

# CANDIDATES AROUND ALASKA TOSS HATS

With primary elections for state and federal offices less than five months away, candidates around Alaska are tossing their hats in the ring to gear up for one of the most important elections in the state's history.

Beginning construction of the trans-Alaska pipeline, decision on a gas pipeline, settlement of the Native land claims, formation of the Native corporations and nearing federal action to withdraw 83 million Alaskan acres combine to make 1974 the start of a new era in Alaska.

At stake are the vital governor's and lieutenant governor's seats, one U.S. House seat, the state's only U.S. House of Representatives post and numerous Senate and House seats on the state level.

Following are thumbnail sketches of some of the candidates who have already announced their decisions to run:

## Hensley Plans Announcement

At the conclusion of the legislative session, State Senator Willie Hensley of Kotzebue plans to announce his candidacy for U.S. House of Representatives.

The 32 year-old Eskimo legislator played a prominent role in the Alaska Native Land Claims Settlement Act and helped organize the Alaska



**SENATOR HENSLEY**  
... Seeks U.S. House seat

Federation of Natives back in 1966, as well as the Northwest Alaska Native Association.

Elected that year to the Alaska House of Representatives, he was sent on to the Senate by his constituents in 1970 for a four-year term. He has taken a keen interest in Native Educational problems and centers for the elderly in rural villages.

Hensley views the federal government's proposal to withdraw 83 million acres as a proposition that has ignored input by Alaskans — a situation he vows to correct. At stake are mineral and timber development, he says, as well as tourism.

"It will be important to rally the Democratically controlled House to defend vigorously Alaska's interest and to promote effective solutions to our problems."

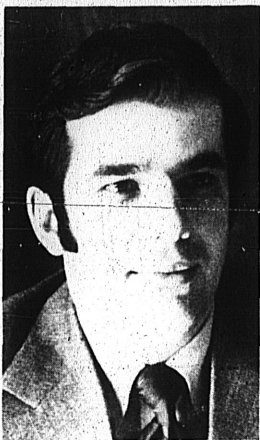
A soft-spoken, effective legislator, Hensley earned a degree in political science at George Washington University in Washington, D. C. from 1963-66. Since then he has returned to the Capital some 70 times on legislative business concerning the Native people and the state.

## Miller Aims for U.S. Senate

State Senate President Terry Miller of North Pole is seeking the Republican nomination for the U.S. Senate.

The 32 year-old Miller waited probably longer than he would have liked to announce his candidacy because his decision hinged on what direction former governor and Secretary of the Interior Walter J. Hickel would take.

Miller announced two days after Hickel said he would seek the governorship. If Hickel had



**SEN. TERRY MILLER**  
... Seeks U.S. Senate seat

chosen to run for the Senate, it was generally believed that Miller would have chosen to try for the governor's seat.

The relationship between the federal and state government will be paramount in the young legislator's campaign. He said, "In one instance, the federal government seems intent upon interfering in every little domestic decision which rightfully belongs to the people of this state."

Yet, he points out, "We see one example of (federal neglect) ... in the case of the almost criminal federal failure to protect our state's fishermen and fisheries resources from foreign encroachment."

As young as he is, Miller has a long record of experience behind him. He was elected to the North Star Borough Assembly at age 20 and won a state house seat in 1966. In 1968 he was elected to the Senate and was named Senate president in 1972.

If he captures the nomination, Miller will most likely face incumbent Senator Mike Gravel. In his announcement speech he blasted the incumbent for being "too busy in other pursuits to properly perform his duties as a United States Senator for Alaska."

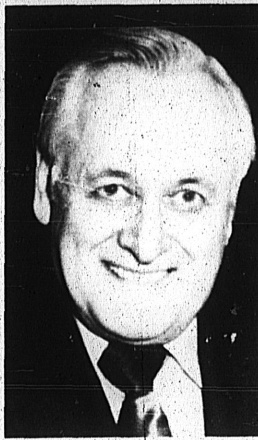
Miller is generally placed in the liberal wing of the GOP.

## Egan Expected To Announce

Incumbent Gov. William A. Egan is fully expected to announce his intentions to seek a fourth, four-year term as chief executive of the State of Alaska.

If elected, Egan will have gained a total 16-year mandate from the people to direct the state in Juneau. He was first elected in 1958, lost to Walter J. Hickel in 1966, but bounced back to power in 1970.

"Bill," as he is addressed by thousands of constituents, can be expected to run on his long-accumulated record. And he's certain to use his stay-on-the-job reputation to greatest advantage, never having demonstrated ambitions outside of state government.



**GOVERNOR EGAN**  
... May seek own seat

Egan recently said he was not surprised at Hickel's decision to run for governor rather than the U. S. Senate because, as Egan put it, after a couple years in the governor's chair, a man can leave it, take another job without causing too many hard feelings among voters.

