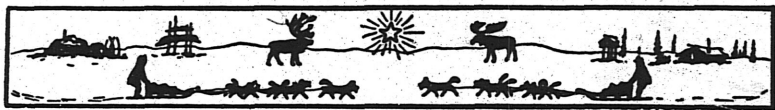


"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." - Voltaire

Tundra Times



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Land Use Study Needed . . .

means to the native people of Alaska. This knowledge is needed for greater understanding among our people and it is certainly pertinent to the land issue, and it could be an important matter in arriving at a justifiable solution to the claims question.

The land situation is of a serious gravity to our state. It is one that must be solved in an equitable manner to benefit all concerned. To achieve this level, it needs people to work on it who know what they are talking about. If not, this fact alone can be a potential source for injustices in the final outcome of the land question. It is regrettable to note at times that lack of knowledge becomes evident on the state level especially when it comes to land use by our native people. This is no less true on the national level. The land matter in Alaska is of utmost seriousness and it cannot afford to have people working on it who have half-knowledge of the situation.

What then should be done to remedy this lack of knowledge of the land situation? We feel that something has to be done because of the seriousness of the matter. It would certainly help to eliminate possible inequities in the final outcome which would otherwise haunt the people of Alaska in the future. Should a team of scientists composed of an anthropologist, a geologist, an ecologist and a sociologist be formed and this team could work under the authorization of the President?

We are not proposing that a study should be done exactly in the above manner but we do believe that those who work on the land situation should have good knowledge, if not explicit knowledge of the land use of the Indians, Aleuts and Eskimos.

George Did It ! ----

Beaver Tail Connoisseur: 'Best Soup I Ever Eat'

Nenana, Alaska
March 10, 1967

Tundra Times
"Dear Sir"

I hear on the radio this morning that the natives will have beaver tails at their potlatch March 17th in Fairbanks.

George Hillary put in two winters on Mud River flats about 15 years ago near my camp. He lived on beaver tail soup those two winters.

First he put beaver tail on Yukon stove. He burn it just hard enough so the hard skin should slip off.

Then cut meat part into small chunks, put peas in. He flavors it. I'm not a cook but any cook will make good soup out of this. Anyway, best soup I ever eat was George beaver tail soup.

Sincerely,
Alfred Starr

P.S. Put on Tundra Times.

Mrs. Meda Lord cook beaver meat part three years ago at dogmusher potlatch here in Nenana. First she boil the meat and she bake it afterward (put flavoring). Best I ever eat.

Saskatchewan U Offers Course In Anthropology

A course in Applied Anthropology in the Eskimo Culture Area will be held in the Canadian Arctic by the University of Saskatchewan this summer.

The course will start July 8 at the Arctic Research and Training Centre in Rankin Inlet, Northwest Territories. The Centre is a part of the University's Institute of Northern Studies.

The Institute was organized to further the development and appreciation of the Canadian North and to help the University of Saskatchewan play an important part in such work.

The Centre was established by a special grant from the University. It provides a northern base for natural and social scientists to conduct investigations, and provides an introduction to northern communities for non-residents.

The Anthropology course will cover acculturation theory, and will include a survey of socio-cultural change in Canada, Greenland, and Alaska. A detailed treatment will be given to socio-cultural change in the Central Canadian Arctic.

The students will be assigned reports based on field observations. They will be aided by concentrated Eskimo language instruction, conducted by the instructors with help from local, Eskimo residents.

\$3,360,558 Cash Benefits for Vets

In Alaska, veterans and their families received a total of \$3,360,558 in cash benefits and services during the fiscal year of 1966, Howard C. Christie, Manager of the Juneau Veterans Administration Regional Office reported today.

Actual distribution of this sum is outlined in the 1966 annual report of the VA now on sale at the Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Living veterans in Alaska were paid \$1,605,213 in compensation for service connected disabilities and pension for total and permanent non-service-connected disabilities. A total of 2,051 veterans received these benefits.

Death compensation and pension were paid to the dependents of 452 deceased veterans. These payments amounted to \$438,048.

G.I. insurance dividend and indemnity payments totalled \$524,848.

The remainder of the cash benefits, services and other expenditures included war orphans educational benefits, direct G.I. home loans, medical, and other miscellaneous benefits.

Weather

Heavier than normal snowfall characterized weather conditions in southeastern Alaska during February. A total of 64 inches was measured at Yakutat. Arctic Coastal Areas were even drier than usual, with conditions elsewhere in the state near normal.

