

Huge Native Corporation...

(Continued from page 1)

lose, the revenue would come from competitive bidding for oil leases rather than noncompetitive bidding and because of the competition among the oil companies, the State, in fact, would be getting more money.

"Thus under existing practice, the new areas to be opened up would be sold by the Federal Government on a noncompetitive basis which is, roughly speaking, about a dollar an acre; with changing the status of the oil lands to be developed from noncompetitive to competitive, then the Federal Government would receive the bonus payments out of which the Alaska Native Development Corporation would receive not to exceed \$100 million per year for ten years.

"The theory is that the State should not object because with the change of bidding practice, the State, in fact, would be getting more money."

Fred Paul said that while the committee had made no estimate of the total yield on this form of payment, particularly from the 45 per cent to be yielded from Pet 4, the committee was hopeful that substantial monies would be raised.

"The committee mentioned," Paul reported, "that at the Santa Barbara competitive bidding two years ago that the oil companies bid a total of \$653 million. I may say that this is an area that we may have to recommend a change in the Field Committee's program."

Paul said that homesites for the native people, as well as hunting cabins, etc., would be protected by giving the respective natives a fee simple title, reserving, however, to the statewide corporation the mineral rights therein.

An area not to exceed 23,040 acres would be given to each village but on an "open" village status, reserving again the mineral rights of the statewide corporation.

"Thus the respective villages would, of course, automatically

benefit by reason of his being a member of the community," Paul continued. "This will cause some soul searching because in some communities the White people will move in and in a sense join a tax-free town."

Each native, Paul said, would be enrolled in the Alaska Native Development Corporation and would receive an equal number of shares of stock in the corporation.

"These shares," Fred Paul said, "would be inalienable (non-transferable except by death) for a period of ten years. Therefore the restrictions on selling would be removed."

"The Alaska Native Development Corporation," Paul continued, "would be a statewide corporation which at first would be administered by a board of directors a majority of whom would be appointed by the President and would be non-native."

As the years progressed, the membership would change so that at the end of ten years the entire board would be native.

"The philosophy of the Field Committee is that modernly to compete in society one must do so through a corporation and the larger the corporation, the better it is."

The Alaska Native Development Corporation would have authority to make grants to villages and regional groups at the discretion of its board of directors.

"This is also an area that may need overhauling because heretofore, our thinking has been that we would have regional corporations," said Paul.

He said that there would be no protection for surface rights other than as described above; that it was the feeling of the Field Committee, however, that the people would not be helpless; that first of all they are voters and can speak through the normal machinery of politics, through their state representatives and state senators.

Secondly, Paul said, the Alaska Native Development Corporation would have a great deal of power because conceivably, it would have assets of half a billion to \$1 billion and the Federal Field Committee felt that this would give the people, its owners, power to influence by persuasion the state legislature to give protection to hunting rights.

"Finally, the Field Committee believes," Fred Paul stated, "that the people can get protection by organizing boroughs and the boroughs having the power of zoning and planning could prevent economic development in certain hunting areas."

"In this connection, I plan to suggest immediately that the

North Slope together with the Kotzebue Election District, and possibly Nome, form one borough to give such protection in case the Federal Field Committee plan in approved by Congress."

"A virtue of the foregoing plan," stated Paul, "is that the settlement does not depend upon an appropriation of the Congress of money, except for the \$100 million dollars for past expropriation. In other words, the bulk of the money comes from the yield of the land to be conveyed by the natives."

The Field Committee said that the second virtue of the plan is that there would be the Bureau of Indian Affairs to administer the fund.

At the end of five years the board of directors would be dominated by natives and by the end of ten years, all government restrictions would be removed and the Alaska Native Development Corporation would be just like any ordinary business Corporation.

"Another virtue of the plan," continued Fred Paul, "which would meet with congressional approval is that there are no reservations. It was the feeling of the Federal Field Committee, and it is mine too, that the Congress will not approve of the creation of 178 (the number of villages involved) reservations in the State of Alaska."

"The Congress is simply sick and tired of reservations in the States. In the Lower 48, the reservation system has failed and the people thereon have essentially degenerated."

Paul said that a percentage from the revenue from the outer continental shelf would also enhance the yearly payments which all together cannot exceed \$100 million per year for ten years.

POINTS OF CONCERN

"Though, necessarily, I must obey the dictates of my clients, I will say that I am inclined to agree with the general philosophy of the Federal Field Committee report as modified in certain respects:

"A. I am worried about the annual payment of a sum not to exceed \$100 million. Some years the maximum will be achieved and other years not, but if there was some way to carry over a surplusage from one year to the next in order to meet a potential deficiency, perhaps that would cure it."

"Theoretically, the report provides, a review will be made by Congress at the end of ten years and if the sums theretofore paid be insufficient, Congress could extend the life of the payments. I am against this because once Congress has acted, it won't do so again."

"I prefer that the life of the payments to the Alaska Native Development Corporation be continued after ten years automatically until the maximum amount of \$1 billion is achieved."

"B. The open village concept bothers me, but it does come in conflict with the reluctance of Congress to create additional reservations."

"C. I realize that people have emotional impact with their attachment to their land. Perhaps the zoning will give adequate protection, but this is an area in which the people will have to express their opinion."

