

# Oral English Method Published to Teach English to Ethnic Groups

A new method of teaching English was recently presented to the Tundra Times for review. The Oral English method, by Thomas and Allen, and published by The Economy Company of Oklahoma City, introduces a new concept in Teaching English which promises to benefit children to whom English is a second language.

Most approaches utilized in teaching English involve association of objects with written words.

Often, children are taught the written word for a specific ob-

ject, such as a horse. Conventional methods present difficulty to our Eskimo and Indian children, for whom a horse would be foreign to their culture.

The Oral English method does not attempt to initially teach written words. It is based on the premise that the child should learn to speak English before being taught to read the language.

Most Americans grow from infancy possessing English as a native language. Yet for many American Indians, Eskimos, and other ethnic groups, English is a second language.

The Oral English Method is intended to help children of these groups to exist in an English-speaking culture while maintaining an appreciation for their own culture.

Conventional teaching methods have perpetuated substandard English in America's many

subcultures. A teaching method which would benefit these groups is considered to be long overdue.