

GROUNDWORK ON ETV IN THREE COMMUNITIES

The village people at Fort Yukon are excited these days because plans are being made for them to have satellite television that may come into their schoolrooms and village centers as early as next September.

The people of Nome and Kodiak are also pleasantly anticipating the same service that will come into their areas around the same time. Nome residents had taken the idea so seriously that they raised out-of-pocket money in the amount of \$1,500 for organizational expenses.

Bernard W. Poirier, assistant

to Sen. Mike Gravel in Gravel's Washington office, has been traveling to the three towns laying the groundwork for satellite TV reception this fall.

Poirier's work stems from the Pilot Satellite Program sponsored by Sen. Gravel recently. The idea is an expansion from the satellite reception for Ahncorage area of the landing on the moon of Apollo 11 last week. This was made possible by Sen. Gravel's insistence in asking Pentagon and the National Aeronautic and Space Administration for live TV reception of the moonshot.

Poirier returned from Fort Yukon this week after laying the groundwork for TV reception there.

The Yukon River Village will have Educational Television reception at the schools in the morning and late in the afternoon in seven village centers.

The centers have been designated as the Mission House, Fort Yukon Community Winter Hall, Pete's Place, Teen House, Rural Alaska Community Action Program center, Yukon Lodge and Yukon King Hotel. There will be two or three televisions in each

center.

The system, if it gets off the ground, will utilize NASA's ATS-1 satellite now orbiting idle and which is ideally positioned for Alaska TV reception.

And, too, the White House has approved Sen. Gravel's idea of Alaska being permitted use of the Canadian domestic satellite planned for use starting in 1971. Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau of Canada has also been highly receptive to the idea.

The pilot program for the three communities is for this year. Bernard Poirier said other villages will be added each year.

"Not all villages the same year but about 30 or 40 each year," said Poirier.

Poirier said he met with the State Legislative Council in Anchorage and met last Tuesday with the University of Alaska representatives.

"The University, because of its experience in rural education, would like the management of the ETV portion in Fairbanks," stated Poirier.

He said that Sen. Gravel would like to have the ETV commence next September in the three communities.

"We are simply waiting for the Governor," said Poirier. "The communities have taken action, Kodiak, Nome and Fort Yukon. U. S. Government is taking action. Even the Canadian government is taking action, but no action yet in Juneau."

Poirier said, however, that a meeting with Gov. Keith Miller on the subject was planned for tomorrow in Juneau. The Legislative Council under the chairmanship of Rep. Eugene Guess of Anchorage will also join the meeting along with an additional senator and a representative.

Mike Bradner Urges State Push Alaskan Hire by Oil Companies

State Rep. Mike Bradner, D-Fairbanks, has proposed that the state impose a special requirement insuring the hiring of resident Alaskans on all state oil leases awarded as a result of the September sale of North Slope Oil lands.

Bradner in a letter to Gov. Keith H. Miller, said he believed that imposing such a requirement may be administratively possible.

The Fairbanks legislator told Miller that there has been "a lot of talk about hiring resident Alaskans on the North Slope but there has been little progress."

"I think it is time we stopped talking and started showing strength and direction in determining the rules of the game in the development of our oil resources," Bradner said.

"And primary among these rules should be an absolute insistence by the state in the area of employment of Alaskans."

Bradner further stated that in the event that such a requirement is not administratively possible the state should then challenge the oil companies to make

voluntary commitments for local hire on their leases as part of the bidding process.

"I propose that the companies be voluntarily allowed to add an addendum to their lease bids stipulating to the training and hiring of Alaskans if awarded the lease," Bradner said.

The Fairbanks legislator said the keen competition which appears to be shaping the September sale may result in a condition of nearly equal bids in many cases.

"In such a case the state would give preference to the firm who stipulates that they would train and hire Alaskans," Bradner added.

"We have made little progress to date in promoting on-the-job training and the hiring of resident Alaskans in the oil industry, with the result that the economic benefits of that industry is substantially lessened to the state."

