

88-49-62

Clay Antiokia, Emily Brown, Dwight Schnell

Jeff Kennedy, moderator

Series: Potlatch series

1976

A report from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. An unidentified person, Tana Beebee talked about the passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act which happened in 1971. Eligible people were given two years to register for benefits under the Act. At this time some 79,000 are participating in the settlement. There are more people who can share in this settlement who were enrolled in time. Clay Antiokia said it is not too late to register. Congress has passed Public Law 94 or commonly called the Omnibus Bill. This bill makes many corrections to the first claims bill and recognizes that some people were missed and allows an additional year to enroll. It is another opportunity to get benefits from the act. Antiokia said there are several reasons why people did not enroll. Some people just did not hear about the act. There are people that just didn't get the word. They now have an additional year to enroll. There may be 1500 to 5000 Alaska Natives who still haven't signed up for the act. Antiokia said the Act provides for 12 regional corporations and the land and money goes to the corporations. There are cash benefits from the corporations.

Yupik song by the Nome Belts High School Dancers

A song by Edith Tegoseak and Emily Brown at the Native Arts Festival in Fairbanks, Alaska in 1976. Emily Brown said she would like to make a few comments about the works of the anthropologists. She hopes there are anthropologists in the audience. She said anthropologists have said that Eskimos have no rhythm, have no plot in their literature, and they have dead stories. Emily Brown said they are proving tonight that Eskimos do have rhythm and their stories have plots. She said when their literature is published they will see this. She will tell a story about stick games. She thanked the Nome High School students for their performance. She said she is a poor speller because she has a little bit of Russian blood. She said her parents and aunts and uncles taught her some of the games. She will talk about an ancient game. She said many years ago the Eskimos and Indian people had wars. Several wars past and sometimes their children would be lost. So the people of certain villages invented this game. They invented it because some of those women and children would be kidnapped by their enemies. They put a law in their villages that said we will not allow our women and children to be outdoors at night. So they invented the game to keep them indoors. It has history. She said if you see it in the market please buy it. She learned that from a white man. She has respect for cultures of Alaska. They are great people. She thanked the managers of the festival.

A song from the Top of the World Dancers from Barrow

An interview from the Kotzebue Today program from KOTZ and hosted by Skeeter Malloy. Dwight Schnell will talk about ANCADA, the Alaska Native Commission on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. Schnell

said it has three branches. He is the media specialist. The branches are the media officers, the training component and the technical assistance support services. He said right now the media specialists are working in radio and television. He is also the editor of the monthly newsletter, the ANCADA Answer. It is sent to all of the villages in Alaska and the health and alcoholism offices in the state. He is also developing booklets on the topics of alcohol abuse. Skeeter Malloy said they are trying to change people's attitude toward alcohol. Schnell said basically that is the purpose [of their organization]. He said the media branch of ANCADA is funded under a program called the Alaska Public Organization Project. The basic goal of the project is to change the attitudes of the Alaska public toward alcohol drinking, the alcoholic, and alcohol abuse and how we feel about someone who drinks. Often we have a friend or relative who has a drinking problem and people tend to ignore them. The purpose of the project is to change these attitudes. ANCADA originally came out of the Rural Alaska Community Action program in 1972. They have been in existence for about four years. Skeeter Malloy asked him about future plans. Schnell said from the media standpoint they don't have any plans to open any offices in Kotzebue. The support services have a technical assistance station here in Kotzebue. Skeeter asked about getting on their mailing list. Schnell said you can write to him at 528 West Fifth Avenue, Suite 8 in Anchorage. He said you can also write to Louise Oldberg in Kotzebue. He said the newsletter is basically written for rural Alaskans. They try to write for people in the villages to keep them informed about what is happening in alcohol topics.

A song by Peter LaFarge

Jeff Kennedy said the Omnibus Bill would bring more money into Alaska. Some of the money would provide for medical care. Ted Stevens said he has obtained approval of 1.6 million dollars to fund the amendments to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act that passed earlier this year. They also added three million dollars for additional medical contract care which will be available for all of the areas particularly the ten Alaska hospitals that have contracts with the Indian Health Service. The subcommittee has also put money in this bill for the design of the federal Bureau of Land Management District office in Fairbanks and for the design and planning of a new hospital in Nome. The bill is now on the Senate floor after receiving the approval of the full Appropriations Committee. He believes it will pass in the Senate.

Senator Mike Gravel explains on June 10 the Senate Interior Committee holds oversight hearings for the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. Mike Gravel said there are still some rough edges in the implementation of the Settlement Act. He said this has come to the attention of his staff and the Interior staff. They were able to secure a hearing from the Interior Committee. They will take up this issue as to how the Act is being implemented by the Interior Department. It is a normal oversight function. He is hopeful that with the hearing if there are problems with respect to actions taken by the secretary or not taken by the secretary or the rules in the implementation of this legislation will come forward in the hearing and they can make a judgment whether or not Congress should step in.