

# Senate Hearing Slated

**NESPELEM** — The Colville Confederated tribes—with a U.S. Senate hearing on termination scheduled for June 8 — will hold tribal elections Saturday to choose seven members of their 14-member business council.

All incumbents, five favoring termination and two opposed, are seeking re-election to 2-year terms. Half the council is elected each year. The council presently offers a 10-4 majority favoring termination.

The Omak, Nespelem and Inchelium districts each will elect two councilmen and the Keller district one. Candidates are:

**Omak district:** Narcisse Nicholson, jr., and Thelma Marchand, incumbents; Louis N. Orr, Leonard Tonasket.

**Nespelem district:** Frank George and Shirley Palmer, incumbents; Allen E. (Oscar) Anderson.

**Inchelium district:** Dean Bourgeau and Alice Lawrence, incumbents; William Seymour, Nellie Rima.

**Keller district:** Barney Rickard, incumbent.

**THE COLVILLE** Liquidation Promotors, favoring termination, have endorsed Nicholson and Mrs. Marchand at Omak, Anderson at Nespelem, Bourgeau and Mrs. Lawrence at Inchelium, and Rickard at Keller.

Nicholson is chairman of the tribal business council.

Mrs. Alice Huber, CLP president, said Saturday's elections are "critically important" because of the forthcoming Senate hearing on termination.

Senator Henry M. Jackson, chairman of the committee on interior and insular affairs, has scheduled the hearing for Thursday, June 8, in Washington, D.C.

The Senate has passed Colville termination bills twice. Both died in the House.

**BUT ROBERT L.** Bennett, commissioner of Indian affairs, told the Colvilles during a visit here March 16-17 that Congress "is in a mood for action."

Bennett strongly indicated the BIA will endorse termination provided a plan is developed for those wishing to remain members of the tribe. He said he hoped the Colvilles would prepare such a plan, but suggested termination will move ahead anyway.

During his visit, which marked a milestone in the termination effort, Bennett repeatedly emphasized he had come West with the "blessing" not only of Senator Jackson and Rep. Tom Foley but also of Rep. Wayne Aspinall and Rep. James Haley, key figures in the house committee which previously had stalled Colville bills. (See "I Like It Here," editorial page.)