



**SACKETT WELCOMES NIXON**—John Sackett, young Native candidate for the Alaska House of Representatives, was among the hundreds of Alaskan Republicans who greeted former vice-president Richard Nixon when he arrived in Fairbanks Sept. 17. Nixon spoke at the Republican convention banquet and came to Alaska to boost the races of govern-

nor candidate Walter J. Hickel and U.S. House candidate Howard W. Pollock. Sackett, born and reared in the Huslia vicinity, is presently a senior at the University of Alaska and is an active member of the Fairbanks Native Association. He also is president of the Tanana Chiefs' Conference.

## Nixon Deplores Too Much Paternalism on Natives

Former Vice President of the United States Richard Nixon says one of the biggest needs in Alaska is for imaginative new programs de-

signed to encourage the great creative capacity of Indians and Eskimos and help make them productive, self-respecting participating citizens.

And he says those programs designed to make Indians and Eskimos permanent wards of the government should be discouraged.

Nixon came to Alaska Saturday and was main speaker at a banquet of the State Republican Convention in Fairbanks.

He gave his assessment of the Indian and Eskimo situation in Alaska in a press conference shortly before the banquet.

"I think one of the saddest and most indefensible records of the United States government and its history has been its handling of the American Indian, because it has made the American Indian dependent," he said.

"We have destroyed his independence and self-respect

by putting him in his own little clusters."

An indication that this was the case, he explained, was that "those few who have broken out are quite remarkable citizens."

He pointed to his football coach at Whittier College.

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# Nixon . . .

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"He is an American Indian and is one of the finest characters I ever met—a great character builder, too, I can say. He couldn't make me a football player but that wasn't his fault."

"The difficulty now in the handling of the Eskimo problem and the Indian problem is that too much emphasis has been placed on taking care of them, handouts, and so forth," he continued.

"I am for 'taking care'—it's vitally important and I know the terrible circumstances under which so many of them live—but there must be programs that are designed, as for example the so-called poverty programs are supposed to be designed, not to make the Eskimos and Indians permanent wards of the government by destroying their self-respect but programs designed to encourage this great creative capacity within them."

"I think, therefore, that we need policies—and this is something completely above partisanship as both Republicans and Democrats are interested in people—that are imaginative and will look at the mistakes of the past 150 years.

"We need new policies that will give Eskimos and Indians an opportunity to be self-respecting citizens, give them incentives, give them encouragement to participate as citizens of the community rather than wards of the government voting as a block for whoever happens to hand out the federal pat."