

# The Alaska Plan Is the Product of All Volunteers ...

(Continued from page 2)

to have to pack up and move here. They have to come out of the villages," said IBEW's Kornfeind. "The only thing it does is take more talented ones away from the village."

Many of them are motivated and make it in the city. But a large number drop out and return to the bush.

Are minority workers dependable or are they irresponsible, lazy, and shiftless as many employers will claim? The answers are varied.

Tex Taggart, head of the Fairbanks Association of General Contractors, said "A contract or today has to bid close to the belt, and you've got to have people that are going to be on the job every day."

He and two other contractors felt that the Native people have a different concept of time — Indian time."

One employer said he had a

job going in Galena where the men were drawing good wages and working six ten hour days.

"Somebody comes along and says the fish are running and we didn't have one native. They were all off chasing fish. Those fish were more important to them, and with the money they were making, they could have bought all the fish they wanted."

Frank Peratrovich, U.S. Office of Equal Opportunity, disagrees, "We hear a lot of these comments — Alaska Natives are drunk, lazy, they quit on you. We make statistical analysis of this kind of data, and we haven't run across a substantial disparity in years."

Taggart has strong feelings about the Alaska Plan.

"I think it stinks!" he said.

"When we call the unions, we don't say, send me a white man or send me a black man. We have an agreement with the different craft unions — a closed

shop, more or less, to furnish us with competent workers in whatever craft we need."

"If they do not have the minority races on the rolls, we can't go out in the street and hire non-union. I don't think the onus is on the contractor," he added. "I think it's on the unions."

It appears at this stage that much of the burden has indeed fallen on the unions. They are faced with an enormous task of recruitment and training.

But training is not the end goal.

"The worst thing you can do," said Peratrovich, "is training for training's sake. Your trainee winds up back in the village."

George Wise of the Outreach Apprenticeship Program said, "I think we just got stuck with this Alaska Plan because it parallels what we do, to reach minorities for the building

trades."

Outreach is an effective apprenticeship training program, sponsored by the Building and Construction Trades Council AFL-CIO.

"We had 350 applicants for 51 positions," he pointed out. "The problem is unemployment."

Bud Wadsworth, Dept. of Labor, added "No apprentice program will accept more applicants then they keep employed. It is a disservice to the community to train more people than you have jobs for."

"You can get all the training in the world," agreed Tim Wallis, President of DNH Corporation, a Native-owned construction firm, "and if there isn't a job to go to, it doesn't do you any good."

"The work picture is the thing that establishes how many we can take," said IBEW. "And the out of work picture is the

worst we've seen in 10 years. When our journeymen aren't working, our apprentices aren't either."

"The Alaska Plan looks good on paper. It sounds good when you start talking about it, but when you try to put it into application," said a contractor, "it doesn't work."

NEXT WEEK: The unemployment picture, local hire and the pipeline, first audit for the Alaska Plan. Where is it going?

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## LEGAL NOTICE

INVITATION FOR BIDS  
STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS

Sealed bids in single copy for furnishing all labor, materials and equipment, and performing all work on Project G-10579, McGrath, Local Service Road described herein, will be received until 2:00 p.m. prevailing time, May 10, 1973 in the Commissioner's Office Department of Highways, Island Center Building, Douglas, Alaska.

This project will consist of grading and drainage on 0.8 miles of local service road at McGrath, Alaska. Items of work consist of 6,000 cubic yards of borrow, 2,400 cubic yards of selected material, and 240 linear feet of 18" pipe conduit. Mobilization is also included as an item of work.

All work shall be completed in 45 Calendar days.

Plans and specifications may be obtained by all who have a bona fide need for them for bidding purposes from the Chief Design Engineer, P.O. Box 1467, Juneau, Alaska 99801. Plans may be examined at Department of Highway Offices in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Valdez.

B. A. Campbell  
Commissioner of Highways

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## RECRUITMENT BULLETIN

Executive Director for Alaska State Commission for Human Rights. Salary: \$1,969 per month. Location: Anchorage, Alaska. Minimum Qualifications: Management and Administrative experience and practical experience which demonstrate a knowledge of the problems of minority groups and women, the enforcement of laws against discrimination and agency administration including personnel management, budgeting, and procurement.

Applications must be received by the Commission for Human Rights on or prior to May 15, 1973. Applications must be filed with The Commission for Human Rights 520 MacKay Building 338 Denali Street Anchorage, Alaska 99501 Applications may be obtained from the Commission for Human Rights, Division of Personnel, or from any Alaska State Manpower Center.

The Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc., is taking applications for the following position in the Technical Assistance Program.

Program Development Specialist: Will be required to write proposals for business and educational training. Require knowledge of existing public and private resources. Do research in acquiring of program and planning information.

Salary: Depends on Experience, Apply to: Al Ketzler, Program Manager Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. 1675 "C" Street Anchorage, Alaska 99501 (907) 274-3611

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