

I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend to death your right to say it!

Editorial—

Silly Ideas? Perhaps

Fairbanks' A-67 has been having quite a lot of trouble this summer and that is too bad. It's a fine show and it doesn't deserve the fate it is now enduring. Those who had the responsibility of erecting it to what it is have nothing to be ashamed of. Although it fell short financially, it is still a fine show and a fine piece of work visitors who do get to it enjoy thoroughly. To be at the A-67 grounds is to experience an easy atmosphere as one goes from one interesting exhibit to another. It was also too bad that the local people did not take to it as much as they should have and this lack of community backing really hurt.

The troubles of the A-67 came to light some weeks ago and it bothered many people, including Governor Hickel and the legislators. The wolves at the door of the Fairbanks centennial grounds began to howl and the wail rose to such pitch that it could be heard throughout the state. As a result, state legislators almost had a special session. Someone said Walt Disney Studios should take it over. Now the state government wants to give it to the City of Fairbanks. We wonder how it will all end. We also think some of the ideas were a little silly so with that in mind, let's get a little sillier.

Since the A-67 is being handled like a hot potato, somebody should give some thought to giving a portion of it to the Eskimo Village located on the swampy grounds on the outskirts of Fairbanks. The people out there have been having a great deal of trouble in getting decent housing for many years, let alone running water in the hovels they have been living in.

A thought should also be given to provide space for the World Eskimo Olympics. A decent setting is always a need for this interesting program. The Eskimo Village and the Olympics could get their heads together and work up a rousing native cultural program on a more sophisticated manner. This would really have a chance to go over in good style. If anything, it would give the World Eskimo Olympics beauty pageant a decent, more dignified setting in which it could be held.

If someone has already thought of it, we would enthusiastically support that person that the annual Tanana Valley Fair be allowed to show its wares at the A-67 site's attractive grounds. Exhibit spaces now being used there would greatly enhance what the Fair has to show and the modern facilities would certainly make the big crowds more comfortable and less congested.

Silly? Perhaps we are, but why not think about such things for the future? Goodness know, some of the silly ideas might crop up to be whopping, big successes and where a succession of interesting programs could developed for timely presentations.