"In addition the social contribution of the industry is lessened when we cannot gage what this industry does for a wage earning family man, living in Alaska, paying his bills and taxes here, and raising his family here."

"When we talk about developing our state it should be guided by the principle of what it does for people in the sense of producing a better life and making Alaska a better place to live."

"But if we get lost in 'development for development's sake' then we risk a reckless pace of development that can damage our resources, our wilderness environment, and which may fail in making a better life for Alaskan residents."

Bradner said the proposal to require Alaska hire on the state leases could be regulated in such a way as to allow a phase in period during which the industry could be allowed to average out between state and federal leases.

This would allow Alaskans in the beginning to be mixed in with experienced crews.

Bradner, who chairs the House Rules Committee, indicated if the voluntary approach were adopted then firms offering Alaska hire would provide a powerful wedge against remaining firms.

In addition firms might offer various plans or proposals for training and hiring of Alaskans in steps.

47 Employment Security Div. Violations Aired by State

Labor Commissioner Thomas J. Moore reported today that in the 12 month period ending June 30, 1969, investigators of the Employment Security Division of the Alaska Department of Labor detected 47 cases of individuals filing fraudulent claims in order to obtain unemployment insurance benefits.

Moore stated that each of the guilty persons was disqualified from receiving benefits for a period of 27 weeks, in addition to being required to repay the benefits illegally obtained.

Repayments in the amount of \$6,156.00 were demanded in the 12 month period, Moore said.

Moore warned that the making of false statements on claims for unemployment insurance is a serious offense, and could result in his department initiating criminal prosecution.

In the 12 month period, the employment security division re-

ferred 4 cases to the Department of Law for prosecution.

All were prosecuted successfully, resulting in jail sentences totaling 240 days and fines totaling \$750.00. One individual also forfeited \$5,000.00 bail, Moore said.

Moore said that the Employment Security Division acts as agent for the Railroad Retirement Board in accepting claims for unemployment insurance benefits under that program. Division investigators uncovered one case of fraudulent filing under that program.

Prosecution of the case was initiated by the U. S. Attorney and resulted in the guilty person being sentenced to a one year suspended jail sentence, placed on probation for two years, and ordered to make restitution in the amount of \$1,362.00, Moore said.

Wingrove Safety Expert For Native Hire

ANCHORAGE, July 23—Charles O. Wingrove, former vocational project developer-coordinator for Anchorage Community College, has been appointed safety and personnel representative for the Alaska Employee Relations Section of Atlantic Richfield Company.

His new assignment was announced today by Stanley D. Owen, manager of ARCO's Alaska employee relations. Wingrove's duties will involve all aspects of employee relations with emphasis on safety and the recruitment and training of Alaska Natives for jobs on the North Slope.

