

Meeting Clears Air...

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settlement.

While the Governor would not give any opinions on the AFN's latest proposal on land claims, he indicated an open mind toward all possible settlements. The AFN proposal which was presented to the Governor provides for 60 million acres of land, 500 million dollars and a 2 per cent overriding royalty on mineral resources to be received in exchange for release of Native claims to other Alaskan lands.

When asked last week, Governor Egan said a great deal of study still had to be done before he would have a definite conclusion on what amount of land would be equitable. What he did have, he said, was an understanding of the native people's deep feelings toward the land.

In his remarks to the AFN leaders, the Governor emphasized it will take federal legislation to resolve the claims issue, since most of Alaska's land is public domain.

"It is very important that the state have some positive evidence as to the inclinations of key members of the Senate and House committees on Interior and Insular Affairs, before making final determination as to the basic land allocation policy necessary to achieve a fair congressional statement."

While the major topic of the day session was land claims, a great deal of time was spent discussing the various problems native people and their villages face in their relations with the state government.

"In every instance where we indicated a problem which indicated a lack of enforcement or attention on the part of the state government, Governor Egan and Attorney General Havelock promised to look into it," said Eben Hopson.

The AFN board members gave the Governor detailed explanations of the basic philosophy the federation had based its land claims proposal on.

The recent AFN revision of their proposals, which raises its asked acreage from 40 to 60 million acres, was the result of their first reexamination of this proposal in two years. It provides for an allocation of land and money received on the basis of land loss.

Various members of the AFN board gave their region's opinions on the land claims issue.

The Arctic Slope Native Association, recently reconciled with the AFN, restated its adamant opposition to the granting of any pipeline routes till the land claims issue is resolved.

"If the pipeline goes through," said ASNA attorney Frederick Paul, "the pressure for settlement is gone and they can forget us for another 103 years." Oil findings, he said, are the reason Congress is pushing for a prompt settlement.

The most valuable result of the meeting, according to the Governor and Native leaders, was the dialogue which cleared the air so the AFN and the state can cooperate in planning for the post land claims period.

"Attorney General Havelock will set in motion planning that will help in coordinating ways to work with the native organizations for their advice on what kinds of legislation we should have after native land claims legislation is passed in order to coordinate activities in a mutually beneficial manner," said Governor Egan.

The Governor emphasized the need to work closely with native organizations after passage in order to prevent conflicting programs.

Many of the AFN speakers also emphasized the need for long range planning for the post land claims settlement era.

"Land claims is a double edged sword," commented Tlingit-Haida Central Council president John Borbridge, "On the one hand our priority effort is towards a fair settlement. We can't wait, however, to plan for the post settlement era and the vast and extensive responsibilities of administration of money and land."

Two of the major problems to be resolved after a land claims settlement is reached are the questions of apportionment of land given and of state and native land selections. Both the AFN and the state government expect to select lands after the land freeze is ended.

AFN president Don Wright asked the state administration to work with an AFN Task Force to resolve problems of land apportionment. He strongly defended the new AFN proposals as a good basis on which to unite to ask Congress for legislation.

"The settlement is for all Alaska," Wright said. "The money will be spent here and every citizen will benefit."

AFN officials are optimistic about the success of their proposals in the next Congress.

"The idea is to take something to Congress," explained Eben Hopson. "Right now, the House is in limbo. While they have not agreed with the Senate bill, someone has to come up with some bill which they can consider. We think we will have this."

Hopson leaves his AFN post at the end of this month to join the Egan administration.

"This isn't the last meeting with the Native groups," Governor Egan said last week. "I hope to have more meetings and meetings with other groups of Alaskans. Right now our most compelling problems relate to land claims and to getting meaningful programs working in rural areas."

Valdez Picket Line...

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the Japanese freighter Halo Maru.

North Gulf Natives, Inc., a corporate operating entity of the Chugach Native association holds an Alyeska Pipeline contract to remove protective rings from the ends of pipe stored in the Valdez yards.

Another portion of the ring removal contract is held by Banister Pipelines, Inc., whose employees are represented by the Laborers Union.

The Laborers and Hod Carriers Union Local 341 of Anchorage formed the picket line on December 15 to attempt to organize Native workers employed by North Gulf Natives, Inc.

They based their picket line on the claim these workers were working for half as much money as union members and thus the work was being accomplished under substandard working conditions.

Members of the Teamsters' Union, employed by Al Renk and Sons trucking company, who were unloading the freighter laden with about 10 miles of 48 inch pipe decided last Tuesday to honor the Laborer's Union picket line. They felt it was a legitimate wages and working conditions issue, said Labor Commissioner Benson.

Benson reiterated that he had not been at Valdez, and his own knowledge was gained from speaking to contesting parties

Money Distribution Rankles

Despite several days of meetings which hashed out a land proposal to base distribution of land claims funds on the land claimed, support for this plan among AFN board members is not unanimous. Representatives of two of the most populous regions, the southwest and the southeast, feel the money should be distributed more along the lines of a per capita formula.

Tony Lewis, on behalf of his southwest people, told the board there was no "sharing alike at all in this proposal."

To support his motion to the

board to return to its earlier position he said the Arctic Slope Natives would receive eight times as much money per person as his people.

John Borbridge, president of the Tlingit-Haida Central Council, seconded the motion.

