

Claims Hearings Formally Announced by Sen. Gruening

Senator Ernest Gruening announced formally yesterday plans for hearings by the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs at Anchorage on legislation to establish procedures for adjudication of claims to land asserted by Alaska natives.

Senator Henry M. Jackson, chairman of the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, plans to go to Anchorage to conduct hearings on the bills, which have been referred to the full committee for action.

It is hoped that as many as possible of the members of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee will also go to Anchorage for these hearings.

The hearings will be held February 8-10 in the Sydney Laurence Auditorium, 6th and F Streets, Anchorage, con-

vening at 10:00 a.m. each morning.

"At the request of the

(Continued on Page 2)

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(Continued from page 1)

Alaska Federation of Natives I introduced the bill, S.2020, which would confer jurisdiction upon the Court of Claims to adjudicate native claims to land," Sen. Gruening said.

"This bill, being a measure affecting the jurisdiction of the Court of Claims, was referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary subsequently, on November 22 my colleague Senator E. L. Bartlett introduced the bill, S.2020, substantially embodying the provisions of S.2020 but drafted in a manner which properly placed it within the jurisdiction of the Senate-Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.

"I am informed that another bill under consideration by native leaders and state and federal officials may soon be presented in final form for introduction and hearing before the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee."

Individuals who wish to

testify or groups who wish to be represented by witnesses before the committee should notify as far in advance of the hearings as possible—Mr. Jerry Verkler, staff director, Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Room 3106, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C. 20510.

Alaskans may give notice of their intention to testify to Mr. George Sundborg, administrative assistant to Senator Gruening, Room 227, Federal Building, Anchorage, Alaska 99501, telephone: 277-6713.

The senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee requests that the committee be supplied with twenty copies of the statements to be presented in advance of the hearings if possible.

Education is man's going forward from cocksure ignorance to thoughtful uncertainty.

KENNETH G. JOHNSON