

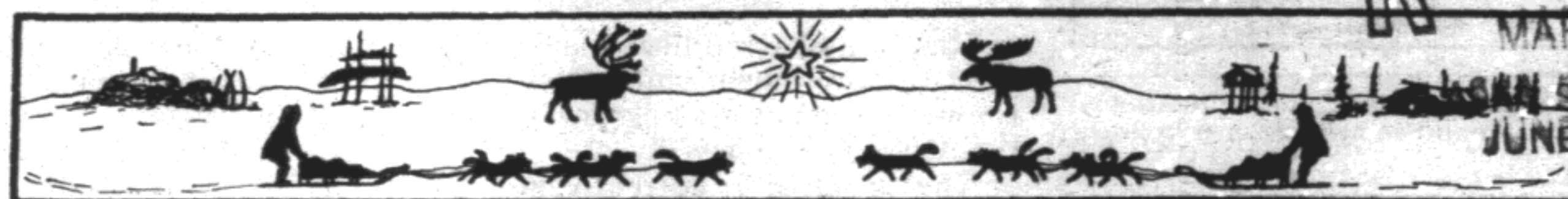
JIM THOMAS TAKES PR JOB WITH NCAI IN WASHINGTON, D.C. - STORY, PAGE 6

# Tundra Times

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Fairbanks, Alaska

## AFN NOT FOR STATE LAND BILL

### Board Calls for Rural Affairs Group Meeting

By SUSAN TAYLOR  
Staff Writer

ANCHORAGE. (Special)—Strong opposition to the current house bill for State participation in the land claims settlement was voiced Tuesday by the Board of Directors of the Alaska Federation of Natives.

Meeting in Anchorage, the board adopted a resolution recommending that the current bill be withdrawn from the legislative process and that the governor call a meeting of the Rural Affairs Commission to assist in drafting appropriate legislation to meet the needs of rural Alaska.

The bill referred to was drafted by the legislative council, a bipartisan group, to replace an earlier bill ruled unconstitutional because it appropriated money directly to natives.

The current proposal calls for

an appropriation to the Rural Development Agency of \$15 million or 10 per cent of the federal cash settlement, which ever is greater.

The appropriation would be effective at the time and upon the condition that Congress settles the land claims issue before Jan. 1, 1970.

Members of the board objected to the fact that the funds were tied to the passage of the Congressional land claims bill and suggested that all references to the federal land claims settlement be deleted.

If appropriations are focused on rural areas rather than the natives themselves, because appropriations to natives would be unconstitutional, then the bill should not be tied to federal legislation that would directly

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HAPPINESS IS FNA POTLATCH—A capacity crowd watched and guffawed at the antics of the Fairbanks Native Association's performers at its annual potlatch program last Saturday at the Lathrop High School gym. At the moment, the highly amused native people are guffawing at the

comical and inept nalukatuk (blanket toss) performers who landed on the blanket in all manners of ungraceful landing. Reportedly, around 2,000 natives and whites attended the popular FNA annual potlatch. See story on page 4.

—JOHN METZGER Photograph

### Sen. Stevens Tosses Hat



SEN. TED STEVENS

FAIRBANKS—U. S. Senator Ted Stevens last weekend announced his official candidacy for election to the U.S. Senate.

Stevens' announcement came during a one-day trip to Fairbanks last Saturday for the North American Championship sled dog races, and Fairbanks Native Association potlatch scheduled for that evening.

"I believe the forthcoming election will be among the most crucial ever to face Alaskans," Stevens said. "I believe it is to the advantage of our citizens to know as far in advance as possible just who the candidates are who are seeking their votes."

Stevens also voiced his concern over the future of education in Alaska. "I firmly believe Alas-

(Continued on page 6)

### Great Musher Attla Wins Again

Crowds lined the track Sunday at Farmer's Loop to watch George Attla capture the Open North American Championship title for the second consecutive time.

The Huslia Hustler finished with a total time of 265.68 minutes for the three days and 70 miles of racing.

However, first in the heat Sunday was 21-year-old J. P. Norris of Willow, who also came in second overall.

Orville Lake of Anchorage was

third overall with Dr. Roland Lombard, winner of the 1970 World Championship Sled Dog Race in Anchorage, placing fourth.

A parka parade, a tea boiling race, a G-pole freight race, a VW race, and a one-dog weight pull contest were also held.

Losing by a slim 31 seconds, Attla finished second in the World Championship Sled Dog Race in Anchorage this year. He finished second for the past two years but took the title in 1968,

1962, and 1958.

Attla's father was a musher and Attla started training his own team while still a young boy. At the age of 10 he was stricken with tuberculosis of the leg and doctors had to lock his knee in order to fix his leg so that he could walk.

After hours of training and practicing he crossed the finish line first in the Rony Race in 1958 and since then has been entering every major sled dog race.

## Tundra Times Board Turns Down \$75,000 Gift

How does one turn down a \$75,000 donation? Regretfully? Yes. By unanimous vote of a board of directors? Yes.

This unique story unfolded at the last monthly meeting of the board of directors of the Eskimo, Indian, Aleut Publishing Co., Inc. the corporation that publishes the Tundra Times. The board voted unanimously to reject the thoughtful donation.

The decision wasn't an easy one to make but there were weighty matters to consider.

This month, the Tundra Times received an inquiry whether it would consider receiving free of cost a letter press that would be donated by a Chicago corporation it had decided to give to an Indian business or Indian organization.

As such offers do, there were moments of elation because of the magnitude of the proposed

gift. But other things had to be considered and they are as follows:

The letter press weighs 25 tons

is 41 feet long, 14 feet wide, and 12 feet 8 inches high.

"Freight on this press to Alaska would undoubtedly be high."

said a high official of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Juneau with whom the Chicago corporation had communicated.

The corporation had approached the BIA industrial development field office in Chicago and expressed willingness to donate the press.

The machine is a 96-page Cottrell letter press with folder attached. It is 25 years old, currently in use, and valued at \$75,000.

In considering the offer, the Tundra Times board said that the circulation of the paper (now nearing 4,000) at this time would not be able to carry the expense of using the machine.

The board cited that to run it, it would probably require at least two journeymen pressmen and helpers to operate it, an expense the paper would not be able to carry at the present time.

Such were the basis for the Tundra Times board of directors to reluctantly reject the kind of offer of the Chicago corporation.

### Safe Water Facilities for Villages

Several Native village where only primitive water conditions now exist will acquire safe water facilities under a \$1 million demonstration program authorized recently by Congress.

"Hopefully," Senator Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, said, "after the first facilities prove successful, the program can be expanded to include all rural villages."

The facilities called for will provide a central source of fresh water, showers, toilets, clothes, washing facilities, office space for the village health aide, and an educational and informational program relating to health and

hygiene. All sewage from the facility would be treated in order to prevent pollution of the village environment.

The names of the villages to be affected were not released.

The cost of the expanded program is estimated to be between \$15 and \$18 million.

"Many of the health problems of our rural villages can be directly linked to an unsafe water supply," Stevens explained.

"By providing each village with a central source of safe water and with needed sanitary and health facilities all housed under

roof, we can substantially improve the quality of village life at a minimum cost."

The \$1 million authorization was included as part of the House-Senate conference compromise version of the Water Quality Improvement Act of 1970.

The central water facilities program was first proposed by Senators Stevens and Edward Kennedy in the "Alaska Safe Water Facilities Act," introduced after the Subcommittee on Indian Education traveled throughout Alaska's rural areas last spring.