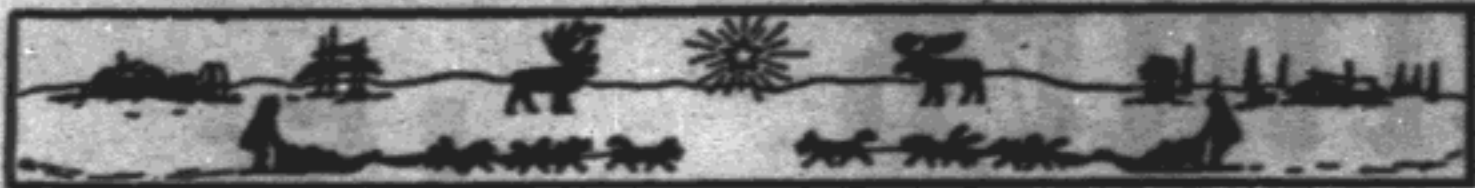


"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." - Voltaire

Tundra Times



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The Great Implications

(Continued from page 1)

accessible will be utilized in time.

Of all the means that have been mentioned, we are inclined to favor the building of the railroad to the Slope. It has been said that it would be the fastest way on land to make transportation available to the area. The employment potential alone of the building of the railroad at the outset is a big one. The manpower that will be needed once it's completed is also one of great potential. This would mean continuous employment of many people. Perhaps the members of the NORTH Commission when they meet later this month can recommend that a railroad be built to the Arctic Slope.

We are also of the opinion that a sizable city will be founded on a strategic location on the Slope that would be served by the railroad. The rail facility would be used for transporting materials and personnel but it should not be confined to these purposes alone.

In the event the railroad is built, it would be constructed through some of the most rugged country in the world. It would unveil primeval beauty heretofore inaccessible to the beauty lovers of the world. It could be one of the finest tourist routes imaginable. It could become one of the most unforgettable experiences for people who seek the unusual.

The oil discovery sites themselves that have caught the imagination of the world would be no less attractive to the tourists because of the very locations on which they are—the Arctic tundra of Alaska. Beside fine train accommodations, they could be housed in fine hotels, served fine meals, and afforded everything else designed to make the visitors comfortable.

The railroad could, perhaps, be extended to Barrow, the northernmost Eskimo settlement on the North American Continent. This would certainly benefit the big Eskimo village through tourism and, possibly, lower freight rates.

The great oil discovery on the Arctic Slope by the oil companies has fallen on the collective laps of Alaskans. The potential of benefits for all are almost beyond comprehension. It should be planned for utilization on truly equitable basis to benefit all. We are on to one of the greatest gems in the world. It should be our opportunity to show the world community, with the cooperation of the oil companies, that we can do the finest job to better everyone's life based on equitable consideration and fairness to all people.

The vast Arctic oil should not predominantly benefit the oil companies but it should benefit all Alaskans. Refineries, tourist routes, servicing units and many other necessary needs should be planned for greatest benefits for Alaska. This is the area where the NORTH Commission can, perhaps, utilize its vested powers. The commission will be watched closely and we hope it will serve with farsightedness for our developing state.

LETTERS to EDITOR

Letter to The Editor:
August 1

The word is out: village medical aids should be paid. As the months go by this situation becomes more deplorable. Village medical aids are trained by P.H.S. and then return to their villages to become the hard working liaison between the P.H.S. Hospital and the village patients. Their long hours go unpaid.

Hooper Bay has a population of almost 600 people, 260 of them are under 14 years. The one unpaid medical aide who works a 15 (or more) hour week, reports daily medical traffic to the Bethel Hospital, has clinic hours 5 times a week often seeing 20-25 patients daily, administers medication on weekends, does medicine requisitions (without being reimbursed with P.H.S. postage), and is continually on call at all hours for numerous first aid emergencies.

P.H.S. cries poverty when it is suggested that they pay a minimum wage to the village medical aides.

Yet, three different sets of P.H.S. charters came into Hooper Bay in June with P.H.S. people from Anchorage and Washington, D. C. "studying" whether medical aides should be paid, or to take medicine inventory, or to check the clinic facilities. These junketing people spend 15 minutes at the clinic and another 15 minutes buying Eskimo momentos and baskets, clicking away their cameras as they alienate more village people, hurrying back to their awaiting charter plane.

Many hundreds of dollars would be saved if these P.H.S. people used air mail stamps instead. The same work can be accomplished from their desks.

