

Federal Plan on Minority Hire May Be Imposed—

Deadline on Alaska Unions, Contractors, Native Groups on 'Alaska Plan' Work

ANCHORAGE—It appears that the much heralded "Alaska Plan" to provide building and construction job opportunity for minority group persons "is going down to the wire—or going down the drain" according to Robert Willard, the Plan's Committee Chairman.

The federal government has given Alaska's unions, contractor associations and minority group organizations until February 18

to complete all work on the Alaska Plan before imposing a mandatory federal plan.

"I am informed that federal officials have begun drafting a plan," Willard said, "and, quite frankly, I'm worried that we may not meet the deadline."

"The problem is that not all signature sheets have been returned," the Chairman said this morning. Willard said he mailed signature sheets to all unions, contractor associations and minority group organizations on January 11 to be returned by January 31.

The (signature) sheets were to be signed by an authorized official and returned and then forwarded to Washington, D. C.

Of the 23 Native Associations, 5 Black organizations, 3 Filipino Community groups, 31 Union Locals, the Associated General Contractors and other specialty contractor associations, only two unions and one contractor group have signed to date.

He said he has 13 minority group signatures on file. A letter appealing to those groups which have not yet signed is being prepared for mailing.

The Alaska Plan is a 35-page document that took 18 months

to complete. It details the manner in which minority group persons will enter the building and construction unions in projects which are federal or federally-assisted.

A 21-member committee began drafting the "voluntary" plan on September 21, 1970 in efforts to stave off the imposition of a federal plan.

"If the (federal) government invokes a plan on the State—there will be no input by Alaskans," Willard said, "as the federal plan will be drawn and administered by federal officials from Washington, D. C.

On the other hand, if the Alaska Plan survives it will be administered by a nine-member Construction Opportunity Policy Committee to be established after the Plan is put into effect.

State (of Alaska) projects would be affected if the Alaska Plan fails as Governor William A. Egan has indicated that he may issue an Executive Order to require that all State, local government and private projects to fall into line with the Alaska plan.

If a federal plan is imposed an executive order is not likely to be issued.

"The federal government has

already approved the Plan as it is now written," Willard added, "all that needs to be done is for all signatories to sign and we're on our way."

Willard expressed cautious optimism that the deadline may be met however, stating he would work hard to get the plan to Washington with the necessary signatures by the deadline date.

Science Grants

FAIRBANKS—University of Alaska president William R. Wood has announced the acceptance of National Science Foundation grants totaling more than \$100,000 for two research projects conducted by university scientists.

One grant—for \$92,500—will finance research entitled "Particle Precipitation and Terrestrial Atmosphere," to be directed by Dr. Gerald J. Romick of the Geophysical Institute.

The other—for \$19,200—is for renewed support of research entitled "A Study of the Midday Auroras at the South Pole Station" under direction of Dr. Syun-Ichi Akosofu, also of the Geophysical Institute.

Veralas Club Holds Its Jan. Meeting

By ARLENE PITKA
Beaver, Alaska

We, the Beaver Veralas Club members, met at our B. I. A. School, January 21, 1972, at 4:15 p.m. The meeting was called to order by our president, Dorothea Billy. There were 16 members present. Sammy Hope became a new member.

Ulah Hope led us in the pledges and motto. Sam Blackett led us in the song "Star Spangled Banner."

There were four demonstrations: Sam Blackett talked about his toothbrush holder, Mary Billy told how she made her apron, Valorie Adams explained how to make her sewing bag, and Susan Winer talked about her pillowcase. All of these demonstrations were very interesting and their things were very pretty.

Mary Billy led us in a game. The name of it was Exchanging letters. Then Mrs. Page taught us a game. The name of it was "Prince Albert Lost His Sunday Coat."

Valorie Adams, refreshment chairman, and Wilma Pitka served us apple tarts and Kool-aid.

Inuvik Didn't

Make It to

Barrow Games

By GUY OKAKOK
Barrow Correspondent

BARROW—I mentioned the Inuvik people who was to come down to Barrow village to participate in Eskimo games but they never did make it, can't say why, I do not know.

Anyway it was terrific game the Eskimos had.

But one thing I hate to put it down is, we married men lost to the singles. Ain't that 'soud funny? It is to us but it is a marvelous games though.

MONUMENT

Two girls from Anchorage who do come in to Barrow village as tour said today that they wish someone would take them down to the Wiley Post and Will Rogers monument which is 14 miles down from village.

They said is there a way to go down by Ski-doo or by truck. Answer was, they had to get an permission from the tour guide whether they could or not.

SUN IS BACK

Again the hidden sun comes to surface today on 21st of January, which means sun will keep rising higher each day until she stays on air above 24 hours daily.

That reminds me, today, when I wintered way east in Cambridge Bay, Canada in 1927, Eskimos there whenever they do see sun rises on surface, witch doctors would meet together in a big igloo all made out with their knives and shovels.

Igloos are 32 feet wide and around 23 feet high all snow blocks. These doctors would celebrate two days, what do they celebrating for that I cannot talk about.

This is their custom each time each year whenever they do see first sun rises they'd drop almost everything out, no hunting nor anything for two days.

These I have seen done by the Eskimos there. Even their wives would seems to drop all the sewing for two days.

I wish I could put everything down, but I have to drop it now.

WEATHERED IN

Mr. John and wife Oktolik, Elijah Rock, and others from Pt. Hope finally left Barrow village after they had stuck for going back home to Pt. Hope on account of bad weather in Pt. Hope.

Which is very nice for them as we people here in Barrow village give them hospitality in every ways we can for them. As they are all friends to us.

GOOD WINTER

I'm sure we have wonderful winter this year, hunters brings in foxes and caribous, even wolves.

One hunter said today that a bands of wolves were making trail through soft snow and the trail was around one foot wide and well trodded down to the frozen ground.

That means that there must be over 50 or more wolves making trail.

STATE OF ALASKA'S AIR QUALITY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Fairbanks, February 25, 1972
Anchorage, February 26, 1972
Juneau, February 29, 1972
Ketchikan, March 2, 1972

CONSULT YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER

God in his infinite wisdom created every little thing for some purpose. Even the snowflake and raindrop cleanse the atmosphere in their brief journey. Let's do our part!

Let's become informed and see if that plan is what we want. If not, voice your concern at the public hearings.

CLEAN AIR -- PASS IT ON

STATE OF ALASKA CLEAN AIR COALITION