



# The Flowering Tree

The Voice of the Good Medicine Society

## Special Edition II: Survival and Tribal Living

This special Edition of *The Flowering Tree* is a collection of articles on tribal living which were written by our late Teacher, Eli Gatoga. For the purpose of clarity, this reprinting of the 1983 special newsletter contains minor grammar and form adjustments in the text.

Soon after his death in 1983, we began publication of *The Flowering Tree* with the hope of making Grandfather Eli's Teachings available to all who seek Understanding of Good Medicine and its Ways. Those of us who will apply such Understanding to our lives will learn to live in mortal, mental, and spiritual balance, realizing our true Relationship with all Life in the Earth and Sky.



There is a time for everything under the Sun, and everything must occur in its Own Time. We feel that the beautiful words by the Iroquois Chanter, Nawadaha, as told to the poet Longfellow, in 1863, in the lovely valley of Tawasentha (now called Norman's Kill), Albany County, New York State, are prophetic in their timing of the calling of the tribes of men together.

Drawings in this issue by Smokey Bird, 1983

"Gitche Manito, the Mighty,  
smoked the calumet, the Peace-Pipe,  
as a signal to the nations...  
And the Prophets of the nations said:  
'Behold it, the Pukwana!...'

"Over them he stretched his right hand...  
Spake to them with voice majestic  
as the sound of far-off waters,  
falling into deep abysses,  
warning, chiding, spake in this wise:

"O my children! my poor children!  
Listen to the words of wisdom,  
listen to the words of warning,  
from the lips of the Great Spirit,  
from the Master of Life,  
who made you!...

"I am weary of your quarrels,  
weary of your wars and bloodshed,  
Weary of your prayers for vengeance,  
of your wranglings and dissensions;  
all your strength is in your union,  
all your danger is in discord;  
therefore be at peace henceforward,  
and as brothers live together."

*The Song of Hiawatha*, H. W. Longfellow

# Tribal Living

It has been prophesied that in the Age of the Coyote, people will be banded together into Indian-like tribes for survival. This brings up the question, "What is tribal living? Is it communism?"



In tribal living, only the real estate, the reservation or area granted to the tribe for living purposes, is common property. This real estate is governed by a council which determines the use of the ground for the common good. The land belongs to no one, yet belongs to everyone.

In tribal living, each man is responsible for the support of his family, so long as he is capable. Yet the tribal brother does not stand alone in time of difficulties. By the bond of love that exists in the tribal community, he has the resources of the tribe behind him.

In a commune, everything is the property of all. Guitars, for instance, would all be bought and maintained from public funds regardless of whether or not one played a guitar. In the tribe, a person could own his own guitar or he could participate with other players in the purchase and maintenance of a guitar. The choice is left to him.

Why then must we have the tribe? The reasons are many.

1. Tribal living is the logical end of brotherly love. Love demands gathering up into groups as it grows. Soon nothing but daily contact will bring happiness between the brethren as their love grows.
2. It is the most economical way of life. The expenses are shared by many, and purchases can be in wholesale or volume.
3. This is the only way to liberate the land. Many people putting money into a purchase fund can quickly buy land. One person usually has a difficult time.
4. As we grow in spiritual things, we realize that private possessions are a millstone around our neck. Yet we must have the tools

with which to work. The tribe and its common ownership solve this problem.

5. No one can live the way Nature intended by him or herself. Many persons sharing the extra duties of garden, etc., can easily do so.
6. One person standing alone is defenseless when attacked by society in any of its various forms. Many standing side by side are strong. The strong are seldom attacked.

But there are no tribes in the world today that we can just fit into when the crunch comes. Neither could we live their way without training in harmony and its ways. Such change takes time.

We must not wait for the flood before building our Ark. We must not wait for our well to run dry before starting to drill a new one. The time to start building the tribes is *now*. Start planning how you are going to break away just as soon as you feel that gentle call from Mother Nature that lets you know that *you* are ready.

As Medicine People we must be ready to help others when they desire to join a tribe. We must have more than mere "book larnin'." We must know how to *apply* Good Medicine of the body, mind, and spirit to our lives, and how to guide others to learn to apply it to theirs. We must know how to organize tribes efficiently for survival, how to maintain cooperation in the tribes, and how to live during the days of tribulation.

In electronic engineering, one schemes, computes, and draws schematics of a new electronic gadget, then takes it to the bench and builds one *to see why it won't work*. No matter how good the planning, a group of people still has to try their ideas, remove the bugs, and *make*

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*it work.* Their experiences then save later tribes from the same mistakes.

**T**his is what is happening now. The tribes are beginning to form. Students who sincerely desire to live the Good Medicine Way, who wish to help in the formation of the first tribes of the Age of the Coyote and themselves become part of those tribes, are welcome to give it a try.

But remember Murphy's Law, that "Nothing is as easy as it seems." A man who has been raised in the modern American society cannot detach himself from its ways and come to comprehend and live the Good Medicine Way overnight. It takes time.

"It is not talk,  
but deeds of love  
and kindness  
and understanding  
that shall change  
the world."

## Basic Tribal Guidelines

**S**ince our Indian culture is threatened of being absorbed by the modern society, we believe we have the responsibility of preserving our precious heritage.

To survive the capitalist system, the wise person must use the system as a means to his own ends, yet must not be captured by it. This can be done by a relinquishment of the goals of the Establishment, and the substitution of the goals of the good life in their stead.

### Potential Tribal Goals

1. To bring together all people of Native American descent regardless of tribal affiliation, for the preservation of their lore, wisdom, and culture.
2. To bring together all who identify with this movement, regardless of actual percentage of Native American blood in their veins. (We hold that the real Indian is a person who "thinks" like one. A "full blood Indian" may be a whiteman in his thinking.)
3. To develop Good Medicine Councils everywhere.
4. To achieve goals desired by local Intertribal Councils and to respect their heritage and values.
5. To encourage a spirit of brotherhood among all People regardless of tribal origin, politics, or religion.

### Basic Tribal Laws

1. No person shall endanger the People.
2. No one shall lead an enemy to camp nor drive game away.
3. Stealing from one's own People is despicable.
4. Severe crimes are punishable by banishment.
5. Unpardonable crimes: allowing anyone to go hungry; disrespect for the aged; abandoning orphans and widows.

Chiefs in a Tribe are not chosen politically – not by loud talk or boasting, but rather by the demonstration of their quiet wisdom and love in Council, and their courage in making decisions and working for the good of all.

**T**he wise chiefs of old led their people by love. The parents of old educated their children by love. It is not talk, but deeds of love and kindness and understanding that shall change the world.

Uncle John and Auntie Lee had been married for thirty years. Then came the day that Auntie Lee entered the Happy Hunting Ground. A bereaved Uncle John, left entirely alone, followed her a few months later. Why did he die? Simple loneliness, so severe he lost the will to live.

Medical studies at the Montefiore Medical School, New York City, showed that during the fifteen months after being widowed, any medical problem of the survivor became worse and was frequently fatal.

The same remarks can be made about other causations in our modern society. Losing a spouse through divorce is a separation with the same loneliness factor as death. When any tie of companionship is broken, the resulting loneliness can cause mortal and mental illness. Loneliness resulting from extreme shyness, ending in aloneness, is also the same...

Often, both mother and father must work outside the home, to "make ends meet." This leaves lonely children to be raised in the nursery, or with a baby sitter. When they reach school age, many parents never see their children but a few minutes daily. The training of the child is left almost entirely to the teachers and the "peer" group...

The closeness found in the family of a generation ago is missing. This leads to loneliness all around, affecting the parents as well as the child. When a person first marries, he may find true companionship for the first time. If this tie is ever broken, through death, divorce, or separation, the resulting loneliness can be devastating, leading to mental and mortal illness.

Our civilization seems to be built upon aloneness, and in fact it is some kind of fetish among people to brag about how they can stand alone and "don't need anybody." They forget that our Creator made man essentially gregarious so that he would naturally enter into a tribal or "extended family" relationship with others. Thus he established the Good Medicine Law, "Thou shalt not live alone."

