

Share Development Says Senator Begich

State Sen. Nick Begich, who is campaigning for the U.S. House of Representatives, told Tundra Times this week that the native people should share in the oil development in northern Alaska.

Sen. Begich has been campaigning up and down the Yukon River as far down as Mountain Village near the mouth of the Yukon. He said he was unable to visit some villages.

"I told the villagers I particularly emphasize preferential hire of Alaskans," Begich said.

He said he has asked Gov. Walter Hickel "to enforce my law—the preferential hire law."

He said the native people should get involved in the discussions for Alaska's development.

"If the native people don't become involved in all the discussions, they'll all be left out. They've always been left out," Begich said. "My whole message is that the native people have the right to share in the development of Alaska."

He said that every place he went, he emphasized the need for more adequate educational programs which include kinder-

garten in every BIA and state schools, regional high schools with adequate boarding facilities, adult training programs and improved school facilities.

"I called for a speedup of the rural electrification program in Alaska villages. These people need adequate electricity today and not tomorrow. In fact in many villages, I believe electricity can be provided for the people without additional financial expenditures if BIA would agree to allow the native people to use electricity generated by the school electrical plants," Begich stated.

Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.

—EMERSON