

AFN Hires Ketzler

Assistant Director

Rep. William Hensley said this week that the Alaska Federation of Natives has hired Alfred Ketzler of Nenana to be the assistant executive director to Hensley himself who was appointed executive director by Emil Notti, president of AFN.

"Al Ketzler is going to be my right arm," said Hensley. "He's going to work with AFN administering programs, attending sessions on behalf of AFN. He'll take some load off my hands and I'll be able to spend most of my time doing what I'm supposed to do."

Al Ketzler moved to Anchorage last Monday to take over his new duties.

Hensley said that AFN as a native organization has applied and received several large grants and the programs that result from them will have to be administered and processed.

"In that light we need constant surveillance to see that they are processed well and to see that the programs stay within their budgets," said Hensley.

He said that on the other

hand his office has the responsibility of maintaining communications with the board of directors, work with the state, local lawyers, and the Alaskan public; work with Washington, D.C. representatives of the AFN, and at the same time get enough operating funds for emergency expenditures.

Some of the work is difficult and some of it is just having enough time to do it all," Hensley said. "There is a constant stream of people coming through the office, telephone calls from all over, and there are many meetings we have to attend."

He said that at the last AFN board meeting it was decided that the most important thing at the present time was to push for legislation on land claims. He said the intent was to involve the board in this process as much as possible.

Washington representatives Hensley mentioned are Emil Notti and John Borbridge, first vice president of AFN. Borbridge is also president of the Tlingit and Haida Indians Central Council.