

Cooks for Crew, Mends Socks—  
**Pt. Hope Eskimo Woman Is Whaling Captain**

By LAEL MORGAN  
Staff Writer

POINT HOPE—Early this spring Mrs. Ruth Nash, housekeeper and mother of seven, became a whaling captain. She comes from a long line of whalers but it's not a usual job for a woman. Especially when her children insist she come home and cook supper every night.

"It was busy but I enjoyed it. I just like to watch the whales come in and the ducks. It beats staying home," she said.

Mrs. Nash's mother was once whaling captain but in name only. She inherited the gear but stayed home and let someone else run the operation.

Not so, Mrs. Nash. When her husband, Bernard, had to leave the village for a construction job, she took over his responsibility; camping on the ice to cook for his eight man crew, overseeing three helpers and her oldest son who handled the gear.

"I never knew much about whaling," she admits. "When I was young a girl friend and I went out in a boat but we got scared when they harpooned the whale. I had gone before to cook on the ice, though."

The job is not an easy one. It means cooking over a Coleman or Eskimo stove with coal and seal oil at temperatures well below zero. The menu includes canned foods, ogrook, seal, cereals, tea and doughnuts when the weather is warm enough

for deep fat frying.

Mrs. Nash's doughnut recipe is an old one and we asked her if we could print it. Here it is under its Eskimo title:

**UGRUKOAKTUK**  
(Roll cooked with oil)

3 packages of dry yeast  
1 can evaporated milk  
2 tablespoons salt  
1 cup sugar  
5 tablespoons shortening  
1 cup raisins  
flour  
Melt lard in skillet. Mix yeast with milk and let stand in a warm place about five minutes. Mix with rest of ingredients. Stir in enough flour to make workable dough. Shape like traditional doughnut or like a biscuit with several finger sized holes punched in it. Fry in deep hot fat.

Mrs. Nash's grandmother used whale or seal oil instead of lard. "It makes them better," she maintains. "Whale oil doughnuts are the best."

In addition to cooking crews must be provided with warm clothes, fresh socks and caribou skins for their camp on the ice. They stay there as long as three weeks at a time, although Mrs. Nash went home each night to tend to her youngsters.

Her crew didn't get a whale this year but there's no hard feelings. Only five out of 12 crews on the ice got whales and the Nash team did get Beluga, seals, duck and crab.

So, no complaints. If Bernard Nash has to be out of the village next year, the same crew will sign on with Mrs. Nash as his replacement. She's willing to take the assignment again.

Women's Liberation fans will be sorry to learn, however, that she doesn't consider her takeover of a man's job all that important.

"I like being a woman, myself," she concluded.



**CAPTAIN AND SON**—Mrs. Ruth Nash takes a summer vacation from her duties as whaling captain to enjoy her family. Here she shares a joke with her youngest, Jack, aged six. She took on the assignment of whaling captain when her husband, Bernard, was called away this spring on a construction job.

**14 Scholarships**

Scholarships for 14 Indian students will be made available at the University of Georgia for secondary social science education next fall.

The program, contingent upon the award of a contract by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, provides scholarships of \$3,600 for a 12 month period. Trainees will pay tuition and other expenses from their award.

To apply students must have completed the sophomore year of college. Those finishing their junior year in good standing will be eligible for reappointment. A two year commitment must be made to the program and applicants should have a desire to make Indian education a career.

For information contact Dr. M. J. Rice, director, Indian Teacher Training Project, University of Georgia, Margaret Hall, Athens, Georgia 30601.

**LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT**

**INVITATION FOR BIDS  
STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS**

Sealed bids in single copy for furnishing all labor, materials, and equipment, and performing all work on Project F-093-1(3) & X-31530 Juneau Outer Drive, Phase II described herein, will be received until 2:00 p.m. prevailing time, July 29, 1971 in the Commissioner's Office Department of Highways, Island Center Building, Douglas, Alaska.

This project will consist of grading, drainage, hot bituminous pavement, and highway illumination on 0.65 miles of 4-lane divided highway. Included in the work will be traffic signals, extensive utility work consisting of water, sewer, electrical and telephone, and a prestressed concrete girder bridge across Gold Creek. All work is located in the City of Juneau, Alaska.

Principal items of work consist of the following: 7,900 cubic yards of Unclassified Excavation; 197,000 tons of Borrow; 10,200 tons of Crushed Aggregate Base; 15,800 tons of Subbase B; 4,750 tons of Hot Bituminous Pavement; 285 tons of 120-150 Asphalt Cement and 29 tons of MC-30 Liquid Asphalt; approximately 260 cubic yards of Class A Concrete, lump sum, all required; approximately 15,000 pounds of reinforcement steel, lump sum, all required; 2,400 linear feet of cast-in-place concrete piles; 53 each prestressed concrete Box Girders; 1,500 linear feet of beam type Guard Rail; 4,200 linear feet of 6' Chain Link Fence; 3,100 square yards of 4" and 6" depth concrete Sidewalk; 12,850 linear feet of Type 2, Curb and Gutter; 130 linear feet of 7'-11" x 5'-7" Structural Plate Pipe-Arch; 11,800 tons of Riprap, Class II and III; 23,000 square feet of Hydro-Seeding; 240 linear feet of Metal Bridge Railings; 4,000 linear feet of Ductile Iron Pipe ranging from 4" diameter to 12" diameter inclusive; 4,500 linear feet of gravity sewer; ductile iron, asbestos-cement, and reinforced concrete pipe specified as options; Traffic Signals and Highway Illumination, lump sum, all required; 3,700 linear feet of Telephone Cable, 6 pr. 22 PIC to 600 pr., 22 PIC inclusive; 7,700 linear feet of 15 KV copper shielded Conductor; 3,000 linear feet of 600 V, RHW Copper, No. 2 to 500 MCM inclusive; 2,600 linear feet of rigid steel Conduit, 1 1/4" to 5" diameter inclusive; and miscellaneous items of work.

All work shall be completed in 308 Calendar Days.

Plans and specifications may be obtained by all who have a bona fide need for them for bidding purposes from the Chief Design Engineer, P.O. Box 1467, Juneau, Alaska 99801. Plans may be examined at Department of Highway District Offices in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Valdez and Nome.

B. A. Campbell  
Commissioner of Highways

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