

Prof. Bland's Interesting Native History Course

When students who signed up for the "History of the Native Peoples of Alaska" course at Alaska Methodist University attended the opening class last week, they found their introduction to the topic of Native people a very real one.

Instead of hearing an introductory lecture by Mrs. Laurel Bland, who is teaching the course, students listened to remarks by Mr. Adam John, president of the Arctic Native Brotherhood.

Due to the interest shown in the new course, late registration has been extended from 6-7p.m. in the Registrar's Office, Grant Hall. No late registration fee will be required.

Though students who register late will miss the opportunity to hear Mr. John, the opportunities to hear speakers from the Native community will be many.

One class period a week for the entire semester, guest lecturers—all Natives and each having held an office in a Native organization at one time—will speak to the class on their particular area of interest.

This week, Roy Peratrovich, superintendent of the Anchorage agency of the BIA, will lecture on the Tlingit-Haida history.

September 28, Eben Hobson, executive director of the AFN and a past president of the Arctic



NATIVE HISTORY—Prof. Laurel Bland is now teaching the history of the native peoples at the Alaska Methodist University near Anchorage and what makes it uniquely different is that each week, she has a prominent native person as a lecturer on some facet of native history. The course is turning out to be a popular one.

Slope Native Brotherhood, will speak on Arctic Eskimo history.

October 5, Miles Brandon, On-the-Job Training Director for Oskolkoff, a Russian Orthodox priest, will lecture on the Russian Orthodox Church in Alaska.

October 19, Margaret Cooke of Rural CAP will speak to the class about Kuskowim Eskimo history.

Later in the semester, Sophie Wirth, formerly the executive director of Alaska Legal Services and now coordinator for the Rural CAP Head Start program, will elaborate on the history of social change and Eklutna history.

Other scheduled speakers in-

clude Bob Willard, director of the Alaska State Commission for Human Rights, who will speak on Alaska Native involvement with the state and federal government and Byron Mallott, director of Rural CAP, who will cover political and agency history.

In addition to being treated to an array of interesting and well-informed Native peoples, the class will have reference material, in itself quite out-of-the-ordinary for classroom use.

Through Mrs. Bland, the AMU Ethnic Center was able to obtain on indefinite loan copies of the Land Claims hearings texts from Washington.

Only a limited printing of the hearing texts were made, and unlike documents that are pub-

lished through the Government Printing Office, are extremely hard to find, much less have for an extended period of time.

As you may well imagine, this history course will emphasize what has happened to the Alaska Native during the twentieth century and will probably be as up-to-date as what you read in the newspapers tomorrow.