

# 'We Made No Deals In D.C.' - Hensley

State Rep. William Hensley and Emil Notti, president of the Alaska Federation of Natives, didn't wait for a formal invitation. They learned from a newspaper that U.S. Representative Howard Pollock had set up a U.S. Department of Interior briefing session in Washington, D.C. on the Alaska land bill for interested state leaders. They figured that meant them as well as Governor Walter Hickel, Edgar Boyko special legal counsel and Donald Burr, State attorney general. The Cook Inlet Natives Association quickly raised the money for travel expenses and the two native representa-

tives appeared unexpectedly at the first meeting, May 10 in Senator Bob Bartlett's Washington office. "Though we were not formally invited, the federal officials had no choice but to explain the same facts to us as they were giving to the governor's party," Rep. Hensley stated. He and Notti spent eight days in Washington, gathering information on the proposed land bill from government officials. They conferred nearly an hour alone with Secretary of Interior Stewart Udall, and under Secretary Charles Luce "Udall was frank with us. He really discussed issues and didn't pull any punches," Hensley said.

"We are going to need a strong native federation that will have the resources to send observers and spokesmen to Washington, D.C. while the bill is under consideration," Hensley said.

Regional associations for their part, have to let their views be known on what kind of settlement they want.

The next four months will be critical ones if any bill is passed Hensley said. If action is delayed the land issue could become a gigantic political football during upcoming state and national elections.

"We made no agreements of any kind," while in Washington Hensley added. "We just wanted to be present to make sure no back handed deals were made."

Why the Native representatives were not formally invited remains a mystery. Representative Pollock had called the TUNDRA TIMES earlier to say he was going to confer with Notti about inviting Native representatives. But Notti never was contacted.

As the native claims bill now stands, its major points are:

To grant title to Native villages for land now occupied by their residents and for surrounding areas not exceeding 50,000 acres.

To grant 25-year permits for surface rights on hunting, fishing and trapping lands to be determined by the Interior Department.

To set up Court of Claims procedures for land not included in the village allotment with an 1867 date as jurisdictional basis for claims.

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This project consists of furnishing, hauling, and placing Block Sodding on the existing roadway slope adjacent to the Anchorage-Fairbanks Highway near Healy Fork, Alaska.

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Warren C. Gonnason  
Commissioner of Highways  
1st Pub. May 19,  
Last Pub. May 26,



**MEL BROWN GETS DEGREE**-Mel Brown, of Unalakleet, left, seemed to have developed a new nose just for the graduation ceremonies last week at the University of Alaska when he received his degree in Bachelor of Education. He really has a normal size nose but the tassel on his mortar board moved just enough to cut off

the point of it as the camera clicked. To his right are, Elmer E. Rasmuson, president of the Board of Regents; Earl Beistline, acting vice president of U of A; and Mrs. Laura Jones, Registrar. Mel Brown is the son of the well known, Emily Ivanoff Brown.

-TUNDRA TIMES Photo

## VanStone Presents Paper on Alaska Ethnohistory

A paper on "Alaskan Ethnohistory" will be presented by Dr. James W. VanStone, associate curator of North American archaeology and ethnology at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, Illinois, during the Conference on Alaskan History June 8-10 at Alaska Methodist University. "Alaskan Prehistory," by Dr. Don E. Dumond, assistant and associate professor of anthropology at the University of Oregon, Eugene, is

another of the 12 papers to be presented.

The conference will provide stipends for 40 resident Alaskan teachers who have teaching assignments that treat directly some area of history.

Dr. VanStone, the founder and editor of the "Anthropological Papers of the University of Alaska" from 1952 to 1957, is currently the consulting editor.

He is a member of the advisory committee for the

Arctic Institute of North America, Anthropology of the North: Translations from Russian Sources.

He has worked on field parties to the Kenai Peninsula and Copper River areas in 1950, and the Nushagak River in 1965.

Dr. Dumond has done field research in south-western Alaska in 1960 and 1961, and in south-central Alaska and Ninivak Island in 1966-67.

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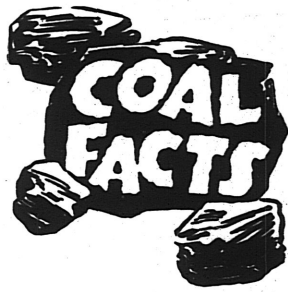
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