# Tundra Times

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#### Editorial Comment—

### Alaska Natives and A New Situation

The Alaska Native people are now engaged in a very new situation arising from the settlement of the Alaska Native land claims. The leadership is deeply involved in the complex implementation of the settlement that became law on December 18, 1971 after the signature of the former President Richard M. Nixon.

From this vantage point, the action being undertaken by the men and women within the 12 regional corpora-tions especially, is at once awesome with a bit of anxiety from those of us from the outside looking in, so to speak. One can't help but want to applaud the efforts being made because we know the job is exhausting and taxing to the abilities of the workers in the forefront. They are engaged in complexities never before encountered by any group of Native people. Theirs is a massive effort to establish a progressive machinery that will, and must, benefit our people now and in the future. This is an awesome assignment. It is demanding. It offers little room for errors. We hasten to give support and encouragement to the dedicated workers who must, at some point along the way ask themselves, "Am I doing the right thing, and will my efforts count in the end?

And again from this vantage point, we cannot help but feel that the over-all effort is progressing well and at once, we are moved to offer our sympathies and Godspeed to those who are working hard. We do not expect that the path will be smooth every bit of the way. There may be errors made. When they occur, they must be pounced upon at once and recognized and benefitted from and new and calculated approaches must take their

And so Alaska's Native people have entered a new era. There are many problems and technicalities that must be met with good sense and with new acquired skills involving laws, business management and many means new to our people.

The main rub of the whole thing is the fact the new work and the new situation involves millions of dollars making it a major undertaking. It is also a sobering undertaking that demands major efforts which can't help but draw some critical glances from the Native public that the job should be done right.

We, as well as a good portion of our Native public perhaps, cannot help but be concerned that the job goes well because its potential for us, and for those in the future, is enormous. We also possess heartfelt sympathies for those who work so hard to make the thing a viable undertaking. We also have generous potential to give a loud applause for jobs well done because of the exciting fact that the major effort is being done by our own people.

While watching somewhat anxiously, we also have great hopes for sterling achievements designed to benefit our people and which will live on in Native history far into the future.

## **Letters from Here and There**

#### Stickman Finds New Home in North Slope

Old Man's Camp September 10, 1974

Friend Howard Rock:

Well Howard, I finally found home out here in the North ope what I heard so much about. Pioneer's home. Good food, maid service, etc.

Putting more traliers for more people. At 5 o'clock, the mess hall is full early. Nobody sleeps here. Lots of Natives here from all over Alaska except Nulato. More from outside.

I'd like to stay all winter but my job will be finished soon as it turns cold.

No women allowed in this camp, makes it a lot better. Two brown bears in the camp

but they got rid of them.

The wind has been blowing five days I've been here. Work-

ing 70 hours a week. No time to

Good bye and good luck from your dear old friend. Fred Stickman, Sr.

P. S. Say hello to all the girls.

### A Book Review-Indian, Inuit People of **North Canada**

Existing books on Canadian history are essentially European in approach. In writing this book, in approach. In writing this book, the author has endeavoured to provide a history of the Indian and Inuit peoples of northern Canada interpreted from a native standpoint. He has been motivated by two considerations. Firstly, he wants to give the original Canadians an opportunity to learn not only the broad outlines of their historical and cultural development, but also the details—people, places, and

the details — people, places, and events — so that in common with other nations they can say, "this is who I am, these are my people, this is the road they trod and the things they did, these are my heroes.

Secondly, he wishes to pre-sent people in other parts of Canada and elsewhere in the world with a more accurate ver-sion of northern history and eth-

nology.
Starting with the arrival of man in North America, the author follows the story through prehistoric times to the emergence of the three great groups of hunting peoples, the Algon-kian, the Athapaskan, and the Inuit, describing their lifestyles and characteristics which form an intrinsic part of the cultural heritage of the native peoples to

He devotes particular attention to the fur trade, its effects, and the emergence of the Metis people; to the various Indian tribes and some of the outstanding personalities; to the great changes which trading and whaling brought to the Arctic and the Inuit peoples who lived there; to the Yukon Indians and the goldrush; to the coming of Christianity including a look at the native religious movements of today; and to the effect of government and wartime inter-vention on the people, and their

