

# NORTH Commission . . Hensley

(continued from Page 1)

Umiat. It will cross the Yukon River above Rampart, swing through the Fort Hamlin hills, then head north through Anaktuvuk Pass to Umiat. Eventually, the trail might extend to wherever oil or mineral discoveries occur. A winter haul trail is created by clearing brush over the tundra. As the ground freezes, heavy vehicles can travel without any need for paving. Though the system has been widely used in northern Canada, it has not been tried here. It is relatively

## RADC Project . .

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"None of us heard about it," Nicholls said that if AFN gets the project, they probably would hire a capable full time director from outside to administer it. The Alaska Federation of Natives never will be able to represent the natives as a group under their present constitution, according to Hugh Nicholls, executive secretary of the Arctic Slope Native Association, at Barrow this week.

Since the constitution calls for dues, it is selective about membership. Some people can pay, others can't he pointed out. Thus, AFN never will be able to stand for all the natives in court. It will be in the same position as the Alaska Native Brotherhood.

Nicholls favors financing AFN through contributions from its wealthier members, instead of through uniform dues for individuals.

## Microfilmed . .

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university archivist, have been collecting potentially valuable documents in an attempt to create a rich historic record of the state. They are interested in old diaries, letters and other documents that people have in their attics. Last summer they traveled the Yukon River by canoe to photograph old cabins from Eagle to Circle. Persons having materials they suspect are historically valuable have been requested to contact McCarthy at the university library, University of Alaska, College Alaska, 99735.

"Much of Alaska's history is already destroyed," Ryberg said. "But we are a young state so we still have a good opportunity to create a record."

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inexpensive to create.

The trail will serve as a supply route for the petroleum industry on the north slope and the mineral mining to the south. However, it also can be used by villagers.

New jobs may be created for the people who live along its route. John Rowlett, Fairbanks oil and gas consultant, foresees the need for service facilities, warehouses, possibly an overnight inn and maintenance workers.

He named five nationally known transportation executives to the new commission and five Alaskans.

They are:

Russell G. Smith, chairman of the Asiatic Development San Francisco.

Donald G. Smith, former manager of Alaska Railroad, now assistant vice president of operations for the Missouri Pacific Railroad.

Samuel F. Pryor Jr., former vice president of Pan American World Airways, New York.

Everett Hutchinson, undersecretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C.

William P. Lear, president of Lear Jet Corp., Wichita, Kan.

Albert C. Swalling, Anchorage contractor.

John B. Coghill, Nenana businessman.

John B. Manley, general manager of the Alaska Railroad.

Jack H. White, Anchorage insurance and real estate executive.

C.W. Snedden, publisher of the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner.

The group will be known as the NORTH Commission (Northern Operations of Rail Transportation and Highways).

## Catches Whale

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year due to the late catch.

"Amos might delay it for a week and half or two weeks because the women must have that length of time to make the mekiqaa."

Mekiqaa is a traditional cured whale meat served at the whaling celebration. Women cure it in a warm nook of their homes literally slow cooking the meat in its own juice for about two weeks.

If this tradition is followed, the whaling celebration at Point Hope might not take place until around the middle of June.

## Times Hits Salient Points . . .

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helped pass Alaskan legislation during his time in office. Rather we have a freshman member of the minority party, inexperienced in congress, who did not even appear in support of the bill at the House Committee hearings. Possibly Congressman Pollock's failure to get this bill passed by the House and his similar failure to get House approval of funding of the mortgage relief act may have been caused by one of his frequent absences from Washington on speaking engagements around the country. However, I tend to agree with others who feel that it doesn't seem to make much difference whether he is in Washington or not.

Yours truly,  
Russel L. Brown

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himself in the international arena with issues like the Soviet consular treaty."

Hensley expressed surprise that natives, by implication, were being held responsible for the land freeze. "The natives had nothing to do with writing the Alaska constitution and statehood act," he pointed out. "It is mainly these two documents that are in conflict now. Before the land issue is settled, we will be accused of causing every problem in the state."

But since the leasing of land by the state has been frozen by the United States Department of the Interior, Hensley is in no hurry to see it lifted.

"If they lift the freeze, the state will select all the most favorable areas around the villages for development."

The state has to raise taxes, land freeze or not, Hensley said. "Everyone has known that for over a year. I have not been shown to my satisfaction that the freeze is heading Alaska toward financial ruin."

Hensley challenged Pollock's assertion that lands not marked for natives should be unfrozen because Congress is highly unlikely to increase the size of the land or money settlement. "As far as I'm concerned, any provision of the bill is negotiable," he said.

He also questioned Pollock's remark that the bill would provide restitution for past injustices to natives. "Native claims are not based on past injustice," Hensley said. "We have a legal right to that land. Howard's statement must be America's guilty conscience coming through."

Hensley explained that he and Notti were cautious about meeting with Pollock because they feared he might take their picture with him, to be spread around the state for political purposes.

"If Pollock wants my specific views on housing, native lands and reindeer, I'd be willing to write to him," Hensley said.

"I want to emphasize that I am not working for any party in my objections to Pollock. I simply do not feel that he has demonstrated sincere friendship."

# Rep. Howard Pollock . .

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said. "Under Secretary of the Interior Charles Luce sent the invitations. I was just one of the people who attended." According to Pollock, Luce said that Natives needn't be concerned with land bill meetings, yet.

"I don't want to create a breach," Pollock continued. "We have a real important job to do. I want the native people to know that they have a friend in Congress."

"I want to know what the Natives want realistically and to represent their desires," he said. He complained that he has had a hard time getting information from Native leaders.

Pollock indicated that he was satisfied with the land bill as outlined by Secretary of the Interior Udall, though he will not be able to study it in detail until it is released in a few weeks. "The proposal is very much like what Governor Walter Hickel proposed," he said.

As the bill now stands, every village will get the land they occupy, up to 50,000 acres, or approximately nine-mile square, surrounding the village and compensation for land occupied and used in 1867.

Pollock is not happy, however, about the land freeze imposed by Secretary Udall.

"All land not in the bill should be unfrozen," he said. "Rest assured that the final bill will not provide more for the Natives than is already included. It is seldom that Congress ever says the administration is not giving enough."

"Why destroy our state's whole economic system? If you cut out the resources that run the government, you hurt

everyone, including the native people. There might not be any money for welfare."

Without the money from oil and gas leases, the state won't have enough money to run itself, Pollock added.

"The state would have to get money from some other source or collapse," Pollock said. They would have to raise taxes, but added that he had never known a tax increase to go through in an election year.

"The land freeze is not going to make the bill go through any faster," Pollock asserted. "The vast majority of non-natives recognize that there has been injustice and that there has to be some restitution."

It's just a question of how much land and how much money is needed."

## Letters . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

But I got sick and can't stand the cold weather so came out to my daughters here, bought a place to live close to here and am still here. I am 81 so I guess I'll not go back now. But my heart still is with the north. I want some of your papers. I am taking the Alaska Sportsman from Ketchikan. But I want your paper too. I am enclosing \$1.50 for which send me some subscription to the Tundra Times for what it is worth. I could not find out what it was worth in this paper I was looking at.

Sincerely,

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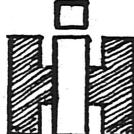
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