

*"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." — Voltaire*

# Tundra Times



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## Editorial Comment—

# The Great Heritage of The State of Alaska

It is definitely beginning to look as if the great controversial Alaska oil pipeline from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez on the Gulf of Alaska is going to be built. The work on the gigantic project could begin within a year.

The project of that magnitude is going to have a major effect on the state as a whole and this will come in many levels of life among the state's population — and it will have a major effect on one of the greatest heritages of Alaska — the gigantic animal system of this great northern land.

When the pipeline construction begins, it is expected that about 18,000 people will be needed almost at once to get the project underway. It has also been estimated that this number could swell to 25,000 to provide services and supply industries for the workers on the field. Some of the workers and suppliers will, of course, be Alaskans both Native and Caucasian but a good percentage of the number could be people from other states.

Alaskans of Caucasian ancestry, those people who have lived in Alaska, say from five to 45 years or more and who have made the state their home, have come to know and respect the animal resources of Alaska. It is a well known fact that the Native people of the state have been historically taught by their elders that they should take just enough of the animals for their needs and those of their less fortunate fellow villagers. The Natives' take also takes into consideration their ability to dry, cure or store their meats with least spoilage.

We are very much concerned of how the great animal heritage is going to be handled by those empowered to protect these resources because of the very probable hunting pressure that might develop into unmanageable proportions with the increase of the Alaskan population. With all the means of hunting by plane and snowmachine, in this modern day, inadequate surveillance of this manner of hunting could make huge inroads toward overkilling of Alaska's rich resource of animals, especially caribou, moose, bear and other animals.

We are hoping, and time is short actually, that the truly responsible people of the State of Alaska, from the governor of the state down to the public, will take a hard look of how the state's magnificent animal heritage can be protected to the greatest extent possible under the probable hunting pressure that could reach alarming proportions.

We are also hoping that the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc., the regional organizations and the villages themselves will make an honest effort to be heard on what they think of the subject because they and their fellow longtime Caucasian Alaskan friends can't help but benefit far into the future if they would work toward a solution of the problem, the protection of the great heritage of the State of Alaska — the magnificent resources of animals.

H.R.

## Letters from Here and There

### A Friend Asks Dr. Soboleff Be Area Director

213 Cordova St., Apt. No.  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
September 27, 1973

Mr. Morris Thompson,  
Area Director  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

The Honorable Representative  
Young  
House of Representatives  
U.S. Congress  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

In this modern world everything is not only changing but changes everywhere appear to be accelerating. These necessary changes have direct effect on our Alaskan way of life, especially on us who are Natives of Alaska.

Mr. Morris Thompson has been highly recommended to become the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. If this choice becomes a reality we will need to find someone to be our Area Director in Juneau replacing Mr. Thompson. As a Native Alaskan, I know of no one at the moment who has qualifications of an Area

Director, than the Reverend Dr. Walter A. Soboleff. I have known Walter since 1925; attended school with him at Sheldon Jackson (Sitka), and later at University of Dubuque also at Dubuque Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa.

For some thirty (30) years Dr. Soboleff was the minister of Presbyterian Church in Juneau, as well as a Minister-at-large in Alaska Presbytery. For several years he served as a Chaplain within Alaska National Guard, recognized by the U.S. Army, and came out with the rank of Lt. Colonel. Presently, he is the Director of Native Studies Program at the University of Alaska in Fairbanks. With wide experience of activity with all classes of people in Alaska, as well as in Continental United States, Walter holds a high regard by all who know him.

Placing Dr. Walter A. Soboleff as a potential candidate for the office in Juneau is a challenge for us who are supporting him.

Please accept this letter as a recommendation and a request for your favorable consideration of nomination for Dr. Soboleff to the office of Area Director.

Yours respectfully,  
Percy Ipalook, Sr.

### Coordinator Resigning

September 28, 1973

Dear Editors:

September 30 is my last day of employment in the State Department of Economic Development, Native Arts and Crafts Development. I have not as yet decided where I will be working next. I hope to have a few weeks off before locating somewhere also. I will be doing village work perhaps from AFN or State Operated Schools in Education Administration and may have some articles to contribute to your paper from there.

