

'Time for Change'—

# Hensley Opposing Senator Blodgett

Willie Hensley, State representative from Kotzebue, announced today that he will seek election to the other chamber in the State's legislative halls—the Senate.

A 28 year old Eskimo, Hensley has been in the State House since 1966 and has served as chairman of the Health, Welfare, and Education committee since 1968.

"I feel that it is time for a change," he said in a telephone call to the Tundra Times.

Also, he added that he felt the people in his district, District J, should have a choice. Located in Northwest Alaska, the district covers about 40 communities including Barrow, Nome, Kotzebue, and Unalakleet. Sen. Bob Blodgett, Democrat from the district, is expected to run for reelection but has not filed yet.

If the incumbent does run, Hensley said that he expects the race to be a tough one. His plans include a visit to each community in the district where he will focus on electrification, housing, education and the land

settlement—areas in which the representative has been working during the past four years.

The former executive director of the Alaska Federation of Natives stressed that he will be appealing to all of the voters, not just the natives and discussing efforts and ideas to improve life in the villages.

"Politics are simply a tool," he said, "but a very important tool for the villages at this time." They need to utilize bloc voting for this election and must face up to the question of what to do with the votes they have.

He described the coming four-year period as a very exciting one particularly with the growth from the oil activity and the

By Alaska Bar—

## Stevens Village Affair in Probe

The role of both Alaska Legal Services and the State Attorney General's office in the Stevens Village suit will be subject to review by the Alaska Bar Association as the result of two reports issued Friday by a three-man House Judiciary subcommittee investigating the matter.

The investigation was prompted by charges from Rep. Don Young, R-Fort Yukon, that the people of Stevens Village were misled by Alaska Legal Services and had never given the attorneys permission to seek an injunction.

The injunction referred to was obtained by Alaska Legal Services on behalf of their clients, Stevens Village, as the result of a suit filed in U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C. The preliminary injunction prevents the Secretary of the Interior, Walter Hickel, from issuing a construction permit for the TAPS pipeline and road across land claimed by the village.

The subcommittee was appointed to examine the question of whether Alaska Legal Services acted within limits of legal ethics in filing the suit.

Committee members Rep. Tom Fink, R-Anchorage, and Rep. Eugene Miller, D-Fairbanks,

Campaigning in Alaska is not just for husbands—at least, not according to Mr. Wilma Carr.

The wife of Democratic gubernatorial candidate, Larry Carr, she spent last week traveling to Ketchikan, Sitka, Juneau, Fairbanks, Nome, and Anchorage.

Accompanying her was Mrs. Rita Gravel, wife of Sen. Mike Gravel of Alaska, who introduced her to voters across the state.

Explaining that she did not

emergence of an industrial era in Alaska. "I want to be where the action is," he stressed.

Following the adjournment of the Legislature, he will return with his wife and 16 month old son to their home in Kotzebue.

## Mrs. Carr and Mrs. Gravel Campaign for Larry Carr

discuss her husband's position on issues, Mrs. Carr said that she leaves that up to him.

Few people ask her about issues, she implied, but rather want to know about the Carr family and children and what kind of changes campaigning has brought to their life.

However, when ideas on issues and problems are offered, she stressed that she makes a note of them and passes them on to her husband.

Most of the concern, the brunette said, has been about the native land claims issue, schools, and the TAPS road.

Many of the women express their views to her on schools, she added.

Having flown from Washington, D.C. for the tour, Mrs. Gravel said that she was enjoying seeing old friends, many of whom she met while campaigning with her husband.

The week-long tour ending Sunday, May 17 took them to the Edgumbe school and hospital, teas, coffees, receptions, and Democratic gatherings. They even planned a door-to-door campaign in Nome.

Mrs. Carr came to Alaska about 25 years ago at the age of 12 from Oklahoma City. She and her husband, who owns a large supermarket chain, now live in Anchorage with their three children, ages 18, 17, and 15.

## Bill Disappointing...

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the villages as requested by the AFN. Under the new draft all villages except those in Southeastern Alaska will be permitted to select up to one township for every 400 persons rather than a maximum of two townships for a village with more than 400 persons.

Provisions in the original draft providing for the termination of the Bureau of Indian Affairs within 5 to 13 years after passage and the elimination of the Public Health Service were also modified.

According to recent reports, after four years the Secretary of the Interior is instead directed to submit a proposed plan to Congress for an orderly transition of these services to the State.

Speaking for the AFN, Borbridge said that the organization's efforts in this area were successful. The AFN had sought modification to eliminate an automatic termination of the services.

In their request for mineral lands, Alaska's 55,000 natives did not fare quite so well.

As mentioned earlier, the AFN had requested one million acres of mineral lands. Fifty per cent of this amount was to be selected north of the Brooks Range.

Initially, Borbridge explained, the AFN had requested a two per cent perpetual royalty from oil and gas revenues. When the committee decided against this, he continued, and instead voted for the fixed dollar amount of \$500 million in royalties, the AFN requested the one million acres of mineral lands as an alternative to the perpetual royalty.

The mineral lands would insure the natives a continuing share in the resources of the land to which they are relinquishing their claim and "would assure that a just settlement today would be considered a just settlement 10 to 50 years from today," he said.

