Page 6 Tundra Times, Wednesday, December 29, 1971 **Native Health Board Holds Meets**

The Alaska Area Native Board of Health held a meeting at the Mt. Edgecumbe Hospital November 30, 1971 through November 30, 19 December 2, 1971.

Lecember 2, 1971. Representatives from every Service Unit Native Health Board (seven) were in atten-dance, plus the Alaska Federa-tion of Natives representative Carl Jack and two alternates, Mary Gregory from Rethel and Carl Jack and two alternates, Mary Gregory from Bethel and Gertrude Wolfe from Hoonah. Election of officers was held and Frank O. Williams, Jr. was elected Chairman, Irving Igtan-loc, Vice Chairman, and Georgianna Lincoln, Secretary. Recommendations from the last meeting were reviewed and further recommendations and

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resolutions made. The next meeting will be held in Anchorage at the Alaska Na-tive Medical Center during the week of February 13, 1972, week of February 13, 1972, when this board will be part of

Appraisal

Injuries at ASHA Housing Projects...

cutive Director of the Alaska State Housing Authority in Anchorage.

Anchorage. There have been several on site injuries at ASHA projects, Gain admitted, but since the village council has the say on who will be kicked out of the program, construction crews formed of other villagers have continued to finish the injured

Also, since the accidents so far have been to native partici-pants, each has been eligible for Alaska Native Health Service care, so hospital bills have not have instance. been in question. "We weren't able to get

Workmen's Compensation Insu-

rance," Gain reported that his office had looked into such insu-

rance in 1969. At that time they were informed that pre-miums are based on a percentage

of the payrol!. Since nobody on the project is an employee-

no wage percentage can be de-termined.

coverage if the project superin-tendent or ASHA for example, is at fault. We're covered due

to negligence and our superinten-dents are covered, but nobody

What about contracts? Doesn't ASHA contract with individuals for so much work

project? No, Gain replied. The only contract a person signs is for payments for materials-which

participate in the project and there can be no termination

without village council approval, though a project superintendent

to some native participants al-

ready, a man can be disabled for months and receive no com-

"Our projects are set

during non-productive months," said Gain "usually fall, winter, spring when there's little employ-

for the winter nobody's losing

So far ASHA has been lucky

Nobody has been permanently injured. Nobody has been

Nobody has been permanently injured. Nobody has been killed and all of the injured people have had adequate "medi-cal insurance" (ANHS eligibility)

However, what about jobs they

might have had, or the hunting

and fishing they must do to feed their families.

Frankson, who wrote a letter

Consider the case of David

. If somebody is laid up

up

can make recommendations. Thus, and it has happened

pensation.

ment

income.

order to participate in the

from the village is an employee

'We do have blanket liability

(Continued from page 1) to Don Dorsey in December of this year-almost a year and a half since he was originally injured. "Still I wanted to mention

"Still I wanted to mention the parts for my Chaparral ... I need it every day with my broken leg to go around and get some drinking ice and to hunt little, but it out there belalaer" helpless.

When Frankson was originally injured, the PHS hospital in Kotzebue filed no report of his accident. When he tried to file

a claim for compensation there was no hospital report on file, no project superintendent's rert of the accident. Thus, if he wishes to contest por

his status as a non-employee, he must search for records, reconstruct reports from people who may now have only a dim mem-ory of the circumstances sur-

rounding his injury. What about him, and the hundreds of other native Alaskans who will participate in ASHA projects?

Rights Commission... (Continued from page 1)

the

Committee.

secretary-the budget isn't tion. Blacks and natives are

there. Griffin, a resident of Fairbanks since 1950 has been a member of the State Human Rights Commission for almost complete eight years of its existence. Born in Belzonia, Mississippi

45 years ago, Griffin served as Chairman of the Human Rights Commission for one year, two years as a member of the Fair-banks Human Relations Council, and as an organizer for the Fairbanks branch of the National Association for the Advance-

nal Association for the Auvance-ment of Colored people. "I would like to have an opportunity to talk to any na-tive or native group to discuss their problems and their possible solutions as they relate to the Human Rights Commission," Human

said Griffin. Persons can file official com-plaints if they feel they have been discriminated against on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, national origin or physical

sex, national orgin of physical handicap. Many natives are hesitant about going to the Human Rights Commission with a com-

Rights Commission with a com-plaint Griffin says. "Often, they do not know the law or that redress is pos-sible-or that reporting cases of discrimination is important.

