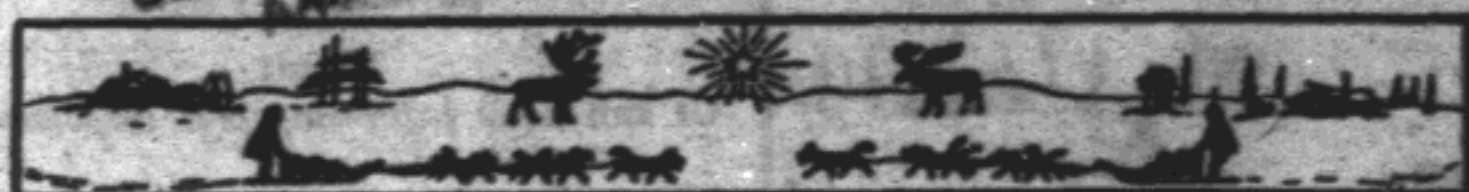


"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." — Voltaire

Tundra Times



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THE ENROLLMENT . . .

(Continued from page 1)

ions, the settlement could come in not to distant future. If it does, the relating factors, if not done in an expeditious manner, could delay the implementation of the final solution and one of these is the enrollment of the native people involved.

The Alaska Federation of Natives is now undertaking the enrollment of the native people of Alaska. This is going to be a big job, if not a monumental one, and slow response by our people at the initial stages could delay the implementation of, say, the distribution of the money realized from the land claims settlement. Whatever final deliberations will decide, there could be possibilities that some of the revenues might be distributed on per capita basis or based on each person enrolled. At any rate, the roll will play an important part in determining what persons will qualify as recipients.

We should, perhaps, take note and learn from the experience of the Tlingit and Haida people in their enrollment effort for the judgment money expected through compensation for extinguished lands resulting from the creation of the Tongass National Forest in Southeastern Alaska. Although we stand to be corrected, we believe the Southeastern Indians started the job two or three years ago with a deadline set but this had to be extended once or twice. We also recall that they expected to enroll nine to 12,000 people but the list has now exceeded 17,000. Those responsible for the enrollment found that the work was a hard one as well as time consuming.

Correspondingly, the AFN effort to enroll the major portion of the native population of Alaska is going to be a difficult one. If we may hazard a guess, the number could exceed 50,000. There could be several thousands more living outside of the state and this number could swell the total to 70,000. Anyway one looks at the undertaking, it will be a huge job.

The native leaders in each community in Alaska should urge their people to enroll as soon as possible. We would rather see AFN office in Anchorage swamped to its every nook and cranny with enrollments than to have it waste time waiting for enough names to work on. We don't even give a hoot whether AFN President Emil Notti swims in roll envelopes up to his neck. He'll find ways to expedite the listing of the roll. Persons can begin the swamp job by writing for enrollment forms, or blanks, to Alaska Federation of Natives, Box 3408, Anchorage, Alaska 99501. They can also call the AFN office for them at 279-2622.

Here in Fairbanks, the forms are available in the Tundra Times office, Chena Building, 510 2nd Avenue, Room 220. If the office is threatened with a swamp job, the editor is prepared to holler for volunteer help so the staff can continue to publish the newspaper.

Broadcasting in Stereo This Week at UA

New transmitting equipment for FM stereo broadcasting will be in operation at station KUAC-FM on the University of Alaska campus this week.

Delays in receiving special multiplex equipment prevented the student-operated station from meeting an earlier broadcast deadline of late November, according to Richard P. Dowling, chief engineer for KUAC-FM.

"We had problems in long delivery because radio stations across the nation are switching to stereo broadcasting. It's a new fad in the industry, and manufacturers have a backlog of orders in meeting the demand for multiplex equipment," Dowling said.

"Now that we have what
(continued on page 6)

Letters to the Editor

12/22/67

Dear Editor:

It's only three more days till Christmas. It is snowing today and it's cold out. It seems like that today (Friday) is Saturday because there is no school. School got out yesterday for our Christmas vacation. School starts again January 2.

