

Nome Officer Seeks to Control Juveniles

A slightly new approach is being tried in handling juvenile problems in Nome.

Joseph Lyon, a patrolman and the new juvenile officer in Nome, said that until now responsibility for the offenders has rested on the police.

Often when police call the parents of an arrested juvenile, the parents say, "keep them," he said. The responsibility then rests with the department.

Lyon will try a different approach to the problem, starting by taking the offender to his parents, and discussing the problem with them. Lyon said that a great number of juvenile arrests have to do with alcohol.

If the parents are unavailable, Lyon will try to set up an appointment with parents, to talk about the situation.

Also, said Lyon, applications will be available for young people who want to ride in a patrolcar, to see what it's like. Parent's permission will be required, and the riders would not be taken into dangerous situations, Lyon emphasized.