



FAIRBANKS DELEGATES—Representing Fairbanks at the vocational rehabilitation planning conference in Anchorage were, from left: Frank Chapados (now regional study coordinator), Lois Jund, Bishop Gordon, Phyllis Phillips, Lee Conrad, Diane O'Leary, Phil Kelly, Leonard Hamilton, and Stan Stowell. Not pictured are Lottie Fleeks and John Noyes, MD.

Conference Is First Step...

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on the task force group topics.

These talks were: "Organization and Administration", by David Wayne Smith, Ph.D., Professor of Education, University of Arizona; "Facilities and Services", by James W. Caddick, Administrator Rehabilitation Workshops, University of San Francisco; "Financial Resources", by Andrew Marrin, Chief, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, State of California;

"Legislative and Legal", by E. B. Whitten; "Recruitment and Training of Personnel", by David Orzech, Ph.D., Professor of Education Psychology, San Francisco State College; and "Research", by Frank Campbell, Research Director, Alaska Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Following the last talk, delegates were assigned to six task force groups. Generally, each was assigned to the group he had selected.

These groups discussed the topics and made recommendations to the full conference. The recommendations were forwarded to the 13-member Governor's Policy Board.

Regional study coordinators were chosen by delegates from each of the six areas of the state to help with the project's research. Frank Chapados was chosen coordinator for the Fairbanks area.

The conference closed with a summary by Andrew Marrin.

During the next year, a study will be made of the disability problem in Alaska.

The study will determine the types of disabilities—such as blindness, deafness, cancer, stroke, heart disease, mental illness, mental retardation, aging, social offenders, military rejectees, public assistance recipients, disabled youth, culturally disabled, and educationally retarded and how common each type is.

It will include an evaluation of resources available to help people suffering from such conditions. Finances, personnel and programs will be studied.

The short and long-term

needs for Vocational Rehabilitation will be determined and suggestions made to produce the necessary program.

Six months to a year from now, a written plan will be prepared on the necessary Vocational Rehabilitation services and how to obtain them.

The plan will include organization of the Vocational Rehabilitation Agency, priorities for programs, financial resources, legislation to improve Rehabilitation services, and recruitment of personnel.

The statewide study is being financed by a \$98,129 grant from the Federal Vocational Rehabilitation Agency. This grant is very close to the \$100,000 limit on agency grants to any single state in one year.

Leonard Hamilton, from the State Vocational Rehabilitation Office in Fairbanks, commented that the conference "has really gotten us off the ground."

He noted that a lot of the effectiveness of the meeting would depend on the activities of the local study committees, and added that he thought Fairbanks had a good one.

Hamilton said a Vocational Rehabilitation group has been established in Fairbanks for about a year, and would soon open its first project—a cafeteria at the Arctic Health Research building at the University of Alaska campus.

He added that there are no programs in operation in bush areas now, and that there were no housing facilities for these people to come to Fairbanks. Providing such accommodations will be one of the first projects for the Fairbanks association.

Hamilton participated in the "Financial Resources" task group. He said one of the main topics discussed was how to obtain federal funds using established facilities, such as crippled children's clinics and special educational programs in high schools.

Phil Kelly, another delegate from Fairbanks, participated in the "Organization

and Administration" task group.

Kelly said his reason for choosing this group was to stress the need for communication with the bush areas. The group's recommendations included suggestions on this topic.

He warned that it would take time to set up the Vocational Rehabilitation program, and that providing services to the bush areas would be difficult.

Kelly said the delegates seemed quite interested in obtaining the opinions of the people. He noted that his points on communications were received with great interest, even though he was the youngest person at the conference and had little experience in actual Vocational Rehabilitation work.

Resolution...

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would get in by walking or by dogsled.

The airline is aware of the problem, Wien said, and has ordered twin-engine Otter aircraft for use at such airports.

This aircraft will carry three times the load of the present planes, can fly by instruments in bad weather, and has a short take-off run.

The Otter for the Point Hope-Kotzebue area of Alaska will be delivered in February, he said.

Ninety people have signed the resolution, which has been sent to airline presidents, Alaska's Congressional Delegation, Governor Walter J. Hickel; State Senator Bob Blodgett; State Rep. Willie Hensley, U. S. Postal Inspectors, the Civil Aeronautics Board, and villages serviced by air carriers out of Kotzebue.

