

Prof. Jimmy Bedford on Sabbatical—

Roads Are Crooked But It's Balmy at Kathmandu

As we shoveled our way out from under the latest load of snow here in Fairbanks, we were overjoyed to find Christmas greetings awaiting us from traveling UA journalism Professor and Tundra Times board member Jimmy Bedford.

"70 degrees and balmy in Kathmandu," he tells us on the back of his newest publication.

"The Roof of the World Dispatch and Post" is Bedford's answer to how to write Christmas cards and letters to all of your friends without getting writer's cramp or typewriter itch.

Printed on the back of an aerogramme, the newsletter transmits Christmas greetings and Jimmy Bedford's own unique view of the world on the other side.

Nepal, he reports, is delightful.

"KATHMANDU—I wouldn't say that the road was crooked but I've seen ~~fewer~~ twisting curves and bends in three platefuls of spaghetti than there are on the road to Kathmandu."

Bedford's report from Nepal not only covers his travels in that country and Christmas greetings, but a report on his sabbatical so far.

The travels of Jimmy Bedford is a resounding story, incorporating the romance of the Orient with the information that "elephants have right of way on Bihar streets".

Among the pictures that

come to mind in the newsletter is a mental picture of Bedford on his Vespa motorcycle riding from Singapore to Istanbul, so he tells us.

"He plans to reach Istanbul by August 1" chronicles the adventures of Jimmy Bedford, "then ship the scooter and fly back to Alaska, arriving by September and another school year."

"The world is in a mess," writes Bedford, "if you look at the headlines with wars and

rumors of wars in Africa, the Middle East, Indo-China...India and Pakistan continue to hurl verbal brickbats amid the greatest natural disaster since Noah's flood," he reports.

"There may be war outside,

but may you find peace inside your hearts and hearths as you sit under your Christmas tree and count your blessings," he writes.

We do. All 112 inches of snow, etc.