

SEN. SAM ERVIN, JR.

University of Alaska 1976 Bartlett lecturer Sam Ervin

FAIRBANKS—Retired U.S. Senator Sam J. Ervin, Jr., who was chairman of the Senate Watergate Committee during his last two years in the Senate, is the University of Alaska's 1976 Bartlett Lecturer and will speak in Fairbanks on April 14.

Ervin, who retired from the Senate in 1974 after 20 years in that body, will speak on "The Constitution Today." The free public lecture is scheduled for 8 p.m. in the Patty Building.

The North Carolina Democrat will speak in Anchorage and Juneau as well as Fairbanks.

The lecture series in which he is participating is named for the late U.S. Sen. E.L. (Bob) Bartlett, Alaska's delegate to Congress during territorial days and one of the State of Alaska's first two senators. He died December 1968. He is survived by his wife Vide, of Fairbanks, two daughters and a number of grandchildren.

Action is expected this week on a \$10-million package of appropriations for airport, harbor and school appropriations in Aleutian Chain communities, now being considered by the Finance Committee of the State House of Representatives.

The package of a dozen bills was introduced this session by Representative Alvin Osterback of Sand Point. Should it receive legislative approval, six Aleutian communities—King Cove, Unalaska, Sand Point, St. Paul Island, Cold Bay and Nelson's Lagoon—would receive major appropriations from the state's general fund.

"The bills that I've introduced do not give us extra state money," Osterback contends. "They do correct the oversights of the administrative branch. These have been pretty lean years on the Chain lately. In this year's budget, the governor put nothing in to make improvements in our district—and did not even include money for local housekeeping tasks."

The largest appropriation bill (House Bill 764) calls for \$5 million to provide swimming pools in four village schools.

"Department of Public Safety figures show that 10 people drown on the Chain each year," Osterback explains. "Most of them are people who make their living by fishing."

"Because the water is too cold for them to learn to swim, they panic and are drowned if they fall overboard. This bill would construct swimming pools so that our people could learn how to swim. It would save a lot of lives."

The bills, granting \$1½ million

each to King Cove, Unalaska, Sand Point and St. Paul Island, has passed the House Select Committee on Education and, with Osterback's other appropriation bills, is being considered by the House Finance Committee this week.

Also in Osterback's package are bills calling for state funds to five communities for harbor improvements: \$50,000 to St. Paul Island for a feasibility study for harbor completion;

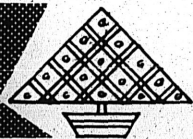
\$400,000 each to Sand Point and King Cove for piers and floats; and \$2½ million in general obligation bonds for Cold Bay to rebuild the dock there.

Finally, \$87,000 for rural teacher training in the Aleutian Chain is included in Osterback's package. In addition, he has asked that the state raise from 126.25 to 133.75% the ratio used to determine public school allotments in District 15.

REPRESENTATIVE ALVIN OSTERBACK
OF SAND POINT

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Certification received for federal payments

WASHINGTON — Eleven Alaska school districts and the State Operated School System have received certification for immediate federal payments, as federally affected areas.

Sen. Mike Gravel, D-Alaska, was told that the school districts should receive their checks from the federal treasury "within the next week or so."

William L. Stormer, director of the Division of School Assistance in federally affected areas, Office of Education, under the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, listed the payments as follows:

Fairbanks North Star Borough School District, \$298,896.

Dillingham City School District, \$40,583.

Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District, \$65,304.

Greater Anchorage Area Borough School District, \$1,216,540.

Alaska State Operated School System, \$13,897,497.

Greater Sitka Borough School District, \$165,534.

Nenana Public Schools, \$7,033.

Kodiak Island Borough School District, \$65,726.

Nome School Board, \$11,435.

Klawock City School District, \$16,721.

Greater Juneau Borough School District, \$138,383.

Ketchikan Gateway Borough School District, \$22,525.

Stormer said that, "In order to alleviate some of the financial burden being experienced by many of the local education agencies, payments are being made for approximately 50% of that which was received by the district to date for fiscal year 1975."

Stormer said that when the 1976 applications are processed, the reports will be adjusted to raise the payments to 75% as rapidly as possible before June 30.

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