

COPAN-

An Important Program of Orientation

"All in all I learned that life is swimming upstream on the rapids. But in the rapids there are some quiet pools where you content until spring comes and floods you out so that you have to swim again or go downstream."

This philosophy of life was not made by a famous person years ago, but by an Alaskan native student after spending last summer learning about himself and the world he lives in. He, along with 39 other Alaskan native high school graduates, was a part of a unique study session called the College Orientation Program for Alaskan Natives. (COPAN).

Professor Lee Salisbury of the University of Alaska, Director of COPAN, has just completed a thorough study of the program for the past three years and is now making plans for this summer's group of students.

"It is apparent that Alaska Native students are often bewildered and overwhelmed by the freedom and strangeness of college environment," Professor Salisbury says. "Often the decision to drop out or stay in school depends upon whether the student can receive support and encouragement at the time he needs it."

One of the times that the student needs this most is in the period of transition from life in the small village and the rather strict life of high school to the time when he is "on his own" in college. There is a feeling of being alone in a strange place which must be overcome. Those who overcome it often go on to finish college and contribute to their society. Those who don't usually return to their village disappointed.

How does COPAN help bridge this gap? One of the central problems in helping Alaskan natives to help themselves is to assist them in developing a positive self image. One of the central objectives of COPAN is to increase the native student's feelings of confidence and self worth by building a respect and understanding of both the native and western cultures. But this does not take place only in the classroom. COPAN students live in western homes, eat foods that are new to them, make trips to places like Mt. McKinley National Park and a carnival, go horseback riding, and watch television and movies. Then afterward they discuss their experiences with each other.

These comments of the students were typical of their seminar sessions: "The boy (in the book) was encountered by personal experiences which is very similar to what we ourselves are going through now." "I learned about a different kind of person." The book "opened a new world, one I never heard of or realized existed." The other cultures in comparison to ours was very useful in finding out how we are related." "I have much to learn about the native Alaskan culture."

Through discussion of their own particular problems and comparing them to the problems of other people, the students were able to develop a positive self image. Armed with this, and a greater freedom and ability to express themselves, they were better prepared to make the difficult transition from one way of life to another.

Twelve of the 14 students who took part in COPAN last summer entered college. Of the six who enrolled in the University of Alaska, five are still in school and it is reported that the majority are doing well in their classes. The results of the program are being evaluated but the COPAN staff is encouraged by the changes in attitude that have taken place in the students, and their adaptation to the still new and strange surroundings.

This summer will be the fourth and final summer for the

Meets Opposition . . .

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lars the money would be well spent. The younger generations personal development, its spiritual and civic integrity would be more valued than dollars. These human resources are of supreme value. It is these that will contribute most to the building of a happy, industrious people and a great country.

For these reasons we plan to write our senator and representative in Juneau. For the same reasons we are also writing you for we fear that our voices alone will not be enough to prevail over the recommendations of specialists, who it seems understand dollars better than human values. What we think is needed is a united effort of all of the smaller towns and villages, insisting on a system of high schools with boarding facilities where our younger generation can be trained to enter the mainstream of modern American life without cutting their roots with our past. This, we think, Gov. Hickel understands. We must make sure that our senators and representatives understand it also.

Won't you please study this question, and if you think as we do write to your senators and representatives so that we may avoid the catastrophe of Integrated Urban Regional High Schools. The more support that you can get from other villages in your area the better. Let's take no chances in this serious matter and go all out that human values be not destroyed for the sake of a few dollars. The sooner action is taken the better and before this legislature adjourns.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph Olson, President
Nile Smith, Vice President
Roy Joseph, Secretary
Pius Hoelscher, Councilman
Peter Black, Councilman
Julius Green, Councilman
Aron Rivers, Councilman

present COPAN program. Professor Salisbury personally feels that the program has been highly successful, not only for the students, but also for the University, which is learning the special problems of the Alaskan native and is developing programs which will make it easier for the students to adapt to the university and "keep swimming upstream."

--Joel B. Fleming
University of Alaska

State Selects

Plat of survey of 5,503.80 acres of land situated on the easterly slope of Ester Dome, about 10 miles from Fairbanks, will be filed in the Fairbanks, Land Office at 10:00 a.m., March 10, according to the Federal Register.

The entire area has been selected by the State of Alaska.

Sam Taalak . . .

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commented, "Hickel and Kennedy never sweated it out any more than we did waiting for the ultimate and final results!"

Vice-presidents for the organization are: first, Walton Ahmagoak; second, Hugh Nicholls; and third, Dan Lisbourne. The secretary is Samuel Simmonds; the treasurer, William Neakok; and the sergeant-at-arms, James Leavitt.

Hugh Nicholls agreed to retain the executive director position for the time being.

Open North . . .