In the tribe, no one is ever alone. When sickness, unemployment, or loneliness strike, each one has loving brothers and sisters to turn to. The older men are his brothers; the women, his sisters; and all the tribal children, his grandchildren. This conquering of loneliness is perhaps the greatest reason for living in a tribe.



## Catastrophe

In San Francisco a bearded, long-haired man known only as "Sunshine" sat in a park and solemnly announced to all around him that San Francisco would soon be under the ocean.

In London, a monk in a Zen Temple sat in deep meditation and saw tumbling buildings, the quaking earth and huge surging walls of water as large western American seaports vanished into the waters.

About forty years ago, an American mystic, Edgar Cayce, while in trance, saw the western coast of the United States, including San Francisco, dive into the ocean depths.

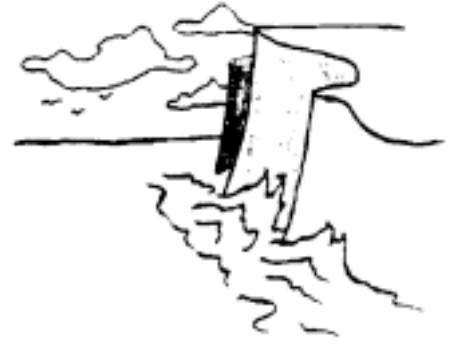
Over 1500 years ago a bearded white man came to the Americas and, when visiting the Hopis, told them that there would come a time when they must flee to the Sandia Mountains to escape the water as the western part of the North American continent sank.

These examples can be multiplied endlessly, as almost every mystic, automatic writer, and psychic has seen or said the same thing. Now scientists are agreeing with the possibility of such an occurrence. In fact, a modern book entitled *The Jupiter Effect* outlined in great detail the scientific likelihood of this happening by 1982.

These modern-day prophecies do not stand alone. They are part and parcel of all the prophecies and mysteries of our little-known past. They all seem to be trying to teach us, or tell us, something.

How can there be a connection between the predicted sinking of San Francisco and the mystery of a lost Atlantis or Pahn? Do not both concern sinking into the seas? Many scientists use much double-talk about faults, stresses, etc., volubly expressing their convictions about their various pet theories until we are left thoroughly confused with little or no real understanding gained.

Where is the thread that runs through and ties together all the mysteries of this nature? Where is the one thread that you can pull to unravel mystery after mystery as you probe deeper and deeper? What one study of man extends back beyond the range of human knowledge? What one study has accurately predicted disaster after disaster both on a cosmic



as well as on a personal scale century after century, millennium after millennium?

*Astrology* seems to be the one branch of knowledge that has always existed. Through out all ages, it has achieved the diligent attention of the most advanced thinkers of their times: Copernicus, Hippocrates, Pythagoras, Socrates, Newton, Aristotle, Ptolemy, Tyche Brahe, Galileo, Newton and Bacon were all astrologers. All mystical studies from the Magi of the Bible to the ancient Medicine Men of the American continent included the study of this science.

Can astrology be the science that ties it all together? It predates all other sciences, all political systems; and further, all religions have a definite astrological basis. It is, in fact, the cornerstone of civilizations.

In 1953, a modern astrologer, who is also a geophysicist at the University of Munich, R. Rudolph Tomaschek, studied the horoscopes of star charts of the heavens at the times of 134 earthquakes. He discovered that Uranus was close to the midheaven (directly overhead) at the time and the place of the earthquake five out of each six times.

The rest of the earthquakes occurred when two or more of the larger planets were in line with the opposite sides of the earth (in opposition). It is this phenomenon that was described in *The Jupiter Effect*, written by two

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American geophysicists, Drs. John R. Gribben and Stephen H. Plagemann, in relation to an upcoming [at the time] configuration in the heavens when all of the planets would be in a nearly exact line, with the Sun, Venus, and Mercury on one side of the earth and all other planets on the opposite side.

