

"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." — Voltaire

Tundra Times



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Editorial—

Coolness Under Stress

"When in danger, don't panic. Think." This is an old old, Eskimo saying Eskimo parents crammed into their offsprings even when the children were very young. The intent of the maxim has worked well through time. True tales of survival, even in recent times, from extreme dangers can be attributed to the adage. It was thoroughly taught along with proven ways of working oneself out of danger. "You may become extremely afraid under certain circumstances but if you think, reason will be your companion. When in danger, meeting it in this manner will give you the best chance toward survival," the oldtimers would say.

It may be a bit trite to attribute the above maxim in connection with the efforts of our native leaders in struggling to work out of a crisis toward a unified front in the recent breakdown of relationship between the Alaska Federation of Natives and Justice Arthur J. Goldberg. The breakdown threatened to pull the rug out of the native's effort toward helping to solve the native land claims. The Eskimo faction of the native leadership knows the adage and we are sure the Indian and Aleut factions have heard their own version of it. The saying is a fine one that should always be remembered even in the Jet Age. It applies extremely well and it knows no age past or present.

The native leadership last week in a series of meetings put its foot down in the treatment and relationship with its legal counsel. This is a development that should help to keep a more even keel in the land claims settlement efforts. There should not be irresponsible statements from unauthorized individuals whether they be member leaders or their counsels. The positive step toward orderly procedures was well put by a Tlingit Indian, James Thomas, when he stated:

"I don't think that we are properly picturing ourselves as a unit that has the power to hire, and to fire our attorneys . . . they are dispensable. We are going to have to develop our backbone and get the courage to say yes and no."

So be it. We commend our native leaders for staying their grounds under difficult circumstances. They thought and stayed cool under stress.

Alaska Native Brotherhood Gets Fund for 'Operation Talent Search'

JUNEAU—The Commissioner of Education in the Federal Department of Health, Education and Welfare has announced the award of a \$40,000 contract to the Alaska Native Brotherhood in Juneau, to conduct "Operation Talent Search" in Southeast Alaska according to the Office of Governor Keith H. Miller.

The contract is subject to final program and budget negotiations.

The purpose of the contract is

to initiate a talent search in Southeast Alaska designed to identify and counsel students on educational opportunities, to publicize information on available financial aid and to encourage high school and college drop-outs of demonstrated aptitude to reenter educational programs.

The information was relayed to the Governor's office by Senator Ted Stevens from Washington.

Sears Funding Music Festival

Each year a grant from the Sears-Robuck Foundation makes it possible for the Alaska Festival of Music to bring native students from throughout the state to participate in Festival activities.

An educational and entertaining schedule makes the time spent with Festival hosts a highlight in the young scholars' lives.

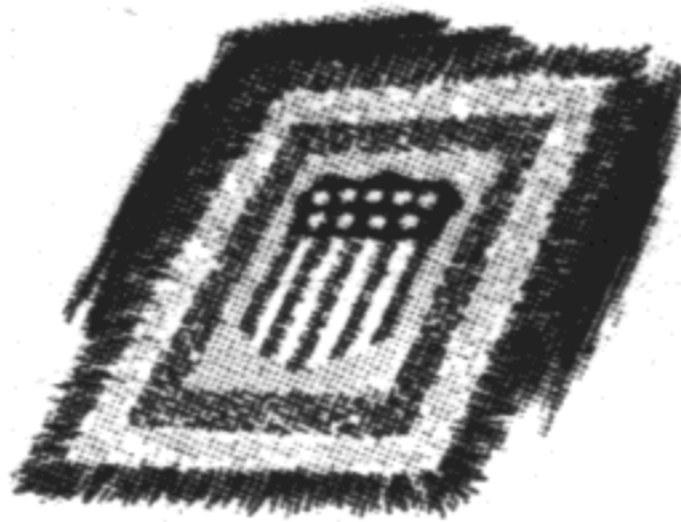
Concerts, music lessons, a banquet, sightseeing tours and teen entertainment is planned especially for them.

W.H. Sanders, manager of Sears in Anchorage presents a check for \$3,500 to Sue Johnson, Sears Scholars Committee Chairman and Frank Pinkerton, executive director of the Alaska Festival of Music.

1969 Sears Scholars are:

Blanch C. Armstrong, Fairbanks; Hilda Anvil, Bethel; Jack Curtis, Nome; Mary Tarr, Hoonah; Michael G. Tagolon, Petersburg; Matilda Nayano, Dillingham; Mae Peters, Ft. Yukon; Gordon Peterson, Ft. Yukon; Barbara L. Hatch, Seward; Clida Peterson, Kodiak; Ferdinand Carter, Eek; Jacqueline Marie Alowa-Nome; and Kelly Frank, Hoonah.

Poem—



In Memorium— KESHORNA

How cold the sword about you,
Keshorna,
Glinting frosts, swirling drifts
of snow,
Driven by unfeeling wind!

