

"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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Swimming Pool Need . . .

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torial tenure and while he was our territorial Governor of Alaska. Gruening has tried to convince the people of the state that construction of swimming pools would be most valuable contributions not only for recreation, but for physical fitness and safety of our population.

Senator Gruening's efforts, however, have not gone for naught--not quite. He said in a letter: "Since I can think of no finer community investment, I was gratified to learn that Sitka had recently completed its plans for what will be the first high school swimming pool in Alaska, a development to which I referred in my January 3 speech at the opening ceremony of the Alaska Purchase Centennial."

We agree with Senator Gruening when he pointed out that swimming pools are a standard equipment in schools throughout the United States but Alaska will have only one high school pool when the Sitka facility is completed.

The Senator's idea could even turn out to be a boon to our outlying areas where in some locations high schools are slated to be built. Although the money problem might be a major stumbling block in trying to get swimming facilities out there, it would not be too much out of line for the Native leaders to mull over in some of their meetings. If they can convince the powers that be that such facilities are needed it can, very possibly, prove to be a step in the right direction to solving their running water problems in the Arctic and Subarctic regions. It would definitely be a major achievement, even a swimming pool by itself toward better sanitation. We presume that shower facilities would go along with the works and this would be one of the finest contributions the swimming pool would provide--a daily bath for our young people where no running water is now available.

Another thing the local officials might do would be to make the swimming pool available to the older people who, along with their youngsters, have not the benefit of running water in their homes. They could be allowed to take a swim, perhaps once a week on weekends, and get the benefit of the showers as well as learning to swim.

In all seriousness, learning to swim, especially in the outlying areas, would be a great benefit. More than most, certainly, our people in the Arctic, Subarctic, Southeastern, and great many of our white-folk friends everywhere, are subjected to many dangers of the seas, the lakes and the rivers of Alaska, great many of which are some of the most treacherous in the world. Knowledge and confidence in being able to take care of oneself in case of water danger is to save precious lives.

We believe wholeheartedly with Senator Ernest Gruening who says, "Not only in the interest of physical fitness but for the safety of our people, I believe swimming is a sport which should be greatly encouraged."

Letter to Editor

Victor Haldane
USPHS, Hospital
Mt. Edgecumbe, Alaska

To: The Editor:

With reference to your January 17, 1967 issue. W.C. Arnold concludes his Native Claims Report by a statement, "The State may not press charges to sue the Tyonek Indians for millions, which he contends is rightfully the States."

As a logical empiricist, this is the most logical statement he made in his whole article.

I would like to ask Mr. Arnold how the State of Alaska expects to overcome the compact it made with the United States of America in order to become a State?

For the sake of brevity, here is just a part - "As a compact with the United States, said state and its people do agree and declare that they forever disclaim all right and title to any land or other property not granted or confirmed to the State or its political subdivisions by or under the authority of this act, the title to which is held by the United States or is subject to disposition by the United States, and to any land or other property, (including fishing rights), the right or title to which may be held by an Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut, etc..."

He also states, "In the absence of a treaty agreement; 'the Assistant Attorney-General of the State made this same statement and even a simple Indian with no degree of learning must dispute and even challenge this statement."

The 6th Article of the U.S. Constitution states, that any treaty signed under the jurisdiction of the United States is the supreme law of the land, any laws in any state to the contrary not withstanding.

Now, what was the agreement between Russia and the United States? "That the uncivilized races in Alaska shall be subject to such laws as the United States shall pass from time to time for those Indians of that land,"--remember the word "that"--which means law for all Indians of the United States or its subdivisions.

So the compact in the Statehood Act becomes the law of the land, also the act of 1924, granting citizenship to all Indians, Eskimos and Aleuts.

For a hundred years the native has practically been subjugated to a law of conquest, for that is what the intent of the law was, to begin with.

During the Indian Wars congress anticipates subjugating conquered Indian tribes to laws instead of giving them lands to live on. In 1881, this became a law, that was four years after the cession treaty, in which this phrase was incorporated. Does that make it an Ex Post Facto Law?

We must remember the 6th Article of the Constitution in answering this question.

