

Letters from Here and There

Pan Keeps Stickman Warm

Nulato, Alaska
Feb. 27, 1974

Dear Friend the Editor:

Well, the thermometer went down to 20 below this morning. For 13 days every morning it was between 50 and 60 below.

Of course it went up to 30 in the day.

But the toughest part for us was the two light plants wouldn't run for 80 hours — three days and 8 hours. That's a long time to stay without any juice. And the worst part was we were not prepared for it. We had to run down to the church for candles. For me, I had to burn Diesel fuel in my lamp. It worked good.

We had one gas lamp for pan

house, so the gasls were not hurt. What would happen if they close pan quin gee and booze? That preacher should come down here so he can preach to us about gambling and see if he could stop it.

In a way I was kind of glad the lights went out even though it hurt me. The reason — last summer AVEC brought in a big light plant. I helped finish the sled. That's the "go Devil," and hauled it across the Mukluk Slough. The girls built a house over it when all the boys went out to firefight. It's still not hooked up. They're waiting for it to rust I guess.

And also the State schools have a light plant for emergency, but it's still in the crate. No house for it.

Well, it was a good thing the school was closed and the school kids hauled wood for me with dogs as it was too cold to crank my sno-go.

Well, we got our land claims check. I celebrated three days but still got my check to mount it on the wall till I go broke. That is, down and out cold.

Fred Stickman, Sr.

Shriver's Podium Criticized

5 Norma Court
Novato, Calif. 94947
Feb. 5, 1974

Dear Mr. Rock:

I was so happy to read Richard Gardello's letter in the Jan. 23 edition of Tundra Times. I felt the same way he did about Sargent Shriver's speech but could not have expressed it so well. If the Bay area group of Native Americans Women's Action Circle hadn't been so involved with other interests (working with San Quentin Indian prisoners on Christmas program, raising money to help Native American students with education, and speaking at elementary schools) we would concentrate on the drive for Nixon's impeachment, too.

However — I agree with Mr. Gardello that the Tundra Times banquet was a totally inappropriate podium for Sargent Shriver's speech and when I read about it, I wished he had stayed "Outside." I felt embarrassed for him.

Every time I get a copy of Tundra Times I look for a letter from Fred Stickman Sr. and I feel warmed when there is a long letter from this man. Today I will send him my copy of *Lame Deer, Seeker of Visions* by the old Sioux medicine man who has the same kind of wisdom — you can't learn that in school!

Oh Yes! My friend Jim Marsden (who sends me subscription to Tundra Times for Mother's Day gifts because I'm still homesick for Alaska and my own people) sent me a copy of your poem, "Keshorna," in his last letter. It brought tears to my eyes as it did when I read it last year in the newspaper, but it was good to be reminded of it.

So many good letters and articles have been in your paper I'd like to comment on. I was ecstatic about the Supreme Court decision on the North Slope Borough and wish Eben Hopson well. Also luck to Willie Hensley in his campaign for U.S. House. They need people like him.

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Most of the Tlingits I know in the Bay area, like myself, were glad the 13th region failed — for the reasons mentioned by Thomas Richards in TT months ago.

It made me happy to see that Frank Price no longer associated himself with A.F.N.I.

Take care — good luck.

Eileen Minard

Need Coupons To Build Gym

City of Galena

P. O. Box 12

Galena, Alaska 99741

Dear Editor:

Here in Galena, Alaska, a community of 450 people, we have a regional high school that serves many of the villages in the surrounding area. Our only gym facilities in this part of Alaska are located at a nearby Air Force Station. Outdoor activities are out of the question because of the severe weather conditions from October to April each year.

Although the base has been kind enough to allow us limited use of the gym for our students our growing enrollment has created a problem. The gym is small, and our activities cannot infringe on those of the airmen.

Federal and State funds are not presently available, so our athletic association has looked into various areas of fund-raising for the \$500,000 project.

We have found that 20 million Betty Crocker coupons will cover 1/5 of the cost or \$100,000. We are looking for donations (tax deductible), grants or other sources of income.

So far we have collected about 150,000 coupons! And we must have the remaining before September 1974!

We know we have set ourselves a very difficult task, but with the help of your readers, we just might win for our young people what is taken for granted in other areas of the United States — a physical education program.

Coupons may be sent to: Galena Sports Association, P.O. Box 64, Galena, Alaska 99741.

Thank you for helping.

The Officers of G.S.A.