



BIA TO UP INDIAN EDUCATION



AMIDST POVERTY—Perhaps not having yet realizing the misery of poverty into which they were born, three young Bethel Eskimo children seemed unaware of the abject surroundings in which they live. The unsanitary conditions of the tar paper shack are starkly evident with water seeping into it. This scene of miserable

surroundings is not confined to Bethel's poor but it is much too common a sight in other communities in Alaska. The photograph of the three youngsters appeared in the poverty photo section of a past issue of a national magazine. See more pictures on page 4.

—Photo by JOE RYCHETNIK

Coroner's Jury Returns Verdict Of 'Foul Play' on Towarak Deaths

The circumstances surrounding the strange disappearance of Ambrose Towarak family took a dramatic turn when the inquest jury unanimously concluded that the triple death was

caused by foul play.

The conclusion by the inquest was made last Friday afternoon in Fairbanks.

Ambrose Towarak, his

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Morgan Named Coordinator for Village VISTA Associates Program

Mr. Joli Morgan has been named coordinator of the upcoming village VISTA Volunteer Associates Program. He will assume office on August 1 in Anchorage.

The purpose of the program is to select 25 village volunteer associates who will work on an equal basis with the existing VISTA Volunteers in the outlying areas.

The candidates for the 25 positions are now in process of being picked by village councils in some 70 communities to which a

letter from the Alaska VISTA headquarters in Anchorage has been sent explaining the program.

Out of the 70 or so candidates, 25 will be selected for VISTA work that will start on October 1, 1968 and end on May 31, 1969.

Joli Morgan said the training of the VISTA Associates will begin in Fairbanks on October 1 and ending on October 5.

"Since the Tundra Times banquet and the annual conference of the Alaska Federation of Natives will

take place during our training period, we'd like to have the native volunteers attend the banquet and attend the conference as observers," said Morgan.

He said he would talk to AFN President Emil Notti to see if he would agree to have the village volunteers attend the conference as observers.

"We hope also that we could get the various native associations to participate in the planning and training of the VISTA Associates,"

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BIA Conforming to Pres. Johnson's Call To Upgrade Schooling

Charles N. Zellers, Assistant Commissioner (Education) in the Bureau of Indian Affairs, delivered an address in the auditorium of the Northern Arizona University in a workshop of the BIA teachers recently.

In a voluminous talk he entitled, "Zap," Zellers revealed that the BIA was

preparing a new era of Indian education designed to improve many areas of teaching.

"ZAP," he said was a relatively new word making the rounds, a word which implies force so powerful nothing can withstand it.

"Over the long run education, we know, is zap—but the long-run is too far away. What hurts is the short run. In the long run anything is possible, but in the long run we'll all be dead anyway," Zellers said.

"These workshops," he continued, "the first of their BIA has ever held—are a first step in putting education into the short run, into the NOW."

"And zap is something we need now because education is going through a period of testing. It's being tested everywhere. And I think this testing is extremely valuable for all of us."

Zellers pointed out that since Robert Bennett was named Commissioner of Indian Affairs two years ago, who, by the way, he said, was the first Indian in 100 years to direct BIA, the whole education system has

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Willie Hensley Takes a Bride

William L. (Willie) Hensley last Saturday evening in Juneau slipped a gold band around the finger of a lovely girl, Miss April Lee Quisenberry, and the ritual at that moment made the young couple man and wife.

State Rep. Willie Hensley is a well known figure in Alaska who, through his talents as an able native leader, has made himself an influential young man in the affairs of Alaska.

Willie Hensley is 26 years old and already a veteran and an authority on knotty land claims matters in the state. His lovely wife is 21 years old.

Willie is an Eskimo who grew up at Kotzebue under

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Brief Land Hearings Slated For July 11-12 in Washington

Sen. Ernest Gruening this week arranged that the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs under the

chairmanship of Sen. Henry Jackson of the State of Washington will hold hearings in Washington, D.C. on Friday July 12 on Alaska native land claims legislation.

Gruening arranged these hearings to follow by one day, hearing that will be held by the Indian Affairs Subcommittee, subcommittee of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the House of Representatives.

Rep. James A. Haley of Florida is chairman of that committee.

The House hearing will be held in Washington on Thursday July 11.

Sen. Gruening maneuvered the arrangement so that the same people who will be going to Washington can be heard on single trip by committees of both Houses.

Most of the testimony at these hearings is expected to center around S 3586

which was introduced on June 4 by Sen. Jackson at the request of the Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall who drafted it and sent to the hill.

"However," Sen. Gruening said, "witnesses may expound on views expressed three months ago in Anchorage at hearings held by the senate committee on other pending Alaska native land claims bills."

The bills in question were introduced by Sen. Gruening.

In a wire from his office, Congressman Howard W. Pollock said that House hearings on the native land claims will be held before Interior and Insular Affairs Committee Thursday, July 11, at 9:45 a.m. in Room 1324, Longworth House Office Building.

"Due to limited time," Congressman Pollock said, "number of witnesses should not exceed six."