

"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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Editorial Comment—

Native Politics and Pap Around the Chin

We hate to say it but in some areas of Native politics, pap is still showing on chins of candidates probably necessitating bibs around the necks for another several years in the future before Native politicians can mature and learn to recognize the opportunities and openings in the political setups in the State of Alaska.

We are not aiming this criticism at such politicians as Senator Willie Hensley and others who have matured and are becoming individuals to be reckoned with in the field of politicking. We are, at this moment, thinking of the very recent antics of Native candidates in District 19, who found it pretty slippery going down the drain while they watched their main opponent find dry footing and raced away with a bulging bagful of votes and nomination for the general election in November.

The overcrowded Native candidates for a seat in the above district should know by this time that they had stretched their chances on a thin sinew and found themselves holding scantily filled bags of votes which gave them easy and dubious tickets down to a resounding defeat. This defeat should now be generating various avenues of thought. It apparently has because there is a rumor that they are planning to get together for a discussion and pick a write-in candidate among themselves to run against the winner of the nomination in District 19 who is a Republican.

We hope the choice will be a good one — one who will rally the group for a concerted try because the effort is not likely to be an easy one. Since the write-in candidate is the only avenue to retrieve a bad boo-boo, there must also be a coordinated effort with least rubbing against grains, which means the man they pick must be acceptable to all concerned. The write-in candidate will need better than an ordinary backing if such an eventuality should come to pass and which might rescue the elusive seat.

Bury the tomahawk and let the feathers fly toward the desired end.

2 Oil Spills by Truck Mishaps

ANCHORAGE — Two oil spills, each caused by truck mishaps, occurred this past week on the trans Alaska pipeline project.

One spill occurred at the Valdez terminal site when a 35-ton dump truck overturned. About 80 gallons of diesel fuel and some hydraulic fluid were spilled from the truck onto the gravel road surface. The driver of the vehicle was not injured.

The loss of power steering in the truck was determined to be the cause of the accident. The ground contaminated by the spill was removed, and the spill was reported to appropriate federal and state agencies.

The truck was being operated by a driver for Morrison-Knudsen Company, a subcontractor

for Alyeska Pipeline Service Company, the firm responsible for design, construction and operation of the pipeline.

A second spill occurred near the Toolik construction camp, 150 miles south of the Arctic Coast, when a fuel truck overturned on the embankment of the state road.

Between 175 and 225 gallons of fuel spilled from the truck in the accident. An estimated 10 gallons of fuel spilled into the Kuparuk River, which runs near the road.

Oil booms were strung across the river to contain the spill and sorbent material was used to pick up the oil from the water and soil. The spill was reported to appropriate state and federal agencies.

Letters from Here and There

Dates Finalized For Hearings on Native Articles

U. S. Department of Commerce National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service Washington, D. C. 20235

August 21, 1974

Mr. Howard Rock Chairman, Village Art Upgrade Committee University of Alaska Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Mr. Rock:

As indicated in our previous correspondence, the National Marine Fisheries Service, in cooperation with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, intends to hold public hearings on the proposed list of Authentic Native Articles of Handicraft and Clothing. The new dates of the hearings have now been finalized. The dates, times and locations are as follows:

September 24, 1974, Nome, Alaska, 9:00 a.m. in the District Court Chambers.

September 26, 1974, Fairbanks, Alaska, 9:00 a.m. in the Alaska State Bank Building.

September 27, 1974, Anchorage, Alaska, 9:00 a.m. at the City Council Chambers in the Loussac Library.

Notice of the new hearing dates will soon be published in the "Federal Register."

We hope the hearings will provide interested persons a full opportunity to express their views on the subject.

Sincerely, Robert W. Schoning Director

Writer Gets Eye Opener

August 30, 1974

Dear Editor:

Living in the bush has disadvantages sometimes, especially when one doesn't subscribe to newspapers. We at Pt. Lay learned of new President Ford via the Armed Forces Radio. This week's trip to Barrow gave me another eye opener.

Nationwide Girls' Basketball

Push over boys! Little League, Babe Ruth League, Boys Baseball, Pop Warner football, American League baseball—to mention few but a few national programs operating "for boys only"—will soon be joined by an All-America Girls' Basketball Conference.

The newly-organized basketball league, probably the first for girls on a national scale, will move onto the court this fall. And the organizers behind the scene anticipate girls flocking to "their program" in impressive numbers.

The primary aim of the conference is to contribute to the total fitness of the individual girl — physical, mental and emotional — through a program of leisure time enjoyment.

The program is divided into two divisions — Senior play for girls 14 and 15 and the Junior Division for the 12 and 13 age group. Team rosters will be limited to 12 players. Either female or male coaches will be permitted to coach.