Mr. Arnold states - "The Indians have no corporate capacity to bring to court action!" The Tlinget and Haida had no corporate status, either, but we were granted an enabling act and judgement

State Senator Cautions Alaska's Auto Drivers

(Editor's Note: State Senator Brad Philip's wife, Pat, recently died of injuries she suffered in an automobile accident on Seward Highway. The accident occurred shortly before the current legislative session).

ALASKA STATE SENATE
Pouch Y
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Editor:

I know that it is inconvenient! I know that it uses too much time and besides, it is only a short ride to the store! These are both a few of the excuses that you and I have used in the past for not using our seat belts each time we

was rendered by the Court of Claims that some 30 million acres of land and water was taken from us without just compensation.

It might be interesting to note that a parcel of land 30 miles off-shore was considered HAIDA PROPERTY, Namely Forrester Island.

His statement, "The state has a right to mean-low-water mark;" If by this remark he means, the state can or does own the waters? Why then does not the state maintain lighthouses?? etc. etc.

I may sound facetious in my remarks, but in my opinion such facetious remarks as rendered by Mr. Arnold can be answered in like fashion.

In closing let me point out to Mr. Arnold a small portion of HR 8190, an act of congress.

Indian title survived the Cession of 1867; a treaty of cession passes only the sovereignty; the inhabitants of a ceded country retain all the rights of property which had not been taken from them; such a treaty does not annul the previous rights of aborigines or others who had not agreed to it- etc. etc. Indian title includes the right to timber and other natural resources--Shoshone Case--Klamath Case.

Our resources extended 30 miles off-shore to Forrester Island, where we got our seal for food.

His statement about Abandonment, this is what Print 10A HR 8190 states; "Abandonment of Indian Title cannot be lightly presumed in the absence of plain intent or agreement, forceable ejection, or non-user under certain circumstances, as well as lapse of time, are not alone sufficient to warrant an Abandonment. Walapai Case, Fort Berthold Indian Case.

Whether anybody likes it or not, The Indian land question has developed into a land revolution.

The Serfs displacing those who contend they own the land. Mr. Arnold not withstanding.

Victor Haldane
Hydaburg, Alaska

"A wrong doer is often a man who has left undone, not always he who has done something."

MARCUS AURELIUS TERTULLIAN
"There is no glory in outstripping donkeys."

MARTIAL

drive an automobile.

If I can impress one person the value of enduring this inconvenience of using a seat belt, and thereby save a life, I will have considered this letter worth its weight in gold. While a seat belt does not replace cautious driving or murderous, inadequate, death-tray highways, they can prevent death or injuries in many cases and many instances.

My daughter Toi and I urge you to install and use automobile seat belts for the benefit of yourself and your family.

Sincerely,
Senator Brad Phillips

Mobile Gallery To Travel Through State

When the 62-foot, light blue and yellow mobile gallery housing the Centennial Art Exhibit completes a year's tour of Alaska in December, thousand of Alaskans and tourists will have viewed the art collection.

Today, the long circuit began as the trailer left on the State Ferry vessel, the Natanuska, for Skagway where the art exhibit will run for about a week. It will then continue on through the Southeast to Haines, Juneau for a layover, Sitka, Petersburg, Wrangell, Ketchikan and Metlakatla.

For three days in February while the mobile art gallery is temporarily in Juneau awaiting ferry passage to Sitka, 50% of the Centennial Art Exhibit, which is being sponsored by the Alaska State Purchase Centennial Commission and Alaskan Arts and Crafts, Inc., will be packed in sturdy crates and sent to Whitehorse, Y.T., on the White Pass Railroad for a short showing.

During a similar layover in Seattle in April, the entire exhibit will be moved to the Civic Center and shown for one week there. It will then be repacked in the trailer and carried by one of the vessels of the Alaska Steamship Co. to Seward.

In late May and early June, the mobile gallery will be visiting cities in the Kenai Peninsula. In July the collection will be shown in Anchorage at Alaska Methodist University and moved on to Fairbanks by the Alaska Railroad where it will be shown at the A-67 Exposition Site.

Throughout the fall of the year selected items in the show will be crated and flown by Alaska Airlines, Wien Air Alaska, and Northern Consolidated to Fort Yukon, Kotzebue, Nome, Gambell, and Bethel for small showings in these towns.

The air service will be provided free of charge. When the year is over, the show will have traveled to 29 exhibit places.

Inside the mobile gallery, almost every bit of available wall space is used to display

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