



# ESKIMO WOMAN NAMED JUDGE



**ANCIENT THONG LINE**—Ruth and Reuben Towksjshea of Point Hope are fashioning a rawhide thong as did their ancestors centuries ago. Ruth had placed the large oogruk (bearded seal) skin in a container in a moderately warm room in its own oil until the hair peeled off. The skin had been thoroughly fleshed. Reuben is using a special

razor-sharp cutting knife to cut a half inch thong round and round from the skin until an unbroken line of 200 feet or more is sliced. The line is stretched taut between poles and allowed to dry. When thoroughly dried, the thong will be used for bindings or in place of rope because it is very strong.

—Photo by SHEILA TURNER

## Annual AFN Meet Convenes At Anchorage

The annual Federation of Natives conference convened yesterday at 10:00 a.m. at the Federation of the Blind Building at 505 Northern Lights Boulevard in the City of Anchorage.

The conference opened with a minute of silence in memory of the late Mr. Oscar Craig who died recently. Craig was the Sergeant at Arms for the AFN. During much of his life, he had been an active member of the Alaska Native Brotherhood. Invocation was given by Rev. Fr. Nickolas Harris of the Russian Orthodox Church and a choir rendition was given by the Russian

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## F. Peratrovich Calls For Forestry Hearing

Frank Peratrovich, chairman of the West Coast Development Association of the Prince of Wales Island in Southeastern Alaska, is asking the Alaska Congressional delegation in Washington, D. C., urging them to use their influence in granting a public hearing "in the immediate future in regards to changing the present timber management policy of the U. S. Forest Service in Southeastern Alaska and to modify their method of conducting the sale of timber to avoid monopolistic tendencies that have been the results of recent sales."

A meeting in Ketchikan

last August attended by Deputy Chief of the Forest Service, M. M. Nelson, Regional Forester W. H. Johnson of Juneau, Gerry Van Gilst of the Forest Service in Ketchikan and Frank Peratrovich of Klawack. Peratrovich said was supposedly to explore "if the Forest Service felt a hearing was necessary and also what type of hearing

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## Gov. Creates Commission to Look Into Native Job Situations

Last week, Governor Walter J. Hickel appointed a ten-member Rural Affairs Commission, Labor Task Force to which he referred as an employment advisory commission to the Governor.

The task force held its first meeting at the Captain Cook Hotel last Tuesday and elected Harry Carter of Kodiak as its chairman.

The Commission, the Governor said in his letter to the members, was created to advise the State Chief

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## Nora Guinn of Bethel Appointed to Serve in 4th Judicial District

A 47 year old Bethel woman, diminutive and four foot eleven inches tall and 98 pounds, became a District Judge on October 3 this month at Nome.

Mrs. Nora Guinn, who for 26 years had been a public servant and benefactor for her people, was sworn in as a District Judge for the 4th Judicial District with headquarters at Bethel.

The unique and impressive ceremony was conducted by Judge Hugh Connelly of Fairbanks after the authorization was signed by Judge Everett Hepp, also of Fairbanks.

At that moment, Judge Nora Guinn attained the highest position in the Alaska court system ever to be held by one of her people.

In submitting information and data about his wife, Charlie Guinn said:

"Please forgive a proud and happy husband for blowing the horn for his wife. You have probably heard that Nora was appointed District Judge at Nome last week... As far as we can determine this is the first time such an honor has been given an Alaskan Native... We are all so doggoned proud of her and want to give this as much publicity as possible..."

Judge Guinn began her public service shortly after she married Charles W.

Guinn in 1941 when the couple moved to the village of Tununak on Nelson Island on the Bering Sea.

"Here she started her career of helping her people which has continued for 26



Judge Nora Guinn

years," said Charlie Guinn. "There were few travelling doctors and nurses in those days and, in addition to teaching school, she delivered babies, dispensed medicine and cared for the sick and injured."

In the late forties, she and her family moved to Marshall on the Lower Yukon River where she

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## Editorial—

## Signally Qualified

A tiny Eskimo woman—98 pounds and four feet eleven inches tall—became a District Judge this month in a swearing-in ceremony at the City of Nome. It must have been a proud moment for the little lady who for 26 years had championed justice for her people.

Judge Nora Guinn of Bethel, Alaska is signally qualified for the job to which she was recently appointed. She has the respect and admiration of many, many people with whom she has come in contact through the many years in the past. She has keen knowledge of her people and deep insight to their problems along with kindness and understanding. These qualities should serve as unqualified attributes for Nora Guinn to be one of the best loved public officials of the Southwestern Alaska.

Our hearty congratulations to Nora who, we are certain, will wear the black robes of a District Judge with honor.

## Other Voices—

## Bi-Lingual Education Stressed

Charles N. Zellers, the new BIA head of education is for bi-lingual education, according to a report from Washington. Mr. Zellers was a U.S. Office of Education official, who was named to replace Dr. Carl L. Marburger.

His feeling about bi-lingualism fits in with the present trend on the Navajo reservation. At the Rough

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