

# Tundra Times

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Tlingit  
Ut kah neek Informing and Reporting

Inupiat Pitot People's Heritage

Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak

Vol. 8, No. 23

Wednesday, March 17, 1971

Fairbanks, Alaska

## WHITE HOUSE MAY ALTER POLICY

### Famed Eskimo Teacher Tony Joule Passes

Tony Joule, 69, the first Eskimo teacher working for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and one of Alaska's first Eskimo teachers died March 11 at the Alaska Native Medical Center of a heart ailment.

Joule translated the Episcopal prayer book into Eskimo. He was probably the first, certainly was one of the first, native teachers ever to teach in Alaska, starting with a teaching stint with the Episcopal St. Thomas Mission school at Point Hope.

When the Interior Department's Bureau of Education, forerunner of the current Bureau of Indian Affairs, took over the schooling of the native children, Tony Joule transferred over to the Bureau teaching status.

At Point Hope, Joule was one of the first teachers that Howard Rock, editor of the Tundra Times, had in his school days.

"Tony was a stern old time style teacher who didn't hesitate to use the ruler," says Rock.

"He could read music but was unable to play any musical instrument," the editor remembers. "He once taught the Hallelujah Chorus to the village church choir at Point Hope, without the benefit of an organ or any musical instrument. The harmony he produced was enthralling to the villagers as well as to visitors to the village."

Most of the members of that church choir spoke little or no English.

Joule was born July 2, 1901 in Point Hope and lived there

(Continued on page 6)

### 'Floodfight' Meet Surveys Resources

By MADELYN SHULMAN  
Staff Writer

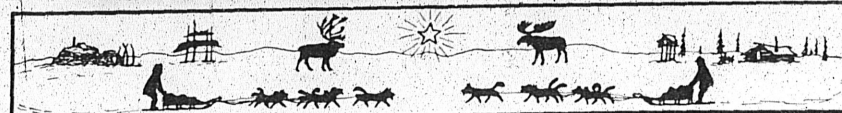
Close to 300 representatives of federal, State and local Fairbanks agencies gathered in Alaskaland Civic Auditorium yesterday to survey their resources in the event of a major flood.

"This meeting marks a landmark in disaster preparedness activities," said Darrell M. Trent, Deputy Director of the Office of Emergency Preparedness.

Mr. Trent, who moved into the spot vacated by Fred Russell when Russell became Assistant Secretary of the Interior was part of the White House staff concerned with the drafting of Emergency Disaster measure of 1970.

"This is the first time the Office of Emergency Preparedness is the guest of local and state governments. 'Operation Floodfight' is particularly important," he told the group in

(Continued on page 6)



MISS WORLD ESKIMO OLYMPICS—Miss Flora Bergman of Allakaket is the entry of the Eskimo Olympics and the Tundra Times in the Miss Alaska Pageant in Anchorage this week. The charming Athabaskan Indian girl, 19, will present a legend of her people—The Moon Legend—in her native tongue as an assignment for her talent part in the pageant.

—MADELYN SHULMAN Photograph

### Miss Flora Bergman to Represent TT, Olympics at Alaska Pageant

An enchanting Indian maiden from Allakaket will represent the Eskimo Olympics in the Miss Alaska Pageant next week in Anchorage.

Flora Bergman, 19, is a petite (barely 5'1"), beautiful young lady with a lot of experience in presenting an image of her people to visitors from the lower 48 and beyond. From March 20 to 28 the brown-haired, brown-eyed girl will compete with girls from all over Alaska for the Miss Alaska honors.

Last summer, Flora worked

as hostess on the Riverboat Discovery, one of Fairbanks' main recreation and tourist attractions.

"The experience was thoroughly enjoyable," she says, "as I was able to meet many people who were interested in Alaska and my culture and great heritage."

Also last summer, Flora was a winner in the Miss Eskimo Olympics contest and now will compete for the Miss Alaska crown.

