

Ayek Named Manager Of Alaskaland Village

FAIRBANKS, Special-King Island Eskimo Sylvester Ayek, 27, has been named manager of Alaskaland's Native Village, where unique and extinct forms of native Alaska architecture and artifacts have been preserved and reborn on the 40-acre visitor center in Fairbanks.

Ayek expects to add features as the season progresses, but by the time Alaskaland opens June 15 he will have Eskimo dances, games, demonstrations and classes, basket-weaving, skin-sewing, carving and a blanket-toss in motion as daily features of the permanent Alaskaland Exposition.

Ayek said his objective at Native Village will be to develop and present a show of native Alaska arts and crafts in action that will be historically and culturally authentic.

"And we want to create a valuable practical dimension in the sale of the work produced—either in the form of instruction in native dances and games or products developed like muk-luks, baskets and carved ivory.

"Much of what has been preserved in Native Village is there thanks to the white man's interest and the Alaska Centennial. The designs and the technique in building of traditional native structures had all but faded from the scene when Native Village was assembled, and the display of buildings and other structures is invaluable to all of Alaska today," Ayek said.

The Native Village was carefully researched and developed over a period of

years preceding the 1967 Alaska Purchase Centennial, for which most of what now constitutes the Alaskaland Exposition was developed.

The City of Fairbanks purchased the site and facility from the State of Alaska and plans to operate it permanently as a visitor destination and information and activity center year-round.

Ayek said he will employ 20 young men and women through the Neighborhood Youth Corps and assemble a cadre of native paid and volunteer specialists to give authentic continuity to the Native Village program on a break-even basis.

"And we want to dignify the idea of working with the hands. Alaska natives until the last century were completely self-sufficient on the basis of things they did with their hands in getting food and building shelter and there is a great deal of fascinating ingenuity to be found in Alaska crafts," Ayek said.

A director of the Anchorage Welcome Center, Ayek has been native activities coordinator of the Igloo-puk in Anchorage.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Muktoyuk of Nome, and his wife, Edna, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Ahmasuk, Sr. of Nome.

No human being is constituted to know the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; and even the best of men must be content with fragments, with partial glimpses, never the full fruition.

WILLIAM OSLER

Freezer Ship Controversy...

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the Kuskokwim co-op, and Mike Chase who came to Anchorage as a representative and spokesman for the co-op.

In the meantime, the Akitsu Maru No. 5, the freezer ship, has been anchored beyond the three-mile limit on Kuskokwim Bay.

The federal government had given the ship clearance sometime ago before the Akitsu Maru left Japan.

It had been at anchor waiting for developments but it was expected to dock in Bethel yesterday.

The commercial fishing season in Kuskokwim area begins tonight at 6:00 p.m.

During the last two weeks a fish controversy has been raging in the state involving the Kuskokwim Fishermen Co-op and Gov. Walter J. Hickel speaking for the state, Alaska State Community Action Program and Sen. Ernest Gruening.

The controversy revolved around the Bethel area fishermen who have formed a cooperative to sell their season's catch for highest price they can get.

In the past, and before forming cooperatives, the native fishermen of Bethel and Kotzebue areas have sold their salmon catches for as little as one dollar per fish regardless of weight.

Which meant roughly that if the fishermen sold a 20-pound salmon for one dollar, he would be selling it at the rate of five cents a pound.

Recently, the controversy erupted when the Kuskokwim Fishermen Co-op through the assistance of the ASCAP, made an emergency arrangement to sell the fishermen's catch to the Japanese freezer ship, the Akitsu-Maru No. 5.

The arrangement was made through the cooperation of the Mitsubishi International Corporation, one of the world's largest trading companies.

The emergency arrangement was made because the freezer plant at Bethel had burned down last fall leaving the Bethel area fishermen with no processing means.

The agreement set the price at 20 cents per pound for grade one salmon and lesser per pound for water marked or bruised fish but which is edible. The agreement also provided that the salmon roe would also be sold.

The Kuskokwim region fishermen jumped at the chance to sell their fish for the above price because domestic processors have only bought grade one fish and not the water marked in the past.

Mike Chase, president of the Nunapitchuk village council and member of the Kuskokwim Fishermen Co-op, came to Anchorage last week to speak for the co-op as its representative.

"My people believe that the Co-op gives them a chance to make money for themselves and their kids—not be on welfare," said Chase. "Guys who fished last year for the Co-op could sell ALL their fish and made more money—more than 140 men want to do it this year."

"By selling all their fish, not just the best ones that the buyers take all the

other years, they will get more money.

"The Co-op plans a freezer for the future for our fish and for our moose and berries and green stuff.

"This year without a freezer we need a freezer boat to take care of all our fish.

"The Co-op is for us and for our kids and the future."

The salmon run is in progress now in the Kuskokwim region. Huge king salmon is being taken and most of the catch will be native processed for subsistence.

This week, Gov. Walter Hickel informed the state that adequate domestic marketing facilities for all edible commercially caught salmon, not just king salmon, are available and that these facilities will meet any price Japanese might propose.

