

Ivory...

(Continued from page 1)

How does he market his work?

"People know that Daniel's here and doing good work and they usually buy from me," Daniel explained. Besides tourists, hunters and troops on maneuvers, Daniel gets a considerable mail order business.

Despite his reputation as an artist, Daniel Iyakutan's family must draw welfare to support them in their tiny two room house. Six children live with them in their tiny house.

In the house next door, lives Louis Iyakutan, Daniel's brother, and his family. Also an ivory carver, Louis Iyakutan uses a lathe for some of his work, loves sitting and chatting with visitors, telling tales and stories while he works the fine details of his walrus, birds, bracelets and anything else a customer wants.

Lately, Louis has tried to expand his animal repertoire. Once source of models is wildlife books. One day, a soldier came in looking for a carved turtle as a present for a friend. From a picture, Louis reproduced a remarkable accurate little turtle—a product which produced a rash of orders for the impudent looking animal.

Although most carvers sell to outside outlets, Gambell is trying to retain much of its output in town—as an attraction to tourists and visitors. Some of the work is finely detailed—and justifiably expensive. A tourist

who watches the carver at work, they have found, is more liable to give him full value for his carving.

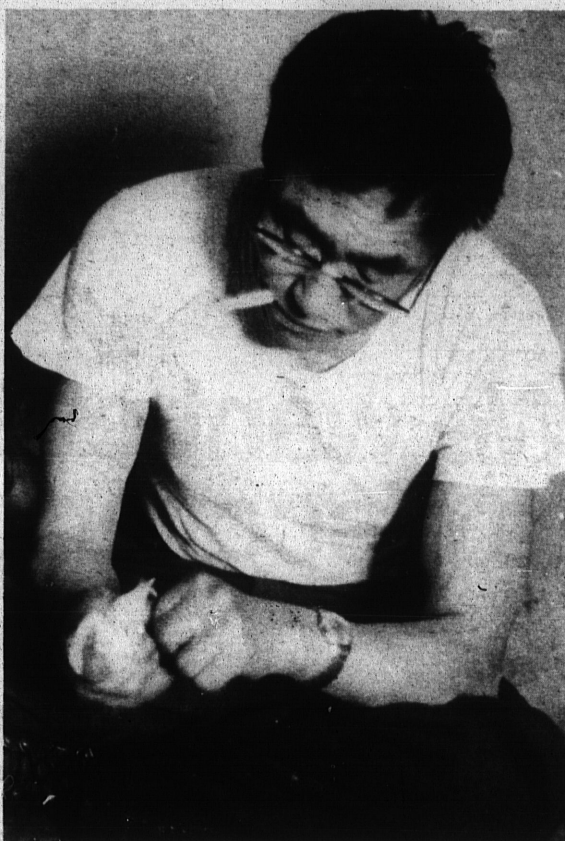
Some of the works are remarkable in their detail. In one house, Woodrow Malewotuk showed an ivory and baleen boat he had just completed. His father-in-law, Lincoln Blasse, also carves in their house—with hand made tools he ground painstakingly from steel. In his 70s, Lincoln is a carver of the old school.

Although many professionals live in Gambell, carving is a hard trade—almost impossible to making a living at without a move to Nome, Fairbanks, Anchorage or Seattle. The supply of baleen and ivory is uncertain. Walrus are not always available. Most carvers use "old ivory"—fossilized ivory found in the many archeological sites around the island. Through the long summer days old women dig for tusks, bones and artifacts around the village and in the low hills nearby.

In the winter, frozen ground makes this impossible.

Meanwhile, villagers hope to combine their ivory carving industry with a tourist trade. Within eyesight, visitors can see the white capped mountains of Siberia—only 80 miles away. Walrus hunters, seeking the huge mammals, come to the island in the spring to go out in skin boats. Someday, trips to nearby Siberia may be possible.

Meanwhile, the carvers find themselves responsible for packing, shipping and insuring their mail order work—an often ex-



CARVER AT WORK—Daniel Iyakutan, a talented carver from the village of Gambell, sits in a corner of his house working by hand on the details of an ivory swan. The delicate arching necks of Iyakutan's swans are known throughout the state.

pensive overhead. Most refuse deposits on mail order work.

"I don't want to take money for nothing," said one carver. Besides, he said, ivory might be scarce, materials unavailable, time uncertain and he might not be able to deliver.

Kake...

(Continued from page 1)

villagers feared most of the town with its wooden buildings would be destroyed by flames.

After a call for help to the Coast Guard met no response, villagers turned for help to the logging camp nearby at Clear Creek. The loggers fire fighting equipment, supplementing the village's enabled them to put out the fire before other buildings were destroyed.

The community building, a 68 by 120 foot structure was first built between 1910 and 1912 according to Jackson. Later additions turned it into a multipurpose community building and recreation center.

Its value is estimated at about \$262,000, not counting equipment belonging to the Alaska Native Sisterhood which was lost inside. The building housed the ANB and city council as well as community activities.

The fire also leaves the Kake's ANB gold medal basketball team without a place to practice.

"I think the state should look into inadequate fire fighting equipment in all the Indian villages," Jackson said in the wake of the fire.

Write On!

(Continued from page 2)

hard working men vote Democrat all the way.