Are geological shifts of the earth's surface due to stresses augmented by planetary configurations? There seems to be increasing evidence that they are.

A research project under study by RCA Communications Corporation (working under a grant at NASA) computer-correlated earthquake and volcanic activity records with the time when planets were in square or opposition to the Earth. It was found that these events occurred together. At the same time, California geophysicists found that when crystalline rock structures are subject to magnetic fields at right angles (a square) that the structure shifts, expanding the volume of the rocks from 2-3%. The reasons for thinking that there is this correlation between planetary positions and earthly geographical happenings seem to be compounding.

We all know that certain areas of the world are more prone to earthquake than others, and we also understand about "faults" in the earth's surface. One of these faults runs north and south along the general direction of the Rio Grande River. The famous San Andreas fault line runs from the Gulf of California to north of San Francisco. You can tell the course of a fault line from the hot springs which appear along the crack in the earth's crust.

Is it possible that the western part of the United States could break off along this fault and sink? Could the Pacific Ocean wash against the foothills of the Sandias? Scientists and mystics agree that it could. Astrology can tell us why, and [approximately] when.

But suppose it does! What are you, an individual, going to do about it? The social and economic systems are already unstable – what

effect will this additional catastrophe have on life around the world? Are you going to wait until the well runs dry before you look for another source of water? Why not prepare yourself now?

[On the next page are listed] some of the things you will probably need to know, not only to survive disaster, but just to survive in our modern civilization. The list shows only a few of the things which you will need to know either to "homestead" in the country or to survive when disaster strikes.

In reviewing this list, you may also notice that these are skills and knowledge which are inherent in the Indian way of life. It is the use of these basic skills that kept the indigenous people of this continent alive through the many changes that have occurred throughout the centuries. It may also explain the prophecy that the Serpent People will rise again in the new Age.

Have you considered living in the country, close to Mother Nature? Would you like to live in a Medicine Wheel where your thoughts, dreams, and ideals are shared by others with similar goals? Where would you like to be if the predicted catastrophe were to happen next month? or this fall? Will you be prepared?

I know that we each have a general idea about these things, but do we know all that we need to know about them? Unless we know the answers before we start a project we will discover that we must learn the hard way when we begin. Will we have time to learn by trial and error after disaster has struck?

**W**hy not start to collect survival or homestead information now, while there is yet time? And better still, why not start doing it now because you want to, rather than wait until you have to?

*"Where would you like to be if catastrophe were to happen next month? or this fall? Will you be prepared?"*

## Things to Know for Survival

1. How to clear and prepare land for planting.
2. How to plant and raise a garden in the geographic area in which you live.
3. How to maintain the fertility of the land which you are farming.
4. How to plant, prune, propagate, and harvest the trees that grow in your area.
5. How to can, preserve, and dry your food for winter.
6. How to grind grains into flour and make your own breads.
7. How to trap and snare small animals and birds.
8. In the absence of a garden, or to supplant it, what edible wild plants, nuts, and berries grow in your area.
9. How to catch, cure, and store the fish and seafood that are available.
10. How to raise, breed, and care for common barnyard animals: chickens, goats, rabbits, etc.
11. How to build and roof log cabins, lean-to's, etc.
12. How to make windows without glass.
13. How to make adobe bricks.
14. How to construct adobe, grass, and sod huts.
15. How to make fireplaces for cooking and heating.
16. How to recognize and diagnose common diseases.
17. Knowledge of common medicines and first aid.
18. The knowledge of herbs in your vicinity and how to harvest and store them.
19. How to purify water for drinking.
20. Can you protect yourself and your family against wild beasts, wild dog packs, and marauding bands of humans that will arise in such times? Can you throw a sling? Can you make and use a spear and a sword?
21. Lastly, you should have a trade or handicraft through which you can obtain the services of others through helping them – a trade which you can barter.

# Economics of the Tribe

One of the purposes of the tribe is to allow the members to live a relaxed life style, which is only possible when engaged in business ventures of the cooperative type. All other types of businesses are based upon competition. Competition causes tension. It is impossible to engage in competitive activities without tension, frustration, fear, and worry.

