

SENATOR NICK BEGICH PROPOSES ARCTIC RESEARCH AGENCY

Food Stamp . . .

ANCHORAGE — Sen. Nick Begich, candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives, said here today that comprehensive program of Arctic study and development is needed if Alaska is to receive the full human and material benefit it should receive from the recently uncovered mineral potential of the North Slope area.

Senator Begich proposed an Arctic research, training and co-operative agency which would be financed by funds from private and governmental sources.

He said, "Obviously, the task of researching the vast potential of the Arctic regions should be a joint effort in international and discussion. I would expect that this new agency I propose would be involved in this kind of relationships with other countries having Arctic borders."

"This agency would be involved in all of the research to develop programs that will make fuller utilization of our Arctic land resources possible. Grants to universities and for independent research would be made to deserving schools and scholars. With this knowledge, it is my plan to see to it that we institute training programs for Alaskans to learn how to work more effectively in the Arctic doing the jobs for which there is a demand by private enterprise and governmental agencies."

"Thirdly, this new agency, which I would like to call by the abbreviated name of the initials, ARTCA, would become involved in aiding native Alaskans to own business enterprises and to determine and participate actively in solving their own problems and destiny."

Begich said that he would consult with native leaders and other Alaskans prior to any bill he would submit in organizing this agency.

He feels that his proposal will receive the enthusiastic support of many businesses who will be participating in the ARTCA program.

Senator Begich also complimented the governor by stating, "I felt that the governor was certainly correct when I heard that he has called for a Polar Cap study. There are times

I have criticized Gov. Hickel but I do want to give credit when credit is due."

"I join him in calling for a study. Through a program as I propose we can provide the necessary impetus we need to develop our North Slope areas."

Begich concluded by stating that, "The Russians and Scandinavians have demonstrated to the world that the great potential of the north can be developed and can become a major contributing force in the economic future of this great land. I am sure that with international understanding and goodwill among the nations with a common interest in Polar regions, we can work together to a most promising future."

Association . . .

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full agreement as to settlement of these claims, and it is now up to the American people and Congress to determine whether justice will prevail in a fair settlement with Alaska's Natives.

"The Indian Rights Association joins with the natives of Alaska in requesting your serious consideration and support of their request for:

"1) recognition and fee title to Native village and community lands with in lieu selection when necessary. The total amount of land retained by Native groups to be 40 million acres;

"2) reasonable compensation for extinguishment of Indian title to remaining land in Alaska amounting to 500 million dollars;

"3) permission to manage this land and money through local (state, regional, and village) native organizations.

"These principles are presently embodied in S 2906.

"On behalf of our Association and Alaska Natives, we shall appreciate your attention to this matter of vital importance to Alaska and to our Nation."

Rader . . .

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the Fairbanks Eagles Hall to membership limitations.

"I am convinced that most Fairbanks Eagles share my disapproval of this situation," he said. "It is unfortunate that we in Alaska have charters in national organizations which do not recognize our individual and collective sense of justice. The real issue is simple and must not be obscured."

Rader continued:

"My chairman made arrangements to serve crab by using the kitchen facility and paying a rental fee to the Eagles. It was a family event—all the crab you could eat for \$2.00, children 75 cents.

"We did not intend to serve alcohol as part of our function. However, when I was informed that Negroes and natives could not enter the bar which is a part of the Eagles adjoining our crab feed area, could not sit down at the bar and order a drink, and could not be served even if they were the guest of a member—I felt compelled to protest."

"I further protest accounts in the press and other communications that described the situation as other than discrimination," Rader stated. "I don't care how we mince words. The fact is that the crab feed was a public affair."

"The fact is that anyone wanting a drink could have walked from the crab feed to the bar and been served, member or not—anyone that is except Negro or a native. The fact is that this is discrimination. The fact is this is wrong. The final fact is that the people of Fairbanks know these are true facts."

Head Start . . .

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Management House.

Mrs. Connet said that although the six-week course on the UA campus is upgrading the skills of Head Start teachers, the project is still faced with a severe shortage of persons trained in child development.

The shortage will be partially alleviated, Mrs. Connet indicated, by a supplementary training program now being initiated under separate OEO funding at Alaska Methodist University in Anchorage.

She said Mrs. Rose Barquist of Anchorage is coordinator for the supplementary program, in which Head Start teachers may enroll in a series of courses at AMU.

Another project, for training Head Start cooks, has been proposed for OEO funding. Mrs. Connet said. The pilot project would establish a cook's school for Head Start staff in the Bethel region.

Mrs. Connet said Head Start centers, to meet a project goal of improving the diet of children, normally provide at least one hot meal and a snack each day.

Raise Funds for Shirley's Trip . .

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America contest, Shirley, up until last Tuesday morning, has had heart-breaking moments as she tried to raise money on her own so she could attend the pageant.

"I've been going from door to door," she said one day. "Some of the people were very nice but some—wow—they were mean."

She managed to raise ten dollars through her own efforts. In the meantime, time was fleeting. Someone told her about Steve Agbaba's popular "Problem Corner" radio program.

Shirley went to see Agbaba last Tuesday morning to see whether he might be able to help. He was able to help, and then some.

Steve Agbaba took the bull by the horns, took Shirley in tow and visited some of his many friends and presto—he raised \$240 in less than an hour!

To top it all, Alaska Native Brotherhood Camp No. 2 in Juneau, raised \$100 also last Tuesday. All this one day before the absolute deadline to enter the Miss (Indian) America Pageant.

