

# Letters from Here and There

## Note of Thanks For Editorial

November 18, 1974

Dear Howard,

I want to thank you for your editorial in the Nov. 13 edition of the Tundra Times. It expressed so beautifully and painfully what many of us who supported Willie felt in our hearts but could not find the words.

Thank You,  
Carol Drake  
Box 156  
Nome, Alaska 99762

## I Worked Hard For Willie

Box 234  
Dillingman, Alaska  
November 26, 1974

Dear Howard:

I join Agnes Griffith as she dares to hope for what we thought was the "Impossible Dream." The spirit of the Native people is to push forward without ever giving up. We must keep hope alive in our hearts.

I join Agnes Griffith as I proudly state that I worked hard for Willie. Not because he is a Native, but because he is a man capable of doing the job for all Alaskans. Because he is truly qualified and he happens to be a Native.

My heart was saddened as I followed the campaign from Bristol Bay. I could not believe that the people of Alaska could swallow a racist theme against Willie, hook, line, and sinker.

Although my heart is sad, I rejoice in the good fight all of Willie's supporters gave to the opposition. We may have lost this election, but there will be others. We can be thankful that we won people like Agnes Griffith who are already gearing up for another battle.

We have also won the Stanton O. Katchatags who refuse to give in and already lay out plans for us to follow. Maybe by the time we get reorganized the rest of Alaska will have grown up and we can present Alaska's finest again. The next time, let us hope that all of Alaska will look at the man and not his color.

Hang in there, Willie. We still love you.

Very truly yours,  
Nels A. Anderson, Jr.

## Would Have Done Extremely Well

Box 206  
Tok, Alaska 99780  
Nov. 20, 1974

Howard Rock, Tundra Times  
Box 1287  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Mr. Rock:

I read with interest and sadness the editorial in Tundra Times for Nov. 13 on "Don Young's "racially tinged campaign calculated to cut down a minority candidate."

Senator Hensley is in my opinion one of the most capable men in Alaskan public life. Intelligent, trained, educated, and a truly unique personality. A good legislator and a good administrator.

When the Northwest District which sent him to Juneau did so they were well rewarded. He worked hard for a settlement of the Native Land Claims (returning a part of what was once theirs to the Native people). He would not be representing a rural district to do otherwise. And he was very successful.

If all we Alaskans had sent him to Washington to represent us he would have done just that — and extremely well. How well I hope to live to find out.

I would like to point out that if Don Young had been a Democrat and conducted that kind of campaign against Senator Hensley in a primary, every active Democrat in the state would have zeroed in on him like a hornet.

No Democrat would survive politically by using such methods. No Democrat I know of would want to. (in Alaska).

Yours truly,  
Mellie Terwilliger, Ch.  
Alaska State Democratic Party

## Hard to Drive Nails at 50 Below Zero

Cold Foot, Alaska  
Nov. 26, 1974

Mr. Howard Rock  
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Friend the Tundra Times  
Editor:

Well Doctor I'm not going home for Christmas. Ever since the State took over the school from the Sisters the Catholic School, I had a Blue Christmas at Nulato. The teachers now for the State, they have the programs and entertainment 2 or 3 days before Christmas, and they take off and have no school till after New Years.

When the Sisters was teaching school, they had no holiday. The program was on Christmas day, that's the day Jesus Christ was born, and Santa Claus came to the villages the same day. Not two or three days before. I don't remember when the Sisters have or had holidays. They had to pack in wood and water every day. I know because I used to help them for Cracker Jack, etc.

Well it was 48 below yesterday here. I didn't think I was going to drive nails at 48 below. I use to trap and live in a tent with my boys, and sometimes alone and think nothing of it at 50 or 55, but driving nails is something else. But I guess we have to put in the pipeline as soon as possible so the oil will start to flow that much sooner. That's the way it looks here.

I'm suppose to go in December 15 and come back here January 15. One month vacation. They're about 25 carpenters here, and no one is quitting yet. All working out doors too. Its 51 below this morning, and I'm going to take a space heater to work. We have a lot of them. that I didn't have on the trap-

(Continued on Page 11)

# Letters

(Continued from Page 2)

line.

They're quite a few Eskimos and few Indian like me here, say about 20 but the rest all from the States. No local from Fairbanks that I know. Its pretty hard for me to get along with the boss, because he is from outside, although he is a lot smarter than me.

Well its quarter to seven now almost time to go to work. Best regards to all, God bless them.

Fred Stickman, Sr.