According to the most recent draft of the bill, the only way natives can receive the one million acres of mineral lands is if the State of Alaska files a suit against the 2 per cent overriding royalty and wins.

Also, the AFN had requested that 50 per cent of the proceeds from these mineral lands go to the Arctic Slope Eskimos who now claim the oil rich lands of the North Slope.

In addition, these Eskimos were to be able to select 100,000 acres of land from anywhere on the North Slope including the Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 4.

And, a separate corporation for the Arctic Slope Eskimos was to be established to handle the revenues from the mineral lands. The mineral rights for the 4.5

million acres of statewide village lands rest with a statewide corporation established by the bill, not with the immediate villages from which the mineral revenues are drawn.

According to Upicksoun, the Arctic Slope natives were seeking special consideration just as the Tlingit and Haidas and Tyonek Indians have for their valuable lands. The Tlingit and Haidas were awarded \$7.5 million by the U.S. Court of Claims for forest lands taken from them by the government, and the Tyonek Indians of Cook Inlet leased reservation lands to major oil companies for about \$13 million.

The only special consideration shown the Arctic Slope group in the bill is the provision for an additional 500,000 acres on the North Slope with surface rights.

Eben Hopson, executive director of the AFN, strongly termed this provision a poor substitute for what was requested.

"The surface rights to 500,000 acres of land on the North Slope don't mean anything," he stressed.

"What can the North Slope do with 500,000 acres of land to which they have only the surface rights?"

They, in effect, now have such rights, he continued, subject to the State Fish and Game regulations which "we feel we are in a position, to some extent, to control through our elected representatives."

And, he added, "there is absolutely no use in setting up a separate corporation for the North Slope Eskimos if, in fact, we are going to deal with nothing but surface rights. You've got to have something for the corporation to do."

It is expected that the bill will be reported to the Senate floor the last of May following final meetings of the committee.

Both Borbridge and Hopson said that they were not sure what action the AFN representatives will take once the bill reaches the floor of the Senate. The group could possibly seek an amendment on the floor but in doing so might open up other portions to amendment.

Hopson explained that the organization would probably "play the situation by ear" keeping in close touch with its Washington attorneys.

Once the bill reaches the House of Representatives, Hopson stressed that the AFN intends to try to improve the bill and press for more land.

Indications are, Borbridge said, that the House will be prepared to hold a hearing around the middle of June based on the bill that will be emerging out of the Senate.

## AFN PR...

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overall public relations efforts on the Claims issue was achieved with a guest appearance on Wednesday, May 6, on the Martha Deane radio program on station WOR in New York City.

The radio show, which was done live, devoted 45 minutes to a discussion of the Native Land Rights issue and pending Congressional legislation.

The Martha Deane Show is one of the oldest and most prestigious radio programs in the country and commands a high listening audience. Mr. Borbridge was invited to reappear as a guest on the program at a later time as the claims issue develops further.

The efforts to arouse the "National Conscience" require a great deal in terms of resources such as financing, man-power and expertise. While Alaska Natives may lack the financial resources our accomplishments, despite this lack, have been most encouraging.

It is a pleasure to report that the efforts of the A.F.N. are indeed succeeding.

CBS Television has agreed to do a three-part series that will focus on the Alaska Native Land Rights issue. A part of this series will devote itself to the heritage, culture and history of the Alaska Natives. Special attention will be given to the substantive aspects of the claims being asserted by the Alaska Natives.

Mr. Alva Cox, Jr., who will produce the series, met with Mr. Borbridge for several hours while in Washington, D.C. and a subsequent meeting has been arranged. It is anticipated that the filming of this three-part series will occur in mid-July.

Time-wise, this will occur at a time when the A.F.N. efforts in the House of Representatives will require a great deal of publicity and support.

Meetings were also held with representatives of the National Council of Churches, the United Churches of Christ, the American Jewish Committee and representatives of the NBC Huntley-Brinkley Show who expressed an interest in covering the issue at such time as a bill is reported out of the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee and passed by the Senate.

## Yakima Indian Loan...

(Continued from page 1)

Interior and Insular Affairs in the very near future. Then it must be voted on by the Senate and acted on by the House of Representatives and finally by a House-Senate compromise committee.

The lobbyists will need funds for transportation, rentals, and per diem in addition to a salary.

Concerning the funding of day-to-day operations, the loan would provide for the hiring of a deputy director, administrative assistant, and a secretary to assist the executive director of the federation for a one-year period.

These positions were authorized by the board of directors at a March meeting and are merely awaiting funding.

Also, Hopson said, the loan would be sufficient to provide for a public relations effort in the lower 48 to further the passage of a "just" native land claims bill.

Such an effort, he added, would be primarily to inform people outside Alaska of the native position on the land claims

issue and to urge them to contact their Congressional representatives.

## Home Purchase

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to make the monthly payments. In addition to job and family stability, he must have a need for the grant.

The program has been in operation for about 3 years in Alaska, but the number of applications has been few, largely, the spokesman said, because people are unaware of the program.

However, he admitted that the \$2,000 was not, in most cases, adequate for a down payment.

After October 31, 1970 only those who have completed training within a minimum of 6 months or a maximum of 5 years will be eligible but until then no time limitation will be imposed on the training requirement. Those interested should contact the Employment Assistance Branch of the nearest BIA office and inquire about the Home Purchase Program.