Kenai ironworker supports Wally, says Hickel 'came up the hard way'

By JOHN MURPHY Kenai, Alaska

I'm an ironworker and spend a good part of the year at Prudhoe Bay. I've lived in Alaska for 32 years, working in nearly every town in the state.

My union is Ironworkers Local #751. I've always been dedicated to the union movement. I served as representative for the Western Building Trades in Kodiak, and am currently an area steward and organizer.

I'm convinced that Wally

Hickel is going to be our next Governor. One reason is because the working man is going to back him this time.

Wally is one of us. He came up the hard way, and if you know him as well as I do, you know he never forgets it. He knows what it means to be unemployed, and he's never been afraid to work with his hands.

Those of us in unions know that he's always been fair. He was a member of the Bartenders Local and the Carpenters Local. As a builder, he has always respected labor, and the men know it.

With the way our state is going now, the working people are really going to get hurt. Jobs don't come out of thin air. Someone has to put the projects together. But those projects are tougher and tougher to get started with all the hassle from government.

Hammond says he's for growth. But we don't believe him anymore. He sounded pretty good in 1974 with his long words and half-baked sense of humor. But that doesn't fly when you're out of work, and when it looks like it's going to get worse.

Hickel is a doer. And he's tough. And when a state is in trouble, like Alaska is today, that's what we need.

I was in a union hall when Hickel announced for Governor last December. You should have heard the shout that went up. It was great. The working man is not going to back a loser this time. We're going to win, because Wally is going to win.



THE HOTDOGS WERE A ROASTIN' in Fairbanks one Sunday last month, and Wally Hickel brought

his campaign (and his spatula), to the party. The event was sponsored by the Fairbanks Hickel Task Force.