Another of the purposes of the tribe is to live in a loving atmosphere. Love is only possible when relaxed! It is impossible while under tension. In fact, one may closely equate relaxation with love, and tension with hate.

This means that tribal members must very carefully avoid situations and employments wherein competitiveness plays a part...Competition always creates one of the tense emotions (each one a division of the main heading of hate) and blocks relaxed emotions (which are divisions of the main heading of love).

The commercial establishment is based upon competition (dog-eat-dog). This kind of life – always competing with others – invariably brings on hatred in one of its more easily recognized forms such as frustration, worry, anger, or fear. It has never been known to bring about relaxation and love.

Those who continue to live in the modern commercial world, owning great amounts of property and possessions, and practicing competition as a way of life, cannot experience the relaxed life which is necessary to know the great spiritual love that leads to perfection. To feel the loving, relaxed emotion, you must eliminate all things in your life which bring about tension...

The epitome of the entire teachings of the New Testament is contained in the following quotation:

*“Jesus said unto him, thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.” (Matthew 22:37-40)*

True love, relaxed love, is impossible in our modern civilized society. This is why, throughout the ages, people who were serious in desiring to advance themselves along the spiritual path have found it necessary to leave this civilization and find another life style in which they could avoid the evils of competition and live a relaxed life.

To this end, the Tribe and its members must turn to cooperation to the maximum extent of our capabilities. We must NOT allow those practices of the outside world which create competition to creep into our daily lives.

We must not allow the children, for instance, to create or play competitive games (those which bear heavily on a winner and loser). We must not allow the deification of persons who gained their supremacy over others by competition.

We must try to minimize the influence of television among the children, and ourselves, because of the constant build-up of the values of competition. This is done by showing competition at its maximum in the form of either fighting and violence, or by the subtle mental competition in which the winner is always extravagantly rewarded.

The greatest proponent of competition in the modern America is the public school. From the very earliest, the children are deliberately taught to compete. The school with its athletic system teaches the child to join with others in groups competing with others. This constant competition can cause a deep-seated tension within the breast of the child, which may explode like a tornado into gang wars, juvenile delinquency, and undesirable habits and traits of character based upon tension and hate.

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The adult is not immune to these influences, especially while being forced to survive in the modern world. We should guard ourselves against them as much as possible. Yet, in the back of our minds often lies the fear: "Should I relax my guard and become a loving individual, in very short order I will become the victim — and not the victor."

Any economic arrangements among tribal members must be of a cooperative nature, or we will defeat our basic purpose. Competition slowly but surely destroys love!

In our purchases, we should support the Co-op movement to the maximum of our ability. In all of our daily actions, the tribal member should cooperate fully with each other in the accomplishment of our daily tasks. If we enter into any sort of "business" it should be to form a cooperative for the accomplishment of a service, steadfastly avoiding its establishment near another cooperative so that competition does not break out between cooperatives.

The operating expenses of the tribe connected with housekeeping are best understood when considered in the light of being a tribal cooperative venture. Under the tribal concept the land and real estate of the tribe belong to the tribe as a whole. It therefore is free to all. However, there are certain household living expenses connected with actual living upon the land, such as taxes, utilities, construction of necessary facilities and repairs which must be made.

The next cooperative to be established should be a cooperative, central kitchen. This is necessary in order to more nearly approximate the Indian diet, save money on food purchases, have a larger quantity and variety of food, to

enjoy brotherhood which comes from eating together, provide for cooperative food production efforts — and all this with less work for the individual.

The kitchen co-op also operates various kinds of food production activities suitable to the area. [These might] consist of a garden, a fish pond, and various small farm animals.

Most tribes find that the less they work in the outside world, the greater their happiness because even though they live with the Tribe at night, they may be under eight hours of tension during the day. You can determine whether or not a particular job is Good Medicine on the basis of whether or not it produces disease and/or tension. Members are urged to only work at outside jobs which do not bring them home tense and unhappy at the end of the day.

