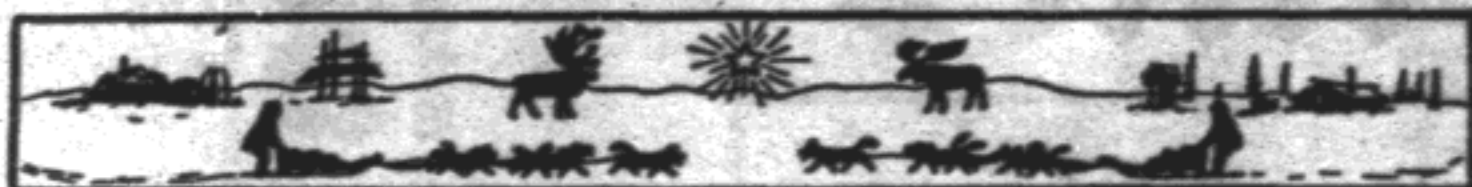


"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." — Voltaire

# Tundra Times



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## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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## The Great Benefactor

(Continued from page 1)

problems were posed before the public in general. The Tundra Times has had an important role in publicizing them. Within that time, the stark reality of the native housing problems were focussed. We have had an important role in bringing this out. Health and sanitation problems were posed. We also helped in this.

Lack of jobs—the chronic problem among our native people—has been a subject that appeared quite frequently on the pages of the Tundra Times. We will also claim a part in having efforts made to solve this. Radiation problem: Tundra Times dared to pose it perhaps for the first time in public its potential harm to people by publicizing its latest negative effects where Anaktuvuk Pass people were concerned. The subject then was a taboo of sorts and was mentioned only in whispers. Sen. E. L. (Bob) Bartlett picked up the ball and pursued the subject in Congress. We believe that his efforts have had sobering effects in the world community.

Within the scant three-year period, the northern Alaska native leadership blossomed—good, solid, imaginative leadership. The Tundra Times impatiently needed, cajoled, and pried for the emergence of it.

The native land claims problem that had lain dormant for 85 years for lack of action has been brought to a head by the native people themselves. This problem will have a good chance to be legislated on by the next Congress of the United States. The Tundra Times had a definite role in the acceleration of the efforts to solve the land situation. It spoke with a voice unafraid on the very subject that did not always gain popularity for its staff. In spite of that, we saw in its solution benefits for all in our whole State of Alaska.

The Pribilof Islands situation was one of the most difficult assignments Tundra Times dared to take on because it believed that the Aleut people were not afforded their full rights. The efforts of this newspaper, and other interested persons, were rewarded with a law passed in Congress, signed by President Lyndon Johnson giving the Pribilovians rights to self community rule as do other citizens of the United States.

The Tundra Times has had its hand in other areas of problems of our native people. What Tundra Times has done within six years, all for our benefits, would have been impossible without the vast contribution of the late Dr. Henry S. Forbes. His encouragements—his money—have given the native people incalculable assistance toward gaining better things in life. Our people owe a tremendous debt to him. By decided and resolute effort, they could pay this back by helping to keep the Tundra Times publishing. Many, many of our people, as well as our many white friends, can do this by subscribing year by year. An adequate and expanded circulation would assure for us continued publication. We feel it is a small sacrifice but collectively, it would help to keep Tundra Times alive and by doing so, keep it a living memorial to a man who so unselfishly contributed for the benefit of our people—DR. HENRY S. FORBES.

## LETTERS to EDITOR

Bethel, Alaska

August 20, 1968

Dear Editor:

A letter to the editor that appeared in your August 9 issue signed by Mr. Charles Simmons of Hooper Bay presents a gross negligence by the U.S. Government, primarily that of U.S. Public Health Service. This "Native Concern Problem" needs to be solved immediately as we are dealing with lives of the people. If my recollection serves me correct, I know of two resolutions that were passed by the Village Council Presidents Association supporting compensation for village medical aides. In their September 1967 meeting, the members unanimously passed Resolution No. 67-4 titled PAYMENT OF MEDICAL AIDES, which reads as follows:

"WHEREAS the Village Medical Aides do more work than the medical aides in the hospital, and

"WHEREAS a lot of our Village Medical Aides have children and families to take care of and have to leave their other responsibilities to take care of the sick, and

"WHEREAS the Doctor depends completely on the Village Medical Aide for information in diagnosing an illness, and

"WHEREAS the Village Medical Aides do not receive adequate compensation for their services, and

"WHEREAS the Village Medical Aides devote countless hours for the benefit of the people in their village, and

"WHEREAS more competent aides could be hired and retained if adequate compensation were received, and

"WHEREAS the village populations are increasing and the demand upon the medical aides is increasing and will continue to increase.

