

Fund-Raising Project

By EMILY IVANOFF BROWN

A fund-raising project of Alaska Heritage Writers' Association has begun. The first donation of \$10 has been received. It will head the list as No. 1 on a chart, as a pusher to start the ball rolling. When we receive more gifts from well wishers they too, will be posted on the chart.

Like a race, someone is usually involved in being the first one to respond.

Last fall the acting secretary of AHWA was advised to raise \$300 from somebody to pay the typist to type the 2,000 addres-

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ses of brochures. The secretary was dumb-founded. . . . At that moment she thought, "I don't know a soul who would provide me with that much money."

All during the Christmas holiday she worried about the question and where and who would donate that amount?

Faced with this problem she came back to Fairbanks City empty-handed. Then a soft answer came whispering in her ear. "Why not present your problem to Bill Stroecker, the president of the First National Bank of Fairbanks? He is a man of stature, who in the past, had been her trustee.

As she entered the bank she met Mrs. Freeman and asked if she might speak to the president. She faced him with a hope of borrowing the needed \$300.

Stroecker instead directed the secretary of the AHWA to bring the 2,000 brochures to the bank and offered to have his staff address them for her, so there would be no need for the loan.

Thanks to the help of Stroecker and his staff the brochures were then sent out asking for donations to create a perpetual light in the form of an Eskimo lamp on the Fairbanks campus of the University of Alaska.