

"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." — Voltaire

# Tundra Times



Owned, controlled and edited by Eskimo, Indian, Aleut Publishing Company, a corporation of Alaska natives. Published at Fairbanks, Alaska, weekly, on Wednesdays.

Address all mail to Box 1287, Fairbanks, Alaska, 99707. Telephone 452-2244.

Second class postage paid at Fairbanks, Alaska 99701.

Eskimo, Indian, Aleut Publishing Co., Inc. Board of Directors, Executive Committee: Howard Rock, President and Chairman of the Board; Chris Anderson, Executive Vice President; Elfrida Kushida, First Vice President; Daphne Gustafson, Second Vice President; James Immel, Treasurer; Mary Jane Fate, Secretary; HOWARD ROCK, Editor.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Regular Mail (including Alaska, Canada and other states) .....	1 Year \$10.00	6 Months \$5.50
Air Mail (including Alaska, Canada and other states) .....	1 Year \$21.00	6 Months \$12.00

Member of the American Indian Press Association

## Editorial Comment—

# Hensley's Knowledge Of Alaska an Asset

State Senator William L. "Willie" Hensley's thorough knowledge of Alaska, both urban and rural, can be a very valuable asset as he serves the state as a congressman in the U. S. House of Representatives. He is one of us (Native) of course, but we have a full understanding that once he is elected, he must serve all of Alaska. As Natives, we would not be feeling left out because as elected servant of the state, he must work for Whites as for us. We, of course, would be watching whether he would do enough for us. We would also be watching whether he would be doing enough for our fellow state residents — the White folks.

His knowledge of cities and rural areas can be a vital asset for improvements in general. We have a unique country and it would be a great help if a man like Willie who has a wide understanding of his land is allowed to serve. We are not edgy that he would tend to serve more favorably for Whites or the Natives. He must perform his duties for the general good of Alaska.

One of the qualities Willie has is his thorough knowledge of Alaska land matters. He has gained this asset the hard way during the furious fight for lands by Natives of Alaska. His contribution, along with great many others, resulted in gaining 40 million more acres of land for the State of Alaska. He also has a very good knowledge of the Interior Department's desire to withdraw huge areas of Alaska for the national government. He would join to protect all Alaskans if this withdrawal would pose some harm on the general good of our state. His knowledge of land matters would be an effective tool to right impending harm. Willie needs serious consideration because of his talents that he could put to bear for the common good in our unique land. Senators Mike Gravel and Ted Stevens would gain a valuable ally because they, too, have good knowledge of land matters in Alaska.

Let us help Willie get into the United States House of Representatives. The time to do this is on November 5, 1974.

# Man and His Future

By BERNARD POIRIER

If a man looks into the fire and dreams of the future for himself and his family, he will not be able to picture the tremendous changes that will be forced upon his family and his people in Alaska.

This man, with dreams of the future, lives in a village next to one of many well-fished waters in Alaska. In the last three years he has seen many changes. His people have organized a regional corporation and even a village corporation to manage the complicated life of land owners.

Now that the man and his family has started to learn of all the important decisions that the regional corporation must make

during the next year, the village itself is making a land decision which will decide the land limitations of his children — and his children's children.

The last year has been dominated by one problem after another, all needing important decisions and the man is a bit tired. The snows have started. Maybe he will have the time to think as soon as the elections are over. There is a lot to think about because the new projects planned in Alaska will affect the man and his village more than the Land Claims Settlement, more than the Trans Alaska Pipeline.

And when the ice breaks next May the most important decision (continued on page 4)

# Letters from Here and There

## Article Served A Good Purpose

Ms. Lael Morgan  
Tundra Times  
Chena Building, Room 220  
510 Second Ave.  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Ms. Morgan:

The article regarding power generation at Anaktuvuk Pass village that appeared in the Tundra Times Wednesday, July 3, has been forwarded to me by Borough Mayor Eben Hopson for comment.

We, as you know, are the North Slope Borough's Consulting Engineers for utilities and are responsible for the electrification of Anaktuvuk Pass. I think your article served a good purpose. You aptly described the "repair man" the Borough sent to repair the engine-generator. He was a cheechako and didn't get the job done, but I'm happy to report we prevailed and his firm did send a man who, with our Engineer, repaired the faulty generator. The village now has three (3) reliable operating generators — one is stand-by for the school, one for summer loads, and one for winter operation.

There are many problems in providing an electrical system for a village that has never had power before. There's engineering, construction management, installation, logistics of getting all the materials and parts for the system to the village, village labor to mobilize, and the training required for a member of the village to operate and maintain the plant. With all the planning and effort, there can still be heart-breaking incidents that may occur when faulty equipment arrives from the manufacturer. This occurred with the Anaktuvuk Pass generator. The problem was not serious, but it's most distressing to have a part malfunction that leads to articles such as yours that deter and retard, rather than assist, the development of rural Alaska. This is especially true when your reported facts are in error or not representative. I know this is not your intent and I'm aware from the article in the August issue of the Alaska Magazine that you're sincere. We are also, and after 33 years of doing "our thing" of helping the people of rural Alaska I would be happy to share with you some of our experiences that we have had in the "bush".