We might get our road pretty soon 1 mile trail. I have \$400 worth of oil side my house. It makes me sick, just to look at it. I could drink that much more and burn wood, if we have a one mile road.

I hope that Governor whoever he is read this, I don't think he have much time, or give a damn about Nulato.

Fred Stickman, Sr.

Mrs. Morris Makes Banquet Donation

P.O. Box 95
Quantzsite, Arizona 85346
September 23, 1971

Howard Rock
Editor, Tundra Times
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Mr. Rock:

For two years, I have received Tundra Times as a Christmas gift from my daughter-in-law, Mary Jane Fate. When each issue reaches my home in Arizona, I read it through before laying it down, then I pass it on to former Alaskans. Through it, I am able to keep abreast of much of Alaska's most important news and I have admired the fairness and good solid thinking in your editorials.

Shortly after my arrival in Fairbanks for a visit with my family, Mary Jane asked me to go with her to the Tundra Times office, the occasion being an impromptu birthday party given by the Board of Tundra Times in your honor. It was a friendly party and I was privileged to be introduced to you, whose editing I have admired and about whom I have heard glowing reports of your devotion to your principles and to your weekly paper, Tundra Times.

May you enjoy good health

and success for many years to come.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Irvine R. Morris

P.S. Enclosed please find my personal check in the amount of \$10.00, to be applied toward the approaching October 9th Tundra Times Banquet.

Kuskokwim Corp. Wants Hunting Rights

Lower Kuskokwim Coast Corp.
Kwigillingok, Alaska
September 27, 1971

U.S. President Richard Nixon
White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear President

We the Natives of this Corporation (Lower Kuskokwim Coast Corporation) held a special meeting on September 25, 26, 27, 1971. Discussing the land we filed for as Lower Kuskokwim Coast Corporation, and have received the sealed certificate of this Corporation for the land we have, and of this Corporation we formed as Lower Kuskokwim Coast Corporation.

We have just realized how the land claims are going to be settled taking our rights to live off the land. We do not want our rights to be taken away and we will not let that happen. Our ancestors had this land and they are buried in this land now and it now continues to be our land. Therefore, we the Natives of this Corporation will not give up our rights in living off this land, which contains 3,192.1 square miles which is not very much. We cover many acres of land when we hunt and fish for subsistence use, for because what we hunt and fish for subsistence use does not stay on one location.

Therefore, we the Natives of this Corporation will keep the land as we have used it before.

Also we are to have the title that indicates this area as it was filed under Article III of our Articles of Incorporation, and described on the enclosed sheet which shows the area we have Incorporated for.

Therefore, we the natives of this Corporation will not give up our rights to live off the land as we live and will be inherited by our children. Since we the natives of this Corporation are native of State of Alaska from the time before white people came here we have right to live as we please and use and live off the land.

They don't go from job to job and we do not have any trades that we can earn money and live by. So that is how we feel about this land for we are its people. And have ancestors that lived before us. We have just recently found out from A.V.C.P. meeting that our hunting and fishing rights are going to be taken away when land claims are settled.

And we the natives of this Corporation will keep our hunting and fishing rights since we have lived off this land until this day—How are we, the jobless natives going to live with what little land we are given when land claims are settled. If our rights are taken away from us.

Since it is hard for us natives of this Corporation to live in small area and hunt and fish and also hunt sea animals. How are we, the jobless natives going to live with what little land we are given when land claims are settled. If our rights are taken away from us.

Since it is hard for us natives of this Corporation to live in small area and hunt and fish and also hunt sea animals. How are we going to survive as human beings? If we are limited and unable to go to places where we can hunt and fish. For example you white people; cannot live without jobs, we cannot live without hunting and fishing rights.

So we will not let our hunting and fishing rights go since we

can't live without eating. So! We know that you hold the highest position of Presidency of United States. And in your campaign you stated that you understand the problems of Alaskan people.

Respectfully,
Tommy Phillip-President

Jesse Gunlik-Secretary

cc: Tundra Times

Writer Protests Oil Ads

Morelos 294
San Pedro Tlaquepaque
Jalisco, Mexico

Dear Editor:

Please do not SELL yourself to these aggressive and lying, cheating OIL outfits your TUNDRA; your PERMAFROST; your WILDLIFE; your WATER RESOURCES are too valuable to gamble on the PIPELINE which will break some time or other. Your natural condition of your environment is too valuable to be gambled with by the risk of oil spills in your State.

Your own culture, Aleut, Eskimo & Indian has lived for centuries upon the RENEWABLE Natural Resources but unfortunately you are now committed to the Culture of using NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES; using SNOWMOBILES instead of DOGS; using OILHEATERS instead of your primitive means; importing FOOD from the South 48 instead of the Native Foods.

Let's hope you survive in spite of the NEWER CULTURE. (Referring to the text of an oil company ad) This is close to a gross violation of the Truth in Advertising Act.

Just in Passing. The Southern 48 States use each DAY 25,000, 000 barrels of Oil. Just 40 days to USE-better SAY CONSUME—ONE BILLION.

So ALASKA may have 10 BILLION barrels—so Alaska prolongs the AGONY before it is

ALL GONE some 400 days—just a bit over ONE YEAR.

Is your TUNDRA, your PERMAFROST worth the risk?

Yours truly,

Howard A. Nibecker

P.S. I hope you all listen to UPIKSOON.

H.A.N.

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