

# ISEGR Income Study Points Urban and Rural Differences

COLLEGE—The ratio of Alaska per capita income to that of the rest of the United States has declined substantially during the past 18 years, according to the current issue of the "Alaska Review of Business and Economic Conditions."

Although Alaska's per capita income in 1959 was 1.59 times per capita income in the United States, 1967 Alaska per capita income was only 1.16 times that of the U.S.

The article, which was published by the University of Alaska's Institute of Social, Economic and Government Research, compares personal income in Alaska to income levels in the United States as a whole and analyzes income distribution patterns within the state.

Entitled "Personal Income Patterns in Alaska" and authored by James W. Sullivan, statistical programs specialist with the institute, the 12-page article pays special attention to distribution of income by racial-cultural groups within Alaska, and to differences between urban and rural income levels.

The article is based upon a series of 18 tables containing historical data on Alaska's income, population, and living costs.

Both Alaskan and U.S. per capita incomes have risen since 1950. However, Alaska per capita income in 1950 was \$2,385, as compared to a U.S. per capita income of \$1,496. By 1967, the margin between the two had narrowed, with Alaska per capita income standing at \$3,658 while U.S. per capita income was \$3,159.

According to the report, there have been year-to-year per capita income increases in Alaska of 10% or better on only three occasions in the past 18 years—in 1951, 1960, and 1964. Each time, construction played a major

role. There have also been, however, significant increases caused by increased utilization of Alaska's natural resources.

Referring to the 9% increase in per capita income between 1966 and 1967, the article points out that this was the first time since 1963-1964 that Alaska per capita income growth matched or exceeded that of the entire United States.

"The explanation is in part the continued high level of construction payrolls combined with a dramatic rise in oil and gas wage totals," the article said.

Accompanying those developments was a continued gradual increase of wages in government and nongovernment services and an increase in revenues from Alaska's developing fishing and timber industries.

The meaning of Alaska per capita income in terms of living standards is also influenced by price levels in the state. "In 1967, the ratio of Alaskan prices to those in Seattle ranged from 1.32 in Fairbanks to 1.18 in

## Supporters . . .

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The committee members include Roger DuBrock, Rev. Neil Monroe, pastor, Presbyterian church, John Gunderson, Sheldon Jackson student, Syd Haagen, Joe Curgus, Miss Isabelle Miller, Bill Mearig, Dr. Walter Massey.

"The committee function will be to explain to the public the legal, historic, and moral aspects of the native land claims," said Richard Miller of Sitka.

Miller was in Fairbanks this week to help to organize a chapter of the SOS in the city.

On March 4, in Juneau, a permanent statewide executive board will be selected.

"A number of prominent Alaskans have consented to serve on this body," said Miller.

Program for the March 4 Juneau meeting will include the presentation by Rep. William Hensley the native viewpoint of the land problem. Presentation of the legal aspects will be made by some qualified attorney familiar with the land claims problem.

Moral aspects of the land claims will be presented by Dr. Fred McGinnis, president of the Alaska Methodist University. Juneau attorney, Avron M. Gross, will be the master of ceremony.

"The Supporters of Settlement organization is open to all who are interested in a prompt and equitable settlement of the native land claims. All Alaskans should stand united, not only for the benefit of the native people but for the good of all Alaskan citizens," stated Richard Miller, acting state chairman.

Ketchikan. All of these price ratios exceed the Alaska-to-U.S. per capita income ratio. This indicates lower average living standards in Alaska than in the U.S. as a whole."

A portion of the study based on 1960 census data indicates that there are great numbers of Alaskans living at extremely low income levels and a large number living at relatively high levels, "...with surprisingly few in the middle ranges."

Most of those living at low income levels are Alaskan natives, many of whom live in the rural areas of the state.

On the other hand, most of the larger urban areas of Alaska have experienced marked increases in per capita income, and "Median income of urban residents is twice the rural median," the report explains.

The article concludes that actual buying power per person and living standards are not improving in the rural areas of the state, although living standards are increasing in the large urban centers.

As a consequence, disparities in living standards in Alaska are continuing to increase.

Free copies of the article are available from the Institute of Social, Economic and Government Research, University of Alaska, College, Alaska 99701.

## Nunivak Women Knit Qiviut Scarves

COLLEGE—The first qiviut scarves knitted by women of Nunivak Island have been purchased by the University of Alaska Musk Ox Project.

The scarves, knitted from the soft underwool of the musk ox, are being stockpiled by the Musk Ox Project for eventual marketing at exclusive stores in New York City and other fashion centers. Such scarves could retail up to \$100 each but no prices have been established.

The native women of the village of Mekoryuk on Nunivak Island recently underwent training in the knitting of qiviut from Mrs. Lillian C. Schell, a textile specialist with the project. She taught the women a new lacy knit style which is complimentary to the texture of the qiviut.

"I find their eagerness and ability to knit super-fine, ultra-soft qiviut into delicate beautiful scarves and stoles most gratifying and exciting," Mrs. Schell said. "We are presently stockpiling these knitted items for promotional use and eventual marketing."

The knitting method Mrs. Schell is teaching was recently developed by Mrs. Dorothy Reade of Eugene Ore. The system is based on use of descriptive symbols to designate basic stitches rather than confusing rows of abbreviated terms in which traditional patterns are printed.

Mrs. Schell, who conducted the workshops during the Christmas holidays last December, said she has had many requests from native women who want to learn the knitting method.

The four-year-old musk ox domestication program is under the direction of John Teal, Jr., head of the Institute of Northern Agricultural Research. The institute is conducting a similar project in northern Canada.