NICHOLLS REBUFFS ATTORNEY . . .

(continued from Page 1)

the country, because from the 1830's to the 1870's upwards of 5000 whalers used to winter along the coasts of the Bering and Arctic Seas each year, being more than twice the number of Russians ever assembled in Alaska at one single time.

The very wording of the Russian-American Fur Trading Charter as signed by the then ruling Monarch of all the Russians shows conclusively that they regarded the land as belonging to the indigenous people. In part, it stated that land required for buildings, stockades, storage facilities would be purchased from the Native people.

Further, the Treaty of Cession executed between the United States and Imperial Russia in 1867, specifically refers to land title, by defining what land and what title to same should pass to the United States. A treaty between nations is definitive and adhere to specifics. No assumptions can be derived from such a document by the very fact their power exceeds that of the Constitution, and interpretation of a treaty cannot diverge from the specific wording and meaning employed. No implied meaning may be read into it, nor divergence from the exact wording entertained.

Therefore, by Imperial decree, in the form of the Russian-American Fur Company Charter, which required purchase of lands from the Natives, Native title was recognized by Russia, and by virtue of the fact that such title was not mentioned in the Treaty of Cession, it therefore remained intact and such is recognized to be the case as determined by the United States Supreme Court in the Haida-Tlingit case.

It has already been determined in the above suit that the rights to the land were not extinguished in the case of the aboriginal natives of Alaska, but continue unimpaired, the United States assuming wardship and retaining title in trust at the time of the purchase of the Russian sovereignty over the territory.

The present problems confronting the State Government stem not from the Native people asserting their desire to protect that which is their own; to retain what is left of their hereditary lands for their own development and future welfare but from the difference between the logical good intent and reasoning of men as shown in the Statehood and Omnibus acts the 1834 and 1891 acts in regards to Native rights, and the baser desire of mankind to amass wealth at the expense of their less sophisticated brethren. Working agreements could be executed this very day between the State and the various associations which would allow immediate development of any area selected, but the State at present chooses not to give recognition to any right of the people by doing so, but rather in a calculated risk with a 'go for broke' attitude chance the less than even percentage of a favorable court decision. In other words, in lieu of a mutually beneficial working partnership, the State seeks the whole benefit, even at the risk of possible loss of all.

The second question, "Does conquest extinguish land title or merely depose sovereignty?", must be answered thus, "No, conquest merely displaces sovereignty."

In no instance, unless specifically mentioned in the peace treaty, has the land of individuals, or groups or corporations been extinguished in the wars of the so-called civilized western powers in the last two hundred and fifty years.

In 1898, the United States declared war upon Spain and then, by conquest took the Phillipine Islands. The United States desired to retain these islands for reasons outlined in the writings of the late Admiral Mahan. In a national twinge of conscience the United States paid Spain 20 million dollars for the Sovereignty of the islands. In spite of conquest by arms, in spite of sovereign purchase, not one nipa shack on one plot of ground was taken from the Phillipine people by any title extinguishment.

In 1918 the country of Poland was created by treaty, after having been non-existent for many years, being under Russia, Prussia and Austria-Hungary. In the years between 1918 and 1939 it was a distinct government. Today it is an independent communistic type sovereign state. None the less, this very day title to lands rests on the whole, with families who have held the land through armed conquest, political change and various alliances for generations.

In 1939-1940 when the Third German Reich, notorious for its disregard of individual human rights, siezed and occupied Belgium, Holland, and Luxembourg not one land title was extinguished by this over-act of conquest.

1945 saw the total defeat of the Third Reich by the Allies. Again, though sovereignty was extinguished the ordinary German burger, the farmer and the factory owner retained possession of his land and rents were collected the first of each month without the loss of a single payment.

In Italy where wars of conquest have swept back and forth for centuries, there are estates that have been in the possession of the same family for over six hundred years. By these and numerous other examples, it is seen that conquest seldom if ever displaces any but the sovereign governing body or titular head of state who embodies the government.

So in Alaska, by whatever deduction is used, the logical, inevitable court supported fact remains, original title exists, and it behooves those in position to do so, to concentrate on the fact that contracts of mutual agreement between the State or various corporations and the tribal groups are the surest, most logical way to bypass long enduring potential lawsuits for the benefit of the State as a whole.

A mutual agreement executed today will save taxpayers money tomorrow, for as surely as day follows night the State will have to compensate tribal groups for funds already accrued from disputed lands.