

OODLES OF DOCTORS AT PT. HOPE BUT NO ONE'S ILL...

(Continued from page 1)

have ever seen."

The doctors examined and studied all children under five years of age.

Mrs. Claire Fejes, Fairbanks artist and author of the book about northern Alaska villages, People of Noatak, was called by

People of Noatak, was called by Dr. Glenn Doman, head of the institute, asking her to accompany the party to Point Hope last week.

"I didn't know who they were when they asked me to go along with them, but they had read my book and they asked me to accompany them," said Claire Fejes.

Mrs. Fejes called Point Hope by phone and told the villagers

that the party was coming.

"And what a welcome they gave the doctors and the rest of the party. As soon as we landed, many of the villagers were on the field," said Mrs. Fejes.

That evening, Point Hoppers put on a rousing Eskimo dance for the group led by the old Eskimo dance master Jimmy Killigivuk. The party was welcomed to the village by the acting mayor Henry Attungana. Dr. Glenn Doman spoke for the visitors, who said the welcome was the warmest they had ever received.

"They couldn't get over it," said Claire Fejes. "They had so

much fun that they joined in the Eskimo dance."

Mrs. Fejes, who is no stranger to Point Hope, said the doctors examined Point Hope children and when they got through, they asked the villagers if anyone was sick.

"And wouldn't you know it, no one was sick, not even with a cold," Claire Fejes pointed out.

She said her visit to Point Hope was her first one in many years and she was surprised about the growth of the village.

"There were many nicely painted new homes. People seemed more prosperous and the village store had grown to about

five times its size looking like a town supermarket. Hunting was good and many of the men had worked for wages all summer.

"It was one of the great experiences of my life, going back to Point Hope and being with such affection and warmth.

I shall never forget it as long as I live," concluded Claire Fejes.

And the doctors and rest of the visitors? They were reluctant to leave the village.

"They were two hours late on their charter when we finally left," Mrs. Fejes said.

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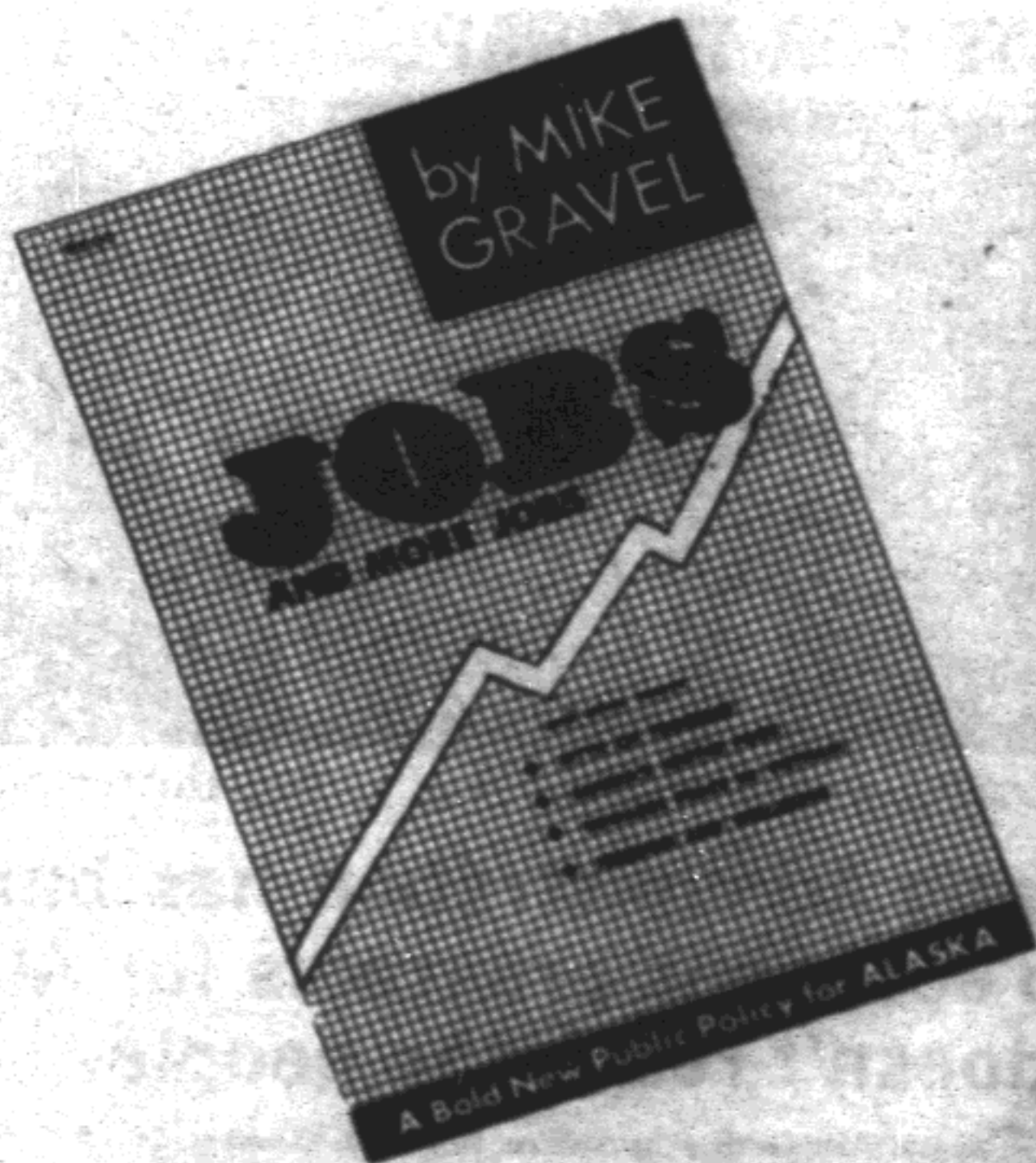
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