

## Rhoda . . .

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Editor of the school yearbook. She also attended the University of Alaska in Fairbanks.

Prior to joining Congressman Pollock's staff she worked in a Fairbanks law office for a year and a half.

Rhoda was corresponding secretary for the Fairbanks Native Association and is a member of the board of the Tundra Times.

Handling correspondence on a myriad of subjects including legislation affecting Alaska and its people are part of her many duties.

Rhoda has been in Washington only a month and already has visited several states. She is looking forward to a weekend in New York in the very near future.

Recently she spent a day touring the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland and was very impressed at the facilities and curriculum available to young men attending the Academy.

Rhoda has met an unusual number of Alaskan friends working for the government or in private enterprise in our Nation's Capitol.

## Hugh Nicholls . .

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same city.

Bronson is the former state senator from Nome.

"It's time our people run for these offices and wake up Alaska," said Nicholls. "Win, lose, or draw, we've got to let the people of Alaska know that we're around."

Hugh Nicholls said that all personal contacts he has made regarding his candidacy has been good. He expects to file on or before April 30.

Nicholls is the first vice president of the Arctic Slope Native Association. He is now working at Nome as the development specialist for the Alaska State Community Action Program.

## State Ferry . . .

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horsepower. The ship draws about 15 feet fully laden. It has a capacity of 1,200 passengers with berths for 400, and space for 140 vehicles.

The ship, at present painted white, will get a blue paint job on its hull to match the color scheme on the other Alaska ferries.

The ferryliner is being purchased from the Sten Olson Shipping Lines, through Fearnley and Egers, an Oslo, Norway ship brokerage.

Commissioned in 1967, the Britannica has been operating in the North Sea between Goteborg, Sweden, and Kiel, Germany.

A Swedish crew, accompanied by five or six staff personnel from the state Division of Marine Transportation, will handle the ship on its three-and-a-half to four week voyage to Seattle.

Three refueling stops are scheduled, at the British island of Bermuda, at Cristobal in the Panama Canal Zone, and at San Pedro, California.

The roughly-11,500-mile voyage will take the Britannica through the North Atlantic, the Caribbean sea, the Gulf of Panama and the North Pacific en route to Seattle.

## Snowdrifts Guide Eskimo Hunters

Recently, Joe Upicksoun and Edgar Togena, both employees of Barrow Utilities of Barrow, went hunting for caribou by snow vehicles. They traveled about 50 miles south and decided to drive to

Wainwright some 75 miles west.

Visibility was poor all the way and Joe Upicksoun wasn't sure exactly where he was.

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## New Land Bill . . .

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as to the amount of the share of OCS revenues that will go to native groups or associations.

"The question is, how much?" asked Borbridge. "It has been described as generous, but from whose viewpoint is uncertain."

The new bill would program the funds received by native groups or corporations with the disposition and expenditures subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, or his authorized representative, the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

"Alaska natives will be granted a 50-year use and occupancy license, renewable at the option of the Secretary of the Interior, to federal public lands in Alaska," said Borbridge.

He said this proposal will

refer primarily to hunting and fishing, etc.

John Borbridge pointed out that the provision in the compromise bill S.2906 that seeks 100,000 acres from the National Forest in recognition of the unique situation of native villages that are "surrounded" by National Forest lands, will be deleted.

In his message to the delegates, Borbridge suggested courses of action to counteract the new Interior bill.

"Obviously, we must prepare to seek more than 50,000 acres per village," he stated.

"The Tlingit and Haida Indians of Alaska brought suit as a language speaking group and their Indian Title to 2.6 million acres of land has survived any taking by the United States.

"By the mere expedient of changing the formula to 50,000 acres per village, the United States will appropriate 2.5 million acres of judicially affirmed Indian Title lands!"

What Borbridge means is that if the Interior Department has its way in the passage of a land bill in Congress based on 50,000 acres per village, all of the native people in Alaska would be awarded only 2.5 million acres of land.

"We should prepare to seek other than those lands that may be granted in the immediate vicinity of the village as an ecological area.

"We are entitled to and should seek lands that can be developed by the area corporations because of their minerals or timber."

He said that data bringing out the probable worth of lands should be compiled.

"We should prepare to substantiate our claims of a right to and need for the monetary settlement and land areas outlined in the provision in S.2906."

