

Barrow Welfare Service Installed

Barrow gained a new resident last week and, as a result, welfare services there should soon show improvements.

The resident—Miss Lois Conway—will open the first district welfare office for the Barrow area, where she will work full time in all areas of public assistance.

Previously, Barrow has been served by welfare workers from the northern regional office.

Headquartered in Fairbanks, they traveled to Barrow staying a week or two each visit.

Having been in Alaska about two years, Miss Conway first served as the district representative in Nome and later as a representative for Barrow.

The area that will be covered by the new office includes Wainwright and Barter Island in addition to Barrow. She estimated that in the area there are about 140 cases—a number which she expects to increase.

Housed in a two-bedroom prefabricated building across the street from the Polar Bear Theater, the

Victory High To Present Concert Here

A program featuring songs in native languages will be given Sunday, April 5 by the Victory High School Choir at Alaskaland.

Starting at 8:30 p.m., the program will also include instrumentals, choir trios, and testimonies. The event is sponsored by the Fairbanks Ministerial Association, and no fee will be charged.

Located at Palmer, just north of Anchorage, Victory High School along with the Arctic Bible Institute compose the Arctic Training Center. The goal of the center is to fully prepare native leaders for the task of communicating the Christian religion to their own people. The students are either Aleut, Indian, or Eskimo and come from all parts of the state.

With an enrollment of 39, the high school integrates the Bible into its curriculum and provides guidance and counseling for each student.

The school was founded in 1959 under the direction of Arctic Missions, Inc., an interdenominational faith mission.

Opinion on Compensation . . .

(Continued from page 2)

pay the natives for these.

The natives are being consoled and agreeing to village land to run on-comparable to reservations in the Lower 48. You might call it "The biggest robbery without ever firing a gun."

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) regulates the only race of people in this country that holds original land titles. They set up the going rate for selling Native lands—just like other "Bureaus" regulate any other products that are marketable.

Why do you think they are escalating their aid to the poor natives in all phases of life. It is like Eve polishing the apple before Adam takes a bite. Before this we were merely the "Red Skeletons" behind the BIA closed doors. When oil or "Parks" comes up we are negotiated behind these doors. Which natives are compensated for this acreage of land is decided by the U.S. Government and the BIA which is the Natives' Shadow Government. We will not get our constitutional rights until then.

Big business can take the profits from any country in the world if they have the consent of that country's government. We are signing away the land and all the profits and giving thanks like good Americans should for those "Pennies from Heaven."

Please think! Who is the voice of the Natives? When do they talk to us instead of for us? How many Brown people do you see in the inner sanctums of Washington. Not until the BIA has accomplished the purchase of all land titles. They will give us our constitutional rights through the back door. Until that time we can always look to our grandchildren as the generation that will wave "Good-bye" to the BIA.

I would like to know when my name comes in one of these package deals—because time waits for no one.

office will contain forms to handle public assistance and child welfare.

Miss Conway said that she was excited about getting to know the people and becoming a part of the village.

Her previous visits as a caseworker, she said, placed her in contact with particular cases but allowed little time for social services such as working with children in their own homes and counseling.

She hopes now to be able to do more work in these areas.

Also, she added, now the people will know whom to contact and where to go for assistance.

One of the main problems in Barrow, she said, is trying to stretch the public assistance payments because the cost of living there is extremely high.

A little more money is allowed for basic needs in the northern regions than in the southern parts of the state, she explained, and this allowance, along with other expenses such as fuel, determine the total grant to an individual or family.

But the maximum total grant possible, she added, does not vary from region to region and the people in northern Alaska sometimes have trouble making ends meet on this amount.

In Barrow, she added, food costs are extremely high and in Wainwright fuel is very expensive.

To assist in the work, Miss Conway will be appointing a Food Stamp agent to distribute and collect applications and will be hiring a clerk-typist.



THE DANCE—Three elderly Minto women are doing what they really like to do—dance. Along with their men, the Minto village dancers performed to a packed audience at the Fairbanks

Native Association potlatch at the Fairbanks Lathrop High School gymnasium on March 21.

—JOHN METZGER Photo

Former CINA Queen—

Carol Bahr to Wed Jon Peterson

Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor of 842 E. 12th Avenue, Anchorage, has announced the engagement of her daughter, Carol Bahr, to Jon R. Peterson of 2101 Dahl Lane, Anchorage. Miss Bahr is the daughter of the late Ole O. Bahr.

The 23 year old Alaska born bride-elect is a 1964 graduate of West Anchorage High School and has been employed as an Administrative Assistant in the Rural Alaska Community Action

Program since 1967.

