

79 OUT OF 107 IN ADULT CLASS AT KASIGLUK



STORY HOUR—Old man Brink is telling Eskimo stories to Head Start kiddies.



READING TUNDRA TIMES—Adult class, including Irvin Brink, village president, are reading the Times.



HOP-HOP RACE—Ina Keen is directing Kasigluk pre-schoolers on the Hop-Hop Race.

The village of Kasigluk with a population of 107 is probably enjoying a top percentage of enrollees in its adult education class in the state or for that matter, the world.

Out of 107 folks in the village, 79 adults have enrolled and one of the main props in their studies is the reading of the Tundra Times.

Two young people have been responsible. One is Ina Keene, an Eskimo, who works as a Neighborhood Youth Corp and librarian aide and the other is Joli Morgan and he is a VISTA Volunteer.

In the past, the village folks had been told that there was little interest in adult education classes but Ina and Joli found it to be a different story.

"But, perhaps, this new interest in education is because we take our program into almost each house," writes Ina Keene. "During the afternoon, I work with our 35 beginning students and it takes me a week to visit each one."

During these visits, Ina spends about a half hour helping her new students with their ABC's and how to write their names and on their level one workbooks.

"All my students are the older people in the village and, I think, the hardest workers," said Miss Keene.

She said that Joli Morgan, "when he has time from his other work," visits with the other 44 advanced students.

The two young people also conduct a village general meeting once a week on Tuesday nights. Since they cannot use the Bureau of Indian Affairs school for meetings, Joli Morgan rents the village movie hall.

"On Tuesday nights," writes Ina, "we talk about general subjects, first aid, and sometimes show an educational film."

Miss Keene stressed that besides the Tundra Times' use as a study guide, she wants it understood that she and Morgan had received a great deal of help from Jefferson Jeffers of the State Department of Education.

"I say this," said Ina to the Tundra Times editor, "so you will understand that we have used material from the State Department of Education along with Tundra Times. It would be unfair to Mr. Jeffers not to tell you this."

Ina and Joli are also conducting a pre-school children's classes under some difficulties because the village has no community hall.

"We have not been able to get a funded Head Start program although we try each year—so Joli and I teach a pre-school class in the VISTA house each weekday morning," writes Ina Keene.

They teach an average of 15 little tots each day. The children are taught both English and Eskimo. Older Eskimos tell stories of legends to the children in their own language.

The children are taught to color, play games and go for long walks.

LIBRARY

Ina Keene and Joli Morgan are very proud of their library and they consider it as one of their best projects.

"We started with a small VISTA Book Kit last July,"



VILLAGE LIBRARY—Miss Keene and Gertrude Berlin working in the library.



HOME LESSONS—Miss Keene, standing, is giving lessons to the Brinks in their home.



ART—Miss Keene teaching little Gertrude Berlin her art lessons.

says Ina. "We then received help from the state library and from many friends and schools. We now have over 2,000 books in our library."

"Again because we have not been able to get a community center, these books have to be kept in the VISTA house. We now worry about what will happen to these books when our VISTA leaves," she said.

TUNDRA TIMES

"The Tundra Times has

been a great help to us in our adult education program," Ina writes. "We have used it to explain the importance of a newspaper and how to read a newspaper."

"We use the 65 copies you sent us as a reading resource. We also use the weekly Tundra Times we receive in our Tuesday night classes. We now have quite a number of them tacked to the wall."