# Native Co-op Managers After Education Program

Thirteen Alaskans, most of them managers of successful village cooperatives, will attend an intensive four week education program at the Western Cooperative College in Saskatoon, Canada.

The course, sponsored by the Community Enterprise Development Corporation of Anchorage, covers various areas of co-op activity, including concepts of management, adult education and cooperative bookkeeping and finances. Participants will have an opportunity to visit a number of nearby co-ops and learn from their experiences; Saskatchewan province has the most extensive and highly developed cooperative network in Canada.

The eleven men and two women who will attend this fall's course have been selected from fishery, consumer and arts-andcrafts cooperatives and from several government agencies.

They come from all over Western and Central Alaska.

Nels Franklin is the manager of the Manokotak Village Residents Co-op; Luther Nagrauk the manager of the Bering Sea Fisheries Co-op; Philip Guy the Regional Director of RurALCAP for Bethel and an organizer of the new Bethel Consumer Co-op;

Robert Nick a field support specialist for the Community Enterprise Development Corporation; Edna Ayek from the Emergency Food and Medical Program in Anchorage, Jacob Phillip the bookkeeper of the Akiachak Coop,

Sylvester Ayek the manager of the Neuvaneavik-Hoonda Kahit Co-op, Thomas Menadelook the manager of Inupiat Arts and Crafts, Ind., in Teller, Richard Ketzler a member of the Koyukon Regional Development Board which has plans to establish a timber cooperative;

Gabriel Payenna from the King Island Carvers Association, Jacob Johnson and Bill Quinlaven the manager and bookkeeper of the Yukon Delta Fish Marketing Co-op, and Anna Sipary a VISTA Associate in Tooksuk Bay who is investigating the possibility of starting a basket weaving co-op in her area.

The Western Cooperative Col-

lege is operated by the Canadian Federation of Cooperatives and provides basic training in necessary skills for co-op staff and members. Co-op personnel come to the college from all over the world-from Africa, Asia and Latin America as well as from the United States and Canada.

The college has developed a special training program for Canadian Eskimos and Indians; a group of Canadian Eskimo co-op leaders will be studying in Saskatoon at the same time as their Alaskan counterparts.

Last winter the C.E.D.C. set up a similar program at Western Cooperative College, in which eight Alaskan men and women participated.

Follow-up for this training

course has recently been completed and has proven very successful. Three W.C.C. facultymembers came to Anchorage in September to conduct a oneweek management training course and then traveled around the state working directly with co-op managers and Boards of Directors in their own locations.

The same kind of on-the-spot training will eventually be provided for the graduates of the course beginning next week.

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## Hickel Seeks Transfer Of Nunivak Musk Ox

Secretary of the Interior Walt er J. Hickel announced his approval of plans to transfer musk ox from Nunivak Island.

As the second phase of the transplant program, it is planned to move about 100 musk ox from Nunivak Island to the Arctic North Slope in the spring of 1970.

The first phase of the program, completed this last year, moved 48 of the animals from Nunivak Island to Barter Island.

This plan comes as a result of a study just completed by the Bureau of Sport Fish and Wildlife.

The musk ox reduction program on Nunivak Island is part of a long range plan to restore the animal on its native range in Northern Alaska.

Nunivak Island, 18 miles off the Alaska Coast on the Bering Sea, was set aside as a National Wildlife Refuge under an executive order signed by President Hoover in 1929.

The musk ox herd on the island now numbering about 750 was developed from 34 animals purchased in Greenland and placed on the island in 1936.

The planned removal program of 100 animals per year will reduce the present population of the herd. Removal criteria will favor the removal of more males than females with a planned re-

duction in productivity on the island.

This will tend to stabilize the present herd and, with the transplant of new animals on the North Slope, Alaska musk ox will be secure from the chance of a disastrous loss in the Nunivak herd.

Musk ox will be captured on Nunivak in March. All capture and handling of the animals on the island will be done by Eskimo residents using snowmobiles. Animals will be transported to Mekoryuk via sled.

Materials have been purchased for the construction of a 1 quarter acre corral and holding pens to accomodate the musk ox at Mekoryuk. Construction will be accomplished by local hire under the supervision of the Bureau of Sport Fish and Wildlife personnel.

An effort will be made to capture family herds as a unit. Although it will be necessary to move to many of the animals shortly after capture, an attempt will be made to hold as many as possible until June as this is a more favorable release time.

Recent discussions with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game officials indicate that this transplant program is in agreement with their management plans.

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