Alaska native leaders will be asked to emphasize the need to testify in Washington in a balanced and coordinated manner.

Borbridge told the delegates that they should prepare to meet contentions that native corporations need excessively close supervision; that the proposed compensation figure is adequate;

That 50,000 acres is sufficient acreage and that they should testify as to the competency of the native leadership and the natives' plans for the compensation and lands that they may receive.

In pointing out the important points, Borbridge included the following:

"We must inform the Congress as to the basis for our Alaska Native Land Claims, keeping in mind that Indian claims cases are known to be one of the most complex aspects of law and that the situation within Alaska demands unique knowledge.

"Our task is to educate and to convince members of the United States Congress as to the substance of our native land claims.

"We must accelerate our efforts! General opinion is that these efforts have let up recently!"

## AFN Board . . .

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read as follows:

-Give the native people of Alaska title to the lands they occupy and need to sustain their villages.

-Give them rights to use additional lands and water for hunting, trapping and fishing to maintain their traditional way of life, if they so choose.

-Award them compensation commensurate with the value of any lands taken from them.

Wright also enclosed resolutions supporting the land claims by National Congress of American Indians and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation.

The NCAI's executive council declared unanimous support to the Senate Bill 2906 and House Bill 15049, and called for fair and just settlement of land claims in Alaska in behalf of all Indians, Eskimos and Aleuts.

The resolution further resolved that the NCAI president urge President Johnson that every effort be made to insure passage of the bill during the current 90th Congress.

The CSKT resolution also called for passage of both the Senate and House bills.

"The Tribal Council believes that the passage of the bill would be in the best interest of the natives of Alaska and Indian people everywhere..." the council declared.

In his call to the AFN board, Wright said, "We must act now! The big job is yet to come!"

He said he urged every member of the board of directors to attend the meeting called by President Notti.

"We cannot afford to pass up this opportunity for success in our mutual endeavor," said Wright.

There may be an oversight in the plans of the meeting date. The Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indians of Alaska has plans to meet in Juneau on April 25-26-27.

This will overlap into the first day of the meeting of AFN board on April 27.



RICHARD ATUK, left, accepts award from Douglas Colp at recent awards banquet of Alaska section of American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers. Atuk, an Eskimo from Wales and graduate from Nome High School was honored for his achievement as a geological engineering student at the University of Alaska. He completed his degree last January and is now employed by Pan-American Petroleum in Anchorage. Colp, instructing mining engineer at the university, is the section president.

(UA PHOTO)

## Urges Wires, Letters . . .

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and Insular Affairs Committee, House of Representatives; Honorable James A. Haley, chairman, Indian Affairs Subcommittee, House.

Borbridge specifically urged that the two men above be sent messages, 1) "request hearings be held as promptly on H.R. 15049 and 2) urge that they give their full support to the prompt enactment of the bill."

Messages to Sen. Henry M. Jackson, chairman, Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, U.S. Senate:

"...1) request that Sen. Jackson arrange for the earliest possible consideration of S.B. 2906 by the Senate, and 2) urge that he give his full support in obtaining the enactment of the bill by the Senate as early as possible during this session of Congress."

To Alaska Senators Ernest Gruening and E. L. (Bob) Bartlett:

"...1) request that they do everything in their power to obtain prompt consideration and action by the Senate on S.B. 2906 during this session of Congress and 2) urge that they give their full support to the enactment of the bill."

To Congressman Howard W. Pollock:

"...Request that he do everything in his power and

obtain the cooperation of his colleagues, 1) in arranging for a hearing at as early a date as possible on H.R. 15049, and 2) in securing the prompt enactment of the bill."

Borbridge also urged the members of his organization that they seek to have other prominent citizens of Alaska send letters and telegrams to those mentioned above.

He also urged that other messages be sent to the following:

Sen. Charles E. McGovern, chairman, Indian Affairs Subcommittee on the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Senate; Rep. E. Y. Berry, a ranking Republican member of the Indian Affairs Subcommittee on the Interior and Insular Affairs, House, pertaining to H.R. 15049;

Rep. John P. Saylor, a ranking Republican, Interior and Insular Affairs, House. In his communication to the Tundra Times, John Borbridge stated:

"We have submitted this information to hearten those of our people, who may feel that there is a lack of activity in promoting support of these bills, and we also urge that more communications of this type could be solicited with your help."

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