



WITHERING HOSPITAL—Tiling on the ceiling of the Bethel Public Health Service hospital is falling off due to a faulty roof that leaks. Hospital administrator told Tundra Times last week that at one time, 40 pounds of plaster fell on an Eskimo patient. The hospital was built in 1954 to accommodate 42 patients but now services 58.

The hospital services 85,000 square miles and has a potential of patient treatment of 13,000 or more people in the area. John Toomer, administrator of the hospital, thinks the facility is beyond repair for further use.

—THOMAS RICHARDS, JR. Photograph

## PHS Hosp.

(continued from page 1)

ported with a concrete floor which is gradually sinking.

The wooden tank construction shows signs of weakening as the containers begin to achieve a noticeable tilt.

Toomer expects that the hospital will be even more cramped. "Most of the people out in the village are begging to be more aware of the facility and the need for health care."

They are becoming more aware

## Central Council

(continued from page 1)

is reported to have said.

The Central Council purchased \$1,000 worth of stock at the 6th anniversary banquet of the Tundra Times in October 5, 1968 in Fairbanks.

Marvin has ordered subscription blanks as well as information on purchasing of stock. He also wanted about 75 of today's issue of the Tundra Times.

Kitty Harwood will be taking the items with her to Sitka next week when she goes as a representative of the Fairbanks Native Association to the Bureau of Indian Affairs meeting at Mt. Edgecumbe.

The BIA meeting will be patterned after the Parent Teacher's Association where native people and non-native people will be invited to Sitka to discuss the rural schools.

BIA Sitka meeting will be the first of its kind ever held in Alaska. The participants' transportation and board and room will be defrayed by the BIA.

After that meeting, Kitty Harwood will then attend the Tlingit and Haida Central Council conference.

## Village Fun—

## 'Who te Nadenach' Fun, Full of Action

Visitors from McGrath and Tatalina Air Force Base who attended Nikolai Who te Nadenach on March 15 saw plenty of

of their access to health care. So as a consequence, we anticipate with our increased field program there will be more people coming in."

Relief for these problems may come if the Public Health Service decides to act. The PHS is expected to decide whether to build a new hospital or reconstruct the present facility.

No one, however, would like to speculate on the immediate future.

## Bennett Out . . .

(continued from page 1)

Indian Affairs Indian program.

"Yes, I think so," he answered. "We are really searching for an answer to the problem. But the answer is not just a program. The answer is some person, some individual—one would be enough—who has the desire to carry out that program."

"I think we can find American Indians that have the desire, capability and the leadership to solve the problem, and as soon as I find that person—and I have interviewed literally dozens—then we are going to start."

Robert Bennett himself is an Indian. He was appointed to his present post in 1966. Prior to that time, he has served several years as an Area Director for the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Alaska.

action in a fun filled day.

The first event, a swede saw contest, was won by Nick Petruska. Miska Deaphon was second. Esai Esai won the ice pick contest with Philip Esai taking second place.

First place in the dogsled race went to Nick Petruska and Esai Esai was second. An exciting snow machine race saw Jim Nikolai finish twenty seconds ahead of Nick Petruska.

The snow shoe race was a close finish with Esai Esai just seconds ahead of Ignatti Petruska. A tug of war between McGrath and Nikolai was won by Nikolai strong men.

Contestants in the events were from McGrath, Tatalina, and Nikolai. Cash awards were presented at a dance Saturday evening. Trophies were presented later.

Red lanterns were given to Philip Esai for the snow machine race and Ignatti Petruska for the dog race. Nikolai Chief, Pete Gregory received the barrel keg trophy for the tug of war.

Door prizes were donated by N.C. Company in McGrath and McGrath Trading Post. Agnes Nikolai had the winning raffle ticket on an oil painting by Jim Ede.

The dance hall was crowded and everyone enjoyed the singing and guitar playing of guests from Tatalina. Many danced until dawn.

Nikolai thanks all who came and hopes that next year more will be able to join their good time.

# Jackson and Pollock Put Bills in Hopper

Sen. Henry M. Jackson last Tuesday introduced the Senate version of the native land claims bill based on the recommendations of the Federal Field Committee for Development Planning in Alaska.

On Wednesday, Congressman Howard W. Pollock introduced a similar bill in the U.S. House of Representatives.

