

Rader Indignant Over Eagles Ban on Natives

"It's the worst thing that I've ever run into in Alaska," said John Rader, a candidate for the U. S. House of Representatives.

John Rader was highly indignant when he found out last Friday that the Fairbanks chapter of the Eagles would not serve drinks to Alaska native people and Negroes at the Eagles bar.

Earlier in the week, Rader's campaign assistant had made arrangements with the Eagles that a crab feed would be held in the Eagles building as a fund raising event for the candidate's campaign.

Just hours before the crab feed was to take place, Rader found that the Eagles national policy prohibits non-whites at

their beverage bars.

John Rader was told by the steward of the local Eagles that the native people and Negroes could be served on the general area of the hall but that they couldn't order drinks at the bar.

Saying that the policy was discriminatory, Rader last Friday said, "I'm going to have to move it. We've got to. I don't give a damn if we have to give it away."

The crab feed was moved to King's Kup where a satisfactory crab feed sale was held.

In his news release last Saturday, Rader said he took issue with a Fairbanks news account which attributed his charge of discrimination against

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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."