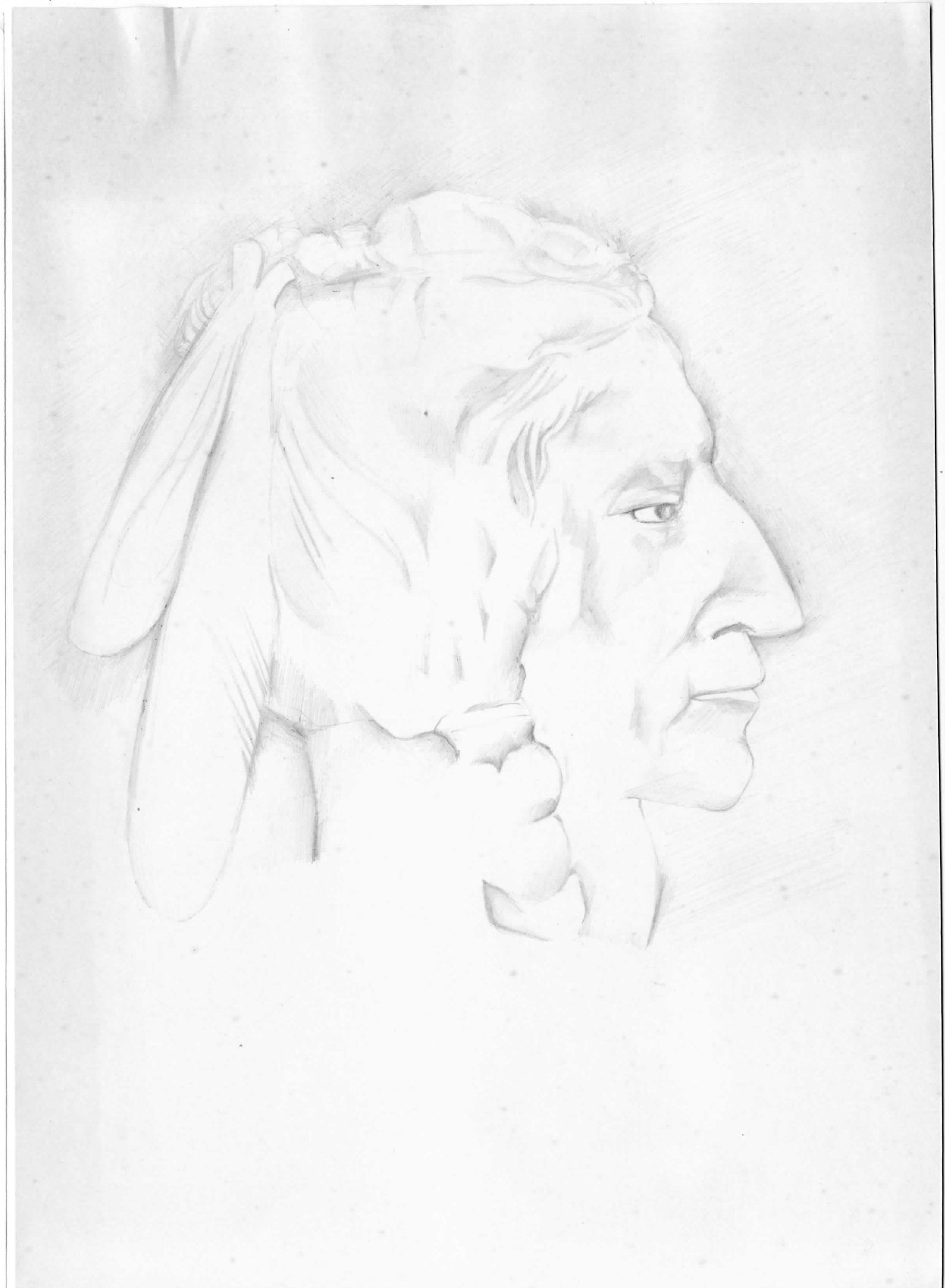
City Councilmen John Whitwood and Jim Buffington were on hand for the brief ceremony, along with Police Chief Clyde Klaumann and Fire Chief Bob Smith. Several of Red Eagle's friends were there, too, among them insurance man Paul McCreery, former Mayor of Carmel, and artists Leslie Emory and Mary Miller.

Red Eagle's friends were almost legion, and there is scarcely anybody who lived in Carmel when he did who does not remember him, fondly and with considerable respect.

