

"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." — Voltaire

Tundra Times



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Editorial Comment—

The Campaign That Was Far from Fair

Since the recent election in our State of Alaska, this editor has been feeling quite ill at ease because of revulsion of what he had experienced in the course of some campaigns. Some of the spiels that emanated from some candidates and played to much of the general public left him saddened as well as unsettled in his sense of relationship with the rest of the populace of this northern land. This is so, more than any other fact, that he is an Eskimo. His pride in his people has been invaded whether those people were Eskimos, Athabascans, Tlingits, Aleuts or Haidas. He has been hit with a grievous blow that stunned him and left him with a realization that he is, indeed, just one of the minority people in his own homeland. He has been made to think that those individuals who have been elected to various offices will not give him much of a consideration in dispensing those things that would enhance his wellbeing.

The United States Congressman Donald Young has succeeded, whether he really meant to or not, that this minority member is just what he is — a minority member who is destined to be just that as long as such men as Young are allowed to serve the public. He (Young) has clarified an omen that had lain, more or less, dormant to come to the fore. If this is to be the situation in our future, it is a sad thing indeed. It is a sore that could fester in the days to come.

Don Young conducted an alarming, racially tinged campaign against an Eskimo candidate, State Senator William L. Hensley. It was a calculated campaign designed to cut down a minority candidate. And what is alarming is that he succeeded. Is there a chance that such a thing will be repeated in the future. The Native people of Alaska had better realize that there can be a possibility of repetition and start to think of some ways to counteract it. There should be no such things that would splotch our pathways into our future. There should be no room for that in Alaska.

— H. R.

BLM Asks for Better Communications

The need for better communication and cooperation on Native allotments between the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) was the topic at a joint meeting in Anchorage on October 16 and 17.

Native allotments were part of the 1906 Native Allotment Act. It provided for up to 160 acres of land to an Alaskan Native applicant who had "substantially continuous use and occupancy" of the land for five consecutive years. This act was repealed by the 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. The Bureau of Land Management was given the responsibility

for processing the Native allotment applications and granting patent to the land.

One special feature of the conference was presentations by Alaska Native from around the state about traditional Native use and occupancy of the land and the Natives traditional way of life.

BLM and BIA adjudicators and realty specialists engaged in lively group discussions with Alaska Natives about Native culture and solutions to mutual problems with Native allotments.

The Native culture training for BLM personnel was arranged by BLM and BIA in response to

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Letters from Here and There

"Witko" Spells Crazy, "Witka" Spells Egg

United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Superintendent
Bethel Agency
Bethel, Alaska 99559

November 6, 1974

Dear Howard:

Our great Sioux Chief, Crazy Horse, undoubtedly was a good "egg" as men go, but more than that he was the greatest military strategist, warrior and leader who ever walked on the land he would not sell — West Point adversaries notwithstanding.

Famous prestidigitators amaze vast audiences by turning silk hats into flowers or rabbits. You inadvertently did one better than all. By using the wrong vowel at the ending of the Sioux word which spells the English word "crazy," you turned a great name into an entirely new image — from "Crazy Horse" to "Egg Horse".

In the Sioux language "Witko" spells crazy. "Witka" spells egg.

Seeing it in print once prior to the Tundra Times banquet was upsetting enough. However, after reading it again in Roger Lang's report in the October 30 issue of the Tundra Times, as a great great grandson of this legendary Indian leader, I felt constrained to correct this otherwise minor typographical error. Long live the memory of "Tashnunka Witko".

Peter P. Three Stars
Oglala Sioux
Agency Superintendent
Bethel, Alaska

Fred Stickman, Jr. Enjoys Letters of Elder Stickman

November 3, 1974

Dear Sir:

Your news and comments and short stories are very interesting and informative. Your letters to the editor, especially Fred Stickman's letters, is very much enjoyed. Except for periodic short visits from him, my only contact with him is his letters to the editor of Tundra Times so I look to each issue hoping to read his letter and know he is getting along fine.

If more children respect their parents and they speak from experience living in society with their laws, rules and regulations, life will be enjoyed and appreciated. One must respect and appreciate each person he or she meets at work, school or on the street.

