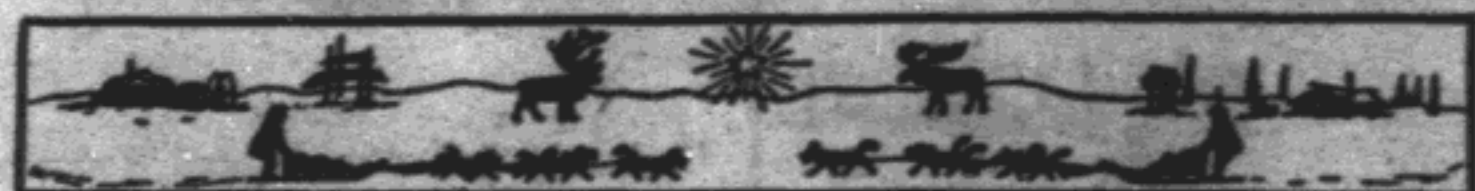


"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." - Voltaire

Tundra Times



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NEW APPROACH TO POVERTY?

Ever since Alaska State Community Action Program was established in Alaska, the poverty agency has been beset with difficulties and upheavals that have been highly disturbing to the people it supposed to serve. While intrigue and bickering progresses within the organization, dispensing of services to the poor are hampered and in the end the poverty stricken suffer the consequences. There is something seriously wrong with the setup of the ASCAP. Perhaps a drastic change or a new approach to service the poor might be a desirable aim at this time.

With this in mind, we think that there should be a serious inquiry into the possibilities and difficulties, should they exist, of working through the Indian Division of the Office of Economic Opportunity in Washington, D. C. This office is under the direction of Jim Wilson, an Indian, who has done a good job of directing poverty programs of his people throughout the Lower states. Wilson works through regional poverty supervisors who know the problems of their particular areas. The Indian Desk in Washington also has three universities from which to tap technical assistance in its work to alleviate poverty in Indian communities.

We feel that there is a pressing need that the role of the Indian Division of the OEO in Washington be clarified with regard to the Indians, Aleuts and Eskimos in Alaska. How would it work if it was applied to the poverty areas in our State? There is also a need to develop some sort of philosophy for the poverty program in our rural areas which are unique and which are very different from any other area in the United States.

Perhaps a regional aspect, or a regional concept, should be explored in which regional native organizations could work with the Indian Desk in Washington. For instance, the North Slope area would know its problems much more thoroughly than it would know those in the Athabascan country, the interior of Alaska, or those in the Southeastern part of the state where cultures and customs are quite different.

The regional concept would also help rid the poverty effort of political intrigues as has been noted, and found to be rampant, in the present setup of the ASCAP.

If the regional idea is pursued, and whatever culmination of ideas are established, one integral part of it should be the inclusion of the University of Alaska from which technical assistance could be drawn for the application of the poverty effort.

We think the idea is worth serious thought. Our native leaders should certainly think this over because it could mean improved service to our rural areas that sorely need maximal application of poverty needs. Under the present setup, these needs could be forgotten or very little could be done for the outlying areas.

LETTERS to EDITOR

Sept. 13, 1967
Box 603
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Editor:

I am writing this letter for my brother Harold, because he has lots of school work to do. He has 50 words to write and their meanings. He is doing this because he and some other boys talked in the class. It is raining almost all day long. Harold sold all the newspapers. He puts them in a big plastic bag so they won't get ruined by the rain when he is riding his bike. Enclosed is a check for the 80 papers he sold.

Sincerely,
Margaret Riach

Dear Mr. Rock:

Thank you so much for letting our Harold see Fairbanks this summer. He thoroughly enjoyed the entire trip, and says he'd like to visit again with you, and Miss Turner and the families he stayed with, and all the other nice people that he met. It was a very happy experience for him and we are glad that you invited him.

Enclosed are post card pictures of Wrangell's High School Band. They perform a musical welcome each time the Prince George or the Princess Patricia tour ships stop here. Harold sometimes plays with the band, as do a few other junior-high students.

Sincerely,
Mr & Mrs Don Riach

Poetry—

From—
THE WRITERS READER
(The Institute of American Indian Arts)

My Miracle Hill

*I stand upon my miracle hill,
Wondering of the yonder
distance,
Thinking, when will I reach
there?*

*I stand upon my miracle hill.
The wind whispers in my
ear.
I hear the songs of old ones.*

*I stand upon my miracle hill.
My loneliness I wrap around
me.
It is my striped blanket.*

*I stand upon my miracle hill
And send out touching
wishes
To the world beyond hand's
reach.*

*I stand upon my miracle hill.
The bluebird that flies
above
Leads me to my friend, the
white man.
I come again to my miracle
hill.
At last, I know the all of
me—
Out there, beyond, and here
upon my hill.*

-Emerson Blackhorse Mitchell

Emil Notti, Pollock Differ on Voting

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Washington, D. C. 20515

September 11, 1967

Mr. Emil Notti, President
ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVE ASSOCIATIONS
P. O. Box 3408
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Notti,

In reference to your column in the September 1 issue of TUNDRA TIMES, I am afraid you were misinformed. I voted for the Interior Appropriations Bill, H.R. 9029, on April 27, 1967, when the measure passed the House 376-11. Furthermore, I voted against a motion to reduce the appropriation by five percent. This motion was defeated 231 to 158. For your information, I am enclosing copies of pages H 4743-4745 of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of that date showing my votes on H.R. 9029.

I am fully aware of the importance to Alaska of the funds contained in this bill. It was for that very reason that I opposed the five percent reduction. The bill then went to the Senate where certain changes were made. The joint House-Senate Conference Committee reported back to the House on June 8. The report appeared to contain a substantial cut in funds for the Bureau of Mines that could have affected Alaska. I did not agree with such a cut since I believe an accelerated minerals program is vital to our state. I therefore voted against the report. A vote against the report is not a vote against the bill.

I will be happy to get on the radio and explain my vote to the people on this or any other measure. I do hope, however, that such misunderstanding can be avoided in the future. As you know, I maintain an office in Anchorage. Should you have any question concerning my voting, I would appreciate your contacting the Anchorage office or me directly.

Cordially,

Howard W. Pollock
The Congressman for Alaska

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
P. O. Box 515
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

September 19, 1967

Honorable Howard W. Pollock
U. S. Representative
1507 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Pollock:

In your letter of September 11 you say I was misinformed in what I said in my TUNDRA TIMES column. However, your letter makes it plain that I was not; you admit voting against the conference report that included appropriations for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Division of Indian Health. This vote on June 8 was the final opportunity for you to favor or oppose the appropriations and you chose to oppose. In your letter you say you voted against the appropriations because these "appeared" to reduce the appropriations for the Bureau of Mines. Did it or did it not do so? I don't find such a cut proposed in the report.

You might have chosen to support the bill because it provided \$2½ million more for Indian health, education, and welfare than the bill you earlier supported. But you voted no.

I will be glad to discuss this further with you the next time you are in Alaska.

Sincerely yours,

Emil Notti

Scout Battalion Makes Gruening 'Honorary Eskimo Scout'

BETHEL, ALASKA, Sept-ember 15-Senator Gruening, who in the early days of World War II as governor of Alaska organized the Alaska Territorial Guard, was recently inducted into the Second Scout Battalion of the Alaska Army National Guard

as an "Honorary Eskimo Scout."

The ceremony took place in the armory of the Second Scout Battalion at Bethel, while Senator Gruening attended a course of instruction for noncommissioned officers

(Continued on page 6)