

LETTERS to EDITOR

Birch Park
Fairbanks, Alaska
August 25, 1968

Dear Mr. Rock:

I am writing to let you know that I have a strong feeling to support programs, to help elevate people in our own class, so to speak, and to thank you for your Newspaper—Tundra Times and to express some of the feelings I hold to myself.

I hate to be formal in presenting myself: I am 25 years old, full blooded Eskimo, with education limited, however, I hope to be in the university this fall.

I am sure a lot of us natives in my age, can see the transition, which is taking place in our communities, in our homes, how it has effected our families. The weight of discrimination and poverty.

I have written an essay called: Cry for the Future, it is an introduction into No-Mans-Land. Of course I am looking forward to the education that I need. I never realized the demand of education could be so demanding in my case.

I have felt the weight in the condition of my mother and sisters, and the condition it weighs on me. I have a record of being drunk and disorderly. Now that I look at it, I have to change, not for anybody but for myself.

I can only forward my grievances to you and hope you can rejuvenate the spirit in our people, which I am sure you are doing. I am sure we need instigation, some criteria, to pull us out.

The welfare is helping out in a good sense, but as you know, once welfare places itself as a beneficial sanction in its support, it also crushes the spirit to support one's own family.

Our generation owes to ourselves and to our own kind, that never-ending drive to survive through anything nature throws in our path, but to survive through political upheaval, and the on-slaught of being under privileged, that we still have to fight and to learn "The games that people play."

Thank you for your time.

Yours truly,
Buell Anakak

University of Alaska
College, Alaska 99701
August 27, 1968

Dear Editor:

Before the snow flies and the birds leave Fairbanks for another season, the Local Committee on Arrangements for the recently held national meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union, the Fairbanks Bird Club, and the University of Alaska would like to express their appreciation to the citizenry of the Greater Fairbanks area and to the local business community for their fine cooperation prior to and during the convention. The warm hospitality of the Golden Heart of Alaska was extended unstintingly by Fairbanksans to the ornithologists attending the convention; and the cooperation we received from the City of Fairbanks, the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce, the news media, Alaskaland, and the business community was tops. Not only did these factors make the job of the Local Committee easier, but they were critical in making the meetings such an outstanding success.

The ornithologists have been uniformly enthusiastic over their Alaskan visit and the fine reception they received. We have received a gratifyingly large number of appreciative letters from the meeting participants, many proclaiming this to be one of the best meetings they have ever attended. Many of these people are already planning return visits, and all are now good Alaskan emissaries. Fairbanksans did themselves proud as hosts to these ornithologists, and we of the Local Committee thank you wholeheartedly for your assistance. With this successful meeting as a sample, continuing efforts should succeed in bringing many more national conventions to the Fairbanks area.

Sincerely,
Brina Kessel, Chairman
A.O.U. Local Committee
on Arrangements, and
Dean, College of
Biological Sciences and
Renewable Resources
University of Alaska

P.O. Box 317
Fairbanks, Alaska
August 26, 1968

Dear Mr. Rock:

Within the past year, Fairbanks has seen the opening of the new Northern Regional Correctional Institution. The programs for rehabilitation has started to root, although somewhat limited because of orientation and implementation of resources. A good example of this is the educational opportunities inoculated by the North Star Borough school system.

Through this program, interested students have upgraded and enhanced their knowledge in elementary school subjects, which are most often forgotten, or new material is presented from texts, in comparison to some obsolete training received during childhood days. Generally, it is the opinion of those concerned, that this program in educational studies should continue. This particular program is scheduled to terminate August 29.

Since April of this year, interested students have taken advantage of this event, only to have the newly-gained knowledge abruptly cut off, literally, in the middle of the class. It is also viewed, that if this particular phase of classroom studies can be extended, it would be most beneficial. Even so, the students that have already participated have accumulated considerable self-assurance that there is hope for a brighter future through alliance with the community-at-large.

Yours truly,
Roland Parish

cc: Charles Lafferty, (NSB)
Morgan Grude, (NRCI)