

# Water Treatment-

## *Village of Akutan to Get Facility*

The Aleut community of Akutan on the Aleutian Chain will have a new water treatment facility this summer, according to Dimitri Philemonof, regional director for the Aleutian Planning Commission.

The director said that the community had requested assistance for the vitally needed project and Dennis Gould of King Cove, who is the deputy director of the Commission, visited the village.

Gould reported, "The people would like to get a chlorinator and filter system for their water source, due to the fact that their young children they feel are getting sick from the volcanic ash that falls around there. This they say is caused from the Akutan volcano some seven miles from the village.

"They would like to have their water pipes renewed. These pipes go to most of the houses to supply the water. The people stated that the pipes were put in the year 1927 and are pretty well rusted out.

"The water that goes to the village comes from a reservoir up on a hill some eighty feet above the village. About 600 ft. of 6 inch wooden pipe is used to get the water down to the village. These pipes are also

starting to give in, they said."

The Public Health Service was notified of the problem and were willing to do the work if materials could be provided.

An immediate response was received from George Pederson, PHS Senior Sanitarian, and the materials have been ordered. The project is expected to cost around \$11,000, exclusive of labor.

The village will try to obtain a grant to cover the labor, but if this does not transpire, the people are willing to donate their time.

Akutan, which has a population of 101, also needs housing, and a replacement for the village-owned power plant which was installed in 1924.

Philemonof is working on the requests of his people, and so far has been successful in obtaining fuel tanks for Belkofski, acquiring social services such as the Food Stamp program, and an alcoholism program.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs has made a commitment to send a representative twice a year to each of the eleven villages on the Chain, and also to supply a typewriter to each community, four of which have been received.