

Sewing Machines Whir as Kobuk Women Chatter at Workshop

By GLADYS MUSGROVE

The busy sounds of whirring machines and snipping shears mingled pleasantly with the happy chatter of women and girls at a clothing workshop in Kobuk recently.

Blouses, skirts, dresses and slacks were the result of the days the women and girls spent sewing at the school house. Several new skills were learned.

Among them were such things as using paper patterns putting in zippers, making slacks or a dress fit properly, putting in even hems, and making machine buttonholes. Special tricks in cutting corduroy and matching plaids were also mastered by some of the group.

When all the garments were finished, the workshop ended with a style show in which each woman or girl modeled the garment she had made for herself. The turnout to view the modeled garments included just about everyone in the village.

Two of the girls, Roberta Bernhardt and Merna Custer did the commentary for the style show as a shared venture. Those participating in the workshop and learning to make garments for themselves were: Amelia Gray, Daisy Ticket, Eva Horner, Rose Custer, Bertha Wells, Margie Ann Horner, Agnes Wood, Kathy Field, Roberta Bernhardt, Merna Custer, Bernice Custer, Maggie Tickett, Lena Tickett, Marilyn Grey.

This kind of workshop, teaching people skills they can use for self-improvement is one of the many educational programs offered by the Co-operative Extension Service, University of Alaska.