Often, natives are afraid to get involved in the judicial system

Generally, when comes into a Human Rights Commission office with a com-plaint he will talk to the staff investigator. If the story sounds like something the Commission can look into, the person will be asked to file an official com-plaint. This will be forwarded plaint. This will be forwarded to the Executive Director for review. Then, the commission will make a thorough investigation

What do they look for?

"Generally, we try to put ogether a pattern of some type," Griffin explained.

If an employer is charged with discrimination, the investiemployer is charged gator will look through the comparty's employment records. He will try to ascertain who did apply, what were their qualifica-tions, and why were they excluded.

Also, he will find out how long a policy has been in effect. minorities have been employed within a reasonable a-mount of time, the report will show "no cause"-no provable discrimination. Sometimes, the Commission

will make recommendations even if they cannot prove a complaint-because some evidence is there. In these cases the report is not binding. If a Commission report shows cause their recommendations are binding-enforced by possible fines

and/or jail sentences. In the housing market, there is not much discrimination is not much discrimination against blacks and natives in the airbanks area, Griffin reports, but there is some. In low income housing, a commodity in drastically short supply in the city, there is no discrimina-

competing for a few available units.

Area Program

Griffin plans to travel into northern Alaska frequently both to investigate reports of discrimination and to speak to any group which wishes to learn more about the Human Rights Commission.

'I can travel to just about any village to address a group which has invited me," Griffin said Much of his business is just

that-speaking to groups of na-tives, of blacks or other minorito inform them of how the Commission can serve them-and how they must help the Commission by reporting cases of discrimination of discrimination.

On still another front, the Human Rights Commission has been working towards expanding job opportunities for minority group members. One problem, which they cannot attack directly, is state jobs-which are out-side the sphere of the Commission

"Look at how many job descriptions for state jobs require Masters degrees," Griffin pointed out.

State hiring requirements, he found are much more restrictive than federal ones, often requiring amounts of education which automatically disqualify mem-bers of low income groups. In order to change this, he sugges-ted, a thorough study is needed to see what each employee ac-tually does-and what training he needs.

Meanwhile, a tiny human rights staff must attempt to tackle all of these problems. Right now, the Fairbanks office has no salary for a secretary-letters don't get sent out and travel is almost impossible (nobody to mind the store). A budget of \$125,000 funds the entire Commission-wholly inadequate to their task.

"If I'm away, as it now stands," Griffin commented, have to close up."

Merry Christmas?...

However, Monday morning, they weren't there yet.

Last year, we received a re-port from one village of a Christ-mas fire that killed several children in one family-bringing tra-gedy to their village as a Christ-

mas present. This year, we're afraid tragedy has hit Barrow-where Charles Muller, age 5 and his sis-ter Susan, age 3, died in a fire ter Susan, age 3, died in a fire at their home Monday morning. They were the children of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Muller of Bar-row. When the fire occurred, row. When the fire occurred, Mrs. Muller was at work and Mr. Muller was down in Okla-homa City for FAA training. homa City for FAA training. A babysitter was with the chil-

dren, but escaped. "In Vietnam, along with figh-ting and death, Christmas was

other people planned to picket crepe paper and plastic Santas the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, at a Long Binh quonset hut center of the Kiwanis campaign. hospital ward, a Saigon sparkling with tinsel and Christmas trees.

wrote the Associated Press. Last week in Fairbanks one of the woman leaders of the native community talked about Christmas in her home village in the interior, "I've never felt that sense of

expectation anywhere else," she remembered. "There won't be remembered. "There won't be a Christmas for me again till we move back to the village.

There, she said, where the whole village traveled 60 miles to midnight mass and exchanged presents like one family she felt a Christmas spirit that hasn't appeared anywhere else.

We hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and wish you joy, happiness and peace in the coming New Year.

Parole Counseling ...

(Continued for a kid still in prison and due to be released. Others give ex-tensively of their time and per-sonal attention-all of which give the kid in trouble the feeling that somebody cares.

