

Selawik H.S. Graduates Its Class of 1974

By DARLENE SKIN

Selawik, Alaska

SELAWIK — Selawik High School's first graduation was held May, 1974, at 4 p.m. in the Selawik Friend's Church with a reception following at the high school.

Those in the graduating class were Kenneth Clark (Selawik), Kathy Field (Noorvik), Chuck Henry (Kiana), Lawrence Larkin, Ada Smith, Elsie Starbuck (Selawik), and Kathy Wesley (Noatak).

Helen Davis and Martha Tick-

et of Selawik also took part in the graduation having received diplomas earlier from the Alaska International Academy. Twenty eighth grade graduates also received certificates.

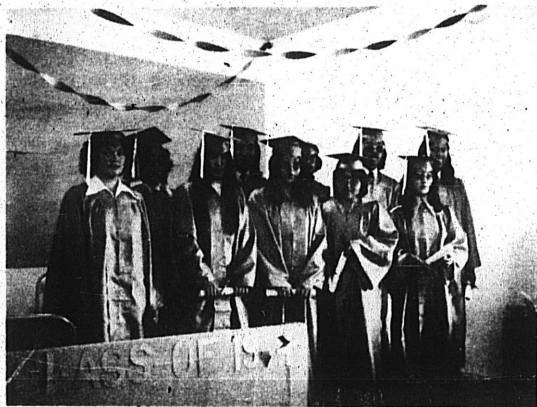
State Sen. Willie Hensley had been scheduled to be the graduation speaker but was in Selawik the Saturday before graduation and explained to the seniors that he had to make a trip to Washington, D.C.

He later sent a telegram of congratulations to the graduating class with his regrets that he could not be present.

Replacing Senator Hensley as speaker were Selawik School Board President Jonas Ramoth and Selawik Mayor Joe Ballot. Jonas Ramoth expressed the pride of the school board and community in this first graduation from Selawik High School.

In a very moving speech in English and Eskimo City Mayor Joe Ballot said that this first high school graduation was the biggest milestone in the history of Selawik.

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... Graduating class at the village of Selawik, Alaska

Grads at Selawik . . .

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wik.

He said that Selawik students had graduated from high school before but that this was the first time their parents had been present for the graduation ceremony and that they were very happy it would be that way from now on.

Senior class members read the class history, will and a class prophesy and sang, "We Have Only Just Begun," accompanied by Mrs. Nancy Johnston.

Jim Ede, Selawik School Administrator, and Jonas Ramoth handed out diplomas to the proud graduates.

A number of awards were presented by various teachers to outstanding students. Seniors Chuck Henry and Elsie Starbuck received leadership awards.

NANA awarded scholarship money to four graduates: Elsie Starbuck who plans to attend Alaska Methodist University, Kathy Field who is attending the University of Alaska in Anchorage, Kathy Wesley who will attend the University of Alaska in Fairbanks, and Ada Smith, who will be attending Sheldon Jackson Junior College.

A fifth scholarship winner, Ben Foxglove Jr., who won the William Randolph Hearst Leadership Scholarship earlier this year, does not graduate until next year.

Jim Ede presented a special plaque of appreciation to retiring teacher Bea Kahl, who after 15 years of service in rural Alaska schools and 30 years in teaching, is leaving Alaska to live on a farm in Minnesota.

Mrs. Kahl, along with her husband, Ley, who retired from Selawik School last year, will be remembered by Alaskan students from Huslia, Stony River, Chignik and Metlakatla who would gladly join Selawik students in saying, "Thank you for all of your efforts in improving education in rural Alaska."

As Selawik High School comes to the end of its first year as a four-year high school we can look back with pride in what we have done, laugh at our mistakes and look forward to the coming years in our new high school building.

We have mailed our first yearbook to the printer and when it comes back, we will all have a

memory book of our beginnings.

Mrs. Ede, the yearbook sponsor, has worked hard to help us put an annual together and teachers Maynard Perkins and Gene Heckler spent many hours helping with the photography.

We are keeping our Northern Lights Restaurant open this summer under the supervision of Allen Ticket. If you are in Selawik this summer, stop in and I'll be happy to serve you.

When fall comes I'll be sending our Selawik News in once again to Tundra Times. It's been lots of fun to be a correspondent. Thank you.