

TITLE 1 MONIES MISSPENT

Barrow Power Play Baffles BIA

BARROW—On July 1, Barrow Utilities Inc. is set to pull the switch on a large Bureau of Indian Affairs installation leaving it without power, water and maintenance of its sewerage disposal plant. The shut-down will also shortcircuit the city of Barrow.

Last year BUI contracted to maintain BIA utilities and received advance funding to pay 45 workers needed for the job.

Now, under a new federal regulation, advance funding is not available for renegotiation of the contract and if a waiver is not obtained, utility employees will walk out leaving the BIA to mind its own business.

Since BUI buys its power from the BIA plant it has been maintaining, it will put itself out of business as well.

"Without a contract we cannot legally set foot on government property," explains Nelson Ahvakana, secretary of the board and registered agent for BUI. "I won't leave the utility plant unattended. I can't jeopardize the property of the government. So I'll have to shut down power for the whole town."

"Certain restrictions can be waived by the Secretary of Interior," reported Fred Sloan, area plant manager for the state, from his Juneau office. "We're in a quandary ourselves."

"We want to go ahead with negotiations. Last year BUI did a good job and pretty much fulfilled its obligations. But it's up in the air. If they shut down we'll just have to hang on somehow."

BUI was formed in 1965 with a \$750,000 BIA loan that went

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A Hippy Is an Eskimo with Long Hair: Hensley

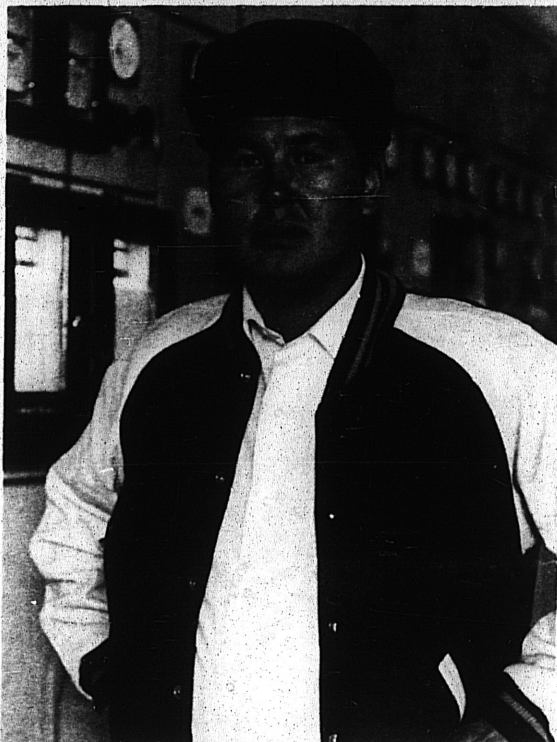
Just as elsewhere in the United States, long haired youths returning to their home town of Barrow after outside schooling are being hassled by elders.

One of these "generation gap" discussions took place recently at the home of Sammy Taalak where a group of relatives, neighbors and friends had assembled for a social evening.

On the defensive were Larry Okamailak and Richard Taalak who have both returned from college and look pretty "hip" by outside standards. Too hip, relatives decided. And it was tactfully suggested the boys needed haircuts.

"What's your definition of a hippy?" Okamailak asked State Senator Willie Hensley, whose own locks have grown noticeably longer lately.

"A hippy is an Eskimo with long hair," Senator Hensley answered happily. And after that, the subject dropped.



READY TO PULL THE SWITCH—Nelson Ahvakana, secretary of the board and registered agent for Barrow Utilities, Inc. is ready to shut off all utilities his company furnishes the local Bureau of Indian Affairs installation and the city of Barrow if a new contract to run the facilities can't be negotiated with the government. Deadline is July 1.

Multi-million Dollar Housing Project Staggers AFN But Cool Heads Prevail

A history of the multi-million dollar federal housing project recently bestowed on Alaska reads like a bureaucratic nightmare.

No one's sure what funds are available for what, but cool heads seem to prevail at Alaska Federation of Natives which will administer the program.

The major worry centers on a commitment to build 1,200 homes by 1972. Many bureaucrats predict privately that this is impossible and Native leaders worry AFN will get stuck with the blame.

Frank Degnan, AFN member from Unalakleet, put it well: "You've got three divine persons—Alaska State Housing Authority, Public Housing and Housing and Urban Development—all passing the buck among themselves. And AFN may be left holding it."

"A lot of great men often fail," comforted Jack Johnson, recently retired from Federal Housing. "So what? They do it themselves and profit by the experience."

"You're damned if you do and damned if you don't," Don

Wright, AFN president allowed. "But those houses are important to the bush. We couldn't turn down the challenge."

Why did AFN get handed the job? Senator Ted Stevens explained at an Alaska Native Housing Conference, April 25.

"This is a national, federally funded housing commitment made by the president to Indian areas across the country. But

the President has also made a national commitment to provide Native and Indian groups with the opportunity for self-determination—the opportunity to provide leadership and direction for programs such as this.

"This conference was called jointly by the President of AFN and me because in Alaska the AFN is the one statewide Native

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Wolf Politics Proves—

Vice Presidential Post Can Be Vastly Romantic

If Native politicians are looking with renewed interest at vice-presidential posts these days, it's because of a wolf story told recently by Max Brewer, head of the Arctic Research Lab at Barrow.

He discovered that whether one male wolf and three female wolves or three male wolves and three female wolves are placed in a cage only one

litter of pups will be born.

The reason, he explains, is that wolves play politics and this demands so much attention that if the number one wolf is removed from the cage only five minutes he will lose his status and have to fight his way back to the top again.

In the case of three male wolves and three female wolves, the litter is always born to the

top female with the second highest status wolf as sire. The reason is the "top dog" male wolf is just too busy playing politics to have time for romance.

"Wolves in many aspects are just like people without any masks on," Brewer believes.

And that's why the vice president's job might be more fun than Number One.

HEW Charges State Dept. of Education Of Misappropriation

By LAEL MORGAN
Staff Writer

The Audit Agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Welfare has charged the Alaska Department of Education with misappropriation of \$3.9 million in "Title I" funds and sloppy bookkeeping.

"Title I" of the Elementary and Secondary Education

Act authorizes use of federal funds for supplementary educational programs designed to benefit educationally deprived children attending school in areas

where low income families are concentrated. HEW auditors report state-operated schools used this money for general program rather than concentrating on under-privileged youngsters.

"Since the educationally deprived children in low-income areas are not being properly benefited, we believe that the Office of Education should make a technical evaluation of the use of \$3.9 million to determine the extent of recovery action which should be taken," the report states.

On May 20 it was sent to Dr. Clifford R. Hartman, Commissioner of Education who has since resigned.

In a financial breakdown the report noted, "Of the \$2,002,807 allocated to SOS during fiscal years 1969 and 1970, only \$198,069 (or 9.9 per cent) related to specific schools. The remaining \$1,804,738 was used on general type subprojects affecting all of the students or had not been assigned to any subproject..."

"SOS claimed \$70,000 for a placement supervisor and a planning coordinator for federal programs. Both of these positions provided services to all children, including those in ineligible attendance areas."

Also specifically questioned was use of Title I funding for a Pupil Enrichment Resource Center in Anchorage which provided service to all state operated schools and Bureau of Indian Affairs students and \$36,300 used for a 1969 teacher

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