

# Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

When I was 14 years old, that's 47 years ago, I was interpreter in court at Nulato, Alaska. The storekeeper, or trader, was going to take or attach a motor and boat, 6-8 Kenneth inboard motor.

The law says you can't take away something what you're making a living with. Now, I like to know why the Internal Revenue could lock a place where people are making a living, just for tax. That is if a fellow can't pay tax.

The tax is going to starve us. Now where is these guys that we vote for? Now is the time they should wake up and do something about it before it goes too far.

—FRED STICKMAN, SR.

United States Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Sept. 6, 1968

Robert L. Bennett,  
Commissioner  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bob:

I recently visited White Mountain and was shocked to see that the school that has been repeatedly condemned as a fire-trap and otherwise unfit, is still that village's school and that there are apparently no plans for a new school. While I appreciate that many new school buildings are needed and that all those needs cannot be satisfied at once, I would consider that the case of White Mountain is one of the highest priority. Actually the lives of the children are being daily risked as long as that school is in operation. It is in every way not only inadequate but dangerous.

May I add at this point that I am dismayed to learn that in the new schools which the BIA is building or planning to build in Native villages throughout Alaska, there is no provision for a gymnasium or even for a multi-purpose room. That, to me, is shocking. In no part of the Nation is such a facility more needed. As you know, our winters are longer and colder than in any other part of the U.S. and the opportunities for outdoor recreating during those long, dark, cold months for our youngsters are limited.

I think it should be established as a principle that no new school should be built without a gymnasium or, at least, a multi-purpose room which can be used as such.

Please let me know that you have provided for a new school for White Mountain in the forthcoming budget.

With best wishes, I remain

Cordially yours,  
Ernest Gruening, U.S.S.

cc: Andrew Brown, President  
White Mountain Council  
Howard Rock, Tundra Times

## Mourns Dr. H. Forbes; Cites T. Times' Worth

P.O. Box 115  
Gakona, Alaska  
September 5, 1968

Mr. Howard Rock, Editor  
P.O. Box 1287  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Mr. Rock:

It was sad to hear of the death of a friend that many of us never met, Dr. Forbes, Tundra Times Benefactor.

I think the eulogy by the editor was fitting a man beloved by many native Alaskans and just as fitting is the coming Tundra Times Banquet, which was designated for the commemoration and appreciation of the late Dr. Henry S. Forbes.

As an employee of Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. and as officer of several Native Organizations, I had the opportunity to visit many rural Alaskan communities. I learned that Tundra Times played a very important role in the lives of many Alaskans.

There have been articles I wasn't pleased with in the past; but I have yet to find a substitute for the Times that could satisfy my desire to read about people with whom I am identified.

The Tundra Times has benefited the native people in so many ways that we now take these for granted. There is so much news these days that many of the rural Native just can't keep up with them. The Tundra Times has done its work in filling him in on the latest, which he is concerned.

Keep up the good work.

Sincerely yours,  
Roy S. Ewan  
Area Community Developer

P.S. More articles like the August 30, article about the State Labor Department.