

Two Rural School Project Programs

COLLEGE—Two programs, one familiar and the other experimental, are in progress now under the auspices of the Alaska Rural School Project.

The established program is an institute which offers training for teachers new to rural Alaska; the experimental project, conducted with the Department of Linguistics and Foreign Lan-

guages, is part of an effort to develop bilingual education within the state.

The Institute for Training of Teachers for Alaska's Rural Schools is a series of courses with graduate-level credit for teachers who are new to rural Alaska and its problems.

The three-part program includes an anthropological survey

of the people of the North, stressing cultural values and temporal orientation of Alaska native groups, as well as problems of acculturation; a class in elementary school methods and materials, designed to emphasize techniques appropriate for Alaskan environment and culture; and a special course in teaching

(Continued on Page 6.)

Rural School...

Continued from page 2

language arts to bilingual students, stressing methods and materials of teaching English to students whose primary language is one of the native Alaskan tongues.

"We don't want to try to teach children to read English who don't speak it yet," Mrs. Winnifred Lande of the Rural School Project explained. "They'll first learn to read and write in their native tongue."

Under this program, English will be taught as an oral language by qualified teachers in a three-person team situation; the the second and third members will be the primary (native) language instructor and the principal teacher who will direct classroom studies and activities.