

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

Tundra Times



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Why Not Jobs, Income from It?— Why Not Legalize Liquor at Barrow?

Anchorage, Alaska
22 November 1971

Dear Howard

The recent election in Barrow had a direct bearing on the 3.2 million dollar city owned Air Terminal Complex for which all preparatory work has been completed. The real issue was not whether the city should be dry or wet, but was whether the village would provide an improvement in the economic base of the village, by providing permanent job opportunities for for some 50 people in the community.

To say the village of Barrow is dry is to close ones eyes to actuality, yet the city receives no revenue from the \$500,000 of liquor coming into the city annually. Regardless of the outcome of the issues, why did so few people evidence interest in such a vital election, which also elected city council members. Only slightly more than 200 people voted on these issues of economic import to the City and region. That the Master Lessee, or person who guaranteed the mortgage for the City of Barrow on its Air Terminal, had stipulated a bar lounge was necessary at a public meeting between the board of directors and the City Council apparently went unheeded.

It is indeed unfortunate whatever the cause, that a project which Barrow so much needed both for its construction work and permanent employment potential, as well as being a point of civic pride and a prime source of badly needed income, should almost fall by the wayside because of the failure of civic leaders especially those hired to

advance the economic development of the community, to adequately inform the voters of the essential facts pertaining to the issues at hand.

IF THE PEOPLE ARE ADEQUATELY INFORMED OF THE ISSUES, AND CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THE POINTS AT ISSUE, THEY WILL EVIDENCE INTEREST IN THE PROPOSITIONS BY VOTING, AND BY RENDERING GOOD DEMOCRATIC DECISIONS AT THE POLLS. Poor poll turnout indicates 1. a public which does not understand the issue at point, or 2. because there is so little difference between the pro and con of the issue that a vote cast one way or the other would not materially effect any change.

The City lost much needed revenue and only increased the problem and cost of law enforcement pertaining to the use of illegal alcohol.

I think that after so much work has gone into this viable project that the City of Barrow must decide in the mind of each individual, whether progress is really wanted, as so often stated, or has welfare, government agencies, and sterile board meetings so undermined the free will of the people that the collective initiative of our people is already destroyed by those very ones who seek us professedly to help us?

Howie, as ever, and God bless you.

HUGH

P.S. Howard, would appreciate your comments. This is for publication if you see fit.

Hugh Nicholls

WAGE/PRICE FREEZE

Please don't raise my rent..
Every dime I made is spent..
The wages are froze by the President..
So Please don't raise my rent!!!!

The grocery store just raised their price..
Potatoes are high, so I'll eat rice..
I've asked my wife if I could play dice..
Just to make up for wages and high price..

We live in a time of wage/price freeze..
We can't get a raise if we please..
The wife just asked me for a squeeze..
But I just think of wage/price freeze..

Please don't raise my rent..
Every dime I made is spent..
The wages are froze by the President..
So Please don't raise my rent!!!!

By DISCOURAGED HUSBAND 1971



VISITING CANADIANS learn of University of Alaska's Eskimo Language Workshop from language specialist Martha Teeluk, at right, during one-day tour of the College campus last Tuesday. Part of a group exploring the possibility of establishing a University of Canada North to

serve the Yukon and Northwest Territories, they wanted to see how the Alaskan university is serving the state. In rear, with pipe, is Dr. Don Dafoe, the university's vice president for public service who had conferred with the Canadians earlier at Inuvik, NWT. (UA photo)

Canada Natives, Educators Visit UA

COLLEGE—A delegation of Canadians—Eskimos, Indians, educators, government officials and churchmen—interested in promoting higher education in their far north visited the campus here Tuesday to learn what they could in a day about the University of Alaska.

They flew to Fairbanks in a chartered aircraft from Inuvik, NWT where they had taken part in an historic three-day conference to explore the possibility of establishing a University of Canada North to serve the Northwest and Yukon territories.

On hand to welcome the Canadians to the campus were members of the University of Alaska groups which had returned the day before from the Inuvik conference. The Alaskans took part in panel discussions, answered questions, and generally described the Alaskan experience in providing educational opportunity in the North.

