

Letters from Here and There

Comments on State Capital Move

P.O. Box 58
Kotzebue, AK 99752
June 4, 1975

Dr. Howard Rock, Editor
TUNDRA TIMES
Fairbanks, AK 99707

Dear Editor:

The question of moving State Capital from Juneau to somewhere else in Alaska has emerged again. I say again because this is nothing new.

The newspaper items have it that the first attempt or anticipation of removal was done in the Legislative halls many years ago. This came out not only in Juneau but also in U.S. Congress through our earlier Delegates to Congress from Alaska.

The main argument is that Juneau is difficult to get into every time the Legislature convenes. This is valid reason and all proponents to removal would like the Capital in a more central site. This question came up when I was in Juneau in 1949, 1951, or 1953.

Representatives and Senators from three Judicial Divisions other than the First voiced their desires. The more aggressive ones were Representatives from Anchorage area because of their

number in the Lower House.

Several towns and cities were suggested. Because of the play put into it I suggested Kotzebue. Silence over my voice soon dampened my suggestion.

Now the highly controversial subject looms again. Placing our State Capital in a more central point is a logical and desirable idea. The largest argument against it, as always in the past, is the expense connected with it.

Even with the anticipated monies to come from Prudhoe Bay oil fields to our Treasury coffer, can we afford it? Is this still premature? This of course, is in the hands and wisdom of our State Legislature as well as our Congressional Representatives.

We are aware that even with approval from our State representatives, the biggest hurdle may be with Congress in Washington. We are also aware that it will take years before this becomes a reality.

Yours truly,
Percy Ipalook, Sr.

Book Contest

Council on Interracial Books
for Children, Inc.
1841 Broadway
New York, N.Y. 10023
June 1975

Dear Friend:

Did you know that there is a contest

for children's book manuscripts by minority writers? Unfortunately, many Third World people who could enter this contest never hear about it, so we are writing to ask your help in spreading the word to those who may be interested among your members, readers or students.

This is our Seventh Annual Contest, and there are five prizes of \$500 each for manuscripts by minority writers previously unpublished in the children's book field. It is our goal each year to reach an increasing number of minority peoples with the idea of writing books for children that more truly reflect the realities of a multicultural society.

As a public service may we ask you to list, announce or post the enclosed information. If you would like additional copies of the contest announcement, please let us know. You will note that the deadline for manuscripts is December 31, 1975. Thank you for any help you can give us.

Yours sincerely,
Barbara Saturnine
For the Contest Committee

Training Prog.

U.S. Dept. of Commerce
National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service

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letters

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632 Sixth Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
June 10, 1975

Mr. Howard Rock, Editor
Tundra Times
Box 1287
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

Dear Mr. Rock:

As we indicated in our recent telephone conversation, the National Weather Service has a new Upward Mobility Scientific Technician Training Program. The Scientific Technician Program is an on-the-job training program designed to develop technicians in science or technology. Upon completion of a one year NOAA sponsored training program, trainees will officially enter their target position in the meteorological technician field in which they trained. After that, employees should be able to move up the career ladder to the journeyman level in technician positions throughout NOAA.

The program was created for candidates at the GS-2 through GS-5 level or the equivalent without specialized skills and experience in science and technology, who would be taught such skills on-the-job and in specialized courses to prepare them for non-degree technician positions. Upon completion of the Scientific Technician Program, trainees will be assigned as technicians in the meteorological field. Candidates outside of NOAA generally will enter this program at the GS-2, GS-3 or GS-4 grade levels from the Civil Service Commission Worker-Trainee, Technical Aid or Technical Assistant registers respectively.

Specialized on-the-job training and formal classroom courses will be in the meteorological discipline. A career counselor will work closely with all participants in this program.

As NOAA is primarily a field oriented agency, interested candidates should be mobile and list several geographical preferences when they apply.

People interested in applying for this program should complete a Standard Form 171 Job Application which is available from any U.S. Government office and send it to the Personnel Division, National Weather Service, Alaska Region, 632 Sixth Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99501.

Sincerely,

R. William Schmidtman
Upward Mobility Coordinator