THANK YOU, MRS. DILL . . .

IT IS A PLEASURE AND A PRIVILEGE TO WELCOME YOU TO THE CAMPUS OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY -- THE SITE OF YOUR FIFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

WE ARE ESPECIALLY PROUD THAT THIS IS THE FIRST CONFERENCE

OF THE NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION TO BE HELD

EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER. WE THINK IT IS THE MOST

BEAUTIFUL SITE FOR YOUR CONFERENCE.

WE ARE PROUD TO HOST YOU BECAUSE WE BELIEVE WHAT YOU ARE DOING IS IMPORTANT. I THINK YOU HAVE AN OUTSTANDING PROGRAM OF EVENTS, AND WITH GUEST SPEAKERS AND DISCUSSION LEADERS WHO ARE CONSIDERED TO BE EXPERTS IN THEIR FIELDS.

I NOTE WITH PLEASURE THAT YOU HAVE CHOSEN AS THE THEME OF YOUR CONFERENCE -- "THE ROLES AND RIGHTS OF NATIVE INDIAN WOMEN" -- IN OBSERVANCE OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR.

EARLIER THIS YEAR IT WAS MY PLEASURE TO PROCLAIM 1975

AS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR AT NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

AND TO HAVE OUR WOMEN'S CENTER GIVE CONTINUING ATTENTION TO

THE GOALS WE SEEK TO ACHIEVE.

WE ARE PROUD TO HOST YOU BECAUSE EDUCATION IS CENTRAL TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF YOUR GOALS, AND WE FEEL THIS UNIVERSITY IS ADDRESSING ITSELF TO THE PROBLEMS OF INDIAN PEOPLE. UNDER THE SPLENDID DIRECTION OF MR. BOB BAILEY, OUR AMERICAN INDIAN PROGRAM AT NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY HAS BEEN SEEKING OUT THE CONCERNS OF INDIAN PEOPLE, AND HAS BEEN DEVELOPING PROGRAMS TO MEET THEM.

WE HAVE CONDUCTED SUCH PROGRAMS AS A TEACHER AIDE TRAINING COURSE, WHICH ADDRESSES ITSELF TO THE SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF INDIAN CHILDREN.

WE HAVE ENDEAVORED TO EXTEND OURSELVES INTO THE VARIOUS RESERVATIONS AND INDIAN COMMUNITIES IN THE UPPER PENINSULA, SUCH AS THE KEWEENAW BAY INDIANS, WITH PROGRAMS RELEVANT TO THEIR NEEDS.

AND WE ARE PROUD TO HAVE A NUMBER OF YOUNG INDIAN MEN AND WOMEN ENROLLED AS STUDENTS AT NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY.

WE ARE PROUD TO BE THE HOME OF THE NISHNAWBE NEWS, AND YOU NO DOUBT HAVE SEEN BY NOW THE EXTRA WHICH WAS PUBLISHED ESPECIALLY FOR YOUR CONFERENCE. (HOLD IT IN THE AIR.)

AS ANOTHER EXAMPLE, ONE OF OUR OUTSTANDING AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENTS, CHERYL KING, AUTHORED A BOOK OF AMERICAN INDIAN LEGENDS.

SO IT IS A PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU. ÂND MRS. JAMRICH AND I LOOK FORWARD TO HOSTING YOU LADIES AS SPECIAL GUESTS OF THE University and the Marquette community at a reception at Four o'clock to be held in the Great Lakes Rooms: University Center.

IT IS MY HOPE -- AND MY BELIEF -- THAT YOUR CONFERENCE
WILL ACHIEVE ITS OBJECTIVES, AND WILL SERVE AS A CATALYST FOR
COMMITMENT AND ACTION IN THE FUTURE.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.