She will continue her employment following her marriage. Miss Bahr was also Miss Cook Inlet in 1966 and a candidate for Miss Alaska that same year.

Mr. Peterson, an eighteen year resident of Alaska, is a 1967 graduate of George Washington University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration. He is employed as Controller of the Community Enter-

prise Development Corporation.

The couple will be married May 15th at Central Lutheran Church, with the Reverend A.L. Abrahamsen officiating. The bride will be given in marriage by her brother, Harold Bahr of Anchorage.

A reception will be held at the church following the ceremony. The couple will honeymoon in Hawaii.

Prestigious Groups Adopt AFN Cause

By JOHN BORBRIDGE

In recent months a number of large, prestigious national organizations have adopted the cause of the Alaska Federation of Natives.

Labor unions, religious groups and civic institutions are forming a coalition of support in Washington, D.C. and are bringing the land settlement issue to their local chapters throughout the country.

The support of the national organizations for native Alaskans highlights the fact that the issue of an equitable settlement of the Alaska Native land claims is one affecting the conscience of the

entire nation.

One of the first institutions to take up the natives' cause was the National Council of Churches, as reported in earlier editions of the Tundra Times.

The NCC includes 33 denominations in its membership and represents 42 million people. On December 3rd of last year the General Assembly of the NCC adopted the following recommendations:

"Be it hereby resolved that the General Assembly of the National Council of Churches support the equitable and just settlement to be provided by aforementioned legislation, and urge its member communities and their members to make known this support to their Senators and Representatives in the U.S. Congress."

Since adopting the resolution, the NCC staff in Washington has indicated its support to the AFN's position to several senators on the Interior committee.

In addition, it has briefed other religious groups and civic institutions on the problem, urging them to support the native cause.

A catholic organization in Chicago called the National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice has also lent its support to the natives.

This catholic conference is made up of 115 local chapters throughout the United States and has over 10,000 active members, who reach many times more than that through their proposals and programs.

In the January edition of its magazine *Commitment*, the Conference ran a feature article called "Crucial Legislation on Native Alaskan Problems," calling on its membership to work for a

just settlement of native claims.

The conference plans to keep its membership informed of developments in the Senate committee through newsletters, and stands ready to assist throughout the struggle for passage of the bill.

Another religious group, the American Quakers, Society of Friends, has made a substantial contribution to lobbying for the AFN bill.

Through the Friends committee on national legislation, one of the nation's most respected lobbyists whose purpose it is to "win the ascent of reasonable minds" for correct social and political action.

The Friends have visited the office of each senator on the Interior committee on behalf of the AFN's position.

Two national women's groups have taken an interest in the native Alaskan position. The General Federation of Women's Clubs is writing all 15,000 of its local chapters throughout the country, urging them to write their senators and congressmen in behalf of justice for the natives.

The League of Women Voters has urged its members to study the issue and has invited Mr. Ramsey Clark to address a breakfast meeting on the land settlement question during the national convention in May.

Other national organizations which have indicated support for the natives' position include the following: United Auto Workers, American Jewish Committee, Anti-Defamation League, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights.

While in Washington, D.C., AFN first vice president John Borbridge, Jr. has seen Senator Gravel, Senator Stevens and Congressman Pollock of the Alaska

Congressional delegation relative to the Alaska Native Land Claims. Visits were also made to the Republican Congressman of Iowa, and Congressman Ed Edmondson, Democrat of Oklahoma, in order to sense developments in the House. Discussions emanating from the House of

Representatives indicate that while native land claims has been rated "priority" by Chairman Wayne Aspinall of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, no schedule for enactment of the bill has been proposed as of this date. However, sources in the House anticipate that less time would be required for the enactment of a claims bill.

Bill Byler, Executive Director of the Association on American Indian Affairs, and John Borbridge, Jr. appeared for 30 minutes on the Barry Gray talk show which reaches more than 2,000,000 listeners over WNCA in New York City. Mr. Borbridge and Mr. Byler accompanied Justice Goldberg in a visit to the publisher and editor-in-chief of Look Magazine regarding a possible article on the claims issue. CBS News, from New York City also contacted Borbridge concerning background news on the Alaska Federation of Natives and the native land claims.

CLASSIFIED

HELP WANTED

CONTROLLER required by Rural Alaska Community Action Program. Requires extensive knowledge of accounting and/or business administration. Stationed in Anchorage; salary \$13,000 to \$15,000 a year. Further information available from Rural CAP, Drawer 412 ECB, Anchorage, AK 99501 or State Manpower Offices. Send applications to Personnel, Drawer 412 ECB, Anchorage, AK 99501. Recruitment closes April 25, 1970. An equal opportunity employer.