My father and mother, and after my mother died when I was nine years old, my grandmother, Mrs. Stickman, taught us, my brothers, sister and cousins, that was in the immediate family, that living in society is not what we can get out of it, but giving. In that I mean respect and appreciation, make the other person feel important and do it sincerely.

Mr. Editor, in closing I will say keep up the good work and I know you're enjoying life because you are giving a little of your time and life to your read-

ers and hope we meet some day though now I'm just a name.

Sincerely yours,
Frederick W. Stickman Jr.
3713 E. 17th
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

New Light Plant In Service at Nulato Village

Nulato, Alaska
Nov. 5, 1974, Election Day

Dear Friend:

Just came back a few days ago to see the nice Big Flood Light across the creek. That's the Alaska Village Electric Cooperative light. The new Big Light Plant.

No more interference with the radio's like before. You don't have to be high school graduate to operate this diesel motors. Although we have no running water, etc. Electricity is good enough for me. I came home, dug in the freezers, fish out King Salmon, that's the ones that the Fish and Wild Life didn't want me to buy because Bishop Mountain residents had no commercial license.

What a stupid law. Try to stop Indians from selling fish, because they have no commercial license. What's a commercial license for the Yukon.

I heard the new school is finished, also the new church

and several new houses. No government houses so far yet. North Slope I had a cold for 35 days, and limping around for 6 weeks, that's as long as I lasted. Anyway something tells me to quit and go to the Banquet of Tundra Times in Anchorage. That's how I was there to receive my award. Now I'm proud of it and hung it over my bed, so everyone comes in can see it.

Well I changed my mind and went to vote today, although I don't care which way it go, one way or the other. My life is getting short, all my Friends are going, what's life anyway? When you quit drinking, your fun is over, seems that way.

Fred Stickman Sr.

Translation of Attungowruk Story Wanted

Oct. 26, 1974

Dear Howard, or "Anyaiyukok":

Please hurry and get the rest of Peter Koonooyak's story about Chief Attungowruk translated and printed. Many of our people out here missed your note in the Oct. 9th issue explaining the need of assistance with Peter's big Eskimo words. All, including myself are eagerly awaiting the conclusion of that fine story. Some, like Ruth

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Atty. Gen.'s Column—

Consumer Protection

CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS

Education through correspondence schools can be a convenient source of real self-improvement for many people. However, disreputable persons sometimes use this desire for self-improvement to promote worthless schools and courses.

These organizations may promise degrees of high-paying jobs which they can't deliver. Some charge exorbitant prices for courses which may be offered at a minimal cost by a local college or university. Some require prepayment and then suddenly go out of business.

The courses may be out-dated over-simplified, inadequate or not prepare the student to take the requisite licensing exam. In addition, many types of professions cannot be adequately prepared for through correspondence alone.

The individual considering a correspondence course is encouraged to check the qualifications, reputation, and promises and performances of the school before payments.

The following guidelines are offered to assist the consumer:

1. Find out whether there are state or local licensing requirements in the desired field. Ask the licensing agency if the school's graduates qualify for licenses. In some fields, successful completion of correspondence courses is not enough. Actual classroom attendance or work experience in the field may be required.

2. Check with potential employers or unions to find out if jobs are available in the field for which training is offered and if the school's training will help obtain the job.

3. Compare the prices, promises and performances of dif-

ferent correspondence schools. Check with former students of the school. Request the names of local persons who have taken the courses.

4. Examine the school's catalog or brochure carefully.

5. Before signing, understand all the terms of the agreement, including the total cost, the method of payment, the course of study and any provisions for refund upon withdrawal. Get a copy of the signed agreement.

Any misrepresentation by a school should be reported to the Consumer Protection Office or the State Department of Education.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

There are two basic types of legitimate franchises. The first involves the purchase of a sales territory for a product. The second involves the purchase of a business with property.

There are many people who haven't made profits through such franchises. But many have lost life savings by jumping into something they didn't understand. Some franchisers misrepresent the profit possibilities, the service they will provide and/or the quality or success of the product.

When considering a franchise investment, first find out about the company. Ask for a formal audited financial report. Have an attorney explain exactly what property and services are being purchased and what the commitment to the franchise holder will be. Ask a banker or tax accountant to explain the financial aspects.

Check with existing franchise dealers and talk to them about their operations, including income and any problems they might have. Look at the product and rely on common sense to judge whether it will sell.