

# 30 Plus 40 Is 70 So Jim Runs

James Russell is no ordinary candidate—except for one thing: he thinks his chances of winning are pretty good.

He is running for Governor of Alaska on the Democratic ticket along with the supermarket chain owner Larry Carr and former governor William Egan.

Discussing his campaign in the Tundra Times office, the 40-year old Russell smiled as he explained that he filed on March 31 in Japan and pulled out filing papers written in Japanese to prove it.

The reason? It was his way of drawing attention to his plans for a Pacific Arctic Alliance—a loose-knit trade association with countries bordering the Arctic and Pacific Oceans including Japan, the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China, and Nationalist China.

For the past three years, Russell has traveled a lot of miles—

many of which have been in Fairbanks where he works as a cab driver.

He came to Alaska from Canada in 1961. In 1962 he went to work with the State Department of Labor as an accounting clerk and was later, he said, put in charge of the manpower and development training programs in the Anchorage Manpower office where he wrote vocational training programs and traveled to towns and villages in the Anchorage area.

Then, from '64 to '66 he assisted in setting up the William E. Beltz Vocational School at Nome, now a regional high school, and traveled north of Fairbanks explaining the State's vocational training programs.

He explained that he resigned in 1966 because he did not feel that he knew enough about the people of Alaska. From that time

until he took the job with the cab company in Fairbanks, his experiences ranged from fire fighting to bartending to construction work.

The candidate, who with a smile says he is quite serious, noted that he decided to run when working in Nome because he could see the mistakes that various government officials had been making—mistakes which he said he did not want to go into.

And, he added, "I feel that somebody has to suggest other ways of solving some of the world's problems."

His varied employment record gives him a lot of first-hand experience, and he feels that these experiences will be of more help to him than anything else he's done.

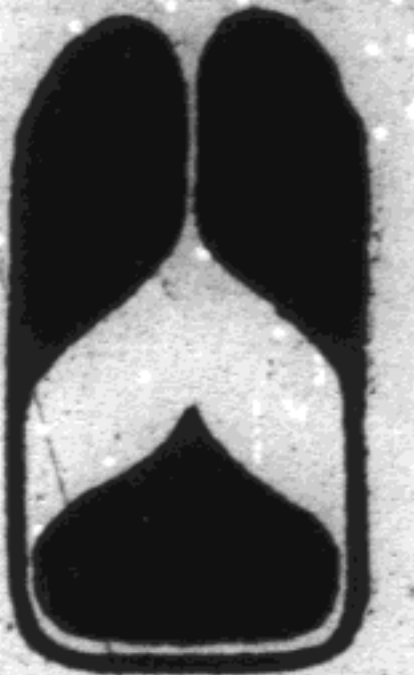
He has come to know the people of Alaska, their needs, wants and problems, he said.

Why did he pick 1970 to run? He was born in 1930, is now 40 years old, 30 plus 40 is 70 and time he made a move.

Educated in Canada with two-and-a-half years at the University of British Columbia, Russell declined to make any comment on the problems of rural Alaska and said that he would make a stand on such issues at a later date.

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