

# Letters from Here and There

Alaska State Legislature  
Senate

February 4, 1971

Mr. Howard Rock  
Editor  
TUNDRA TIMES  
Box 1287  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

Dear Howard:

I wish to personally extend my appreciation to you for providing the legislature with copies of your newspaper.

I know that I speak for all members in stating our gratitude.

Best Personal Regards,  
Jam Hammond  
President of the Senate

January 18, 1971

Tundra Times  
Box 1287  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

Dear Mr. Rock:

I read with great interest the article titled "Union Leaders Declare Native Corporations, Unions Conflict." The unions object

to contract provisions, which are often, they feel, unfairly competitive to companies which hire union labor at standard wages.

Ed Orbeck, head of the Laborer's Union in Fairbanks, apparently did most of the talking at a talk given before the Farthest North Press Club, when he appeared there along with three other labor unions.

He complained that someone other than himself was setting policy and work conditions of hiring and wage schedules. He spent quite a bit of time in the article complaining about the immediate corporations and drawing up the law, the law, the law. I was particularly intrigued to note that in the article, Joe Marshall, who represents the Cement Finishers and Pipefitters unions, is also mentioned as a possible future labor commissioner in Fairbanks.

I am quite disturbed to note that, here again, we see the special interest in groups by unions endeavoring to secure positions of political power in

order to consolidate their special interests.

I respectfully submit that Mr. Joe Marshall, representative of the Cement Finishers and Pipefitters Unions would have a very distinct conflict of interest as a labor commissioner in Fairbanks or any place else, for he is representing labor on one side and setting policy and regulations on the other side. He is wearing two hats, and I would seriously question his right to wear the hat of Labor Commissioner under the circumstances.

We here in Colorado are absolutely afraid of this phenomenon of men who are protecting their special interests by seeking a political job which gives them jurisdiction over the very government function that should be regulating their activities. This is very much a-kin to throwing the fox in the chicken yard to guard the chickens.

Sincerely,  
Bernie Dangler  
743 Rood Ave.  
Grand Jct., Colorado 81501