

Emily Writes a Book—

Grandfather of Unalakleet

"Grandfather of Unalakleet," a book by Emily Ivanoff Brown, post-graduate student at the University of Alaska at Fairbanks came off the presses of The Eskimo, Indian, Aleut Printing Co. this week.

Mrs. Brown, who earned her Master of Arts in Communication Arts at the University of Alaska last spring, wrote the book as her thesis. It deals with the history of the Unalakleet region below Seward Peninsula on the west coast of Alaska.

"The Aboriginal people there had no written language," Mrs. Brown, an Eskimo/Russian American, explained. "The oral history began losing the discipline of closely monitored retelling immediately upon the arrival of diverse people from other nations."

Mrs. Brown, known also by her Eskimo name of Ticasuk, grew up in Unalakleet. For 30 years, as a widow, she taught school in Alaskan villages to support her three sons. After they were grown she returned to the University of Alaska to complete her bachelor's degree and then go on for the masters.

"I came to the University to learn to write in accepted ways so I could communicate our cultural heritage," Mrs. Brown explained. "I quickly learned that I would have to take a great diversity of courses in the Arts and Letters and Social Sciences and meld this knowledge with folklore and mythology in order to reconstruct the oral history of my people. I also wanted to help show other Aboriginal people how they, too, lacking written records, can trace their lineage, their cultural heritage."

The book also shows how the people of Unalakleet are re-



FIRST LOOK AT HER BOOK — Emily Ivanoff Brown gets her new book with Prof. Bedford, who helped guide it into production.

lated through the lineage of Alluyagnak, the great chief of these people.

Mrs. Brown credits Professors Jimmy B. Bedford and Charles J. Keim of the Journalism Department with "helping her to pilot the thesis and book into reality."

Prof. Bedford, head of the department, is a board member of the Tundra Times, and also of the E.I.A. printing company, which he helped found.

Mrs. Brown has published many other materials in many forms, and approximately three years ago received a commendation from the President of the United States "in recognition

of exceptional service to others in the finest American tradition."