

Women Train To Be Seal Skin Experts

Four women from Northwest Alaska are now taking a special training program in the preparation of seal skins and will soon be visiting villages as instructors.

The women are taking the special training at the Pacific Seal Skin Co. in Anchorage. The firm is the one which is experimentally trying to process fur seal skins from the Pribilof Islands.

The women attending are: Marie Stalker, of Kotzebue, Mrs. Elsie Ball, of Nome; Mrs. Ursula Ellanna, of King Island Village, and Lela Omen, of Nome.

Studies have indicated that the seal skins lose a tremendous amount of value (from 25 to 100 per cent) from improper handling—from cuts, scars, and stains.

An \$8,000 grant will cover the cost of the instructors' training plus salaries and transportation to villages where they will give two-hour instructional courses on seal-skin preparation.