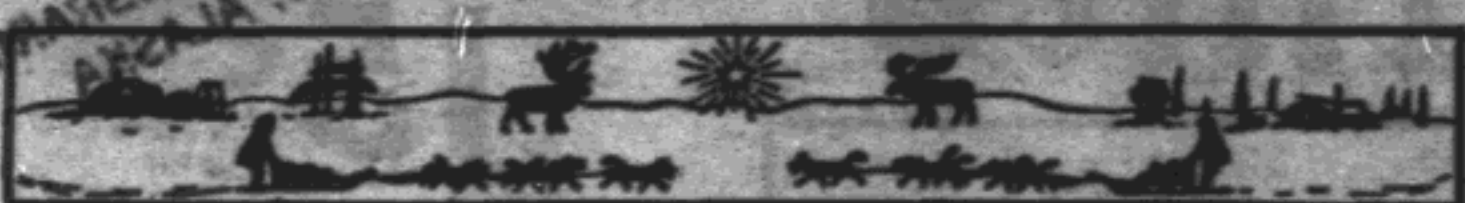


"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." - Voltaire

Tundra Times



Owned, controlled and edited by Eskimo, Indian, Aleut Publishing Company, a corporation of Alaska natives. Published at Fairbanks, Alaska, weekly, on Friday.

Address all mail to Box 1287, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701. Telephone 452-2244.

Entered at the Post Office at Fairbanks, Alaska, as second class matter under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Eskimo, Indian, Aleut Publishing Co., Inc. Board of Directors Executive Committee: Howard Rock, president; Thomas Richards, vice president; Clara Anderson, secretary; Jimmy Bedford, comptroller; Mrs. Ralph Pardue, assistant secretary. HOWARD ROCK, editor.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Regular Mail (Including Alaska, Canada and other states)	1 Year \$ 8.00	6 Months \$ 4.50
Air Mail (Including Alaska, Canada and other states)	1 Year \$19.00	6 Months \$10.00

Editorial—

TECHNICAL PREPARATION - AN IMMEDIATE NEED

Recent events directly affecting the native people of Alaska have been going on with great implications of influencing their future. One of these is the effort of our leaders, that of the State and the federal Department of the Interior to thrash out means of resolving the land claims situation. The progress made thus far on this complicated matter is showing some signs that the settlement might not be too far in the future. This possibility should be kept in mind.

When the land situation is thought of in that manner, a great deal of added responsibility begins to loom up in the future of our native people. Whatever settlement form is finally decided upon by all concerned, there will be an urgent need for technical knowledge among our own people in the fields of law, business management, political science economics, statistics, sociology and many other related functions.

Although the present leadership has been able to draw technical assistance from outside of the native element and has gotten along well with it, and it will probably do so in the future, it would seem to be more desirable to draw the technical knowledge from our own people. After all, it is our people upon whose shoulders the responsibilities should fall if they are to do things for themselves.

We have to meet those responsibilities with the best we have with skills drawn from our own particular human resources and we had better start preparing for this eventuality because it is certain to come upon us. Although our present leadership is showing up in highly creditable manner, we need to look ahead for added impetus to tackle the increased responsibilities. This means we have to have superbly educated people to help take over the duties that will surely be complicated.

This future need should be driven home to our younger generation—the present crop of young people who are pursuing higher levels of education. We are very much aware, of course, that it is a hard struggle for some of them to stay in school. The students should stay in school. The students should also realize that they have responsibility to their people who will need their skills in the future; that they are getting the opportunity for education great many of their fellow young people will never attain; that they should use the last ounce of will to keep going. Goals attained through difficult paths are often rewarding.

The difficult going by the students should also be the keen concern of the older native citizens who should back their young people with meaningful encouragements and support, monetarily if possible. This can be rewarding for them also and it can mean a good future for their children.

Guard Brings Electricity to Nulato Village

JUNEAU—Gov. Walter J. Hickel this week commended the Alaska Air National Guard for helping to bring electricity to Nulato again. The small Yukon River community had been without a dependable source of power for several months until crews from the 144th Air Transport Squadron airlifted two 25 KW generators to the village early this month.

"The 302 residents of Nulato are able to have lights this winter because the Air Guard performed this service," the Governor said. "Otherwise, they would have had to wait until the river boats resume operating next summer."

The arrival of the generators in the power-hungry community marked the Air Guard's second attempt to transport them from Lake Minchumina to Nulato.

Rep. John Sackett of Huslia wrote Governor Hickel last October to request assistance in moving the generators, which the Nulato Village Council had purchased from Cy Heatherington of Manley Hot Springs.

The Governor asked Maj. Gen. C. F. Necrason, adjutant general of Alaska, if the Air Guard could fly the generators to the village because shipping on the Yukon had stopped for the winter.

A reconnaissance flight revealed the condition and length of the Nulato airfield would not permit a C-123 to land safely.

As soon as winter set in and the Yukon froze over, the residents of Nulato cleared a landing area on the river approximately 4,400 feet long. Clearing of the ice field made it possible for the Air Guard to complete its mission.

