

FAMOUS COLUMNIST KEYNOTER

Banquet Speaker Jack Anderson Successor of Late Drew Pearson

The famous columnist, Jack Anderson, who writes the world renowned column, Washington "Merry Go Round," has confirmed his willingness to be the principal speaker at the Tundra Times' 8th anniversary banquet in Fairbanks on October 3.

Reputedly the largest syndicated political columnist in the United States, Anderson will speak on this year's Tundra Times banquet theme: "Communications: Bridges to Understanding."

Jack Anderson was the protégé and top assistant to the late Drew Pearson who authored the "Merry Go Round" for many years before his death about a year and half ago.

Anderson stepped into the considerable and controversial Drew Pearson shoes after the latter's death.

The famed columnist will be conferred a Communications Award from the board of directors of the Tundra Times.

The award plaque is being designed by the prominent Eskimo artist, Prof. Ronald Senungetuk of the art department of the University of Alaska. He is a member of the board of the newspaper.

The banquet will be held at the Civic Center at Alaskaland

on the evening of October 3 starting with a no-host cocktail hour at 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at which time the banquet will begin.

Many dignitaries will be attending. Gov. Keith H. Miller, however, will not be able to attend but his campaign headquarters in Anchorage told the Tundra Times that he will send his Secretary of State, Robert Ward to speak in his behalf.

The Alaska congressional delegation, Sen. Mike Gravel, Sen. Ted Stevens and Congressman Howard Poflock are expected to attend.

Former Gov. William A. Egan, who was nominated gubernatorial candidate in the recent primary election, has accepted the newspaper's invitation.

A large congregation of native leaders will be present. Although not confirmed as yet, the board of directors of the Alaska Federation of Natives is expected to meet in Fairbanks around the banquet date.

Some of the native leaders have been scheduled to take part in the regional meeting of the National Council on Indian Opportunity on October 2 in Fairbanks.

The meeting is being coordinated by James Thomas, Public Relations Director of the National Congress of American Indians

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use of skilled workers as coun- that has contracted with the NCIO to hold regional meetings.

That meeting will be conducted and chaired by Mrs. Laura Bergt, who was recently appointed by President Richard Nixon to be a member of the NCIO from the 8th region.

Tanana Chiefs Conference is also scheduled to meet in Fairbanks on October 2 to discuss land claims matters and to work out a schedule of presentation to the annual conference of the Alaska Federation of Natives in Anchorage on October 15-17.

All of the state legislators and nominated candidates have been invited.

Miss Alaska, Ginny Walker of Kotzebue, has been invited to the banquet and Miss World Eskimo Olympics of 1970, Jo Ann Joseph of Stevens Village, will also attend.

Food for the banquet is being handled by Sam Kito who is in the process of lining up 250 pounds of king crab from Kodiak with the help of Harry Carter, president of the Kodiak Area Native Association.

Kito has already lined up 250 pounds of king salmon from

Southeastern Alaska and is now working to get reindeer meat from Nome.

Catering and cocktail hour service will be handled by Count's of Fairbanks.

James Thomas, of the NCAI, will again be the master of ceremonies. He was MC last year at the Tundra Times dinner in Anchorage at which famous actor Vincent Price was the principal speaker.

Jim Thomas is a Tlingit Indian from Yakutat. He was instantly successful at last year's dinner when he kept over 600 people amused throughout the evening.

The Tundra Times board is planning a dinner reception for Jack Anderson but this will depend on Anderson's itinerary.

Dinner guests are requested to send in for tickets along with payments so they can be listed. They are also requested to give instructions whether to hold the tickets at the Tundra Times office to be picked up on arrival in Fairbanks.

Admission prices will be the same as last year at \$25 per couple and \$15 single. Dress for the banquet will be semi-formal.