

**"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." — Voltaire**

# Tundra Times



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PICTURE RESURRECTED from Festival's archives taken, obviously, during a recording session--assistant, Mrs. Koranda, and Eskimo drummer--approximate date, early 1960's.

## Editorial—

### Native Area Director

Morris Thompson, an Athabascan Indian from the village of Tanana on the Yukon, has been approved by the Nixon administration and its Indian Affairs office of Commissioner Louis R. Bruce to be the area director for the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Alaska. This is the first time in the long history of the BIA in Alaska that an Alaskan native has been picked to head the complex and sprawling system of the agency in Alaska.

The new job Thompson is accepting should be a challenge of major proportions for him. He knows its complexity and he knows its vulnerability for attacks as has been shown in years past especially during the last five years. It might also be presumed that Morris Thompson is filling the shoes of his predecessors at a strategic time because of those past criticisms. Those attacks have had beneficial effects and the current BIA complexion is certainly more rosy than it was ten years ago. The agency, at last, is beginning to get into the business of working for the native people for which it was originally assigned.

Another contribution of vital importance is Morris Thompson's vision of the Bureau's contribution in the massive adjustments expected when the native land claims settlement is resolved in Congress. Done right, this assistance should be most valuable in the difficult transitions that must be made by the native people and their leaders after the claims settlement. This intention by Thompson is most commendable.

It is indeed flattering and satisfying that an Alaskan native has been appointed to head the BIA in Alaska. Morris Thompson must know, however, that he will be the focal point of many eyes, most of them native eyes perhaps, to watch over his performance. We have hopes that he will meet his duties well and benefit his people as well as the rest of the state.

## Editorial—

### Power with Kindness

Lawrence S. Fanning has to be in a strong category of a courageous editor Alaska ever had. He dared to speak his convictions in the face of certain opposition. He did it in that manner when he directed his newspaper to publicize the native situations favorably—something that was not done too much by any major newspaper in Alaska up until the time he took over the Anchorage Daily News. This was the mark of courage. He made great many friends among the native people by doing so. They needed his help to pose dire native situations so things might be done to resolve them.

Larry Fanning passed away last week in Anchorage. Alaska lost a truly well meaning citizen who sought better things for all the people through one of the world's powerful media—a newspaper. He knew what newspapers meant. He knew their power and he used them fairly and well. He didn't abuse them. He directed their power to better man's lot. In doing so, he had power with great kindness.

## Dave Brower of Barrow—

### Named to Dean's List

Charles D. Brower, son of Mr. David K. Brower, Barrow, has been named to the Dean's List at Northrop Institute of Technology, Inglewood, Calif.

An independent senior college of 2,000 students, Northrop Tech offers associate in applied science degrees and bachelor and

masters of science degrees in several fields of engineering and applied mathematics.

Brower is pursuing studies leading to the B.S. degree in Electronic Engineering.

He is a graduate of Mt. Edgecumbe High School.

## Publication by UW of Eskimo Music, Folklore Made Possible by BP Grant

Love's labor was NOT lost, just temporarily delayed!

The offspring of a long time love of Mrs. Lorraine Koranda will be born in the spring of 1972 with the publication by the University of Washington Press of 2000 long-playing records with accompanying 80 page booklet.

Made possible through an \$8,000 grant from BP Alaska, Inc., this end-product of research and documentation in the field of Eskimo music and folklore began over 20 years ago.

In the early 1950's, Mrs. Koranda, then on the music staff at the University of Alaska, discovered "that the University, though outstanding in studies of the Arctic, had no Eskimo music collection to supplement work of the anthropologists and ethnologists.

And further she discovered "that although all of (the authorities) recognized the importance of music in the Eskimo culture, none of them had the time

or the technical knowledge to notate the music."

So Mrs. Koranda, aided by an anthropology student at the University, began the collection of songs, stories, and folklore from 60 year old and older village residents from Shishmareff, Kobuk, Kiana, Kotzebue, Wales, Barrow, Anaktuvuk, St. Michael, Unalakleet, Pt. Hope, and Siberia.

Both funds and time passed and in 1961 Mrs. Koranda, then head of the U. of A. music department, came to the Alaska Festival of Music to conduct a seminar on Eskimo music.

The Festival's Board of Directors, recognizing the need to preserve this aspect of the Eskimo culture, was instrumental in obtaining in June 1962 a \$17,000 grant from the Z.J. Loussac Foundation to Mrs. Koranda for completion of her research.

Material was added from St. Lawrence, Nunivak, Barter Island, Kivalina, Noatak and Wain-

wright.

The work was completed in April 1964, at which time the long tedious task of finding a publisher and benefactor to subsidize the publication began. In July 1970, a publisher's commitment was received by Festival from the University of Washington Press and in October 1970, BP Alaska, Inc. agreed to subsidize the venture.

Public announcement of the perfect ending, now only a year away, to Mrs. Koranda's love story was made by Executive Director, Mrs. Richard Norman, to Festival's Board of Directors and representatives from BP Alaska, Inc. and Alaska Rural CAP at the Board's January 27 meeting.

Mrs. Koranda who now lives in Saratoga, California sent a telegram for the occasion expressing her elation over the publication news and her enthusiasm over working on minor manuscript changes during the forthcoming year.

## Letters from Here and There

Alaska State Legislature  
Senate  
February 4, 1971

Mr. Howard Rock  
Editor  
TUNDRA TIMES  
Box 1287  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

Dear Howard:

I wish to personally extend my appreciation to you for providing the legislature with copies of your newspaper.

I know that I speak for all members in stating our gratitude.

Best Personal Regards,  
Jam Hammond  
President of the Senate

January 18, 1971

Tundra Times  
Box 1287  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

Dear Mr. Rock:

I read with great interest the article titled "Union Leaders Declare Native Corporations, Unions Conflict." The unions object

to contract provisions, which are often, they feel, unfairly competitive to companies which hire union labor at standard wages.

Ed Orbeck, head of the Laborer's Union in Fairbanks, apparently did most of the talking at a talk given before the Farthest North Press Club, when he appeared there along with three other labor unions.

He complained that someone other than himself was setting policy and work conditions of hiring and wage schedules. He spent quite a bit of time in the article complaining about the immediate corporations and drawing up the law, the law, the law. I was particularly intrigued to note that in the article, Joe Marshall, who represents the Cement Finishers and Pipefitters unions, is also mentioned as a possible future labor commissioner in Fairbanks.

I am quite disturbed to note that, here again, we see the special interest in groups by unions endeavoring to secure positions of political power in

order to consolidate their special interests.

I respectfully submit that Mr. Joe Marshall, representative of the Cement Finishers and Pipefitters Unions would have a very distinct conflict of interest as a labor commissioner in Fairbanks or any place else, for he is representing labor on one side and setting policy and regulations on the other side. He is wearing two hats, and I would seriously question his right to wear the hat of Labor Commissioner under the circumstances.

We here in Colorado are absolutely afraid of this phenomenon of men who are protecting their special interests by seeking a political job which gives them jurisdiction over the very government function that should be regulating their activities. This is very much a-kin to throwing the fox in the chicken yard to guard the chickens.

Sincerely,  
Bernie Dangler  
743 Rood Ave.  
Grand Jct., Colorado 81501