## Ahtna, Inc. and Doyon, Ltd. Border Dispute Postponed

Ahtna, Inc.'s border dispute case against Doyon, Ltd. was postponed last Wednesday by ooned last Wednesday by District Court Judge A. postponed U.S. Distr van der Heydt on the grounds that he did not have enough data for a decision.

Another hearing has been set for Monday, Jan. 15. This is also the date set by the judge for submission of briefs and memo-

randa by both involved parties. Time is getting short, as Secretary of the Interior Rogers Secretary of the micros. C. B. Morton has declared March 15 as the closing date for boundary settlements. This is just 15 days short of the March 30 enrollment deadline as well.

The suit, filed on Dec. 21 and served six days later, in-volves about 280 townships of 36 square miles apiece. This covers slightly over 10,000 square miles and would include the villages of Cantwell, Dot Lake, Tanacross, Tetlin and possibly Northway, according to Dovon's attorney Barty Lackon possibly Northway, according to Doyon's attorney Barry Jackson.

Doyon's attorney Barry Jackson, The controversy arose when Ahtna claimed this land as its own. The Copper River area is in the southern part of the state. Robert Goldberg, attorney for Ahtna, has noted thet the area each corporation that the area each corporation administers, as well as the final land selection and number of enrollees will determine how enrollees will much money the villages and the corporation will receive. This involve millions of dollars he said.

agreement was reached An agreement was reached earlier between the Copper River association and the Tanana Chief's Conference concerning borders. But now Ahtna, the regional corporation, is testing the legality of that agreement.

"They state that regardless of what the Act says, an association cannot set boundaries set for a regional corporation. They are, as you know, requesting a pre-liminary injunction," said John Sackett, head of the TCC.

This injunction would de mand that Doyon begin arbi-trating with Ahtna over the contested area.

Jackson has made two re-quests in this case. The first is for more time to get legal data together, such as what laws are specifically involved here, and the second is for Secretary

Morton to get involved in this court cannot give full relief case. that's being asked for by the paintiff" if the court does not ask Morton to take action, he

concluded. Ahtna, Inc. says that there is a legitimate case for the courts. Doyon, Ltd. and the

TCC say there is not. Whether there is or not, the outcome remains open until next Monday's hearing.

## George Attla Enters Biggest Race in Alaska...

World of Sports might be in for

a fat contribution as well. Sponsored in the past by the J. C. Penney Co., Attla ap-proached BP this year "before I got hungry." BP has twice before sponsored a 'runner in

dog races. Laurie Gay, BP Alaska's dist-riet manager and a former dog musher himself said, "Dog rac-ing is a part of the old Alaska which we are stated the second which we would like to see retained. George Attla exempli-fies the spirit and tenacity which has always been associated with the state

dog races.

e state. The race is scheduled for arch 3. While this does not March March 3. While this does not leave Attla with a great deal of time, he expressed confidence in himself and his dogs. He did say that he had, more new dogs this year, meaning more training time is needed.

But he went on to sav. "When I really train heavy in a couple of weeks, I should know how they're going to act. I spend more time with my dogs than anybody else."

He has been known to buy a dog that no other musher would look once at, let alone twice, and turn it into championship material. And he knows each of his 40 dogs as individuals. All of this adds up to a man who knows his business. "I think a 16-dog team

completely different team than my main race team, is what Attla is talking of running in the Attua is taiking of running in the Iditarod. "It's going to take a dog team that just knows how to poke along," he continued. He said that his regular dogs

30 miles were good for about but not much more than that because "the only way they know how to run is wide open."

The longest race he has run up until this time is 80 miles. But he knows at least part of the long trail, unused for about 50 years, through his experience as a river pilot in the summer. "The only place I don't know is between McGrath and Anchor-age," he said.

(Continued) He expressed the opinion that "it's going to be more than what the average musher expects" in terms of trail conditions. Al-though men are already clearing the way for the racers, Attla said that anything could happen

to foul things up. It is for this reason that he plans to take along enough camping gear and supplies to last for two or three days.

