

Native Land Claims - Significant Issue

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state would get behind the Natives in their push for a equitable land claims settlement from Congress. At first, Hickel indicated he was in favor of natives receiving only the land around their village but in the heat of the campaign came out for a much more generous settlement. After he was elected, he had numerous meetings with Native leaders in Juneau and Anchorage. The Natives were asking for 60 million acres, plus royalty, and large cash payment. Finally, Hickel agreed with the Native leaders that a generous settlement was in the best interest of the state and pushed through the Republican controlled legislature a bill calling for state participation in the land claims settlement if the settlement came within a year.

But Hickel was named Secretary of Interior and Secretary of State Keith Miller became governor. Henry Pratt was appointed as an assistant to the governor and relations between the governor's office and Native leaders began quickly to deteriorate. At once a hard line on Native land claims was taken. Not only did the governor's office not support a generous settlement, but it openly opposed such a settlement. And the new governor said state participation in the settlement was out of the question.

All the meetings and negotiations of the Natives with former Governor Hickel in reaching a unified position on the settlement were to no avail, because Governor Miller's position was quite different from that of Hickel. And Governor Miller and Native leaders put forth contradicting positions to the U.S. House and Senate Interior and Insular Affairs committees. In the meantime, Hickel, as Interior secretary, went back to his earlier position taken prior to the 1966 election, that Natives should receive only one or two townships of land around their villages.

The handling of the Native land claims bills in Congress has been most baffling, particularly because there has been so many behind-the-scenes closed door compromises and maneuverings. The bill that was passed late in the session by the Senate is a monstrosity. It contains a number of provisions not related to Native land claims, provisions designed to spell the demise of the land claims bill itself. One provision calls for another five year land freeze, a provision certainly opposed by the great majority of Alaskans. A second provision calls for competitive leasing only, a provision hotly opposed by independent oil men. And a third provision calls for termination of Bureau of Indian Affairs services within five years. The latter provision is designed to pressure the Indians in the lower states, who fear BIA termination, to oppose the land claims measure. But most important it provides for only 12 million acres of land for the Natives and the Natives

Rabid Dogs and Wild Foxes Reported in Alaska Peninsula

JUNEAU—Several recent cases of rabies have been reported in dogs and wild foxes on the Alaska Peninsula, the Department of Fish and Game reported today.

Persons living in the Alaska Peninsula area or traveling to it are urged to exercise caution, officials said.

Biologists say that the disease is always present in some wild

foxes and wolves and that animals which display unusual behavior may be rabid.

Infected animals often are excitable or sickly and persons attacked by a fox should seek prompt medical attention.

The head of the animal should be delivered to a Fish and Game Department or Health Department office so that it can be examined for rabies.

Rabies is a rare disease for humans in Alaska but is always fatal unless promptly treated.

consider this unacceptable.

What Alaska Natives must decide is which candidate for governor, Keith Miller or William A. Egan, will join with them in presenting a united front in Washington, D.C., on the land claims issue. And non-Native Alaskans should also ponder this question, a significant one involving the future of Alaska.

—The Pioneer...ALL ALASKA WEEKLY

WHO IS FOR ORBECK ? We are — All 57 of us !

We 57 "chipped in" so we could tell everyone that we are on the re-elect Orbeck band wagon—and voting for him also.

All of us know him personally. Most of us have followed his work as a member of the legislature. Many of us have had direct contact with him through the years in construction work.

All of us know his record and we wish everybody did.

We wish, too, that we were "wheels" to somebody besides our wives and families, and the fellows where we spend our money. If we were, we could get more mileage from our endorsement because people would want to copy what we did. But this is out. Most of us can't even tell our wives how they should vote—and be certain that they will do as we tell them.

In one way, it makes little difference. Big or small, our endorsement couldn't carry any more good wishes for Ed Orbeck.

We want him to win because we know he does the best job, and we KNOW that he is fair to everyone. We think he will be elected again. After all, he had the most votes in the primary election.

But win or lose, we will still be for Ed Orbeck.

That is what we want everyone to know.

RE-ELECT-

ED ORBECK
Representative

Dist. 16

Paid Political Ad by Committee to Reelect Ed Orbeck
Chairmen: Jonathan Solomon, P.O. Box 97, Fort Yukon, Alaska
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Wilbur Sampson, 305 Noble Street, Fairbanks

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU TALKED WITH THE GOVERNOR?

IT'S BEEN AWHILE HASN'T
IT? BILL EGAN HAS ALWAYS
BEEN AVAILABLE. HE'LL
TALK TO YOU-AND LISTEN-
-ANYTIME! ANY PLACE!

BILL EGAN
FOR GOVERNOR

