



**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 Bayer, 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 snow-go broke down.

"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.