"It is our hope that through this resolution we can obtain better mail, freight, and passenger service for all of Northwestern Alaska," says council president Andrew N. Tooyak, Sr.

Snow shoveling is strenuous exercise, your Alaska Heart Association notes, and even reasonably healthy men should do it unhurriedly and avoid overexertion.

Rehabilitation...

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concerned of what to do about it.

Last week while attending the organizational meeting of the Statewide advisory board for Vocational Rehabilitation, I found out that a young man from my village had shot himself in the hand and had to have it removed.

I'm not saying that he has lost his hand because now there are ways to help him by giving him an artificial hand and training him to use it to the best of his ability.

By saying that giving him an artificial hand and training him to use it to the best of his ability means that whatever happens to a person, no matter how much aid and services can be of help to that person, he or she determines their success in getting a good education, a good job and learning how to take care of day to day problems.

The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation can only provide services to the handicapped if the people who are disabled want their services. The request for a better way of living and better jobs must come from those people first, who are disabled.

We cannot catch the fish under the ice without first chipping a hole through the ice. We cannot learn or take steps in education by not knowing or understanding the many opportunities of education.

Changes Made in Hunting Seasons

Two field announcements changing hunting seasons have been made by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

The caribou season in Game Management Unit 14 south of the Kashwitna River has been closed.

More and more caribou have been seen there this year, and the Department wants to provide them with protection in case this is an expansion of caribou into a new range and not an unusual caribou migration due to weather or some other factors.

People who see caribou in the area are asked to report them to the Department, to aid in the study of this migration.

Caribou seasons in the northern portion of Unit 14 and in all other units are not changed by the announcement.

The Department also is allowing the taking of three deer of either sex on the portion of Kodiak Island draining into Ugak Bay between the mouth of Saltry Creek and the Kalsin-Pasagshalt Road, and has extended the season to Dec. 31.

It believes the herd is too large for the winter range, and extended the season to decrease winter mortality.

Child Care Center Holds Open House

The downtown Fairbanks child day care center will hold an open house on Thursday, Nov. 30, 3:30-5:30 p.m. The center is at the First Methodist Church, 916 Third Ave.

The public is invited to see the operation of the center, which is sponsored by the North Star Borough Community Action Agency.

Presently the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation has four offices in the state. There is an office at Anchorage, that takes in the south central and southwestern regions of the state, offices at Juneau and Ketchikan which take in the southeastern part of the state, and an office at Fairbanks that takes in the region north of the Alaska Range.

The office at Tacoma, Washington takes care of the clients that are sent south for services that cannot be taken care of within the state. The Tacoma office was used in the past for services before such training facilities and programs became available in Alaska.

Now, such training programs and facilities such as the Manpower Development Training Act, Alaska State Business College, Alaska Barber College, Community College, Community Action Agency training programs and many others have improved the educational training within the state.

The Alaska Orthopedics Supply Clinic in Anchorage has greatly improved the ability of providing services to Alaskans within the state.

The Alaska State Office of Vocational Rehabilitation has increased to five times the staff it had back in the mid-fifties.

The training programs and facilities now in the state have improved in the past ten years to further advance the services of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.

It does not have to be a loss of a hand or leg to finally realize the opportunities of a better job and a better way of life.

The Alaska State Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, which defines its services as:

Part of the State's educational program designed to assist persons with physical, mental, or emotional problems which would interfere with their ability to function in employment, (taken from the Client's Handbook, Vocational Rehabilitation Program) is just one of the many agencies that are willing to give their time and aid to see you and yours in a good job and a good life. They will be there when you may need them.

Collection...

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which is under discussion by state and federal agencies, would allow sportsmen to take the older, non-productive animals. The local people would be able to work as guides for these hunters.

Guiding for walrus hunts was also covered in the course. Twelve hours of classes covered responsibilities of a guide, care and preparation of trophies, firearms safety and first aid.

Some field training was provided when a musk-ox was collected for the Elmendorf AFB museum. All the men participating in the course worked on preparing the trophy, and the instructors reported that, with a little training, the villagers were very skillful in that line of work.

Instructors for the course were Skip Braden, conservation officer for the department of Fish and Game, and Jerry Hout, Asst. Refuge Manager from Bethel.