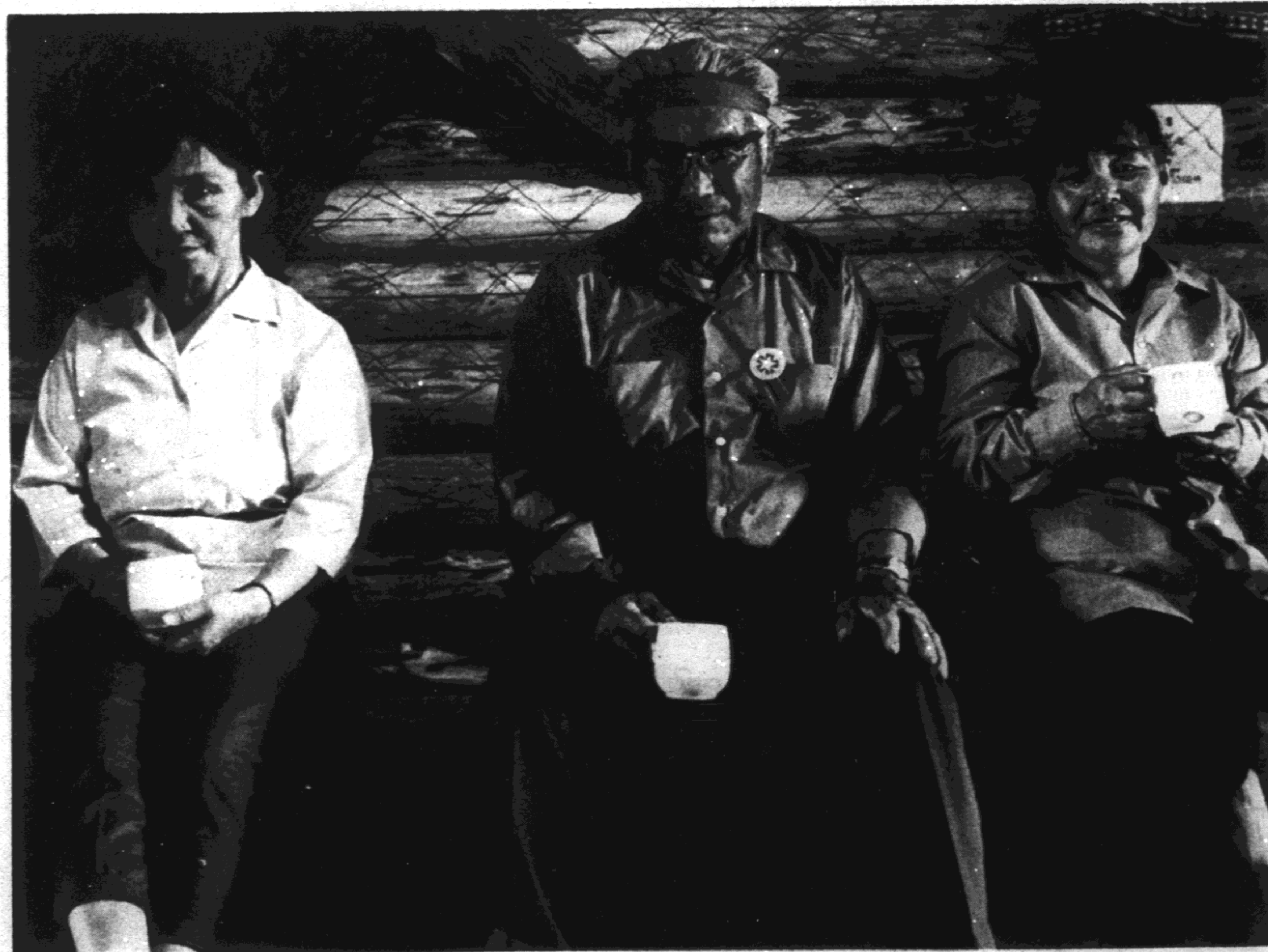
At Anchorage Community College, Wingrove developed and managed the Alaska Village Electric cooperative, a Rural Electrification Administration project which is bringing electric power to Alaska's remote villages.

The program included training Alaska Natives as diesel power plant operators and electricians.

He is a veteran of 20 years military service, having served 15 - 1/2 years in the U. S. Air Force before earning a degree from Rollins College in Florida and being commissioned as a warrant officer in the Army.

He spent a year on assignment in the Highlands of South Vietnam and served the following two years at Fort Richardson Alaska, retiring in 1968 as a chief warrant officer.

He is married and the father of two children.



VISITING NATIVE VILLAGE—Two Eskimo women from Savoonga on St. Lawrence Island are having a cup of coffee with Mathew Titus of Minto at the Native Village at the Alaskaland, the Centennial Exposition site in Fairbanks in 1967. Matthew Titus works

at the village for the benefit of the tourists. The women, Myra Seppilu, left, and Daisy Uiyuklook, right, are attending the University of Alaska to take a refresher course in Head Start teaching which they do in Savoonga.

—DIGNA JOHNSON Photograph