

Main Topic, Claims—

AFN Board Meeting

The progress of the land bill in Washington and future efforts of the Alaska Federation of Natives on the bill promise to be

major topics of concern at the board of directors meeting of the federation Jan. 8 and 9 in Anchorage.

In discussing the meeting with the Tundra Times staff, Emil Notti, president of the AFN said, "The reading I get is that when the Senate Interior Committee members come back to Washington this month the bill could move fairly fast."

He expressed hope that the committee would make a report by the end of February.

The AFN, the interior department, the federal field committee, and the Stevens-Gravel compromise proposal have been put down on a comparative chart for consideration, Notti said.

The federation president explained that the AFN asked Gravel and Stevens to drop their compromise proposal because it called for only 10 to 12 million acres rather than the 40 million desired by the organization.

"We did not feel that this was the time to give up our fight for land," Notti said.

AFN members in Washington have been discussing their stand with every senator on the interior committee in hopes that when they cast their vote for various provisions they will have some feeling for what they are voting on.

Notti said that he will be returning to Washington the last of January to continue such efforts.