Many tribes engage in various "home businesses." These should not be permitted to fall into the employer/employee relationship between brethren. When the activity grows large enough, it should be turned into worker cooperatives holding their tools in equal multiple ownership, and sharing the economic result of their labor equally.

**T**he purpose of life is: (1) to live life to its fullest; (2) to create life, that others may live; and (3) to learn to love, since love is the fulfillment of all spiritual ideals of all the wise men who have taught us since the beginning of time.

[In the Tribe,] one may live a relaxed life, or, in other words, "live in love." This is only possible so long as the Tribe and its members, collectively and singly, avoid competition among themselves and with others.

*"Members are urged to only work at outside jobs which do not bring them home tense and unhappy at the end of the day."*

# Survival

Almost everyone senses that times are going to get tougher. We note that our government is trying to halt inflation by lowering the buying power of the masses — and that's us! We see the cost of groceries climbing ever higher and we also see the number of unemployed growing more swiftly.

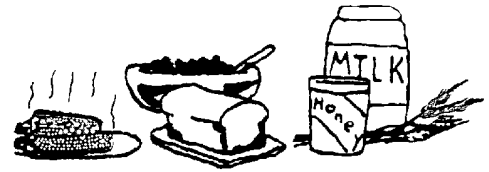
It has long been prophesied, not only by seers and revelators, but by solid business men, that there will be a coming economic "crash" which will bring untold suffering to many thousands of people.

We are now in a position very similar to that of the wise and foolish virgins, in the parable as told in the New Testament. [Matthew 25:1] In this story, you will remember, half of these maidens prepared their lamps and themselves for the wedding feast. The foolish virgins made no effort even to put oil in their lamps...We, too, have a choice. We can either prepare ourselves for what appears to be inevitable or we can, like the foolish maidens, ignore the thunderclouds in the sky which foretell the coming storm.

We know pretty well what this storm will consist of. It will affect every facet of our lives, including our housing, clothing, food, transportation, and medical supplies. All will be either non-existent, or limited. This calls for a complete rearrangement of many things.

We have been taught throughout our lives that money will get you anything you want... that money is a thing standing alone which has such value that it is worth more than anything in the world. We have forgotten that in its origin, money was merely a token for services rendered. Thus it was merely a barter certificate to keep one from having to handle the bulky objects themselves, or be restricted to the acceptance of an actual article in payment of services.

Many people today, noting the manipulation of money, and seeing how worthless it has become, would like to return to a barter system. Indeed, we may be forced to do so in the future.



Since this is my first time to talk to you about survival, I will start with the most important thing in your life: FOOD. You must eat. If you do not eat a well-balanced diet, you will in a very short time become weak and sickly. You will become unable to work, and you will not survive...

Across the country, thousands of families have realized that they...cannot rely upon their bank account to feed them. Many of them are older people, and remember the Great Depression of 1930 when all of the banks in America simultaneously closed their doors. There was no money left except pocket change among the people. Everyone with money in the bank lost it, or recovered only a mere percentage of its value, years later.

What would you do right now if your bank closed its doors, and you lost all the money in your checking and savings?

Could you and your family eat? If this happened across the nation, do you trust your government to feed you? What would they use for money? Would they merely print up some more green paper?

The only protection the individual has is to be as the wise virgins, and prepare for coming events — whether they be nation-wide, or merely a period of sickness or unemployment.

Since we are talking about food, this means that, like thousands across the nation, we should put some food by. Even a month's supply is better than nothing, and the more food we have stored, the longer we will eat.

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For many years now, the Mormon Church has been derided because of their advocacy of the storage of a full year's supply of survival-type foods by every Mormon family. The Mormon Church carries this even further, and has built huge warehouses in which they have stored an untold amount of food, rumored to be enough to feed every Mormon for six more years. Whether this is true or not, thinking men realize the value of having a cache of food large enough to support them for a length of time.

Our Indian forefathers followed this same line of reasoning and they made store-houses and other caches for food in which they preserved every bit of extra food that they could produce. In fact, the Cherokee Indian habitually ate only two meals a day because he found that he could subsist on these two meals and that the third meal could be saved for times of famine.

