

Kake Man Writes Chambers, Miners

While the native land claims issue is under debate in Washington, natives in Alaska are speaking out on the issue in an effort to make their voices heard by the legislators 6,000 miles away.

One such native chose to direct his efforts to the Alaska Loggers and Miners Association and to the various Chamber of Commerces that are opposed to the stand of the Alaska Federation of Natives on the land claims issue.

While the miner's association has indicated cautious support for the native position, a small vocal minority within the organization has opposed aspects of the settlement.

In a copy of the letter sent to Tundra Times, Clarence Jackson, Sr. of Kake, Alaska wrote the opponents: "We ask you to try to see our side of the issue, our anxieties, our hopes. We ask for consideration."

Reviewing briefly the proposal of the Alaska Federation of Natives asking for 40 million acres of land, \$500 million, and a 2 per cent overriding royalty on gas and oil leases, the Kake native wrote, "We feel there was an injustice done to us in the past."

Land that the forefathers used for fishing, hunting, and trapping was bought and sold with no consideration for the natives.

However, through education, he continued, the native has recently been able to rise from his defeated state and to demand compensation for the losses he has suffered.

Turning to the future, Jackson wrote, "I have had a dream that this fine state is making

RurAL CAP...

(Continued from page 1)

munity Action Program (RurAL CAP) in a memorandum to the RurAL CAP staff on Christmas Eve, referred to Shaw's letter stating, "This expression of confidence and support has been echoed by others as well during recent months. I am confident that the staff dedication and zeal which has reflected credit on RurAL CAP during my short time as Executive Director will give this agency the ability to perform in an excellent manner in 1970."

A funding request totaling eight hundred and eleven thousand dollars for program operations in 1970 was submitted to the Office of Economic Opportunity by RurAL CAP in November.

The funding request was approved by OEO recently and has been forwarded to Governor Keith Miller for his approval. The Governor has until January 15 to either approve or veto the RurAL CAP grant.

The grant will allow RurAL CAP to provide operating funds for nine locally controlled and operated regional development corporations whose boundaries encompass most of rural Alaska.

Funding will be available also for the administration and operation of a heavy equipment program utilizing surplus government tractors, dozers and trucks in rural community development projects.

The grant will also fund the overall administration of RurAL CAP which maintains its central office in Anchorage and among other programs administers Head Start, Operation Mainstream, an Emergency Food and Medical project and a Housing Program active in homeowner organization in a large housing project in Bethel and in assisting other agencies establish a similar housing project in Nome.

progress."

"The Alaskan Indians' ambition is to be active participants in the progress of the State of Alaska."

"A part of that dream is that, we all try to understand each other and respect each others' opinions."

"It is only through uniting and working together can we hope to progress, making her, the State of Alaska, the most progressive state this country has ever seen."

As any land owner would feel, he continued, the natives merely want to benefit from the resources found on their land and are not asking that the utilization of these resources be discontinued.

"Injustice can be changed to justice," he concluded, "and we can all start out again together."

Tourism Pays Whitehorse

WHITEHORSE, YUKON—Canada's Yukon Territory recorded its second most productive Tourist Season on record in 1969. The Yukon Department of Travel and Information reports a total of 123,755 visitors counted for the seven-month period April to October inclusive.

This means the influx of visitors totalled more than six times the Territory's resident population of just under 20,000.

A record number of visitors to the Yukon came in 1968 when the Territory played host to 125,712 tourists during the seven-month period. Total for the 1968-69 fiscal year, ending last March 31st, was just over 140,000.

Value of the Tourist Industry is estimated at \$10 million annually, second only to mining in importance to the Territory's economy.

Yukon's four visitor information centers, located at Border Crossing Points, showed an increase in registrations averaging 8 per cent during 1969.

The majority of visitors came from the United States, with California topping the list, followed by Alaska, Michigan, Washington, Minnesota, Illinois, Oregon, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Top three Canadian provinces were British Columbia, Ontario, and Alberta.

