



2ND BOY SCOUT PROGRAM WINS NATIONAL AWARD — The Boy Scout development program conducted by members of the 2nd Scout Battalion, Alaska National Guard, won national attention recently when the Adjutants General Association of the United States selected "Bring Scouting to the Bush" as one of the outstanding community relations programs conducted by Guardsmen across the Nation. Maj. Gen. William S. Elmore, Alaska's adjutant general, (right) presented the Minuteman statuette signifying the award to battalion commander LTC Donald Shantz on a recent visit to Bethel. For over two years volunteer Guardsmen of the 2nd Battalion have worked to organize Boy Scout units in each of the villages in which the battalion has Eskimo Scout teams. Nearly 30 villages now have functioning Boy Scout programs.



INDIANS OCCUPY BIA BUILDING — On November 2, Indian people of the "Trail of Broken Treaties" Caravan moved into the Washington, D.C. Bureau of Indian Affairs office building. They did so because they were unable to find

places to stay and eat. Subsequently, extensive destruction of the building ensued. Among the destroyed were 7,000 cubic feet of records.

— Courtesy of Fairbanks Daily News Miner.

Tetrachloride Fire Extinguishers Banned

Frederick McGinnis, Commissioner of Health and Social Services, announced — "Product safety" is a new phrase in our modern-day language. The use of this phrase brings to mind a hazardous situation that exists in sister states and probably exists in Alaska.

This is the presence of carbon tetrachloride (CTC) fire extinguishers in homes, roadhouses and cabins throughout Alaska.

The use of CTC was banned in 1970 by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for most home uses. This includes its sale as an extinguishing fluid for fire extinguishers as a cleaning fluid used in spot removers

or other cleaners.

The banning of this product, used for over 25 years in various forms of fire extinguishers, by the FDA only prohibits its entrance into interstate commerce for sale or shipment to Alaska.

It does not remove the units from homes, garages or cabins. Commissioner McGinnis stated, "Only you can do this."

McGinnis went on to say that the release of carbon tetrachloride on hot surfaces or in fighting a fire forms phosgene gas which, if not fatal, can cause severe damage to the heart, lungs, liver and kidneys.

The fumes from a broken extinguisher are just as deadly, as exhibited by an incident in the State of Oregon last July.

The Food and Drug Administration reported the death of a woman and the critical injury to her husband from the fumes of a glass wall-mounted extinguisher that broke and allowed the escape of fumes throughout the house.

Commissioner McGinnis advises persons having such units in their residences or around their property to turn them into their local fire department or the nearest State Sanitarian's office for disposal.

A word of caution, these extinguishers may have corroded cases in some instances and may be easily damaged or broken, so handle with care. Don't become listed as an accidental death.

Fed. Buildings . .

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of the Congressional session.

The building will contain one million square feet.

The building in Fairbanks will cost an estimated \$21 million dollars. Congressional approval is awaiting release of the building's prospectus by the White House.

Senator Gravel has been pressuring the Nixon Administration to release the prospectus by giving careful scrutiny to all federal buildings which come before him as chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Public Buildings and Grounds.

All construction of federal buildings must be approved by his committee.

Theatre Ensemble . . .

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evolved."

The company performs a creation myth, "Na Haaz Zan", told in Navajo with a running translation in what the company calls "Indian English."

The evening concludes with an original play by Hanay Geigomah, "Body Indian", a rollicking, fiercely honest play about "the wildest, drunkest party you can ever imagine."

According to a reviewer, the play is about "a group of grossly drunken Indians, talking about leases they have signed, money they don't have, wine they want more of."

Bobby Lee, a one-legged alcoholic arrives with \$400, hopefully to pay for an alcoholic cure. He passes out from time to time.

Bit by bit he is robbed of the money by his friends, and at last the money is gone, even his wooden leg.

Bruce Miller as Bobby Lee, gives a performance that is "outstanding," "hauntingly convincing". It is a play, says the New York Times, about "people without work, or hope — people at the bottom of the heap. The company is fine in it. This troupe offers a new kind of theatre and I welcome it."

