

# FAIRBANKS ESKIMO VILLAGE DEMANDS GOV'T FACE WOES

## Highway Dept. Again Forgets To Stake Trails

The State Highway Department has once again failed to carry out its responsibility to stake trails in far northwest Alaska, although funds were appropriated, according to Sen. Bob Bodgett, D-Teller.

Blodgett charges the Highway Department has abdicated its responsibility and placed the lives of the many villagers who must use the windblown coastal trails in jeopardy.

"The State could be liable" Blodgett stated.

This is the second year in a row that the Highway Department has dropped the ball, despite the fact appropriations were made. Last year after the Highway Department "forgot" the State Rural Development Agency had to pick up the pieces and do the job at the last minute.

Apparently the department has "forgotten" again, according to the Northwest senator.

Staking is used along trails which frequently blow shut,

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## Federation Meeting at Chamber Bldg.

The Board of the Alaska Statewide Federation of Native Associations will convene in Fairbanks January 19-20, with representatives from 22 Alaska Native Associations attending.

The meeting will be held in the basement of the Chamber of Commerce Log Cabin here.

Officers of the federation are: Flore Lekanof, chairman; Willie Hensley, Kotzebue, vice

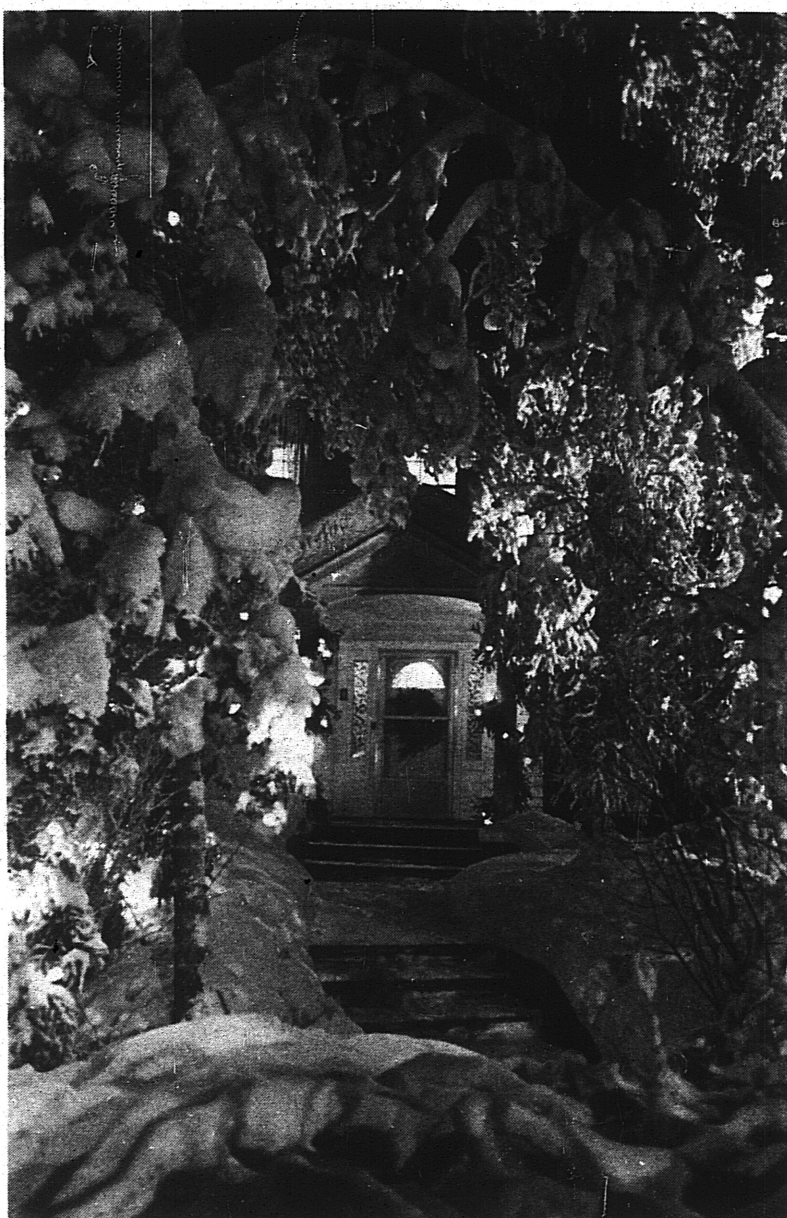
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## Establishment of Native Dept. Appears Doubtful

Gov. Walter J. Hickel's proposed State Department of Native Affairs appear to be anything but a "sure thing" at the present time, the Tundra Times has learned.

