

Olin Dies from Brutal Beating...

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Crawford of the nursing home. "He was up in braces and walking, his ability to talk was coming back.

"He was making a steady stream of progress in the last nine to 12 months. He was getting really independent in his ability to get around in the last four or five months, too," the

doctor said.

Then, suddenly, Olin was dead.

Olin was born May 25, 1941 at Cut-Off. He leaves his sister, Mrs. Jones, at Fairbanks, and a brother, Josh Olin, of Huslia. Funeral services are pending at Evergreen Memorial Chapel in Anchorage.

AVCP Business Funds...

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to Guy, Notti, Nick, Beans, and Tyson power to obligate their corporation to repay any loan made for interim financing and to employ legal and other advisors or assistants toward the goals of the corporation until the annual meeting of shareholders and the board of directors in September.

AVCP Inc., formed in 1968 as a profit making corporation, has in excess of 4,400 shareholders and will continue as a profit making corporation.

In response to pending sea mammal legislation in Congress, the AVCP passed a resolution strenuously opposing the measure, which will be cause of a public hearing May 22 at Nome, May 13 at Bethel, and May 15 at Juneau.

The delegates also passed a resolution calling for a new high school for students on Nelson Island.

In excess of 200 persons with college level training will be needed to fill jobs in fields related to the land claims settlement requirements in this region and at present we can identify only ten people of Yupik descent with these qualifications, Dixon said.

To meet these needs, AVCP is considering going for a regional contract with the state for basic adult education in the Bethel area, he said.

An entire afternoon was spent discussing the Bethel regional high school and the future of education in the AVCP region with Stanley Friese, superintendent of state operated schools, and Leo St. John, superintendent of Bethel regional high school.

Eskimos' Historic Meet...

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been allowed.

The Russian Eskimos carried what appeared to be American-made Springfield rifle which were slung across their backs.

The Siberian Eskimos, on the second meeting, gave the Little Diomedes presents of cigarettes, candy, tea and sugar.

They had requested American cigarettes, sewing needles and chewing tobacco. They also were given gum which they chewed happily.

It was not known how long the meetings lasted. But each side asked about relatives and friends from whom they had been separated for so many years. Prior to 1947 it had been fairly easy for the islanders to visit back and forth.

The Russian Eskimos told the Little Diomedes that white fox pelts sold for \$75, a high price compared with that in Alaska.

They also said that the former Big Diomedes Eskimos now live in two towns in Siberia and apparently were quite comfortable.

Most of the houses, they said, were equipped with running water and sewer services, something not now available on the rock called Little Diomedes.

The Russian soldiers keep a 24-hour vigil atop Big Diomedes

Island. They are perched in a structure not unlike a flight control tower at an airport.

The watchers are equipped with a powerful telescope. But so are the Americans on their island. The American scope is powerful enough so that the colors in the Russian uniforms or other garb can be seen.

Presumably the Russian detachment on Big Diomedes is supplied in winter by ski-equipped aircraft or helicopter. American bush pilots who have had a close look said there is no airstrip on the big island.

Diomedes Eskimos are hopeful that the exchange on the ice will signal a breakthrough in relations with the Russians. They would like to be allowed to visit their relatives in Siberia from time to time.

Mainland Siberia where the Eskimo towns are located is about 35 miles west of Big Diomedes Island which in turn is about three miles from Little Diomedes Island.

The Eskimos could travel in skin boats in summer when the Bering Strait is free of ice.

Such boats are usually equipped with outboard motors and are normally used for walrus hunting.

Friese Under Fire...

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school.

As in any school district, the State Operated Schools must operate within a budget. The crux of the matter between DOE and Mr. Friese seems to be on priorities, how much of the budget is spent where.

DOEA does not feel that enough of the money is being directed toward the rural schools where it is so badly needed.

According to Ms. Alward, the items endorsed by both the teachers and members of the AFN, but turned down by Friese and the board, were considered fiscally sound by Gene Short, community college administrator, and Dr. Carl Kautsky, API, both of whom are responsible for state budgets.

Mr. Friese said that the suit originally filed against him and the SOS board by DOE has been dropped, and that negotiations are in progress this week in Anchorage between 5 members of the board and 5 members of the teachers' group.

These were not special negotiations but part of the regular annual board-teacher exchanges.

"Our whole emphasis," said Mr. Friese emphatically, "is the rural schools. I can't support them strongly enough."

"No one will ever attempt to slight in any way those schools," he continued. "We have problems just as any district this new and this large might expect to have."

Friese attributed many of the SOS's problems to the overall newness of the various plans, such as the Training Corp program, which is in its second year.

As yet, according to Friese, "there could be no teachers hired from this program because there are no graduates."

When questioned as to what per cent of the teaching staff are Native, Friese declined to give that per cent "off the cuff."

"But I will say, that we have never denied an application."

