

Borbridge Chides State on Plan to Select Forest Lands

In an apparent move to select 400,000 acres of forest lands before the native land claims settlement in Congress, the state, spearheaded by Commissioner of Natural Resources Thomas E.

Kelly, is laying plans to select the acreage in Southeastern Alaska.

Distressed by this move, John Borbridge, president of the Tlingit and Haida Central Council,

wrote Gov. Keith H. Miller a letter of caution regarding the selection plan.

Thomas Kelly had told the Juneau Chamber of Commerce that the state was forging ahead

to select 400,000 acres of national forest lands coming to it through an authorization of the Statehood Act.

"All our energies will be spent to culminate our selection, and

when I say culminate, I mean the whole 400,000 acres," Kelly told the chamber.

"While I am more distressed than alarmed by the recent state-

(Continued on page 6)

Tundra Times



Inupiat Paitot People's Heritage

Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak

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TESTIMONIES FAVOR AFN BILL

Overwhelming Support For Measure Brought Out at Land Hearings

The House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs ended its week-long tour of Alaska Saturday after conducting two days of field hearings, both in Fairbanks and Anchorage.

During the Friday hearings in Fairbanks, the congressmen heard testimony which was mostly favorable to land claims legislation proposed by the Alaska Federation of Natives.

The Alaska Natives who had testified largely emphasized two points. One, that the native position in the claims requested minimal compensation.

They told the committee that the AFN request for 40 million acres of land, \$500 million cash settlement, and a two per cent overriding royalty is just and perhaps barely sufficient.

COMPETENCE

Secondly, native witnesses impressed upon congressmen that Alaskan Natives have demonstrated competence and have established valid priorities in the

use of settlement proceeds.

Native witnesses who had

come to the Fairbanks hearings from a number of villages in interior and Northern Alaska

illustrated that, under the AFN figure of 40 million acres, the villages would receive only from 5 to 10 per cent of the lands they do now use and occupy.

Many of the witnesses testified

as a delegation representing their village. They presented to the committee maps illustrated with trap lines, family cabins, fishing camps, and timber-harvesting areas to illustrate the land used to support their village.

In each case, the land which

they used was significantly larger than that which they claimed through the AFN.

Other native witnesses, from both urban areas and the villages, testified as to the competency demonstrated by Alaska Natives.

They represented a broad cross-section of native businessmen, teachers, politicians, and natives engaged in other professions.

POSITIONS OF RESPECT

Each of these indicated that they and other Alaska Natives,

(Continued on page 6)



CONGRESSMAN ASPINALL—The usually stern and crusty individual, Congressman Wayne Aspinall is caught by the camera in a lively and smiling encounter with the Tlingit Indians in

their tribal regalia in Juneau last week during the fact finding and land claims hearing tour of the state by the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of which Aspinall is chairman.

Students Need Holiday Money

The Nome Nugget reports that 50 young people at the William E. Beltz High School are looking for part time jobs so they can earn money to go to their village homes for Christmas holidays.

The Beltz school has predominantly native students from almost all villages in the north.

Mrs. Linda Ellanna, dormitory director, wrote to the Nugget last week and said that the school had written to parents and village councils and found that 50 students had parents who were destitute and could not afford to pay for their children's plane fare home for the holidays.

"These students," Mrs. Ellanna wrote, "are willing to do any type of job offered to them to make at least some portion of this money."

"If you could somehow give us some newspaper publicity concerning this problem in the immediate future, it would greatly be appreciated by each and every student at Beltz, and their parents in the villages."

"I personally would appreciate anything you could do for us."

Mrs. Ellanna said that if two-thirds of the students have their total round-trip fares paid up by Nov. 15, there would be a two-week vacation.

Tragic Point Hope Fire Claims Lives of Two Young Eskimo Men

Two Eskimo young men died in a tragic fire at the village of Point Hope last Saturday October 18.

Dead are Andrew Frankson, Jr., 25, and Michael Howarth, 19, in a home belonging to Joseph Frankson, brother of Andrew Frankson. Up until press time, the cause of the fire was not known.

Claire Fejes, Fairbanks, who was at Point Hope at the time of the fire, said that as the rapid fire blazed some whaling bombs that were stored somewhere in the house exploded as well as the propane tank for the home.

"The blaze was so terribly fast that no one could do anything," said Mrs. Fejes.

Andrew Frankson was recent-

Veteran Joins Scout Battalion

Tommy Lee, former guardsman from Ambler, Alaska reenlisted in the First Scout Battalion. Tommy will be assigned as a Patrol Sergeant, E-7, in Company "C".

Tommy has a total of 20 years of previous National Guard and Active Army Service.

ly discharged from the Army after serving his tour of duty in Germany. Michael Howarth joined the Navy over a year ago. He was reportedly wounded somewhere around the Vietnamese waters.

Mrs. Fejes said that Mrs. Aggie Frankson's small hotel was endangered by the fire and almost burned. Mrs. Frankson is the mother of Andrew Frankson.

Both young fire victims came from large families at Point Hope.

Edmondson Gives Newspaper Unexpected Praise at Hearing

At the conclusion of the House Interior and Insular Affairs field hearings on native land claims in Anchorage Saturday, Rep. Ed Edmondson (D-Okla.) expressed his sympathy to Rep. Howard Pollock for having such a newspaper as the Anchorage Daily Times in his state.

Rep. Edmondson attacked an editorial, entitled "The Goldberg Bill," which appeared in the Anchorage Times Saturday. He labeled the editorial "journalism at its lowest level."

The assembled crowd of witnesses and observers gave resounding applause as Edmondson stated, "you don't have to read more than two or three lines . . .

to learn how very little respect the editorial writer has for the facts."

Edmondson said it was "gutter journalism" for the Anchorage Times to say it was against discrimination and at the same time entitle the editorial "The Goldberg Bill."

He contrasted the Anchorage Times' editorial with the Tundra Times' headline story of last week, which criticized the committee for preparing a poor schedule. Displaying the issue, Edmondson termed the story "straight-forward reporting."

The editorial in the daily evening newspaper, edited by Robert Atwood, claimed that

Natives would receive "hundreds of billions of dollars" through the proposed 2 per cent overriding royalty. Edmondson stated this charge was "simply untrue."

The proposals in the Alaska Federation of Natives' bill, arrived at in a series of meetings of the AFN board of directors, was consistently referred to as "Mr. Goldberg's proposals" or "this Goldberg Line."

The Anchorage Times also alleged the AFN bill would "seal off approximately 97 per cent of the entire area of Alaska."

The paper used such adjectives as "bombshell" and "shocking" and "real plum" as well as "bur-

(Continued on page 6)