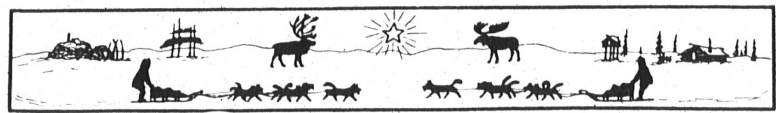


Inupiat Pitot People's Heritage
Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks
Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak



FUEL SHORTAGE HITS BUSH

Rural Development, Village Electrification Endangered By Crisis

By TOM RICHARDS, JR.
Managing Editor

Economic development in rural areas of Alaska is seriously threatened by the national energy crisis and the fuel allocation proposals which are believed to become implemented in Alaska during January. If fuel allocations restrict fuel usage for electric power to current

levels in Alaska, energy production in rural areas will not be sufficient to continue the program of bringing power to non-electrified villages.

Projects requiring additional power production, such as new development funded by regional Native corporations from payments received under the Native claims settlement act, are also endangered.

Average consumption of power by consumers in rural areas is so low, only 100 kilowatt hours per month or about one-sixth of the national average, that internal growth experienced by villages as well as power requirements of new education facilities would not receive adequate power supplies if energy production is not increased.

During an interview with the Tundra Times in which he discussed the potential impact of the energy crisis in the bush, Alaska Village Electric Cooperative general manager Lloyd Hodson said, "It is a threat to the entire economic development in the rural areas of Alaska. I am very much concerned."

"Every Native organization in the state, anyone developing eco-

Dog Mushing Now Offered for Credit

With Anchorage the home of the World Championship Sled Dog Race and the University of Alaska, Anchorage, a sponsor of one of the dog mushers, what could be more appropriate than a physical education course in dog mushing?

Such a course will be offered on three consecutive Fridays beginning Dec. 8 by UAA musher Con Bunde and William "Bill" Sturdevant, a student and experienced musher.

(Continued on Page 6)



THE HOUSE OF SHAKES VII—Reflected in quiet waters around the Shakes Island and guarded by beautiful and authentic Tlingit and totem poles The House of Shakes VII stands in dignity near the City of Wrangell in Southeastern Alaska. In 1940, this was the scene of a colorful ceremony during which Charles Jones, hereditary chief of his tribe, became formally known as Kudanake

Shakes VII. With these traditional words of welcome, Kudanake welcomed some 500 specially invited people many of whom were dignitaries: "Thank you, my friends, for coming to this occasion in response to my invitation. It is as though a great light had burst through the darkness to see you here. Thank you, towards me you have come. —(See Story on Page 8)

Thompson Sworn In

First Alaskan Native Commissioner

Morris Thompson, 34, an Athabaskan Indian from Tanana was sworn in as Commissioner of the Bureau of Indian Affairs by President Nixon during a White House ceremony at 11:00

a.m. Monday in Washington. Thompson became Commissioner after serving since February of 1971 as Alaska area director for the BIA. He returned to Juneau this week in

preparation for moving his family to Washington later this month.

A story on the swearing in ceremony was written for the Tundra Times by Richard LaCourse, news director of the American Indian Press Association. The story was delayed and did not reach the paper by press time.

The Tundra Times will carry full news coverage and photographs of the event in the next issue of the paper, on December 12.

Thompson has announced that he plans to be in Alaska to attend the annual convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives and the eleventh annual Tundra Times Banquet in Anchorage on December 17.

Commissioner Thompson is the youngest head of the BIA in the history of the bureau. He is also the first Alaska Native ever to be appointed to that post.

The new commissioner has had extensive experience in the field of national Indian affairs. In 1969, Thompson became a special assistant for Indian Affairs to former Interior Secretary Walter J. Hickel. He received recognition recently, while Alaska area director for the BIA, for the handling of the

(Continued on Page 6)

PHS Hospital Care May Be Reduced

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AIPA) Indian people in some areas of the United States face the prospect of their hospitals accepting fewer patients, reducing nursing care and discontinuing field and preventive health programs unless administrative or congressional action is taken quickly to avert a shortage of health personnel in the Indian Health Service (IHS) caused in part by the discontinuation of the drafting doctors.

Dr. Emery A. Johnson, director of the IHS, made that statement before the Senate Indian Affairs Subcommittee here Nov. 20 on the second day of hearings into what Subcommittee Chairman Sen. James Abourezk, D-S.D., called "the crisis situation which has arisen in the area of Indian health."

Abourezk told Nixon administration witnesses he wanted to

do something "as rapidly as possible legislatively" to alleviate the staffing problem in Indian hospitals which was expected to worsen in the coming year, according to witnesses.

There are presently 30 physician vacancies in the IHS, most of them in the Dakotas and in Nebraska. Until this past June 30 the IHS was able to draw on a pool of doctors and dentists available through the Doctor-Dentist Draft Act of 1949. Doctors and dentists were authorized by that act to serve two years in the U.S. Public Health Service in lieu of their military commitment to the U.S. government.

With the ending of the draft, IHS must now attract needed health professionals by means of higher salaries, bonuses, early retirement arrangements and the like, a budgetary problem for

Shriver Will Be Banquet Speaker

FAIRBANKS — A significant milestone is approaching this year for both the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. and the Tundra Times. The former will be holding its 8th annual conference and the newspaper will be celebrating its 11th anniversary of publishing.

The vehicle for the joint celebration will be a huge AFN, Inc. sponsored banquet to be staged at the Discovery Ballroom of the new Captain Cook Hotel in the City of Anchorage which will start with a no host cocktail hour at 7:00 p.m. on the evening of December 17. The banquet will begin at 8:00 p.m.

The main speaker has been picked and he is Sargent Shriver, the man who ran for Vice President of the United States with the presidential candidate Senator George McGovern during the last presidential election. The men lost to the present administration of President Richard M. Nixon.



SARGENT SHRIVER
Banquet Speaker

The banquet will also observe the first large installment of money which will be allocated

(Continued on Page 6)