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The fourth volume of THEATA is now available. This year, Native students at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks have based their articles on a central theme: Yesterday and Today.

The articles examine changing Alaska from many and various viewpoints, focusing not only on what aspects of the Native culture are being lost, but also on what is being gained.

Through the eyes of Native Alaskans, we see the culture of the Eskimo, Indian and Aleut in a state of transition. Some of the writers describe past customs which are now largely supplanted by modern trends, such as Kutchin puberty rites or the use of dogsleds for transportation. Other ancient practices, such as the potlatch festivities in Southwest Alaska, the carving of totem poles, or the art of skin sewing, still survive; and through them, the unique qualities of Alaska Native life are preserved.

Several articles focus on modern changes which are a boon to rural Alaskans--improved educational and communication systems, for example, or the recently passed Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

All in all, volume IV of THEATA has a lot to offer, and at a lower price. Individual issues are \$2.00 apiece; and, starting this year, you can order our special gift package-- all four volumes of THEATA for just \$8.00.

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