

"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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Editorial—

Jack Anderson's Help Proves Important

It is now becoming clear that Jack Anderson's help in mentioning Tundra Times last November in his syndicated column, "Washington Merry-Go-Round," is proving to be a vitally needed one by the paper. Anderson pointed out that the newspaper was skating on thin ice financially. His item brought us \$5,500 in donation from people throughout the nation. A large portion of the donations came in the form of subscriptions.

The officials of the Tundra Times are now confident that the paper is, or very nearly so, assured of keeping going indefinitely operating on the abbreviated number of personnel it now carries. At the present time, the paper has two full time employees, its editor and secretary-typist. The third person is a part time news reporter-photographer.

Tundra Times, as yet, cannot operate strictly on its own from the income of subscriptions and advertising. In order to keep going, this income has been supplemented by the paper's annual banquet and from some of the proceeds of the World Eskimo Olympics which is now under the control of the newspaper's board of directors. With the continuing slow but steady growth of the paper, its improved advertising contents, and the proceeds from the banquet and Olympics, Tundra Times should begin to operate in black within a year and stay there.

Tundra Times came off the press for the first time on October 1, 1962 with the financial backing of the late Dr. Henry S. Forbes of Milton, Mass. who died in August of 1968. Dr. Forbe's great generosity lasted until the end of 1968. Before his death, he had expressed a wish that the paper should try on its own. This it did since the end of that year and has had some difficult times in the process.

Jack Anderson's assistance through his column has proven to be a most important contribution in publishing of the Tundra Times. We think that it may have been a needed shove to get the newspaper over the hill. Certainly, the paper would have been in dire straits within the last year.

The Board of Directors, the staff, join in saying a heartfelt thanks to Jack Anderson and those many people who responded to his appeal on behalf of the Tundra Times.

- GALENA AREA CURRENTS -

Kashim Makes a Lot of Difference

By JOHN SACKETT

Life in native village centers around the family and the central meeting place, and Galena is no exception. Years ago there was the kashim which was used for meetings, dances and sweat baths. In those days, when male domination was in vogue the kashim was used as the gathering place of men to tell stories and repair sleds and hunting gear, and women rarely went past the bear skin hanging in the doorway.

Galena recently completed a log structure with the assistance of the Rural Development Agency and already in one week's time we have had two town meetings (when previously two a year was an accomplishment), one potlatch and two dances. Of primary importance is the need for a place by the teenagers during the summer to meet and do all those fun things that teenagers do that we once did and now frown upon—and that I'm beginning to even forget about entirely. Hopefully with the approval of the city council however we can have dances, bingo games, and other activities geared to the

Letters from Here and There

Would Serve Bush By Air Taxis

Box 488
Aniak, Alaska 99557
April 8, 1971

Dear Editor:

Commenting on front page article of March 31, "Bush Air Routes to Continue Under Subsidy," I tend to agree with the proposal of the Bureau of Operating Rights opinion that it would be a wiser move to suspend the bush routes now being served by Wien Consolidated Airlines, Inc. and Alaska Airlines, Inc.

To begin my findings on this matter; these routes are being served by these airlines at great expense to the tax-paying public without any savings to the rural people. The service in most areas is so inadequate in most instances, that the people choose to travel by air taxis most of the time.

On March 25, 26, & 27, 1971, the Association of Village Council Presidents met in Bethel. One of the most heated discussions in the meeting was that Wien Consolidated Airlines, Inc. should be made to either improve their services; allow another airlines to compete over the same routes; or get out altogether and let the air taxi operators serve the rural areas, because they are more responsive to the needs of the people.

From my own experience: I can load my plane with five people and fly from any point in the rural areas and if I charge the ticket rate that Wien charges I would do quite well. They are subsidized airlines, operating as an air taxi operator, at the expense of all the public.

If CAB examiner, Merritt Ruhlen, ruled in favor of Wien Consolidated Airlines, Inc., then I feel he is either not familiar with the feelings of the rural villagers or he is not responding to their complaints.

Before anything is decided, I believe it would be a wise move on the part of CAB to hold hearings on the larger villages of the "Bush". It should be left up to the people, rather than an arbitrary board who lives on the east coast of the United States.

Sincerely,
Fred A. Notti

Would Like ASNA General Meeting

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following letter was requested by the writer to be published in the Tundra Times.)

Box 505
Barrow, Alaska 99723
March 23, 1971

Joseph Upicksoun, President
Arctic Slope Native Association
Box 566
Barrow, Alaska 99723

Dear Joe,

returning high school students.

