

Sale of Salmon Roe Becomes Politically Tinged

By JEFF RICHARDSON

With the state legislature again considering legalizing the sale of roe from subsistence caught salmon, charges are being made that the salmon are victims of political fishing.

In a recent letter to Gov. Jay Hammond, Joe La Rocca of

Fairbanks charged that management of fish and game resources have been "subverted in recent years by calculated political manipulation, on behalf of special economic interests and in a manner which is destructive of the state's natural fisheries resources."

La Rocca contends that a regulation implemented by Fish and Game Commissioner Jim Brooks permitting the sale of subsistence roe last summer was illegal. He said the regulation came about as a result of pressure applied by two prominent Minnesota politicians on behalf of

a Minnesota-based fish processor, Kemp-Palucci. The emergency regulation was in effect for 120 days in the Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim region.

La Rocca said the Minnesota politicians urged the Egan administration to legalize the sale of subsistence-caught salmon roe.

One of the politicians was identified as U.S. Sen. Hubert Humphrey.

Because there is not an actual limit on subsistence salmon catch, it is difficult to document the impact that the temporary regulation had on salmon stocks.

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AD VALOREM BILLS STOPPED

Lang Resigns AFN Post

Roger Lang ended weeks of speculation by submitting his resignation as President of the Alaska Federation of Natives April 18. Lang took action at a meeting of the board of directors of AFN in Kotzebue.

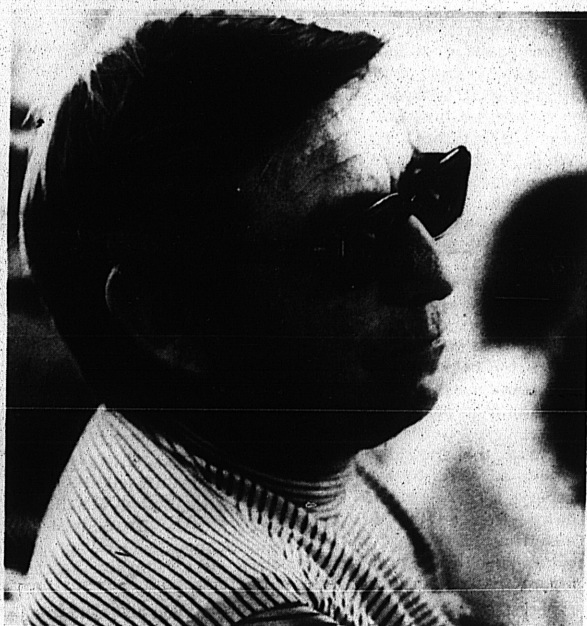
In an interview with Tundra Times, Lang said there is "never a good time to quit" but expressed satisfaction that most of the goals set at the beginning of his tenure nearly two years ago had been accomplished.

Lang said he will be moving back to Sitka to run a small business and "go fishing, go trolling".

Although Lang's resignation will be effective June 1, he said it does not mean he will be turning his back on the cause that has involved him for the last eight years. "One way or another, I'll keep my finger in the Native movement," he said.

Lang suggested there would probably be some administrative changes at AFN in the wake of his departure, but he stressed that his successor would inherit "one fine bunch of people" and a "financially viable outfit".

Lang lauded the unity and capability that Alaska Native have shown in meeting problems



ROGER LANG

created after the passage of the land claims act. He expressed distress that the state and federal governments have not shown

more interest or ability in helping solve Native problems.

Lang said although many people

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Rep. Nels Anderson Stops Public Hearings On Bills that tax Oil

Rep. Nels A. Anderson, Jr., D-Dillingham, chairman of the State House Resources Committee stopped all public hearings April 16 on bills that will place an ad valorem tax on oil and gas reserves.

Work sessions were held last week and this week to begin final mark-up on the bills. Sponsor substitute for House Bill 297 is a tax that places a 20 mill levy on oil and gas reserves beginning Jan. 1, 1976.

There are exemptions in the bill that will exempt oil and gas reserves on Native lands from the tax on lease hold interest. In addition, the bill will exempt all reserves for a 5 year period after discovery.