If we can provide you with any data or information regarding our projects for the North Slope Borough or Anaktuvuk Pass please call on me. The pot is always on for mug-up.

Very truly yours,  
STEPHANO & ASSOCIATES  
INC.  
ENGINEERS & ARCHITECTS  
Ralph R. Stephano, P. E.

## A Book Review—

# Chas. Edwardsen-Human Being

By WALLY OLSON  
Juneau-Douglas  
Community College

ETOK: A story of Eskimo Power. By: H.G. Gallagher, G.P. Putnam's Sons, New York. 1974 Price \$7.95

This is a book about Charles Edwardsen Jr. — a human being. No book can ever tell us everything about a person, it can only give a few glimpses of his personality. We can, however, begin to see him as a unique person with his hopes and despairs, loves and hates, victories and defeats. In some ways it is a success story, but not of the typical American variety. He doesn't start with 30 cents and become a millionaire. He starts with a stutter. He suffers discrimination as a member of a minority group. He is stereotyped. He suffers from ulcers. Yet with an impassioned drive and dedication to helping his people, he brings about dramatic changes. He goes to the capitol of the richest nation on earth and makes them listen. In a nightclub he raises his arm over his head and brings it down on the table with a bang, shouting, "No! No! No!" and thereby changes the course of events in Alaska.

Those of us who have known Etok, or as we call him, "Charlie," are given a chance to fill in the jigsaw puzzle of his life. At times we have cursed and congratulated him. Other times we found him incomprehensible. Maybe we just never fully understood what he was up to. This book clears up several things about him. Hugh Gallagher does us a real service by telling it like it is with Charlie.

For some people, reading this book may be a shattering experience; it may wipe out the stereotyped picture of Eskimos. All men have a tendency to group people and things in nice, neat little packages, put a tag on them and confuse the tags with reality. Some have pictured Eskimos as smiling, happy primitives lost in the modern world.

Charlie proves this wrong! Not only does he understand the life of hunting, fishing and poverty at Barrow, he knows the modern world so well that he can manipulate it to achieve his goals... and he's not always smiling! He is a complex human being with all the emotions and problems that humans have. This book, then, is not so much about "Eskimo power" as it is about human power. It's a book about what one man — with many handicaps — can do if he really wants to. We also see the toll it takes from him.

Most of all, this text prompts us to re-think Charlie Edwardsen Jr. Maybe his whole mission in life has been, and is, to make us see Eskimos as true human beings who have been exploited by others. Perhaps he may not realize it, but through his efforts many people are no longer so naive about his people. We are forced to look beyond the name and the stereotype and see there a live, pulsing, vibrant human being. We are forced to look at ourselves.

The text is eminently readable and the expletives are not deleted. It is about a man with feelings, but written by a man with feeling also. Hugh Gallagher feels for and with his subject. Of all the recent books on Eskimo life, this is the finest because it's about a real life and a real human being.

## Atty. Gen.'s Column—

# Consumer Protection

This weekly column is prepared by the Consumer Protection Service of the Alaska Attorney General's Office with the objective of helping prevent, through public information, unfair and deceptive acts and practices in trade and commerce

It is presented in the interests both of Alaskan consumers and the honest and reputable businesses serving them — which are, of course, the vast majority.

The column offers explanations of the obligations of consumers and businesses under state and federal laws, as well as guidelines for consumer transactions.

Reader comments and observations, as well as consumer complaints, may be mailed to the Consumer Protection Service, Office of the Attorney General, in Juneau, Fairbanks and Anchorage. The addresses are Pouch K, Juneau, Alaska 99801; 360 K Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99501; and P.O. Box 1309, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701.

Norman C. Gorsuch  
Attorney General

GIFTS IN THE MAIL. Ever wonder what to do with items which come to you unordered in the mail? It is illegal for anyone to offer merchandise for sale by sending goods which you have not requested, unless it is clearly marked as a gift.

You can consider such merchandise a gift. You can use or dispose of it in any manner you see fit without any obligation to the sender.

USING SMALL CLAIMS COURT. In some cases, a dispute over a purchase cannot be resolved in the Consumer Protection Section itself. This can be the case when the dispute does not involve a matter of unfair or deceptive trade practices, but is simply a disagreement between consumer and merchant.

If a claim does not involve more than \$1,000, it can be handled in small claims court.

Use of small claims court does not require any knowledge of legal theories. You present your facts to the court and the court applies the law.

The clerks and judges of the court will assist you. They will explain the procedures involved and make it as simple as possible for you to get your case heard.

You won't need an attorney, and the cost is very small. If you are successful in court, you will get these costs back.

OLD? NEW? If you discover that goods which were sold to you as original or new actually are used, reconditioned or seconds, contact this office. Such misrepresentations are prohibited by Alaskan law.

\* \* \*