

Bill Controversy . . .

(Continued from page 1)

have not been adequately protected, and have become more and more an issue within the state, while sports hunters and aircraft hunters infringed on areas immediately around native villages.

Fish and Game Commissioner James W. Brooks has admitted that "unless the sport hunter and the subsistence hunter can work together there will be problems."

While admitting that SB 99 has merit, Brooks is concerned that it does not adequately represent the interest of all groups of Alaskans.

"What people should do," said Brooks, "is examine the bill in light of its effects on all elements of the public and then suggest to their legislators such amendments necessary to improve it."

The bill appears to be doomed in its present form, but the issue raised is by no means over. Sackett will probably submit an amended form in an effort to force the state to take some positive action before next hunting season.

Sackett's home village of Galena saw a storm of controversy last fall when white airplane hunters continually flew into that area for moose.

Angry villagers, after warning the hunter to stay away from Galena, punctured the floats on one of the offending planes and set it adrift on the river.

Other villages in the Tanana Chiefs region suffered from similar invasion by outside hunters. The village of Minto, accessible via a new road was dismayed to find a mass influx of sports hunters Labor Day Weekend, over two hundred cars in two days, each carrying 3 or 4 hunters.

After the weekend madness, disheartened villagers took photographs of the huge amounts of litter left by the thoughtless outsiders — trash, beer cans, shell boxes. But the

most saddening litter were carcasses of animals left to rot, while hunters took only the trophy.

"We think trophy hunting is all right," said an outspoken Native. "But why not give the meat to someone who needs it for food?"

"You're lucky if they even took the horns," said Mitch Dementieff, chief of Nenana. "In our area, we came across carcasses that have been shot by someone riding around on a snowgo and they haven't even bothered to take the horns, much less the meat."

Chief Andrew Isaac of Dot Lake described the traditional way of hunting. "In my young time," he said, "I use my legs. I go 40 miles, 50 miles, 60 miles. I see a bunch of sheep coming in, bunch of caribou, bunch of moose."

Today, the game is not so plentiful. It is hunted by machine. Andrew Isaac spoke of the people who fly over the land after game, and drive out on snow-machines. He advised the young men not to lose the old skills of hunting.

"They are teaching you people to make a living," he said. "But I see 20 years ahead, maybe 50 years hard life for you."

Subsistence hunting is still a way of life for many Alaska Native people. It is a way of life for other Alaskans too. Sackett's bill is not discriminatory as to race. The criteria for subsistence permit he suggests is need. It is making a living off the land.

No one owns the game of the state. But there are priorities, and there are differences between the man who hunts to hang a pair of horns on his wall and the man who hunts to feed a family.

Senate Bill 99 is an attempt to make some distinction between those two.

Brenda Itta Honored . .

(Continued from page 1)

the legislature. She lost the race to Rep. Frank Ferguson, I-Kotzebue.

Brenda is presently an administrative assistant for the regional corporation at Barrow and one of her most recent accomplishments is the publication, with Editor Nancy Gray, of Iqalunich Inupiat (The Voice Of The Eskimo), a new newspaper for the North Slope. She is Secretary to the board of directors of the Alaska Native Foundation, and secretary of the Democratic Central Committee for the state of Alaska.

Prior to lobbying for the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, Brenda served as secretary for three years to U.S. Sen Gruening, D-Alaska, in Washington D.C.

"My experience with Senator Gruening has been one of my highlights throughout my life time," Brenda wrote in a biographical sketch prepared on request for Mademoiselle. "At the time, he was struggling virtually alone to get people in America more aware of the wrongness in the war at Vietnam."

While working for Gruening, Brenda traveled to 65 Eskimo villages throughout Alaska. "Communication between the Washington office and the villages was almost non-existent; therefore since I knew the language of the Inupiat, I took down problems, needs which were tremendous, and brought them back to Gruening," she wrote.

