

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.