

## Gravel's TT Report

By Mike Gravel  
U.S. Senator, Alaska

There have been some important advances lately in providing aid to our senior citizens. Many of us have long felt that the elderly are too often neglected in our society.

### SENIOR CITIZENS: FOOD

A week ago today, the U.S. Senate unanimously (90-to-0) passed a \$600 million authorization to extend the nutrition program for the elderly.

Under the provisions of this three-year extension, senior citizens would be provided with hot meals once a day, at least five days a week.

We now have this program in Fairbanks, Juneau and Anchorage. With the new legislation, I'm hopeful that we can expand the program into other, smaller communities in Alaska.

Because the House of Representatives passed the bill in a slightly different form, a joint House-Senate conference committee will iron out the differences, after which the final version will be returned to the House and to the Senate for approval.

### NEEDS NIXON'S APPROVAL

There is practically no doubt that both bodies will grant this final approval and send the bill on to the White House for the President to sign into law.

The word here in Washington is that Mr. Nixon will not veto the measure. We have had trouble before, when Nixon vetoed bills appropriating funds for the hot meal plan, which prevented its going into effect until just last year.

Even if the President were to veto it, I'm confident that we have the votes in Congress to override his veto. The 90-to-0 vote last week was a clear signal to Mr. Nixon that Democrats and Republicans alike are determined to get this bill passed into law.

### SENIOR CITIZENS: TRANSPORTATION

Another section of that same piece of legislation authorizes an additional \$35 million in grants to Alaska and other states, for the purpose of meeting the transportation needs of older people.

The state could issue these funds in a variety of ways; a popular method probably will be to issue special passes to "over-65" residents that would allow them to travel at reduced rates on public transportation.

### MEDICARE COVERAGE OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

In separate action last week, I introduced in the Senate a bill to provide coverage for prescription drugs under the Medicare health insurance program.

Under the present system, Medicare won't repay senior citizens for the purchase of needed prescription drugs. So the elderly are faced with a very unfair choice: Either spend their precious funds, or do without needed medication.

Many of Alaska's pioneers are living on fixed incomes. How can they be expected to cover the constantly rising medical costs? One illness, and an elderly Alaskan may well see his entire

life savings wiped out.

My legislation has been referred to the Finance Committee, on which I serve. I intend to push hard for prompt, favorable action on this measure.

### REDUCED AIR FARES

In still another area, the Senate passed legislation to authorize discounted air tickets for those "over-65," "under-21," and for the handicapped. That's an important piece of legislation for those who might not normally fly because of fixed or low incomes.

As an original co-sponsor of the reduced air fare bill, I'm most hopeful that the House will act favorably on it, too, and that it will be signed into law at the earliest possible date.

## BIG RAY'S SURPLUS

Send for Our Free Catalog

Top Value at Low Prices

452-3458  
507 2nd Avenue

### TRAVELERS SERVICE INC.

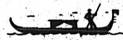
1445 Cushman 452-5101

At your service 24 hours

Elfrieda Lord Kushida  
Marge Wright  
Denise James

Tickets & Travel Arrangements

From Venice  
To Venice



## Alaska International Air Expands

Alaska International Industries, Inc. announced recently that it has acquired a controlling interest in Valdez, Alaska Terminals, Inc., a corporation with diversified business interests and property in Valdez, Alaska.

Neil G. Bergt, president of Alaska International Industries, in announcing the acquisition, indicated that Weaver Bros., one of Alaska's leading trucking lines would soon establish a freight terminal and regional office on the property in Valdez.

Weaver is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Alaska International Industries.

In addition to its property, Valdez Alaska Terminals operates a fuel delivery business,

### Young Singers

The Tanana Valley State Fair Association is forming a folk-singing group for kids who are in the fourth, fifth or sixth grade ranging from 10 to 13 years old.

We will have our first rehearsal on Wednesday, June 26 from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Fairgrounds, 2 Mile College Road.

If you are interested call the Tanana Valley State Fair office at 452-3750 to add your name to the list. Plan on singing at the Fair this summer!

