

# Letters from Here and There

## High Priced Grocery Goods

(The following letter appeared in the Bristol Bay By-Lines, April 17, '75)

Dear Editor:

As a retail grocer and a resident of Dillingham, I felt the following information is of vital interest to anyone residing in the 'bush' area.

I received the following letter from West Coast Grocery Co., Tacoma, Washington, dated April 9, 1975.

Dear Customer:

Due to Postal Regulations, Federal Administration Regulations, and action by the Air Pilots Association, the Postal Service will no longer accept for mailing articles classified as hazardous. A list of these materials is attached.

Until further notice, we can no longer accept orders that include these items.

It is for the safety of the public and the protection of mail matter that these articles will be refused for mailing at all Post Offices. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,  
Robert Elery.

Items unsuitable for normal handling in the U.S. Postal Service: Syrup, pickles, relishes, olives, peppers, vinegar, salad dressings such as vinegar and oil, pigs feet, all juices in glass, sauerkraut, tiny whole carrots in glass, whole beets in glass, oils in glass, deodorizer in glass, all aerosols, pinesol or the like, all cleansers in glass, ammonia, all drain and bowl cleansers, corrosives, hair sprays, hair color in glass, cough syrups in glass, alcohol, baby oil, brake fluid, motor oil or other oil in cardboard containers, sugar in paper sacks, dog food in paper sacks, flour in paper sacks, and matches.

In essence this means nothing in glass with any type of liquid will be shipped Parcel Post.

The only other way we can ship anything to Dillingham is airfreight. On the average, the cost of airfreight is 4 to 5 cents a pound more than Parcel Post. On a 10 lb. sack of sugar this would add to the cost 40 to 50 cents.

In these days of high cost this is certainly an added burden to the people in the 'bush' of Alaska whose principal means of shipping must be Parcel Post. I urge everyone to write to their congressman, senator, president or anyone to make them aware of the unique situation here in Alaska that affects each and everyone of us most of the year.

Awaken customers, this affects over 300 items on our shelves.

Sincerely,  
Judy Nelson.

## Yupik Language Center

Howard Rock, Editor  
Tundra Times  
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Howard:

Sorry we've been slow about letting you know of our progress in our new Yupik Language Center located here at St. Mary's Mission High School at St. Mary's. To make up for our loss, we are sending you copies of our students little publications.

The students involved in our Yupik courses are the Junior High and the High School students

who come from the Yuk, Cug, and even Suk speaking areas (southcentral).

Our program is sponsored by Yupiktak Bista, Inc. a non-profit organization funded by AFN/JOM.

Under much turbulence and effort, we have managed to achieve our primary goal, that of educating the students in Yupik. We are now also in the process of collecting Yupik stories, histories, art and entertainment in writing, video tapes and cassette tapes to start a Library of Resources. These collections will eventually be created into books for use in later schools.

More at another time.

Sincerely,

Pat Afcan, Dir.

Yup. Lang. Center.

## AFN, Inc. Asks Legislation on UA Education

Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc.  
1675 C Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
April 22, 1975

The Honorable George Hohman  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Health & Social Services  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Senator Hohman:

We asked for the introduction of a particular piece of legislation regarding a delivery system of education from the University of Alaska or rural Alaska.

The proposed legislation is the result of two years of study, work, field interviews in rural Alaska and an effort to make a determination of what services could be provided by the University, not requiring a time away from home, and with a curriculum developed by the people receiving it.

As you are aware, the proposed legislation is not tied to the community college concept, or to the presence of a student in either Fairbanks or Anchorage, it is not competitive in either field for funding. Nor is it tied to anything except what people want in their locality. Since it will be a part of the University budget, it is qualified to use their facilities, their services, and their personnel on demand. The local structures will have complete autonomy in the use of their budget will receive either credits or credentials depending upon their needs. In effect, the system will provide a degree granting college independent of any other stylized structure now in existence in Alaska.

My question is this. Where is the bill, what action is proposed, and will your committee act on it in this session? We have secured the backing of Native organizations, the administration of the University, the Board of Regents of the University, and a promise to sign if it comes through the legislature by Governor Hammond. It would be a shame to lose it in a committee.

The Alaska Federation of Natives has by-passed the usual method of petition by resolution, in this day and age, we feel that a better method is the writing of legislation, and to see where the chips actually fall.

Thank you for your time and efforts.

Sincerely,  
Roger Lang  
President

cc: AFN, Inc. Board of Directors; AFN, Inc. Human Resources Committee; Alaskan Human Resources Development Committee; Tundra Times; Frank Ferguson, State Senator; Kathryn Poland, State Senator; John Sackett, State Senator; Nels Anderson, State Representative; Larry Davis, State Representative; Phillip Guy, State Representative; Jimmy Huntington, State Representative; Brenda Itta, State Representative; Ed Naughton, State Representative; Alvin Osterback, State Representative; Tim Wallis, State Representative.