The sixteen members of the American Indian Theatre Ensemble come from almost as many tribes. A letter to Tundra Times announcing the hoped-for tour of Alaska came from Jane Lind, a young Aleut.

Any individuals or organizations wishing to assist this bright young company in raising money to bring their show to Alaska should contact: The American Indian Theatre Ensemble, La Mama Experimental Theatre Club, 74A East 4th St., N.Y., N.Y. 10003.

Grants Available . . . Skeleton BIA Crew . . .

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JUNEAU — Governor William A. Egan announced the disbursement of \$18,500 under the state's municipal organization grant program to 45 incorporated local government units throughout the state.

In addition, a \$25,000 organization grant was issued previously to the North Slope Borough upon its recent formation, Egan said.

The grant program, administered by the state's new Department of Community and Regional Affairs, became effective last September 10 in conjunction with enactment of Alaska's new municipal code.

"The purpose of the grant program," department Commissioner Byron Mallott said, "is to provide assistance in defraying the cost of the transition to borough or city government."

"Additionally, the organization grant enables newly incorporated municipalities to conduct interim governmental operations until permanent local sources of revenue have been established."

Prior to enactment of the new municipal code and amendment of the grant program, only incorporated boroughs were eligible for organizational grants.

The program now includes cities incorporating after January 1, 1968.

A minimum grant of \$25,000 is available to organized boroughs and to first-class cities outside of organized boroughs which, upon incorporation, assume the responsibility for a school system.

The grants for cities are computed on basis of \$10 per voter voting in a city's incorporation election.

Egan Announces Longevity Bonus

JUNEAU — Application forms to establish eligibility for the Alaska Longevity Bonus Program are available now in many state and local government offices throughout Alaska and also by mail from Juneau, Governor William A. Egan said.

The program, enacted during the last legislative session, will pay a \$100 per month bonus to Alaskans 65 years of age or older who have maintained con-

tinuous residency in the state 25 years or more.

Application forms have been sent to magistrates' offices throughout Alaska and to all first class city offices, and are being sent to senior citizens organizations which request them, Egan said.

Problems began to erupt soon after the Caravan arrived in Washington, D. C., some 1000 strong around Halloween. A seven-day schedule of events had been planned but soon after their arrival a serious housing crisis arose.

Initially housing had been provided by a black church, but it was found to be infested by rats. Several of the older people

with the Caravan expressed concern about the babies and young children being threatened by the rats. About 35 to 40 elderly people from various tribes made the trip to Washington.

On Thursday, Nov. 2, several members of the Caravan went to the BIA to ask help in seeking new housing. They met with officials with poor response. Ultimately, three young Indian men got into a fight with security men at the back of the building.

When asked how they had gotten control of the building, one young Indian said simply: "We took it." Once inside, they barricaded the building and remained inside until the day of the presidential election.

Leaders said they would defend the building with their lives. Lack of response from federal officials to their 20 point position paper caused a general air of skepticism as to government promises.

As talks continued to stall and with hopes for adequate housing vanishing, the people felt they had been stranded.

Indians throughout the country may not agree on the actions undertaken by the Trail of the Broken Treaties Caravan, but those actions, nonetheless, have focused the national spotlight on the plight of America's aboriginal people and on the breakdown in communication between those people and the government agency which has historically attempted to deal with their needs.

The Chinese speak of fighting a Paper Tiger. The Indian wars may be officially ended, but the Paper War continues. This week janitors and clerks push long-handled brooms down the echoing corridors of the Bureau of Indian Affairs building in Washington, D.C.

It remains to be seen what will be swept under the rug and which hundred-year-old misunderstandings will be taken out, shaken thoroughly, and aired in the unplanned fall housecleaning.

Persons who submit their applications prior to December 1, and who are found to be eligible, will begin receiving bonuses as of January 1973.

Applications may be obtained by mail from the Department of Administration, Pouch C, Juneau 99801.