I had hoped to write a final article, however, I ran out of time. There is the possibility that the person who takes my place will be continuing the arts and crafts articles. That person, hopefully, will be hired by mid October and on the job shortly thereafter.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your cooperation both in the area of printing the articles I sent to you and your public service advertisements about the Silver-Hand Identification Program. We would appreciate any further public service advertising you can do for the program, as our advertising budget this year was rather limited.

Thank you again for your assistance in getting the word about the available resources in the State for arts and crafts to the people of the villages by way of your paper.

Sincerely,  
Miss Lynn Chambers  
Coordinator of Arts & Crafts Development

### Point Things Out

Dear Editor:

In my letter regarding non-natives working for a Native Corporation, I wish to point out that my comments in no way reflect on ALL non-native employees of Regional Corporations. There are many non-natives working whole-heartedly for the Regional Corporations.

Thank you,  
Name on file

### Financial Assistance for Students

Students needing money to enter advanced schooling this year have a new source of financial assistance which they should take advantage of. It is the new Basic Educational Opportunity Grants program, administered by the U.S. Office of Education.

More than \$122 million is available under the program to first-year, first-time students attending approved community colleges, four-year colleges and universities, vocational schools, technical institutes or hospital schools of nursing.

The Basic Educational Opportunity Grants program was introduced to better aid needy students in helping them reach their educational goals and replaces the Federal government's EOP and EDG programs.

Students have until Feb. 1, 1974, to obtain and complete applications for this school year. Applications are available at student-financial aid offices of postsecondary institutions, high school guidance offices, post offices, state employment offices, county agricultural extension offices, many other agencies and organizations dedicated to serving youth or by writing Basic Grants, P.O. Box 84, Washington, D.C. 20044.

Completed applications should be mailed to P.O. Box B, Iowa City, Iowa 52240. The student then will be notified of the amount his family is expected to contribute. The student should then submit this notification to the school of his choice which will calculate the amount of the Basic Grant.

The amount of each grant is determined on a uniform nationwide basis which assures that students who most need financial assistance are able to obtain it. Basic Grants are not loans and do not have to be paid back.

Every student entering an approved school for the first time this year is urged to apply now.

## Lost VISTA Volunteer And an Old Eskimo

Land's End Village  
State of Alaska  
September 15, 1973

Dear Howard,

Some of the people here in the village who have been reading the letters in the Tundra Times think that some parts of them are too strong or negative. They think that because I am an old man I live too much in the past. These same people think that Wally Morton, my ex-VISTA friend, is too young and idealistic, so his judgment cannot be trusted. But I believe that we are just being realistic about what is happening to Native people in Alaska.

If you remember, AN ACT (Public Law 92-203) says in the beginning that "there is an immediate need for a fair and just settlement of all claims by Natives and Native Groups of Alaska — Sec. 2 (a). In the first place, the need for a "fair and just" settlement is not only immediate now, it has been for some time. Where was the Congress before there was an oil strike and an energy crisis. The Natives and Native Groups have had the same needs and claims for some time.

In the first letter that I wrote to you, Howard, the problems about the power of the Secretary to make decisions was bothering me. All of the power in one set of hands is not always the best way to make sure that a decision is fair and just. Wally says that an agreement with all of the discre-

tionary power on one side is a pretty one-sided agreement. The Secretary even had the power to decide who was a Native if he chose to do so!

When we look at what has happened since AN ACT was passed, we can see more clearly what these discretionary decisions mean. The Secretary decided not to extend the enrollment for one month, not even for thirty days. The Secretary was going to disqualify most of the larger Native villages as "modern and urban" until Native complaints finally led to the Secretary's lawyers reading the provisions of AN ACT. The Horton ruling on land allotments changed the eligibility requirements for Alaska Natives to claim allotments. Three out of the eight villages left off the Secretary's list of Native villages just happen to be on the pipeline corridor.

In every case Native people and Native Groups spend their time, energy, and money to deal with problems caused by decisions made under the Secretary's discretionary power. The provisions of AN ACT leave so much up to the Secretary to decide that we never know what will go wrong next. Is this what is meant by a fair and just settlement? As far as this old man is concerned it is not really so for Native people.

Your friend,  
Naugga Ciunerput