The problem as Mr. Friese sees it, is that Native high school graduates are not going into education. He saw the role of the SOS as partly to encourage and motivate these young people into careers as teachers.

When asked if it were true that some rural schools had received no new books in 5 years, Friese quipped, "It must be my fault."

On a more serious note, he added "They undoubtedly need improvement. One of our top priorities is to improve these."

Whether or not it is Mr. Friese's fault, some twenty-two student teachers who will complete two years in the Alaska Rural Teacher Training Corps in August are getting nervous about finding jobs in a slow market — and there is no guarantee that they will.

Former State Operated Schools Superintendent Merle Armstrong promised them jobs upon graduation, but Stanley Friese, the current superintendent, at first even denied that his operation would give the specially trained teachers preference in hiring.

Friese said Monday that those about to graduate from the ARTTC program were invited to apply for jobs with SOS, but that "the best we can do is hold a slot open for them," assuming they will graduate.

The fact is, Friese and others connected with ARTTC note, "This is a slow year for teachers looking for jobs."

None of the 62 teachers in Bethel, for example, have as yet resigned or asked for transfers. Usually at least three or four have done so by this time in April said ARTTC director D. M.

Murphy.

The ARTTC program was created to improve bush education by recruiting Native teachers and involving white teachers in the special problems and techniques effective in the bush schools.

The \$1 million program is funded through some \$300,000 from the state's unrestricted general fund, the national teachers corps and career opportunities program through Title Five of the Higher Education Act, and Johnson-O'Malley funds for aid to Indian education.

The first graduates will have spent two winters in villages from Angoon to Noorvik studying their communities and schools while getting college credit from Alaska Methodist University and the University of Alaska. During the summer they are enrolled on the AMU campus.

Still, there is the chance some of these teachers will not be teaching in the bush next fall. Depriving not only teachers a job, but youngsters in the bush with teacher models which educators feel would encourage more students to consider careers in education.

The two strikes against them getting bush jobs are late graduation (most applicants will have their degrees by June) and the shortage of jobs.

"My prognosis is we'll find jobs for all of the 22 graduates who are certified by the state. But there hasn't been sufficient commitment to hire the people in this program" he said last week.

"These students are," he said, "worth that commitment. The fact that ARTTC students are trained and educated in rural villages and schools of Alaska gives them a specialty which cannot be acquired in an on-campus teacher preparation program," he said Monday.

"I have confidence that ARTTC graduates will be considered in light of their special rural training and that they will therefore be offered the first chance in teaching positions in rural schools as they open up," he added.

Friese meanwhile hedged the issue, arguing on one hand that his office was vitally interested in the ARTTC program and just hasn't had the need to hire new teachers yet, and on the other hand that only six or seven of 17 ARTTC students interviewed indicated interest in working with the SOS program.

"I think it's a little unreasonable to assume every graduate will get a job right away. I know a lot of teachers out looking for jobs," he added at another point.

"The best we can do is hold a slot open for them. In normal times this wouldn't be good, but right now we have enough teachers to fall back on" (in case one of them doesn't graduate), he said.

But Friese also said most good teachers sign contracts early.

"Some fault," he said, "lies in the scheduling of the ARTTC program itself. You don't end a program in August and get a job September 1, but that's the way it was planned," he said.

Still, Murphy argues that not only will the teachers' training and taxpayers money be wasted if ARTTC graduates aren't hired, but that it will be impossible to judge the effectiveness of the training program if graduates don't become bush teachers.

In contrast to SOS, the Bureau of Indian Affairs gives hiring preference to graduates of the program. "BIA's general personnel policy is to first try to find qualified applicants for job openings who are Natives," said

Bush Telephone...

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a format capable of showing us what we needed to know."

As to why the hearing in Juneau was called, Mr. Hendershot commented: "I believe they felt there had been a slow-down of informal communication between the Commission and RCA. They wanted to know if we had exhausted all our informal means of arriving at an understanding before the public hearing was called."

As to the possibility of exploring alternate systems, Commissioner Hendershot said: "Well, we're pretty far into this thing. But we would consider a new system if there was a better one, one that could save money, so we are asking: Is there a new way? Is there a new technology?"

If RCA were to come up with a new technology which represented both an improvement and a money saving, the Commission would be interested.

"Presently," he said, "I would just as soon go forward with what we have now."

Mr. Hendershot cited the Nome project as an example of the potential success of the program.

If savings can be made by moving back deadlines, this will be a consideration at the April 18 hearing.

"It would be an inconvenience," said Hendershot, "But I can stand a lot of inconvenience for \$2 million."

Gordon Tracy, administrative manager at Anchorage for BIA. But the students would prefer being hired by the state system, which is the process of taking over the BIA schools.

SOS became a separate corporation on July 1, 1971 and employs about 978 teachers, with a total staff of 1,500 employees in 124 rural villages and six military installations from Adak to Fort Greely. SOS is presently responsible for the education of some 18,000 youngsters.

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