

CANDIDATES AROUND ALASKA TOSS HATS

With primary elections for state and federal offices less than five months away, candidates around Alaska are tossing their hats in the ring to gear up for one of the most important elections in the state's history.

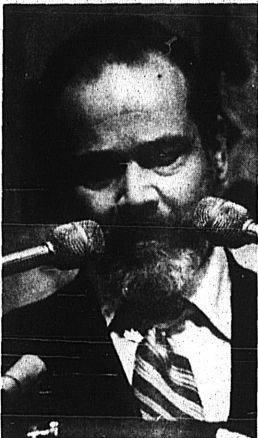
Beginning construction of the trans-Alaska pipeline, decision on a gas pipeline, settlement of the Native land claims, formation of the Native corporations and nearing federal action to withdraw 83 million Alaskan acres combine to make 1974 the start of a new era in Alaska.

At stake are the vital governor's and lieutenant governor's seats, one U.S. seat, the state's only U.S. House of Representatives post and numerous Senate and House seats on the state level.

Following are thumbnail sketches of some of the candidates who have already announced their decisions to run:

Jay's Hat in For Governor

Jay Hammond, 51, is a fisherman, poet, pilot, guide, mayor and former State Senate presi-



SEN. JAY HAMMOND
... Poet, legislator

dent. Now he would like to add the title of governor of Alaska.

The bearded Naknek resident has announced that he will seek the Republican nomination

for governor in the primary. He'll do battle with two former governors — Walter J. Hickel and Keith Miller.

"We've no illusions but that it will be a hard run uphill all the way," said Hammond. "I'm always more comfortable as an underdog anyway," he said.

Hammond is looking for support from the "grass-seed" rather than grass roots level. He'll accept campaign contributions, but explained that contributors must realize they get nothing but the best of abilities in return.

The candidate said his approach to development would be limited to those activities that provide a broad spectrum of benefits to a great number of Alaskans rather than a selected few.

Hammond was originally an Independent and, with 53 per cent of Alaska's voters being Independents, has been encouraged to run as such. But the candidate wants party support.

His approach is to offer voters a choice beyond Hickel and Miller on the GOP side and Gov. William A. Egan on the Democratic side — all three whom he sees as displaying no great distinction between their developmental plans for Alaska.

Hammond's press image reflects a colorful pioneer Alaskan. Willing to discuss the issues with his opponents, Hammond says, "I will engage in any kind of confrontation, be it debate or arm wrestling." The candidate is mayor of the Bristol Bay Borough.

Peterson Seeks Re-election

Democratic Rep. Larry Peterson, Ft. Yukon, one of only nine Natives in the Alaska Legislature, has announced his candidacy for re-election in November.

Elected to the House in 1972 over Republican Melvin Charlie (now president of the Tanana Chiefs Conference), the 34-year-old Peterson feels his first term has been a "learning process" during which he concentrated on stopping bad legislation from coming out.

Now, he says, he wants to focus on legislation that would bring a modern communications system to rural Alaska — on a par with systems in the southern 48 states. He also favors a trans-Alaska gas line and concentration on pipeline impact

problems.

An electronics technician with tracking station and White Alice work experience, Peterson sits on the special committee on communications in Juneau. He has also served on committees for community and rural affairs health, education and social services, rural schools and housing.



REP. LARRY PETERSON
... One of 9 Natives

Peterson was influential in returning education and airport maintenance programs to a slashed rural budget and once told the House speaker from the floor: "You're not doing a job for the (rural) people, but on the people."

He has introduced legislation

Native Housing Disgrace: Tunney

Calling the state of native American housing in the United States a "national disgrace," Sen. John V. Tunney (D-Calif.) recently urged the Department of Housing and Urban Development to speedily set a date for its long-delayed National Conference on Indian Housing.

"I would hope that this conference would go a step beyond simply restating the problems, and will result in some concrete administrative and legislative proposals. We know the problem; what we need are the solutions."

In addition the senator urged Secretary James Lynn that the conference be held in an area close to the Indian people in order for them to have maximum participation.

calling for taxing the oil companies, electing instead of appointing magistrates, ensuring oil and gas preserves for Alaska and giving all Alaskans with five-years residency 160 acres of land.

Born and raised in Fort Yukon, Peterson was first elected to public office as a city councilman in his home town.

Gravel's TT Report

By Mike Gravel
U.S. Senator, Alaska

Late last month, the United States Senate passed a very crucial piece of legislation: The "Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment, and Rehabilitation Act of 1974." Don't be scared by the long title — really, what the bill does is provide federal assistance to combat alcoholism.

IMPORTANT TO ALASKA

Alcoholism is a major threat among Alaskans — our rate is far above the national average, with at least 20,000 Alaskans labeled as alcohol abusers.

It's difficult to determine the actual number of Alaskans stricken with this disease. There's no clear dividing line between the heavy user and the confirmed alcoholic.

ALCOHOL-RELATED TRAFFIC DEATHS IN OUR STATE

One good indication, though, can be found in the number of deaths on our highways that involve drinking. In Alaska, most of our traffic fatalities can be attributed to drunkenness.

Look at Anchorage. About 80% of the auto deaths in our city were alcohol related. In Fairbanks, the rate is even more amazing — close to 100%!