# Geo. Attla Loses 75 Mi. Sled Dog Race by 9 Sec.

The 1969 Fur Rendezvous Dog Sled Race in Anchorage last weekend was one of the closest and most competitive on record.

Sunday, the third day of the race, proved to be the most exciting.

George Attla, three-time winner from Huslia, was defending his title from Dr. Roland Lombard, who sought his fifth Fur Rendezvous win.

On the trail, much of it lined thick with Anchorage spectators, Attla and Lombard jugged the lead back and forth.

In the last quarter-mile of the race, Attla again passed Lombard to finish a mere 25 yards ahead of him.

Attla had received the record breaking time of 97:59 for the third day. Exhausted, he collapsed and had to be helped to his feet.

When the overall results were tabulated, Dr. Lombard was declared the winner with only nine seconds over the time of George Attla. Lombard had achieved the distinction of being the only man to win five Fur Rendezvous championships.

Placing third overall was Joe Redington of Anchorage. He was followed in fourth position by Isaac Okleasik of Teller.

Racing only six dogs and finishing in fifth overall was John Phillip of Bethel.

Earl Norris followed him in sixth position, retaining that place throughout the race. Lefty Shallock of Fairbanks was seventh in overall standings.

## Legal Rights . . .

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Commission, John Vance, Chairman of United States Indian Claims Commission, and other distinguished panelists, the proceedings will be conducted with a view to maximum participation and encouraging the contributions of the diverse group of knowledgeable persons who will attend.

Herbert Nayokpuk finished with good times throughout the race, despite a costly mistake on the first day of the race, when he missed the trail and wandered several miles off the course. Nayokpuk, from Shismaref, placed in eighth overall standings.

Behind him, in ninth place, was Chester Topkok of Teller, and in tenth place was Chris Camping, a musher from Amersfoort, Holland.

Despite his overall loss, Attla was the big money winner, collecting a total of \$1,600. Dr. Lombard won \$1,300 and Redington took a total of \$850.

## Facilities Grant

The office of Senator Mike Gravel announced a Neighborhood Facilities Grant Reservation of \$199,937. to Bethel, Alaska.

The grant is to assist the city of Bethel, in the Wade-Hampton district, in financing its proposed construction of a multi-purpose community center.

The grant will cover about 3/4 of the estimated total development costs of \$272,583. The center will be located in the downtown area of Bethel.

## BIA . . .

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a new structure for administering this obligation. . . . A structure which is regional in character, which shares its decisions with Indians, which encourages economic well-being, and which solves the educational dilemma in the villages."

The senator said that all the phases of native problems are interrelated, and cannot be attacked piecemeal, or in isolation.

Senator Gravel pointed to ways in which Alaska natives have organized to help themselves as a model, other Indian groups could follow.

## Asbestos . .

(Continued from page 1)

a state of anxiety and felt that what the village can benefit from would be handicapped by lack of money to properly explore it and prove it.

Willie Juneby had been under doctor's care in Fairbanks this week and learned of the staked claim. He said the place where he placed his tripod was "not serpentinized" indicating that what he marked might be more substantial.

"We don't have the money like the big companies," said Juneby. "I'm gonna do it—prove it."

"I have taken a piece of it and pulled out fibers to see how long I could pull them before they break," added Charlie Biederman. "We want to take part in it."

## Opinion on Daylight Saving . . .

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

\*Section 1. AS 01 is amended by adding a new chapter to read: CHAPTER 15. TIME.

Sec. 01.15.010. STANDARD TIME. The standards of time specified for Alaska in the Federal Uniform Time Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-387; 80 Stat. 107; 15 U.S.C. 260 et seq.), with the zone limits defined by the Interstate Commerce Commission under that Act, apply throughout the year in this state without the advance in time (commonly known as daylight saving time) set out in sec. 3(a) of that Act. All offices and departments of the state government, all city and borough governments, whether home rule or otherwise, and every person operating or maintaining a place of business activity shall use the appropriate standard of time.

\*Sec. 2. If the Federal Uniform Time Act of 1966 is amended to permit a state situated within more than one time zone to use daylight saving time for less than all of its zones, that portion of Alaska on Pacific Standard Time shall annually use Pacific Daylight Time for the period prescribed in that Act, beginning in the year following the amendment.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S OPENING UNDER EDA GRANT UNDER AFN

The Northwest Economic Planning and Development Regional Board is seeking applications for a staff Economic, Planning, and Development Field Representative to be located in Kotzebue.

His duties will be to conduct research and technical studies in planning and development work in Census Districts 21, 22, 23. His job will involve public relation work with the villages and Governmental authorities in the area. He will organize, execute and recommend to his Board of Directors courses of action on special projects. He should study and review all public programs such as highways, port development, public works, airport development, school locations and military installations work to coordinate these efforts towards the overall economic benefit of the Region. He should review and update statistical information and general plan proposals as need arises.

He should be knowledgeable or educationally capable of learning modern planning principals and practices. He should have a capacity to learn and understand social and economic problems and principal of engineering, architectural and public administration. He must be able to work independently with minimum supervision conducting research. He must be able to communicate information pertinent to his job assignment in a clear, concise form either orally, written or a graphic form.

The following things will be considered of primary importance:

1. The ability to converse and communicate in the Inupiak language.
2. Ability to understand the social and cultural structure of Eskimo society and village and their organization structures.
3. Length of continuous residency in and familiarity with the area and the villages of the area.
4. Must be able to relocate or reside in Kotzebue, Alaska, if hired.

If interested, forward resume of education and work experience to the Alaska Federation of Natives, Attn: Fred Selkregg, Economic Development Coordinator, 1689 C Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99501.

Date of hire is tentatively set for April 1, 1969.