

# ***Snowshoeing Champ Frank Confident Of Keeping Crown; Poohs Opponents***

Defending champion of the Chiefs Snowshoe Race, Richard Frank of Minto, walked around town last week and expressed confidence that he can win the annual Chiefs race once again at the North American Championship Sled Dog Races grounds on March 22.

Richard Frank won the race going away last year leaving far behind such braggarts as Ralph Perdue, Emil Notti, and Don Wright.

Frank especially relished beat-

ing Ralph Perdue who finished about a lap behind the winner.

"That guy's ptarmigan feet that are supposed to make him light-footed sure didn't help him," said Richard Frank with something of a sneer. "What he needs is a pair of ptarmigan wings instead of feet and still I'll feed him my snow dust behind me."

Last year, Perdue had trained with ptarmigan feet attached to the front ends of his snowshoes. He had said that the oldtime

(Continued on page 6)

# *Snowshoe Champ*

(continued from page 1)

Indians did that and that made them light-footed when they used the snowshoes.

Then Richard Frank reflected a moment and said almost in a whisper, "That guy, Perdue, not much—nothing. I shouldn't even challenge him again. What I need is competition."

When told what Richard Frank had said about him, Ralph Perdue had this to say:

"That guy is full of malarkey. He's full of hot air. The only dust he'll raise will be from his hot air. After all, he's 40 years old now. He's over the hill and ready for old people's home. I don't want to waste any time on him. I'm going to lunch on business."

Richard Frank was asked whether he would challenge Gov. Keith Miller to the snowshoe race.

"That's a hard question," said Frank. "I don't think that fellow is in shape. He doesn't look like he's in shape. Let's just don't bother him."

Richard was told that such native leaders like Rep. William Hensley, Rep. John Sackett, John Borbridge, and Gerald Ivey might be trying to lift his crown.

"Those guys are not in shape either," he said. "They've been sitting on their, you-know-what, they hardly need noticing. Let 'em try, what the heck. They'll learn something—a real snowshoeing lesson—from me."