



BUSH LAWMAKERS SHOW POWER



A CORNER OF THE BUSH BLOC—Rep. Martin Moore, D-Emmonak, and Rep. Frank Ferguson, D-Kotzebue, confer during an "at ease" during

this legislative session. The two freshmen representatives helped start a Bush voting bloc which has become powerful.

One Man Rural Districts Unite Solidly Creating Potent Political Punch

By Lael Morgan
Staff writer

Big city legislators complained loudly this year that they were being taken advantage of by rural representatives. Sounds impossible, doesn't it? Anchorage with its 21 delegates and Fairbanks with 10, threatened by one man districts like Emmonak and Kotzebue.

But, for the first time, during the 1971 legislature, the one man districts united. After years of being reapportioned out of power, the bush again wields po-

litical punch.

"There have been screams of anguish from Rep. Tom Fink (Anchorage Republican) and other legislators saying we have a bush oriented legislature," reports Rep. Edward Naughton, D-Kodiak, who heads the Bush Caucus. "We've gotten almost nothing out of this legislature but the fact that they're screaming indicates we're getting more than we'd usually get."

"We're in the best political position we've ever been from the standpoint of authority," maintains Sen. Jay Hammond, R-Naknek. (Rep. George Hohman, D-Bethel, is head of the House Finance Committee, Rep. Clem Tillion, R-Halibut Cove, is House minority leader and Hammond, himself, is president of the Senate.)

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REP. EDWARD NAUGHTON

Joe Upicksoun's Testimony Damages

WASHINGTON, D.C. (May 9) Joseph Upicksoun is likely to wish he had never said it.

Reliable sources close to the Subcommittee on Indian Affairs of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee report that insults directed to Representatives Haley and Aspinall by Upicksoun may be responsible for the loss of up to seven votes for the Alaska Federation of Natives' bill during that committee's mark-up session on land

claims legislation.

By Friday morning, the last day of a week of hearings before the committee, all parties concerned viewed the hearings as the most thorough and most productive ever held on the Alaska Native land claims.

There was a spirit of cooperation between witnesses and congressmen in trying to understand the land claims issue - "a desire to get to the basics," as AFN president Don Wright put it.

Then Joe Upicksoun read his statement. It contained some of the finest arguments ever advanced.

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4 Kivalina Teenagers Suing State Schools

KIVALINA—Four teenage girls have brought suit against the state school system for failing to provide high school classes in their village. The action was filed by Christopher Cooke, Alaska Legal Services Corp., in Anchorage, for ninth graders, Lucille and Stella Sage and Myra and Dolly Hawley.

Named as defendants are the state school board; the board of directors of stage-operated schools; Cliff Hartman, commissioner of education; Merle Armstrong, state operated school director; G. Lee Hayes, assistant director; and George White, Northwest regional administrator for state operated schools.

Kivalina has a population of 175 with day school grades one through eight. High school students must participate in the boarding program if they are to continue their education.

In September, 1969, Lucille

Sage was assigned to Mt. Edgecumbe in Sitka, although her choice had been Beltz High School which is much nearer home. She was so unhappy at Edgecumbe she did not eat pro-

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COMPAS Doing Important Work— Alcoholic Rehabilitation Center

By LAEL MORGAN
Staff Writer

During spring vacation a native student at University of Alaska decided to go on a drinking binge. He overdid it, missed a week of school but returned in time to complete the semester with top grades.

The faculty would probably be surprised to learn their straight-A student was a resident of the Alcoholic Rehabilitation Center run by COMPAS at 1030 Second Avenue.

That two years ago he had been just about written off by society. And that his mid-semester drinking bout was a real victory because he recovered and made up for lost time.

COMPAS stands for Community Property and Service Corp. It was established by various churches in Fairbanks but funded through public and private agencies. The alcoholism program is just one of many the agency sponsors but through it COMPAS is becoming a watch-

word in the bush.

In March the Alaska Native Brotherhood of Juneau gave COMPAS a vote of confidence for its rehab work. Sen. Don Young of Ft. Yukon is trying to promote a Detox center in Fairbanks patterned along COMPAS dimensions because he feels the organization has really been successful in his area.

And several native villages sent representatives for training at the center who are now

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Rate of Native Enrollment at UA Increases Greatly Year on Year

By MADELYN SHULMAN
Staff Writer

During the past two years, the number of native students entering Alaskan colleges has increased several fold.

Next year, the University of Alaska expects at least 100 new native college freshman, to join a student body which already includes more than 250 native students at their Fairbanks campus - out of a total student enrollment of 2300.

For many years, the University of Alaska had less than 100 native students and 90 per cent

of these dropped out before graduation. Other Alaskan colleges report similar statistics.

Even with a great increase in native enrollment, Alaskan colleges are still only recruiting a tiny percentage of the native students who could succeed in college with sufficient preparation, motivation, and help.

"Only the most outgoing students with the most self-confidence make it to college," reports Joanne Trigg of Juneau, a UA junior who is an alumni of both Mt. Edgecumbe H. S. and the Anchorage boarding home

program.

For one thing, she and other students report, Alaska's native high schools do not challenge their students.

"When I transferred to Anchorage, after being a top student, I had to catch up with a lot of work," reported Joanne, who is echoed by many native high school and college students.

At the University of Alaska, Special Orientation Services, a

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**AVEC Funded
With \$919,691
OEO Grant**

A \$919,691 Office of Economic Opportunity grant for Alaska Village Electrical Cooperative, Inc. was announced last week by Senator Ted Stevens (R-Alaska).

The grant will help AVEC continue its program of providing electrical power for 59 Alaskan villages.

At present 30 villages are using AVEC power and 29 are awaiting installation of the system. Lloyd Hodson is General Manager of AVEC whose main offices are in Anchorage.