

***Editorial—***

# **Research Needed on Regional High Schools**

The reported difficulties at the William E. Beltz State Regional High School in Nome, we believe, bear the extent of research so the state can learn what is wrong in that regional system. Getting to the bottom of the existing difficulties can perhaps establish a future criteria in the administration of regional secondary education.

Similar schools, such as that at Nome, are in the plans for Kotzebue, Bethel, and other localities, for implementation. What is learned at the Beltz school as to difficulties might be avoided in the future administration of the regional facilities. In order to mete them out, a distinctively impartial research into the problems should be made.

If a study is made at Beltz, it should be remembered that the facilities in the northern areas of the state will be utilized by predominantly native secondary students. It should be remembered that these students are peculiarly imbued with the nature of their surroundings and cultures of their areas. This should be kept in mind because a New York type secondary education facility will not altogether fit like a glove when applied in northern Alaska where physical surroundings, customs and traditions are as different as night and day with those in New York.

The State of Alaska has a big stake in the education of its young people. It cannot be less interested—less motivated—in the administering of its regional schools. It cannot be less interested in providing on even scale, quality education with equal provisions of curricula that, perhaps, would somehow be amenable to the unique areas of northern schooling. With the achievement of this, it would be even more desirable atmosphere for free integration of students in regional high schools especially.

Perhaps the mixing together of the state's secondary students can provide an answer in the area of attitudes in integrated schools. They, perhaps, can come up with the answer for a more meaningful administration of future regional high school facilities.