

Final Claims Bill to Be Ready Shortly

Hearings were completed in Washington last Friday before the House and Senate Interior Committees.

It is reported that testimony by the three members of the Alaska Congressional delegation is thought by native leaders to be more favorable to native interests than the position presented by Governor Keith H. Miller.

The Governor remains opposed to both the land figure of 40 million acres and the two per cent revenue sharing proposal. Indications are that members of the Alaska Congressional delegation are not opposed to a 40 million acre land settlement.

Congressman Wayne Aspinall, Chairman of the House Interior Committee, has agreed to schedule hearings in Alaska. He has stated that he would schedule hearings for September in which his committee will visit a number of native villages.

The position advocated by the Alaska Federation of Natives is being finalized in bill form. The bill, which is in its second draft, is thought to be inclusive of sections of a bill drafted by the services of Lazarus to the effort of AFN to seek a fair land settlement.

The third draft of the AFN bill is expected to be presented to the native leadership and their legal counsel soon, possibly next week. A meeting of the AFN Board could be called within two weeks to review the legislation.

Author of the AFN bill is

Arthur Lazarus. Lazarus is attorney and General Counsel to the Association on American Indian Affairs. AAIA is lending its support and the services of Lazarus to the effort of AFN to seek a fair land settlement.

One area of disagreement has arisen between the native leadership and Senator Ted Stevens. AFN has indicated that it may not limit native claim to open public lands.

The native leadership is concerned about lands in claim areas to which the state has received tentative approval. One such area is Tanacross, where the state has received tentative approval to over 60,000 acres of that claim.

Stevens is reported to be disturbed about possible claims in the Prudhoe Bay area, where several native settlements have existed. AFN was asked to waive its right to selection of lands which have already been tentatively approved to the state. It refused.

Another area of concern to native leaders is the position taken by Governor Keith Miller. Despite assurance from the Governor that he would follow the policies of former Governor Walter Hickel, it is felt that Miller has made a departure to a much more conservative position.

Many elements of the non-native Alaskan population have expressed alarm at the settlement sought by Alaskan Natives. It is feared that Miller's position may offer a focus for such opposition.

North Slope Land Bids To Open in Anchorage

By HELEN ATKINSON

On September 10 at 8 a.m. competitive bids for 450,857 acres of North Slope state lands will be opened and read in Anchorage.

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources announced August 12 that the sale would start one day earlier and added eight more tracts.

Bid: must be received by 3 p.m. September 9, but last minute offers will be accepted from 7 to 8 a.m. on September 10. Bid forms (DL-5) and lease forms (DL-1) and tract maps (\$2 each) can be obtained from the State Division of Lands 306 W. Fifth Ave., Anchorage, 99501.

Successful bidders must deposit a minimum of 20% of the offer and will have just ten days after being notified to ante up the 80 per cent balance plus \$1 an acre first year rental on a ten year lease.

Alaskans are reacting unfavorably to Governor Keith Miller's announcement that collected funds will be deposited with the Bank of America at San Francisco, with none of the monies being distributed to Alaskan banks.

Tracts added comprise 19,754 acres in T12N, R8E (Sec 1,2,3,4, 9,10,11,12,15,16,21, & 22), T13N, R9E (Sec 5,6,7, & 8), and in T9N, R12E (Sec 15,16,17,18, 19,20,21,22,27,28,29,30,32, 33,

& 34).

Tracts in 13North are primarily offshore, except for three sections which appear to be in PLO 1571. Sinclair-Atlantic-Richfield's "Ugnu" well is in T12N, R9E and was reported to be a commercially producing well.

The 9North land is adjacent to Mobil-Phillip's lone "Hemi-State" in T9N, R11E. It made national news recently when two brothers were arrested for trying to sell secret information on it.

Byron Mallott . . .

(Continued from page 1)

record, it can be fairly well substantiated that the past three Executive Directors of RurALCAP had a closer identification as Republican partisans. I do not imply by this statement any derogation of the effectiveness or commitment of these individuals. Their accomplishments speak for themselves. Neither do I imply any partisan political sensitivity on my part; rather I feel it necessary to establish a proper perspective in this matter.

Mallott said that he construed opposition to his application from the Governor's representative on the agency's personnel committee as an indication of opposition from the Governor himself.

In a letter to Miller last month, Mallott said, "I will not ever inject partisan politics into RurALCAP activity. I have applied for the position in anticipation of being able to further assist in the ongoing effort to eradicate poverty and all the other tragic problems that accrue to that condition."

"Partisan politics have no



VALUABLE SEA OTTER—Once numbering in great numbers, Alaska sea otters almost became extinct because of overhunting by Russians and poachers in the 1800's who sought its fur that is

one of the finest in the world. About a year ago in Seattle, Wash., one sea otter fur pelt sold for \$2,300.

