

# State Closes Fiscal Year with Surplus

JUNEAU—The state closed its books for fiscal 1968 with a general fund surplus of some \$22,585,000, Commissioner of Administration Robert W. Ward reported to Gov. Walter J. Hickel last week.

In transmitting the Annual Financial Report for Alaska to the Governor, Ward pointed out that the \$22 million-plus fund surplus will be available to fund appropriations for the remainder of the 1968-69 fiscal year.

The general fund surplus at the beginning of fiscal 1968 was \$23,898,000.

The Governor said the report "clearly reflects fiscal policy of this administration."

"Programs for the development of Alaska and for the benefit of all Alaskans are being achieved within a planned program of responsive financial management."

The report shows that the state spent some \$181 million from the general fund during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1968.

Included was some \$131.9 million for operating programs; \$41 million for capital outlay projects; \$5.4 million for natural

disaster relief programs, and \$2.7 million for revenues shared with political subdivisions of the state.

In addition the state spent some \$1.4 million for shared revenues from the tobacco tax fund.

Copies of the 252-page report are available from the Department of Administration.

## Hornaday Urges Nixon Support

James C. Hornaday, Coordinator of "Alaskans for John Lindsay for President" has issued a statement urging the support of Richard Nixon for President. Hornaday said:

"Of the three Presidential candidates, Mr. Nixon appears to be the only one possibly capable of unifying the diverse elements in this nation. I would hope that if Mr. Nixon is elected, he will give top priority to the critical domestic problems of the United States rather than following the present policy of wasting our resources on questionable unilateral military involvements abroad."

## Gravel Eyes Modest Sized Fishing Vessels

PETERSBURG—The only way to bring about a renewal in Alaskan and American fisheries is to support the financing and equipping of modern, modest-sized fishing vessels, according to Mike Gravel, U.S. Senate candidate.

"Today the United States uses only 10% of the marine resources on its own coasts," Gravel said. "And meanwhile, many American fishermen are hard hit for earnings, while the U.S. continues to import two-thirds of the fish products used in our own country."

"I am convinced that the answer to this problem is not the concentrated financing of giant American trawlers," he said, "because these giant vessels will not originate from Alaska, hire Alaskan labor, dock at Alaskan ports or use Alaskan facilities. For all practical purposes, giant trawlers are just expeditionary vessels, whether they come to Alaska from Japan, or the United States."

Gravel proposed a national policy supporting the construction and financing of modest-sized fishing vessels. He referred to the success of 14 modest-sized Kodiak shrimpers as examples.

"These Kodiak vessels caught 43% of the total harvest just this year," Gravel said, "although they were competing against 30 foreign vessels, some of which measured twice the total tonnage of the whole Kodiak fleet. I believe this illustrates that smaller, Alaskan boats with Alaskan fishermen can do the job and do it well, if we arrange for continuous financing."

Gravel also supported Senator Bartlett's aids-to-fisheries programs, and called for a strengthening of the Fisherman's Cooperative Act.

## Begich Returns After Successful Campaign in Southeastern

ANCHORAGE—After returning from a highly successful five-day southeast Alaska campaign swing, Senator Nick Begich, candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives, fulfilled a principle and a promise this week when he released a detailed report of his primary campaign expenditures and income.

Senator Begich, who authored the financial disclosure bill in the last session of the State Senate, stated:

"It is my feeling that this precedent should be followed by all candidates for public office. I am merely putting my principles into practice."

The accompanying financial statement indicates that Begich's chief income for the campaign came from personal indebtedness. The Matanuska Valley Bank is listed as the holder of a \$3,000 note. On his apartment building, Begich has received a

\$15,000 loan from the Alaska State Bank.

Donations totaled \$3,756.95.

The expenses listed, considerably less than some other candidates knowledgeable in the cost of campaigning had predicted, the total expenditures of the successful campaign as \$30,315.46.

Begich's unprecedented revelation of his total expenses and income was, as he said:

"To show the people of Alaska that financial disclosure should pertain to candidates for public office at all levels of government. I welcome any investigation of my financial records used during the campaign just past."

Former Governor William A. Egan and Begich attended dinners in Juneau, Ketchikan, Wrangell and Petersburg during the week-long swing in southeast Alaska.

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