

This is the time to thank one another

For contribution of Time for the past year

There is probably no time more appropriate than now to thank each and every organization and person who contributed their time and efforts to the many goals of the Alaska Federation of Natives during the past year. Due primarily to your cooperative efforts and willingness to assist, 1975 proved to be a memorable year.

Some of the activities that made 1975 a good year include the passage of the Omnibus Bill amending the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971.

Earlier this year, P.L. 93-638, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act was signed by President Ford enabling Indian Tribes and Tribal Organizations to contract for much of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Health Service activity.

During the past session of the Alaska Legislature Senate Bill 35 passed, bringing the educational delivery system closer to Native people.

Higher education received a real boost by the reorganization of the University of Alaska and the creation of the Vice President, Rural Educational Affairs.

On other fronts, our statistics indicate that due to the efforts of many people, approximately 5,000 Alaska Natives have been employed along the Trans-Alaska Pipeline.

We have begun to address two very important areas which affect Native people—justice in the Bush and the formation of an AFN Youth Council which will begin the involvement of our youth in Statewide

activities.

We were successful in securing three Health Systems Agencies when only one was possible under the National Health Planning and Resource Development Act. Johnson-O'Malley is now funding 100% supplementary and enrichment programs for Alaska Natives.

The Arctic Slope Regional Corporation rejoined the AFN making it a complete Statewide organization for the first time in four years. There have been many other factors contributing to this memorable year, but without your support and efforts it would not have been possible.

The Bicentennial and 10th anniversary of the Alaska Federation of Natives will occur in 1976. We anticipate continued activity of the AFN in the areas of land, education, health & social services, manpower, and justice.

In land matters we will be concerned with the issuance of conveyances; P.S. 93-638 will most likely require an amendment to the definition of "Indian Tribe"; we will continue our activity to insure a satisfactory number of Alaska Natives are employed along the Trans-Alaska Pipeline; the American Indian Policy Review Commission deserves much more attention; and the Vice President of Rural Educational Affairs for the University of Alaska will require our support.

We look forward to our 10th anniversary with much anticipation and confidence that by once again working together, 1976 will be an even better year.