

# Hot Lunch for Rural Schools Causes Fast

Sen. Robert R. "Bob" Blodgett, D-Teller, has commanded attention in the press through the years past and he is doing no less this year in the State Legislature.

The latest the Teller Democrat is doing these days is that he is fasting for the kids in rural areas so they can have hot soups for lunch in their schools.

Blodgett is on his fifth day of fasting and he is feeling the pangs of hunger although he is said to be in good spirits.

Food is foremost in his mind of course and strangely enough, he has the most craving for reindeer sausage. He said this craving must be like a pregnant woman who craves for pickles and such.

Sen. Blodgett began his fast when the bill he helped to sponsor, SB260, ran into legislative snags. The bill asks for \$2 million that would

be appropriated to the Department of Education so that department could furnish hot lunches for the children in rural areas.

Blodgett is determined to

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# School Lunch Causes Fasting . .

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keep on fasting until the bill gets favorable consideration from the governor and the legislature.

Weighing 210 pounds normally, Blodgett has lost two pounds as of yesterday. He started the fast five days ago.

He is also running into pranksterish fellow legislators who have been joking about his fasting. He doesn't mind some of the jokes but gets a little touchy about others.

Sen. Blodgett objected to the following poem written by a fellow senator Jay Hammond, R-Naknek:

*"What in the world was that rude noise I heard?*

*Was it Blodgett muttering foul?*

*His weakening voice was*

*almost drowned out by a heartrending stomach growl."*

Blodgett, who can be cutting with his remarks, "growled" at Hammond saying he couldn't understand how Hammond could do such a thing when his own rural villages have had no lunch programs.

Up until yesterday, at least, the Teller senator has been told by Sen. P. B. Haggland, R-Fairbanks, and Rep. Mike Bieme, R-Anchorage, both doctors, that there was no sign of any trouble so far as a result of his fasting.

In the meantime Blodgett is beginning to feel that chances for favorable action on SB260 is starting to look pretty good.

The bill is on the senate floor now but he said he will fast until the governor signs the bill.