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Public Health Service appropriate funds or develop a program to pay the medical aides an adequate salary."

Whatever needs to be done to resolve this grave problem of our people should be done immediately. This is one of the many "cries from the wilderness" that was left unheard, however, this being election year may have some bearing upon its resolution.

—Name on File

August 14, 1968

Editor:

The people of Alaska owe a debt of gratitude to a group of individuals, public officials and public agencies who are making it possible for approximately 1,000 Alaskans serving on far-flung fire lines to vote in the August 27 primary election.

The idea of having the State of Alaska and the federal Bureau of Land Management cooperate in distributing absentee ballot applications and ballots to men away from home originated with Mike Gravel, candidate for the U.S. Senate, Fairbanks State Representative Mike Bradner, and Ralph Perdue of the Fairbanks Native Association.

Gravel and Bradner, after concurring in the idea of getting ballots to the firefighters, then advised Perdue and Gerald Ivey, president of the native association on who to contact to make the idea a reality.

Calls were made to election officials and Secretary of State Keith Miller. The state then made arrangements for the Bureau of Land Management to get the applications to the firefighters.

The whole operation was a fine example of private, federal and state non-partisan cooperation to aid a segment of Alaska's population in exercising a most important basic right—voting.

Senate candidate Gravel, Rep. Bradner, Gov. Hickel, Sec. of State Miller, Perdue, Ivey, and certainly the personnel of the magistrates offices, the election board; and mostly most certainly the Bureau of Land Management all deserve sincere thanks from the people of Alaska. Also, the operation can be termed an official thanks to the men who are manning the fire lines.

Sincerely,  
Terry T. Brady  
Fairbanks, Alaska

## Eulogy

(Editor's Note: The following eulogy by the editor of Tundra Times to the late Dr. Henry S. Forbes, the benefactor of the newspaper and the native people of Alaska, was requested by his surviving family. It was read in the remembrance service for Dr. Forbes at the Milton Unitarian Church last Tuesday, at Milton, Mass. where Dr. and Mrs. Hildegarde Forbes made their home.)

\* \* \*

Anyone can say that this occasion—the remembrance service for Dr. Henry S. Forbes—is a sad one, and this includes the native people of Alaska. Although I, for one, feel deep sorrow, I cannot help but feel also that the loss of a man like Dr. Forbes transcends sorrow. The native people have lost a great benefactor. His generosity that had made the publication of the Tundra Times here in the north possible, has given us a chance to pose our problems for possible solutions. Through the help of the Tundra Times, these problems are now being scrutinized and solutions to them are being sought. Without Dr. Forbes' help, this would not have been possible.

Dr. Henry S. Forbes, perhaps more than he realized, has done the greatest of services by making it possible for us to point out the dire needs of our people in Alaska. His ardent desire to better our lot has been transmitted. Whatever will be established for the good of all of us will be a living monument to a man who exercised so much of his generosity. The progress we have made for the better we owe to Dr. Forbes.

He has not, by far, lived in vain. He has helped in the blossoming of new hopes for the future. He has helped in the flowering of our good native leadership that promises to give us benefits in the days before us. The emergence of our people to a life of respect with those around us will be another monument.

The kindred spirit of Dr. Henry S. Forbes will live on and on.

—HOWARD ROCK

Box 206  
Tok, Alaska 99780  
August 13, 1968

Dear Editor:

The ridiculous charge that Senator Ernest Gruening concentrates on world affairs and neglects Alaska calls for examination.

First as Governor then as Senator, he has continuously worked (with our Congressional delegation) to get Alaska its share of Federal money.

Our economy at this stage is minimal: Fish (coastal), Timber

(southeastern), Mining (low ebb), Oil (coming up, pioneered by the Navy), Tourism (coming in on Federal aid highways and airports), Defense (total Federal aid).

I can look about at the little community of Tok, Alaska and see Pipeline Station—Highway Terminal (given the State by Bureau of Public Roads)—Fish and Game (property given to the State by U.S. Fish and Wildlife)—Customs—Immigration—Fire Control—ACS Communication—RCA Micro Towers (government contract—our doctor gets part of his income from BIA patients—electricity (a private company with a government loan)—good mail service and a new post office. Last but not least, our children go to school in a warm, light, commodious building, well equipped and with a gymnasium for sports. In fact, all benefit daily from the efforts of Ernest Gruening and would be most ungrateful not to acknowledge it.

True he is an internationally known figure. His predictions on population explosions have proven pathetically accurate.

His warning on involvement in the Vietnam civil war was disregarded by the Johnson—Humphrey administration to our sorrow. No good has come of

(Continued on page 8)

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