

Enrollment Soon to Be History

As Domesday Book—Power Based on Land Ownership

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court which was attended by representatives of every town-

ship, as well as of the local lords.

The unit of enquiry was the Hundred, and the return for each Hundred was sworn to by 12 local jurors, half of them English and half of them Norman.

In the Great Enumeration of Alaska Natives, each village was visited by enumerators, official representatives of the government. They also held public meetings, sometimes in the community hall, in the village council, school, or church.

The unit to be used was called a village, or a group if it contained less than 25 persons. These units were then grouped into larger units called regions. There were 12 regions in all some of them Indian, some Eskimo, and some Aleut.

At the present writing, there are but two days left in the history of the roll-taking of the

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In the year 1085, William the Conqueror of England, ordered the making of the famous Domesday Book. Domesday, like the present enrollment of Alaska Natives, was an enumeration made for the purpose of securing land rights.

After the great political convulsion of the Norman conquest and the wholesale confiscation of landed estates which followed, the king was vitally interested in securing the rights of the crown.

▼ The listing and the counting of peoples of a great land have been a part of the history of many lands and most often for the purpose of who owns what.

For the Domesday survey, each county of England was visited by a group of royal officers, legati, who held a public enquiry, probably in the great assembly known as the county

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Alaska Native people. After March 30 no more names can be added to this once-and-only list.

The final tallying and listing will continue up to December 18 of this year, and the names will appear not on medieval parchment paper but on a modern IBM computer print-out

sheet.

The Domesday Book, resting in a glass case in a museum, is now history, although it is still referred to on occasion. The Roll of Alaskan Natives is also destined to be history. Both documents herald the beginning of an era of power based on land ownership.