Brenda said that while work-

ing in Washington she also learned more about the rights of an American citizen. "I saw by comparison how lopsided some goals were in serving the people . . . all people . . . in America," she said. "Personally, I thought that the first Americans were being neglected," she wrote, citing several examples of a federal government values system which allots more for foreign wars than children and the elderly at home.

She also talked about the Land Claims Settlement, the Environment, women's lib, and her philosophy on living. "I'm just one person in the world," she wrote. "The universe is so immense that I sometimes feel that what I do is so tiny that it may not matter. However, on the other hand, I find that to care a little for other human beings goes a long, long way. We need people to express their true selves, to be honest first within themselves, then with others. The young people all over are looking for honesty and I believe more and more of our leaders are aware of this expression."

Brenda was escorted by Arctic Slope Regional Corp. President Joseph Upiksoon and political consultant Michael Rowen to the Mademoiselle awards banquet at the Carnegie Mansion in upper Manhattan.

Brenda wore a steel grey pants suit designed by Sue Bevins, formerly of Barrow, and jewelry designed by Ron Senungetuk, a University of Alaska art professor from Wales.

Public Hearings Throughout Alaska

Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission Announces

By MARGIE BAUMAN

ANCHORAGE — Public hearings unencumbered by pre-written government proposals will be held throughout Alaska in May and June on 80 million acres of unresolved public lands in the state.

Federal co-chairman Jack Horton of the Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission for Alaska announced the hearings February 7, noting as significant a departure in the hearings from normal hearing procedures for government.

"In viewing the complexity and magnitude of the 80 million acres of land, almost a quarter of Alaska, we found it so extreme that we thought in fairness to everyone concerned, particularly

the public, that we should ask for their specific resource information and their advice on management systems that might be proposed in any D-2 area prior to any decision-making by the Department of Interior," Horton said.

D-2 lands are those withdrawn for possible inclusion as additions to or new units of the national parks, forest, wildlife refuge and wild and scenic river systems.

"Normally, it's the process of government that an agency with the concurrence of policy officials in Washington come to the public with a specific proposal," Horton said.

"In this instance we've asked the department to step back, allow the commission through

its agents to conduct hearings without any specific proposal being presented," he said.

Instead the commission will go out with a prospectus of the resource value in areas in various regions which are designated as D-2 areas.

The commission will outline possible alternatives for management systems and jurisdictional units that could be imposed on these areas.

"We'll be very fairly and thoroughly trying to outline the consequences, the implications that management by any particular agency would have for those lands and for the state of Alaska," Horton said.

The results and transcripts of the hearings will be available to the commission, the secretary of the Interior and Congress to influence the final decision on the lands. A full schedule on the specific location and dates of the hearings will be made at a future date.

State co-chairman of the LUPC Joe Josephson said the commission had entered a new period of its work.

"We've had between September and January a time of shaking down, briefing, orientation, information gathering and staffing, and now I think we're ready to embark on what is a very exciting process; a process in which we will be coming to grips with longstanding, substantive problems under the Native claims settlement act.

"We can say we are approaching these issues with a tremendous sense of balance, with as much depth as our staff can bring to bear on these problems, and with great openness, in the way we receive information and the way we carry on our business," Josephson said.

"All of our sessions are public sessions."

As for the forthcoming hearings, "I don't know of any government agency which has ever provided such a forum for the people of Alaska," he said.

Honey-Bucket System . . .

(Continued from page 1)

and on, pipes burst, honey buckets were brought to the rescue, and after much inconvenience, the entire school was shut down on Dec. 22.

When temporary repairs were finally effected in mid-January, the second crisis evolved. Bethel Heights, the ASHA housing project, which supplied water to the school, suffered its own freeze-up and, due to lowered water pressure, the school could not utilize the above-ground line that had been installed. Honey-buckets and water barrels were again the only recourse. Students who thought they were coming in to a modern new school had a slightly less than modern experience.

An official of the State Operated Schools said it would be difficult to determine how many students did not return because of the difficulties.

"In any new school, you are going to get some transfers. There were probably some students who DID get impatient."

