

Udall Indicates BIA 'Withering' Away at Panel

"The end result would be to start slow, or maybe fast, withering away of the Indian Bureau, we might describe it that way," Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall told a slate of native students at University of Alaska during a question and answer period last Sunday morning.

Carl Jack, one of the students on the panel, had pointed out to the Secretary that the selection of Bureau of Indian Affairs teachers in Alaska might not be as high in quality as those of the state.

Jack said that this might be the reason why the lower stand-

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Withering . . .

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ards of native education in Alaska might be perpetuated.

Udall said that the Bureau was in the process of transferring responsibilities of the Bureau to the Indian people themselves.

He cited a case in one Indian community where the administration of the BIA had been turned over to the Indian leadership and "this has worked quite well."

Udall said that this change-over was indeed "the Indian Bureau." He said this type of process would be done in Alaska.

"The end result would be to start slow, or maybe fast, withering away of the Indian Bureau, we might describe it that way," he said.