

## "Like Other Americans"

(Editor's Note: The following guest editorial was written on November 23 but it was not received until last week, apparently delayed in the mails.)

I have just received my copy of November 19, 1965 issue of TUNDRA TIMES. First, my congratulations on the "new face" of the paper. It appears quite attractive, to say the least.

Secondly, your editorial on Federal Electric Corporation DEWline personnel problem: it is gratifying to read on pages of this same issue, the FEC is now making amends to what could have ended in a calamitous manner if not checked at the proper time. Thanks to you and TUNDRA TIMES for the intervention.

Mrs. Elizabeth Brown's "All I want is a normal happy family like other Americans" is a striking statement. After all, isn't this what all Indians, Aleuts, and Eskimos wish to attain "like other Americans?"

By presidential proclamation in 1924, all Natives of Alaska were declared American citizens. Since then, our people have participated in legislative sessions. Indians of Southeast Alaska preceded the Eskimos of the far North who finally plunged into state politics in 1949. There is no doubt that all participants have acted in all good faith, "like other Americans." We have striven, argued, agreed, "like other Americans." We have struggled to obtain the best for all Natives and non-Natives—"like other Americans."

Oh yes—even some of our young men have given the supreme sacrifice "like other Americans."

Mrs. Brown could not have said it more tersely or appropriately, because her father, Fred K. Ipalook, is in his 37th year of school teaching—at Wainwright and Barrow—"like other Americans."

Fittingly, Fred's former pupils are now serving as state legislators "like other Americans" do.

—PERCY IPALOOK