Shirley winged her way to Sheridan Tuesday evening and arrived just hours before the absolute deadline.

John Borbridge called Tundra Times editor on Tuesday afternoon from Anchorage notifying him that the ANB and the Alaska Native Sisterhood Camp No. 2 had raised \$200 which would have enabled Shirley to go but Steve Agbaba was a happy winner in the short but exciting fund raising marathon.

Upon finding that the money for Shirley's transportation had been raised, John Borbridge said:

"I really feel that all those people are to be commended for their wonderful spirit and concern over the efforts that Shirley is making to represent Alaska in the Miss (Indian) America Pageant in Sheridan, Wyoming."

"I was extremely proud of Juneau Camp No. 2 for their prompt response when informed of Shirley's situation."

"This is a very heartwarming experience. It makes one very proud of our fellow Alaskans."

John Borbridge is the president of the Tlingit-Haida Indians Central Council.

Borbridge said he contacted Robert Willard of the ANB Camp No. 2 in Juneau and Willard worked along with ANS president Nellie Bennett to raise the \$200.

And Shirley McNeil, even before getting the money for her fare to Sheridan had been cleaning her Tlingit Indian costume. That was last Monday night.

"My costume is white moose hide. I was cleaning it last night

(Continued from page 1) participate in the program. Residents of Kotzebue purchase the Food Stamps from Mrs. Conwell, at the C-Y Corporation Building each Monday.

Residents from the outlying areas purchase the stamps by sending a money order to Mrs. Evelyn L. Conwell, Box 41, Kotzebue, Alaska 99752. Mrs. Conwell, in turn will send their Food Stamps via the U.S. mail.

The Food Stamp Program is a joint effort between the U.S. Department of Agriculture & the State Division of Public Welfare. It is designed to help all low income families purchase more & better foods without spending more money.

Eligible households purchase a certain amount of Food Stamps & in addition receive a certain amount of stamps free.

Mrs. Conwell has been working for two months now getting the program set up in the Kotzebue area. In addition, Mr. Jim Kelly and Mr. Les Horn from the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Anchorage have already certified all of the retail food stores in the area to take the Food Stamps.

Anybody in the Kotzebue area desiring to apply for the program or wanting more information may contact Mrs. Conwell at 442-3751 in Kotzebue or by writing to her at Box 41, Kotzebue.

Sheridan . . .

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and trained to enhance her charm during the year of her reign.

John Borbridge, president of the Tlingit-Haida Indians Central Council, said that he would be receptive to cooperate with the plans. He said he would also tell the members of the Alaska Native Brotherhood and Sisterhood.

Ralph Perdue said he thought the Alaska Federation of Natives should be involved in the planning also.

Humphrey Endorses . . .

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—1) That a presidential candidate recognize the special rights of the reservation Indians to the extent that termination without consent of the tribe would be discouraged even to the extent of presidential veto of such legislation should it pass the Congress.

—2) Endorse the contents of the President's message on American Indian in its entirety.

—3) Support and maintain amendments of Public Law 280 insuring the rights of tribal jurisdiction regarding minor offences on reservations.

—4) Endorse the latest land claims recommendations of the Alaska native people and make every effort to give priority to this legislation during the next session of Congress.

"The general consensus of the executive committee was to form a First Americans citizens committee independent of the NCAI to support a presidential candidate who would publicly subscribe to and endorse the major issues recommended by the NCAI," said Don Wright.

The NCAI committee met in an executive session to complete unfinished business and discussed the involvement of the First Americans for Political Action.

The NCAI is a bi-partisan national Indian organization that believes in results and not party affiliation.

The organization through its president Wendell Chino has also declared that President Lyndon Johnson's message to Congress on American Indians is the biggest opportunity offered in the past 100 years.

After the NCAI executive committee meeting, a special meeting was called by the FAPA and national co-chairmen were appointed.

The following day, co-chairmen Wendell Chino, Roger Jordain and Don Wright met with Robert Short, assistant to the Vice President, and Julius Cahn, advisor to Hubert Humphrey on minority people, and the group requested a private audience with the Vice President.

On the next day, Wendell Chino and Don Wright were

appointed to discuss the position of the First Americans with Humphrey "in person and obtain a public commitment in support of our four-point program."

Don Wright, who is running for Democratic nomination for U.S. House of Representatives in the August primaries against John Rader and State Sen. Nick Begich, has been busy on land matters in Washington, D. C.

He was a member of the delegation that testified before Senate Committee on Interior and Insular and House Subcommittee on Indian Affairs on Alaska native land claims.

"My campaign in the state has been considerably delayed," Don Wright said, "because I feel the land claims issue is the most important issue confronting all citizens of Alaska."

He said he took an additional ten days in Washington to meet department heads and make a current evaluation of plans for projects scheduled in Alaska for the coming fiscal year.

"One of the most promising will be the development of timber resources along the river drainages which will be incorporated into the Alaska native housing project," Wright said.

"Another," he said, "will be the development of modern mining equipment to be used by small privately owned companies in the interior of Alaska."

In concluding the interview, Don Wright urged the native people of Alaska:

"I like to urge the native people of Alaska to stick together politically and economically to insure continued unity and success in our flight to insure the future of our people."

"The past two years have proven what can be done by working together for common causes. Do not allow political pressure, or financial pressure, to slow down our rapid development."

Don Wright is the first Alaska native to ever run for a national office to represent Alaska.