

# Sceptical of Oil Hire...

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Governor of Alaska before a Congressional Committee in 1947: 'I know of no one thing that will be more beneficial to the Indian population than the development of this pulp and paper industry. . . It means a new day in the Indian economy. It means that instead of being obligated to subsist for twelve months on the rather uncertain earnings of three or four months fishing, they will have something that will keep them employed all year around, and I can think of nothing that will equal that in benefit.'

Now, let us measure what actually happened.

The following figures are taken from the 1950 and 1960 U.S. Census. These reports provide a means of measuring and analyzing the human aspects of this experience, as they took place a few years before and after the development of the pulp mills.

Despite the creation of a

whole range of new employment opportunities, we find that the participation rate (or the percentage of persons gainfully employed) of the normal working-age Native population actually declined between 1950 and 1960 (from 38 per cent to 37 per cent) while that of the non-Native population enjoyed a significant increase (from 59 per cent to 64 per cent).

This decade also experienced a 25 per cent increase in total population. Breaking this data into areas and race classifications, there appeared to have been a movement of Native people away from the two centers of development at Ketchikan and Sitka.

(There was a very modest total increase in Native population in these areas, but that was due to natural increase being slightly higher than the out-migration of people from the areas.)

Just these two sets of statistical comparisons are sufficient for us to draw the conclusion that the new jobs and the new income created by this development were taken up by more intensive utilization of the non-Native labor force and a significant immigration of additional workers from outside Southeast Alaska.

The new developments had virtually no impact upon the employment situation of the Native people. Let us compare some of the facts that existed during the development of the pulp mills with those of the up-and-coming oil industries.

We have before us a whole range of new employment opportunities in the oil industries just as the pulp mills had. We find the participation rate of the Native population in the oil industry far below that of the non-Native participation.

We can expect an increase in population in the Fairbanks area, as did the Anchorage area during work on the platforms, due to job opportunities in the oil fields.

The new jobs and new income created by the development work in the oil fields is being taken up by more intensive utilization of the non-Native

labor force only and a significant immigration of additional workers from outside Alaska, many from Canada and the Lower 48.

To date, the development of the oil fields have had virtually no impact upon the employment situation of the Native people.

No provisions have been made to date by the State of Alaska, the Federal Government, or the oil companies to train Alaska Natives so that they may have qualified personnel available for the year around jobs when the oil companies go into production.

The Alaska Native, through the organization(s) of his area, is going to have to take a stronger hand in shaping the future in terms of objectives consciously chosen as being desirable.

There is considerable scope for us to influence development decisions throughout political institutions in directions which would promote our chosen objectives.

Through our political agencies we can insist that development be carried out so that our objectives be not destroyed nor debased.

In furtherance hereof, we,

## SENATE COMMITTEE HEARINGS

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was very sympathetic to our efforts to achieve a just and equitable settlement."

Justice Goldberg is slated to be the principal speaker at the annual Alaskan Press Club Man of the Year banquet in Anchorage on Mar. 28. The banquet will take place in the evening and the meeting with the AFN governing board is expected to take place sometime during the day on Mar. 28.

"I was tremendously impressed with the intellectual grasp of Justice Goldberg of the complex situation and what I consider to be an extremely sympathetic and interested attitude toward the efforts of the Eskimos, Indians, and Aleuts," said Borbridge.

the Executive Committee of the Alaska Native Brotherhood, moves that a copy of this letter be sent to the Governor of Alaska, to the Senate and House of Representatives, to the Alaska Delegation in Congress, and to the public press, the purpose being to create such public pressure so that the thirteen unions and the representatives of the Joint Crafts Committee on Oil and other bodies be forced to implement the objectives of this letter.

After conferring with Goldberg in New York, the delegation went to Washington and met with Alaska congressional delegation and discussed the present progress of the claims.

On the basis of the discussion, Borbridge said, it appears that the chairman of the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs, Sen. Henry Jackson, requested that both the Department of the Interior and the Federal Field Committee for Development Planning in Alaska, draw up the committee's recommendations into bill form.

"The idea is that when these are ready, they will be sent to the Alaska Federation of Natives for its use in drawing up a bill they wish to present to Congress," said Borbridge.

"Informed sources," Borbridge continued, "indicate that it is unlikely, under the present circumstances, that hearings will be held before the Senate Committee in less than six to eight weeks.

"The congressional delegation, likewise, emphasized their desire for a bill drawn up by the Alaska natives that reflect the desires of the Alaska natives and presented a position that they could fully support."

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### What Saith the Scriptures?

A SEASIDE SERMON

1st "But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest. Isaiah 57:20. This is true of all who are outside of Christ, and have not come to Him as a lost sinner for rest. Mat. 11:28.

2nd "Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of Thy waterspouts: all Thy waves and billows are gone over me." Psm. 42-7 Here we have the suffering Saviour so that we could be saved. For he died for our sins 1 Cor. 15:3.

3rd "He will turn again. He will have compassion upon us: he will subdue our iniquities: and Thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea." Micah 7-19. Here we have sins forgiven.

4th "Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea: and there was a great calm." Mat. 8:26. Peace is made "Therefore we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" Rom. 5:1. Have you accepted this great salvation and peace with God dear reader?

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