

SJC GRADUATES 14—Graduating from Sheldon Jackson College at Sitka on May 22 were, front row, left to right: Patricia Delay, Sitka, Alaska; Cathy Carlson, Bellevue, Wash.; Roberta Mattin, Sitka; Xenia Angellan, Kwethluk, Alaska; Flossie Hopson, Barrow, Alaska. Back row, left to right: Walter Copley, Sitka; Dennis Beam, New Zealand; Gordon Baver, Grangeville, Idaho; Dennis Reid, Bozeman, Montana; Kenneth Barton, Anchorage, Alaska; Myron Rice, Sitka; and Vern Engesath, Bothell, Wash. John Gunderson of Sand Point, Alaska and Daryl Ryder of Selawik, Alaska, were not able to attend because they were away from Sitka. Commencement was held at Allen Auditorium on the Sheldon Jackson College campus.

#### In Absentia—

# Versatile Mary Moses Gets Masters

When the University of Alaska recently handed out diplomas, Mary Moses was not present to receive hers-a master's degree in education, and for good reason. She was busy teaching students at Georgetown where where she is the only teacher in the State-operated school there.

Already her degree is backed not only by academic knowledge but also by a wealth of experiences about which she wrote the Tundra Times.

Now in her twenties, she explained that Georgetown is on the Kuskokwim, between Aniak and McGrath, with a population that varies between 10 and 38.

"There's no radio, nor scheduled air service, store nor post office," she wrote.

The size of her school ranged

from 3 to 13 students.

"It's been a great year out here," she added. I've had a variety of experiences."

She mentioned that the Christmas program was given by lantern-light because the light plant went out and that she once hiked 16 miles in minus 40 degree temperature when the snowgo broke down.

### **Nurses Meeting**

The Alaska Nurses Association Educational Conference is being held June 4th and 5th, 1970, in Anchorage, and June 8th and 9th in Ketchikan.

The keynote speaker will be Miss Genrose Alfono, RN, BSN, MA; Director Loeb Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Bronx, New York. Other guest speakers participating include: William Bicknell, M.D., Western Representative, Office for Health Affairs, San Francisco, California; John Shively, Deputy Director of Rural Alaska Community Action Program Inc.; and John Buckholdt, Executive Director of Greater Anchorage Area Community Action Agency.

The Conference is designated with the idea that nurses can get together to look at themselves, at the profession of nursing and the need for change, the barriers to change and finally, at what they can do to bring about change.

Registration for the Anchorage Conference is 8:00 a.m. on June 4, 1970, at Ben Crawford Memorial Hall, 3rd & Eagle Street, Anchorage, Alaska.

"Because there's no scheduled mail service mail stacks up and it's like Christmas over again when it does come. Once we got 30 educational films, all at once!"

"Otherwise," she wrote, "it's been the usual bush living and teaching."

Then, she continued to tell about running a trapline with her husband, packing water, and putting out a fire made by the oil cookstove. She is married to Milton Moses, a native.

Mrs. Moses mentioned that once someone living in the village accused her of trying to incite a riot by teaching the students about the Native land claims and the Native heritage.

In closing she expressed regrets that she had gone as far in her education as she can go in Alaska.

"If I want a Ph.D. and a really top-level job in actually running Alaskan Education, I'd have to go back outside. That, I think, is a dirty shame (and awfully expensive-probably why more Alaskans don't ever do it and outsiders run our state)."

Mrs. Moses has a B.S. degree in engineering and worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Fairbanks about 2½ years leaving the agency in 1969. She was born in Greenville, Texas but now lists Tanana as her home.

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# Boarding Home Program of State, **BIA Getting Record Applications**

The State-BIA Boarding School Sub-committee is receiving a record number of applications this spring to the 1970 Boarding Home Program.

Regional Schools Director James M. Harper stated at the present rate that applications are coming in, it appears that next year's enrollment will exceed 1,000 students.

Rural Alaskan students participating in the program will be located in 24 communities throughout the state.

Approximately 250 students will board in Anchorage, 200 in in Fairbanks, 100 in Kodiak, 60 each in Bethel and Dillingham, 35 in Palmer, 20 in Kenai, and lesser numbers in the remaining boarding communities.

The Boarding Home Program originated in 1966 to serve the overflow of students who could not get into boarding schools in Alaska. Under the program, students live in private homes and attend the local high school in the community where they are boarding.

Although the program did not intend to reach such numbers, the 1966 enrollment of 110 students has nearly doubled annually. This year, 670 rural Alaskans attended high school through the Boarding Home Program.

The program has been well received by participating communities, students, natural and boarding parents, and school administrators.

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The second factor accounting for its expansion is the gradually decreasing spaces available to Alaskan students in Bureau of Indian Affairs' high schools, particularly those outside of the state.

For example, only 35 new Alaskan students will be accepted at Chemawa next year and only 107 at Mt. Edgecumbe.

Although the State is developing boarding high school facilities throughout rural Alaska, the Boarding Home Program will continue to expand so that all rural students desiring to continue their high school education will have the opportunity to do so.

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