

Kake/Kodiak residents to get degrees

Doctorate of humanities degrees will be conferred on Joseph M. Kahklen and Dr. Joseph Rude, and a doctorate of public administration will be awarded to William Overstreet during ceremonies to be held in Centennial Hall. Overstreet, returning from a stint as Alaska's Far East Representative in Japan, will serve as a speaker for the event.

Joseph M. Kahklen, Sr., is a

Tlingit who was born and raised in Kake, Alaska. He was the first resident of his community to graduate from the eighth grade. He continued his drive for education when he went on to Petersburg High School, and worked his way to a degree from Central Washington College in 1936.

His first teaching position was in the Haines government school in 1937. He served 20 years as a

teacher and as principal/teacher with the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Alaska. In the summer of 1957 he transferred from Mt. Edgecumbe Boarding School at Mt. Edgecumbe, to Arizona to teach on the Navajo Indian Reservation. He served the following 13 years in Navajo schools as a teacher, principal/teacher and principal in various boarding schools. He retired in mid-1970 to return to his home state. In 1967, 38 years after his high school graduation, he fulfilled an ambition of many years by taking his master's degree from Northern Arizona University.

Kahklen continued his public service as the director of the Model Cities program in Juneau. His responsibilities included making local, state and federal agencies aware of the employment

needs in this region of Alaska.

A year later, in 1971, he began his four year role as superintendent of Kake city schools. In 1975 he moved to Angoon where he became the principal of the schools there in 1976 he accepted the position as the district superintendent of the Chatham School District.

In addition to his service to education in Southeast Alaska, Kahklen has served as a member of the board of directors of the Kake Tribal Corporation and as member of the Alaska Native Brotherhood.

Many long-time residents of Juneau know Dr. Rude who has practiced medicine in Southeast Alaska continuously since 1929. He specialized in preventive medicine for Natives and children.

Rude found at a young age, a strong interest in what would be his life-long vocation and avocation: medicine. He completed high school and entered the University of Minnesota as a pre-med student, receiving his degree in 1929.

Dr. Rude found his way to the Alaskan Territory that year, working for a Ketchikan resident physician for \$250 per month. Three months later he moved to Petersburg to open his practice with Dr. Davis. In 1941, with the prospect of war imminent, he moved to Juneau and began practice in the St. Ann's Hospital and the Government Hospital.

Eventually he established practice with Dr. Clements, with successive offices in the 20th Century Building, Triangle Building, and the Odd Fellow Building in what is now the heart of Juneau. After nearly 15 years in partnership, Dr. Clements retired and Dr. Rude carried on. At the age of 65, he went to half-time duty.

Dr. Rude frequently found himself attending school at the Mayo Clinic and the University of Minnesota to upgrade his skills for emergency cases--ruptured appendix, gun shot wounds--and especially to deal with obstetrics cases. Finally, Pan American Airlines started a flight between Juneau and Seattle from 1940-1945 allowing some of the emergency cases and more critical patients could be sent to Seattle.

In addition to his practice in Juneau, Dr. Rude served villages like Angoon and Hoonah on an irregular basis. For 10 years he went to Haines once a month and for several years Skagway was included with weekly visits. He (Continued on Page Seventeen)

UAJ to give doctorate degrees

(Continued from Page Fifteen)

even substituted for vacationing doctors or in communities without a regular doctor as far away as Nome.

William D. Overstreet, who currently serves Alaskans as the Far East Representative, Office of International Trade, Tokyo, Japan, opened his many years of public service in the school system.

He began with one year as a teacher in Colorado and the next five in Juneau. He then followed with five years as an elementary school principal, still in Juneau. At that point Overstreet, who continued to develop expertise in the field of education, worked two years as the Alaska Department of Education supervisor.

The school system in Juneau prospered and education in the state's capital city was enhanced when Overstreet became superintendent of public schools, a post he held for eight years. During his career as an educator, he spent six years as the executive secretary of the Association of Alaska School Boards.

But not everyone in Southeast knows Overstreet as an educator. In 1973 he launched his budding career in politics with a seat as an assemblyman for Juneau. He proved to be a dedicated public servant and the people rewarded that service by electing him mayor in 1976. He served Juneau until 1983 when he stepped down to accept the appointment as Far East Representative.

Overstreet has received honors as president of the Juneau Education Association, president of the Alaska School Superintendents Association, president of the Alaska Conference of Mayors, Juneau Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year Award, a National Community Education Award and many others.

Though these many years of public service exemplify his commitment to the people of Southeast Alaska, in the opinion

of many people of the area one of his biggest contributions was his successful leadership of the campaign to keep Juneau as Alaska's capital city. He carried the message throughout the state, elo-

quently stating the advantages of keeping the capital in Juneau.

UAJ's fourteenth commencement will begin at 3 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend.