

# BROOM-HILDA



## Gene Guess Accuses GOP On Housing

Gene Guess, the Democratic candidate for the United States Senate, charged that the Republican administration's housing programs in Alaska have failed to live up to the promise of 1,200 housing units a year.

Guess was talking to a tribal council in Metlakatla while campaigning in Southeast Alaska.

"It looks like the Republican housing program is nothing but promises, and it gets mighty cold inside a promise," Guess said. "Since Senator Stevens and President Nixon office only one federally financed housing project has been completed in rural Alaska, the Bethel Heights development in Bethel.

"A house has also been built at Point Barrow by an engineering consultant firm. The firm paid for it thinking the Department of Housing and Urban Development would come through with a program.

"But HUD officials just went to Point Barrow saying they had no assurance of a program for next summer, and there were hints that there may never be a program," Guess said.

Guess said that Senator Stevens announced in April of 1971 that starting in the summer of 1972 rural Alaska would get 1,200 housing units a year for five years.

"The Republican administration promised rural Alaskans 1,200 new housing units this past summer, but the money to build them was never set aside. Now the HUD officials are saying that the program may never get started. The native people all over Alaska are justified to question the Republicans' real commitment to them," Guess said.

## Army Rescues Birch Creek School

FORT WAINWRIGHT, AK. — Youngsters at Birch Creek went to school Monday morning thanks to the Fort Wainwright based 12 Aviation Company.

Birch Creek, a village some 100 miles north of Fairbanks, would have been without a schoolmaster for probably three weeks if Edward Priest had not requested assistance from the Army.

Priest, on a resupply trip to Fairbanks, flew in on a float plane and was due to return on the same aircraft Saturday but Birch Creek froze up and the float plane was out.

The freeze wasn't firm enough to handle a ski plane and a three-week delay was estimated in getting the Birch Creek teacher back to his students. Since the tiny community has no landing strip, a helicopter was the only answer and the Army had helicopters at Ft. Wainwright.

Priest placed a call to Brigadier General C. M. Hall at 8:30 a.m. Sunday and a teacher-student reunion looked a little brighter.

Post S2/3 made arrangements and 222nd Aviation Battalion's 12th Aviation Company assigned Chief Warrant Officer 2 John C. Cooper and his UH-1 helicopter to lift Priest and more than a thousand pounds of supplies into Birch Creek.

Priest and his supplies were back home by 2:00 p.m. Sunday and it was school as usual Monday morning at Birch Creek. Sorry kids!