



ALASKAN SENATORS Mike Gravel (D), right, and Ted Stevens (R), left, flank former Congressman Howard W. Pollock during confirmation hearings held February 9, 1971, on his appointment as Deputy Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Senators Gravel and Stevens each introduced fellow Alaskan Pollock to the Commerce Committee members conducting the hearings and then testified in his behalf.

Youth Involvement in Government Hearings

JUNEAU—Senator Jan Koslosky (Republican of Palmer), Chairman of the Senate State Affairs Committee announced his appointment of Senator Ed Merdes of Fairbanks as Chairman of the Special Sub-Committee to conduct hearings on SB 94 which is Governor Egan's bill for involving Alaskan youth in government. Senator Cliff Groh of Anchorage was also appointed to this sub-committee.

Senator Koslosky instructed the sub-committee to conduct public hearings both in and out of the Capitol in order to afford the people of Alaska an opportunity to express their opinions and assist the legislature in enacting the best possible version of the Governor's proposal.

The concept involved in the Governor's bill, Senator Koslosky pointed out, is a dynamic and far reaching policy of educating

youth in the actual operation of state government.

Senator Merdes announced that public hearings on SB 94 will be held in Anchorage on Friday, February 26 at 8:00 p.m. at the Administration Building, 670 W. Fireweed Lane, of the Greater Anchorage Borough School District, and in Fairbanks on the following morning, Saturday, February 27 at 10:00 a.m. in the basement of the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce Building.

If sufficient public demand and requests are made from other areas of the state such as Southeastern, Kenai and Northwestern Alaska, serious consideration will be given to conducting such hearings in those locations.

SB 94 is printed in full on the editorial page.

Bill Introduced to Provide \$100,000 To Pay for Indian Affairs Meet

A bill has been introduced in Congress providing \$100,000 to help pay expenses of a proposed White House Conference on Indian Affairs.

The bill, which was co-sponsored by Senator Ted Stevens (R-Alaska), provides for a conference to be held before next September.

"Hopefully, the conference would help sustain and increase recent National attention to the

unique problems of the American Indians, Eskimos and Aleuts."

He said the conference could result in some unity or consensus of purposes among the groups now representing the original Americans and would enable the compilation of new material to help chart the future role of government in Indian health, education, employment, economic development and migration to the cities.

\$100,000 Grant...

(Continued from page 1)

John Borbridge, Jr. is presently recruiting for a full time public information officer to operate the project. The member of the local Tlingit-Haida community who will be trained in the use of video units will serve as a part-time salaried operator.

Borbridge stated that the Central Council equipment in each community will be available for certain additional educational and public affairs services.

Understandably elated in receiving the grant, Council President Borbridge said, "The Ford Foundation is to be commended for its support of our efforts to be innovative in improving communications throughout the Tlingit and Haida constituency."

"We anticipate our continued participation in future technological communications developments that affect our constituency in the future."

The Alaska Educational Broadcasting Commission executive director Charles Northrip, who assisted the Central Council in writing the proposal for the project said, "This project, like the AEBC-supported Bethel radio station, places control of the communications process where it belongs—in the hands of the people who will utilize the communications service."

Borbridge and Northrip indicated their desire to use the Central Council project as a model for future video communications projects in Alaska.

Intensive care units with 634 beds were built or improved by VA during the year ending June 30, 1970, doubling the number of beds for acutely ill patients. 19 more are planned.

Village Liquor Retail

Alaska's small cities are seeking the right to operate their own retail liquor stores. So far, the House Local Government Committee has not taken action on the bill to authorize this.

A bill sponsored by Rep. Frank Ferguson (D-Kotzebue) would allow cities with a population of fewer than 3500 residents to obtain retail liquor licenses if their voters approve.

Barrow is a mainstay of the bootleggers. Barrow residents spend some \$500,000 per year for liquor, according to Jack Chenoweth, city manager of Barrow.

Because Barrow is dry now, Chenoweth testified to the House committee, "People go to the Post Office, write out a money order, send it down to Fairbanks

and have the liquor air-freighted back. It all seems to arrive in Barrow at the same time and results in some pretty bad situations."

Ferguson estimated that in his area, bootleg booze sells for \$20 per bottle, as high as \$60 in the summer.

In Barrow, residents voted in 1969 to go wet. They expected the control board to grant the city a license, but the board has refused. Kotzebue and Bethel already have licenses.

If licenses in Barrow were issued to private individuals, said the city manager, the city could expect to realize only about \$15,000 per year from its 3 per cent sales tax. A city retail store could bring the city \$140,000 per year.

Edwardson Testifies...

(Continued from page 1)

The impact report, however, mainly documented the Interior Department's ignorance of what the ultimate environmental impact of a pipeline would be, Edwardsen charged. It admitted many aspects were not yet known, with scientific tests just beginning.

The report also ignores the impact of a pipeline on the human environment, according to Edwardsen.

"The whole thrust of the draft report is its impact on things. Yes, the Eskimo is the forgotten man and the Department of the Interior is composed of sophomores who control the destiny of these forgotten people."

The ASNA executive director proposes the "Department of Interior, our guardian, require of the oil companies that if there be an oil spill that the oil companies pay the Eskimos of the North Slope \$15 per gallon for each gallon spilled."

This substitute subsistence would prevent the degrading alternative of substituting welfare—the government's only answer to loss of livelihood.

Edwardson's angry statement, documented by over 30 pages of ASNA comments on specific portions of the environmental impact report questioned the impact of civilization on the birds, fish and animals his people depend on.

He also questioned how the government could control "erratic hunters and fishermen with respect to existing endangered species."

Secretary of the Interior Rogers Morton presided over the hearings as they began at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, Washington time.

Governor William A. Egan, who arrived in Washington on Monday, led off the testimony. He spoke in support of the pipeline with provision for ad-

ditional state participation in regulation.

Among those state officials testifying at the hearings are Natural Resources Commissioner Charles F. Herbert, Fish and Game Commissioner Wallace Noerenberg, Health and Welfare Commissioner Dr. Frederick P. McGinnis, Highways Commissioner Bruce Campbell; James Anderegg, head of the State Division of Environmental Health; Dr. Peter Morrison, director of the Institute of Arctic Biology, University of Alaska; Dr. Charles E. Behlke, director of the university's Institute of Environmental Engineering and Byron Mal-lott, director of the Local Affairs Agency.

The pipeline hearings are required by law to review the environmental impact statement released last month by the Interior Department on the proposed \$1 billion pipeline to carry oil from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez.

Two conservation groups have filed suit to stop the pipeline till adequate environmental controls are instituted. The hearings comprise part of the procedure required to lift these suits.

Many of the same state officials will remain in Washington to testify at Senate Interior Committee hearings on a land claims bill on Thursday.

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