



AN IMPORTANT AGREEMENT for sanitary conveniences is signed by representatives of Barrow City Council with Alaska Native Health Area for a project which will alleviate the serious problems of waste dis-

posal in that farthest north city. Shown signing are, far right, Able Akpik, secretary of the Council and second from right, Lester Suvlu, sitting in for President Wayne Panigeo. Others are not identified.

Waste Disposal Problem Plan By Barrowites

A first step toward solving vexing and long-standing waste disposal problems at Barrow will be taken next month as a joint project between the Alaska Native Health Area of the U. S. Public Health Service and organizations of America's farthest north community.

A simple program dictated by extremely difficult terrain and climatic conditions and limited PHS funds has been worked out. Each of the 296 homes and 23 commercial establishments will receive a new "box-and pail" toilet and two covered garbage cans on a stand.

The neatly designed toilet (a handsome avocado color) with special plastic receptacle bags will replace the various contrivances families have used in the past.

The garbage cans will take the place of the unsightly and unsanitary fuel oil drums which have been an unpleasant but necessary part of the town's scene.

The PHS environmental health field engineer, working with the townspeople, will inform them how to keep the new equipment clean for both health and esthetic considerations.

In plans (first begun five years ago) worked out through conferences with the Barrow Improvement Board, JayCees and City Council, PHS will also provide a specially designed four-wheel drive dumping truck. It is due to arrive on the "North Star" in August.

The \$2,000 transportation charge on the truck alone is evidence of cost problems for such a project.

A PHS consultant's survey for safe water supply and sewage disposal system in Barrow a few years ago gave preliminary cost estimates of more than \$2 million for a home system approximating the familiar urban services in other states.