Nutritionists, in their search for the absolute minimum complete diet that can be used as a survival diet, have arrived at five absolutely minimal, yet fully nutritive diet plans.

Since survival—keeping alive—is the goal of these diets, the question of how pleasant the taste becomes secondary. We are talking about eating to live, not living to eat. However, you will find that from a taste standpoint, they are not too bad.

In the use of these survival diets, you must realize that in very, very few cases, will this be all the food that you will eat. The survival diet, in times of scarcity, will become your basic diet to keep up your strength and health so that you can embellish your food with additions to the diet from Nature.

You may be able to amplify your diet with an occasional small animal such as a chicken, or a rabbit. If you live in the country, you most certainly will be able to find dozens of edible herbs and roots. If you have access to a plot of land, no matter how small, you can raise some vegetables. I have seen lettuce and turnip greens planted among the roses in a flower bed in the heart of the city. There are few cities so built up that there are no vacant

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## *Five Survival Diet Plans*

- ❖ The first diet consists of **wheat, powdered milk, honey, and salt**. This diet is eaten as a cereal with milk and honey, and flavored with a little salt. The constituents of this diet are easy to procure, easy to store, and easy to prepare for use.
- ❖ The second diet is based upon the Native American diet, and indeed, is the one recommended for all persons with Native American blood. It is basically **corn, beans, and salt**. This diet is used by making tortillas from the corn, and eating them with the beans.
- ❖ The third diet is a specialized diet and can only be used by persons living in the country, or having access to grazing or woodland facilities. It is very simple, and is based upon the fact that milk, especially goats' milk, is almost a perfect food. If you have facilities for producing the food for milk animals, it has been proven that a person can live on **raw milk** alone for extended periods of time with no loss of strength or vigor.
- ❖ The fourth survival diet again depends upon facilities. An egg is another almost perfect food. If you have facilities to raise your own grain to feed about a dozen laying hens per person, you will have all the **eggs** you need to survive, as well as an occasional chicken for meat.
- ❖ The fifth survival diet also depends upon having sufficient land to raise **soybeans and other vegetables**. If the vegetarian prepares himself by procuring his land and learning how to raise vegetables, he has a way of living that will provide him a way to live, as well as leaving him extra vegetables for barter.

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lots and areas which grow wild vegetables. There are few lawns without dandelions, few flower beds without edible weeds.

It therefore would seem prudent for every man to choose one of the above basic survival techniques which is applicable and convenient to him in his present circumstances, and place it in action. If you choose either one of the first two, I recommend that you begin immediately purchasing and storing the grains involved. If you live in the country, I would suggest that you make arrangements now, so that you will not need to buy any commercial feed. You must raise all your food on your own land. Remember that in times of distress, you cannot use the small amount of money remaining to you for buying feed and fertilizer.

The first bridge you must cross is that these plans for storage of food will cost money. You must buy these items in addition to your normal daily expense of living.

There are three categories of people when classed economically. First, and forming the largest section of our population, is those who are living far above their present-day income. This constitutes about 96% of our population. Are you one of these? If you owe anybody any money, whether on a house, car or a business, you are living above your income by the amount of the debt. If you are going to survive, you must reduce your standard of living to get rid of your debts before you can lay any money aside with which to buy additional food.

Second, about 3% of our population is living within their income exactly. These people, by stretching every dollar, have managed to pay off their debts, but by the same token, at the end of the month, have spent every dime of that income. They, too, must reduce their standard of living. This will leave them with extra money at the end of the month with which to start their food savings.

Thirdly, only about 1% of our population has established a manner of living which has allowed them to "owe no man anything." They not only have no debts, but this class of wise people will have attempted to provide security for themselves and family by the establishment of savings accounts, and so forth. All these people need do is realize the intrinsic worthlessness of bank savings and insurance, and convert these worthless intangibles into good solid food which cannot lose its value in case of famine.

**W**hich of the three categories above is wise? And which of the three is stupid? Which category do *you* fall into? Osda.

