

# RALPH KOWCHEE PRODUCES ART ON DEER SKIN

McGrath artist Ralph Kowchee has completed another series of skin drawings—this time on deer skin—which he is offering for sale through the Tundra Times.

Recently, Kowchee sold a caribou skin painting of an Atlantic Richfield oil rig on the North Slope with a herd of caribou in the foreground. This painting was commissioned by Joe FitzGerald of Atlantic Richfield and presently hangs in ARCO's New York offices.

His present series of deerskin drawings are framed with rustic willow stretchers. The drawings range in price from \$20 to \$55 and are on display in the Tundra Times office. Most are done in black on the white skins. Two drawings have blue highlights.

"I am working on several experiments on different skins, and my ultimate goal of drawing on the fur side of a seal skin looks like it will be a success," writes Mr. Kowchee. "I am trying to achieve the fine quality lines, same as on the smooth

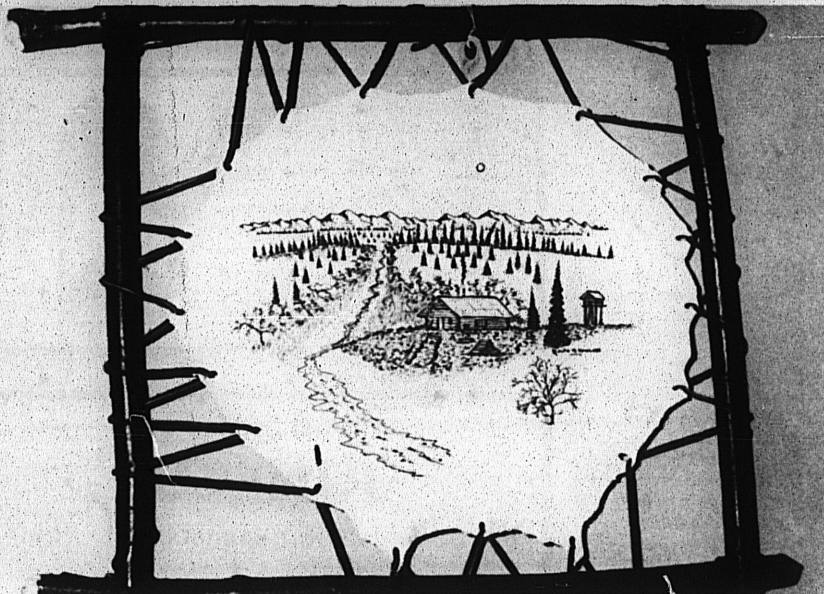
side. People have been telling me it is an impossible feat, but so far I have made one step in finding out for sure. And I hope to show you the first quality pictures on the fur side of a seal skin."

Mr. Kowchee, an Eskimo from White Mountain, who works for the Federal Aviation Administration at McGrath, has been sketching since childhood. He started working on skins within the last couple of years.

At the present time, Mr. Kowchee is looking for some BABISH, for which he will pay up to \$8 per pound. He can be contacted about this at Box 92, McGrath, Alaska.

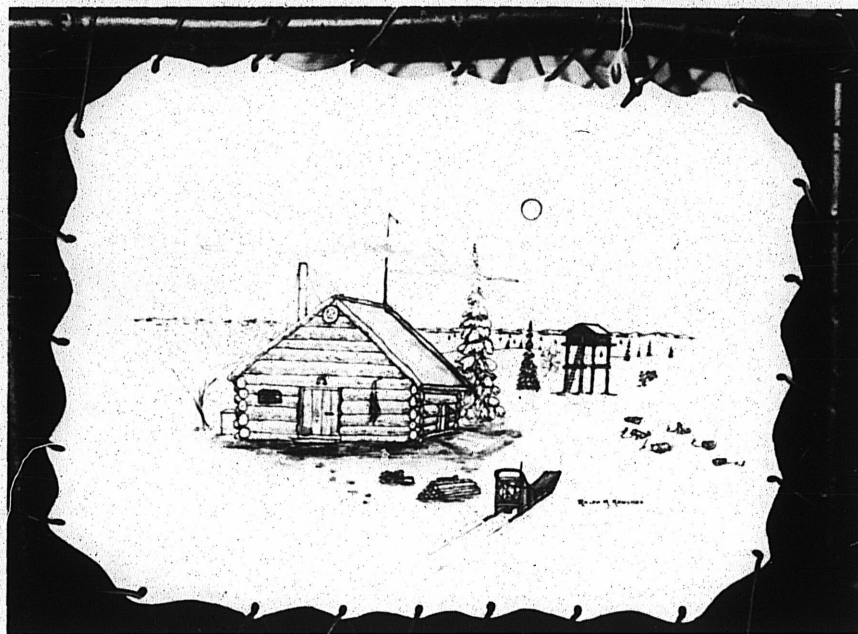
Within the near future, Kowchee expects to send the Tundra Times some more examples of his seal skin paintings, for sale to our readers.

The artist has donated a 30 per cent commission on all his work sold through the paper for the support of the Tundra Times and its work.



**CABIN IN THE TREES**—This is one of eight deer skin drawings by Ralph Kowchee of McGrath presently available for sale through the Tundra

Times. The deer skin is stretched on a willow frame. This particular drawing is done in black on a white background and sells for \$55.



**NATIVE HOME**—Artist Ralph Kowchee has drawn pictures of remarkable detail on deer skin, seal skin, and caribou hides. This picture

is one of a group available for sale at the Tundra Times and sells for \$55. Other deerskin drawings start at \$20 and can be seen at the newspaper office.