

# Two Men Who Escape from State Jail Considered Dangerous

Two men escaped from the state jail in Fairbanks Sunday night sometime between 10:30 and 11:00 p.m. It is not known if they are armed, but both are considered dangerous and are believed to be still in the Fair-

banks area.

The prisoners were working in the basement of the jail, painting and doing laundry. They forced the lock on the boiler room door, bent the louvers on a ventilator grill, and

sawed through an outer steel rod to crawl to freedom. Lemon, charged with the bur-

glary of the Pioneer Cleaners, is white, weighs about 125 pounds, 5-foot-9 inches tall, has brown

hair and brown eyes and a fair complexion.

He is clean-shaven, has a flat-top haircut with long sides, combed back. He may be wearing western boots.

The other escapee, Lucas, is also white, weighs between 135 and 150, is 5-foot-11 inches, slender build, fair complexion, blue eyes, and brown hair.

He combs his hair straight back and was wearing round-toe, high-top boots. Both men were wearing institutional clothing at the time of the escape.

Lucas was convicted of a home burglary in Fairbanks and is also wanted for armed robbery in the state of Arizona.

Persons are asked to contact the nearest law enforcement agency if either man is believed to be sighted, of if they have any information regarding the escapees.

## Barrow Gas Pipe

Senator Ted Stevens announced today that the Bureau of Indian Affairs has awarded a \$31,506.79 contract of installation of a natural gas pipeline at Barrow.

Current construction plans include instate piling and pipeline overpasses along the route.

## Re-elects Borbridge...

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answered questions on fiscal affairs. Following the financial report, Mr. Robert Loesher explained the Turnkey III housing program. Floor plans for two- and three-bedroom houses were displayed. Phase I of the program involving 160 units will soon be built.

A land claims panel with Central Council Attorney Richard Allen; Charles Solter, BIA Assistant Solicitor on Indian Affairs; Central Council 1st Vice President Roger Lang; and Robert Bruce, Acting Director of the Office of Legislative Action for the BIA answered questions from the floor.

Reminding the convention of the "massive job . . . to keep track of 13 to 15,000 stockholders," Mr. Borbridge defined the purpose of the convention, "To gather together to collectively arrive at the wisest possible decisions."

Most delegates' questions concerned problems of Sitka, Juneau, Kodiak, and Kenai land selections and tax status. Also of concern were lands of ten villages located within Tongass National Forest.

The Land Claims Act, it was determined, provided for the withdrawal of nine townships of land and the selection of one township out of the nine withdrawn by the communities of Angoon, Craig, Hoonah, Hyda-burg, Kake, Kasaan, Klawock, Klukwan, Saxman, and Yakutat.

Beginning Thursday's meeting with the Annual Report, Mr. Borbridge said,

"The Tlingit and Haida Indians of Alaska can view the progress of their Central Council during the past year with a genuine sense of pride in the accomplishments of the past and confidence in the future."

Reviewing the \$7.5 million settlement awarded the Tlingit and Haidas for lands lost, Mr. Borbridge told of the special convention called in early March, 1968 to decide on the "grossly inadequate award."

That decision, the fight to be included in the AFN land rights legislation, and the BIA's opposition to the growing role of the Central Council in SE Alaska were background for the present programs of the Central Council.

Turnkey III housing (with 160 units about to be constructed and 250 additional planned for Phase II) was described as "one of the most exciting programs of the year."

"Our goal," Mr. Borbridge said, "is safe, sanitary housing in a healthy environment for all Tlingit and Haida people."

Following the principle of accountability, Mr. Borbridge requested Ernst and Ernst to do a mid-year audit which showed a \$115,000 profit over and above the original judgment award.

"Since the Central Council began 3 and 3/4 years ago," Mr. Borbridge reported, "We have conducted all programs using earnings on investments."

At a luncheon address, Emil Notti, past President of AFN, warned the delegates:

"We're in a crisis now, though we may not recognize it. If we make mistakes now, they won't show up for several years. We've got to plan carefully . . . We've got to plan now for the future of our children."

