

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

# Tundra Times



## Letters to the Editor

April 5, 1968

Dear Mr. Rock:

Unlike Mr. Percy Ipalook Sr., I do not work for the B.I.A. so I think maybe I can be more free in true self-expression. Mr. Ipalook said that he read Mrs. Kennedy's letter with apathy, and yet he was stirred enough to write a letter. Maybe he should look up the meaning of the word apathy first of all. Mr. Ipalook objected to the fact that the girl from Wainwright was "exceptional" but then admitted that graduates were all too few. Mr. Ipalook then blamed the students lack of initiative for their poor academic records. I have heard the same thing from B.I.A. teachers. Mr. Ipalook is a good imitator. In the November 24, 1968 issue of Tundra Times, an article stated that in the past 3 years, 487 native students had entered the U of Alaska and only 14 had graduated. If lack of initiative was the reason for their failure why did they ever try to enter the U of Alaska in the first place, or even get through high school?

It seems to me that when a bright Eskimo boy or girl graduates from high school and still thinks in Eskimo and is using Eskimo sentence structure and when the same boy or girl has gone 12 years of school without competing against white students on an equal basis and has never been in a position to view his or her own culture as something to respect, how do you expect these boys and girls to have a chance in college.

Some people would call him an "Uncle Tom" and I would agree.

April 9, 1968  
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Editor:

Would it not be an awful situation if one has to fill out an application to have the privilege to do some constructive thinking to help one's self and others one has to live with?

The country with her economy would never get anywhere if that was so.

Respectfully  
ISAAC EBEN

### Beaver 4-H Club Holds Bake Night; Electric Lessons

By LINDELL PAGE  
Beaver, Alaska

The Beaver Veralas 4-H Club held a bake night on March 21st. The members—Norman Joseph, Willie Joseph, Henry Pitka, Jerry Henry, Roy Henry, Victor Winer, Sam Hope, Ulak Hope, Robert Cruikshank, and Lindell Page—baked thirty-six 4-H blueberry pies. The pies were sold at two village bake sales, which were for the March of Dimes and the April 5, 6, and 7th Beaver Winter Carnival.

During the last week of March the Veralas 4-H Club was privileged to have Mr. Virgil Severns, District Agricultural Agent, Yuko-Kwim District, with them to hold an Electrical Project workshop. The club members met with Mr. Severns seven times throughout the week and learned to skin insulation, make western union splices, attach plug caps, and wire series and parallel circuits. After these skills were learned, seven of the boys made 4-H pin-up lamps. Electrical safety was discussed and work on the project records was done.

The Veralas members are looking forward to giving electrical demonstrations soon.

### RESOLUTION ON ALASKA NATIVE EDUCATION ADOPTED BY ALASKA STATE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION

April 7, 1968

WHEREAS most native children of rural Alaska are now receiving totally inadequate education at the primary school level, and

WHEREAS this inadequate education for rural native students carries over into federally sponsored segregated high schools, with many students being sent outside the state, and

WHEREAS there now exist for the people of Alaska three different types of public school systems operated by local school districts, the State Department of Education and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and

WHEREAS the Bureau of Indian Affairs operates facilities within and without Alaska that are segregated on the basis of ethnic origin, and

WHEREAS the Constitution of Alaska requires that the State of Alaska provide education for all of its citizens, not differentiating between races,

#### NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

1. That the federal government (a) abolish its system of separate segregated schools for Alaska native children, (b) transfer its schools to the State of Alaska, and (c) make payments to the state at least equal to the amounts now spent by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the education of Alaska natives, and

2. That the practice of sending students outside for schooling be stopped immediately, and

3. That there be expeditiously developed a system of integrated high schools in the main urban areas of the state, supplemented by smaller regional high schools in rural areas, and

4. That all students of rural Alaska, regardless of ethnic origin, be assured an opportunity for education equal to that being provided in large cities of Alaska.

### Bethel Area Eskimos Rankled By One of Three Time Changes

The City of Bethel and the surrounding villages in the Kuskokwim area became unwilling victims of a time change. This is nothing very unusual because areas do have time changes—daylight saving time and such.

But there is something different about the Bethel area time change and the predominantly Eskimo folks are hollering the equivalent of "foul" but they don't know exactly to whom it should be directed.

On March 19, somebody suddenly ordered that clocks be set back one hour so the time would coincide with the Bering Sea Standard Time or Nome area time.

### BIA Conducts Conferences On Two Issues

The Bureau of Indian Affairs, Juneau Area Office, hosted two conferences last week.

Administrative officials from Washington, D. C., Albuquerque, and Alaskan field offices are conferring on a new cost accounting and coding system being implemented by the Bureau nation-wide.

According to Donald Proulx, BIA Assistant Commissioner for Administration, the new system "will be a model for the entire government."

The new accounting system involves uniform encoding at the area level, to be fed electronically to a centralized computer complex in the BIA's Office of Consolidated Services (OCS) in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

"It is sophisticated enough to answer any question, yet, so simple it staggers the imagination," Proulx said.

Along with Proulx in Juneau are two systems analysts, Mr.

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### SIGNIFICANT MILESTONES . . .

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hard to comprehend at first but he kept pressing his new approach much to the amazement of all concerned.

Since then, he has said in a down-to-earth manner something to this effect: "I really want to do things for our native people. Honestly, that's true. I'm not against them. That's why I have tried to put natives in our government because they are valuable to us. We can learn a great deal from them because they know the native situation much better than some of us do."

This he has done. That in itself has been an eye opener. We don't think we would be too far wrong in saying that he has set a precedent never before practiced in the state's history.

Gov. Hickel and his Attorney General Edgar Paul Boyko and the native leaders have created a spirit of cooperation never before attained at such a level. This was applied in deliberations on land matters along with the Department of the Interior. This is also a milestone which can pave the way toward quicker solutions to other problems among our native people. This will also benefit the state as a whole by lessening its burdens that weighs it down now by unsolved problem areas.

During the last year or so, we can say that the Governor and his Attorney General, along with the surprising ability of the native leaders to negotiate on difficult matters, have opened a new arena where mutual efforts toward solutions can be realized. This has proven beyond doubt that direct consultations with the native people can bring about cooperative assault on complex matters such as the land claims situation. If this is kept up with respect it deserves, many problem areas can be solved sooner than were thought possible.

As things have shaped up within the very recent past, we see development of Alaska through the course of fairness and cooperation. May this spirit continue in the future so it will benefit all in our unique State of Alaska.

### State Inspected Reindeer Meat Sells Very Well in the Kenai Area

(From THE CHEECHAKO NEWS)

The Alaska Division of Agriculture has been cooperating in promotion of reindeer meat in Anchorage, the Matanuska Valley and Western Kenai Peninsula, according to the Alaska Stock Growers' Association newsletter.

The S&F Food Stores have purchased a shipment of reindeer meat from the Kakaruk herd at Teller north of Nome.

Consumer acceptance for this state-inspected meat

has been very good so far. In addition, restaurants and other eating establishments have been featuring reindeer meat in patties and stew, the letter said.

S&F My-T Market on North Road featured reindeer meat in its CHEECHAKO NEWS advertising Wednesday.

A check at the store late Saturday indicated that all roasts were sold as well as most steaks. Some stewing meat remained.

A spokesman for the meat department said he expected another shipment soon.

WANTED: Chilkat Blankets; totem poles; ivory pipes and carvings; argillite carvings; postlatch 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 Dr. Los Angeles, California 90028.