

Letters from Here and There

A Foreigner Tries to Oust Fred Stickman

Delta Camp, Alyeska
August 22, 1975

Dear Friend:

Well Rock, I'll be here three weeks tomorrow and I haven't seen any Tundra Times. It seems so long I forgot what I wrote last. Send me several of the papers I wrote in as some want to read them again here.

Well Howard, I don't know what I'm working for. It sure as hell it's not for all the money. Last year I quit my job at home just to see the Slope and how to get a job, and just to see why the Natives don't work or some don't want to work.

Also I went here to keep in good shape and, of course, the good living. My ninth day here someone came up to me at 7 a.m. and wanted me to get out of the camp. I found out it was one of the big bosses. He told me I was no carpenter and the other carpenters were doing my work, etc.

It hit me by surprise. Everything he said to me was lies. So I went to the Timekeeper and I told her I quit. She says what's the reason. I said someone don't want me in the camp. She says what's the reason. I don't know. She says you have to have a reason to quit as we have to put it on paper. Also your foreman has to be here. So I told my foreman and he had no reason to let me go.

I went to the Native counselor and he said he was in here the day before and wanted you fired. I walked off the job but he told me to go back to work and if I don't he'll fire me. I said if you fire me, you're going with me. That's as far as it went and I'm still here.

That's the fourth time all my life that a superintendent tried to get rid of me. So that's the reason, one of the reasons, that Natives lose their jobs, but I didn't think it will happen to me again. That's as close as I got to lose the pipeline job. And I found out the one that tried to get rid of me was a Canadian. What you think about that, Howard Rock? A Canadian tried to get rid of an old Indian!

I was wishing that he fired me. Then I was going to start after him with money so he could lose his job.

Well, this is a good camp. A good camp to lose weight. We had cold sandwiches at noon. That's something I'm not used to. But I've been trying to lose weight for at least ten years. When I get fat, my heart wants to quit. I have an enlarged heart. But I don't want it to quit.

Well so long. I'll be there about the 1st of September.

Tell that girl to run over to the Post Office and mail me the last one half dozen Tundra Times, especially the ones with my letters.

Fred Stickman, Sr.

P.S. Tell that Native girl to keep the change after she mail the Tundra Times.

Dear Colleague:

This is to inform you that the Office of Education will be accepting nominations, from Indian tribes and Indian organizations, of Indians and Alaskan Natives to the National Advisory Council on Indian Education (NACIE) until October 15, 1975. These nominations will be considered for appointments to NACIE for terms beginning in May 1976. New appointments will be made to all fifteen membership positions at that time.

Enclosed is an announcement which appeared in the Federal Register indicating how nominations should be made and the factors that will be considered in making final selections. Nominations should be made according to the following categories: (1) Professional educators, (2) laymen involved in education, (3) students, and (4) individuals with other than education experience.

A further explanation of these categories is contained in the Federal Register announcement. Two-thirds of the final selections (10 members) will be from the other categories.

Terms of the members will be staggered in order to maintain continuity, while broadening the base of Indian community involvement. Five members will be selected for one-year terms, five for two-year terms, and five for three-year terms. Following the initial appointments, vacancies will be filled for three-year appointments.

Forms for submitting nominations are enclosed. If additional copies are needed, they are available from the Office of Indian Education. Please provide all the information requested on the form for each of your nominees. Also, please note that the nomination form must be signed by the authorized tribal or Indian organization official submitting the nomination. Completed forms should be returned to the Office of Indian Education, U.S. Office of Education, Room 4043, FOB-6, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202.

Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
T.H. Bell
U.S. Commissioner
of Education

Office of Educ. Accepting Nominations

Department of Health,
Education and Welfare
Office of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202