

"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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CINA tours ANS Hospital

Anchorage, Alaska, July 29, 1976. The newly appointed Board of Health for the Cook Inlet Native Association toured the ANS Hospital today and I had the opportunity to meet with them and to speak to them. They are novices and in the process of orientation to the many programs and problems of their region. All of the villages are represented, and each board member was elected by his local people to be their spokesman.

The upmost question in my mind was "what do you tell them?" As I am not working for the Public Health Service in a paid for services capacity (being a medical student), I do not represent the government and cannot speak for them. I can only speak for myself and for my ideas.

One thing that I told them was to go slowly and take in everything before making commitments. Learn all of the sides and not be swayed by fast talkers who just have their own pet projects in mind and not the good of the people.

The basis of all decisions should be if this (program) will *really* benefit our people or not. There are so many duplicate programs on alcoholism for example, that just are not doing the job. I wonder why all that lost money could not be pooled into one large *effective* program where everyone could be working together instead of many small groups just going their own ways without any kind of master program in effect.

Money has been made available from various sources to fund all kinds of programs and projects. Money that was never available before and perhaps will not be around in the future. Many future native leaders are in school all over the country.

They will be coming out within the next two to ten years with solid credentials and administration qualifications.

But the timing is poor.

We need leaders now while the funding and opportunities are ripe. So we take the most qualified (by village standards) and almost push them into administration and management. We tell them that there is no one else around to do it and all relies on their performance. Some survive and others just plain "burn out" from the stress and strains of politics and administration.

I believe we should take that into careful consideration when evaluating and criticizing some of our present leaders and their work efforts. And surely they receive and will continue to receive more criticism than praise. Many times, a thankless job.

Yet to the new CINA Board of Health, I say, welcome dear friends and fellow natives. Don't let the fancy words and the mountains of paperwork and hours of study frighten you. We need you... right now. You know our problems, our needs and soon you shall find the answers. We have to stand behind you... you are all that we have.

Ted Mala

Funding health centers

July 26, 1976 Dear Mr. Clark:

Robert I. Clark,
Executive Director
Bristol Bay Area
Health Corporation
P. O. Box 233
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

This is in response to your July 15th letter regarding the criteria for the funding of area mental health centers in Alaska. As you know the Mental Health Advisory Council met earlier this year. The result of the meet-

ing was to set funding levels for various community mental health programs.

The Alaska State Legislature recommended funds be budgeted to adequately meet the recommendations of the Mental Health Advisory Council. Governor Hammond, because of fiscal constraints, made the difficult decision to reduce the community mental health budget below that recommended by the legislature. He did provide for an amount above the level he initially recommended.

The Mental Health Advisory Council has not met since the governor made his decision. To my knowledge, the Mental Health Advisory Council has made no recommendation regarding how the remaining funds should be distributed. I do not know the criteria used in the prioritizing of funds. I think Dr. Jerry Schraeder or Jim Price could accurately answer your question.

I recognize the problem in the Bristol Bay area and am becoming more aware of it through correspondence. However, since I do not live in your area, I do not pretend to fully appreciate the extent of your needs.

Your comments regarding A.P.I. are of interest. I think there is a need to develop innovative approaches to the delivery of health care. Hopefully the inception of the new planning agencies, ones with clout, will provide for greater coordination and more innovation in our health care delivery system. I certainly hope you, the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation, and individuals in the Bristol Bay area will become active participants in this process. The only way the new system has a chance of working for the overall benefit of the Alaskan people is if people like yourself take the time to become involved.

I feel frustrated as I write this letter, because I know I am not satisfactorily answering your questions nor am I alleviating your immediate need and concern. However, if this letter serves as an additional stimulus to you and your corporation to become involved in the new planning process, I feel this letter has served a positive purpose.

I hope sometime in the near future to have the opportunity to meet you. I'm sure I could learn a great deal from you, particularly in understanding the unique health care problems of those living in the Bristol Bay area. I look forward to the time when we can meet.