He was a frequent sight on Ocean Avenue, dressed usually in cowboy's blue denims and a hat of slightly less than 10-gallon capacity.

Occasionally, however, he would don full Indian ceremonial garb, complete with a headdress streaming with colored feathers.

It was always open house at his little cottage, and children by the dozen used to come and listen in rapt attention as he put on his Wild West regalia and told them stories of the old frontier.



Red Eagle Is Subject Of New Juvenile Book

Red Eagle, Carmel's full-blooded Choctaw and colorful figure for almost a decade, burst into print this week. He is the subject of a juvenile biography by Mabel O'Moran of Monterey, called Red Eagle, Buffalo Bill's Adopted Son, to be on sale August 25.

"In this book is told about my life," says Red Eagle in his foreword. "All through America where have been my riding and roping shows people ask me: 'How does Indian fit into today's world? What about you, Red Eagle?' All through World War II boys and girls when I give U. S. O. shows say same thing to me. This is answer to all. Red American, white American, today all brothers."

Published by J. B. Lippincott Company, Red Eagle is the story of the American Indian's struggle to adapt himself to a world in which his race has been deprived of almost everything held dear and important. Miss O'Moran has discussed the factual details with Red Eagle himself as the book progressed, and further background material has come from Buffalo Bill's family and original historical research.

Beginning in 1876, when Red Eagle was five years old, Miss O'Moran's simply-written story follows his career from the Choctaw lands in northern Texas, through adventures and travels with Colonel Cody's world-famous Wild West Show, and ends with Buffalo Bill's sudden death in Denver. The author's final paragraph strikes the book's keynote:

"Pictured in the stars he saw the use to which he must put his life: to keep alive the traditions of the West that Buffalo Bill Cody had cherished so that the American people might not forget the brave Red Men who had defended and lost their country, nor the brave White Men who had wrested it away from them."

Red Eagle Rides Again

Big medicine will be made at the Desert Craft shop next week when Chief Red Eagle will appear in person to autograph copies of the book, recently published by a Peninsula writer, which covers the life of the famous local 'Brave.'

Read Eagle, who maintains that he collaborated with the author on the life, which is based on experiences he had when he was a scout and at one time the great Buffalo Bill's intimate, has been treated in a cavalier fashion. A recent petition, signed by hundreds of indignant local citizens suggesting that the author share some of the proceeds from the sale of the book, was not received kindly by the author, who maintained that Red Eagle was a corroborator and not a collaborator.

Helen Griffing, owner and operator of the Desert Craft shop, which is located behind the Conlan-Geisen Real Estate office on Ocean avenue, is a staunch supporter and a great admirer of the Chief and she decided that she would do what she could to make matters right with the ill-used and trusting Red Man. Accordingly, she ordered a large stock of the book which is entitled "Red Eagle," "Buffalo Bill's Adopted Son," and will have it on sale as soon as it arrives. All proceeds above the cost of the book to her will go to Red Eagle.

Here's a chance for the citizens of Carmel to show their loyalty to one of the most colorful characters and one of the finest gentlemen in the community.

Friends Go To Bat For Red Eagle, Petition Mrs. Moran For Royalty Split

Over 200 signatures were affixed to a petition mailed to Mrs. M. O'Moran of Monterey this week seeking assurance that the author of a juvenile book based on the life of Red Eagle, Carmel's Choctaw Indian, intends to share the profits of the book with its subject.

The petition stated:

Carmel, Calif.
October 5, 1948

"Mrs. M. O'Moran
416 Drake Street
Monterey, Calif.
"Madam,

"We, the undersigned, concerned with the interests of a citizen whom all Carmel regards with affection and esteem, wish to inquire into the circumstances surrounding the publication of Red Eagle, a book written by yourself with the collaboration of the said citizen.

"The position appears to be as follows.

"Chief Red Eagle recounted his life story for the purpose of its being made into a book, allowed the use of his name as title for the volume, but, through modesty, trustfulness, and chivalry, and also in the belief that a gentleman's agreement existed between him and the writer, omitted to establish any legal basis for the safeguard of his proper rights.

"The conclusion that a book describing Red Eagle's life could not have been written without his full collaboration is so obvious that we are reluctant to believe he will not be accorded a fifty per cent share in the royalties, also in all profits accruing from any motion picture or radio script which might follow."