In introducing the Jackson-Pollock legislation, the Alaska Congressman said, "We are aware that this bill is not acceptable in all aspects to the diverse interests of Alaska and her people. However, this bill presents the Congress with a format upon which an acceptable bill may be constructed."

Pollock said he would be offering amendments to his land claims bill at the request of and after consulting with Alaska's native leaders. He said the native leaders have informed him they are preparing recommended changes to the land claims bill at this time.

Sen. Jackson, chairman of the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, will conduct hearings on the bill on April 29-30 in Washington. Native leaders will testify at the hearing.

Jackson said that in introducing his bill, it does not mean that he endorses all the recommendations of the Federal Field Committee.

"I am introducing this measure," he said, "to insure that the recommendations of the Federal Field Committee on this problem will be placed before the Senate

Interior Committee and the Congress for consideration along with any other measures which may be introduced."

Both measures, based on the Field Committee report, call for 4 to 7 million acres of land to be given the Aleuts, Indians and Eskimos of Alaska.

The bills also call for the U.S. Treasury Department to pay the natives \$100 million for rights and lands taken in the past.

The bills also call for payment up to \$100 million a year for 10 years to the natives as a share in the oil and other resource income.

In capsule form, the bills would provide:

—Give the native people (individuals) the lands they occupy or use for homes, businesses, fishing, hunting, trapping and reindeer management camps.

—Give the Alaska villages incorporated under Alaska state law up to 36 square miles of land for community use and expansion.

—Provide subsistence hunting and fishing areas for emergency purposes on public lands.

—Give to the proposed Alaska Native Development Corporation (ANDC), U.S. Treasury's \$100 million for rights taken in the past.

—Give to the ANDC in payment for rights taken through legislation, 10 per cent of the income from the leasing of minerals and other resources from federal lands for the duration of 10 years.

# Margaret Nick Speaks . . .

(Continued from page 1)

people who can't afford private attorneys. I am also Secretary for Alaska Federation of Natives, the statewide Native organization.

I went to grade school at the BIA school in Nunapitchuk and attended one year of high school in Mt. Edgecumbe. I took the rest of my high school by correspondence courses at Nunapitchuk. Why didn't I go back to Mt. Edgecumbe? Well, I wanted to go back but my father wouldn't let me go back and he made it pretty clear that none of my younger brothers and sisters would go beyond Bethel for high school. So my younger brothers and sisters have been attending Bethel State High School and have done really well.

My father is really interested in seeing us go to school but he won't let us leave so far from home at an early age especially to a completely different environment and culture—even if this means that his children get their education the hard way, by correspondence courses.

"I agree with my father. Thirteen, fourteen, and fifteen years old is too early to leave home, especially when this means not seeing your family for over nine months. Where else in the United States do children have to go to completely different environment and culture to get their high school education. Where? Do children from the lower 49 states come up to Alaska to get their high school education?"

It is hard on the children and parents. This is why we have too many confused young people in Alaska. We're constantly trying to find ourselves in this fast moving world, where our culture and history is ignored 100 per cent.

We've got to do something about education—like NOW. We've got to bring education closer to the children's homes.

There are a number of villages where Junior high schools should be installed. There are, also, a number of places where regional high schools should be installed like Bethel, Kotzebue, Point Barrow, Dillingham, Fort Yukon, and Kodiak AND DO IT RIGHT AWAY.

If we get regional high schools closer to the children's homes, there won't be a huge high school drop-out. Also, the most important factor is, the children will be closer to their own environment and won't have to adjust into a different environment. We've got to move and not just talk about the problem.

Let's ask ourselves a very important question. What does education mean? Who knows the answer? Maybe the man who's got a degree in education knows the answer. I don't know. How can I predict about my children. But one thing I know is—if my children know who they are, if my children have identity, if my children are proud of who they are—THEY WILL BE ABLE TO ENCOUNTER ANYTHING IN LIFE. I think this is what education means.

Some people say a man without an education might as well be dead. I say, a man without identity—if a man doesn't know who he is he might as well be dead.

This is why it is a must that we include our culture and history in our schools before we lose it all. We have lost way too much already. LET'S MOVE NOW.

We all know Indian Education should be improved and I just hate to see it be kicked around like a hot potato after this. We can't afford to lose any more time. Let's pick the hot potato up and cut it before it gets cold and put butter on it and let's not forget the salt and pepper.