

# Pollock Says DNA Important To Solve Unique Native Problems

"The votes I got from the villages really made the difference," said the newly-elected Congressman Howard W. Pollock of Anchorage. "I told the village people that if I get elected, they will have a friend in Washington. I want to say that again."

The Congressman-elect was obviously very pleased with the outcome of the recent election in which he defeated the incumbent Rep. Ralph J. Rivers by some 2,200 votes.

He said he was also very appreciative of the help he received from the Kodiak area. He said traditionally that area had never helped Republicans.

"Kodiak Mirror endorsed me," he said. "It was really a change out there. They even elected a Republican for the State House of Representatives."

He said he was real proud that John Sackett and Jules Wright had been elected.

"I think that's going to be meaningful to the Native people," he stated.

Pollock was asked what he thought of Gov. Walter J. Hickel's proposal to esta-

blish a Department of Native Affairs on the cabinet level in the state capitol.

"I think it's a good idea although some people have some

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# DNA Important . . .

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reservations about it. Let's face it. There are some unique Native problems that have to be resolved. I know the Native people are true Alaskans and Americans. Some people thought that there shouldn't be a special department but there are problems that need special attention. Gov. Hickel promised special attention to the problems of the Native people as I did," Pollock stated.

Pollock said he hopes to get into the aboriginal land problems as soon as he gets to Washington and as soon as the Congress convenes next month. He will do extensive research on the subject with the help of his legislative assistant Bob Flint of Anchorage.

Pollock plans to meet with Senators E. L. (Bob) Bartlett and Ernest Gruening as soon as he gets to Washington later this month.

"I will see them separately and insure them that I will cooperate in every way," he said.

On the matter of open primary election, Howard Pollock said that the registration of the voters was important especially in heavily populated areas and that the Republicans would get someone to register villagers.

"In 1947, people voted for open primary but the first legislature adopted the closed primary against the wishes of the people. I think the new Republican legislature here will give the people the open primary," he said.

During the next few weeks, Howard Pollock is sending out his first report from Washington to the voters in which he said in part:

"My principal function as your Congressman is to be your legislative spokesman. This is perhaps my most important duty to both you and our country, as set forth in the Constitution.

"The thousands of bills introduced every session are directly related to your security—your job—your home—your future—and that of your children. Naturally my purpose will always be to represent the best interest of the citizens of the Alaska Congressional District.

"I must also take into account the national interest because it is important to every citizen of Alaska that

our country remain strong and free.

"I will hear from many organizations, associations, and occupational groups, but it is important that I hear from you as an individual. There are more than 250,000 people in our District, average Americans just like you and me. It is important that I know how you think and feel so that I may be a better Congressman for you.

"I will welcome your letters. You may be sure that your letter will always be read and answered promptly, courteously and frankly. If you have a problem that can be resolved at the federal level, whether large or small, it is important to me."

Pollock will become the state's official Congressman when he is sworn in on January 10. His family will go to Washington eight or ten days before the ceremony. His wife and children will then go back to Anchorage "so the children can finish school in June." Then the family will decide then where to live.

The Pollocks have five children, three boys and two girls.

"All three of my boys will be honorary pages when I'm sworn in—honorary pages for a day," Pollock said smiling. "The girls will be in the gallery with their mother."