

# Society . . . CAA Child Care Center To Open in Fairbanks

(Continued from Page 5)

Wildlife Refuges, National Parks, and other lands dedicated to conservation of renewable resources, for atomic experimentation.

"We realize that top-level decisions already have been made that affect Amchitka Island," said President Bob Weeden. "We strongly urge the Atomic Energy Commission to take measures to reduce the possibility of losses to sea otter and other resources of this Island to a minimum."

"Probably the most effective step would be for the AEC to finance a team of competent biologists, working on Amchitka, to advise the Commission on specific actions to make inevitable damages as slight as possible."

The Board also passed a resolution asking the Atomic Energy Commission to delay further action on the proposed test site near the Utukok River in the Alaskan Arctic until careful study had been made of the effects of potential radiation contamination and other disturbances on the huge caribou herd in this area.

"We know that the main calving grounds of a herd of 250,000 caribou is in the Utukok River - Noluck Lake - Lookout Ridge area," said Weeden. "We know that lichens concentrate radioactive elements, and that caribou form the link whereby these sources of radiation, in concentrated form, get to people. It seems wise to study this situation pretty carefully before committing ourselves to a major testing program in the Arctic."

## AMBLER . . .

(continued from page 3)

When asked how the village was going to house the travelers, Gonzales said, "Most of the people will stay in homes and many of them will be quartered in the church buildings."

What are the people going to do?

"They will be singing and praying. Ambler people are already practicing songs and these will be sung in both English and Eskimo. Village delegations will also put on singing performances," said Gonzales.

He said the meeting will be the first one of its kind ever held in the village of Ambler. Such meetings were usually held in coastal villages.

Ambler is located at the headwaters of the Kobuk River near Baird Mountains to the west and north, and Schwatka Mountains to the east.

Visitors are expected from Kiana, Shungnak, Selawik, Noorvik, Kotzebue, Kivalina, Point Hope, Candle, Kobuk, Buckland, Deering, and Noatak.

Raymond Gonzales hails from Corpus Christi, Texas. How does he like Alaska and the village of Ambler?

"I like it. It's not as bad as people said it would be and it's not as cold as people imagine it is."

And the people?

"I like the people" he said, smiling. "They're real friendly."

A Fairbanks Community Child Care Center, to care for young children while their mothers are working, is scheduled to open next week.

The primary goal of the center is to provide low-cost competent babysitting for low-income families, so that the mothers can work and help support the family.

At least two-thirds of the children admitted will be from such families; they will pay a reduced rate for the service.

Because the exchange of experiences among children from different walks of life is mutually beneficial, children from higher-income families will be admitted. Rates for these children will be based on the family's income.

The center will offer care for all the children needing care in a family. It will take care of pre-school children all day, and children up to 12 years old after school.

It will be open 7:30 to 5:30 Monday through Friday, all year around. One meal and two snacks will be provided during the day.

It will also care for children for special short-time reasons such as when their mother has to see a doctor.

The center is scheduled to open March 6 at the First Methodist Church of Fairbanks. Program directors expect an initial enrollment of 15 students, and will expand the center as needs and funds allow.

Families who want to use the service can contact the North Star Borough Community Action Agency, 456-4184.

The program is being sponsored by the CAA, with assistance from the First Methodist Church. Apart from volunteers from VISTA and other programs, the center

## Hunters . . .

(continued from Page 1)

to where they could obtain game.

About 10 hunters from the villages were flown to Bettles. Aided by excellent hunting weather, the villagers took 40 caribou from a herd 10 miles from town Monday, and later shot 15 from other herds.

The field-dressed caribou were hauled back to Bettles by snowmobiles. The animals for Venetie were flown there Wednesday, but the flight to Arctic Village was postponed when the plane was weathered in at Bettles yesterday.

An ABC-TV camera crew from New York arrived in Alaska too late to film the actual hunt, but will photograph the delivery of the animals to the villages. Scenes of hunters from Bettles will be added to complete the color-film report.

Commenting about this hunt, Governor Hickel said, "we are solving this problem in an Alaskan way by making it possible for the people in these villages to hunt."

"The only way to resolve this situation permanently is to see that we have the kind of economic development that will give these people a steady income."

will receive no Federal Aid.

At present, the labor and much of the supplies for the program are being supplied without charge. The center is starting on a shoestring of \$200 loaned by a director; most of this will be spent for food.

The director of the center is Mrs. Ruth Van Veldhuizen, wife of a mathematics professor at the University of Alaska. She has college degree in home economics and elementary education, and has three children, Robert, 12, Jay, 6 and Varina, 5.

Teachers for the program are two VISTA volunteers, Ann Lautenbach and Karen Fleming, who have been working in Kwigillingok. The cook for the center will be John Gabriel of Chalkyitsik.

Other help will be given aides from the Neighborhood Youth Corps and the Work Experience and Training Program. The Center will also serve the community by providing training for persons in these programs.

