

Contributions to AVS Provide 14 Tons of Dog Food for Villages

Contributions to the American Anti-Vivisection Society enabled it to supply 14 tons of dog food to 55 Native villages, and to ship nearly \$3,000 worth of worm medicine and insect repellent, reports society president Owen B. Hunt.

In a report for the society publication "The A-V," Hunt says that the appeal for \$7,000 in contributions brought a response of \$8,000 from members and the general public.

He says he has received many letters of thanks from the Natives who received the aid, and that the contributions saved the lives of more than 1,000 dogs this year.

The report blames the shortage of food on activities during the 100 years since the U.S. purchased the territory.

After the purchase, the resources of the territory were taken out without their benefitting "the rightful owners of the territory—the Natives." The fur trade alone took out \$25,000,000 in 25 years, and "over \$2,000 worth of furs were known to be exchanged for an obsolete rifle and a few worthless cartridges."

This was followed by the Gold Rush and the removal of other mineral deposits, such as silver and copper, without compensation to the Natives.

Then came the fishing in-
Radiation . . .

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tensive diet interviews and urine analysis.

In the past, testing of radioactive levels in Alaska Natives was carried on by biological and atomic scientists interested principally in the distribution throughout the Arctic food chain.

The new team of scientists is concerned about possible public health hazards and are anxious to discover the full range and the true levels of contamination.

Communities to be visited include Kotzebue, Noatak, Ambler, Chugiak, Kobuk, Selawik, Shishmaref, Teller, Nome, Anaktuvuk, Arctic Village, Barrow, Wainwright, King Salmon, Egecik, Nunivak Island and Pilot Point.

Homemakers . . .

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time on-the-job training at Fort Wainwright.

The course started Dec. 7, and included two days a week of on-the-job training and three days a week classroom learning. It covered a wide range of homemaking skills, including skills for both in the home and on jobs in the community.

This was the first of these courses held in Fairbanks. Two of the women were from Barrow, and the rest were from the Fairbanks area.

A second course will start April 19, and run to July 21. Most of the students in this class come from villages, and will be trained to do visiting homemaking work in the villages and to upgrade their homes.

dustry, operated by white men with the Natives providing low-wage labor. Canneries were organized along the coastline.

In 1965, according to official State reports, 56,353,838 salmon, totaling 137,422 tons, were caught in Alaska. Another 6,000,000 salmon, or 15,000 tons, were caught by Japan and Russia.

"After examining these figures, the wonder is how any fish remained to go up stream to spawn. Each year the canneries take grows larges and the fish runs in the river grow less.

"As late as the 22nd of June, 1963, we visited Minto Rampart, Stevens and Venetie. In each village the Natives complained the fish runs had not as yet appeared.

"They should have reached these points around the 1st of June. The season lasts until about the end of July or the 1st of August. When a family depends on its existence from the fish take of approximately 8 weeks and 3 of these weeks are removed it is tough to make a living."

The report adds that the Natives are also having difficulty with their own food supply-wildlife such as moose, caribou, deer, and beaver.

"For quite some time the State of Alaska, to induce tourism, sells hunting licenses for \$50 to the dudes in the 48 States who engage the services of bush pilots to fly them into the tundra and shoot the wildlife so depended upon by the Native for the upkeep of his family, very often leaving the carcasses to be devoured by the wolves.

"From 1962 to 1965 we visited nearly 20 villages. In very instance the Native, a kindly, decent, intelligent people, complained that their fish and wildlife was being destroyed or taken from them without compensation.

"All these people ask for is an opportunity to make a living."

The report expressed the hope that the introduction of the snow-go may prevent the dogs from starvation. But these are not yet widespread enough to relieve the present problem.

"However, the latest report that comes to us is that the alleged hunters, or sports men as they like to call themselves, with their \$50

Tanana Meet . .

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expected to attend the meeting because the State Legislature was still in session and Gov. Hickel was out of the state.

However, many other representatives of State and Federal agencies will join the Native leaders at the conference.

Among the people passing through Fairbanks Thursday on the way to the meeting were Al Widmark, Morris Thompson, Mark Jacobs Jr., and Byron Mallot.

licenses are acquiring the use of mechanical sleds to run down the moose and the caribou.

In describing the "Help the Huskies" campaign, the report says "never at any time have we attempted to feed the huskies but rather to keep them from dying of starvation between March and June."

It adds that the food need is one pound a day for a working dog, to one pound a week to keep him alive when he is not working but before the fish runs appear.

"We know that you have saved the lives of over 1,000 noble animals in the Arctic region," the report concludes. "Thanks again a million for your generosity, your decency, and your kindness."

Meningitis Stopped By Quick Action

Fast action by medical officers at Barrow and Fairbanks has stopped what could have developed into a recurrence of the spinal meningitis epidemic that took two lives at Barrow two years ago.

Barrow doctors spotted meningitis in early, primary stages in a Barrow infant, Alice Allmond.

Luck played a part, as the child was in the Barrow Public Health Service hospital with a respiratory ailment and routine checks discovered the meningitis.

