

Gov. Declares Open War on Narcotics

JUNEAU—In a first step to fulfill a pledge made in his State of the State message to the Legislature in January, Governor Keith H. Miller late last week asked the Chairmen of the House and Senate Finance Committees to approve an increase of \$154,500 in the budget of the Department of Public Safety.

In his address to the joint session of the Legislature on January 30 the Governor had said, "We declare open war on narcotic and dangerous drug traffic and use."

The increase for public safety would be to implement the fulfillment of that declaration.

Within the Department of Public Safety would be created a special "narcotics squad" of five men, who would be charged, according to the Governor, with "eradicating this menace from our daily lives through education, prevention and enforcement."

The program would include special training for the Troopers placed on the Squad, whose members would be located two each in the Northwest and

Southcentral regions of the State, and one in the Southeast.

When originally introducing the necessity of such a move to the Legislators, the governor had placed "all the resources of the State government" at their disposal, since, he asked, "what use are Alaska's physical resources if we do not protect our most valuable resource, our youth."

UA Museum Presenting Work Exhibit

The University of Alaska Museum will present a working exhibit during the Festival of Arts.

The workshop showing bead work, ivory carving, and birch bark work will feature Mrs. Hannah Solomon, Mrs. Mabel Charlie and Melvin Olanna.

The workshop will continue on Sunday and on March 22 and 23, 29 and 30; and on April 5 and 6 from 1 to 5 p.m.

Finally Accepts Priesthood . . .

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"I felt so humble, myself," he says, thinking of that time when he search his heart for a decision. "Alone in my house, I cried. How could I handle these holy things? How could I do what is expected for my people?"

But then it came to him that God was calling him to serve and he could not again refuse. "I felt peaceful after I decided," he says.

His two children, (he is a widower), son Moses and daughter Mrs. Mary Tinker at Pitka's Point, rejoiced as did the people in the district served by the Russian Mission church.

It was the people all down the river—even to Lower Kalskag on the Kuskokwim—who contributed to a fund so Gabriel could go to Sitka for pre-ordination instruction and studies in church liturgy.

At Sitka, Gabriel studied and slept in the same old Russian Mission building which has been the Bishop's residence continuously since it was built in 1842 by Innocent, Bishop of Kamchatka, Kurilian and Aleutian Islands.

This Bishop was the famed Father Ivan Veniaminov when he first came to Alaska and served Sitka, known then as Novo Archangelsk (New Archangel) as its priest from 1834-1839.

The old two-story building, now greyed by time, facing the small boat harbor in Crescent Bay, contains Holy Annunciation Chapel, planned first for the Bishop's personal worship. Valuable religious art and sacred objects of great historic value may be seen in the small sanctuary.

Bishop Theodosius, assisted by his secretary Father Michael and Protodeacon Innocent Williams (a Tlingit Indian who has held this position for several years) conducted the services raising Gabriel to deacon first, and a week later, to priest.

These took place in the recently-built basement of St. Michael's Cathedral. Soon, it is hoped, the cathedral will be rebuilt on this foundation and in the same design as the original.

That cathedral, which sat in the same spot in the middle of Sitka's main street, was destroyed by fire in January 1967, 125 years after its dedication.

It was the former Veniaminov, as Bishop Innocent is best re-

membered in Alaska, who planned and designed the Cathedral.

It was built of Sitka Spruce and was the first church building of its kind erected on American soil.

Although short in stature, the new Father Gabriel is possessed of a quiet dignity and imposing poise. None of his earlier trepidations about his coming tasks were apparent during the elaborate ordination service, which was an extension of the regular Sunday morning worship.

Father Michael explains that all segments of the church must participate in an ordination—that the people are all involved including indicating their approval by chanting "axios" or "he is worthy."

At the end of the service, a friend had to call "Father Gabriel" two times before the unassuming Eskimo priest realized that now was his title.

Gabriel's formal schooling went only to the fourth grade. He has nevertheless taught himself to read Slavonic, traditional tongue for Orthodox liturgy, from the old alphabet. He is now translating the Slavonic prayer book for publication in Eskimo.