The trail is set up with checkpoints and rest stops along the way, but "you may not get to a checkpoint," he said. First place will have to go to

whoever gets there first, he add-ed, since this race will be short on speed but long on endurance. The time factor is something else to worry about. Estimates have ranged from 10 to 14 days for completion. "If the cor

the conditions are just perfect, a person just might be able to make it in 10 days,"

### EMIL NOTTI ...

(Continued from page 1) and other hopefuls.

Notti is getting a late start the campaign for several in reasons.

"I was approached prior to the general election," he said, 'but I thought it was premature I kept hoping Nick would be found. Besides that, I've been kept busy with the Democratic lawsuit for about a month."

The suit was one filed by party members against Notti and the State Central Committee to the State Central Committee to prevent them from choosing a candidate. Superior Court Judge Edmond W. Burke ruled Dec. 29 that the Democrats must hold a convention for nomination.

"After the nomination, whoever the candidate is, there'll be an immediate move to get him started," Notti said in response to a question about funds

Mentioning the \$50,000 cam-paign limit allowed by the government, \$30,000 of which may go for media coverage, he said, "It will be an advantage for the Democrats because the Republicans can't saturate TV and radio for months ahead. It's going to be very tightly monitored."

His press secretary pointed out that some 40 per cent of the delegates were still uncommitted This menas that, with 51 per cent necessary for a nomination, nobody really has enough commitments yet. And strengthens Notti chances. mitments And that

Another factor is his famili-arity with both Alaska and federal politics. Notti, who has worked in the Southeast doing everything from fishing to construction and railroad work, deeply rooted in Alaska. wife and three children are also from here.

'I know the problems in Alaska. And I've dealt with many Senators and congressmen many Senators and congressmen for a four-year period. I'm not a stranger, and I think my ex-perience dealing with people and with problems qualifies me for the job, "he stated. "So far as the priorities, we just have to take them as they when a the added."

come," he added. "There's so many issues in Alaska – they're all priorities. I thin needs more attention. I think Alaska

With the convention less than week away, campaigning is at its most intense for the Demo-crats. And with Friday's an-nouncement, Emil Notti is right in the middle of it all.

om page 1) said Attla. He went on, "I'm planning to make it in less than two weeks because I plan to be back for the North American. That race is set for March 15-17 in Fairbanks.

Much of the outcome depends on the strength of the dogs. But equally important is the sled. Attla is working on a specially-made one, basically the same design as his ordinary one but longer and heavier. And it made out of the best be wood available.

The only negative note he sounded was on the unfamilarsounded was on the unramitar-ity of the area to his team. "If a dog knows where he's going, he'll get you there. But in this case, he won't know

my particular situation, the the Natives wanted to be paid out of the North Slope too. The

reason and the amount was was because of the North Slope.

million acres and the better part

of a billion dollars is a sub-

stantial amount. And our team

contributed substantially to that I stood alone back in 1966 and said the Natives should be paid

Calling the Claims Settlement Act, "the first time Native people have been treated half-

way decently," Paul listed the policy his firm developed as a

policy his firm developed as a third factor in determing fees. The policy included such items as wanting payment be-cause the Natives had a legal right to it, not because they were poor, and the team's re-fusal to compormise on any-there there early wanted.

thing they really wanted. The expertise needed for such a job

was another factor, as was the

"My legal team has over 15,000 hours invested and we

have not been paid a penny, he said. "When you divide

seven or eight years into that

kind of money, you're not talking about a great annual compensation." He cited other

Indian claims bills where the

time involved.

When you

in land and money

results, we

where he's going," he said.

Joe Reddington Sr. of Knik, head of the Iditarod Trail Interhead of the Iditarod Trail Inter-national Championship Race committee, is a moving force behind the whole race. He is a lifetime musher with a strong feeling for the sport and the area. He has said that, although the trail means little to need teening road area. He has said that, although area. He has said that, although the trail means little to people now, old-timers remember when it was used for a regular travel

George Attla may not qualify for the title of "old-timer" yet. But he knows dogs and he knows dog racing. If this race knows dog racing. If this race comes off as planned, he could well have one more trophy to add to his collection.