### AL WRIGHT'S AIR SERVICE

—registered guide service  
—charter service  
—Alaska & Canada  
—single & multi-engine

—Floats—Wheels—Skis—

WRITE OR CALL

AL WRIGHT, Box 3142  
5 Mi. Airport Way—456-5502  
Residence Fairbanks—479-6393

charter bus, limousine, and refuse collection services and a terminal for the Alaska Railroad in Valdez.

Valdez is a port city on the southern coast which will serve as the terminal point for the trans-Alaska oil pipeline and is the farthest North ice-free port in Alaska.

Bergt indicated that the acquisition would not have a significant impact on the sales or earnings of Alaska International Industries.

• Mail orders welcome  
• Custom made nugget jewelry  
• Watch repair

### Perdue Jewelry

706 Noble • 456-3105

### SAFETY COMFORT RELIABILITY

GALENA and RUBY, ALASKA

Harold's Air Service

Charter & Contract Flying  
Single and Multi-Engine

John Billings

Manager  
Box 65, Galena  
656-1951 or 656-1234

Harold Esmailka

Owner  
Ruby, Alaska

## PIPELINE

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation needs qualified field ENGINEERS and SCIENTISTS with specialties in the following disciplines:

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING  
SOILS ENGINEERING  
ECOLOGY  
SANITARY ENGINEERING  
GEOLOGICAL/PERMAFROST ENGINEERING  
HYDROLOGY  
MARINE SCIENCE/OCEANOGRAPHY  
BIOLOGICAL/ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Immediate openings exist at all levels in Fairbanks, Valdez, and Prudhoe Bay.

We want to hear from ALL interested persons.

Send inquiries or applications to Lois Benzal, Division of Personnel, Pouch C, Juneau 99801. For additional information contact Evelyn LaPoint at area code 907-586-6721.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

SCHEDULED & 24 HR. CHARTER ANYWHERE IN ALASKA  
456-4411  
TANANA AIR TAXI P.O. Box 1655 Fairbanks, AK 99707  
In Tanana your agent is Bucky Blankenship  
Phone 366-7635

## KIAK 970



MIDNIGHT TO 6 A.M. — STEVE THOMPSON

6 A.M.-10:30 A.M. — LARRY STEPHENS

10:30 A.M.-3 P.M. — DON DYRON

3 P.M.-6:30 P.M. — DICK LOBDELL

6:30 P.M.-MIDNIGHT — LAN CARSON

ON SUNDAY LISTEN FOR

TOM BUSCH AND JIM NEIM

Heard on KIAK at 6:45 a.m./p.m. and 8:45 p.m. is

PIPELINE OF THE NORTH

ON SUNDAYS FROM 2-5 P.M. Join Jerry Naylor with CONTINENTAL COUNTRY.

The KIAK Top 20 is previewed every SUNDAY from 6-9 P.M. on COUNTRY COUNTDOWN

LISTEN FOR MONROE RAMS  
HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL  
WITH DICK LOBDELL AND RICK O'BRIEN

"WORLD TOMORROW" DAILY AT 7:00 P.M., Sun. 8:30 P.M.  
THE BIG COUNTRY SOUND FOR ALASKA'S INTERIOR

## BEAUTIFUL TABLEWARE CAN BE YOURS

### And the 1st place setting is FREE.

Deposit \$100 or more to your First Federal savings account and you'll receive your starter place setting absolutely FREE. See us for details.

ONLY ONE FREE GIFT PER FAMILY PER YEAR

OUR GALA 16TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY CONTINUES THROUGH JULY 15 AT BOTH OFFICES. FREE PREMIUMS, SOUVENIRS, AND REFRESHMENTS!

1ST. FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN  
ASSOCIATION OF FAIRBANKS  
Telephone 452-4471  
2ND & LACEY CUSHMAN & GAFFNEY



For free sponsored  
16 MM film short subjects  
write Dick Norman  
at

PICTURES, INC.

811 8th Ave., Anchorage  
—Serving Alaska Since 1939—