

Kotzebue Rejoices—

Telephones Working

From Kotzebue News

Kotzebue rejoiced Thursday with the repair of a severed telephone cable at the North end of town that served the PHS Hospital, the State building and KOTZ radio. The Thursday repair followed a repair over the prior weekend of another cable serving the PHS Hospital and the State building (which went unrepaired for several days).

Throughout the summer various parts of the city have experienced non-communications by telephone due to cut cables. The numerous cuts were provided via the honor of various companies doing excavation, the last being B & R Tug and Barge, Inc. while trying to locate a water line.

The reasons, apparently, for North State not having a telephone repairman in Kotzebue is that the company is in financial trouble. Gordon Zorbitz, Chairman of the Alaska Public Utilities Commission last week said that the Commission has helped North State to obtain long distance revenue from RCA Alacom (daily dispute).

The Public Utilities Commission now expects Kotzebue's telephone services to improve and if it does not Zorbitz says the Commission will revoke North State Telephone's certificate to operate here.

North State also recently received a small sum for damages allegedly done to the telephone cables by the PHS water and sewer project. North State is still requesting that PHS pay for damages done over the past several years to the cables during excavation for placement of water and sewer lines.

John Gilbert says he expects the telephone system to remain working as long as no further cuts are experienced this year (cross your fingers!).

Not only did Kotzebue rejoice Thursday with the return of telephone service but the people in parts of town stumbled blindly from lack of electricity. Someone, whomever, not wishing to disclose or claim responsibility for the accident, ran into a power pole.

The pole has been removed and power was only off for a few hours Thursday night. In the meantime, the city council met Thursday at their regular meet-

ing and were informed that Kotzebue is 100 per cent flood prone and Federally subsidized flood insurance was explained.

Another request, Northland Marine is interested in obtaining land on the municipal reserve for indefinite future development. The council requested a feasibility study from Northland with statistics and dimensions so that they can look into the matter for possible action.

To top it off, it looks as if the public was really impressed with the various candidates for city office and provided a time for the election judges who had to count the numerous write-ins, all who were fully capable.

See the listings of the returns, this paper.