'It's that Time Again'-Winter Coming At Gambell

By GRACE SLWOOKO Gambell, Alaska

GAMBELL – Already it is that time again. Every time the wind is from the north, it is colder and the next one more colder.

It just wasn't too long ago when we had a clean up. We have enjoyed two months of summer anyway. Now we might as well welcome the winter to come.

One way to prepare for winter is to make walrus hide boats. More than ten men are making wooden frames for the walrus hide boats and some just change the old hides, about another ten.

And people had enough hides this early summer.

There are families and groups camping out, like every year. Some are out five miles, some seven, some 17, some 35 and some are even at the southern side of the island.

Now, with the A.T.V.s they travel more and find more salmon berries, too.

They are building more buildings behind the city, too.

Out to the west the water is getting closer and closer to the village. As the waves come nearer at the west side, it is getting more beach at the mountain point, too, where we go for bird hunting.

We had a warmest feeling about the North Star III this year, as our well known friend Moe came around with candy for all. He came ashore and had the boys pile up boxes of candy by the sea on that bright and warm day in August.

There he had the kids line up, girl's line and boy's line, he stood at the end. Everybody ran down to the shore with bags and boxes, like we do when the seafood comes along the shore at fall time.

But this time, it is for candy.

He poured candy from box after box to the bags and boxes as the children pass along.

They unloaded a whole lot of supplies for the store, school and the churches, like every year.

The departing whistle blow of the North Star never was as touching. I guess because of the candy gifts.

As the students are going out to high schools, it is getting so quiet here.