
Stepovich Files for Governor

Mike Stepovich plans an extensive campaign in the village areas. That was one of the first plans revealed after he filed this week for the Republican gubernatorial primary.

"As far as my money allows me, I expect to campaign extensively in the villages," Stepovich told the Tundra Times in a special interview. "I want to find out about their problems. I want to talk to the people themselves."

Stepovich's announcement

(Continued on Page 8)

Stepovich . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

makes it a three-way race for the Republican candidacy. He is running against Walter Hickel and Bruce Kendall.

Running on the Democratic slate are Gov. William A. Egan and Wendell Kay.

Stepovich spoke specifically about campaign promises made to the Alaska Natives. "They are always promised from Washington and Juneau that things are going to be done for the Native people, such as education, housing and so forth," said the former governor. Stepovich served as the last Territorial governor, in 1957-58.

"But since I've been in Alaska it's never been realized," continued the Alaskan-born candidate. "I've seen this time and time again, that before election many promises are made . . . then after the election, the Native people are forgotten."

His own campaign promise is: "I promise the Native people that if I give them my word, I will keep it."

Stepovich stated definite views concerning Native products. "If I get in there, I would see to it that they get the proper amount of money for their products. They are being exploited," he said. "I would certainly do something about this."

Besides his term as Governor of Alaska, Stepovich served in the Territorial House of Representatives from 1951 to 1953 and in the Territorial Senate 1955 through 1957.