

Former Governor Egan To Go for Former Seat

Former Governor William A. Egan tossed his hat into the ring last week for the governorship of Alaska pledging himself to responsible, imaginative and well-planned programs.

"There is no problem that we Alaskans do not now have the means to solve. The new challenges, new opportunities, only need dynamic, responsible leadership that understands them and is capable of effective, efficient administration.

"We must see to it that the opportunities are utilized in a

manner that will enhance the dignity and well being of all Alaskans," the Democrat said.

Alaska's first governor charged that the present administration has "merely added dollars to existing programs" rather than developing new ones according to the state's present capability and actual needs.

He further accused the current administration of largely ignoring "the pitiful and abject poverty living conditions of the rural village areas of Alaska."

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Gov. Egan

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Adequate housing and sewage facilities for these areas should have commanded high priority in considering the actual needs of 1970.

Egan spoke in support of state financial participation in the land claims settlement and added that he hoped the administration would "favorably consider" such legislation if enacted by the State Legislature.

"It seems incongruous to me," he said, "that a leader who in 1968 was the second highest official of the state and who was unquestionably a top advisor and counsel to the then governor, would bluntly close the door to an early settlement of the vexing problem of the native land claims."

In 1968 the Hickel-Miller administration, Egan explained, supported legislation which authorized payment of \$50 million to the natives if the land freeze had been lifted by October 1968.

Also, Egan briefly called for state support of a satellite information distribution system that will enrich the educational field and communications generally.

The candidate is expected to be going against Democrat Larry Carr of Anchorage in the August primary, although Carr, owner of a supermarket chain, has not officially announced his candidacy yet.

On the Republican side, the Governor Keith H. Miller has already announced that he will seek another term in office.

A gubernatorial candidate in 1966, Egan was defeated by the former Republican Gov. Walter J. Hickel. Miller was appointed to the seat when Hickel became Secretary of the Interior for President Richard Nixon.