

News from Gambell—

# ***There is a Beautiful Side of this White Land***

By GRACE SLWOOKO

Mid-winter days here on St. Lawrence Is. are cold and the snow is piling up around the houses. Snow and ice are cold, many times very uncomfortable, but there also is a beautiful side of white land. This whiteness called snow piles up here and there as the wind puts it into many shapes and thicknesses, this is just beautiful and the air becomes sweet and fresh.

The piling of snow around the houses cause people to make hall ways of snow to their homes because the wind would blow the snow

right over the doors and causes problems in getting in and out, but high wall of snow for hall ways are very nice. When one make a snow shelter, inside of it is calm and have a fresh feeling.

When one looks into this white covering that comes on all our land, he will just get lost in its beauty and wonder, seeing the whiteness of dry cold powder that playfully moves on and around, very pleasant when it is on the ground but when it is up in the air, is not too pleasant as it milds to clear liquid the minute it touches your face, this causes freezing. An-

imal skins for a garment are best for here. One must learn to fix the animal skins properly, so to enjoy the life here. We have found the material, nylon we get from Sears and places out side.

Siberian Yupik name of the month of January is Qaluvik which means the time of bailing for tom cods. Our people used large dippers of net with a baleen brim and a line to catch tomcods this month. So the people are out on the ice fishing for tomcods a lot now. Some coming home with 50 lb. sacks full of them some 25 lb. sacks. Flour sacks are best.