



'What Is It?' Exhibition at UA Museum

A special "What Is It?" exhibit will be unveiled Monday, Dec. 9 at the University of Alaska Museum, to challenge the historical and cultural knowledge of Fairbanksans and members of the university community, according to L.D. Rowinski, director of UA's museum.

Prepared by the museum's technical assistant, James D. Greiner, the exhibit features a bevy of cultural and historical items from the museum's extensive collections of Alaskana that are not what they may seem to be at first glance.

A "What Is It?" contest, open only to UA students, offers a \$10 gift certificate, redeemable at the UA bookstore, to the student who most accurately identifies the exhibit items before Dec. 13, the day museum representatives post a key identifying the items in the unusual display.

The "What Is It?" exhibit will be on display daily from 1 to 5 p.m. until Jan. 3.

The museum will be closed Christmas Day.

The melancholia of everything completed! —NIETZSCHE

—Photo by SPENCER LINDERMAN

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ARCTIC VILLAGE—Nestled deep in the foothills of Alaska's northeastern corner of the formidable Brooks Range, the village of Arctic Village lives its life in the Arctic version of pastoral living. Its Athabascan citizens live off the land caribou being the main source of food. The animal migrates in great numbers around the village. Idyllic fishing areas can be found around

the location of the village. Many of the men come to urban areas in summer seeking employment in seasonal construction work. Women sew beadwork and make winter wear for their men, children and themselves. The village is located about 250 miles in the northeasterly direction from the City of Fairbanks.

ARCTIC VILLAGE..

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made from discarded oil drums left by surveyors.

Across the creek from the faint yellow glow of the kerosene and gas lamps of the village is the contrasting world of the B.I.A. school's electric lights and the distant sound of its generator chugging away in the night.

These things are taken for granted now, but the people are worried—worried about their children and the future of the village. We did not have to visit long to find that these problems were as much in the forefronts of their minds as the uncertainty of finding the wandering caribou herds.

They were anxious to tell their story. One man painstakingly wrote a speech which he read during a tape recorded interview so that he wouldn't forget any of the important things he wanted to say.

Arctic Village is losing its young people. They have gone away to high schools and colleges in the outside world and rarely return now. The people want

their children to come back, but a college education is of little value in the village.

Almost all of the young people, therefore, have chosen to stay "outside," and without a new generation to hunt the caribou and fish the rivers, Arctic Village may die.

Development of the village's scenic area into a recreational site for fishing and hunting offers some very real hope, but other major economic possibilities seem non-existent.

Someday, those few log cabins on the banks of the Chandalar may finally lie empty with the relentless snow and wind driving between the logs which were once chinked with mud and moss.

If this be the destiny of Arctic Village, I for one will mourn the passing of a hardy, honest and friendly peoples' way of life which once existed beyond the reaches of civilization, 118 miles north of the Arctic Circle.

UA CROWNS MARY PR QUEEN

COLLEGE—A University of Alaska sophomore, Mary K. Hughes, was crowned queen of the annual UA Pershing Rifles' Ball Saturday (Nov. 23) to succeed Barbara Miller, an Anchorage junior, as sponsor of the military fraternity.

Elected by the 26 men of Pershing Rifles Company A 9 of UA's Reserve Officers' Training Corps, she will serve as hostess for cadet social functions, and has the distinction of being the only girl in the elite group.

A business administration major, she is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Hughes, 511

Ninth Ave., Anchorage. Her sister, Patti, a UA freshman, was among the finalists in the sponsor competition.

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