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that would connect Dunbar, Bornite, Bettles, and Liven-good. This would be a winter haul road, used when the ground and rivers are frozen.

Hickel described this type of road as "the kind of road we can break into the country with." Improvement to the route, and the building of other access trails from this one, would come later.

The final bill would dissolve the Northwest Alaska Development Commission.

Hickel contends this commission, not yet activated, is too limited in nature to fit into his overall plan.

Hickel also announced that these bills were the first step in building a railroad to the Arctic. He said that he hoped to have survey crews in the field this summer.

The first stage of the railroad would extend from Fairbanks to Kobuk (near the copper development at Bornite) the second stage would reach to Nome.

Hickel said that he hoped to have trains running on the first stretch of track out of Fairbanks within five years.

Anaktuvuk Fuel

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oil from Umiat would be available to the villagers if they can use the sleds. Since the sleds would be picked up at Umiat, this arrangement would be convenient for the villagers.

ASNA executive director Hugh Nicholls notes that, if the villagers use sleds with tanks, "they could fill the tanks from the well on the flats at Umiat and 15,000 gallons of this crude would furnish all the needs of the village for a year."

Nicholls has written to the Navy asking for permission to use this oil. This should be granted without any trouble.

There is some question, however, as to whether the well is now equipped to produce the oil. It is not presently in use, and engineers who are familiar with the site could not say for certain whether there is still pumping equipment at the well.

The oil was described by local engineers as being of very high quality as it comes out of the ground, except for one characteristic - it becomes as stiff as vasoline when it is colder than -30 degrees F.

Nicholls said, however, that the villagers could pre-heat the oil before burning it, and would "chop it up with axes if necessary" to get it inside.

If Anaktuvuk Pass is able to get the oil, Barrow will supply the oil stoves left idle when that community acquired natural gas" Nicholls said.

He pointed out that, if these sleds are obtained, the villagers would have three sources of fuel-wood, coal, and oil. Oil would be the most convenient, but any of the three would end the severe fuel shortage at Anaktuvuk Pass.

"Go as far as you can see. When you get there you will be able to see farther."

E. HUBBARD

When you are in the beautiful Kenai Country, stop in at
Rainbow Bar
Kenai, Alaska

UFOs Flying Thick Around Barrow Village

UFO's continued to appear around Barrow this week, and one was even visible from the village.

On Feb. 11, an object was seen south of the village hanging motionless in the air, emitting red and green lights. It suddenly darted to the east, where it again stayed motionless.

While in motion, it emitted an exceedingly bright light, but upon becoming motionless it returned to the alternate red and green blinking light emission.

The next day, a similar object was seen in the village. The UFO's have been seen by Tom Brower, Bill Neakok, Sam Taalak, Harry Brower, and others.

They have also been encountered far inland by several hunting parties.

Curry's Friends

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done by Ed's Electric.

An oil stove was provided by Ruth and Fred Bechan and an oil tank by Union Oil. Building materials were provided "on the cuff" by Don Arndt and Norman Sutliff and Son.

It is hoped that a number of other local residents might participate in this effort by making donations to help defray costs of building material.

Those desiring to so participate can do so by contacting Guy Powell at the ADF&G office.

What Saith the Scriptures?

"Come now let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be like crimson, they shall be as wool" ISA 1:18

My dear reader, have you come before the Lord as to your need of his salvation? The Lord Jesus said in Mat 11: 28 "Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." The Scriptures make it clear that all who would be saved must come in faith and trust Christ as personal Saviour. Then after one has taken Christ as Saviour, he becomes our Lord, and as such says, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." Oh such wonderful love.

L.T. Crook 10 Mi Steese Hy, Fairbanks, Alaska
PAID ADVERTISEMENT

NOTICE TO SENIOR CITIZENS

Senior Citizens must apply annually on or before May 31st of each tax year for exemption from real property taxes, per Fairbanks North Star Borough Code of Ordinances, Title 69, Chapter 5, and Sec. 5-102(b), Code of Ordinances of the City of Fairbanks. Application forms are available from and at the Fairbanks North Star Borough Office, 950 Cowles Street Room 122.

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH CODE OF ORDINANCES:
Sec. 69.05.020(i) - One (1) piece of residential property owned and occupied by a citizen not less than sixty-five (65) years of age, who is a resident of the Fairbanks North Star Borough, Alaska, shall be exempt from the property tax up to and including the amount of Two Hundred Fifty (\$250.00) Dollars, providing such senior citizen of the Fairbanks North Star Borough has been a resident of Alaska for not less than ten (10) years last past and is the head of the household, and providing that not more than one exemption shall be allowed on any piece of property. This exemption is not automatic, but must be applied for at any time during the year by each qualified citizen but not later than May 31st of the current tax year.

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH