

Dept. Says SCI Has No Authority

JUNEAU — A recently organized "Shellfish Conservation Institute has no authority to establish or change commercial

Hensley Campaigns . .

(Continued from Page 1)



SEN. WILLIE HENSLEY

mientieff and friends Lucy Carlo and Alfred Frank.

There was little protection on the boat for the foursome, as Demientieff pushed their boat through the wind, choppy waters and intermittent sand storms as they passed sand bars on the river.

By the time they got to Tanana, early the next day, the invitation for a moose meat dinner and bed for the night at the home of the Hardy Peters family sounded terrific.

Hensley said one thing he had looked forward to on the trip was visiting the campsite of the Tanana Survival School, some 13 miles downriver from Tanana. "He (Demientieff) kept saying, 'It's just around the bend,'" grinned Hensley.

"Finally the water was so rough that we had to come back," The sky above them was gritty, grey and rainy.

Back at Tanana, Hensley and the rest boarded a topless buggy (basically a Studebaker frame and four wheels) owned by Ted Kozernikoff of Tanana and hit the campaign trail again. About a mile out of the village, the air was suddenly thick with moths, little black and white ones in droves so thick it was almost impossible to see.

"Turn around," said Carlo, a bit unnerved by the barrage of insects. But they kept going anyhow; mouths shut to avoid a forced moth lunch.

The campaign day at Tanana completed, Hensley returned to

Emily Brown . .

(Continued from Page 1)

returned to the classroom in 1938 and taught throughout northern Alaska for 30 years. Beginning in 1951, she went to school every summer to work for the college degree she had always wanted, and in 1964 it was finally hers, awarded by the University of Alaska.

Last year, a master's degree in communications arts was conferred on her by the university.

Concerned that the history and ways of her people would one day be forgotten, Mrs. Brown turned to writing in the 1960's. Her subject was, and is, "everything to do with Eskimo life" — legends, music, songs, food, customs.

Honors have come her way in recent years. For her long-time effort to preserve the cultural heritage of her people, Mrs. Brown in 1970 was presented a Presidential Commendation honoring her for "exceptional service to others, in the finest American tradition."

The same year, the university's Alumni Association honored her as its Distinguished Alumnus of the Year, and the Journalism Department at Fairbanks named a new writing scholarship for her.

Fairbanks in preparation for a fund-raising party in his honor the next night, ate a late dinner and fell asleep watching a horror movie.

It hadn't been exactly a typical campaign day for Hensley, but as he says himself, it's hard to say there is any such thing as a typical campaign day, except that they are generally quite filled with interviews, traveling and meetings with people.

Traveling and meeting the people is something Hensley really enjoys doing, particularly since he recognizes so many familiar faces. After four years in the Alaska House and four years in the Senate, he's already clocked quite a few miles.

"Alaska is like a little town. Everywhere I go, I'd meet someone I know."

"... There's never a totally unfamiliar community. You may travel 1,000 miles in a day, but it's a little place (Alaska) really. The feeling I get is really good," he said.

Still, there are a lot of problems he hears about in his travels; "A lot of problems people are concerned about that oil and gas development are not going to cure."

Born and raised in Kotzebue, in Northwestern Alaska, Hensley is well aware of the problems, economic, social and political, that face residents of bush Alaska today. As a member of the State Senator Committee on Local Government he has traveled extensively. Two big concerns of Alaska's rights now are the destruction of the fishing industry and heavy Japanese investment in Alaskan resources, he said.

"There has to be a new look at this situation, particularly in view of the Japanese fishing on the high seas (off Alaska)," he said.

"The state should take a close look at this situation in view of future dealings with the Japanese and any other nation that is fishing off the North Pacific," he said.

"If the State Department won't take a major interest in fishing, the state should look at it from the view of state controlled resources, and tell foreign nations 'if you want these resources, let's sit down and talk about fishing problems,'" Hensley said.

Taking a statewide view of this and other problems facing Alaskans, Hensley is also finding growing statewide support, "coming from a surprising conglomeration," he said.

His supporters range from people prominent in Alaska's labor and business community to the villages, liberal and conservative Democrats and Republicans, Hensley said.

At the village of Noorvik, in Hensley's senatorial district, NANA Regional Corp. President Robert Newlin and others organized a fund-raising barbeque and dance, then gave Hensley a \$500 contribution for his campaign.

"This is unheard of," said Hensley, who added that the village of Kiana is now considering a similar move. "It's a pretty good trend. If a few more villages did that, I wouldn't have to depend on big contributors."

"It shows some sophistication too. Usually when you go to a village the people ask 'what have you done for me lately? But in Noorvik, they know,' he said.

shellfish regulations and all state laws and regulations will be enforced, James W. Brooks, commissioner of the Department of Fish and Game, said recently.

"We have learned that a few members of the fishing industry have formed a 'Shellfish Conservation Institute' and that this organization has attempted to promulgate so-called shellfish regulations," Brooks said.

"Fishermen are reminded that the Department of Fish and Game is the agency responsible for the management of Alaska's fish and game resources," he added.

Brooks said that neither the "Shellfish Conservation Institute" nor any similar association of private citizens is a governmental agency and their recommendations or so-called "regulations" are not binding upon anyone.

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"Any claims by groups of private citizens that they have either the authorization or the capability to issue mandatory regulations should be disregarded by the fishing fraternity," Brooks said.

He added that the Department of Fish and Game welcomes information from any concerned private citizen or groups of citizens on matters pertaining to fish and game but noted that only the Board of Fish and Game or the commissioner has the authority to establish regulations.

