

Letters to the Editor

South Naknek, Alaska
July 10, 1970

Dear Friend:

Well I'm down here at South Naknek working. Send my Tundra Times here.

I'm still trying to beat the tax, which is hard to do. The tax is taken out after I pay room and board. I'm trying to get even some way with the government for what they did to me all my life.

I left a good job on account of that. I had to pay too much tax because I'm a single man. I suffered all winter and summer 11 months I had to cook for myself, no bath, no dishwasher, no nothing. Try it sometime. It's not easy.

Now I think I lost my job on account of taxes. Not only me. The taxes are starving people. What I mean about starving is, starve, starving and starved is three different things. It's just expression. We will never starve. The only way I get even with the government is in the grave. I'll never get that \$600 they stole from me. That's a fine I got for nothing. I'm going through hell here, but God will pay me in heaven.

—Fred Stickman, Sr.

Nunapitchuk, Alaska 99641
July 10, 1970

Sir:

It seems that the only time the politicians see the natives as they are is during election year. Other than that their attitude is mostly "my will, not your's, be done," when it should always be "your will, not mine, be done" to the majority.

Each election year a politician comes out with his arms stretched out saying "I want to help you. If I get elected I will help you." Help you in what way? I've already seen politicians who have said that give us a cold stare and shake their fuzzy heads during this Native Land Claims crisis, (It really is a crisis for us Natives), and say "that's too much to ask for" or "so sorry but it has to be done this way." That's some help!

We have yet to see a politician who is REALLY interested in helping the people.

George Neck