P.H.S. will have to come up with a decent, minimum wage for these medical aides in all the villages, or run the risk of eventually having the villages organize embargoes against junketing charters; the villages telling P.H.S. to mail the charter money, to be used to pay the medical aides a decent, minimum wage.

Charles Simmons
Hooper Bay, Alaska 99604

NATIVE VILLAGE OF
TYONEK, ALASKA
INCORPORATED
Tyonek, Alaska 99682
August 5, 1968

Dear Sir:

Recently somewhat of a furor was started by a letter to the editor from Warren Taylor citing Gravel's opposition to a native-sponsored bill in the 1955 legislature.

Mr. Taylor's report was accurate. Gravel defeated the bill and would or could not give us his reasons for doing so.

Minutes after Gravel's infamous reference to the native people as "savages," this fact was reported to us by a long-distance call from Taylor and appears in the records of our village. The incident was subsequently reported by others.

We suggest you ask Mr. Gravel.

Yours truly,
Fred Bismark, President
Native Village of Tyonek

Writer Takes Sharp Issue With the Use of Smoking Tobacco

By ROLAND PARISH

FACT SHEET NO. 1: ECONOMY, HEALTH, OR THE SINS OF MANKIND

Cigarette package labels, news media, warn of possible

Editorial— Times' Pet Peeve

TUNDRA TIMES POLITICAL PET PEEVE: Political candidates who prepare releases in all caps (all capital letters).

We are not all experts which letters or what words are to be capitalized and it takes time to hunt them out in all cap releases. This goes for all general releases also.

Letters to the Editor

Nunapitchuk, Alaska 99641
July 31, 1968

Dear Mr. Rock:

This letter is only to encourage voters to vote for a person that they think, or know, will do a job expected of him without injuring the culture but make constant efforts to improve.

There are some politicians that we vote for because they are members of a certain political party. Perhaps someone we know as a friend or, perhaps, because we shook his hand at one time or another. The outcome of this is, often, disappointment.

It is not too late nor too early to start looking over the candidates, or potential candidates for general election this year. Look for a man, (or be it a woman), who really cares about the situations that we are in. But watch out for a person who shows care only during campaigning.

Make it your obligation to vote. Remember, whether or not you vote, the person elected by other people to represent your area is YOUR representative.

Yours truly,
George Neck

Alaska State Legislature
House of Representatives

Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Editor,

I was shocked at former State Rep. Warren Taylor's vicious attack on U. S. Senate candidate Mike Gravel.

Of course I realize that Mr. Taylor is strongly supporting Sen. Gruening, and that his dislike of Mike Gravel stems from the fact that Mike Gravel defeated him for the Speakership of the State House in 1964.

Mr. Taylor's unethical remarks and mud-slinging can only reveal that he and his fellow Gruening backers apparently feel that Mike Gravel has the strong backing of the native people. Obviously they would like to damage him.

I submit that Mike Gravel not only has carefully laid out the type of thing he would like to pursue in behalf of our native people, but has also "produced" significant programs for rural Alaska in the past—namely the regional high school program.

If Mr. Taylor and Sen. Gruening wish the votes of the native people let them tell the villages what they have been doing for the past 30 years—and not "mud-sling" their opponents accomplishments.

Mr. Taylor's attack on Mike Gravel resembles a similar attack made on Sen. Bob Blodgett last summer in the Anchorage Times by George Sundborg, Senator Gruening's administrative assistant.

That letter also used false quotes, allegedly made many years past, of a clearly unethical nature, and that letter also sought to inject "racism" into the picture.

Mr. Taylor has forgotten that I too was at the hearings at which he accuses Mr. Gravel allegedly made certain remarks. These words of which he speaks were "never said" and I leave the public to call Mr. Taylor's words what they will.

I believe Mike Gravel has waged an exceptionally clean campaign and has sought to project issues not personalities. Mike Gravel early in his campaign signed the Fair Campaign Practices Pledge, and it is only unfortunate that Senator Gruening declined to sign that pledge.

It is time our Alaskans holding public office laid aside the "unclean" campaign "tricks" of the past, and stick to the issues.

And I believe it is the Democrats that should lead the way in a new campaign of real moral character that will lead to a greater

(Continued on page 7)

WANTED: Chilkot Blankets; totem poles; ivory pipes and carvings; argillite carvings; potlatch bowls; fish hooks; spoons and all N.W. items 50 years of age or older. Send photo or sketch and prices to: Albert T. Miller, 2235 West Live Oak Dr. Los Angeles, California 90028.

(Continued on page 6)