"D. The open village concept bothers me because of the benefits of the newcomers to respective villages will receive by way of ownership of the villages in the land surrounding the village."

Friend of Natives Fred Crane Dies

The almost legendary individual, Fred Crane, 73, died last week in Seattle ending a long legal career in Alaska.

Fred Crane was widely known throughout northern Alaska by the native people. He had lived years at a time in some villages. During his legal career, he had represented them on great many occasions.

Crane was Nome district attorney at the time of his death. He was assigned to that job in 1966, before which he practiced law for many years in Fairbanks.

Crane became ill several weeks ago and his illness was diagnosed as the lung cancer. He died at 10:30 a.m. last Friday at the Virginia Mason Hospital

in Seattle.

He was born in Coeur D'Alene, Idaho on Nov. 24, 1895. He came to Fairbanks as a special attorney for the Department of Justice in 1924. He later entered private practice in Fairbanks.

Fred Crane was buried in Nome yesterday with services held at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Burial was at the Nome cemetery.

The Nome Post of the American Legion took charge of the burial arrangements, of which he was a member. He was World War I veteran and also served in the second World War with Corps of Engineers.

Regional Job Confab Draws Discussion

The Regional Job Development Conference is now going on in Fairbanks and it is being held at the Boatel on the Airport Road.

Sponsored by the Commission for Human Rights, Fairbanks Area Interactivity Council, the conference is discussing as its theme, "Jobs, Alaskans, Profit, Progress."

Taping a program for the University of Alaska's KUAC and its "Conversations," Mrs. Laurel Bland and Robert Aloysius discussed the conference for the KUAC radio audience this week.

Mrs. Bland said, "Jobs—we want to see that every man and woman in Alaska who wants a job is able to get a job. We hope that our Alaskans who need these jobs and want these jobs will be there on the spot ready to go to work. Bringing numbers of people in from outside doesn't help Alaska and the Alaskan people."

"Profit—we're all interested in profit on any level; and, of course, progress means economic development; it means better living conditions for everyone; it means getting away from this pattern of seasonal work—year round employment can't help but mean progress all along the line."

"As far as the topic of interest," Mrs. Bland continued, "I think that this is something that affects all of our lives, all of us who are permanent Alaskans. If a portion of our friends and neighbors, or those who share the land, are not able to earn a

good living, to have a regular income that they can count on, it's going to reflect on all of us."

"There are people who don't have as much as others, and it doesn't make anyone feel real good. Anyone can contribute, whatever his particular field of talent is."

"Just being knowledgeable is a contribution—learn about the North Slope and what's going on up there. But we also should learn what jobs are available in our federal civil service, and to encourage our young people to look ahead to these things—this is all part of this."

Robert Aloysius had the following to say:

"My only comment is that for the first time, I feel that I am doing something worth while in helping native people. Because I have lived in the problem areas, I never notices that they were problems until I left them. So, maybe, this Regional Job Development Conference will help us get rid of the problems, and like Laurel said, for the betterment of everybody living in Alaska."

Mrs. Bland is a graduate student attending the University of Alaska on an Alaska State Department of Education research assistantship in adult education and human relations.

She served as a publications committee chairman and conference committee coordinator for the present conference.

Robert Aloysius is the Fairbanks representative for the Commission for Human Rights.



LAUREL BLAND



ROBERT ALOYSIUS

SUBSCRIPTION to

Tundra Times is of value to you

Snowshoe Champ

(continued from page 1)

Indians did that and that made them light-footed when they used the snowshoes.

Then Richard Frank reflected a moment and said almost in a whisper, "That guy, Perdue, not much—nothing. I shouldn't even challenge him again. What I need is competition."

When told what Richard Frank had said about him, Ralph Perdue had this to say:

"That guy is full of malarkey. He's full of hot air. The only dust he'll raise will be from his hot air. After all, he's 40 years old now. He's over the hill and ready for old people's home. I don't want to waste any time on him. I'm going to lunch on business."

Richard Frank was asked whether he would challenge Gov. Keith Miller to the snowshoe race.

"That's a hard question," said Frank. "I don't think that fellow is in shape. He doesn't look like he's in shape. Let's just don't bother him."

Richard was told that such native leaders like Rep. William Hensley, Rep. John Sackett, John Borbridge, and Gerald Ivey might be trying to lift his crown.

"Those guys are not in shape either," he said. "They've been sitting on their, you-know-what, they hardly need noticing. Let 'em try, what the heck. They'll learn something—a real snowshoeing lesson—from me."

Potlatch...

(continued from page 1)

the dancers will include Barrow, with the Barrow Eskimo Dancers, Northway, Nenana, the Mark Trail Tlingit Dancers from Juneau, and possibly dancers from St. Mary's.

A great variety of native foods will be featured. Among these will be moose, caribou, reindeer, muktuk, dried fish, salmon, Eskimo ice cream, and beaver tail.

It is expected that the potlatch will provide a good opportunity for old friends and relatives to get together. The Fairbanks Native Association has extended an invitation to any and all persons, particularly Native Alaskans, to attend.

The food will be served starting at 6:00 p.m. in the Lathrop High School Cafeteria. Dances will begin at 8:00 p.m.