Bethel Regional High School has a total enrollment of about four hundred students, of which a good half are dormitory or Boarding Home students.

Lee Hayes, in charge of new construction for SOS, said the regional high school concept has now been abandoned. Plans now exist for smaller area high schools, so that students can attend schools in their own community.

Voters of the state last year approved a bond issue, Chapter 195/1972, for a total of \$16 million for bush schools. Twelve schools are now in the planning stages, at \$1 million each, with the extra \$4 million to be spread overall.

Designs are completed and bids are almost ready to be submitted for units at Kiana, Selawik, and Noorvik. Soon to follow will be schools at Emmonak, Togiak, Kipnuk, St. Lawrence Island, Kwethluk, Prince of Wales Island, Alakanuk, Nelson Island, St. Mary's, Nunapitchuk, Sand Point, and Bethel Elementary.

While each of the schools may differ in appearance, they will use a standardized construction, duplicating foundation systems, heating systems, electrical systems, and so forth.

Hayes is hopeful they will avoid some of the problems encountered at Bethel High School, which was an independently designed structure. Wherever these new schools are placed, however, they will be adding an additional burden on the existing water and sewer facilities, already inadequate in far too many bush communities.

Hayes is not sure who will administer the construction of the new schools with a proposal now pending before the Legislature to turn the entire State Operated School System over to local school boards.

"However, the money is appropriated and the schools WILL be built, regardless of who administers the system," Hayes stated.

Bethel teachers are hopeful that Commissioner of Education Lind will make a ruling to allow an approved closure of nine days due to the winter freeze-up, leaving only 10 or 11 days which will have to be made up by the students.

This could be accomplished by having classes on Saturdays or by extending school into Easter vacation and running an extra week in June. In any case, this year's students at Bethel Regional High School may receive practical experience credits in water and sewer systems, temporary and otherwise, and unless Alaska school construction improves radically in the next few years, it may well become a required subject.

Enrollment Deadline . . .

(Continued from page 1)

Enrollment enumerators flew in to urban centers for training by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and then flew back again to villages to track down their prey — the elusive Alaska Native. Sometimes they found him along the river, in a fish camp; sometime in a cabin, miles removed from the village, running his trapline; and in one actual case, out on the ice, hunting whales.

And sometimes, they did not find him at all. He had dropped out of sight and not even the closest relatives knew where he had gone. Many Alaska Natives departed their native state for wider horizons.

And some of the brothers who stayed behind and fought the fight for the land resented the Johnny-come-lately's who left the land and now wanted their share of the family fortunes.

But brotherhood is brotherhood. "Blood will out," went an old saying, and the Act read: "all persons of 1/4 Alaska Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut blood or any combination thereof."

It is a tradition among Native people to care for one's people — a brother's widow, an old woman, a fatherless child. Blood relations would not be denied. And a search went out for the lost children of Alaska Native blood.

Spot announcements were

sent out to 500 television stations, 2700 radio stations, and over 1200 newspapers and magazines. Indian organizations and welfare departments all over the United States were called upon to help search for Alaska Native children who were adopted by non-Native parents.

To date, over 65,000 Natives have been counted in the state of Alaska and about 7500 from outside the state. George A. Walters of Anchorage who heads the search for out-of-state claimants believes there may still be some 13,500 Alaska Natives in the outside world, still unrecognized and unregistered.

Walters expects the total overall enrollment figures to tally around 80,000, exceeding by about 20,000 the estimate made when Congress passed the bill.

So far, claimants have turned up in every state of the Union and in 19 foreign countries.

Yet even in Alaska, where enrollment is no farther away than your friendly enrollment office down the street, many Alaska Natives have procrastinated right up to the last minute and are still not enrolled, including Tundra Times' Editor Rock.

45 days left! For more information and for application forms, write to: Enrollment Coordinating Office, Pouch 7-1971, Anchorage, Alaska 99501. The deadline is March 30, 1973.