

## Ethnic Community Action Program Is Formed To Meet the Special Needs of Fairbanks Natives

Alaska's first Ethnic the "Native Program for Community Action Program, Progress," was formed last

### Spurs Arctic Plans . . .

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industries. ASNA is asking \$250,000 for this project.

A second project will provide \$8,000 for village surveys at Point Hope and Wainwright to make possible Farm Home Administration loan programs there.

A third program will be to provide help for people obtaining such loans under a program already approved for 1967-68; this will not involve any direct expenses.

A sea mammal oil and meat cannery at Wainwright would provide employment for cannery workers, hunters, and people to collect coal for the cannery's fuel. The oil from this \$60,000 project should find markets in both Japan and Alaska.

A \$35,000 musk-ox project will provide employment for herder families and women to weave the musk-ox wool. It will use a pilot herd of animals to be provided soon through Kellogg Foundation funds.

Research on such herding is already being conducted by Professor Teal of the University of Alaska. If the first herd is successful, herds will be established at all Arctic Slope villages interested, with the second one based with the Anaktuvuk Pass people.

A civilian radio station located at Barrow should, for not more than \$35,000, be able to cover the entire area from Canada to the Bering Straits. It would provide for Civilian Defense, public information and public education.

Local direction and programming would be necessary since many of the residents use the Eskimo language. The station would aid in communication between the villages and would help government agencies in the area.

Another program for \$150,000 would provide loan funds for sanitation systems in all villages except Barrow and Anaktuvuk Pass, which are covered in other programs. This would be coordinated with the Public Health Service.

A \$32,000 program would provide education in reading and writing the Eskimo language, preparation and sewing of skins, and other Native arts and crafts. The products could be sold, providing an income for the village residents.

An industrial and technical job training program would be coordinated with the other programs so that the residents can become trained for modern jobs. No separate funds are requested for this project, because the trainees would be paid for their work in constructing other projects.

A guide training program would, for \$16,000, provide training for 30 Native guides in the area. It will cover regulations and the services expected by the non-Native sportsman. A guide's guild would be set up to advertise services and arrange bookings.

A cooperative corporation would provide \$175,000 in loan funding of a tribal cooperative in the oil-

development market.

An air service project of \$150,000 would provide for training of pilots and other personnel and the purchase used aircraft to expand air taxi service in the area.

It could also handle mail between villages. Trained Native personnel are already available to get this project started.

A three-man survey team would be sent to study Arctic settlements in Russia to learn the technical knowledge developed in that area. This \$15,000 would provide answers to many questions, such as how a city of 30,000 located farther north than Barrow can provide utilities.

In addition to administrative charges, the request provides aid for projects already in existence which could not be funded otherwise.

These projects have been under way for one to over three years, and almost all have been done without any full time administrative personnel instigating the project.

Present projects include an arts and crafts contract, to produce mukluks and other items for sale at A-67 in Fairbanks, and a Native dance group, providing authentic dances and demonstrations of Native crafts for tourists under a contract with Wein Air Alaska.

Training programs include a youth corps project and an on-the-job training program which includes five warehouseman-clerk trainees, now in Fairbanks, and over 30 persons to start soon with Vinnell Corporation and the Arctic Research Laboratory in Barrow.

Community housing and a community center are underway in Barrow, and a demographic survey will soon be conducted over the entire area. The Head Start program is being expanded to cover more villages.

One outstanding program to date is Barrow Utilities Incorporated, a Native cooperative formed to provide electric and natural gas distribution in Barrow.

At present it has an incorporated value of about \$850,000 and, in addition to its electricity and natural gas service, provides janitorial and maintenance service to the BIA and has contracted with ARL to drill all piling holes for their present Barrow expansion program.

It is wholly managed and staffed by Native personnel, and the board of directors is composed of local Native citizens. Originally financed through the BIA, it is now financially self-sustaining and meets all loan payments on schedule.

It has 27 full-time employees and an average monthly payroll of \$18,650.

ASNA expects that many of the proposed projects will similarly become self-sustaining, and all will aid the income and living standards of the area.

week by Native residents in the Fairbanks area.

The NPP will set its own priorities in forming a self-help program for Native people living in the urban area. Proposed projects include some to help people moving to Fairbanks from rural areas.

The first activity of the new group will be a meeting on employment at 1 p.m. on May 11 at the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce.

Spokesmen for labor unions, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the State Employment Office will provide information on how to find and apply for jobs.

Newcomers to Fairbanks are especially invited to attend.

NPP will hold a regular meeting that evening. Two important items to be discussed there are the incorporation of the group as a non-profit corporation, and formation of a program to seek funds from the Office of Economic Opportunity. The officers are now drawing up plans on both subjects.

Among possible projects the group is studying are: job training, a community center, arts and crafts for the elderly, and a "half-way-house" for Natives coming to Fairbanks from the outlying villages.

The first officers of NPP are: Bill Tegoseak, president; Henry Moses, vice president; Maggie Kaiser, secretary; and Stewart Carlo, treasurer. Harry Pannick will represent the group with the North Star Borough Community Action Agency.

### Bill Ready . . .

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He will return to Alaska next Friday.

Pollock said that the Interior Department should be ready to discuss specific legislation regarding the claims during Hickel's visit.

He commented "I don't know whether the bill is good or bad because no one has seen it as yet but I'm delighted that Secretary Udall is now willing to talk about it. It's the first break in the log-jam."

