

*"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." — Voltaire*

# Tundra Times



Owned, controlled and edited by Eskimo, Indian, Aleut Publishing Company, a corporation of Alaska natives. Published at Fairbanks, Alaska, weekly, on Friday.

Address all mail to Box 1287, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701. Telephone 452-2244.

Entered at the Post Office at Fairbanks, Alaska, as second class matter under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Eskimo, Indian, Aleut Publishing Co., Inc. publisher (Howard Rock, Laura Bergt, Thomas Richards, Thomas A. Snapp, and Albert S. Kaloo); HOWARD ROCK, editor; Thomas A. Snapp, assistant editor; contributing editors, Guy Okakok and Hugh Nichols.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

|  |                |                  |
|--|----------------|------------------|
| Regular Mail (including Alaska, Canada and other states) ..... | 1 Year \$ 8.00 | 6 Months \$ 4.50 |
| Air Mail (including Alaska, Canada and other states) .....     | 1 Year \$19.00 | 6 Months \$10.00 |

## What Will You Do? . . .

(continued from page 1)

village site about 20 years ago. At that point, the civilization that had come in contact with them sporadically had taken a foothold and the Nunamiut settled at the present site with a conscious, or acquired, need to educate their children so they could keep up with civilization. No one can argue against this concept. It was noble of the Nunamiut to decide to do this and it was noble of those people who helped them decide. Thus, the 20 years-ago-decision was, perhaps, the right decision because civilization was bound to catch up with them anyway. The modern civilization would not have allowed them to continue their centuries old way of life.

However creditable the decision to settle at Anaktuvuk Pass was, it was also the point for the Nunamiut to give up some of their security. True, their way of living by modern standards was a hard one but they had chosen to live it in that manner by tradition. They chose to stay in this area for a time and that area for a time. They knew when to move and they knew where game would probably be plentiful. They also had no fuel problem that is plaguing them now.

Perhaps their mode of living then was on a sustain yield basis as far as fuel was concerned. Once they settled in one central location, however plentiful the willows for fuel was, the former basis was abandoned. In a dozen years, perhaps, the immediately available fuel began to recede and the Nunamiut had to go farther and farther to get willows. Today, they have to go 20 miles from the village by dog team to get fuel that used to be available just outside their doors. This pursuit for warmth is time consuming for the men of Anaktuvuk Pass and it is cutting into their valuable hunting time.

Thus, a stark reality of a gnawing problem is facing the Nunamiut today, much of it is due to an artificially created situation.

Every culture develops unique solutions to its way of living in its surroundings. These are delicately balanced and intimately connected. When something from the outside causes change, many unforeseen side effects occur. Often there is little time to come up with new solutions before these side effects become a crisis.

Since the Nunamiut problem has been created by the outside world, the solutions will have to come partially from the outside. In whatever manner these might be attempted, the human element should be realized fully because the social structure of the Nunamiut has also changed—that of taking roots in Anaktuvuk Pass that has become their home.

Other areas that have been neglected to date, such as health and sanitation problems, should also be attended to. If this is not done soon, these areas could also become centers of crises.

## In Memorium—KESHORNA

*How cold the sword about you,  
Keshorna,  
Glinting frosts, swirling  
drifts of snow,  
Driven by unfeeling wind!  
Then a brief respite of a  
single moon, whence  
The great sun traverses the  
sky around,  
Defying the accustomed  
horizon, nourishing there-  
fore,  
A cluster of forget-me-nots  
That burst into a soul-  
stirring blue upon your simple  
Arctic grave.*

*How slight and frail you were,  
But you faced with humble  
humble courage  
The unkind elements, that  
were your lot,  
And, thus, emerged triumphant  
With a generous share of love  
For your fellow man.*

*I was blessed with deeper  
love  
You bestowed upon me  
Keshorna.  
Love, divinely tender,  
Love that seemed caressed  
with a touch of heaven.*

*Recollections fail me now.  
You uttered no words of  
endearment,  
But I remember well a gentle  
hug,  
Adoring light within your eyes  
That told of love more than  
ten thousand words.*

*How cold the sword about  
you Keshorna.  
Glinting frosts, swirling drifts  
of snow,  
Driven by unfeeling wind.*

*However cold your resting  
place,  
My heart within me whispers,  
"Your rest is blessed in  
quiet peace,  
Because you gave so well  
your love  
To your fellow man and me,  
A son to you, Keshorna,"*

—HOWARD ROCK

## Cash to Pass . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

the road.