At least in this part of interior Alaska activity should be at a high level since there is to be a large amount of construction and other work on the military base, schools, and FAA facilities. Since we were and never will be dependant upon any work on the now famous pipeline this will mean quite a boost to the local people although it looks as if for a long while we will be dependant on the federal construction programs and not much of anything else.

In the next few weeks I hope to give my views on the different aspects of Alaska life as viewed from the rural area, and although we may never agree on the exact solutions to various problems I hope that we will both keep an open mind.

With debate over a just settlement of the Alaska Native Claims intensifying, I would suggest that you schedule, at an early date, a general meeting of the members of the Arctic Slope Native Association. I am of the impression that many residents of the community, concerned about recent articles appearing in Alaska newspapers, have questions to ask about the content of those reports and of the reports and of the recent decisions that have been made by the board of directors of the Association. I believe that the people should have an opportunity to hear from the members of the board, express themselves, ask questions, and become better acquainted and informed with the pending legislation, the future course of the bills, and the possible consequences of the legislation on the people of Barrow and the other communities.

May I offer four topics for consideration at such a meeting.

As general background, I think it would be well to start with a general analysis of the various bills offered in the Congress to date and the provisions in each for land settlement, reimbursement for title yielded, and proposals to administer these terms. Few residents of Barrow have even a layman's knowledge of the bills. The people should know something about the ideas and suggestions that the Congress is considering and the ASNA's position as to each.

Secondly the press has recently given extensive coverage to the differences of opinion between ASNA and the Alaska Federation of Natives. Is ASNA presently associated with AFN? Are the differences between the two organizations so real as to warrant withdrawal by ASNA? Has ASNA not lost an effective forum to present its position on this issue and on the Native Claims Settlement legislation generally? Do you seek an endorsement from the members for the point of view set forth by the ASNA?

The development of an oil economy in the Prudhoe Bay region has begun to have a positive effect, albeit small, in the community through the payroll of the men employed there. Recently, Atlantic Richfield representatives asked whether it would not be possible or even practical for ASNA to go on record as being not actively opposed to further development of the industry predicated upon a prior just settlement of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Legislation. What would be the Association's response to this request? May I assume that the board, as a matter of policy, opposes all such future economic and industrial development? Is ASNA wise in ignoring the request from Atlantic Richfield?

Related to the oil industry is the question of the granting of a pipeline easement. Recent statements by the Executive Director of the Association, Charlie

Edwardsen, Jr., relative to the Trans-Alaska Pipeline project have led a number of people to question the position which has been set forth. The impression created is one of substantial, if not unanimous, opposition to any pipeline among the people of the Arctic Slope. I find that there is disagreement and dissatisfaction among the people on this point. Many others would like an explanation of the statements reported by the press. Has the Executive Director spoken for the board and the membership? Is the impression that he has conveyed one that is substantially supported by the membership? I sense some opposition in Barrow and, editorially, from at least one resident of Anaktuvuk Pass. Are we all not entitled to an explanation?

These and other matters—including, perhaps, a discussion of the proposed borough and reports of recent travels by yourself, the Director, and other board members—could serve as the basis of an informative discussion among the people.

Since the last general meeting, a lack of communication has developed between the board and the members. Many decisions are related to the proposed legislation and are made and explained only to the board. The public is left to obtain its information courtesy of AP or UP! In a community as small as this, with an issue so important as this, the situation is intolerable. Communication between the leaders and the general membership in each village is necessary. The people have the right to be kept advised and informed as a settlement is enacted, and should not be left to enter objections or criticism after the fact.

Respectfully,
Bill Neakok
Box 505
Barrow, Alaska 99723

Indian Population Increased Greatly

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AIPA) —Indian population increased by more than 50 per cent during the nineteen-sixties according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

The preliminary 1970 census count shows 791,839 Native Americans compared to 523,591 in 1960.

Oaklahoma leads in population figures with 97,731, followed by Arizona with 95,812; California, 91,018; New Mexico, 72,788; and North Carolina, 43,487.

Sitka Dorm Design on Go

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congressman Nick Begich of Alaska announced today that the firm of Naramore, Bouillon, Skilling and Blomfield, Architects, of

(Continued on page 6)

ANCHORAGE Hotels - Motels

Parson's Hotel
3rd & H. Streets
272-6417

Roosevelt Hotel
539 H. St. 277-5541
Ave. Sgl. with bath \$15

HOTEL VENTURE
441 E. 15th Ave. 279-1482
Ave. Sgl. with bath \$12.00