At the present time, Flora spends most of her time at home

(Continued on page 6)

### Drama Tinges Meeting On Claims Between Agnew, Native Leaders

Four Alaskan Native leaders met with Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, Secretary of the Interior Rogers Morton and other administration officials on Friday (March 12) in a meeting which may alter administration policy on Alaska native land claims.

The two hour meeting took place Friday afternoon in the White House offices of Vice President Agnew. The vice president arranged the meeting at the request of Laura Bergt, member of the National Council on Indian Opportunity, which he chairs.

He agreed to the meeting while attending the NCIO conference in Kansas City last week.

Laura Bergt described the meeting to the Tundra Times as representing a "dramatic shift" in administration policy. Her account of the meeting follows:

Besides the Vice President and the Secretary of the Interior, Mrs. Bergt said, administration officials included Assistant Interior Secretary Harrison Loesch; Fred Bracken, the Interior Department Legal Counsel; Boyd Rasmussen of the BLM and others.

The Alaskan Natives were represented by Al Ketzler of the Tanana Chiefs, State Senator Ray Christianson, AFN President Don Wright and Laura Bergt.

"The prime purpose of this meeting was to allow the Alaskan Natives, for the first time, to present their side to the highest level of the federal government and to allow a full dialogue with the federal officials on the merits of our demands," said Mrs. Bergt.

"The Vice President opened the meeting by stating that in his conversation with President Nixon, the President wished to emphasize the spirit of his Indian message to Congress of July 8, 1970 which stressed Indian self-determination and that the settlement of the Alaska native land claims was very important. He also stated that for too long a terrible injustice has been done

(Continued on page 6)

### By Request—

### Aspinall May Co-sponsor AFN Bill in the House

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee convened Tuesday morning for hearings on the Alaska native land claims and received testimony from only two witnesses.

The two groups represented included the Wilderness Society and the Aleut League. The Wilderness Society asked that land claims legislation include provisions for land use management. They indicated full support for the position advanced by the

Alaska Federation of Natives.

AFN President Don Wright indicated that no testimony was offered because the administration was not yet able to present its position.

"The administration was not ready. We didn't feel it was necessary for us to testify without giving the administration a chance to come out with the bill," stated Wright.

Senator Henry Jackson, chairman of the Interior Committee, has agreed to schedule another day of hearings in order to give the administration and the AFN a chance to present their positions.

As most AFN board members in Washington, the AFN is concentrating its efforts in seeking support from members of the House.

Three teams of Alaska natives began visiting congressional offices Tuesday. They hope to request every congressman to sponsor the AFN legislation which is expected to be introduced in the House on Thursday.

In addition to the AFN board members, Capt. Bill English and Capt. Thomas Richards, Sr. of Wien Consolidated Airlines are also in Washington lobbying for

(Continued on page 6)

### Mentasta Lake Struggles to Retain Lands as State Selects

While most Alaskan native villages try to obtain a 60 million acre land claims settlement, the villagers of Mentasta Lake are fighting to maintain their ancestral village lands—their homes and surroundings.

Mentasta Lake, as well as several other villages in the Interior of Alaska, is located on land which has been selected by the State of Alaska under the provisions of the Statehood Act. The Bureau of Land Management

has already tentatively approved these site selections pending the end of the present land freeze.

Under two of the land claims bills presently in Congress, the villagers of Mentasta Lake and other villages on state lands will not retain title to their homes, their village site, and its surrounding area.

According to the provisions of the Senate land claims bill introduced by Senator Henry Jackson, the villagers involved

may select lands elsewhere—in areas which have not been selected by the State. The Aspinall bill, presently the only land bill in the House of Representatives, has no provision for villages on State selected lands.

Faced with this dilemma, the villagers of Mentasta Lake passed a resolution last week. They will not support any land claims bill which does not guarantee them title to their lands.

(Continued on page 6)