(Continued on Page 10)

#### Lack of Game **Enforcement** Around Shageluk

Shageluk City Council Shageluk, Alaska 99665 September 3, 1974

Department of Fish and Game McGrath, Alaska 99627

Gentlemen:

We wish to protest the lack game enforcement protection the area just above Shageluk. Since the start of this hunting

season there has been a constant stream of small aircraft carrying hunters into the upper Innoko area. One of our Shageluk men saw a hunter who had just shot a saw a nunter who had just shot a cow (illegal) which was half in the water. The hunter was ex-pecting a plane to pick him up and asked for help to get the cow out of the water. The Shageluk man refused, and the cow is still there — just below Holikachuk.

One pilot-guide (whose name is known) has one small plane on wheels which flushes game toward the river. The other plane on floats, carries the hunters who then kill the game.

There has been no evidence of management personnel so far.

Besides the planes there are dozens of boats going into the should be checked out very carewill soon be gone, as they are in other parts of the State. We want action now.

Sincerely yours, Hamilton E. Hamilton, Vice

President

Tommy Dutchman, Secretary Adolph Hamilton, Council-

Earl Wulf, Councilman

#### **HUD Directory** Lists Housing Contractors, Etc.

Ken Guscott Associates Management Consultants 4256 Prudential Tower Boston, Mass. 02199 August 27, 1974

The Tundra Times Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development publishes a Directory listing the minority housing contractors, accountants, real estate appraisers, architects, engineers, law-ers, housing managers, real estate salesmen, urban planners, housing concultants, non-porfit hous-ing sponsors, mortgage bankers and brokers, housing developers and insurance brokers and agents

### Your Dental Health

The contents of this series of "Dental Health Talks" was originally prepared by the American Dental Association. They are made available for Tundra Times through the Public Health Education Office of the Alaska Native Health Service.

It is well known that our dental health program in Interior Alaska has not vet reached everyone needing dental services. This is especially true about the people in the rural communities. However, everyone understands how important it is to take care of our teeth which is a part of our total well-being.

No. 22 - It Begins Before Birth

There is a lot you can do be-fore your child is born to ensure healthier teeth for your son or daughter's lifetime. Two important factors influ-ence the soundness of your baby's teeth. First are the genes,

the genetic instructions inherited from both parents. They will help determine the size, shape, texture and other qualities of the baby's teeth.

Second is the environment experience in the womb. This womb. This means proper nutrition, freedom from infections and protection from other variable factors, in-

roun other variable factors, in-cluding drugs, that can affect the growth of teeth and jaws. You cannot do anything about your child's genes, but you can take positive steps about the environment to increase the

probability of sound teeth.

One of the important things to remember is that the things a pregnant woman eats determine the nutrition her unborn for her own and her child's health that the pregnant woman follow her physician's advice concerning diet.

A well-balanced diet for the mother will mean adequate dev-

mother will mean adequate development of all the fetus tissues, including the cells that make up

the gums, jaws and teeth.
Actually, an unborn infant's tooth buds begin forming about

the sixth week after pregnancy starts. The tooth buds grow layer, gradually building up the hard enamel outer surface and the soft dentin underneath the enamel.

The developing baby needs

The developing baby needs calcium, phosphorous and other minerals and vitamins for tooth development. These and other nutritive elements required by the baby must be supplied from the food the mother eats. Contrary to an old belief, the baby does not absorb calcium from the mother's teeth.

If a woman has more tooth decay during pregnancy, it may be because she is eating more sweets or neglecting to take proper care of her mouth. Bacteria always present in the mouth act of fermentable carbohydrates, especially sugar, to produce acids which attack the teeth; causing

Poor mouth hygiene during pregnancy also may lead to gum infections. While the infection is caused by bacteria, it may be exaggerated by the pregnant woman's hormone imbalance.

Pregnant women should take precautions to avoid all infections since they can affect the development of the fetus. German measles, for instance, may cause a marring of the ena-mel as well as other birth defects.

(Next article: "Thumb or Pacifier for Baby")