

Now Look Here, Sir—

AAIA's I. McKay Gives AFN \$2500

Illiff McKay, Associate Director of the Association on American Indian Affairs, Inc. of New York, pleasantly stunned the delegates of the Alaska Federation of Natives at its annual conference in Anchorage last Saturday. McKay is an Indian.

"The Association has authorized me to give to you \$2,500 to help to defray your operating expenses," McKay told the audience. "The check will be forthcoming soon."

As soon as he said it, there was an audible gasp and then the delegates broke into a spontaneous applause.

Leading up to the announcement, McKay had frankly pointed out parts of the amended constitution which he thought might be improved by more appropriated language.

"I was beginning to feel a

little edgy why that fellow was criticizing our constitution," said one of the delegates, laughing. "He can criticize us anytime for \$2,500."

Illiff McKay said earlier that he had come to the conference "just to help." He said his association was interested in the protection of the lands for the native people.

"Any time if you need help in any way, don't hesitate to call on us," he said.

He said, however, that the AAIA would not furnish any help in legal matters and that he wished to quiet any qualms Alaska lawyers might have on this matter.

He told the delegates that they had a fine thing going in the formation of the statewide federation and to make it work "each one of you should be an idea factory."