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Sen. Kennedy Sees Abject Poverty..

(Continued from page 6)

had dinner with Kotzebue native leaders. Topics of discussion included methods of improving education for rural natives and the native land claims situation. Kennedy and his party then departed to Barrow, where they spent the night.

Although Senator Kennedy was reluctant to make any statement regarding the findings of the Subcommittee on Indian Education, he did have several initial observations.

"I am obviously perplexed by the lack of secondary education opportunities, lack of native teachers, and the lack of the development of a curriculum which is perhaps of more relevance to the experience of the native people," the Senator stated.

BP Chairman Says He's Conservation Minded

By HELEN ATKINSON

FAIRBANKS, (SPECIAL)—British Petroleum Oil Corporation officials stopping in Fairbanks today after an inspection tour of North Slope operations were: Mr. Eric Drake, chairman of the board; Mr. Clive Hardcastle, president of BP North America; Mr. Geoffrey Larminie, area manager for Alaska; Mr. David Henderson, manager Trans Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS); and Mr. Dudley Knott, public relations man from New York.

It was Mr. Drake's first visit to Alaska and he said, "I am fascinated with it—it is wonderful—but a bit cold." (It was minus 35 with a 15 knot wind at Put No. 1 well site).

The chairman said BP was delighted to include Alaska in its worldwide operations because it is easier to work in an American country since "We speak the same language and have the same democratic principles."

In regard to conservation Mr. Drake replied, "We are very sensitive about looking after the resources of a country and looking after the animals and birds. We are in touch with Peter Scott, a famous naturalist, and will be sending an authority to Alaska soon to assure that every good conservation practice is maintained."

He said that in their own small country of England the natural woods and fields are carefully preserved and that BP is very much concerned with conservation.

When asked if BP had any administrative policy in regard to allowing their employees to hunt on the Slope, Mr. Larminie said that the men work 12 hour shifts seven days a week and are generally tired and don't have time to hunt.

They would have to comply with all of the game regulations and hunting laws. Besides he said "rabies are endemic to many arctic animals such as the fox and the lemming" and all of the BP employees have been warned not to make pets of the animals.

"Will the pipeline prevent caribou migrations?" a reporter asked. Whether the pipe is buried or run above ground it will have to be insulated. Above ground if a gravel cover is used it will slope enough to allow the mountain running caribou to pass over easily.

With some humor Mr. Henderson said, "If we use a commercial insulation on the pipe it may just be the type of food that caribou like!"—Which would create additional problems.

The 800 mile long pipeline will be built by Trans Alaska Pipeline System, which is 37 1/2%

owned by BP, 37 1/2% owned by Atlantic Richfield, and 25% owned by Humble Oil.

BP will be the operator for TAPS and Mr. David Henderson will be used in Anchorage and in charge of the pipeline construction.

Pipeline may be shipped to Alaska in 48" diameter 40 foot lengths, or, it may be fabricated in Alaska. Mr. Drake said, "We have gone out to tender for the pipe"—and explained that a tender is an "offer to do a job" and does not necessarily mean the lowest bid.

He said, "We do not know if it means fabrication in Timbuctoo, Alaska, Japan, or where."

The most important thing is the economics of operation. BP is investing some \$300 million in the line which will carry oil from the Arctic to a port on the Gulf of Alaska.

The pipeline will not be strung by helicopter but lengths delivered in place by road. A permanent road will be needed to the pumping stations, but only temporary road would be required for the pipeline construction should the route follow other than the ready-made winter-haul-road corridor.

When asked how many barrels of oil a day would be flowing through the pipeline, Mr. Drake smiled and said, "You do not think we would be building a 48 inch pipeline if we had nothing to put in it, do you?"

come experts they just go to Nome and Kotzebue and Barrow as our largest native villages and don't see the situation as it is in the small places. We will be going to a number of small villages," he added, and I am just delighted to see this."

Alaskan native leaders were similarly impressed.

Rep. William Hensley, of Kotzebue, said, "Many native leaders in the villages, and the natives themselves, are often depressed when they talk of the problems and nothing comes of their complaints. I think this trip gives the people a chance to talk about the problems and to feel that their problems are heard. After all, you can't go much further than Senator Kennedy, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Indian Affairs."

The president of the Alaska Federation of Natives, Emil Notti, also traveled with the Senator. "I have had much time to talk with the senators and discuss our position on land claims. Many of them are not acquainted with the field. I have also been able to talk with Senator Kennedy," he continued.

"... he is acquainted with the Field Committee Report, but not in detail. I am hoping that he will give a strong talk when it comes up in Congress."

Further meetings with Alaskan native leaders will be held in Barrow today. Because of the unity within the Arctic Slope Native Association and its strong policy stands, many expect this meeting to be one of the most intensive scheduled.

The party will depart Barrow Friday afternoon, stopping at Arctic Village and Ft. Yukon, arriving in Fairbanks at 4:30 p.m. this afternoon. In Fairbanks will be a meeting with native students from the University of Alaska commencing at 6:30.

Following this, at 7:00 p.m., will be a closed hearing which will be by invitation only to be held at Alaskaland.

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