

Editorial—

AFN Monthly Meetings

We have become aware that the monthly meetings of the Alaska Federation of Natives' board in locales other than Anchorage are beneficial to the AFN itself and to the native people in places like Barrow and Bethel. These assemblies in rural areas are giving the rural people a chance to see how their statewide native organization operates and the meetings are giving the rural folks a chance to participate in the workings of the federation.

We do not know at the moment who thought of the idea but whoever he was, he should be commended highly for the bright and pregnant idea. This manner of conducting AFN board meetings, especially at this particular time when the native land claims issue is foremost, give the rural areas a chance to be more informed on a situation that is most important and which will deeply involve the native people in the bush.

The AFN monthly meetings are expensive whether they are held in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Bethel, Barrow, Nome or Shaktoolik. There is a chance, however, that they might actually be a bit cheaper to hold them in the bush.

At any rate, the meetings in the rural areas is probably giving the statewide group a much better image than it formerly had.