—Fish and Game Photo by RICHARD WALLEN

Who Owns Sea Otter Posed . .

(Continued from page 1)

reason given by the state for the harvest, which is that "the sea otter population must be properly controlled."

The state, in cooperation with the Atomic Energy Commission, transplanted the sea otter from Amchitka to the coastal areas of Washington State. Over half these transplanted otters have since "Since it has been admitted by biologists working for the AEC that in these blasts, ranging from one megaton of TNT to possibly five megatons, some sea otters will be destroyed, the state has taken upon itself the task of transplanting this valuable animal," Brayton stated.

"Yet this policy of harvesting and transplanting the sea otter clashes with that which was established by the federal government late in the 19th Century.

"The sea otter is, in fact, the private property of the Alaskan Native and therefore, it would appear that the state of Alaska is acting surreptitiously without authority to conduct their activities," said Brayton.

Brayton concluded that it is unfortunate the action originated with "the government of the

state rather than an alien power of marauders from distant lands."

Brayton resigned his director-

ship in June and will be succeeded by Byron Mallott, who is currently on the Washington staff of Senator Mike Gravel.

Olympics Great . . .

(Continued from page 1)

facilities at the University for the Olympics performers.

Proving once again its popular public appeal, the Olympics were performed before capacity crowds. The unique native cultural show received many a spontaneous applause from the appreciative crowd.

One of the pleasant developments was the staging of the Olympics queen pageant that was done in a dignified and professional manner. Mrs. Daphne Rylander Gustafson, a former Olympics queen herself, was in charge of the pageant.

"Daphne and her helpers worked so hard," said Mrs. Peggy Anderson, a young member of the Olympics committee.

Peggy singled out Daphne's helpers as Martha Smelcer, Judy Birklied, Lois James, Jane Haycraft, Mrs. Maria Morrison, Anna Marie Morrison, and Virginia Kriley, a beautician from Bonnie's Beauty Salon in Fairbanks.

The hard work along with the beauty pageant judges picked a charming and beautiful World Eskimo Olympics queen in the person of Miss Marie Irwin of Nenana.

First runner-up was Sarah Seeborg, Miss Arctic Circle; second runner-up, Sally Woods, Miss Nuchalawoyya; and Miss Congeniality was Linda Cook, Miss Metlakatla.

Marie is part Eskimo, part Indian and Caucasian and 18 years old. Marie succeeded Miss Audrey Ambrose of Huslia who was the reigning queen for 1968. Both charming young ladies wept, one for joy and the other for having to relinquish her crown.

The popular Eskimo hi-kick event one with both feet and the other with one were won by Job Kasuk of Barrow. Job kicked the both feet event to the height of 6 feet 8 inches and the one-foot event at 7 feet 8 inches.

The trick of the hi-kick is that the kicker has to land on both feet in the both-foot event and land on the same foot with which he kicked on the one-foot event.

Barrow Eskimo dancers won the event once again by perform-

ing authentic and traditional dances as well as by wearing authentic Eskimo costumes.

In the Indian dance category, the Minto Athabaskan Indian dancers walked away with the award. Copper Center Indian dancers attended the Olympics for the first time this year and performed admirably.

Upward Bound native young people at the University of Alaska pleased the crowd with their original and lively Eskimo and Indian dances. Mrs. Judy Woods of Manley Hot Springs and her nine children charmed the crowd by their Indian dancing.

The ever popular seal skinning contest was again won by Rhoda Nageak of Barrow. She has retained the crown in that event for the last three years.

The exciting nalukatuk (blanket toss) was won by Marie Nusunginya with Laura Bergt placing second and Jenny Felder placing third.

The men's blanket toss was won by Roger Kooniak who also became the favorite of the crowd with his game and serious efforts at the hi-kick and other events. Second was Tommy Fields of Kotzebue who did the difficult sommersault while being tossed.

The painful ear-weight contest was won by Fred Titus of Minto who outlasted his opponents by carrying 9 pounds of lead on his right ear by a string.

Eskimo yo-yo contest was won by Penny Lie of Kotzebue. She was also a lovely beauty pageant contestant.

Muktuk eating contest was won by Lawrence David of Fairbanks who did the trick in 15 seconds flat, while Lorry Scheurch, formerly of Kiana now a State Trooper in Fairbanks, who devoured his muktuk in 16 seconds.

Peggy Anderson also praised Jim and Donna Miller, resident counselors at the Lathrop Hall at UA for their tireless services in accomodating the Olympics performers.

"They did everything possible for the people who stayed there," said Peggy.

