

Alaskans Finish Log Industry Training

Another success story in Alaska's expanding timber industry was announced this week by Gov. Walter J. Hickel. The first logging industry manpower training course ever held in Alaska has just been completed and all 20 of its graduates have been given immediate job offers.

In recognizing the value to Alaska of these new trainees, the governor commended the Alaska Loggers Association on its sponsorship of the course and assistance with planning and resources.

The course was initiated by the Alaska Department of Labor and in addition to the Loggers Association was developed by the State Vocational Education Division and the U. S. Forest Service.

Hickel commented, "This course not only created more jobs for Alaskans but was of practical economic value to the State.

"These graduates will earn an average wage in excess of \$8,000 a year and during their first working year will return to the state in taxes amounts in excess of the cost of training."

State Employment Office interviewers recruited trainees from many parts of Alaska. As a result, the students represent a good cross section of the state's pop-

ulation, with more than half being of native origin.

The graduates from Juneau are Donald Charles and Larry Pearce; graduates from Ketchikan include John Inman, George Ketah, Ralph Ketah, James Major, John Major and Sanford Schmitt.

Graduates from Sitka are Stephen Barnardo and Claude Joseph, with Kake being represented by Jones Joseph, Jerry Kahklen and Harold Martin.

Graduates from Yakutat include Harold Gray, Sampson Harry and Walter Johnson. Frank Norton came from Metlakatla, and from the central part of Alaska, Billy Smith and Bobby Smith came from Anchorage and Arthur Wells came from Fairbanks.

The students learned choker setting and chaser work, safety practices, cable splicing and equipment maintenance. They also became familiar with such jobs in the woods as rigging, hook tending, falling and bucking.