

# Oldster Offers Services as Guide To Archaeological Sites on Flats

Paul Solomon, 84, wants to offer his services as a guide to those scientists digging up old bones this summer on the Old Crow river flats.

He says he knows where all kinds of bones, some huge, some tiny, are located. "I've never told anyone about them before," he said. "And I'm not going to tell too much about them now. I found them while hunting by canoe in a creek of the Yukon River flats."

"People say it's the old Indian heaven," he said. "All good people who die go there. Others say they hear the bones talking some time." Mr. Solomon recalls that many years ago he was hunting in the area. A friend urged him to bury one of the bones deep in the ground. The next year when he re-



Paul Solomon

turned, it was above ground again, he said.

"I know the bones are old because of the way the water and dirt has eaten into them," he said. "I think they are very old."

Mr. Solomon lived most of his life at Fort Yukon. He has 12 children, 40 grandchildren and numerous great-grand children he has lost count. He and his wife, Hannah, moved to Fairbanks recently because of the high cost of living in the village. "Electricity is 30 cents a watt there. Food is expensive, too."

But he is not happy here because he can't get around too much. "We don't go anywhere. I want to buy a car. That's why I want a job. I can take the scientists up there to the bones."

A report in the May 12th issue of TUNDRA TIMES gave Mr. Solomon the idea.

He read that C.R. Harrington, palaeontologist and Dr. W.N. Irving, archaeologist from the National Museum of Canada had uncovered the oldest evidence of man yet found in the Canadian north, last summer on an exploration trip up the Old Crow River in the Yukon.

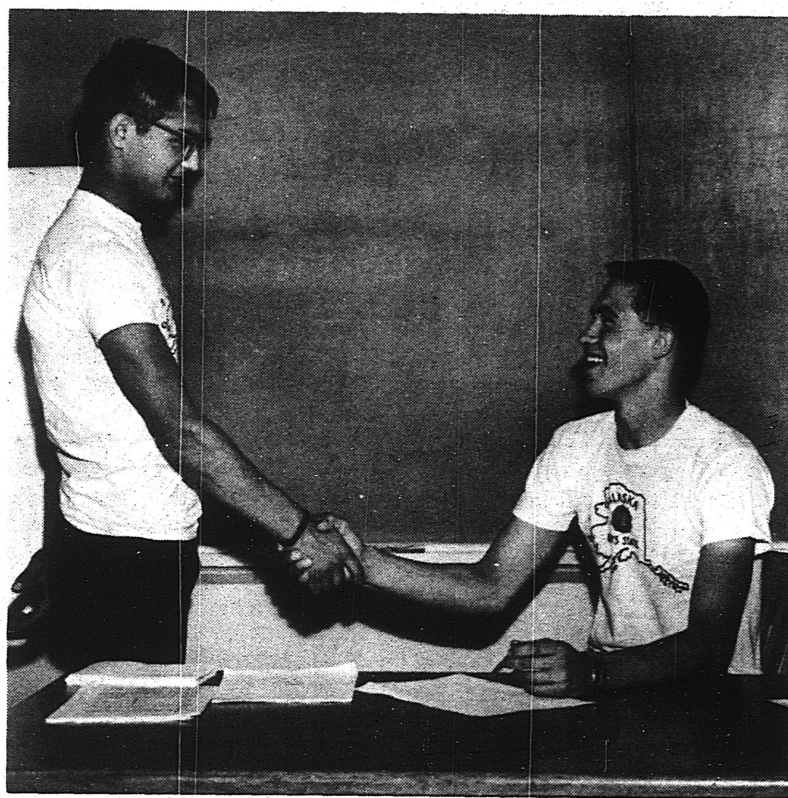
They found bones indicating that early man may have lived in the Yukon as long as 40,000 years ago.

If the dating is correct, the bones will be the oldest archaeological remains in the New World.

National Museum parties are again at work in the area this summer. They plan to initiate the first interdisciplinary study of Pleistocene environments in the Canadian north, in which specialists from several fields take part.

If a man has a talent and cannot use it, he has failed. If he has a talent and uses only half of it, he has partly failed. If he has a talent and learns somehow to use the whole of it, he has gloriously succeeded, and won a satisfaction and a triumph few men ever know.

Thomas Wolfe



BOYS' STATE—Alessandro T. Hill of Sitka is congratulated by Bradley Sele of Haines on his election as President of the Senate at Alaska's First Boys' State. Senator Sele was the Chairman of the Frontier Party...the Majority Party.

## Participants Laud First 'Boy's State'

EDITOR'S NOTE: One of the American Legion's most worthwhile projects is Boy's State, a model government run by teens in each state, giving them a one week opportunity in self government. Alaska Boy's State was held at Copper Valley School, last week. Because this was Alaska's first year in the program, we asked one of the participants for a report on

his experience.

Accompanying the report was this note from Joseph M. Briones, Department Adjutant, American Legion, Juneau, a Boy's State staff member: "Alessandro T. Hill from Sitka displayed outstanding qualities of leadership and ability. He has a lot of potential and ambition. As president of the Senate, he did a tremendous job."

By ALESSANDRO T. HILL  
Sitka, Alaska

You have asked me to convey to you the experiences that I went through as an Alaskan native at Boy's State. But I assure you, this is completely unnecessary. For you can ask any boy of any nationality who attended Alaska's first Boy's State and have received the same answer. The feeling in the dormitory of Boy's State was universal. Every member who attends, experiences, feels, and learns the same things about life.

Each boy comes to Boy's State knowing that he will have to display special knowledge and ability. He knows that he is representing not only his town, but also his state. He is coming to show that the youth of Alaska do contain great abilities. It is for this that he was chosen and he treats it as a great honor.

His first purpose here is politics. He learns how a government runs and how to make it run. And each boy learns his job well. He discovers things about politics that could not have been acquired in any of his normal schooling. Also, many

members acquire a special knack for politics, which may lead them to become Alaska's future statesmen.

Secondly, they learn to get along with people. They learn how to make friends and how not to make an enemy. They learn to treat each other on an equal basis. For politics is people, so a politician has to get along with the people. But more important, peace is man getting along with his fellow man. And these boys do learn to get along well, not only among themselves, but with other people.

Each member who comes out of Boy's State has a better idea of what path he wishes to follow in life. He feels that his feet are more firmly planted. The path he chooses may not necessarily be politics, but what is important is that he has a better idea about it. He is ready to make bigger and better decisions, that might affect not only his life but also the lives of others.

Boy's State owes the American Legion a big thanks for the many hours of hard work and the great amount of money they put into this organization.

This being a new program, the American Legion invited many organizations and firms to participate. The Lions, Elks, ANB, Legion Auxiliary, ACS, FAA, Rotary and others were able to sponsor boys this year. I believe that the American Legion appreciates this support and I hope that they will be able to sponsor more boys in the future. For in these youths, lies the future of Alaska.

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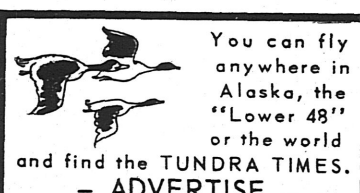
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