Our science teacher, Mr. Emde, let us see the moon through a powerful telescope. We saw many craters. We also saw Venus.

Happy New Year to you all up north.

Sincerely,
Harold Riach
P.O. Box 603
Wrangell, Alaska

Poetry—

Secret of The Snow

The ground, now white, is covered with a cloak of purity.

The distant mountains, white over black, Hover watchfully above the city Like sentinels in a king's proud palace.

Soon I will be beyond those mountains, letting bittersweet forgetfulness run its callous, long, but healing course, For tomorrow will be As yesterday should have been today.

He was the first and only, but to him, I was no more than a fraction of time. A chapter in a book, closing. This was ecstasy's fierce pain— Loving, but not being loved.

Free, he has gone to his home And soon I go to mine. But I do not return the same For, since leaving, I have experienced The agony of love.

—L. SHARON BURNETTE

Shriver Reminded: Poverty at Nome

ARCTIC NATIVE BROTHERHOOD
Box 333
Nome, Alaska 99762

December 7, 1967

Mr. Sargent Shriver
Director,
Office of Economic Opportunity
Washington, D. C.

SUBJECT: Nome, Alaska

Dear Mr. Shriver:

I know you have had many complaints, but I wish to commend you on your public statement recently declaring Nome as "the worst slum area in America." You are very right in this statement.

In the past all other government men and politicians never came to see the real conditions of native housing and other living conditions. They usually came and were whisked away to a hotel. They make a talk at the Chamber of Commerce and then they leave.

Finally, after a hundred years, someone sees our true conditions. The radio people, the city fathers, and others are hollering about your statements. Some of these people live in Nome for years and do not know that these conditions exist less than a mile from them. They live in their own little world and try to run the local community. Many are here for only one or two years and then are gone again.

The Nome sewer system is set up so that it will never serve the majority of people who live in the Native sections. The city dump is located 300 yards from King Island Village (on outskirts of Nome) at the east end of the city. This dump is in use in winter for all waste and creates a terrible rat problem there. Since the villagers have no refrigerators food is stored in easy access to rats. Many of the villagers cannot afford the "honey-wagon" services and disposal of human waste outside the houses makes this condition even worse.

Almost all of the homes are one and two room frame shacks without insulation, any interior or exterior finishing, and single layer rough board floors. Usually four to twelve people live in each place. It is too bad that we were forced to move out of our sod houses because it was said that they are unsanitary. They were snug and warm. Now we must live in a cold frame house which cannot be heated. Two feet from the old oil-barrel stove, or something of that type, we can see our breath in the air. Many of the people cook on Coleman gasoline camp stoves. Most of them beach-comb in any kind of weather and in icy winds to get drift wood to burn for heat.

It seems that the only thing that was ever thought of about us was "welfare-ism". We are hoping that some kind of training program will be earmarked for Western Alaska. This place has mostly 80% unemployed or underemployed among the Native people.

We have sought many avenues for home loans for low income Natives. There are none, believe it or not. We are restricted from some grants such as E.D.A. for community halls because we live in a town over 2000 inhabitants—2800 in fact. We have applied for a home improvement training course grant from O.E.O. We hope it will be approved. It will help some.

We know that government property which belongs to all the people of the United States must be kept in good repair. Here, where many construction materials do not weather the same as in the Lower 48, many times things like siding change or painting seems to be done when it is not really necessary. It looks like someone sends an order to 'paint every so many years, or change parts of houses every so often.' All that money spent and materials used is needed badly to improve Native housing. Icy cold floors, wind blowing through the houses, and places to put our waste materials would be much better for everyone than putting automatic unnecessary maintenance into BIA or other governmental housing. Maybe BIA and others don't realize this. We are certainly not against attractive and good sound housing for all who come up here to help us. Taking care of governmental housing improves our communities too. It seems though, that millions go into housing for the BIA employees in Alaska, but not a penny for the housing for the ones they are here to serve.

Thank you for coming to Nome, and for all your efforts and interest on behalf of the Natives of Alaska.

Sincerely,
/s/ Jerome Trigg, Sr.
President
Arctic Native Brotherhood