

# **New Alaska Federation of Natives Formally Organized in Anchorage**

The Alaska Federation of Natives, formerly AFNA, was formally organized during a meeting in Anchorage last weekend. The association adopted a constitution and selected a full slate of officers.

Fifty-five Natives attended the congress, including a few from the Tanana Valley Chiefs' Association, which also met last weekend.

The delegates reviewed a proposed constitution presented last October, and made several changes before adopting it. A set of by-laws was also accepted.

The group also adopted a resolution urging the Alaska Congressional delegation to introduce the Native land claims bill in Congress as soon as possible.

Officers of the Federation will be elected every two years, with the first terms expiring in Oct. 1968. Only the president will draw a salary; he is charged with the jobs of recruiting and handling the administrative duties.

Emil Notti of Anchorage was selected as first president. Other officers are: Don Wright, first

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# AFN Formed...

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vice president; Byron Mallott, second vice-president; Elva Nannes, secretary; Seraphin Stephan, Sr., treasurer, and Oscar Craig, sergeant-at-arms.

Also established was a 20-member board of directors. They will meet quarterly if funds are available.

Directors are: Eben Hopson, Barrow; Willie Hensley, Kotzebue; Tony Lewis, Bethel; Flore Lekanof, Anchorage; Cecil Barnes, Kodiak; John Borbridge, Jr., Juneau; Jules Wright, Fairbanks; Hugh Nichols, Barrow; Frank Degnan, Unalakleet; Axel Johnson, Emmonak; Charles Franz, Port Moeller; George Olson, Cordova; the Rev. Walter Sobeloff, Juneau; John Sackett, Huslia; Jerome Trigg, Nome; Andrew Demoski, Nulato; Harvey Samuelson, Dillingham; Tom Gregoroff, Kodiak; and Emil McCord, Tyonek.

Hugh Nichols was appointed to represent AFN on the ASCAP board of directors, with Shirley Tucker as alternate.

The Federation passed dues of \$1.00 a month for individuals, with a lowered rate for those paying through Native associations. It will also seek financial support from foundations, the business community, and private individuals.