



Scientist to Milk Whales, Bears On Research for Radiation

Dr. Bruce E. Baker of McGill University, Montreal, Canada, has a whale of a job. He has an Atomic Energy Commission contract to study the milk of Arctic and sub-Arctic animals, such as wolves, bears, caribou, big horn

sheep, and—believe it or not—whales.

He is analyzing fatty acids, proteins, sugar components, carbohydrates, and any of the minute amounts of radioactive trace elements that might be in the

milk.

This study is part of an overall AEC program to investigate the bioenvironmental effects of nuclear radiation; to determine the movement, fate and effect of both natural and manmade radioactivity in the natural environment—especially the effects upon plant and animal life, and in the food chains on land and in water.

When Dr. Baker was asked how polar bears are milked, he grinned and said: "Very carefully." Actually, he noted, milking polar bears is not considered dangerous. He explains that larger animals are tranquilized before milking.

In the case of the polar bear, Dr. Baker said, "she is caught by a snare-like trap baited with seal meat, and is held by a front leg until the trapper arrives back on the scene several hours later."

Snares do not hurt the animals in any way, and the bears sit very quietly. They are tranquilized by means of a dart gun, and within 10 to 15 minutes are completely harmless and remain in this condition for one or two hours.

Native Craft

CARVED IVORY, Slippers; mukluks; custom seal skin parkas.

— R.R. "Bob" Blodgett —
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State Department of Education Hires Ruff

Dr. Otto G. Ruff, Director of Teacher Education and Certification in the Colorado State Department of Education, is presently in Alaska working with the staff of the State Department of Education and other Alaskan educators on proposed revisions in the Alaska certification regulations, Commissioner of Education Dr. Cliff R. Hartman announced today.

Hired as a consultant to the Department in 1967 to study Alaska's certification needs, Dr. Ruff recommended that certification be based on graduation from an approved teacher education program.

During the past two years, Dr. Ruff has worked with Department staff to develop the proposed revisions in the Alaska certification statutes.

Informal hearings on certificates were held last year in various communities across the state by Mrs. Norma Bowkett, Supervisor, Teacher Education and Certification, Alaska Department of Education; and Dr. William Marsh, former director of the Division of Instructional Services.

Under the revised regulations, standard certification will be provided by the Department to applicants who have completed approved teacher education programs at accredited, degree-granting institutions of higher learning.

This approach will eliminate the necessity for detailed course checking or credit counting, but preparing institutions must recommend the applicants as teachers to the Department.

Dr. Ruff is presently updating previous certification reports

which he executed for the Department. Emphasis is being given to the implementation stages and to the role of the newly created Teacher Education and Certification Advisory Board.

Dr. Ruff assisted the board in defining its role and responsibilities at the initial Teacher Education and Certification Advisory Board meeting December 10-12 in Anchorage.

The board will seek invitations from Alaska's teacher training institutions for a visitation team to study its program and make recommendations. The board will be responsible for selecting the team, reviewing the team's report, and subsequently recommending education programs for certification purposes.

December 13 Dr. Ruff and Mrs. Bowkett met with the Alaska Education Association's Teacher Education Professional Standards Committee.

Career Development Group for Jobs Meets

The Career Development Committee of Rural CAP (Community Action Program) met at Alaska Methodist University, December 3 and 4.

Among the recommendations that emerged from the two-day meeting were that the Career Development Committee, whose responsibility it is to set up job descriptions and career ladders within Rural CAP, be fully recognized and that all decisions pertaining to trainees be referred to them for approval before final word is given.

A motion was carried to petition for representation of the CDC on the State Operated Schools Board.

It was decided that the CDC must strongly request Rural CAP to provide people with job training and placement where they can be most effective and that a system of hiring should be established by the Career Development Committee to produce these results.

The meeting opened with remarks by Ken Merwin, AMU Director of Development, who pointed out that the number of native students at the University

has increased from an enrollment in the 20's last year to this year's enrollment numbering in the 50's.

Merwin also informed the Committee that pre-registration programs for the counseling of native students is being considered.

Present at the meeting were: Dorothy Kelly Smith, Chairman; Tim Wonhola, representative from New Stuyahok; Justine Albert, representative from Ruby; Virginia Demmert, representative from Angoon; Agnes Damian, representative from Alakanuk; Sylvia Carlson, State Operated Schools; Lee Baird, Anchorage Head Start.

Also, Margaret Connet, Regional Training Office of the Head Start Program; Betty McCallum, Rural Cap; Carolyn Miller, Don Goldberg, Regional Director, Educational Projects, Inc.; Mary Alice Seville, Rural CAP; Annie Wherrie, Rural CAP; Perry Aiken, Career Development Coordinator; Edna Myer, Joe Meade, Career Development Officer.

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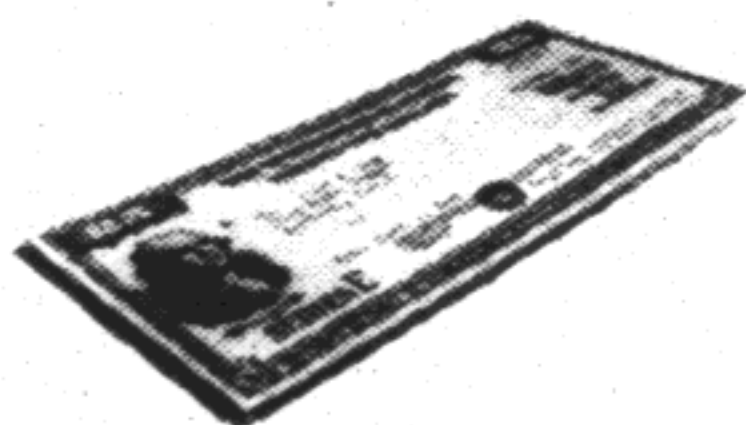
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