Yukon also had visitors from 31 foreign countries, including South Africa, Bermuda, Spain, Mexico, the Philippines and Czechoslovakia. The top three foreign countries were England, Australia and Switzerland.

Mrs. Disgusted...

(Continued from page 1)

omy and Alaskan society.

And this is a goal which you should share. Should they not earn wages, and pay taxes? Should they not own property, and contribute to the burden of education and the cost of municipal services? Should they not be educated, and contribute fully to Alaskan society? Should they not have sanitary housing, built and paid for by their own efforts, and live beyond an average age of thirty-five? Should we not have a self-reliant society in Alaska? Or do you want to perpetuate dependency and the dole, with all of its costs, so some Alaskans can feel superior to others? I am sure you do not.

The road to a quality society is full of pitfalls; it will not be easy to achieve. Some who may

BLM Explains Realignment

Burton W. Silcock, Alaska State Director for the Bureau of Land Management, announced this week the plan for realignment of the Fairbanks and Anchorage Land Offices in a planned move to improve operation of Land Office activities in Alaska.

In making the announcement, Mr. Silcock said that this plan will improve service to the public through a more efficient handling of requests from the public, State and Federal agencies.

Centralization of application processing—case files and adjudicative actions—in Anchorage will provide for a uniform interpretation of the public land laws and regulations for each claim or application.

Public information, filing of applications, and land status records will continue to be provided by the Fairbanks District and Land Office. The plan calls for the movement of three people from Fairbanks to Anchorage.

Mr. Silcock further stated that an additional fourteen positions have been allocated to the BLM program in Fairbanks to handle the surveillance of the departmental stipulations in connection with construction of the Trans Alaska Pipeline System.

Reuther

(Continued from page 1)

itself," said Gravel.

"And for the people directly involved, the terms of the Land Claims settlement will affect their lives for perhaps a generation or more. It is the last opportunity that the United States has of settling a claim with a segment of its aboriginal people on terms that will help those people find a realistic foothold in the twentieth century."

"I am confident that your letter will be of great assistance to us and I deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness in becoming involved in this issue."

Support from the Lower 48 Indians has also been growing. The forerunner of this support has been the National Congress of American Indians that has called for the backing of the AFN bill.

Another important group is the United Southeastern Tribes, Inc. with the membership of Miccosukee, Cherokee, Seminole and Choctaw Indians. There are also others.

Of great significance is the backing of the AFN is the National Council of Churches which during its Triennial General Assembly in Detroit, Mich. recently voted unanimously to support the native federation.

The national council has around 46 million individual members throughout the nation.

make decisions may decide they know what is best for the Natives and for Alaska, forgetting the need for self-reliance and self-fulfillment. Some may decide that conflict and confrontation is the way to achieve their ends, rather than compromise, adjustment and accomodation. Some may even be motivated by hatred, contempt or division rather than love and reconciliation.

But in this season, I have faith that Alaskans, men of good will, of all races and beliefs can and will reason together to settle the land claims of Alaska's Native peoples and continue the task of building a better Alaska for all.

Sincerely,
(Name withheld by request)

Yellowknife Games

Athletes, both young and old, male and female, have one more month to register for the first bi-annual Arctic Winter Games to be held in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, Canada March 10-15.

Teams from Alaska, the Yukon and the Northwest Territories in Canada will compete in the following sports: badminton, basketball, boxing, curling, figure skating, hockey, shooting, cross-country skiing, table tennis, and volleyball.

Beistline Joins Commission

COLLEGE—Earl H. Beistline, dean of the College of Earth Sciences and Mineral Industry at the University of Alaska, has been elected to the Commission on Higher Schools of the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools.

During his forth coming three-year term on the commission Beistline will be one of 20 educators who will review accreditation of colleges and universities in the Northwest region.

The commission will send a visiting team to various institutions seeking accreditation. This team will review a school's educational activities and then send a report to the Commission on Higher Schools.

Based on this report the commission will recommend appropriate accreditation.

In amking the announcement of Beistline's election, the executive director of the commission said, "It is most impressive to watch this group of outstanding men work so professionally for long hours in the interest of improving higher education."

