

Native Student's Dorm—

Insufficient Dormitory Funds?

When the architect returns his preliminary drawings for a Fairbanks dormitory in March, it may still be uncertain whether there are sufficient funds to start construction.

The dormitory, the building which will house 200 rural students while they attend high school, is due to be completed by August 1972.

However, the architect's preliminary estimates are that it will cost several hundred thousand more than the \$1.9 million the BIA has appropriated for the project.

According to Bob Clark, Auxiliary Services Director of the North Star Borough School District and member of the ad hoc committee appointed by the State Commissioner of Education last spring, additional funding is being sought for the project.

On December 22 the firm of Gray, Rogers, Myers and Morgan signed a contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs to provide architectural services for the dormitory project.

Their preliminary design is due to be presented to BIA architectural experts and the ad hoc committee in Albuquerque in March.

The proposed site for the dormitory for rural students is at 19th and Cowles in Fairbanks, across from the site of the new Community Hospital and south of Hunter School.

The basic bid calls for 63,000 square feet at a cost of \$2,525,000.

"This is figured, according to the architects, at a set amount of space required for each activity," says Bob Clark. "They then figure an average cost for each square foot of floor space."

Additional alternate facilities, which include a self-contained kitchen, recreation area, maintenance facility and other features, would bring the cost of construction to \$2,757,000 for 68,925 square feet.

If additional funds are not found, the project will be postponed till funds are available. A cost estimate will be made at the time the architectural designs are completed—in March of this year. If the project is delayed, architects estimate a rise in construction costs of approximately one per cent for each month of delay.

This means more money will be needed, or a lesser facility will be constructed. At a compound rate, the annual cost rise would be 1.4 per cent.

The regional high school is designed to aid the approximately 3,000 students, almost overwhelmingly Alaskan Natives, with no high school to attend. At present, there are more than 150 rural students in the Boarding Home Program, attending Fairbanks high schools and living in local homes. The new dormitory will accommodate approximately 200.

No final decision has been made on the administration and control of the dormitory facility. Local Native groups prefer local control and the dormitory will probably be administered by the school district.

Originally, it was felt the State Department of Education should operate all school dormitories.

The ad hoc committee on the Fairbanks dormitory has met several times in the last year to try to overcome the problems which have arisen in the project.

They also submitted recommendations to the BIA concerning the overall dormitory facility and what it requires.

Members of the committee

are Clara Winbush, State Coordinator of Dormitories, chairman; Dr. Charles Ray, University of Alaska; Tim Wallis of the Fairbanks Native Association; Edward Hopson of the Barrow ASNA; and Bob Clark of the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District.

The dormitory is being built completely with state and federal funding, with initial funds from

the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

"The beauty of the whole operation," says Dr. George Taylor, Superintendent of Schools, North Star Borough School District, "is the fact that it will cost the taxpayers absolutely nothing. It is to be totally state funded. In addition, the state has allocated \$1.5 million for classrooms to house the additional students."

Nationwide Arts, Craft Marketing Cooperative

A nation-wide marketing cooperative for Indian and Alaskan Native arts and crafts products is being set up next month with a \$1 million grant from the Office of Economic Opportunity.

The National Marketing Organization Cooperative will be owned and operated by Native peoples. An interim board of 30 directors are being selected by tribal and Native groups across the country.

Among the two directors nominated so far from Alaska are Amos Wallace of Juneau and Howard Rock, editor of the Tundra Times. Another Alaskan director is yet to be named.

The interim board will meet in Reno, the first week in February, to set up the structure for the marketing cooperative.

"In the long run, this will be a boon to us as far as arts and crafts," commented BIA Industrial Specialist Ross Miller in Juneau. Miller attended a preliminary meeting in Denver last December which set up plans for the new cooperative.

The interim board will probably serve six to nine months, till machinery can be set up for electing board members. The OEO Indian desk is expected to fund the project for 2 years.

The cooperative will set up headquarters in Denver and an office in New York. Funds will be used to pay agents to purchase Native arts and crafts.

Dr. Jim Wilson, the OEO Indian desk head, has requested a meeting with the board of the Alaska Native Arts and Crafts Cooperative, a former adjunct of the BIA set up to market native art in the 1930's.

The new cooperative is report-

edly taking a hard look at ANAC, with a view toward buying the Alaska Cooperative or funding it for reorganization.

As of now, not enough Alaskan art and crafts items are being produced for sale in Alaska, and almost none are available for markets in the lower 48.

What Sayeth
The Scriptures

"There is no peace saith my God to the wicked" (Isa. 57:21). You may even experience a little temporary peace and happiness now and then, but only Christ, who is called in the Bible the "Prince of Peace" (Isa. 9:6) can bring true peace within your heart. He died on the cross for your sin. The prophet Isaiah said long ago, "Surely He hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows...But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him, and with His stripes we are healed." (Isa. 53:4,5).

You may have this peace by acknowledging your true condition as a sinner and accepting Christ as your Savior. It is not through any pledge of government, science, and commerce or by any other effort of man that peace is acquired. Believe what God is saying to you in His word, the Bible. Only then will you receive everlasting life, happiness, and real peace. Jesus said, "These things have I spoken unto you that in Me ye might have peace." (John 16:33).

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Meilakalla Mayor Guthrie Visits Begich

Mayor Solomon Guthrie and a delegation from Metlakatla were one of the first visitors to the office of Congressman-Elect Nick Begich on Tuesday, January 12.

The Mayor paid a congratulatory call on Mr. Begich.

During the meeting, the Congressman-Elect said he "was happy that the Mayor has come to Washington to discuss some of the problems facing Metlakatla. Your problems are of deep human concern to all Alaskans."

Mr. Begich indicated that he hopes that Mayor Guthrie will keep him informed of problems he could help solve. The other members of Mayor Guthrie's delegation include Arnold Booth and Stanley Patterson.

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