

Natives Launch Public Information on Claims

The native leaders throughout Alaska are beginning a two-way concerted drive. Both of them considered important, one of them will be an effort to educate the public what the land claims are all about as well as the compromise land bills and their aims.

The other will be a drive to raise funds with a goal set at \$72,000 which will be used to finance necessary trips for land talks by representatives and their counsels.

These travels are expected to be made within the state and to the Nation's Capitol.

At the meeting of the Land Claims Task Force held immediately after the conclusion of the land claims hearings in Anchorage last week, the drafting committee of that body was created into a steering committee.

Emil Notti, president of the Alaska Federation of Natives was given a free hand to pick regional finance committee chairmen from widely separated native areas. It was reported that the number he picked was quite large and names were not available at press time.

Finance chairman for the Tanana Chiefs Conference area are Richard Frank and Rep. John Sackett. Frank has named Ralph Perdue to be the local finance chairman.

Mrs. Mary Jane Fate has been named to be the local coordinator for informational meetings with local citizens organizations and clubs who wish to hear speakers on matters of native lands and land bills. Mrs. Fate can be reached by phone for information at 456-6861.

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Land Education

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"Majority of the people are not very well informed about the land situation, even out in the bush," said Richard Frank this week.

Plans are being made by the local group to travel the Tanana Chiefs Conference area to inform the native people about the land situation. Bordering the area are the following villages: Kaltag, Bettles, Arctic Village, Northway, Cantwell.

There about 36 villages within the area.

The initial meeting with a local group was made last Wednesday and this was with the Soroptimist Club.

Barry Jackson of Fairbanks, one of the claims attorneys, and Richard Frank were the speakers.

The meeting was considered a fine success in which the club members expressed that the talks had been enlightening and informational.

The next meeting of the local group will be with the THEATA Club of the University of Alaska, a native students group.