

# Candidate for Congressman--

## *Notti Requests Rep. Meeds Introduce Pipeline Bill*

With the Alaska seat in the House of Representatives vacant due to the disappearance of Congressman Nick Begich, the Democratic candidate for the seat, Emil Notti, last week requested Rep. Lloyd Meeds of the state of Washington to introduce the House version of the Pipeline Bill.

The Pipeline Bill is designed to modify the 1920 Mineral Leasing Act, authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to grant wider right-of-way to build the trans-Alaska pipeline, stalled by recent court action.

The House bill is companion to that introduced into the Senate last week by Senators Stevens and Gravel, and was drafted with the help of Congressman Meeds' staff and the staff of Nick Begich, which continues to function as the Alaska office for the House.

In a special trip to the Capitol, Notti talked with heads of

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**CANDIDATE MEETS SEN. JACKSON** — Emil Notti, right, candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives on the Democratic ticket, is being greeted by Senator Henry M. Jackson of Washington State. Notti was in Washington, D.C. recently to hold strategy sessions with prominent senators and congressmen. Notti is opposing Don Young, R-Ft. Yukon.

# Emil Notti Campaigns...

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various sub-committees which could be involved in hearings on the controversial legislation.

Among those the candidate saw were Morris Udall, chairman of the Subcommittee on Environment; Patsy Mink, chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Mines and Mining; John Melcher, chairman of the Subcommittee on Public Lands; and Jim Howard, chairman of the new Subcommittee on Power and energy.

"If I could summarize what they all said," Notti remarked, "it was that Alaska deserved an early answer and that they would try to see that there were no procedural delays. Hopefully, the issue will be dealt with in 60 to 90 days."

Last Friday Les Aspen introduced a bill to grant the necessary right-of-way. If the pipeline goes through Canada.

"There are a lot of side-issues to Congressional action on the pipeline," said Notti, "such as, the Canadian route."

Notti spoke with Aspen on the two bills and said in his opinion, Alaska's bill was introduced first and stands a better chance of passing.

Notti pointed out that right-of-way is only one part of the pipeline problem. Should Congress amend the right-of-way laws, "That still leaves the environmental part of the question," he said.

After talking to knowledgeable sources in Washington, Notti feels that the case will work its way through the courts by next December and that the "best expectation for granting of a per-

mit will be by January of next year.

Notti sees as the core issue of the campaign for the Congressional seat "the budget." He said his opponent, Don Young, has said in the newspapers that he supports the President's budget, "and I think that's disastrous for Alaska," said Notti.

If there is as much or more federal money coming into Alaska, as his opponent Young claimed in a recent interview, "Why is Arctic Health being shut down?" Notti asked.

"Why are the OIO programs being shut down? Why is the hospital in Wrangell not being built? Why have \$20 to \$24 million dollars of health and education funds been cut off? What's going to replace that?"

Asked what he thought the effect of the suspension of the special REA interest rate would be on the electrification program in bush Alaska, Notti answered, "It might just be enough to bankrupt it."

Notti does not see revenue-sharing as the answer. "It's not anywhere near the amount of money necessary to replace the category programs," he said.

"Nick Begich, after studying it, voted against revenue-sharing, not because he was against the concept, but because he felt it was unfair to Alaska."

Notti sees the job of the Alaska Representative to the Congress as one of "looking out for the interest of Alaska, not of protecting the administrative decisions of the President."