Recalling his early battles for land rights in Alaska, Mr. Notti

praised the help of John Borbridge. His appraisal of the present political situation:

"We've got 20% of the vote now. Politicians come to our meetings. There are some Native appointments . . . But when we get down to 5% (of the vote), my experience tells me those conditions won't last."

Roger Lang, 1st Vice President, introduced Gilbert Gunderson, "Super Enumerator," to the afternoon session. As of April 20, 1972, Mr. Gunderson reported 8,838 Natives enrolled by his Juneau office.

Enrollment of Tlingit and Haidas was exceeding the 1970 census by 40 to 45%. Mr. Gunderson predicted that enrollment figures for SE Alaska would exceed 9,500 people.

Joe Wilson, Native Director of the BIA's SE Area Programs reported on his work. April 1971, the Central Council replaced the SE Area BIA superintendent with a Native Director so that the Tlingit and Haida people could determine their own affairs.

Despite Federal cut-backs in funding and a freeze on hiring, Mr. Wilson reported the largest Social Services budget for SE Alaska. The total budget for all of his office's programs was estimated at \$1.5 million.

His agency co-ordinated programs in Housing Improvement (89 homes in 1972), training, and education. Noting the success of Native control of BIA programs, Mr. Wilson recommended that the Central Council expand its contracting to include all of the BIA's SE Agency.

Nominations for positions on the Board of the Central Council were announced early Friday. John Borbridge and John Hope, both of Juneau, were the two presidential contenders. The evening voting saw Mr. Borbridge winning 35 to 29.

The morning after elections, while waiting for the convention hall to open, William Paul, Sr. recalled an old story about Raven and Cormorant. "Raven and Cormorant were out fishing," Mr. Paul told his listeners.

"Of course, Raven just sat in the boat while Cormorant went out and got the fish. On the way back, Raven was thinking how he could claim credit for the boat-load of fish. So, Raven asked Cormorant if he could see his tongue. Raven had one of those old-style knives made with a mussel shell. When Cormorant let Raven see his tongue, he got his knife and cut off Cormorant's tongue."

"You know how the cormorant sounds?" Mr. Paul asked. "He makes a sound: lge, lge, lge, lge."

"When they got back to the village, Raven told everyone how he'd gotten the fish. Cormorant got more and more excited, but all he could say was, 'lge, lge, lge.' Raven picked up one of the biggest fish and told the people: 'He's telling you how hard it was for me to get this fish.'"

The Central Council meeting shows how well Tlingit and Haida control of their destiny is progressing. Financial successes as well as housing, education, home improvement, credit and training programs are not just boasts of Raven over a speechless Cormorant.

## Telephone Campaign...

(Continued from page 1)

established class should be strengthened to facilitate the educational, emotional and financial needs of children and parents of Interior and Northern Alaska. . . .

Existing facilities in Fairbanks for the deaf and hard of hearing child are good, Mrs. Bergt says, and could be expanded to serve the needs of children in surrounding areas.

In keeping with the recommendations of the State Task Force on Education, Mrs. Bergt favors regional schools for the handicapped child: one in Fairbanks, one in Anchorage, and one in Bethel, since so many children from villages near Bethel suffer hard of hearing caused by otitis media, an ear infection.

Under the provisions of House Bill 706, funds would be appropriated from the general fund to be used by the Department of Education for "contracting for centralized services for the profoundly deaf for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1973, to take effect on July 1, 1972."

Mrs. Bergt would like to see some of these funds used to strengthen the classes for the deaf and hard of hearing held in Fairbanks.

Many families in Interior and Northern Alaska have relatives here in Fairbanks, she says, and it would be better for those families if their children could attend classes here.

Originally, the amount to be appropriated under House Bill 706 was \$365,040, but, according to Jim Wolfe, head of the legislative office in Fairbanks, the amount was raised by the House Finance Committee and the bill was passed by the lower chamber and is now in the senate.

Senate Bill 340, he said, has cleared the senate and is in the house.

Under the provisions of this bill, school districts which could not provide special education for children would pay per pupil costs for students transferred to school districts which could provide special education for them. The state would provide funds for necessary care, transportation, instruction and room and board.

At the present time, Mrs. Bergt says, deaf children from Alaska are sent to schools in Utah and Canada for their education. In some cases, she says, parents have refused to let their children go out of state because they did not want their children uprooted from their homes.

Her own daughter Karen is hard of hearing, she says, and has had to go outside to school twice because the Fairbanks district did not then have classes for the deaf and hard of hearing.

Now Karen attends school in Fairbanks.

"The teachers are up to date," Mrs. Bergt says, "and are constantly researching and keep-

ing up to date on the education of the deaf and hard of hearing."

Earlier this year, citing statistics provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the State Department of Education, Mrs. Bergt wrote a letter to members of the Alaska State Legislature urging them to act this year to establish at least one state school for the handicapped.

Her letter, she was told by legislators, sparked their interest in the problem. As a result, the House Health, Welfare and Education Committee conducted a public hearing on the education of the deaf, hard of hearing and blind, and, at a later time, House Bill 706 and Senate Bill 340 were drafted.

Passage of these bills, Mrs. Bergt says, "would essentially strengthen programs in the state, both in Anchorage and Fairbanks right now . . . Both districts have an opportunity "to expand their facilities to take care of their particular regions."

## ASNA Intervenes...

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April 26. Charles Cranston, Assistant Attorney General, has been assigned to represent the Local Boundary Commission.

"Notwithstanding the State's defense of the borough," said Mr. Paul, "we felt we could be more secure if we could get in there on our own."

In no way disparaging the Attorney General's office, Mr. Paul pointed out that "ob-

viously the results mean much more to the Eskimos than to the Attorney General's office. The Eskimos want to make sure they are protected."

The hearing on the merits of the borough lawsuit may be several months away but Wednesday's arguments will be an important forerunner, and the Arctic Slope peoples, in securing their own representation, are leaving nothing to chance.

## Over 25,000 Enroll...

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end of May to enroll, but their regional coordinator, Lucy Carlo of Fairbanks, said 2,200 persons are already signed up in Fairbanks and all villages but Ruby were through enrolling.

Severe weather, transportation problems and the Russian Orthodox Holidays have delayed enumeration in the Aleut League, Association of Village Council Presidents and Bering Straits Native Association.

BIA officials in Juneau said the AVCP had planned three training sites but due to bad weather the Aniak training session was cancelled and a second training period was held in Bethel to include 14 enumerators who missed the first Bethel training and three who couldn't reach St. Mary's on time.

The BIA also announced the appointment of several new employees to the enrollment coordination office, to work under Longley and Walters, who was active in organizing the AFN Washington Chapter before returning to Alaska for his present job.

Richard Lopez, a Native of Clarks Point employed until recently in Seattle, is an enrollment officer specializing in work with confidential sealed state records, such as the birth records of adopted Native children.

Floyd Kugzruk, formerly of Nome, and a recent graduate of the University of Nebraska with a masters degree in physics, is an enrollment officer supervising the encoding staff who will transmit enrollment information to the BIA Data Computer Center in New Mexico.

Frances Degnan, of Unala-

skleet, who was acting coordinator for the enrollment officer, is now an enrollment officer responsible for village correspondence and completion of applications for the Nome, Kotzebue and Kodiak areas.

Enrollment expert Mona Michael, transferred from the BIA area office in Minneapolis to assist in the Alaska enrollment, has been involved with tribal operations since 1963 and is now an enrollment officer.

As soon as village enumeration is completed, the coordinating offices staff of 22 persons will notify every village and region indicating the name and other information of every applicant who has applied for enrollment in the village or region and handle protests from villages and regions on these matters within the next 30 days.

This will determine the eligibility of every applicant.

After appeals by petition from individuals, villages and regions, the final roll must be prepared, certified and submitted for final approval by the Secretary of the Interior.

## Training Corps...

(Continued from page 3)

able in offices of Rural CAP, the Alaska Federation of Natives, and the Education departments of Alaska Methodist University and the University of Alaska at Fairbanks.

Because of its orientation toward rural education, the program will show a preference for applicants who are familiar with a Native language and the culture of the villages or regions where the program operates.

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