Men will be needed for maintenance, management and communications. Guides might be needed. A road house probably will be built. Supplies and warehouse facilities might be located at the Pass.

"The people at Anaktuvuk Pass are very intelligent," Dr. Irving said. With careful, understanding instruction they should be able to fill every job that will be needed."

Dr. Irving said he hoped the villagers would remain at the Pass because of their help to arctic scientists. "They have served us well for a number of years," he said. "Their knowledge of the country has made them ideal guides."

Basic field work on the road should get started as soon as the ground gets hard, John Rowlett, Fairbanks oil and gas consultant said.

Rowlett has been serving on a special committee of citizens who urged opening of a road that would service hard rock mining and petroleum field operations in the interior.

The road will utilize the tundra's frozen surface and will not require pavement. It will be created primarily by clearing brush and should reach Anaktuvuk Pass by February.

## Bartlett Asks Governor For Housing Plans

On May 19 Senator E. L. (Bob) Bartlett sent the following letter to Governor Walter J. Hickel:

Hon. Walter J. Hickel  
Governor of Alaska  
Pouch A—State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Governor Hickel:

As you know, the House of Representatives eliminated from the Housing and Urban Development budget President Johnson's request for \$1 million to launch a special Alaska native housing program.

I am sure you share my distress at this action. I intend to fight with all my energy and ability to restore this cut. Chances for success will be enhanced if I can have in my possession some information about what plans the state has made and is preparing for the implementation of this program. As you know, the act authorizing this program gave the state responsibility of drawing up the plans for the project. This was done because it was felt that the state was closest to the scene and would have more intimate knowledge of the problem of substandard housing in native villages than the federal government.

In its report explaining why the native housing item was dropped from the bill the House Committee on Appropriations said that it was "of the opinion that plans and standards for this program need further refinement and no funds for this program are recommended at this time."

Clearly, I will need some information on the state's plans and standards to counter that argument when I go before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee for Independent Offices. As a member of the full Appropriations Committee I could sit in as a member of the subcommittee at these hearings. However, my thinking at this time is what I should appear as a witness.

I do not know if our efforts will be successful in restoring this cut, but as I said before chances of success will be greatly improved if we can have some information with which to answer the complaint raised in the House. Inasmuch as the Senate hearings on the entire bill will not start until June 6 and those portions of the hearings dealing with housing funds will not begin until July 10, there should be ample time for the state to supply me with the information needed.

I have heard some unconfirmed reports that at least one elected official from Alaska feels that my native housing bill was only an election year proposal and that there would be no attempt to appropriate funds for it. I am confident that you do not share this feeling and that partisan politics has not played a part in slowing development of the necessary plans to implement this much-needed program. In requesting \$1 million for this program in an extremely tight federal budget, President Johnson showed that he is as fully committed to helping the natives of Alaska as I am, and, as I am sure, you are.

I am looking forward to receipt of information on what the state is doing to meet its responsibility in implementing this program.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,  
(signed)

E. L. Bartlett

## Other Voices— THE SMELL OF SECRECY

Two newspaper reports, one in the Anchorage Daily News and the other in the Tundra Times, say Lavina Wallace Young Community Center in Nome may be the recipient of a \$640,000 federal grant from the Office of Economic Opportunity.

The Anchorage Daily News quoted Ruby Tansy as saying the Rural Alaska Development Corp. has applied for the funds. She says headquarters for RADC will be in Anchorage, but that the LWY Center would be the grantee for the federal plum.

Pete Hahn, president of the LWY Center Advisory Board, says he has no comment on the matter, and that all publicity was to be held up until details were worked out. We asked why the news was released to other papers when the main scene of activities is supposed to be in Nome. Hahn had no explanation.

We have heard rumors of the proposed grant for several weeks. In fact, we have been told that Ester McCoy, a dedicated, 17-year-employee of the center, resigned because she could not stand the smell beginning to surround the project. Miss McCoy, herself, would not comment to the press.

There are serious doubts in our mind about some of the aspects of the proposed program. How can a Nome based organization closely supervise and manage an office in

(Continued on Page 7)