The Nulato Village Council and its president, Andy Demoski, tried for months to locate two used generators to replace the old ones, which supplied power for the village.

Rep. Sackett and the Bureau of Indian Affairs assisted them in their search.

Downstream Chena Closed to Beaver Trapping

The main drainage of the Chena River downstream from its confluence with the Little Chena River, and the Chena Slough (Piledriver or Badger Slough) downstream from Plack Road is closed to beaver trapping according to Bob Hinman, Regional Game Supervisor for the Interior-Arctic Region, Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

The drainages into the closed area will remain open to trapping, said Hinman.

With increased trapping pressure the beaver population on the lower Chena River has decreased and we feel it is important to maintain a moderate beaver population for esthetic and tourism standpoints, commented Hinman.

The trapping season will open February 1 and close April 15 in the remainder of Game Management Unit 20B (Fairbanks area). The bag limit is 25 beaver.

Inuvik to Olympics—Manitoba Interested

Noticing the Tundra Times editor's letter to editor Senior of the Taiga Times in Churchill, Manitoba, Tom Butters, editor of The Drum at Inuvik, N.W.T., wrote in a note:

"A mighty 'YES'—finances permitting. A drum dance was held in the Ingamo Hall here in Inuvik just prior to New Year's Eve, the returns from which were to go towards a return to your fair city and world recognized gathering of Eskimo competitors."

Butters, of course, is talking about the World Eskimo Olympics which the

Canadian Western Arctic Eskimos from Inuvik attended for the first time last year and provided a fine contest in dances, native beauty pageant and competitive Eskimo sports.

Editor Senior had indicated earlier in his publication that the native people from Churchill should come to the Olympics "in strength" and compete.

He stated editorially that the Eskimos there had excellent competitive spirit and that efforts should be made so they can come to the next performance on August 8-9-10 this year.

Minority Groups 41 Per Cent of N. S. Borough Population

Almost 9,000 persons in the Fairbanks North Star Borough are living in poverty, according to a survey recently published by the University of Alaska's Institute of Social, Economic and Government Research.

The report, entitled, "Fairbanks Community Survey: A Profile of Poverty" was sponsored by the area Community Action Agency with the support of the city and borough government to help establish priorities for youth and adult programs in the borough.

Dr. Frank Sessions, former head of the Psychology and Sociology Department of the university, designed and supervised the survey. John Rosen, of the university, constructed the 76-item questionnaire and directed actual data gathering.

The questionnaire was distributed to 322 household heads on a scientific random basis and 296 questionnaires were returned completed. Dr. Sessions said that poverty in Fairbanks was "defined as an annual gross income level of \$4,500 or below for a family of four."

"This figure was based upon the national poverty level standard of \$3,000 per year, but took into consideration the higher cost of living in Fairbanks compared to the rest of the nation and of tax increases and inflation since 1962," Dr. Sessions explained.

The survey showed that the "average" Fairbanks North Star Borough household is composed of a family of four. The household head is 33.6 years of age, is male, has an annual income of \$7,800, holds a blue collar job and has better than a high school education. His racial background is Caucasian and he is Protestant.

"Minority racial groups comprise 41.2 per cent of the total borough household heads," Dr. Sessions said. "Indians, mainly Athabascans, account for almost 20 per cent, Negroes 15 per cent and Eskimos 5 per cent."

"According to the survey, a very high proportion of Indians and elderly persons in the Fairbanks area are among the abject poor. Eskimos tend to be less poor and Negroes are found in the lower middle class with incomes between \$7,500 and \$10,000 annually. Most of the poor are uneducated,

unskilled and semi-skilled laborers who work on a part time, part year basis or who are unemployed. Many are illiterate or functionally illiterate."

The survey indicated that over one fourth of the borough's population can be classified as being among the poor and that approximately 12 per cent of the people of the borough live in abject poverty.

"The poor category includes 2,149 families with annual incomes of less than \$7,500," Dr. Sessions said. "There are 3,739 children under 17 in this category with annual incomes of less than \$4,500 including 1,727 children under 17 and 606 children under 7."

The sociologist indicated that there was reason to be optimistic about improving the situation of the poverty-stricken in the borough.

"The survey shows that even though there are some sharp differences between the poor and the affluent, the poor in the Fairbanks area appear not to have many of the characteristics attributed to the poor in other regions," Sessions said.

"The data developed during the survey suggests that most poor people in the borough subscribe to cultural norms which would allow them to rise above the poverty level if given the opportunity. They do not view society and authority as an enemy; there is no widespread social disorganization; they recognize their deficient education and training and they aspire to a better life for their children."

Dr. Sessions pointed out that the results of the survey indicate that the adult poor in the borough are prepared to accept some responsibility to help themselves and that there is a need to establish several programs which would deal directly with the adult and youth population of the area.

Among the programs recommended in the report are: regular counseling sessions with professionally trained leaders; youth recreation programs; expanded child development programs; improvement of the borough transportation system; home economics training in basic nutrition, child care, home maintenance, etc.; and adult classes in reading, writing, and basic communication.