The Alaska group included Dr. Don Dafoe, university vice president for public service; Victor Fischer, director of the Institute of Social, Economic and Government Research; Robert Egan, director of the Student Orientation Service (S.O.S.), which assists students from rural areas, primarily natives, to make the transition to campus life; Dr. Walter Soboleff, coordinator of native studies; and Knute Hansen from Aklavik in the Northwest Territories, a sophomore at the University of Alaska majoring in sociology.

Among the 26 Canadians visiting here were Terry Forth, territorial supervisor of continuing and special education from Inuvik; Father LeMeur of the Roman Catholic Mission at Tuktoyaktuk in the Northwest Territories; Fred North, principal of the government-operated Six Alexander Mackenzie School at Inuvik; and Professor Robert G. Williamson, an anthropologist from Rankin Inlet, NWT.

At an informal meeting, the visitors heard from and asked questions of Associate Professor of Design Ronald Senungetuk; university president William R. Wood; Martha Teeluk of the Eskimo Language Workshop; Martha Jack and Helen Atkinson of S.O.S.

Native students' work in art

at the university "makes them very proud of what they are—they're no longer introverts,"

said Senungetuk.

Miss Atkinson told how the

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Sleeping Bag Co. ...

(Continued from page 1)

send an acknowledgement.

Affidavits from 12 Alaskan consumers supporting the charges which were submitted with the complaint.

The State is seeking a preliminary injunction against the company to bar it from continuing the unlawful practices it is accused of.

It is also seeking to permanently enjoin the company from engaging in "advertising practices which by omission and misrepresentation mislead and deceive purchasers residing in the State of Alaska."

Further, the State asks the court to prevent the company from using any catalog or other sales literature in Alaska during the next two years that does not contain a statement setting forth the number of back-ordered or unfilled orders received between September 25, 1970 and September 25, 1971, and state the number of refund requests and exchange requests received during the same period.

The State asks that the statement be on the inside cover of any catalog and prominent on any other flyer, and in the same size type predominantly used in the remainder of the copy.

The state charged that Alaska Sleeping Bag Company's failure to deliver on orders for its advertised goods "has placed a heavy burden upon those Alaskan living in remote areas who must depend on defendant's representations as to prompt delivery of its many items specially designed for the extreme seasonal weather which is experienced in the State of Alaska."

Under Alaska's consumer protection law it is illegal to "advertise goods or services with intent not to supply reasonable expectable public demand, unless the advertisement prominently discloses a limitation of quantity..."

"It appears clear that Alaska Sleeping Bag Company has not maintained an adequate inventory of goods advertised as required by Alaska law," a supportive memorandum filed with the

complaint said.

The memorandum continued: "The company repeatedly answered inquiries with helpful sounding putoffs, attempting to avoid settlement or service."

"It answered inquiries about slow service on orders with form letters and form post cards that said it was 'checking' its files on the status of the order."

It said the customer would hear further from it "soon," when actually these cards and letters did not lead to answers or service."

The result, the memorandum said, is that Alaskan consumers "have had to make substitute purchases or go without, while their money was still held by Alaska Sleeping Bag Company."

It said that some of those people who submitted affidavits "apparently still have not received refunds, although the company's advertising claimed refunds would be paid in the case of the slightest dissatisfaction."

The State's consumer protection law also makes it illegal to use or employ "any deception, fraud, false pretense, false promise, misrepresentation," or to conceal, suppress, or omit any relevant facts in connection with the sale or advertisement of goods or services.

The memorandum said that in its advertising Alaska Sleeping Bag Company has "made express statements about the quality of its service, its many satisfied customers, its years of service, and its fair and straightforward refund and exchange policy."

"In fact," it said, "the company has repeatedly failed to fill orders within a reasonable time."

In addition, the memorandum said, "attempts by Alaskans to get refunds or exchanges have proved difficult and frustrating, if not always impossible."

The Alaska Sleeping Bag Company issue first became public last spring through Letters to the Editor page of the TUNDRA TIMES.