"The Alaskan processors employing Alaskan labor will buy the same fish the Japanese would buy at the same price the Japanese would pay," the governor said.

Earlier, Gov. Hickel had indicated in a letter to the Kuskokwim area fishermen that the provisions of the International North Pacific Fisheries Treaty would forbid his inviting the Japanese freezer ship to Bethel.

Sen. Ernest Gruening entered the controversy last week on behalf of the fishermen. He declared in part in a telegram to Gov. Hickel:

"...In your letter to Taki of May 23 you cite the international convention as forbidding this action. The facts, as I see them, are that the convention by its terms excludes territorial waters, and thus, of course, excludes fish taken by American fishermen in the Kuskokwim River.

"Title 16 of the United States Code, section 1021 (d) and the convention do not forbid loading of such fish by a foreign vessel in the Kuskokwim. I think that this issue is certainly sufficiently doubtful that I hope you will give the fishermen the benefit of the doubt. What possible harm can be done by doing so?

"In view of the urgency of the situation and the fact that the fishing season starts in a few days, I am hopeful you can give a favorable answer as soon as possible."

Larry Brayton, executive director of ASCAP, said last week that the Alaska Legal Services Corp. lawyers thought that the arrangement with the Japanese freezer ship would not be illegal.

Gov. Hickel said this week, "...Our sincere desire is to harvest in an orderly fashion all salmon surplus to escapement and subsistence fishing requirements and to process these catches in Alaska by United States companies employing Alaskans.

"On the other hand, we would not hesitate to invite into Alaska other processing facilities should our domestic capabilities prove to be inadequate to handle the catches of Alaska salmon.

"In our best judgment, based on the survey we made with the processors, conditions this year do not

warrant such an invitation. In fact, we would consider the arrival of a Japanese freezer ship, without an invitation from the state, a serious breach of normal protocol.

"If a Japanese vessel were to appear uninvited, we fear it could also set off a chain reaction of trouble for Alaska—and for Japan.

"It could lead to a number of things, including competition in several forms from other nations fishing North Pacific waters.

"The results could be controversy and destruction of fisheries goodwill that is being built up now on both sides. We would not want to see this happen."

ASCAP officials also contended that if the Kuskokwim area fishermen were to sell to the Japanese freezer ship and get more money than they usually do, this would qualify some of the fishermen to get unemployment compensation.

Hickel said that this was also possible under existing arrangements without involving the Japanese processing ship.

"There is a provision in the Alaska Employment Security Act under which an employer with one or more employees can elect voluntary coverage and pay into the plan," said Hickel.

"The employer and the employee both would need to elect this coverage and pay into the plan. The worker also must meet certain eligibility requirements. But it can be done and is being done in the Petersburg area."

Gov. Hickel said he was "surprised" by Sen. Gruening's approach to the freezer ship matter in light of the commitment by domestic processors that they can handle the Kuskokwim commercial salmon catch.

"What possible harm?" the governor answered. "For one thing, harm to our own processors who employ thousands of Alaskans through substantial capital investments. Also, a good deal of harm, in our opinion, to our future negotiations with Japan and other countries in protecting our valuable fisheries resources."

Assassination...

(Continued from page 1)

especially the native people of the United States. Because of this interest, many people looked to him for leadership.

"And because of his interest in the field of education and poverty, we lost a great man. It just makes you wonder what's going on outside."

Mrs. Dorothy Mazzola, a housewife, and an Eskimo, said:

"I think it's terrible. We feel bad about it—all of us did. Even Gale noticed it when we were listening this morning on the radio."

Gale is Mrs. Mazzola's eight-year-old daughter.

Mrs. Mary Jane Fate, an Athabaskan and a socially prominent woman in Fairbanks had this to say:

"The tragic thing to happen to the person who was devoting his services to so many unappreciative, mixed-up people. If only our Alaskans can continue deep loyalty to our country as we have practiced in the past, in our small way, we can help to make a more solid America.

"It's been proven our native Alaskans hold deep respect and loyalty with appreciation to our country."

Leonard Hamilton, a Haida Indian, said:

"I think if our boys come home from Vietnam, they would have to fight on our streets to handle our domestic problems.

"Other than shock, I don't know what else to say."

The tragic shooting of Robert Kennedy has had a far-reaching effect on political circles including Alaska.

It has resulted in temporary obligatory delay on political campaigning.

President Lyndon Johnson has proclaimed Sunday as the day of mourning in the United States.

Early yesterday morning the President made the following declaration:

"This is a time of tragedy and loss. Sen. Robert F. Kennedy is dead.

"Robert Kennedy affirmed this country—affirmed the essential decency of its people, their longing for peace, their desire to improve conditions of life for all.

"During his life, he knew far more than his share of personal tragedy.

"Yet he never abandoned his faith in America. He never lost his confidence in the spiritual strength of ordinary men and women.

"He believed in the capacity of the young for excellence and in the right of the old and poor to a life of dignity.

"Our public life is diminished by his loss.

"Mrs. Johnson and I extend our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Kennedy and his family.

"I have issued a proclamation calling upon our nation to observe a day of mourning for Robert Kennedy."



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