

Lisbourne May Call Special Meeting to Consider ANICA

"I feel that this is a very serious matter. I think the executive committee of ANICA should be consulted for a special meeting so that we can look into the possibility of transferring the office from Seattle to Alaska."

Dan Lisbourne of Point Hope, and president of the Alaska Native Industries Co-operative Association Board of

Directors, said the above last weekend as he was interviewed by Tundra Times.

He said that it was very possible the executive committee might recommend that a neutral party or person be sought to make a study of the move.

"He should study purchasing, hiring, transportation costs, the whole shebang," Lisbourne said.

"If it should prove to be of advantage to our people, I will have no objection to this move."

Dan Lisbourne then disclosed that Winfield Ervin, Jr., present general manager of ANICA, was hired by the Bureau of Indian Affairs without consulting the ANICA Board of Directors.

"And none of the executive committee knew anything about it, and they were quite hurt," said Lisbourne. "And he was the only candidate for the job."

Lisbourne said that Ervin's contract expires on December 31, 1968. He indicated that the contract might not be renewed.

He then talked about the possibility of hiring a new general manager.

"We strongly feel that we want as many applications for the general manager's job we can get. And we don't care what color he is," Lisbourne stated.

Besides Lisbourne, the ANICA executive committee consists of following men: Paul K. Jones, vice president, Deering; Alex G. Dushkin, vice

(Continued on page 6)

Dan Lisbourne

(Continued from page 1)

president, Nikolski; Alfred K. Wells, vice president, Noorvik; and Paul Albert, vice president, Tununak.

There are 30 members in the ANICA board including Lisbourne.

In the meantime, the members of the Fairbanks Native Association in Fairbanks have been busy.

The FNA members indicated that they would contact John Stringer, supervisor of the Wage and Hours Division of the State Department of Labor, and ask him that he conduct a probe into the pay situation of the ANICA village store managers.

Leonard L. Monaghan, former employee of ANICA as a store advisor, had charged that the central office of ANICA had been violating the minimum wage laws in Alaska.

Monaghan claimed that some store managers were paid \$1.25 per hour while the minimum wage law sets the figure at \$2.10 per hour.

There were also strong indications that the ANICA Board of Directors will get strong backing from native organizations if changes were to be made within the ANICA system.

"We would like the ANICA board members to know that they have the backing of the Fairbanks Native Association," said Ralph Perdue, vice president of the FNA.

Perdue said he was in the process of contacting native organization heads including the Alaska Federation of Natives.