The First Methodist Church is providing the facilities

for the center. The Fairbanks Lumber Company is assisting in making cabinets and other help is expected.

The center is still looking for help, both by donations of materials and money and by actual work at the center. Transportation for children is expected to be a major problem.

Directors of the center are at present checking out sources for grants to help finance the program. Among these sources is the Alaska Native Children Fund of the Methodist Mission Board, which would help support Native children enrolled at the center.

## U of A Receives

### \$120,000 Grant

A \$120,372 grant to the University of Alaska to train 82 students in the "Upward Bound" program was announced by Sen. Ernest Gruening this week.

The grant will provide special training for high school students to prepare them for college.

## Students Raging . . .

(continued from Page 1)

while there will speak in favor of the program.

With this support, the students hope to have the program restored when the University's budget goes before the State House of Representatives next week.

The original budget requested \$91,900 for operating the electronics program and \$60,000 to set up a new technician program—probably in civic engineering, although no decision had been made.

The \$91,900 would have covered all expenses of the program except providing the classroom space. The entire program was removed from the budget before Governor Hickel's office sent it to the Legislature.

Although the budget for the past year was only \$17,000 much of the cost of the program was supported by a Federal grant that will not be available after this year.

The program trains Alaskans to fill technical jobs in electronics. About 75 students are presently enrolled in the program, and 40 of them would be caught halfway through their training if the program were cancelled.

Although early classes were sponsored by the Federal Government, the newer of the two present classes (and any future classes) pay the same fees as any other U of A students.

About one-fourth of the students are Alaskan Natives; the others are residents of Alaska or military dependents. They range in age from 17 to about 35, and about one-third are married.

Graduates from the last class obtained jobs with salaries ranging from \$700 to \$1100 a month, with \$800 being the typical starting salary. John Rosa of the North Star Borough Community Action Agency says that the average earning of the men

before entering the course was about \$2,000 a year.

Rosa calculated that a man would repay the government for the expense of his education in three years due to his increased income taxes. Other studies have shown that, except for some who are in military service, almost all of the graduates are still in Alaska.

The Electronics Technology program was started by the Federal Government in 1963 under the Manpower Development Training Act. Over \$1.5 million was invested in equipment.

Foye Gentry, head of the program, said it had been established because there is an extreme shortage of such technicians nationwide, and that the problem is especially severe in Alaska.

He said Alaskan firms are now hiring technicians from the Lower 48 for jobs in Alaska, and that many of these people stayed for only a few years. He continued that training Alaskans not only reduced the employer's turnover problem, but kept their payroll in the state.

Gentry said the main complaint from employers was that the program wasn't large enough—there are several jobs available for each graduate.

President Wood said the program was a "very valuable course for the state in an era in which there is a great need." He added that it put people on a well-paying job at an early date and reduced the need to import talent into the state.

He said the Electronics Technician program and other University activities had created a "pool of specialized scientific and technical talent in Fairbanks which is very important—one of the most important assets the state ever had."

## Udall Considers Moving Jobs of BIA to HEW

Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall stated in an appropriation hearing last week, under questioning by Senator E.L. (Bob) Bartlett, that serious consideration is being given to the transfer of Bureau of Indian Affairs functions to the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Proposals for the transfer of educational jurisdiction have been discussed for some time but the study now under way also includes welfare and other matters.

Health functions of the BIA were transferred in July of 1955 to the Public Health Service.

"A good listener is not only popular, but after a while he learns something."

W. Miznes

## Schools . . .

(continued from Page 1)

Tundra Times that the turnout at Minto, Eagle, and Northway was extremely high, and that the residents were interested in how the transfer would effect the education, school lunch, janitorial service, and other programs.

Hayes said that the main change would be "some new faces, and correspondence with new people for funding and administration." In Minto Tanacross, and Eagle, he said that the BIA had left the schools in excellent shape, and the State could just "move in and start operating."

In these three villages, the title to the schools will be given to the State on July 1 of this year. A different situation exists in Northway, where the school facilities are severely overcrowded.

There, the school will be operated by the State, under contract with the BIA.

This arrangement, established under the Johnson-O'Malley Act, has the state operate the school and perform routine maintenance, while the BIA handles major alterations and improvements. It is used when schools are not up to standard.

In Northway, the one-classroom, 40-student BIA school near the village will be combined with the two-classroom, 50-student State school at the FAA station. Title to the BIA school will not be transferred until the BIA and the State have eliminated the overcrowding.

At present, some seventh and eighth grade Native children from Northway are being sent to school in Oklahoma because of the overcrowding.

Hayes said that he was taking information on the situation to Juneau, and he expected plans for next year to be announced as soon as possible.

Craig said that the transfer of the other BIA schools in the State would be decided on a year-to-year basis, depending on the State's ability to support them.

He added that the transfer involved only the BIA schools, and did not affect any other services.