

5, 10, 15 years ago -

This week in Alaska Native History

- 5 yrs. ago -

Interior to ask for more land

Officials of the Department of the Interior are planning to ask Congress to set aside over 83 million acres of Alaskan land for national parks, forests and scenic rivers.

Provisions in the Alaska Natives Claims Settlement Act allow for up to 80 million acres to be withdrawn, but the Alaska Federation of Natives has been advised that the Interior will seek more land.

Meanwhile, Governor William A. Egan expressed concern over the new action, and said he was worried about "the possible adverse effects on our state's future that are presented" by the Interior's request.

Tanana faces fuel oil crisis

The town of Tanana, a major Yukon River settlement with a

population of more than 400 people is facing a fuel oil crisis. Current fuel oil reserves are inadequate to supply the town for the long winter, and the current supply will run out in January.

Apparently, the fuel oil scheduled to be delivered to the town was not shipped on the last barge delivery of the season. At present, no agency in town is able to supply enough fuel oil to sustain the fuel needs of the town.

Tanana Mayor Arlee D. Charley has asked the State Department of Regional and Community Affairs for assistance. Some 25,000 gallons of fuel oil are needed to see the town through the winter.

- 10 yrs. ago -

AFN receives \$100,000 grant

The Ford Foundation has issued a grant of \$100,000 to the Alaska Federation of Natives, to

help that organization in its efforts to strengthen multi-tribal organizations.

The grant will enable AFN to encourage cooperation among Native leaders so they may take advantage of educational and economic development opportunities.

LBJ introduces rural electricity

With the ceremonious lighting of the White House Christmas tree 5,000 miles away, President Lyndon Johnson officially introduced the electrical program in rural Alaska.

Simultaneous with the lighting of the White House Christmas tree, officials in Hooper Bay switched on the lights of a Christmas tree in Hooper Bay.

Hooper Bay, a village near the mouth of the Yukon River in southwest Alaska, became the first community to utilize electricity installed by Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, Inc.

- 15 yrs. ago -

Yukon villages oppose dam

Results from a recent survey show that at least ten villages on the Yukon River are opposed to the Rampart Dam and other allied Yukon River projects.

In an effort to get a representative sampling of feeling toward the proposed projects, the Tundra Times sent questionnaires to the villages involved in the Rampart project, and the allied

projects of Woodchopper Dam and the Kaltag Dam, which are both in different stages of planning. In addition to the questionnaires, a letter briefly describing the dam, including the pro and con aspects of the project was also included.

Of the 13 answers received, one village had not formed an opinion yet, and ten villages opposed the dam. Another village favored construction of the dam, with the stipulation that it would bring work to the men of the village.

BIA rep. visits Point Hope

Dr. Brenda M. Brush, assistant to the Commissioner of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C., was in Point Hope recently on an informa-

tion-gathering trip.

Her presence was in response to a letter from the village requesting that a National Service Corpsman be assigned there.

She attended a meeting with the Village Council and learned of the problems facing the village and how a National Service Corpsman may be of assistance.

The bill allowing for the National Service Corpsman program has not passed the House of Representatives yet, and if it does pass, the Corpsman may be assigned only to the most needy villages or to villages in certain areas.

Dr. Brush also made stops in Kotzebue, Nome, Fairbanks and Arctic Village during her stay in Alaska.