

# DRAMA, POIGNANCY IN LAND TESTIMONIES

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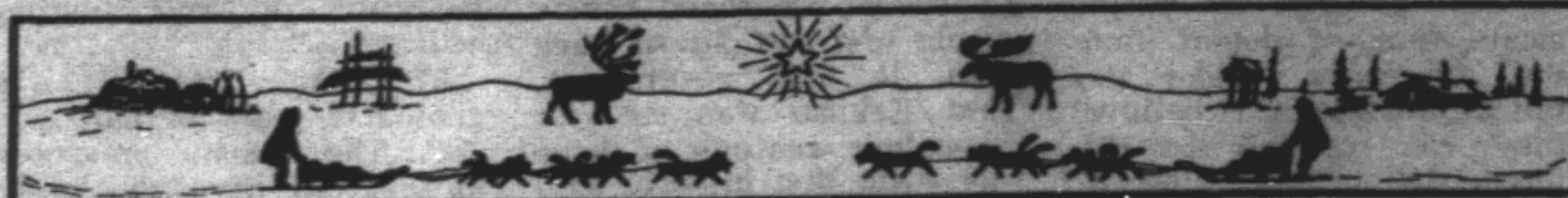
## Tundra Times

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Inupiat Paitot People's Heritage

Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak



Tlingit  
Ut kah neek Informing and Reporting

Vol. 5. No. 111

Friday, February 23, 1968

Fairbanks, Alaska

# GOV. TO ATTEND POTLATCH

## State Chief Executive To Be Here During Native Feasting, Dances

The Chief Executive of the State, Walter J. Hickel, is going to attend the native potlatch in Fairbanks on March 16.

Ralph "Lightfoot" Perdue, local jeweler, native leader and an Athabaskan, has challenged Emil Notti, president of the Alaska Federation of Natives, Richard Frank, president of the Fairbanks Native Association, and Don Wright, president of the Cook Inlet Native Association, to a snowshoe race also on March 16.

"Jules called me and told me that the Governor is definitely going to be at the

potlatch," said Perdue. "This is the first time the governor of the State has consented to attend."

Rep. Jules Wright, R-Fairbanks, was the caller from Juneau.

The potlatch is the yearly event sponsored by the Fairbanks Native Association. Last year, the festive occasion was attended by about 1,200 people at the Monroe Auditorium.

It will again be held at Monroe this year and the admission charge will be \$2.50 per person. Native women will start serving the big feast starting at 4:30

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## Med. Profession Deems Marijuana As a Potentially Dangerous Drug

A lot of words have been said lately in the press to the effect that marijuana is

not dangerous.

Proof, of course, is difficult to come by—either to prove that it is NOT dangerous or to prove that it IS dangerous. However, no doctor will ever recommend the use of marijuana because its reaction cannot be fully predicted.

No one can say that a person using marijuana will eventually step up to Heroin—but this has happened often enough.

"There is full agreement that the use of marijuana is not to be condoned if for no other reason that its propensity to lead its victims into more serious types of addiction," said Dr. Edward

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## No Radio Contact Since December at Anaktuvuk Pass

The village of Anaktuvuk Pass in the remote Brooks Range country has been without radio contact since early in December.

The state-owned old model AM radio was installed in the state school back in 1959 or 1960 when the school was completed.

"Without radio, we have no way of outside communication and if an emergency comes up, we have no way of getting outside help," said Roosevelt Paneak of Anaktuvuk.

Paneak said that if the radio had been working on February 8, it might have

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ESKIMO LAWMAKER DIES—State Rep. John Westdahl of Holy Cross, died last Monday in the Kobuk Motel in Anchorage, apparently the victim of natural causes. On Feb. 6, during the preparations for the

land claims hearings, Mr. Westdahl is talking with William Paul, Sr., left, and Alex Shadura, center.

—TUNDRA TIMES Photo

## Gov. Appoints Paukan to Fill Seat Vacated by Westdahl's Death

State Democratic legislators expressed satisfaction and approval of the selection of Moses Paukan of St. Mary's to replace Rep. John Westdahl who died last Monday in Anchorage. Westdahl was also from St. Mary's.

Paukan was voted in to fill the vacancy yesterday by the Democratic minority in the State House of Representatives and the vote was unanimous.

"I think everybody is

pleased," said Rep. Mike Bradner of Fairbanks. "The Governor accepted the people's suggestion and he handled it very courteously."

"We think he is a very good man for his area. I'm very pleased that the Governor chose to appoint him," said Rep. Jalmur Kerttula, Democratic minority leader in the House.

"I think he is a good appointment," said Rep. Willie Hensley. "He has

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## Editorial—The Most Critical Need

The Alaska native land claims Congressional legislation seems to be girding for action in not too distant future in the nation's capitol and the designated native leaders and their legal advisors must be there to aid in any way they can toward the forging of the final solution that has long been awaited.

The action on lands matter has been developing so fast in recent months that it has a dizzying effect on the people concerned with its formulation. Under these conditions, preparations for the supporting needs tend to fall behind. One of these is the highly critical need for funds to finance the needed travels to Washington to help support the cause of the native people embodied in

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## Testimonies for, Against at Hearing

(Editor's Note: During the three-day land claims hearing in Anchorage on February 8-10 before the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs conducted by its chairman, Senator Henry M. Jackson and acting chairman, Senator Lee Metcalf, many moving and eloquent testimonies were given by the native leaders, their counsels, and their friends in favor of the latest land bill, S.2906, a compromise bill drawn up by Gov. Walter Hickel's Land Claims Task Force, the State, and the Department of the Interior.

There were also dissenting testimonies and these came from Alaska Miners Association and geologists. There were also testimonies in which humor was injected whether purposely or not purposely.

The following are excerpts from some of the testimonies and due to space limitations, we are forced to leave out many equally dramatic presentations and we are sorry.)

RICHARD FRANK, former Chief of Minto and member of the Governor's Task Force: "...It has taken 84 years for us to sit down across the table from each other and talk about land claims. In the old days, and even today, a lot of the old people cannot understand what it is all about.

"We know what it is all about. We know that this is our father's land. We know that for our children to be part of the new America we have to live in villages or in the city for them to go to school.

"But that doesn't mean that we have forgotten about our land. We want to sit

down and talk about what the government promised over 80 years ago. We have a right to our ancient land..."

BETZI WOODMAN, free lance writer and correspondent for Reuters News Service:

"...I have come to know scores of people in these places and have observed and listened to many more. It is the sum of these experiences which prompts my testimony in favor of S.2906.

"The committee has heard the affecting testimony of the people. I'm certain that never before in Alaska has there been such a personal chronicling of great loss and deep trouble.

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