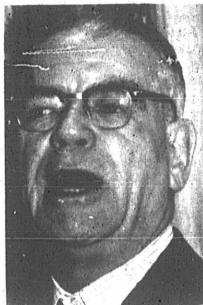


# ELECTION MARKS FIRSTS



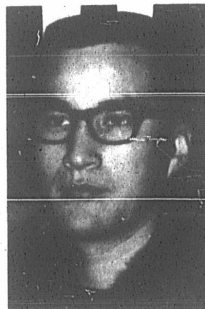
**WALTER HICKEL**  
new governor



**SEN. BARTLETT**  
big majority



**HOWARD POLLOCK**  
Native's friend



**JOHN SACKETT**  
young winner



**JULES WRIGHT**  
fourth place



**DON YOUNG**  
from Ft. Yukon

## Natives Active In Campaigns

Tuesday's election resulted in several "firsts" for the Native population of Alaska.

It was the first time many villages voted heavily Republican since Statehood; it was the first time candidates appealed directly to the Natives through specific promises; it was the first time the Natives themselves were organized into regional associations that took an active part in endorsing candidates.

Large chunks of individual campaign funds were spent traveling to outlying communities and many Natives, both in the larger population centers and the outlying areas, worked actively in campaigning for favorite candidates.

One result of the Native pressure in the campaign will be that outstanding Natives will be paid to continue their interest in politics and to act as advisors to some of the newly elected candidates.

Walter Hickel, who trounced Gov. William Egan, told the

Tundra Times he "absolutely" intends to carry out his proposal of creating a Department of Native Affairs in the state.

"Any pledge I made during the campaign will be carried out," Hickel says. "I'm going to the various Native organizations to find the right man to direct this new department."

Commenting on his victory, Hickel said: "The election turned out well. I think my majority was ample and it still might be as much as

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# Election Marks 'Firsts' . . .

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3,500 by the time all the votes are counted. I think my victory was due to the great effort by all the volunteers, including many Natives."

Howard Pollock, who beat Rep. Ralph Rivers, said he was also looking for a "good livewire Native for my staff in Washington, D. C."

Pollock, who campaigned heavily in the bush areas, said he was looking for such a person while he campaigned.

"I deeply appreciate all the help I received from the Alaska Natives," he said. "The Natives will now have a friend in Congress who will work for them very hard. The land problem is of major interest to me."

Twenty-two year old John Sackett was the first Athabaskan Indian to win a seat in the State Legislature.

The young honor student at the University of Alaska said he thought he won "because the people have had very poor representation in the past and I had, after an extent, proven myself capable of handling the job through my work as president of the Tanana Chiefs Conference."

Sackett, who has a little over one semester to finish college, said his victory would move his graduation date to January of 1969, but said he still intended to enter law school after his graduation from the University of Alaska in accounting.

The new representative said he did not think he was going to win the election.

"I was young and I was a Republican in a Democratic district. The odds were 3 to 1

before the primary and 2 to 1 after the primary. I didn't have too much money for my campaign but many of the students at the university helped me and we traveled for three weeks straight in the outlying areas, stayed over in each town and talked to the people."

Three other candidates, two Republicans and one Democrat, also won heavy majorities in the outlying communities. Don Young, 33, president of the Fort Yukon City Council and a Fort Yukon teacher, campaigned on "balanced representation." Jules Wright, also 33, and president of the Fairbanks Native Association, has been a leader in the fight for regional high schools and campaigned for equal education and more opportunities, including training programs, for Native Alaskans.

The only Democrat from District 16 to win heavy approval in the outlying areas was Mike Bradner. Bradner became familiar with the

problems of the outlying areas while working on riverboats in the Yukon and Tanana Rivers. He wrote on Native problems extensively while working for the Fairbanks Daily News Miner and played an active part in helping to solve some of these problems while director of the Neighborhood Youth Corps programs in the Interior.