'Some of our volunteers are exconvicts-they make some of the best," Sutton said. Ted Sutton, a Tlingit Indian-

Filipino from Seattle who came to Alaska from Canada, has a great deal of experience on the other side of the law. For four years, he was in and out of reform schools-classified as "mentally deficient" till a rou-tine intelligence test showed an above average mind-typed as kid who continuously got in

trying." In his early 20s, Sutton presently working towards a de-gree in sociology, from the Uni-versity of Alaska. He came to Alaska last year after finding out that he was a Tlingit-Haida In-dian enrolled in the Central Council of that tribe. Till then, through a series of foster homes and later adoption, Sutton be-lieved he was a full blooded Filipino.

On a morning after a night without sleep spent writing an end of term paper, Ted Sutton-leader of the Tahetan Youth Confederation at the University of Alaska and founder of the native youth movement talked about his childhood and youth as a member of a minority in

u.S. and Canadian cities. "Actually, I was brought up in a series of foster homes," Ted says about his childhood. "I was taken from my parents at about two years old because of child cruelty-beating up kids.

of child cruelty-beating up kids. I was a battered child. In Seattle, I spent my childhood years in the Negro district or ghetto area of Seattle." Through the years of his childhood, Ted Sutton was a "Filipino" child who was passed through a number of foster homes-lower class families who took in children for the money homes-lower class families who took in children for the money provided by the Catholic Chil-dren's Aide Society. Families in the ghetto often didn't know In the gnetto order data taken, where their next meal or rent money would come from. Chil-dren grew up in the streets. "In this area, I learned how to fight"

to hit people-how to fight,' he says.

Later, adopted by the Sutton Later, adopted by the Suttom family, he moved into the white middle class mainstream-but not completely. In Vancouver, he went to high school-changing images to fit the white idea of are ledice." an Indian.'

"I found that there were lots of people like me. There were kids brought up in environments that were so sickening. There was a couple of kids next door who woke up with their ears and toes chewed off by rats." "I used to feel sorry for

om page 1) myself," he reports. As a teenager, Ted Sutton became an educated minority. In high school in Canada he sought the school in Canada he sought the roads to success open to blacks and minorities—fighting, physi-cal superiority, medals for track and boxing. He spent time in reform schools, met other people from worse background who hadn't given up.

Later, he was determined to go back to school and become a social worker.

"I feel a good social worker is a person who has eaten the dirt of the lower class peoplewho knows what it is to be obsessed.

Before coming to Alaska, Ted Sutton tried one time to work as a community developer for the Canadian Bureau of Indian Canadian Bureau of Indian

the Canadian Bureau of Indian Affairs. Before that he had worked on the Canadian Stock Exchange-left it to escape the obsession of money. "I didn't know they didn't hire natives," he said about the Bureau. At the employment office, he reported, everyone was white. The only "darkies" were in the waiting rooms. "Me and this negro fellow

"Me and this negro fellow were walking around Vancouver one night and I began talking to this rubbie (Canadian term to this rubble (Canadian term for a native alcoholic). A rubble is the lowest of the low. I was talking to this guy and found out this rubble was a college graduate. What happened?

He said in this bureaucrat system I have to be white bureaucratic which I never can be.

Soon after that, Ted Sutton went with two friends-one Jamaican and one Japanese-to do volunteer work with Indian children on the Musquim Indian reserve. For eight months, he worked with kids-traveled to reserves in Dawson Creek, Al-berta and other places. There, he saw the society's method of pushing natives out of sight-out of mind.

On one of the reserves, met a man who asked about his parentage. Shortly after, he received notification from the Tlingit Haidas and came up to Alaska to see what Alaskan Indians were all about.

Unlike many youths with his background, Sutton believes that he has not been radicalized by his experiences.

oy nis experiences. "There was a time when I was very bitter but I had to suppress it because I was living in a white culture," he said "My job entails me to work with all sorts of people. I'm not a radical."

What he does believe is that background gives him a better understanding of what goes on in a so-called "social de-viant's" rnind.

"A kid doesn't commit a without a reason," Ted ined. "Sometimes, he will crime explained. "Sometimes, he will steal for money to eat. Another kid will steal a car-because he's never known what it could be like to drive a car, let alone to own one.

"You know, money isn't the root of all evil, hate is."

fights and in trouble. As such, he fights against type casting youngsters as "juva-nile delinquent" or "retarded" nile deli or "bad"

start after the house is complete. "Once a kid has a label, he goes out to try and live up to it," Sutton said. "He gives up start after the house is complete, During the construction phase, Gain explained, ASHA has a cooperative agreement with the village council. The council determines who will