"As in the past, anyone violating the laws or regulations administered by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game is liable to prosecution to the full extent of the law and may receive the criminal penalties established for such violations," Brooks said.

Traveling Indians And Friends

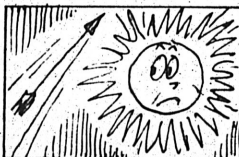
One of the first things the newly-formed American Indian Travel Commission did this month was travel . . . to Alaska.

According to Kenneth Wright, executive vice president, "The organization has a nine-man board, eight Indians and Bud Hagberg," and it was Hagberg of Wien Airlines who had them in tow.

"The U.S. Government has \$50 million invested in tourist facilities on Indian reservations and every one is a loser," Wright explained. "We're trying to turn it around."

Also touring the state was Marvin Franklin, former acting Secretary of Interior, who is interested in putting together an organization of people with public and private interests to further business development in Indian communities.

Franklin and AITC hadn't planned to travel together but they seem to have covered considerably ground by combining forces.



Arrows were shot into the air by South American Indians during an eclipse to frighten the sun into shining again. (It always seemed to work, too!)

In Farmingdale, N.M.—

Navajo Teen-Agers Brutally Murdered

Alleged cult murders of six Navajo teen-agers have resulted in riots, marches and a boycott by Indians of white businessmen in the Farmington area in New Mexico.

The six bodies were found bludgeoned, mutilated and burned. Local authorities contend the murders were the work of "three wackie teen-agers" while Indian leaders claim it was done by a cult of white racist youth.

Hearings for three suspects were held last week.

For the past five weeks, over 3,500 Indians marched peacefully on Saturday mornings demonstrating against what they called discrimination by business-

men, violations of state liquor, fire and sanitation statutes and lack of local and federal assistance to alcoholic Indians.

The sheriff's county parade was held last Saturday. The sheriff and his men were dressed as Kit Carson and his U.S. Third Cavalry. Indians were said to be angry and humiliated by this portrayal.

Tension between the Indians and whites was said to be high, and the riot was the reaction to the parade and the six murders. Indian leaders have announced they will continue to march on Saturday mornings until their grievances and problems are solved.

Bush Justice . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

justice system and the state justice system does not generally understand the village people.

4. that village people do not want their children or elderly removed from the village by the schools, courts or police or other agencies.

5. that participation of village people in virtually all agencies of the justice system is severely lacking.

6. that village life should be governed by village law and custom as much as possible.

7. that progress in the improvement of the bush justice system since December, 1970 has been much too slow.

While the conference commended the Alaska Supreme Court for its sensitivity to problems of village people and the state legislature for establishing the Department of Community and Regional Affairs, and commended the establishment of legal offices in Dillingham, Nome and Bethel, it found "there has been virtually nothing else of substance done to carry out the recommendations of the first bush justice conference."

The conference also named an interim monitoring committee with five members: State Rep. Phillip Guy, D-Kwethluk; Nick Gregory of Egegik, a board member of the Bristol Bay Native Corp.; Vice President Gordon Jackson of the Human Resources program of the Alaska Federation of Natives Inc.; Brenda Iltta of Barrow and Mitch Demientieff of Nenana.

Its jobs are to secure funding for a permanent committee fairly representing all rural regions of Alaska, for the purposes of improving bush justice.

The conference has urged that within the next year three conferences similar to the Minto conference be held in remote villages to deal specifically with the problems in the villages in which the conferences are held.

Among the local problems outlined by the Minto meeting were those of families whose children were forced to leave home to attend school and the non-functioning community water and sewer system.

The conference raised in all a number of issues unresolved by the first conference on bush justice.

"What we are seeing here is a struggling effort to find a way to enforce justice in rural Alaska," said Mitch Demientieff of Nenana, urging "a spirit of cooperation between the traditional councils and the forces of administration of justice in Alaska today."

Demientieff and others representing villages from the Arctic Slope to Southwestern Alaska

made it clear that the recipients of the bush justice system want an active role in determining the fate of their people.

As President Roger Lang of the Alaska Federation of Natives Inc. put it, "the realization of self-government has come to bush Alaska."

Moderating the initial panel discussion, on police systems in Alaska, Lang summarized by raising three points:

— do police officers work with village councils and should they?

— the problems of funding proper law enforcement in the villages.

— the lack of continuity between village police and state troopers.

Law enforcement officials, including panel member Charles Reed, project director of the village police training program were questioned anew on standards and tests used in selection of state troopers. Only two of the state's 188 troopers are Natives.

The village police, who work long hours often with little or no pay, are greatly needed, "but we have no money," said James Willie, a village policeman from Napakiak, in the Bethel area. "I think some people think police work is an easy job but it is not easy," he said.

Although his village has a population of under 300, Willie has to deal also with a number of travelers through the Napakiak area.

"The village of Napakiak is a travel way," said State Rep. Phillip Guy, D-Kwethluk, whose legislative district includes Napakiak.

"People from Bethel and downriver have to travel through his area . . . and there is a need for the village policeman to serve not only his village but travelers through the area," he said. Guy referred specifically to problems with travelers who had been drinking.

"In the territorial days, the village councils handled drinking problems . . . and they did it well," said Jonathan Solomon of Fort Yukon. "It worked out for our people for 100 years. We've tried it your way. Now you try it ours."

Solomon was especially irritated, however, by the absence of those who would administer justice to the bush from the communities they serve.

"They say, 'We will be the law. We will be just. And where are they? One hundred fifty miles away,'" he said.

Also under fire were practices of foster care and education which are destructive to the Na-

(continued on page 9)