Sincerely,
Victor J. Dirksen
Administrator

Proposals to break up large oil companies favored

July, 1976

Dear Editor:

The current proposals in Congress to break-up the large international oil companies are of great interest to their much smaller competitors.

An intensively competitive oil industry has more than 8,000 different companies exploring for oil and gas, about 130

engaged in refining, and 15,000 wholesale marketers of petroleum products.

The largest domestic crude producer accounts for only about 8 per cent of United States production. The largest refiner, 8.3 per cent of total United States refining capacity, and the largest marketer, 8.2 per cent of the gasoline sold.

Oil is a much less concentrated industry than computers, steel, aluminum, network television and automobiles. Years and years of intensive investigation of the oil industry by the Federal Trade Commission and the Justice Department have not produced factual evidence of monopoly. This seems to be ignored by those persons who make charges of monopolistic practices.

Our nation experiences a growing dependency upon foreign countries for our energy needs. To counteract this threat to our security, we need an efficient and financially strong petroleum industry to find and develop more oil in North America. Divestiture—the dismemberment of the large, strong companies—helps no one.

Efficiencies of size in crude oil transportation and refining will be lost, along with the extremely efficient petroleum distribution network that has consistently delivered a gallon of gasoline to the American consumer at the lowest price in the world.

Even those proposing divestiture admit that the United States consumer will pay more for gasoline and other petroleum products if divestiture is forced upon the country.

Small independent companies, competing daily with the large internationals, know that while the oil industry is competitive and aggressive, new firms can enter the marketplace and small firms can grow larger. Consumers benefit from the flexibility of the industry; the efficiency of the small firms and the economies of scale inherent with the larger firms.

We honestly believe that you cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong. Divestiture would hurt everyone—the consumer, the voter, the oil industry, and the nation—infinite more than it might help the smaller oil companies.

Sincerely,

Jaye F. Dyer
President
Dyco Petroleum Corporation
Hopkins, Minnesota

Charles E. Ramsey, Jr.
President
May Petroleum, Inc.
Dallas, Texas

C. V. Wood, Jr.
President
McCulloch Oil Corporation
Los Angeles, California

J. C. Templeton
President
Paragon Resources, Inc.
Shreveport, Louisiana

John W. Mason
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Amarex, Inc.
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Harry A. Trueblood, Jr.
Chairman & President
Consolidated Oil & Gas, Inc.
Denver, Colorado

Barrie M. Damson
President
Damson Oil Corporation
New York, New York

William G. Ferguson
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
General Exploration Company
Dallas, Texas

Purse seine fishing disastrous

August 2, 1976

The Honorable Jay S. Hammond
Governor of Alaska
Pouch A
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Governor Hammond:

The Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indians of Alaska is again concerned over the certain economic disaster now faced by southeast Alaska because of the disastrous purse seine fishing season.

Since the economies of most of our villages are based on net fishery and related industries, our people are faced with a second straight year of high unemployment and its resultant, severe economic deprivation, which is even now being experienced by those whose normal and chief source of income is the salmon fishery. Because of this, and with our experience from last year in mind, the Central Council is again offering to work with the State in addressing the problems of economic deprivation.

As you know, the Central Council, as part of our joint effort last year, identified 100 per cent of all village resident purse seine fishermen and cannery workers by name, address, and gross earnings. Similar identifications were made on 50 per cent of village resident gill netters. In addition, the Central Council also identified a number of labor-intensive, work experience, public works-type projects located throughout this region which could have been implemented in short order had monies been available.

The Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indians stands ready to perform this activity again. However, we feel that certain procedures utilized in the 1975 effort could be improved and would like to suggest the following in that area:

1. State agency resources should be identified immediately, instead of waiting until into September as was done last year. This would enhance the identification of planned activities slated for the new fiscal year which could perhaps be re-scheduled to bring additional resources to bear against the problem.

3. That there be an improvement in the information flow to provide for a more adequate and timely exchange of information concerning persons, locations, resources identification, resource use and time frame schedules.

We feel this is necessary in order to achieve the level of efficiency and effectiveness in coordination which will be needed if any meaningful remedial action is to be accom-

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