## The Talent of Herbie Vent

Bechtel Incorporated  
Engineers — Constructors  
Fifty Beale Street  
San Francisco, California  
November 20, 1974

Mr. Howard Rock, Editor  
Tundra Times  
510 2nd Ave. Chena Bldg.  
Room 220

Dear Sir:

For your information, I would appreciate your consideration of what Herbie is attempting to do do with his talents and convictions. Herbie feels very strongly that the time is now to set aside apathy and get involved in Native betterment.

I concur with his ideas; he is very realistic in taking full advantage of what could be good times for Alaska Natives; that the time should be used to take full advantage of today's opportunities to up-grade one's position.

Sincerely,  
Lonnie Thomas

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11/8/74

From: Hank Anderson  
Of: Native Counseling  
At: Prospect

Bechtel Incorporated  
Interoffice Memorandum

Herbie Vent is a self-taught, self-styled Native musician. He has traveled extensively around the Interior as an entertainer. Herbie has an intense desire to tell his message to the public, using the medium he knows best, music. To stylize Herbie's music, I would describe it as ballad and blues.

The message that Herb wants to tell include: the history of the Interior Native Chiefs and their accomplishments, and opportunities for Native people which can be a reality if they will accept the challenge. Herb also wants to travel the length of the pipeline to get the feel and tempo of each camp and its occupants and try to capture the idea of the North Slope Pipeline entoto. Herbie realizes this is a tremendous undertaking, but he is very intense in what he wants to do for his people. Herb is working as a "bull cook" to start earning the money to realize his goal. He plans on taking a year or whatever it takes to gain perfection. He said he will not settle for anything less. Herb has twenty-five years expertise in music.

We all have goals, and there must be Federal Johnson-O'Malley funds or something to give Herb and Alaska a chance to put the Alaska Native on record.

Lonnie, when your group visited today, the Alyeska representative listened to Herb and I think he could see the sincerity and feel the urgency in what Herbie had to say. At the request of the Alyeska representative, I am putting Herb's ideas on paper

and offering it to the interested groups as a way to sponsor some of our Alaskans.

Hank Anderson

## Freight Handling

November 8, 1974

Wien Air Alaska  
Kotzebue, Alaska 99752

Dear Mr. Manager:

This is concerning the freight and freight handling that's done at Wien Cargo. Recently freight received by the Tigara School has been delivered in a condition where it could not be used or is in a very poor condition. This mostly pertains to the building material that is to be used for the new High School Building.

Also, supplies and equipment have been kept at the Wien Cargo-Warehouse for a long period of time. We mean a period of 1 — 2 months. Thus slowing down the progress at the school end, at time's to a screeching halt. This has been definitely proved several times.

We realize Wien is the only regular airline serving Pt. Hope and a good part of Alaska and I'm sure you and your employees take pride in your work. We are looking forward to your continued service.

Sincerely,  
Sayers Turroyluk  
Raymond Stone Sr.  
Rupert Koenuk  
cc; Pt. Hope School, North Slope Borough School District, Mayor of North Slope Borough, Mayor of Pt. Hope, Willie Hensley, Frank Ferguson, Tundra Times, Lennie Lane Jr.

## Reg. Corporation

1124 Park Drive  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
November 27, 1974

Dear Editor:

Shareholders of Arctic Slope Regional Corporation:

This letter is to express my concern regarding the management of our corporation.

We are all aware that the directors and corporate officers are working without a boss. Not any kind of voice from the stockholders.

I am encouraging everyone to organize the stockholders, instead of talking about it. All you who

are concerned, so we will have some control over our corporation executives.

You know when they make a trip like to Oregon with their wives, they are using stockholder's money, while the By-laws approve, I do not approve.

This is where we need to come in. I do not approve of such misuse of our money. We need to make changes in the rules. The By-laws may approve of meetings outside of the state, I do not approve of such misuse of our money. As owners we have a right to change those rules.

If you are concerned about your people, your children, I encourage you, don't just talk, hurry up and organize the stockholder. Don't say "never got around to it". This is the time to do it. You have all the right as stockholders.

They wrote their own rules in the By-laws, they have not presented those By-laws for our approval to date, we have a right to change those rules and right to adopt guidelines to influence de-

cisions of management.

We have complained to our directors and officers for the past two years, and to date they have taken no corrective action. This is the time for we shareholders to band together and call a special meeting, to review the corporate charter, and the By-laws, to adopt amendments and guidelines for our directors and corporate officers to follow.

Concerned shareholder,  
Etta Lord