

Comments from our readers ...

Anderson endorsement

Box 206
Tok, Alaska 99780

Dear Editor:

I am interested in the District 16 campaign for State House between Joe McGill (Democrat) and Nels Anderson, a write-in candidate (also Deomocrat).

In 1974 as State Chairman of the Alaska Democratic Party I received a call from Nels for advice. He was disturbed over election booth irregularities (handing out McGill stickers by judges, pasting them on the wall, etc. I advised him to call the Attorney Generals office and to get affidavits made. He did and sent me copies of an affidavit.

Election boards have a lot of instructions and write-in instructions can be very confusing.

Nels won in 1974 and did not pursue the matter. Having had prior problems the Division of Elections should have taken precautions to prevent the same thing happening again, with write-in instructions very clear.

Alaska newspapers have carried stories of accusations that Nels was involved in election conspiracies of an illegal nature. That is pure boloney. In 1974 Nels did not accuse Joe McGill of conspiracy, and I admired him for not.

My first experience with Nels was his requesting party rules and instructions to set up a Democratic precinct. I was delighted, as getting people into the governmental process is a burning issue with me. Meetings were called in Dillingham, precinct elections organized, a very healthy thing in a Democracy.

After living 47 years in Alaska, all of it in the Bush, I was pleased with his strong stand for Bush power in the legislature. It was successful. He was Chairman of the Resources Committee. Thirty per cent of Alaskans live in ninety percent of the land. We need a strong BUSH caucus to warn ALL Alaskans what is happening out here—to small business, fish, game, education, health.

Teachers know me as a strong supporter of teachers. They and others were active in undoing the empire called State Operated Schools to bring local control. (R.E.A.A.) REAA is in its infancy, having growing pains. But teachers, parents, kids, legislators, administrators from the bush. They all live and work there and they have common interests—which they are beginning to realize.

I am glad to support Nels Anderson's write-in campaign.

Sincerely,

Ms. Mellie Terwilliger

For capitol move

Feb. 12, 1977

Dear Editor:

The newspaper reports that the Natives of Alaska are against the capitol move are incorrect (Anchorage Daily News, Friday

Feb. 11, 1977).

It is understood that Sam Kito and Ray Paddock, both Natives from Southeast, Alaska, would be opposed to the capitol move. They, however, only represent their own personal viewpoints, not the wishes of the rest of the Alaska Natives.

The vote of all Alaskans has been exercised. Stick with those mandates only.

Sincerely,
Fred Notti
Calista Corp.

Local hire laws

State of Alaska
Department of Labor
February 7, 1977

Dear Editor:

A recent issue of the Tundra Times (Jan. 16, 1977) displayed the prominent headline "Alaska Hire Law Failing to Work." The headline is misleading and must have been an oversight since the feature article is essentially favorable regarding the success of "Local Hire."

However, please do not confuse our present local hire law with all pipeline related projects. The local hire provision is applicable only to contracts initiated after July 7, 1972. Prudhoe Bay

and other North Slope activities commencing before that are not affected. A copy of the law and provisions is enclosed.

This administration has been instrumental making "Local Hire" real. Prior to July 1972, Alaska residents working on the pipeline were comparatively rare according to a recent summary report from Alyeska Pipeline Service Company, and labor research by this department, there were a total of 26,983* personnel in the project work force during the October through December, 1976 quarter, of which 21,900* (81.16%) qualified as residents of the State of Alaska.

Local hire has been very successful and those who have devoted their time and efforts would, most certainly, appreciate your printing this additional information to offset any false impression the headline may have created.

Sincerely,
L. D. Chaplin
Information Officer

(Ed. Note: The phrase "...please do not confuse our present local hire law with all pipeline related projects..." does little to lessen our suspicion that our state leaders have sold out on Alaska hire. Of the 21,900 "Alaskans" we wonder how many of these qualified to become "Alaskans" as they were working in pipeline camps.)

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Comments from our readers ...

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George protests

February 15, 1977

Mr. Joe Kahklen
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Kahklen:

It has come to my attention that the Tanana Chiefs Conference is negotiating with the Bureau to contract certain portions of services that the BIA is currently making available di-

rectly to Village IRA Councils, and Village Governments in the Tanana Chiefs Region. From the information that I have received is that the Tanana Chiefs is trying to do away with getting resolutions from the Villages in order to contract Services without approval of Village governments.

Our village people is poor, and the intent of the Indian Self Determination Act will become of no effect if your office allows this. The Tanana Chiefs will then become another bureaucracy. I am afraid that funds or a large portion of it will eventually end up in administrative costs. If this

happens then our people will suffer. Negotiating with the Tanana Chiefs without the Village Councils knowledge is in direct opposition with the intent of the Indian Self Determination Act and is discriminating to the Village people. I would suggest that the Tanana Chiefs come under an audit before any more contracts are considered.

Please consider the village people. They need all the available funds to be spent in the villages to better their way of life and increase their knowledge of self determination in the white man's world of business.

Sincerely
Gene George

(Ed. Note: The position of the Tanana Chiefs Conference, and endorsed by the Alaska Federation of Natives, as stated repeatedly in Congressional hearings and during numerous village council meetings is that the regional non-profit Native corporation should be considered as a "tribe" for the purposes of contracting. Further, if a village does not wish to receive services from the region, it may resolve to contract directly with the BIA or continue to receive BIA services from the Bureau. Thusly, the procedural requirement for obtaining a resolution from each village will not be

necessary. The TCC proposal saves time and expenses in the contracting process, while still provided for the wishes of the village. Mr. George is in error in stating village people will suffer.)