Father Gabriel expects to be home in time to conduct Holy Week services (by Russian calendar calculations) in the chapel at Russian Mission. Once known as the village of Ikogmiut, the community was the site of a church built in 1851 by Father Netsytov.

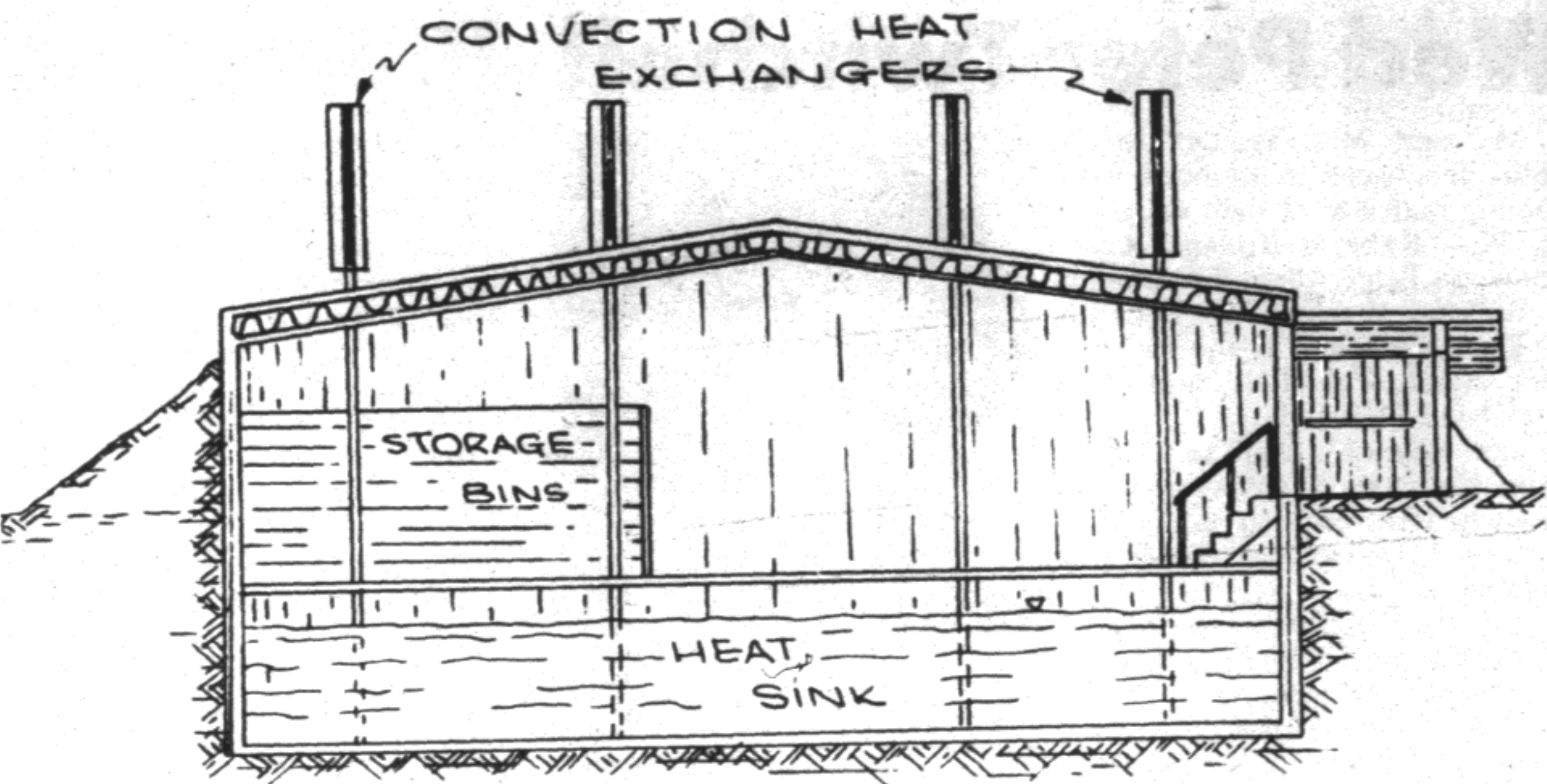
It was the Russian Mission's farthest north parish and first in Interior Alaska. The old cluster of buildings no longer stands, but icons, icon screen, and other articles important for an Orthodox service still remain.

