



Attendant plays major role in the village telephone program



NATIVE ENROLLMENT—Susan Ruddy (center) and Irene Rowan (right), of Kish Tu Inc., an Anchorage firm, discuss the second enrollment of Alaska Native people under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act with U.S. Sen. Ted Stevens in his Washington, D.C., office. The Bureau of Indian Affairs has contracted with Kish Tu Inc. to conduct an information campaign designed to reach all Alaska Natives worldwide. Alaska Natives wishing to participate in the benefits awarded to them in ANCSA must file an enrollment application with the Alaska Native Enrollment Office at Pouch 7-1971 in Anchorage by the end of 1976, if they have not enrolled already.

Bethel educational TV lacks funding

KYUK, the television station that transmits courses for college credit to isolated Eskimo villages in the Bethel area, may be short of funds next season, just when the program is proving itself a valuable tool in bush education.

Last semester 151 students registered at Kuskokwim Community College through the television system and several hundred more audited courses without officially signing up.

Noontime customers at a certain village store in the Kuskokwim area were often startled when the proprietor left them in charge of the till so he could dash home to watch the "Income Tax Lady" (Joan Zimmerman), who became a hit explaining the mysteries of the Internal Revenue Service.

Mary Whitaker and Jim Foote had a large following for their puppet show "Let's Speak English" which turned out to be so outrageously funny that casual viewers learned English just to find out what they were up to.

And straight courses like sociology, early childhood education and health care had a more than casual following.

"This is a very unique thing. No institute in the United States

has 30 hours of live television a week...probably not more than 10," notes Allen Auxier, producer director of KYUK. But the demand is there and growing.

One of the problems encountered in this ground-breaking experiment is lack of time for careful program preparation.

"It was hurry-up-kind of right now," Auxier admits. "Next year we're hoping to try takes of some classes from outside, to free up to take a little more time with our own program preparation. But funding is something we're just not sure of."

This year the program were financed mainly through the

Fund for Improvement of Post Secondary Education and a CETA grant which paid for staff through an on-the-job-training program. Neither grant is available next year and to date no alternate funding has been located.

Physical expansion of the network is going along at a grand clip. Although only 18 villages could count on receiving the KYUK signal this year, two thirds of the area's 56 villages will soon be on the circuit and the whole area may be covered within a year, through legislative funding.

In addition, talk-back units (by which students can question and talk back to television

(Continued on Page 6)

Doyon Ltd., shows first profit

(Reprinted from Alaska on Alaska Newsletter).

Doyon, Ltd., whose 12 million acres or about one-third of the entire Alaska Land Claims Settlement Act entitlement, makes it the largest private landholder in Alaska, reports that the corporation showed a profit for the first time in 1975 following three years of losses due to expenses involved in making land selec-

tions.

Business enterprises for the corporation, which has 8,805 shareholders, involved haul road maintenance and surveying as well as oil exploration in the Kandik Basin.

Doyon is also a 20 per cent owner of the United Bank of Alaska. The Doyon Building in Fairbanks is completely filled and more space is needed for the corporation's activities.

Introduction of telephone services creates new position in village

(Reprinted from Rural Communications, an RCA publication).

In 20 small communities scattered in rural Alaska, villagers are adjusting to a new way of life brought about by the installation of a telephone for the first time.

The introduction of telephone service has also created a new position in the villages—that of the village telephone attendant.

The attendant plays an important role in the village telephone program. Selected by the village council, the attendant controls the use of the telephone and is responsible for a successful telephone program.

In taking charge of the telephone, each attendant must:

(1) Supervise the telephone during its hours of operation. The village council establishes the hours that the telephone is available for use. If the attendant is absent for any reason during these hours, a replacement should be available to ensure uninterrupted telephone service. A village may have more than one attendant and may divide the hours of supervision.

(2) Explain how to use the telephone or send a telegram to the villagers, if necessary. To assist the attendant, RCA Alascom has distributed dialing instructions. The attendant should post these by the telephone.

(3) Record and collect the charges for the calls that are made. RCA Alascom provides log sheets to help the attendant keep track of the calls that are made. To keep an accurate record, the attendant should write down: the date, place called, number called, person calling and total cost (including federal tax).

When a villager wants his telephone call or a telegram billed to the village phone, he must tell the operator to call him back with time (how long the call was) and charges (how much the call costs).

When the call is completed, the operator will call back in a few minutes (if requested). The line cannot be used unless the operator has called back.

As soon as the time and charges are reported, the attendant should collect the charges for the telephone call.

Each month RCA Alascom will send out a telephone bill to the village council. If all the calls and charges have been

carefully logged and collected by the attendant, the village council should be able to pay the telephone bill without using additional village funds.

Villagers can obtain a credit card from RCA Alascom and can then charge their telephone calls and telegrams.

Villagers who want a credit card must fill out an application and submit a deposit based on the estimated amount of money that will be spent on telephone calls for two months. Credit card applications will be sent by RCA Alascom to the vil-

(Continued on Page 6)

Roger Lang re-elected chairman

FAIRBANKS—Alaska Native leader Roger Lang has been reelected chairman of the policy council which provides direction for the Alaska Native Human Resource Development Program. He has headed the council since its inception three years ago.



ROGER LANG

The program, administered by the University of Alaska, was established in 1973 with a \$681,461 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

Its primary purpose is to promote the training and development of Native leadership and

(Continued on Page 6)