So, members of the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation stepped into the political spotlight early this month by endorsing GOP gubernatorial "aspirant" Wally Hickel. Of course, I didn't believe it until I read confirming articles in two newspapers.

I feel it is time to reassess the role of our corporate leaders. Are we taking steps of merit? Where are the corporate priorities? Most important, do corporate priorities develop with help from the Inupiat community? If so, input from the Inupiat community must be fading out.

Oh, I know, the Land Claims Act places we stockholders into the tender care of elected corporate leaders. Many big deci-

sions and day to day management are in their hands.

Yet, it's uncomfortable for me, as an Arctic Slope resident, to sit smiling as our "leaders" blithely endorse a Republican (we Natives traditionally vote Democrat anyway), whom, I recall, in the early land claims struggle would have rather seen Natives own 10 million acres of soil — not our present 40 million.

Whether or not Hickel can now work in harmony with us is not the question. The question is, "Did we have to endorse anyone at all?"

These days, the political scene is not necessarily a clean arena.

Sincerely, Nancy Gray

Your Dental Health

The contents of this series of "Dental Health Talks" was originally prepared by the American Dental Association. They are made available for Tundra Times through the Public Health Education Office of the Alaska Native Health Service.

It is well known that our dental health program in Interior Alaska has not yet reached everyone needing dental services. This is especially true about the people in the rural communities. However, everyone understands how important it is to take care of our teeth which is a part of our total well-being.

No. 20 — Other Diseases of the Mouth

* * *

The mouth is sometimes referred to as the "laboratory of the body," a rather descriptive reference because the mouth truly is a mirror of the body's general health.

There is much that your mouth tells about you. It can reveal, for instance, that you smoke. Besides the usual bad breath of smoking and dripping sinuses, smokers often have a white patch on the soft mucosa or pink tissues inside the mouth.

Chicken pox often reveals itself first in the mouth. The white-topped pimples can appear in the mouth a half day before they appear as a rash on the skin.

Dentists often are first to suspect diabetes in their patients. Early signs are inflamed, angry-red gums with teeth which are sensitive to tapping and which have heavy accumulations of calculus or tartar, dry tongue and acetone-smelling breath. Suspicious patients are referred to their family physicians.

Tiny hemorrhage spots on the roof of the mouth often are early signs that infectious mononucleosis is developing. Gums may also be inflamed.

Leukemia often reveals its presence in and around the mouth, through sores inside the cheek, in the throat and on the tonsils and lips. Gums may be puffy and overgrown, too.

In jaundice, or liver disease, the tongue becomes coated and the inside of the mouth takes on a yellowish-green color.

Fever blisters or cold sores are caused by a virus which is highly infectious. The first infection occurs in infancy with a fever. Yellow, irregular-shaped sores appear, and later red rings form around the sore. No successful treatment is known.

The infant may refuse to eat but should be given liquids. The attack usually lasts ten days. For the rest of his life, sores will develop on the lip when he has a cold or fever or emotional upset. Subsequent attacks are never as severe as the initial one

in infancy.

Erythema multiforme is another kind of mouth sore, but one associated with sore throat, high fever and an aching feeling. It can last two-to-four weeks.

Lip cracks usually are caused by a licking habit, fever or sensitivity to sun. A more serious form, called cheilosis, may be the result of a Vitamin-B-complex deficiency.

Cracks in the corner of the mouth are called perleche and are due to a fungus infection and may be a sign of ill-fitting dentures.

Measles can be seen first in the mouth as tiny white pimples ringed in red which develop right after the cold-like symptoms and three-to-five days before the skin rash starts.

Mumps is an oral disease spread by saliva and affects the large salivary gland in the jaw in front of the ear. Caused by a virus, it produces fever and affects the rest of the body as well.

Some vitamin deficiencies show up on a mouth examination — vitamins C, D, K, B-2, B-6, and niacin.

One of the most common diseases of the mouth is canker sores, or aphthous ulcers, which are small ulcers inside lips or cheeks or on the sides of the tongue.

Allergy too affects the mouth. Hay fever can make the palate and nose itch. Post-nasal drip and the bad breath that often accompanies it are caused by allergy.

Among the other disorders that can attack the mouth are papilloma, a tumor that resembles a skin wart which forms on the tissue of the tongue, palate, cheeks or lips, and is usually benign; tiny salivary stones which form in the ducts of salivary glands and which blocks the saliva flow and cause the gland to swell or hurt, and trench mouth, an inflamed infection of the gums with ulcers occurring. Trench mouth is usually caused by poor oral hygiene.

(Next article: Preventing and Treating Oral Cancer")