

# Things We Love

The State Land Division officials are certainly burning hot paths from the Fairbanks branch office and Juneau office to Minto these days. They are doing it so fast that it is hard to keep up with them.

Why are the officials doing what they're doing? Well, the State Government knows the land is pretty good in the Minto area, so do sportsmen who like to hunt ducks for relaxation. Besides that, there are some rumors that keep popping up that the land around Minto has oil-bearing deposits.

Well, land like that is pretty good to have. State people would like to have it. It is pretty well known the land around Minto is valuable, otherwise they would not bother with it. Minto people want to keep their land because it has been theirs for such a long, long time.

The people of Minto are descendents of people who have lived there from way back, centuries and centuries ago. Having lived there for so long, and having been nourished by the land around them, they have come to think home is the house they live in and the country around it. The land that has provided them with food, the land that had made Minto survive to the present day, is part of their home. Minto, or any other village, would never have survived without land.

Native people of Alaska have a habit of settling on land that best nourishes them, and that land that has been kind to them becomes deep-seated through passage of time. Having lived intimately with this land,