

# Recipients of Welfare on Work Training

**JUNEAU**—Nearly 150 welfare recipients have enrolled at offices of the Alaska State Employment Service during the first full month of a new Work Incentive Program, Gov. Walter J. Hickel's office reported today.

The purpose of the program is to help those persons who are receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children welfare assistance, to become regular wage-earners.

Alaska was the first state to sign an agreement with the U.S. Department of Labor to implement the program.

At the time he announced the project, the Governor said it was intended to merge the services of several state agencies.

For example, the Public Welfare Division makes initial referrals, gives family counseling and provides child care facilities. The Alaska State Employment Service enrolls the trainees, develops an individual employability plan, and administers two to four weeks of orientation.

This includes motivation and group sensitivity, hygiene and grooming, labor market information, job interview techniques, work attendance and related subjects.

After orientation, an enrollee is referred to a job training program, placed in a working position, or, in some cases, enrolled in a basic education or high school equivalency class.

(Continued on page 5)

# Work Training

(Continued from page 1)

The Alaska Office of Vocational Rehabilitation provides counseling and remedial aids for physically handicapped enrollees.

The announcement from Hickel's office today said initial reports from the employment service are "encouraging," and "most of the enrollees are highly receptive to the program and clearly pleased with this opportunity."

By area, Anchorage leads with 70 enrollments in the program, followed by Fairbanks with 26; Juneau, 25, and Ketchikan, 23.

The state's contract for the Work Incentive Program provides that the Alaska project will include a maximum of 200 recipients enrolled at one time. However, the state expects this maximum to increase to 300 in fiscal 1970, which will allow an extension of the program to many smaller communities.

At present there are 1,478 families on the state welfare rolls who are receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children assistance.

Those who offend us are generally punished for the offence they give; but we so frequently miss the satisfaction of knowing that we are avenged!

—TROLLOPE

A person who can't pay, gets another person who can't pay, to guarantee that he can pay.

—DICKENS