

Sen. to Ask For \$350,000 For Road

Senator Eben Hopson (D-Barrow), is planning to introduce a bill in the State Legislature calling for \$350,000 for extension of the waterhaul road to Imaiksaun Lake four miles from the city of Barrow.

Imaiksaun Lake is a fresh water lake where the Barrow people get their drinking water during summer and winter. The name means, "A Place to Drink Water."

When the new airport was built last year, the state started to build a road to the lake and went about a third of the distance before funds ran out. The state spent \$150,000 in constructing the spur.

"The health of the community depends on clean and adequate supply of water," said Sen. Hopson. "If there was a stronger word than 'important,' in emphasizing this need, I would surely use it."

Hopson said that during summer, it is impossible to get to the lake with any type of wheeled vehicles. The surface of the tundra thaws about eight to ten inches in summer and it is soft and boggy.

"It is a lot easier in winter after trail is broken and that's the time the people get ice with dogteams, snow-gos, go-devils, cats, and trucks. But in summer, you can't get anywhere," said the Senator.

However, Hopson said, tracked vehicles do get to the lake in summer and haul water to supply Barrow. This is sold by the operators at 8 cents per gallon or four dollars per barrel. This is due to costly operation of tracked vehicles.

"We pay this price almost the year round," Hopson said.

The Senator thinks that once the road is completed, it would lower the price of water for the people of Barrow. It would also make it possible to supply the town on con-

Sen. to Ask ...

(Continued from Page 4)

tract basis with distributors. It would also permit anyone to get their own water.

"Now, in spring and summer people chip ice that has formed on the beach for water and that's not very clean," the Senator concluded.