The bill is needed to help the state meet a projected budget deficit of \$50 million in fiscal year 1976. Taxing oil and gas reserves in place has been receiving a great deal of attention by both the administration and leadership in the House and Senate.

The ad valorem tax proposal is

bitterly opposed by the regional corporations because it is a tax that the regional corporations can ill afford to pay before the any potential discoveries are producing. Anderson stated that he opposes the bill but will allow it to move out of his committee with a do not pass recommendation.

"My opposition to this bill," Anderson states, "is based on my sincere belief that the state administration and the legislature have done very little to economize, cut the state's payroll, and seek other alternative revenue generating methods."

"I have stated," Anderson said, "that I must oppose the bill whether or not the proposed taxation attempts to exempt regional corporation land holders. My fear is based on the probability that exemptions sought by proponents of this bill may not hold up in court, thus leaving the regional corporations exposed to this oil and gas reserves tax."

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How Local Control Implemented

By DONN LISTON

Alaska Native Foundation ANCHORAGE — While the issue of how local control should be implemented was being considered by the Alaska State Operated School System board of directors here last week, education consumers urged new considerations by the system in general.

Fifteen young people, chosen by fellow students to represent ASOSS Schools at a week-long youth conference held to coincide with the board meeting April 16, developed a comprehensive list of things they thought should be considered and presented to the board.

"I really appreciate the opportunity to come here and see that some of these problems we have back home aren't as bad as some," explained Linda Bills, after the students gave their initial report. "When I hear about some of the other places, I don't feel our school is so remote."

When asked by one of the board members what school she

attended, Bills replied: "Adak High School."

The high school student's presentation highlighted a meeting which had concerned itself with the problem of de-centralizing the state school system, which provides educational opportunities for children and youth throughout the unincorporated communities of rural educational media services, guidance services, school facilities and staff and administration.

Some members of the board were visibly moved by the youths' presentation which followed a number of other general business considerations, including the issue of local control and how it might be implemented more rapidly.

"We can talk about school board training but unless the local people have the power to decide what kind of education they want for their own children, we aren't addressing the issue," said Jonathan Soloman, a board

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Fairbanks BIA Agency Problems

SEATTLE, April 21 — Clarence Antioquia, area director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, met with representatives of Civil Service Commission here today to explore alternative solutions to personnel problems at the Bureau's Fairbanks agency.

Antioquia will travel to Washington, D.C. Monday evening to meet with Indian Affairs Commissioner Morris Thompson regarding a number of subject areas including problems of the Fairbanks agency.

Antioquia said he was concerned with problems of recruitment for vacancies at the Fairbanks office, as well as the critical housing problems which affect Bureau employees as well as all Fairbanks residents.

He said, "I will deal with problems which the Bureau faces in the Fairbanks area directly and as best we can in Juneau area office. Many of these problems affect not only the Bureau of Indian Affairs but also many other government agencies, and

we will attempt to address the situations on an agency basis.

"Pipeline activity has presented a challenge which concerns all major employers in Fairbanks

Kawerak Teach Skills

By BETTY JEAN OLANNA

Five people have started working through Kawerak's new 13 week trainee program in Nome

The trainees are: One media specialist trainee with Education services, two computer operators with Kawerak's accounting, and a building maintenance trainee, who will assist setting up the new Art's and Craft's Co-op Shop in front of the Wien's building.

They will receive 13 weeks training and continue at a higher rate, if successful at this training.

There are still three openings. Must be 22 or older to apply as: Vehicle Maintenance, Building Maintenance, Clerk-Typist. If interested call 443-5246.

area. I am moving as quickly as possible at this time to find some

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Eskimo, Inc. Signs Multi-Million Dollar Contract

From ALASKA ON ALASKA

A joint venture agreement has been signed by National Mechanical Contractors, Inc. and Eskimos, Inc., a business arm of the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation. Called a "multi-million dollar project" by Arnold Brower, Sr., Eskimos, Inc. president, the agreement will initially allow the local contracting company to participate in structural foundation and piling contract work in the Prudhoe Bay area.

The relationship is "open-minded" Brower says and it is anticipated additional contracting will result for the two firms operating in the joint venture.