

Tundra Times

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Inupiat Paitot People's Heritage

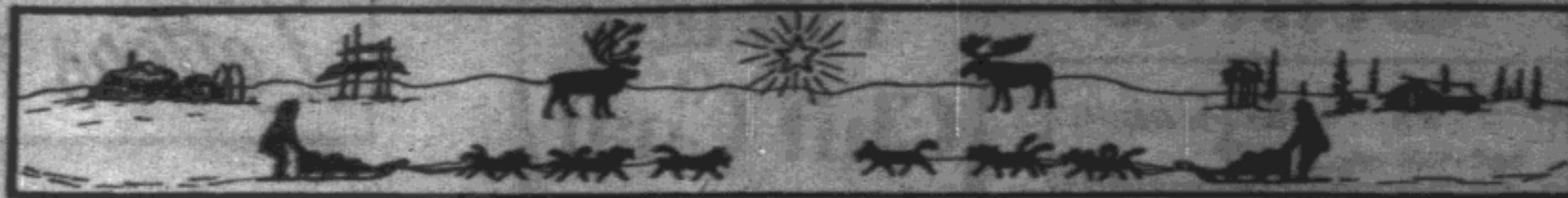
Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak

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Fairbanks, Alaska



Tlingit
Ut kah neek Informing and Reporting

CANADA SCRAPS OLD INDIAN ACT

Old Paternalistic Indian Policies Being Replaced By Liberalized New Act

Special to the Tundra Times
By BETZI WOODMAN
Old paternalistic policies

Annual AFN Conference Next Thurs.

The Alaska Federation of Natives annual conference starts next Thursday, October 19, and continue on for two more days.

At press time, location of the conference was not available. It was rumored that it might be held in the auditorium of the Alaska Methodist University. If not there, it will be held in downtown Anchorage.

President of the AFN, Emil
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which characterized the Canadian Indian Act first passed in 1868 are being done away with in the new act now being drafted.

It will make many radical changes in the legal position of the Indian people but will continue to protect their land holdings from alienation.

Land will still be held in trust for future generations, but development for the benefit of the Indian people will be encouraged.

The National Indian Advisory Council of Canada has discussed the Act's working papers which have been prepared to guide the legislative drafting people in the Department of Justice.

When the final review by inter-Departmental committee is completed, the Act itself will be prepared and representatives of the Indian people will be consulted further, according to Indian Affairs Minister Arthur Laing.

"The Indian people have a right to examine the Act and to play a part in the formulation of the final version," the Minister said.

The new Act will provide Indian Bands (tribes) with much more scope for development. An outstanding feature of the suggested new Act will be provision so that Bands may incorporate and manage the affairs of their Reserve community independently.

"It will enable each Band to choose the level of management best suited to their needs and will permit them to progress at their own speed," the Minister said.

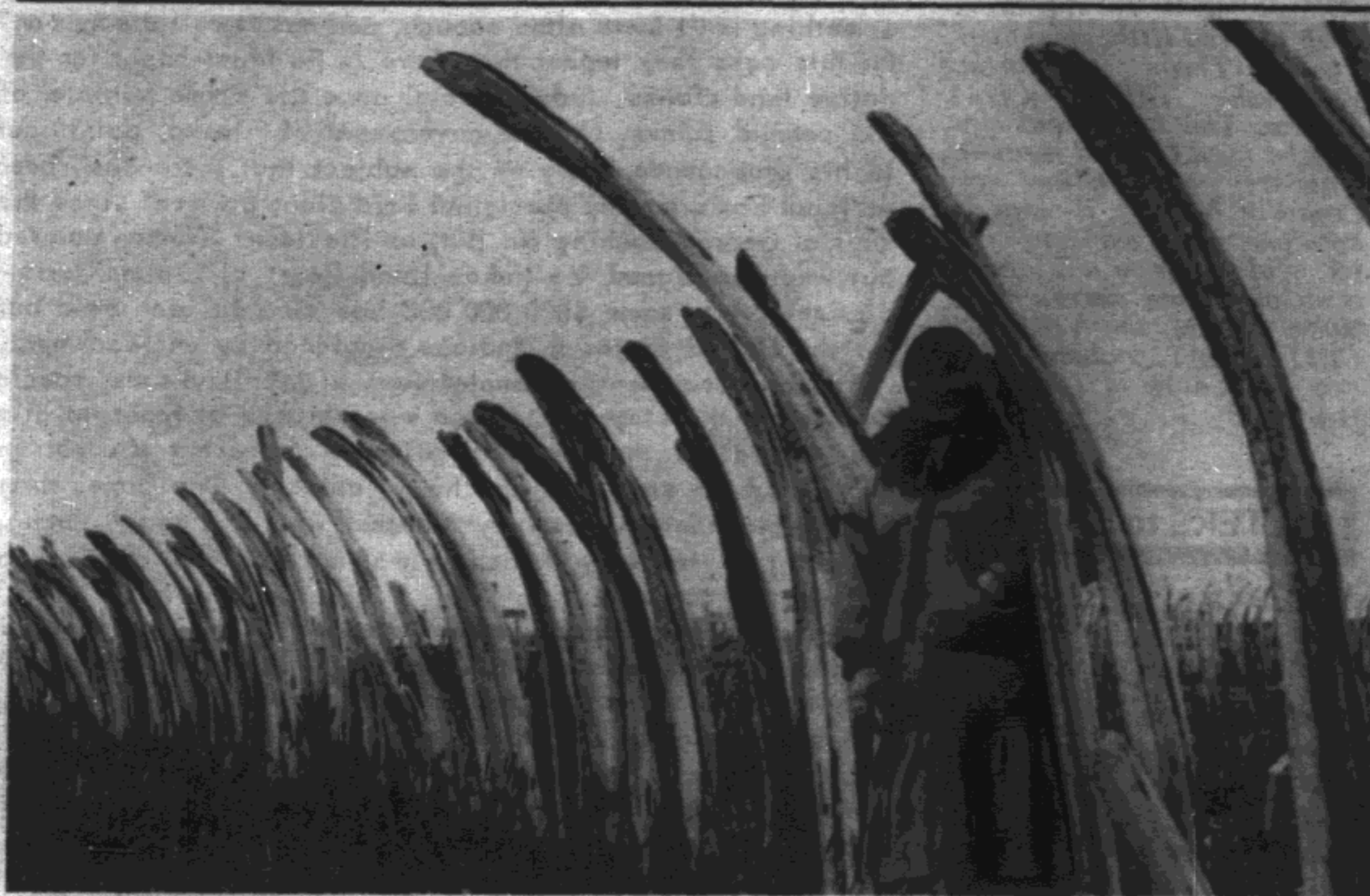
Provisions for devolution of responsibility and the assumption of management
(Continued on page 6)