### Claims Attorneys...

situation, the

consider the

believe that 40

(Continued from page 1) they have unlimited contacts. In

lawyers are paid 10 per cent of the recovery. "When you

consider the recovery we have had here, the \$2 million gross limitation of statutes is not fair lawyers," he concluded. not fair to the

Some Alaskans have a differ-ent view of the matter. Joe Upicksoun, former director of the Arctic Slope Native Associ-ation, said "We have the Section we and the plans that our lawyers have submitted to the court of claims and we have a committee reviewing the claims now being submitted. As I can say, we'd have throughly look at wha As far as to what our lawyers have submitted" before

lawyers have submitted before deciding what they think is fair. And Sen. Ted Stevens also said the courts would have to settle the problem. But he added that some legislators who had worked with the land claims bill feel it unfair for "big city who have only entered lawyers the fight at the last minute to get the same fees as lawyers who have been in on it from the start

Sen. Stevens said that he and others had tried, and failed, to get the law phrased so that long-term attorneys would have priority over those who just recently got involved. But now, as he said, it's up to the

# Nick Begich Eulogized..

#### (Contin red from page 1)

Affairs) He was indeed a young man of great ability and great Aspinall said. love.

love," Aspinall said. Begich accomplished a great deal for Alaska, said Albert. "And I could always count on him to be on the floor for a vote, even if he had to fly all night to get back. But his greatest achievement was the land claims act which for which land claims act ... which he almost singlehandedly pushed through Congress.

"Whenever a man dies, we mourn . . . but when a leader dies, we say special things, said Emil Notti, president of the Alaska Native Foundation, in a moving eulogy which was his tribute to Begich.

"There is something about this great land of ours that Notti said.

attracts men," Notti said. "Perhaps it is the opportunity perhaps it is the challenge of life in a society that is still in the making perhaps it is the people . . . "Whatever the reasons many

come ... hut very few of us stay. Nick Begich was one who stayed. He was one of us but very few of us Alaskan and he is with us still.

Recounting the life of Begich as an Alaskan, Notti said that it was litting that his first commitment to Alaska was as a teacher, because his concern for mproving education in the state the noted Begich's rise in politics and that "there was a man who was willing to work for people first concerns."

a me nyeu, "Notti said. "A short life, indeed a but a man's life and a leader's life at that."

Others taking part in memorial tribute were Al Alaska Rep. Gene Guess, Margaret Pohjola of the Begich staff, and Joe Josephson, co-chairman the Federal-State Land U of Planning Commission.

## Hearings on D-2 Lands..

#### (Continued from page 1)

each of the federal agencies mentioned has plans to reclassify the land, and the rural village people are lost as to what this means to their ways of life in the near future.

"Our residents are extremely concerned that a park or a feder-al forest or a wildlife reserve may be placed near them. They are also concerned as to what a river classified as wild and scenic will do their hunting and future economic development within a wild and scenic classification," he stated.

These federal agencies must explain in detail the exact affect their branch of government's operation will have on the people and the land, and they the public hearing to learn if the jurisdiction of any of these federal agencies."

The agencies referred to are the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service on Wildlife Reserves, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, and National Parks Service.

The agencies are presently drawing up proposals on 80 million acres of land as how the land will be classified, and they

have until next Dec. 18 by which

make their recommendations to the Secretary of Interior.

"Dependant upon which agency makes a proposal on use of the D-2 lands they can restrict and in many cases totally terminate all human activity and development.

Subsistence hunting and Subsistence nunting and fishing, game regulations, and future economic development can and will be changed and the local Alaska residents have a right to know how these federal agencies are planning to restrict their lives," stated Sackett.

"While we are not necessarily against any of the proposals that may be made, all of us Alaskans do have a right of us as to in advance what will be and have know in affects w what the the opportunity to make our opin-ions known," he stated. Sackett further called upon

the Land Use Planning Commission to monitor and make mission to monitor and make sure that the federal agencies will gain the opinions of all people affected in the different geographical areas. Sackett asked that hearings be held in the Kuskokwim, Yukon, Tanana, Upper Tanana, and Evictoria the the second second

and Fairbanks area within the Tanana Chiefs region.