

Model Home Being Tested by Arctic Slope Regional Corporation

By MARGIE BAUMAN
(Courtesy of Anchorage Daily News)

BARROW — Howling north-east winds off the Arctic Ocean will provide the acid test this winter on the worth of a new model home at the top of the

world.

"Only then will we know exactly how it performs in cold weather," said Edward E. Hopson Sr., housing project consultant to the Arctic Slope regional corporation.

Snug in a fur trimmed corduroy parka on a sunny August

afternoon, the man in charge of upgrading housing for five Eskimo communities north of the Arctic Circle climbed a ladder to inspect the roof of the prefabricated home.

Construction began in mid-August, next door to the ASRC offices and the house is to be

ready for occupancy by Sept. 1, Hopson said.

The work is being done by Pacific Architects and engineers, an international firm with a contract for Navy housing at Barrow. ASRC, the regional corporation set up as a result of the Alaska Native Claims Settle-

ment Act, will rent the model home, keeping a sharp eye out for defects.

These will be noted and by spring of 1973 incorporated into building plans for 145 new homes across the Arctic Slope.

Wainwright on the Chukchi Sea and Anaktuvuk Pass in the heart of the Brooks Range will get 18 homes each, with 12 going to Kaktovik on Barter Island and 100 to Barrow, a community of 2,500.

Villagers at Pt. Hope are in the process of relocating their village and will not participate immediately in this project.

More than one third of the homes at Barrow are prefabricated structures and most of them are considered unfit for Arctic use, because they are improperly insulated; they are unfit for a land where winter temperatures average 35 below and winds blow in off the Arctic Ocean at 60 miles an hour. "Second class homes," snapped one resident. "We want first class homes."

"They're housing contractors and they've got to produce," said Hopson cautiously of the PA & E project, but he is confident they will produce.

"Then local people will have a chance to look it over and propose revisions," said Hopson.

Residents also hope that officials of the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will come to inspect the dwelling.

The region signed a contract with the Alaska State Housing Authority this summer to provide the homes and ASHA needs HUD approval before going ahead with the project, since it is being initially subsidized through HUD.

The region chose to go through ASHA rather than the Alaska Federation of Natives housing corporation because they felt this was a quicker way to get it done. AFN Housing Inc. is currently involved in improving housing in a number of other bush areas.

Through ASHA, the North Slope natives will be able to take advantage of a new government policy to emphasize native employment in constructing the homes. ASRC will inspect bids and make recommendations to ASHA on who should get the contract and ASHA is expected to honor their recommendation, even if they do not choose the lowest bidder.

ASHA recently agreed to give Chris Berg Inc., of Seattle the contract for housing for six villages in southeastern Alaska because of his attractive offer to native hire, even though his bid was \$100,000 over that of the low bidder.

There are problems other than employment to be dealt with, however, problems brought on by isolation and weather.

In Barrow, for example, electricity is municipally owned and currently extends to the edge of the proposed housing area. Funding of the expansion of both service lines and generator equipment will be a problem and assistance will be required, noted Robert Wilson, a housing development specialist for ASHA.

Anaktuvuk Pass has no electric, sewer or water facilities, all of which would have to be included in initial project plans.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs provided materials to repair 19 existing homes in Anaktuvuk Pass in 1968, but the condition of all housing there is still very poor, with several sod homes still in use.

Good building sites are available, but an area stream will

(Continued on Page 9)

ALASKA BUSINESS DIRECTORY

ELECTROLUX
HOOVER
COMPACT
ROYAL
VACUUM Cleaners
&
PARTS FOR MOST MAKES
&
DISPOSABLE BAGS

GULL'S
201 E. 4 Ave. Anchorage 272-3326
911 Cushman Fairbanks 452-3202

OVER 7,000
tapes in stock
THE TAPE BIN
2114 Cushman Fairbanks
MAIL ORDERS WELCOME

CO-OP Drug & Photo
"ALASKA'S LARGEST"
Prompt Mail Order
SERVICE & PHOTOFINISHING
• Prescriptions
• Photo Supplies
• Cosmetics
• Sundry Items
P. O. Box 1390 Fairbanks

GOLDEN NORTH Appliance Center
FOR THE LONG LINE OF BUSINESS AND HOME NEEDS:
RANGES
REFRIGERATORS
WASHERS
DRYERS
COMMERCIAL KITCHENS
ELECTRIC HEATING
DISHWASHERS
DISPOSALS
BUILT-INS
FREEZERS
WATER HEATERS
AIR CONDITIONERS
WIRING EQUIPMENT

TELEVISION STEREO RADIO TAPE RECORDERS
BUY THE BEST—IT COSTS NO MORE
"Mail orders promptly filled with immediate shipment from Fairbanks."
Complete Service on All We Sell!
Ph. 452-3012
845 College Rd.
Fairbanks, Ak (99701)

INTERIOR airways inc
"An Equal Opportunity Employer"
AIR CHARTER — Call 452-5171

FAIRBANKS OFFICE SUPPLY
all cash and C.O.D.
mail orders sent FREE
freight or postage
P.O. Box 2552, Fairbanks, AK.

USE THIS SPACE FOR
YOUR BUSINESS
DIRECTORY AD
Only \$1.50

Car'mels
Hamburgers
Hoagies
Sea Hoagie
Little Italy
Chicken
BBQ Ribs
Pastrami
Corned Beef
Grilled Ham
Fish & Chips
Italian
Spaghetti
Soft Drinks
Hot & Cold
Beverages

Buckets to Go
452-3895
In Gavora Mall

APPLIANCES & APPLIANCE PARTS
Washing Machine Parts
HOTPOINT
WHIRLPOOL
GENERAL ELECTRIC
201 E. 4 Ave. Anchorage 272-3326
911 Cushman Fairbanks 452-3202

FURNITURE DISCOUNT
100 College Rd. Fairbanks, AK.
"Where Lower Overhead means Lower Prices!"
For one piece or a houseful of furniture, write or call for our discount prices.
Open 10-6 Tues. thru Sat. 456-6036

It's spring holiday time
FAIRVIEW MANOR BEAUTY SALON
Fairview Manor Apts. Bldg. 3-41, Apt. 2
For Appt. Call 456-4343

OFFICES: FAIRBANKS:
Main Office, Northward Bldg;
Main Office Drive-In, Airport Road; International Airport; University. ANCHORAGE:
University Center; Fourth and E. BARROW, DEADHORSE DELTA, EIELSON, KOTZEBUE, NENANA, NOME, TOK.
*Opening in 1972

alaska national bank of the north

MINERAL CLAIMS CONSULTANT—
Advanced System of Location Information. Recording Office Searches. Access to all types of data.
W.F. Abbott
P.O. Drawer V
College, AK 99701 "No job too small"

If You Want A Job ...
Just Get On Line!
OR
If you don't like to wait, SEE:
JUDY
at
INTERIOR EMPLOYMENT SERVICE AGENCY
211 Northward Bldg. Fairbanks, AK 99701 456-5745

BIG BEAR SPORTING GOODS
BOB and ELEANOR MCKIRGAN
* GUNS * AMMUNITION
* CAMPING GEAR * GUNSMITHING
* FISHING TACKLE
PHONE 456-5523
P.O. Box 2711, 2300 S. Cushman Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

TRAIL-BREAKER
goes anywhere
All Models Now In
B & F Motors
1575 Cushman 452-2050

DONALSON COMPANY
PO Box 845
Anchorage, Alaska
Phone 279-3025