Beistline is the third member of the University of Alaska to serve on the commission. University President William R. Wood and Don Dafeo, former provost of the Southcentral Regional Center have also served terms on the commission in past years.

Kennedy's Speech

(Continued from page 1)

enues from federal and state oil and gas leases.

Referring to his vists to the villages of Alaska in April of 1969, the senator said, "I learned something about the special meaning of the land to the Native people."

Kennedy made the visits in connection with his work with the Senate Subcommittee on Indian Education.

"Young and old," he said, "they are of one mind: the land is their life."

"It is the foundation of their rich and varied cultures. It is a powerful source of their pride as a people. Ready to meet the challenge of the future in their rapidly changing world, they see the land as their best hope to participate in the economic growth of the state through rational commercial development."

The 40 million acres requested by the natives, Kennedy said, comprise only about 10 per cent of the 350 million acres to which they have a valid claim. The natives, he added, comprise about 20 per cent of Alaska's population.

"The majority of the natives will be in the villages for very many years," he said. "Many natives—particularly the elderly and those with very little education—would be destitute if, because of insufficient land, they were forced to move from their

"On the other hand," he continued, "if adequate lands are retained, the Natives will be able to make a meaningful choice be-

The number of persons who will be eligible to compete is 246, plus 18 coaches for a total possible contingent of 264 persons representing Alaska.

Participants from Alaska must have resided in the state for the 12 months prior to March 10, 1970.

Although participants and coaches from Alaska will be required to pay their own transportation costs—about \$160 round trip air charter direct from Anchorage to Yellowknife, the host unit will provide lodging and meals.

Junior athletes are defined as competitors who have not reached 19 years of age by the opening day of competition—March 1970.

However, this rule is slightly modified for the sports of hockey, volleyball, cross-country skiing and boxing.

For more detailed information on the regulations of each sport, contact the following persons: badminton—Ellwood Nash, 2311 Culver Place, Anchorage, Alaska 99503; basketball—men and boys, John Grames, Box 827, Anchorage, Alaska 99501 and women and girls, Peggy Colleta, 1500 Norene St., Anchorage, Alaska 99501; boxing—Bill Davenport, 307 East 26th Ave., Anchorage, Alaska 99501; curling—Roy Fisk, Star Route A, Box 395, Anchorage, Alaska 99502;

Figure skating—Shirley Bartles, P.O. Box 4-1102, Anchorage, Alaska 99503; hockey—seniors, Don Anderson, c/o Sports Arena, Fireweed Lane, Anchorage, Alaska 99501 and juniors, Will Tomlinson, 7301 Old Harbor Ave., Anchorage, Alaska 99504; pistol and rifle shooting—Bob Hickey, 4436 East 8th Ave., Anchorage, Alaska 99504;

Cross-country skiing—Don Richter, Star Route A, Box 398, Anchorage, Alaska 99502; table tennis—Boyd Bennett, 700 Gum Apt. 2027, Anchorage, Alaska 99501; volleyball—Jack Doyle, YMCA Director, 628 F Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99501.

tween village life and urban life."

Concerning the administration of any land claims settlement legislation, Kennedy stressed that the Department of the Interior and the Bureau of Indian Affairs must be removed from control over Native lands and funds "if we are not to repeat in Alaska the mistakes made in the rest of the United States which seem destined to plague us yet for years to come."

Expressing his pleasure that all the bills now before Congress call for the creation of an Alaska Native Commission and an Alaska Native Development Corporation, Kennedy charged that the record of the BIA and the Department of the Interior in Alaska is "marked by inertia, lack of imagination, paternalism, the frustration of Native aspirations and, in general, a complete lack of identification with, or sympathy for, Native rights and needs."

Kennedy further urged the Senate to make sure that the legislation not only creates new institutions, but that it also gives the Natives themselves a meaningful role in the decision-making process.

The Senate has an opportunity to make a fair settlement in accordance with our nation's high ideals, he concluded.

And, if it fails to act, the senator continued, the Alaska natives will lose their rights to millions of acres of land which are rightfully theirs.