

# Alaska Things Going on Quite Normally at Village of Gambell

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GAMBELL Over here in Gambell, Alaska things have been going on quite normally. Everyday, the men go seal

hunting and there is so much to be done on seal skins in order that they be of some use for the cold winter that is coming. A few years ago, the men used to go with dog teams, now the snow machines are very useful. Seal hunting and ivory carving means a lot to us always. Once the skins are cleaned good and made right for what you put on in that sweet, wide outdoors of white, white, white.

NEW POST OFFICE

Only thing new this year is the little post office behind the village. That post office came last summer. The tug boat brought it over, whole two parts already made. Boy, we never see such work done.

It is a beautiful building. When we walk in there, we're just like stepping into the outside world. In there we don't light lamps or start stoves, yet it is nice and comfortable.

And from the back rooms, there the girl comes over to the window and help us with any mail we have.

But that girl talks Eskimo like we do. She is the daughter of one of us. Lily Ungwulik is the daughter of Anna and Frank. She went to high school at Mt. Edgecumbe. She graduated and came home. She has some things from the schools that will help her in the future real good.

## GROUND ALL WHITE

Now the ground is all white and the lake is all ice on the surface for good, we hope, because last month it was cold enough to form the thin ice on the lake of some two miles long and some half a mile wide along some places laying along the south of the city.

But it had turned into a raging rough water when the 50 knot winds galed along this region last part of October.

It is nice and frozen now with a few inches of snow all over the ground but the sea ice has not come yet. The ice will

soon be getting here from the north — great mass of ice, moving continent.

There will be more seals, walruses and even polar bears. But now, as there is snow all over, the walruses should be coming around as they will be mistaking the land for ice.

## EYE DOCTOR CAME

Health aides, Estelle Oozeva seuk and Bessie Kaningok, have been busy this week as the eye doctor and his wife were here from Anchorage. Johanna Kokuluk also was here.

They worked one whole evening and one whole day checking adults, Head Start and school children, or anyone with eye problems.

They worked at Presbyterian church.

## Alaska Natives Share Revenues

Senator Mike Gravel reported that the Senate has approved an amendment, co-sponsored by him, permitting Alaskan Native Villages to receive an estimated \$2 million in revenue sharing funds.

The amendment offered by Senator Lee Metcalf of Montana, on behalf of Senator Gravel and others, requires that one-fourth of one percent of the funds appropriated for revenue sharing be set aside for "allocation and payment to Indian Tribes, Alaskan Native Villages, bands, groups, pueblos, and communities which perform governmental functions."

"What this means," Senator Gravel said, "is that Native Villages may make direct application for these funds without going through the State or other governmental authority."

Instead they may apply for these special Indian funds to be paid directly to the Native Villages. Furthermore, it increases appreciably the amount of revenue sharing funds coming into Alaska."

According to Senator Gravel, the Indian revenue sharing funds are expected to amount to some \$20 million, to be disbursed on the basis of population.

Since Alaska has roughly one-tenth of the Native or Indian population of the country, its share should be \$2 million.

Under the formula currently being considered in the Senate, the Indian fund will raise the total revenue sharing funds coming into Alaska from \$6.2 million to over \$8 million.

"It is extremely significant," Senator Gravel said, "for the Senate to recognize that agencies other than state and city governments should be eligible for revenue sharing funds."

"The principle behind revenue sharing is that the people in a community are best able to determine how funds should be spent there. This amendment, which I am proud to have co-sponsored, puts that principle into action."

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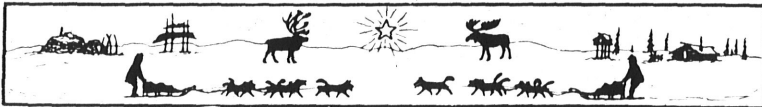
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