

Lowell Thomas

Seeks State LTG.

Sen. Lowell Thomas Jr., 50, majority leader of the Senate, is seeking the nomination as the Republican candidate for lieutenant governor.

A six-year member of the Senate's health, education and social services committee,



Lowell Thomas

... hitching with Hammond

Thomas favors decentralization of the state-operated schools in rural areas and feels strongly that village people should be given the opportunity to run their own schools with some control over curriculum.

Thomas gained insight into Native needs, he said, by flying over the years around the Arctic Coast and the Interior with Episcopal Bishop William Gordon. "I think I know what the Native problems are," he said.

The Senator, who also served six years on the resources committee of the Senate, wants to team up with Jay Hammond, candidate for governor. "We see eye-to-eye and will work well together," said Thomas.

The candidate first came to Alaska in the 1940s as a member of a mountaineering expedition, "got the bug" and returned in 1960 to stay. He spent three years in the Air Force, graduated from Dartmouth College and later attended the school of international affairs at Princeton. Thomas' daughter is a freshman at Dartmouth and on the ski team, his son is in high school and his wife has authored three books.

"The job of lieutenant governor depends on who the governor is," said Thomas. "I think with Jay Hammond we can make it a meaningful one."