ONE CAUSE: BOREDOM

One reason why the rate of alcoholism is so high in Alaska is our weather and our scattered population.

During those long winter months, living out in the bush can become a pretty tedious thing. Some resort to liquor to get through the cold days. All too often, the results are fatal.

HUMAN TRAGEDY

Nationally, alcoholism takes a heavy toll. About 9 million Americans are alcohol abusers! But these 9 million victims, in turn, affect the lives of 40 million others, including their own children.

The human suffering is terrible. Probably half of the killings in the country are alcohol-related; one-third of the suicides occur after a drinking bout.

The highway toll is staggering — about half the nation's traffic deaths are alcohol-related, costing about 25,000 lives every year!

NON-SELECTIVE DISEASE

Alcoholism is an "across the board" disease, striking rich and poor, Native and white, alike. One proven weapon, though, is alcohol education.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY-BASED TREATMENT

The Senate alcoholism bill, places a strong emphasis on education. The bill would authorize \$175 million for education and counseling and would set up a national Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration.

The approach which we adopted on this measure is community-based. It would permit \$200 million in direct Federal aid to community programs and to states which treat alcoholism as a community problem.

He was twice elected to vice president of the Tanana Chiefs Conference, attended the University of Alaska and Sheldon Jackson College; Sitka, and completed 18 months electronics study in Los Angeles, California.

He was employed as a White Alice electronics technician from 1965-1972.

Under this legislation, which I co-sponsored along with Senator Hughes of Iowa, Senator Kennedy of Massachusetts, and 22 other Senators, Alaska's share of federal funds could amount to as much as \$300,000.

REHABILITATION PROGRAMS

This bill meets the alcohol problem by developing methods for prevention and treatment rather than the usual "lock 'em up" approach. Jail terms without treatment are 'practically worthless.

To make sure that treatment is available, the bill states that alcoholics "shall not be discriminated against" in hospital admissions or treatment.

SENATE PASSAGE, HOUSE AND PRESIDENTIAL ACTION AWAITED

The Senate has already agreed on the measure. The House of Representatives will, I predict, pass the bill overwhelmingly.

That leaves it up to the President.

Despite the fact that White House spokesmen testified against the bill last year, I honestly cannot see any justifiable grounds for continued Presidential opposition. Human lives are at stake here.

Perhaps Mr. Nixon's opposition will soften, once he realizes the need for this measure and the bipartisan support that it received in the Senate.

As a cosponsor of this bill, I strongly support it as a sign of a total commitment by the government to attack a long-neglected, often misunderstood problem.

Orthopedic

SEATTLE — Last year 104 Alaskan youngsters were hospitalized for a total of 884 days at Children's Orthopedic Hospital and Medical Center here.

Children's Orthopedic Hospital guilds and auxiliaries throughout Washington State are conducting the annual Penny Drive May 1 through 14 to benefit the hospital's free and part-pay care program. Last year \$58,307 was given to Alaska youth.

Donations can be mailed to Children's Orthopedic Hospital, 4800 Sand Point Way N.E., Seattle, Wash., 98105. All donations will go directly to the care of children whose parents can't afford the cost of hospital care and lack access to other community resources.

Last year Children's Orthopedic Hospital and Medical Center gave more than \$2.6 million in free care. Penny Drive is the hospital's only public appeal for funds and the largest source of income for the free care program.



Cornish fairies are said to hate the smell of fish. Everyone does, after a while!

ALA to Publish Native Stories

Stories told by residents of villages throughout Alaska will be the basis of a publication sponsored by the Alaska Library Association. From July 1972 to April 1973 people in many Alaskan villages were recorded telling stories and legends in Native languages.

This taping was made possible by grants from the Alaska Federation of Natives and the Tanana Chiefs Conference. These tapes are now in the University of Alaska Library Archives.

Cassettes of some of these tapes have been made and are available for borrowing from the Fairbanks North Star Borough Library, the Anchorage Higher Education Consortium Library, and the State Library in Juneau.

Twenty stories are now being selected from these tapes. Each story will be transcribed into the English.

Stories from Yupik, Inupiat, Koyukon Athabaskan, and Kutchin Athabaskan will be used.

The Eskimo Language Workshop and the Alaska Native Language Center will be doing most of the transcribing and translating.

These stories will be published as sets of posters: one story for each poster. Each translation will also be on a separate poster. They will be illustrated.

These sets of twenty stories and translations will be distributed in boxes. The University of Alaska Press will be the publisher and distributor.

The Alaska Library Association believes that it is important to record Native stories and legends and to make them available in different formats to as many people as possible. These stories will be given to schools and libraries throughout the State.

It is also hoped the publication will appeal to tourists. Any money that is left after expenses are covered will go toward continuing the taping of stories and legends.

This Project is being funded by a matching grant from the Alaska State Council on the Arts.

If you would like more information contact Mary Matthews, Box 1267, Fairbanks 99707.

For Deadhorse Extension

JUNEAU — Gov. William A. Egan said recently the state has awarded a \$606,228 contract for a 1,500-foot runway extension and other work at Deadhorse Airport, which serves the oil field operations on the North Slope.

The project, let by the Public Works Department to Alaska General Construction Co., Anchorage, also includes relocation of runway and taxiway lights and installation of additional lights.

It is scheduled for completion in late August, 1974.