## Hickel Seeks Governorship

After keeping Alaskans in suspense for many months, and himself under pressure, former Secretary of the Interior and Gov. of Alaska Walter J. Hickel has announced that he will seek once again to become governor of Alaska.

Hickel was fired from his cabinet post in 1970 by President Richard Nixon after he



**WALTER HICKEL**  
... Seeks governorship

made public a letter urging the president to listen to the nation's youth. The firing may have been a blessing in disguise because it left the Alaskan untainted by Watergate and lent him a certain prophetic stature.

Hickel's post-Cabinet book "Who Owns America" was widely acclaimed as authored by an intense individual with his own clear ideas on where America should be going. While undergoing confirmation hearings for Interior, Hickel was criticized severely for saying he was not "for conservation for conservation's sake."

Today, in the midst of the energy crunch, hardly any American waiting in the gas lines would disagree with him.

Hickel is basing his campaign on the need for new leadership at the top state posts and development of the state's natural resources as the key to its future as a national and world resources leader. He promises to try to increase Alaska's share of land in statehood agreements from the current 25 million acres to anywhere up to 103 million acres. Hickel

labeled present state government as negligent in that pursuit.

Regarding resources, the Anchorage resident said: "The world is in need, and the need is for the basics of life — oil, minerals, fish, timber, and recreation ... Alaska has all of these."

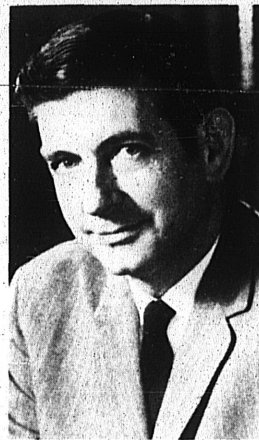
(Hickel made these remarks to the Republican State Convention recently held in Sitka.)

Hickel is a wealthy man, having made his financial success in the hotel-construction industry.

## First to Throw Hat for Gov.

In the race for the Republican nomination for governor is former Gov. Keith Miller of Anchorage, the first to throw his hat in the ring.

Miller was secretary of State



**SEN. KEITH MILLER**  
... Seeks governorship

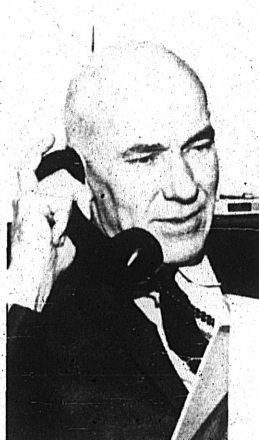
in Alaska when then Gov. Walter Hickel was called to Washington to accept the job of Secretary of the Interior in Nixon's first cabinet. He is now a state senator.

Following Hickel's announcement to enter the August primary, Miller said he had no intentions of backing down from the fight ahead. Miller lost by a narrow margin in the 1970 gubernatorial election to Gov. William A. Egan.

## C. R. Seeks Senate Seat

Another candidate for the Republican nomination to the U. S. Senate is State Senator C. R. Lewis of Anchorage.

In a speech before the Sitka GOP Convention, Lewis urged



**SENATOR LEWIS**  
... Seeks U.S. Senate seat

Republicans in Alaska to unite behind principles of maintaining military strength, balancing the federal budget, supporting crime control and holding federal power to the limits of the U. S. Constitution.

On impeachment, he said he was against any convention resolution that would take a stand either for or against impeachment or resignation of Nixon. Lewis advised GOP workers to rise above Watergate and warned: "We can rise above a Watergate in Washington, but we cannot rise above one in Alaska."

Considered an arch-conservative by many, Lewis urged that the party avoid division over liberal and conservative lines. He lashed out at Sen. Mike Gravel, whom he'll most likely face if nominated, citing the Senator's low effectiveness rating by Nader's Raiders.

## Brown Eyes State House Seat

Fred Brown, 30, a lifelong Fairbanksan with a politically active background, is a candidate for the Democratic nomination to the Alaska House of Representatives.

Brown enters a race for public office for the first time, calling for legislative reform in Juneau and a look at unfair employment practices in the state.

The employee in Alaska is in need of more protection under the law, Brown believes. He also wants to see a more efficient leg-



**FRED BROWN**  
... Aspires for State House

islature, eliminating haggling over leadership positions, which he views as a waste of taxpayers' time and money.

A varied background has given the candidate experience in engineering, music, broadcasting and law. He received a public school education in Fairbanks, graduated from the University of Alaska in 1964 and earned a Master's degree in electrical engineering from Stanford University in 1966.

In 1969 Brown was awarded a law degree from Columbia University in New York City and today maintains a law office in Fairbanks. He is a member of the Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra and the Tundra Times Advisory Board. He and his wife, Helen, live in Fairbanks.

... More later

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