Since Mrs. O'Moran could not be expected to answer the 200 petitioners individually, The Pine Cone was asked if its columns could be used for her answer, and consent was given. The petition contained the information that the petitioners would look for her answer here. The letter was delivered Thursday morning but up to press time no word had been received from Mrs. O'Moran.

Among signers of the petition are: Rev. Michael D. O'Connell, Rev. James J. Kelly, Rev. Alfred B. Seccombe, K. Fillmore Gray, Th. D., Mrs. Elsie Martinez, Herbert Heron, Roy Fraties, Robert Spencer, Nancy Brumbridge, Ellen O'Sullivan, C. W. Wentworth, Claude M. Kinnoull, Harriet and R. Ellis Roberts, Fred Decker, Noel Sullivan, Dan Harris, Elizabeth Niles. These are picked at random out of 200, all of whom are responsible citizens, many leaders in the community.

They Deleted The "Earthy" Talk And Made Red Eagle A Juvenile, O'Moran Says Of Her New Novel

BY JOHN UPTON

Red Eagle, subject of Mabel O'Moran's recent juvenile biography, Red Eagle, Buffalo Bill's Adopted Son, was autographing copies of his book at the Village Book Shop Wednesday afternoon. With him was the author, Mrs. Mabel O'Connell Moran of Monterey.

"I feel like new man," Red Eagle was saying, as he picked up another copy and gave his full attention to the R. "Used to be I knew a few people; now everybody stops me on the street and says 'Hello, Red Eagle!'"

"My book wasn't intended to be a juvenile," Mrs. Moran said, "but the publishers needed one at the time, so I made a few alterations. They made some, too, I'm afraid. The Indians in my original manu-

AUTHOR AND CHARACTER AUTOGRAPH BOOK

Mrs. M. O'Moran of Monterey, authoress of the just-published "Red Eagle" (J. B. Lippincott), joined Red Eagle in an autographing session at the Village Book Shop Wednesday afternoon. The affair—not planned at all—took place in the garden court adjoining the shop.

Red Eagle is known as the adopted son of Buffalo Bill.

script used a pretty earthy vocabulary, as most early Western figures did; but now you'll find an Indian chief bursting out with 'Goodness! Isn't that silly?'"

Mrs. Moran, who condensed her middle and surname to O'Moran as a non de plumé, is a vigorous woman in her fifties, with bright eyes and a quick smile. Born in San Francisco, where her father, Dan O'Connell, was for many years editor of the Chronicle, she moved to Monterey about 20 years ago. Shortly after coming to the Peninsula, she won a Scribner prize with a story called Itinerant, dealing with Monterey cannery workers, and has been writing magazine stories and articles ever since.

"This is really Red Eagle's book, not mine," she added. "All I did was get the facts from him and from some of Buffalo Bill's family, and put them against a background of Indian life of the time. The original suggestion for the book came from Reverend T. J. Barkle, who has the little museum on Alvarado street. He introduced me to Red Eagle, and told me that he would like to have the story of his life written. So we got together. Didn't we, Eagle?"

"Yes, ma'am." He looked up from a flourishing E.

Red Eagle is Mrs. Moran's second book. Her first was Underseas Log, an account of commercial diving in Monterey. Published last spring by Caxton, the book received only moderate acclaim, the author said. Just finished and ready for the publisher is The Irish Are Fey, a biography of her father, founder of the Bohemian Club.

"I hope Red Eagle's many friends will like the book," she said. "I know we enjoyed writing it. Didn't we, Red Eagle?"

"Yes, ma'am."

Red Eagle To Greet Travel Club, Other Carmel Small Fry

To celebrate their arrival in home port, the young Vacation Reading Club travelers will be greeted Saturday morning at 10 o'clock at the Harrison Memorial Library by their old friend, Red Eagle.

At the same time, the occasion will celebrate the publication of the story of Red Eagle's life as he told it to Mabel O'Moran. In his own Indian dress he will tell a few stories of his days with Buffalo Bill, perhaps sing a song, or dance a few steps to entertain the returned travelers.

Then, to Cynthia Blum, the most traveled of the summer readers, will be given the opportunity to read the library copy of Red Eagle's book. Followed in turn by Victoria Bivens, Julie Work, Sally Reichard, and Diane Tootelian. Then, according to the number of

travel books recorded in their passports, the other members of the Travel Club will have the opportunity of reading the book.

Red Eagle is inviting all the children of Carmel to come to the library Saturday morning at 10:00 o'clock.