Reportedly a number of Native Associations around the State are prepared to recommend against establishment of

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BEAUTY OF WINTER--Snow and minus zero temperatures in Fairbanks create fantastic beauty on trees that surround homes. When snow is not falling on them, frost gathers on every branch and branchlet weaving laces of frosty coatings on the dormant trees. --DIGNA JOHNSON Photograph

## Governor, ASNA to Meet Next Tuesday

The meeting between Gov. Walter J. Hickel and representatives of the Arctic Slope Native Association will take place January 17th in the Governor's office in Juneau.

The purpose of the meeting is to probe for a possible mutually agreeable settlement between the State and the Inupiat Eskimos of the Alaskan Arctic in the bitter controversy over the lease-sale of native claimed lands by the Governor.

Also present at the meeting will be Anchorage Attorney Stanley J. McCutcheon, who will be acting as legal advisor to ASNA.

Hugh Nicholls, executive director of ASNA, told the Tundra Times that he was very hopeful that some sort of

mutually agreeable settlement could be reached at the meeting.

He pointed out that the

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## Rep. Pollock Wants Speed in Land Solution

Congressman Howard Pollack in Washington has called for speed in resolving the claims of Alaska's Native Population to massive land areas in the State.

Pollack said suspension of oil and gas leasing on the public domain of the Arctic Slope by the Secretary of Interior could cripple Alaska

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## Leader Says Alaska R.R. Dodged Issue By Passing Buck to BIA

The residents of Eskimo village just outside Fairbanks have appealed to Alaskan Congressional leaders for relief from the drastically substandard conditions in which they live and have threatened legal action if some hope is not in sight.

In a letter to Sen. E.L. (Bob) Bartlett, Bill Tegoseak, President of the Eskimo Village Community Action group, asked relief from the housing, health, and impoverished conditions created by an agency of the United States government.

Tegoseak challenges that the Alaska Railroad sidestepping facing the deplorable situation of the villagers by making arrangements with the Bureau of Indian Affairs to transfer Eskimo Village to South Fairbanks on 26th and Lathrop in 1961.

"In this manner the railroad would not be subject to public criticism--the inhabitants would be compensated by the gracious gift of obtaining these one-room, bacteria-infested cells from the Alaska Railroad for the mere price of one dollar," Tegoseak said.

He added, "To this day nothing has been done to improve conditions. . . . I feel the United States Government has a moral obligation to these people who have played a dynamic role in helping the economic stability of the State. . . ."

"As President of the Eskimo Village Community Action Group, I formally request that these demands be promptly and efficiently fulfilled by the United States Government, an institution which has definitely endangered the health and lives, not only of the inhabitants, but the total realm of this city," Tegoseak stated in the letter.

The native leader pointed out that it was an accepted fact that this so-called Eskimo

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## Taalak Leads ASNA Election

By Guy Okakok  
Barrow Correspondent

In the election today, Monday the 9th, Sam Taalak was re-elected for Arctic Slope Native Association president. Sam got more majority than Eben Hopson.

We will have to wait two or three more days till they could be able to count more ballots from Pt. Hope, Wainwright, Barter Island and Anaktuvuk Pass. Then we will know who will be elected for presidency.

But just in Barrow alone, we know that Sam Taalak has more votes than Eben Hopson.

## Editorial—

## The Shrinking Lands Of the Eklutnas

The disturbing course of events that have plagued the Indian people of Eklutna ever since World War II is getting to be one of the glaring examples of what land hunger can do to the Native people who, along with their ancestors, occupied and used their lands. Knowing this, they are claiming lands they deem rightfully theirs. Flagrant disregard of their rights hits the core of human feelings but, apparently, there is not enough of those kinds of people to offset the wave of grabbing of the lands that have sustained our fellow Indians, Aleuts and Eskimos. Land to any person in the world is a treasured possession and it means no less to our people. The in-

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