Gabriel hopes to erect a new edition of the historic "Elevation of the Cross" church here in the not too distant future.

He will not only serve a congregation of about 100 living at Russian Mission, but also people in communities down the Yukon to Pitka's Point.

And the people at home will already have gathered the birch and willow branches from their snowy places. Carefully tended, as has been done for generations, the dormant leaves will put forth their tender green.

The willows will serve as palms for Palm Sunday and new leaves of the birch symbolize the newness of life at Easter.



NO JOKE—A freezer for Alaskan Eskimos, designed by Arctic Environmental Engineering Laboratory researchers at the University of Alaska, will help natives living on St. Lawrence Island in the Bering Sea preserve their annual walrus

catch during the warm summer months. The freezer building will store up to 100 tons of walrus, refrigerating the meat with a heat sink pool of frozen brine and non-mechanical heat exchanged pumps. —UA Photo

University of Alaska Engineers Designing 'Icebox' for Eskimos

COLLEGE—Well they're finally doing it.

Engineers at the University of Alaska's Arctic Environmental Engineering Laboratory (AEEL) are designing an icebox for Eskimos.

A refrigerator is no joke to the 400 Eskimos living in Savoonga, an Alaskan village on an island in the Bering Sea. Each year the islanders lose up to half their annual walrus catch—the prime staple of their community—as a result of heat spoilage.

Alaska's extreme climate takes in both ends of the thermometer, bringing warm weather to the arctic during summer months when the midnight sun shines 20 hours or more each day.

To keep the walrus from spoiling, AEEL engineers have found a way to store up winter cold for summer use without any complicated electrical or mechanical equipment.

"Refrigerating the Eskimos' walrus with conventional equipment would cause problems rather than solve them," explained AEEL engineer Phil Johnson.

"If we installed a mechanical refrigeration system in Savoonga, it would be too costly and too

complicated for the Eskimos to maintain because it would require a generator, fuel, and skilled mechanics to keep it operating."

After ruling out the ordinary, Johnson and his team of research engineers at AEEL hit upon a combination of non-mechanical heat pumps and frozen saltwater brine solution to refrigerate a partially buried building with store room for 100 tons of walrus meat.

The Eskimos take nearly 300 walrus each spring when hunting conditions are optimal and the herds move north, following the retreating pack ice.

At present, the village economy loses as much as \$75,000 annually when unrefrigerated walrus meat spoils and cannot be marketed at the going price of 39 cents per pound.

After four months of study, AEEL's engineers are beginning the second phase of their project, financed by a \$32,000 grant from the Economic Development Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

During the next eight months they will construct a working prototype freezer on the UA

campus in order to refine the system and evaluate its components before actually building one at Savoonga on St. Lawrence Island.

Alaskans typically do things in a big way, so AEEL's walk-in Eskimo freezer will be one of the largest buildings in the village.

Imbedded in frozen ground to insulate it from the summer sun, the core of the unit will be a heat sink—a frozen saltwater pool flooding the lower portion of the structure to a dept of four feet.

Perishables will be stored on platforms above the brine-filled basement.

"We can manipulate the freezing point of the water by varying the concentration of salts in the brine solution," Johnson explained. Convection heat exchangers will radiate heat from the building in winter, drawing in cold to freeze the brine which will, in effect, store up cold for use in the summer.

"As the brine thaws in spring, it will cool the walrus meat," Johnson said. "It's as-simple as that."

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WITH EDGECUMBE STUDENTS—A group of Mt. Edgecumbe students from communities along the Yukon served by the Russian Orthodox Church at Russian Mission stand with Father Gabriel at the close of ordination ceremonies which brought the Eskimo into the priesthood.

The ceremony, which took place at St. Michael's Cathedral in Sitka, was conducted by His Grace, Bishop Theodosius along with his secretary, Father Michael and Protodeacon Innocent Williams.