"Our people supported what they now call the 'original' AFN position," Borbridge said. "Without their approval, we do not have the authority to reduce their share of the settlement."

These two regions, with large populations, claim effective domain over a small fraction of the land claimed by northern Native groups.

"This is a real estate deal," said Al Ketzler. The present AFN proposal resulted from the compromise which brought the Arctic Slope Native Association back into the AFN.

The board decided to postpone the motion to their January 22 meeting.

Ten UA Skiers Going to Norway

COLLEGE - Ten University of Alaska skiers will be among 62 Alaskans flying to Norway during the Christmas holidays.

The contingent will include 41 skiers and 21 additional persons taking advantage of the group flight arrangements.

The 10 University of Alaska skiers are Greg Wyman, Lonnie Chesnut, Glen Hansen, Joe Beedle, Kirk Zinck, Karl Hough, Mike Sallee, Harold Pieni, Gayle Gregory and Lynn Cason.

Four other skiers-Louisa Stine of Lathrop High School in Fairbanks and Alaska Methodist University skiers Trudy Owen, Gene Morgan and Margy Mahoney-will ski under the UA banner in the Norway competition on tap.

The skiers will travel to Lillehammer on December 24 for one week and then move to the Oslo area until returning on the 12th of January.

In addition to Louisa Stine, Lathrop High School skiers making the trip are Tom Siebels, Eddie Dendbow, Marianne Van Enkevort, Roxanne Van Enkevort, Jim Moriarty and Warren Taylor.

University of Alaska Coach Bill Smith and wife Janet along with Lathrop Coach Jim Whisenant and wife Elizabeth are also making the trip.

Winter Social Season Begins at UA

COLLEGE-A spirit of collaboration between the University of Alaska and the Fairbanks community is about to be demonstrated once more by the highlight of the Winter social season-the annual Holiday Ball for which President and Mrs. William R. Wood of the University are hosts.

Closely guarded preparations are in progress for the ball, to be held at the University Commons from 9 p.m. on Tuesday until 1 o'clock the following morning.

Although details of the decorations have been withheld, Mrs. Wood has disclosed that silver and blue will dominate the Christmas color scheme.

Stan and the Counts, a six-piece band directed by Stan Vasquez and known in the Fairbanks area for its versatility, will supply the vintage music for the waltzes, the one-steps, the charlestons, sambas, schottisches, mamboes, twists, swings, skates, monkeys, and other stately or swinging dances for which the participants may be in the mood.

The Holiday Ball was conceived in 1963 as a special occasion for the faculty and staff of the University to invite their civilian and military friends from the community to share an evening with them on the campus.

"The first occasion," Dr. Wood recalled, "was an open house for the newly completed Commons. It was a time for us all to say 'thank you' to the people of Fairbanks for their warm hospitality throughout the year."

"This spirit of friendship has permeated the community during the years, illustrated, to name only one example, by the Chamber of Commerce's activities annually in playing host to new faculty members at dinners across the city."

"So the holiday season seems a very appropriate time for the university community to show its appreciation."

The Holiday Ball has drawn

as many as 600 participants, including faculty and staff members and their invited guests.

"The increasing popularity of the event," President Wood remarked, "is evidence to Mrs. Wood and me of the fact that there does not exist here in interior Alaska any conflict between town and gown."

"The faculty and staff participate in all forms of cultural, religious and civic activities of the community-church, service clubs and other organizations. There is continuing active, extensive collaboration between university and community. I doubt if there is any organization-and there are scores of them-in which the University is not represented by faculty and staff members."

Dr. Wood suggested that in a way the Holiday Ball was comparable to the Crystal Ball held in Anchorage, an affair which raises funds for student scholarships to Alaska institutions.

In preparation for the campus ball the faculty and staff members are being asked to reply to the invitations and include the names of off-campus friends who will accompany them to the University Commons.

"Even if those invited can only stay a few minutes we want the people to come and see their friends," President Wood said. "Alumni, former faculty, regents and former regents are all considered as part of the faculty and staff for the occasion and are asked to come and bring special guests from among both their military and civilian friends. People from federal and state agencies based on the campus are included."

Punch is to be served all through the evening, with a buffet at about 11 o'clock. Black ties are optional.

"Any guest," a spokesman commented, "will be able to request music for the favorite dance, whether it's a polka or a cha-cha."

Pribilof Islands Fight...

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koff, was to explore alternative economic operations for the islanders in case the adverse publicity from the Friends of Animals drove the prices of fur seals down.

As a result of the task force visit, the Village Council of St. Paul has filed a petition for a charter to establish the village as a Fourth Class city.

St. George, the even more isolated second Pribilof community, submitted a resolution requesting the St. Paul council represent them in all legal problems and developmental plans.

St. George is reached only a few times per year by boat, making it almost impossible for the smaller community to participate directly in most development program meetings-or receive mail.

Also as a result of the task

force discussions, the councils will petition their Congressmen for funds for Army Engineers to construct a small boat harbor at St. Paul-in order to aid the community in developing a fishing industry.

An economic study to promote industrial and commercial development at the Islands was funded with \$2500 from the Economic Development Administration and the State completed action necessary to complete a Food Stamp Program at the islands, as a result of the Task Force visit, according to Anchorage BIA Superintendent Roy Peratrovich.

Other plans on which action was taken included increases planned in tourist and transportation facilities and other small businesses which might provide added income to the islanders, Peratrovich said.