

*'I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it.' - Voltaire*

**Editorial—**

# **ANICA Headquarters Should Be in Alaska**

For quite a few years now we have heard some rumbles about the workings of the Alaska Native Industries Cooperative Association with central offices in Seattle. The remoteness of the office from Alaska was such that we, along with many others, frankly didn't know how the nerve center of the ANICA stores operated. Somehow, the Seattle office always seemed to be veiled in secrecy. It should not have been that way because it deals with a good portion of native people and the influence it has is considerable.

We believe that time has come to lift the veil and one way to do it would be to move the central office to Alaska. We agree heartily with Leonard L. Monaghan's courageous suggestion that this be done. If this is done, we believe the office would work so much more closely with the native people. It would give them a chance to see how it operates and chances for asking advice would be more readily available.

The Seattle office is too remote—too distant—too impersonal. It has shown arrogance and has shown tendencies to intimidate. It should be made to work more closely with the people and this would be accomplished by establishing a base here in Alaska where more cooperation can be achieved. Familiarization on both sides should prove beneficial and chances for mutual success could be improved.

We believe the goal is worth working for. It would also pave the way for employment of our own people and this would be a great benefit in itself. The Alaska Federation of Natives and other native groups should be thinking hard on the matter.