Pollock said he was also getting in touch with Emil Notti, president of the Alaska Federation of Natives, to decide who would go to Washington to discuss land matters at a later meeting.

He reported that Udall wanted the bill to be strictly a bi-partisan proposal. Udall wanted a meeting set up in Washington, probably around June 10, to discuss the claims legislation.

Governor Hickel, when interviewed on the message, said he had not had a chance to discuss it further with Pollock. However, he felt that there was an excellent chance for progress at the meetings in Washington.

He said that an administration plan, if acceptable to both the Native and non-Native citizens of Alaska, would stand the best chance of passage in Congress.

Hickel added that he would send word to Alaska as soon as a meeting had been arranged on the bill—he hoped it would be sometime this weekend.

Representative Pollock commented in Washington "this is the first big break we've had so far on the land claims matter.... I hope no serious problems will come out of it."

## Anaktuvuk . . .

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BIA, the Department of Education, and the State Rural Development Agency.

At the meeting, 13 families totaling 75 people, including 28 grade-school children, said they wanted to move. Six families or 36 people, including nine grade-school children, did not want to move.

The various groups had studied the move since the meeting in March, but several questions were not definitely answered. As an example, 10 students are normally required for a school, so there was some question as to whether there would be two schools if the village split.

To get firm commitments, a six-man committee was formed. Members are: for moving—John Hugo, Bob Ahgook, and Jack Ahgook; against moving—Simon Panek, Noah Ahgook, and Riley Morry. One man on each side received a unanimous vote from the villagers.

BIA district superintendent Walter Craig said that the first responsibility to help was with the State, and the

## PKS Awarded Tin City Contract

Peter Kiewit Sons Company of Seattle has been awarded a \$4,433,022.00 contract for the construction of a composite building at the A.C.W. site at Tin City AFS, Alaska.

The three-story building will be concrete and structural steel with approximately 68,400 square feet of floor space.

The project includes covered walkways and utilidors for connecting utilities to new buildings, driveways, and parking-area.

Approximately 20 wood frame buildings will be demolished. The work will be under the supervision of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

BIA would offer what assistance it could after the State had exhausted its resources.

The BIA does, however, have the means to give help to the village during the planning period for the move, he said. A social worker is being sent in to appraise these temporary needs.

## Chalkyitsik Children . . .

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some their first time out of Chalkyitsik.

Miss Jennifer Jolis another VISTA explained the way the children and the whole village financed the trip.

The idea began when it was presented to the Chalkyitsik Town Council in October 1966. The village voted for it at its Thanksgiving Potlatch. Then the teacher, Mrs. Marian Nickelson, Miss Rice and Miss Jolis organized the trip.

The children earned their own spending money. The younger ones, 5 to 11 years, were required to save at least \$15.

They did this in various ways: by hauling water, packing wood and even setting the teacher's hair, according to Mrs. Nickelson. This money was deposited in individual savings accounts in a Fairbanks bank.

Wednesday (May 2) the younger group of children withdrew their money for shopping in downtown stores. The money for the plane fare was approximately \$1900 dollars.

The village raised close to \$1200 through rummage sales, a coffee house, and a popcorn sale. The rest was donated by various civic and fraternal organizations in Fairbanks.

The purpose of the trip according to Mrs. Nickelson is to provide experience in the Western Culture so that they will be able to better understand their school lessons and the mass media communications they come in contact with.

For the older children it is an opportunity to visit and understand some of the federal agencies which influence their lives.

Upon arriving at Fairbanks International Airport the children were shy at first, but once they realized that there is dirt in Fairbanks and that it is just another part of the world, they began to enjoy their learning experience.

The children spent the night with Fairbanks families and were transported in two limousines.

At 9 a.m. Wednesday they toured the Alaska Railroad

freight yards and were treated to a train ride, balloons and postcards.

About 10:30 a.m. they were whisked off to the bank to withdraw their savings for a shopping spree later in the day. By 11:30 a.m. they were crying mush to the good-natured limousine drivers who drove them to the Big Dipper Arabian Horse Farm for a horse-back ride. For Mason Druck, 9, it was a dream-to-be-a-cowboy come true.

After lunch at the University of Alaska dining Commons and a taped recording of their singing at KUAC, the university FM radio station, they all went downtown to spend their money. Purses, guns, nail polish and bow and arrow sets seemed the favorite merchandise at a dime store.

Supper found them in a local restaurant and finally they were delivered to their homes.

Early Thursday morning they flew back to Chalkyitsik.

Perhaps Rebecca Druck, 10, summed up the trip for the younger children when she was asked what she had liked best "I dunno," she said, "everything."

## Robert Service

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was nine years after the Klondike gold rush, it adds.

After stating that Service's poetry recording the gold rush in Alaska was worthy of an exhibit at A-67, the paper listed the exhibits that the Yukon already has in his honor.

These include a display of pictures and poems in the MacBride Museum in Whitehorse; handwritten reports made by Service as secretary of the Old Log Church Vestry, on display at the church museum; and Service's log cabin in Dawson City.

The editorial concludes by urging Whitehorse to counter-attack by getting up on its feet and promoting its own history. As an example, it urges a plaque be placed at the spot on the bank of the Yukon River (now included in Robert Service Park) where the poet wrote his first verses.