

Chiefs Say Bill 'Real Bad' ...

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money grant for the Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas revenues contained in the S. 2906.

This resolution was to be voted on and it was expected that it would be adopted.

Earlier, State Rep. John Sackett and president of the Tanana Chiefs said the following about the Secretary's new bill:

"The feeling of the delegates toward it is real bad."

"We will either ask for amendments to the bill or reject it totally," Sackett added.

Sackett said that the bill, if enacted, would not allow communities like Rampart, Stevens Village, Fort Yukon and Chalkyitsik to select lands because they are within a land withdrawal area.

The Yukon River basin was classified and withdrawn by Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall when plans were proposed to build Rampart Dam. The withdrawal was affected about two years ago.

Sackett said that another part in the bill that would establish a three-man commission which would implement the provision of the measure would be under the control of the Secretary of the Interior.

"This commission doesn't have to have natives as members and it doesn't say where it would be set up," Sackett pointed out. "It could be at Washington, D.C. for all we know."

John Sackett repeated that the general feeling among

the delegates was to reject the new Interior bill.

On the first day of the conference last Wednesday, Sackett said that the flat \$180 million offer of the bill to pay for lands lost was not adequate and that the 50,000 acre maximum for villages was far too small.

"But it's been approved by the Bureau of the Budget and has the best chance of passing," Sackett stated.

He also said that Secretary's new bill dwells on the reservation concept.

This concept has been frowned upon by the native people and it was reflected in the compromise bill S. 2906 that was drafted by Gov. Hickel's Land Claims Task Force, the State and the Interior Department.

The S. 2906 calls for outright title to lands and completely free from control of the Interior Department.

It was pointed out to the Tanana Chiefs conference that Secretary Udall had completely rejected the S. 2906 along with his own idea of compensation for lands from the Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas revenues.

He posed this idea in Anchorage in November, 1967 when he met with native leaders.

On the first day of the conference last Wednesday, all land bills that have drafted were reviewed for their merits and the review was conducted by Barry Jackson, attorney for the Fairbanks Native Association

and the Alaska Federation of Natives.

Twenty-two delegates from widely separated areas of Interior Alaska attended the conference.

They are: Wilma Ketzler, Nenana; Arland Dick, Tanana; Henry Wiehl, Rampart; Richard Martin, Canyon Village; Peter Simple, Katherine Peter, Fort Yukon; Rev. David Salmon, Venetie; Donald Joe, Tetlin; Titus Peter, Chalkyitsik; Andrew Isaac, Tanacross; Bill Williams, Hughes; Franklin Madras, Sr., Kaltag; Alfred Starr, Nenana; Andy Simon, Allakaket; Al Yaklin, Huslia;

Cora Demmert, Northway; Andy Demoski, Nulato; Ruby Taney, Cantwell; Ralph Perdue, Fairbanks; Luke Titus, Minto; Wilfred Evans, Bettles; Leroy Isaac, Northway; and John Sackett, Huslia.

Rumor: Big Mag To Print About Poverty in Alaska

A reliable rumor gives it that the Time Magazine is coming out this week with a four-page spread on native housing and poverty in Alaska.

It was also rumored that some Time Magazine people couldn't quite believe that people lived in such terrible housing and asked for confirmation by wire.

Absence of occupation is not rest.

Center Director Roxey Siverly Fired by CAA

Roxey Siverly, director of the Community Action Agency's Native Community Center was fired this week by the CAA Director C. Maurice Sorenson.

Siverly, an Athabaskan, has been the director of the center since February. He has, since that time, been busy renovating the building on 727 First Avenue in Fairbanks the CAA acquired for the center.

The center is roomy and pleasant with new paint job, new toilet facilities, snack bar and furniture from the General Service Administration surplus.

Siverly was responsible in getting some local business firms to donate material such as lumber and services like plumbing.

There has been rumors for sometime that Sorenson was trying to terminate Siverly.

Last Tuesday at the Fairbanks Native Association meeting, Sorenson was asked questions by the FNA members who had been favoring Siverly's retention as the director of the Native Community and Referral Center.

"He didn't say much but he skirted around the questions," said Siverly. "Even then, the Fairbanks Native Association came out solidly behind me."

The Center opened last Friday and Siverly was terminated the following Monday.

An open house was held Friday evening and "we've

had a pretty good turnout," said Betty Johnson, a board member of the Center and secretary of the FNA.

"It's going to be a really fine Center when it really gets going," said Betty Johnson. "People have already started calling for information."

The Center is set up to furnish information on employment, legal aid, Bureau of Indian Affairs, housing and on "anything the native people want to know, we will try and get the information," added Betty Johnson.

No replacement for Director Siverly has been announced to date.

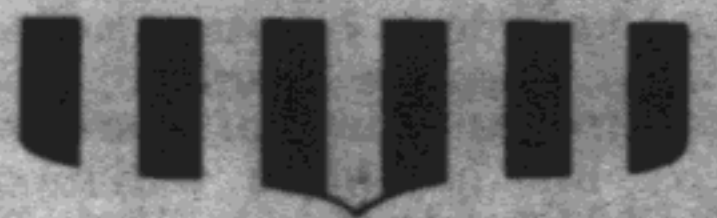
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