EDITORIAL -

A Dynamic Young Leader Passes

The tragic fire in Anchorage that took the life last Monday of Albert S. Kaloa, Jr., president of The Native Village of Tyonek, was a numbing blow to that village as well as the native people and the general public as a whole. He had become known as a dynamic, straightforward and positive leader of his people. His passing is profoundly felt and his deeds will be greatly missed.

Kaloa's leadership abilities surprised a great many people. When his village of Tyonek suddenly acquired a wealth of millions of dollars he, among others, was responsible for wise and stable investment of the village's wealth. This shrewd procedure helped to wipe out the spurious opinion of the public that when Indians get money in their hands, they waste no time spending it foolishly. Instead, Kaloa helped to invest his people's money in things designed to bring in more wealth. This, in itself, was a great service to the people he represented.

It was a blow indeed that such a leader, a young man, had to meet an untimely end. He had a bright future with potent fools with which to work that money can make available to him. He had already made wise use of such tools and he was steadily progressing to accomplish much more all for the benefit of his people and the general public.

Kaloa's inspiring leadership had made a mark in Alaska and we hope this will inspire his successor to perform equally well because Tyonek village has become something of a beacon to which other native people are casting their eyes to observe ways of doing things for self improvement in economic and other endeavors.