Group Organizes Village Electric Corporation

"We set up a public non-profit statewide corporation which will attempt to electrify some of the rural villages," stated Bill Hensley of the State Rural Development Agency this week.

The corporation known as the Alaska Village Electric Cooperative was formed last Friday at the group's first meeting at the Captain Cook Hotel in Anchorage.

Named president of the group was William Hensley, member of the State House of Representatives from Kotzebue.
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UNIQUE CEMETERY—Fenced with hundreds of bowhead whale jawbones, Point Hope cemetery is one of the most unique in the world. Dinah Frankson is looking out through the bone fencing.

—WIEN AIR ALASKA Photo by FRANK WHALEY

Editorial—

Native People Could Be Caught Napping

Land legislation in Congress may not go well for the native people of Alaska. There is real reason to be concerned because the native land bill that was drawn up in Anchorage at the first meeting of the then Alaska Federation of Native Associations is now buried in the Judiciary Committee in Congress. When land hearings are held in Alaska, possibly later in the year and possibly under the chairmanship of Senator Henry Jackson of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, testimony on S-2020, the native land bill, may not be heard but instead the S-1964, a bill drawn up by the Interior Department, may take the sole attention of the hearings. The latter bill has met with rampant disfavor by our people and their leaders. It is a short-sighted bill that recommends the villages would be given an area of land that measures less than nine miles square. That bill also recommends that compensation for lands lost would be based on the price level at the time Alaska was sold to the United States by Russia back in 1867, or at two cents an acre.

Two weeks ago, Hugh Nicholls, first vice president of the Arctic Slope Native Association with headquarters at Barrow, wrote to Senator Ernest Gruening who had introduced S-2020, the native bill, to Congress. What Nicholls had to say about the bill is worth close scrutiny, and study, to try to see what had happened that caused the bill to be buried in the Judiciary Committee. What was the reason? Who was responsible?

"What I wished to discuss," Hugh Nicholls wrote, "was that the Native bill introduced in the Senate

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Contract Termination Protested by Barrow

The City of Barrow is claiming that it was not lack of housing that caused the termination of the city's contract with the State Department of Public Safety to have a state trooper stationed at Barrow.

In a strongly worded letter to Commissioner Mel Personett of Public Safety, Eben Hopson, council president and former state senator, wrote:

"After the city council of Barrow had inserted in their minutes the statement you made to the effect that Barrow should have a trooper stationed here, you seemed to have completely forgotten that public safety is the State's responsibility and as commissioner is primarily responsible for the execution of that responsibility."

Hopson said that as of
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National Indian Group Backs Native Land Bill

At its annual convention at Portland Oregon on October 2-6, the National Congress of American Indians of the United States unanimously passed a resolution supporting the Alaska Federation of Natives proposed land bill

Nome Gives 5,000 Lbs. Reindeer Meat To Flood Victims

The Nome Nugget reported last week that the Northwest Reindeer Processing Co. of Nome and Sigfred Aukongak, reindeer herd owner, are donating 5,000 pounds of reindeer meat to the flood victims of the Fairbanks area. The donation was reported by Tom Johnson, owner of the processing company.

S-2020 introduced by Senator Ernest Gruening last June.

The Executive Committee of the NCAI assured the AFN delegation that every effort will be made through its Congressional delegation to get prompt attention to this bill.

The members of the committee voiced strong feelings in regard to Alaska's participation at the convention.

In his address, NCAI President Wendell Chino urged all Alaskan native associations and villages to support the statewide Alaska Federation of Natives organization.

Chino said that a united front has always proved most successful. He said that NCAI pledges full support to
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