

Letters to the Editor



Allakaket, Alaska
June 24, 1969

Dear Editor:

I am writing about a problem that has been with us a long time—forever it seems. Please print this in your newspaper.

Now, there are approximately 20 or more fire fighters, or men who are available for fire fighting, here in the village. After a month or so of reporting about fires, we haven't been called upon yet.

Now we hear about hundreds of men being brought in from the Lower 48, and this seems to be the trend of Alaskan employment. This follows the "Slope" hiring practice and we natives are left out again. I'm sure that there are other villages with the same problem.

Most of us cannot afford to fly into town and wait for employment. More than anything, we cannot afford the waiting period.

I know that we are out of the way, so I would like to know the following. Who brought in the "Lower 48" fire fighters? Does it cost more to come to the villages than to go outside?

These are some of the problems, and this is our main one at this time.

Please print this soon.

Sincerely,
Ronald Sam