Then a brief respite of a single
moon, whence
The great sun traverses the sky
around,
Defying the accustomed horizon,
nourishing therefore,
A cluster of forget-me-nots that
burst into a soulstirring blue
upon your simple Arctic grave.

How slight and frail you were,
But you faced with humble
courage
The unkind elements, that were
your lot,
And, thus, emerged triumphant
With a generous share of love
for your fellow man.

I was blessed with deeper love
You bestowed upon me,
Keshorna.
Love, divinely tender,
Love that seemed caressed with
a touch of heaven.

Recollections fail me now.
You uttered no words of
endearment,
But I remember well a
gentle hug,
Adoring light within your eyes
that told me of love more
than ten thousand words.

How cold the sword about you,
Keshorna,
Glinting frosts, swirling drifts
of snow,
Driven by unfeeling wind!

However cold your resting place,
My heart within me whispers,
"Your rest is blessed in quiet
peace.
Because you gave so well your
love
To your fellow man and me,
A son to you, Keshorna."

—HOWARD ROCK

Letters to the Editor

Notes Growing Sophistication

809 West 53rd Ave.
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
May 20, 1969

Dear Editor:

It has been interesting and gratifying to watch the Native movement from its inception to the present. With the Newcha-la-way, when we first became aware of the rumblings of our people, Ralph Perdue, for one to Nick Grey and Emil Notti and all of those who began to speak out. SPEAK OUT AS NATIVES!!! The first organizational meeting of AFN when so many came, from all areas of our state, standing up to be counted . . . a beautiful, prideful feeling it was, to know they were OUR own.

Since then, we've become quite sophisticated! All of our regional organizations have lawyers to represent them. It's nothing today to walk into a place like the Anchorage-Westward Hotel or any other nice establishment and see several Native leaders from outlying areas having cocktails with the noted lawyers. My! we have certainly come a long way in a short time.

It hasn't been more than four years ago I heard a Judge speak before a gathering about the Native drinking problems and he said, "he didn't know any Natives personally, had never been in a Native home, nor had ever had any in his home." Yet today, I know for a fact that that same Judge has one of our prominent Native leaders stay with him when he is in town.

Another thing, the Natives are such a HOT topic of conversation today. We have every Government agency, the universities and probably just plain ordinary people with nothing better to do, doing studies and censuses on the Native peoples habits, customs, you name it—we're being studied from every angle. A person cannot pick up a newspaper, turn on a radio or TV without getting some new angle on what our problem really is. I never realized how confused and underprivileged I really was until this all began.

The point I'm trying to make is, how much of what the Natives are saying today is what they are really feeling? I think we all should sit down and think and not be completely influenced by those who would put words in our mouths. My personal feelings are that there are those who would continuously keep us bickering among ourselves and keep the pot boiling in order to further their own cause—NOT THE NATIVE CAUSE—but their own.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs.) Beverly J. Huhndorf

Claims Settlement Priority

United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510
May 12, 1969

Dear Howard:

When printing is completed I will see that you obtain a copy of the April 29 land claims hearing. The hearing was constructive and and will be informative to the U.S. Senate.

It is clear that a consensus must be developed among all involved parties if irreconcilable views are not to endanger the real possibility of Senate passage of an acceptable bill this year. This responsibility for accommodation and consensus rests equally with all parties, of which AFN is but one. Thus I am heartened that the State of Alaska and the Interior Department will work closely with AFN in the critical weeks ahead. I would urge that the Agriculture Department and the Department of Defense also assist in the development of this needed consensus.

The Alaska Native is the most vitally concerned party to this issue and I attach the utmost importance to the reaction of the Alaska Federation of Natives to S. 1830 and proposals made during the hearing. It is anticipated that this reaction in the form of specific legislative proposals will be forthcoming in the very near future.

Be assured that attaining a settlement acceptable to Alaska's Native people is my priority interest, and I will give it my wholehearted attention as we move into this critical period of Senate action.

I welcome any comments or observations which you may have on the hearing and our efforts in this Congress.

Sincerely,
Mike Gravel

Tundra Times Newsboy Plants Apples, Grapefruit, Watermelon

Wrangell, Alaska
May 23, 1969

radishes, peas, apples, grapefruit, watermelon, and potatoes.

Enclosed is a check for the 56 papers and for the 75 papers for the 16th.

Sincerely,
Ernie Riach

Dear Editor:

You only sent 56 newspapers. The weather has been very good here. The last week or so has been very sunny. About a dozen kids have been playing in our yard just about every day.

Many people are planting gardens. We are planting carrots,

- ★ JOIN THE STAR-SPANGLED
- ★ FREEDOM PLAN
- ★ Sign up for
- ★ U.S. Savings Bonds
- ★ New Freedom Shares

WANTED: Chilkat Blankets; totem poles; ivory pipes and carvings; argillite carvings; potlatch bowls; fish hooks; spoons and all N.W. items 50 years of age or older. Send photo or sketch and prices to: Albert T. Miller, 2235 West Live Oak Drive, Los Angeles, California 90028.