

School Enrollment is Swelling

By DARLENE SKIN

Selawik school enrollment has reached an all-time high with 203 students. There are more high school students than there are in the lower grades one through six which has 96. In seven through 12 there are 102 students including several new students for the second semester, which began Jan. 21.

New students in the lower grades are Bert Willock, Tommy Willock and Elsie Willock from Kotzebue. Ingram Willock and Roy Willock are in the junior high. In high school Kirk Sampson, Wayne Brown, Ed Pungalik, Kathy Field and Wallace Snyder are from Noorvik.

Tony Jackson is from Kiana. Charlie Custer is from Kobuk and Arlene Cleveland is from Ambler, Willard Commack and Jimmy Jack are from Shungnak.

New students from Selawik are Georgiana Foster, Elsie Starbuck and Wilbur Skin. Mr. Ede has requested another high school teacher and our classes are overcrowded. However, it is not likely that a new teacher will be hired, and Selawik school continues to be bursting at the seams.

Selawik High School is really two high schools. The ninth and tenth grade are funded by S.O.S., and are under the Selawik Advisory School Board. But the eleventh and twelfth grade are funded by a special Johnson-O'Malley grant to the Selawik Educational and Cultural Foundation. Last month at the annual meeting of the SECF, a high school 18-year-old senior, was elected on the board.

Jonas Ramoth is president, Oran Walton is vice-president, Lora Davis and Nellie Sheldon are members. Laurence Larkin is the secretary and treasurer, and signs the checks. He is probably the only high school student in Alaska on a policy, making school board who can help hire his own teachers.

The boarding home students have organized a club on the 22nd of January. The BHP students elected officers, as follows: President, Ed Pungalik of Noorvik, Vice-president, Willard Commack of Shungnak, Secretary, Kathy Field of Noorvik, and Treasurer Kathy Wesley of Noa-

tak. The BHP students again elected Ed Pungalik for their student representative and another student, Rachel Cleveland of Ambler.

They will meet every week. It is good for them to get together and solve their problems if they think they are serious. The club will also try to make money by showing movies and probably selling a variety of foods and interesting items.

There was a large crowd of Selawik people gathered at the airplane Wednesday afternoon, Jan. 30, when Ben Foxglove Jr. left for Washington, D.C. to represent Alaska at the National Youth Leadership Congress Feb.

2-9. Everyone in Selawik is excited that Ben is one of 100 students in the country chosen for this honor. We know he will see many things and share his trip with us when he returns.

There is an important city election in Selawik on Feb. 9, after several members of our National Guard unit, including our Mayor Joe Ballot return from Anchorage. I will be reporting on that in my next column.



LAURENCE LARKIN
High School Board Member