

Editorial—

Misleading Headline

The state's largest newspaper in Anchorage last Friday clarioned in large banner headline the following: "A NEW NATIVE CLAIM." As were the native leaders, the staff of this paper was distressed by the headline and felt that it was totally unnecessary because the contents of the Anchorage newspaper banner story were covered in the May 29, 1969 issue of the Tundra Times. That was two months ago.

That issue brought out the attainment of unity among the native organizational groups within the Alaska Federation of Natives. It also brought out the points of agreement now largely contained in the AFN position paper that is being scrutinized in Washington, D. C. Among the points agreed upon by vote was the following:

"...The third motion called for a two per cent overriding royalty, in perpetuity, on all lands in Alaska which would not be patented to natives..."

The motion was not made as of last Friday but two months ago. It was reported by us and other media at that time. Last Friday's headline was misleading. We hope it was not done by design but rather by the lack of proper information. At any rate, it baited such well known personalities as Rep. Tom Fink of Anchorage, who has been touted as one of the most influential state legislators, to reflect the "A New Native Claim" headline and treating it as such.

By the way, the series of meetings between the AFN and Gov. Keith Miller's state government representatives last week and this week in Anchorage are to arrive at a working agreement between the two for presentation in the congressional hearings within the next few days.