

Bush Social Services

JUNEAU—The Federal Government has approved \$416,000 for the third and final phase of the Nation's first Rural Area Social Services Demonstration Project, Governor Keith H. Miller announced this week.

The approval represents final project funding of more than \$800,000 of Federal funds. The State will contribute \$10,300 to be applied against the salaries of 23 personnel for the last 15 days of the project.

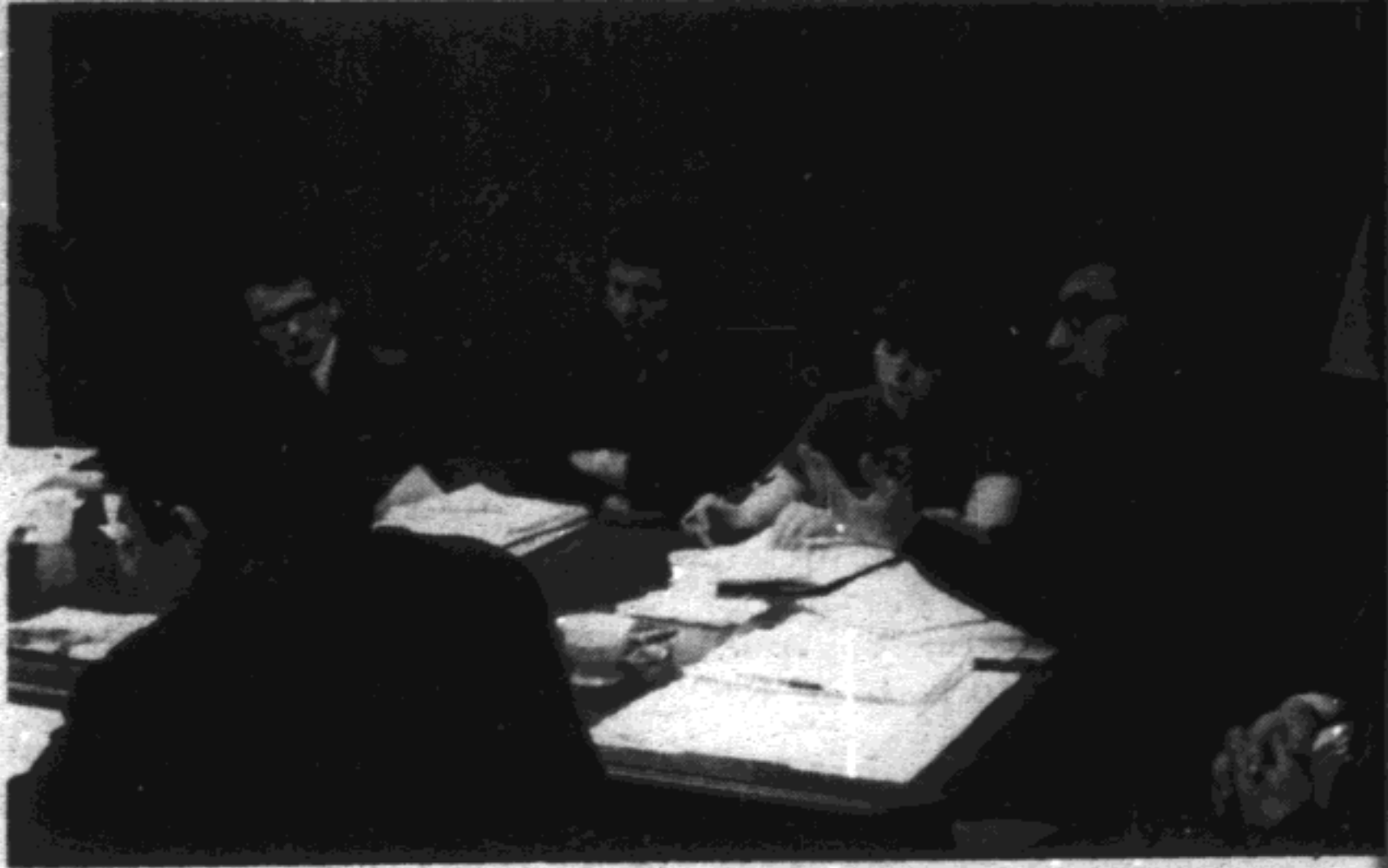
Primary purpose of the project is to train and develop natives to function as human service aides within their own and adjacent villages in providing social services to village residents.

Upon completion of the third phase on December 1, 1970, the aides will be retained as full-time employees of the Division of Public Welfare to assist in social services programs in the villages.

Commissioner J. W. Betit, whose Department of Health and Welfare coordinates the program, said that the formal training received through the Anchorage

Community College and the supervised job experience of the aides will enable them to provide realistic social services to persons living in remote areas.

Continued use of the aides will enable the State to provide meaningful assistance to rural families with alcohol, marital, and child-parent problems, and to assist village councils in recognizing and solving common problems at the village level.



AFN BOARD MEETING—At the federation board meeting last weekend in Anchorage, the board remained firm on its claims stand