

Two Arctic Village Men Go Into Wood Business

In Arctic Village 118 miles north of the Arctic Circle on the edge of the Brooks Range wood is extremely hard to come by for the villagers.

Presently residents travel as far as ten miles to get good dry wood, and even then the timber is thinly spread and very small.

As a result two Arctic Villagers have secured loans under provision of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 to go into the wood business. The two plan to purchase tracked snow vehicles to haul wood into the village for sale. Wood presently sells for \$48 a cord in the village.

The two men are Kias Peter and Fred Ross. They received their loans through the Farmers Home Administration of-

fice in Fairbanks who are charged with administering the loan program.

Plans are to cut and stack the wood in areas far from the village and then haul the wood into the village for sale during the winter.

Wayne Williams of Chalkyitsik on the Black River northeast of Fort Yukon, also has plans to go into a woodcutting and hauling business. Williams presently has a loan pending and plans also to buy tracked-snow equipment to haul wood.

Wood in Arctic Village is presently hauled into the village in the narrow toboggan type sled typical of northern Canada. The villagers generally use about six to seven dogs to haul wood and can make about three trips a day totaling about 30 miles.

Wood is scarce enough in the area that it is difficult to get a stockpile ahead. The toboggans are also used to haul caribou meat into the village when the herds are running in the area.

"And what is your son taking up in college?" inquired the visitor politely.

"Space," replied the father.