Normally, the disease is not noticed until it is too late to help the person or keep the disease from spreading, health officers reported.

Immediately after spotting the meningitis, Barrow doctors called in all people in the village, including parents, relatives, friends and neighbors, who had any contact with the child.

Throat culture tests were made and antibiotics were given to prevent spread of the disease.

Two relatives who had flown to Fairbanks were checked by State health officials and no infection was found.

Two years ago, a serious outbreak of meningitis took the lives of two Barrow adults and seriously injured others.

Rep. Wright . . .

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commission is largely up to us. It gives us the opportunity to help reach decisions on our own problems. It will add purpose to our own organizations such as the Alaska Federation of Native Associations.

"It will give us a strong, hopeful new voice in both State and National decisions regarding our Native people."

Sackett said that while he and Hensley disagreed on the actual bill, both thought the new agency could give aid in the small communities.

He said he is confident the governor's office, which suggested the commission, would strive to make its membership as widely representative and responsive to all areas as possible.

MUELLER HEARING . . .

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appeal.

Superior Court Judge William Taylor upheld the action, and the case was further appealed to the State Supreme Court. This court ruled that the ambiguity in the rules should be decided in favor of the employee, and overturned the lower court decision.

This week, after the deadline for a State appeal had passed, the Court notified the Superior Court that its decision had been overturned, and directed it to order the Personnel Board to grant the hearing.

The Supreme Court also awarded about \$250 to Mueller for attorney's fees and court costs.

Thus, after nearly two years Mueller will be able to have

the Board hear his case and judge it on its merits.

The action comes a year after the State Legislature closed the apparent loophole by limiting the probationary period to the first year of employment with the State. This change did not apply to Mueller's case.

Bill Defeated . . .

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argued it is a protection for the voter.

All votes in favor of the measure were from Republicans from the Anchorage and Fairbanks Districts, and even a few Republicans from those areas joined the Democrats and small-community Republicans, from defeating the bill.

The Five W's . . .

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through the windows of a newspaper."

Interesting People

In a gathering such as the editors workshop at Billings, one is bound to run into some interesting people. One such man was Floyd Westerman. An Indian, he must have been born with a smile on his face that promised with he would dispense with natural aplomb.

"I know it would have to be Howard when I saw him because he was wearing boots," he said of this editor on meeting him at the airport.

On the agenda of the workshop, there was an entry that read, "Dinner together, with a pleasant surprise."

The surprise? It was Floyd Westerman with his guitar and a repertoire of folk songs which he performed with a deep resonant voice and with professional delivery. And no wonder. Westerman had made his living singing folk songs in Colorado and other states for the last several years. He is now being groomed by Will Clegg to be the communications specialist when Clegg leaves the office to step into a higher position at the University of Utah.

Many Smokes

An enterprising couple, Sun Bear and his wife, Ann, (of whom more will be written later) commanded attention. They are the publishers of the colorful slick magazine, the MANY SMOKES. It turned out that Sun Bear was a veteran Hollywood actor. He has appeared in famous films as well as dramas on television.

Mayor of Billings

During the course of the first day at Billings, this editor kept getting telephone messages. When he finally answered, he found that Mayor Willard Frazer had been calling for him.

At the end of one session, the editor went to the lobby of the Northern Hotel and found a note in his box that read, "5:30 I'm eating in the dining room--Would you see me. Willard Frazer Mayor."

He was directed to the Mayor's table. The Mayor was sitting with his city attorney.

Mayor Frazer turned out to be a genial, friendly man of about 45 years old. He asked to buy the editor a drink and then asked where he came from.

"I'll be darned," he said. "This is the first time in my life I've ever bought an Eskimo a drink!"

Getting down to the reason of the phone messages, Frazer said, "I got a call from my friend Jack Mullinax in Sheridan, Wyoming this morning wanting me to get in touch with you. He would like you to see whether you can line up an Alaskan Indian or an Eskimo girl to compete in the Miss Indian America princess pageant at the All American Indian Days celebration in Sheridan this summer."

The conversation drifted into other subjects. The Mayor surmised that Fairbanks must be something like Billings in many ways. In a reflective mood, he turned to his attorney and said, "You know, I think we should establish a cat ordinance."

"A what?" questioned the attorney.

"A cat ordinance," Frazer repeated.

He turned to the editor and continued, "This time of year we start getting call after call about cats. I don't know exactly why. They get into gardens. They must like the buds that are just coming up."

Old Dog, New Tricks?

And so it was. The Indian editors conference was interesting and, no doubt, productive. This editor's part was to give the main talk and to answer a staccato of questions about Alaska for a solid hour, and he hoped that he dispelled, in small measure, the popular belief that Eskimos in Alaska live in snow igloos.

During the rest of the sessions, he got a pretty good idea what "Five W's" and the "H" -- who, what, when, where, why and how" meant.

He winged back to Fairbanks with a definite misgiving to the person who said, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks" Both to the person who ever said that. This editor got something out of the "Five W's" and the "H."