



Walter Mark



Abraham Albert, Jr.



Theodore E. Booth, Jr.



Ray A. Oyoumick

**NAVY ENLISTEES**—The following young native Alaskans have enlisted in the U.S. Navy and are now at San Diego, California at the U.S. Naval Training Center where they are undergoing training in the field of their choice: Walter Mark, Northway; Abraham Albert, Jr. Northway; Theodore E. Booth, Jr. Kotzebue; Ray A. Oyoumick, Unalakleet.

## Added Alcoholism War Edges Front to Bethel

In an expanded effort to fight alcoholism in Alaska's rural communities, the Community Service Corps of Rural Alaska Community Action Program has set up an alcoholic information program in Bethel, the second such program established within two months by RurALCAP.

Mrs. Elizabeth McCallum, a social worker with the Service Corps, has been assigned the task of establishing these programs, and last month set up one in Nome.

She believes alcoholism can be the basis for many family and community problems, and getting the people themselves to recognize the problem and consider ways to combat it is half the battle.

Working with an Alcoholics Anonymous member, Mrs. McCallum visited Bethel early in November and set up alcoholic information booths at both the Bethel Hospital and the RurALCAP Regional Action Center there.

Philip Guy, center director, and Willie Nicholi, area community developer for the Bethel area, will be the ones to maintain continuity of the programs.

An AA member who lives in Bethel and has already successfully completed a rehabilitation program assisted Mrs. McCallum in setting up a schedule of two meetings a week in Bethel. The meetings will be open to the public.

One weekly meeting will be held within the jail. Judge Nora Guinn in Bethel said she would consider sentencing those arrested for alcoholism to meetings of AA now that a group has been established in Bethel.

Mrs. McCallum said the judge

indicated about 99 per cent of those people jailed in Bethel were there because of alcoholism, and she estimated the number of people in Bethel jailed due to alcoholism to be approximately 600 people a year.

Most of those people Mrs. McCallum talked with, including officials of the Public Health Service Hospital there, the Catholic priest, and Judge Guinn, volunteered their support of the project.

During the visit to Bethel, Mrs. McCallum and her AA associate attended meetings of the village teenagers and of the families selected to occupy the first 10 homes in the Bethel low-income prefabricated housing project.

They discussed the consequences of excessive drinking, how teenagers could live with alcoholic parents, and the dangers of excessive drinking among homeowners.

Bethel medical authorities tended to believe much of Bethel's—and other rural communities in the state—alcoholic problem was complicated by the difficult transition Natives are now going through to adjust themselves to a new way of life.

The alcoholic information program at Bethel is the fourth RurALCAP has helped to establish. Others are located in Nome, the Juneau Regional Center and the Welcome Center in Anchorage.

Hugh Nicholls, deputy director in charge of the Community Service Corps, said his office plans to eventually establish similar information programs at the action centers in Kotzebue, Ft. Yukon and Kodiak.

## NSC, USSA Sponsor Clinic

The University of Alaska, Nordic Ski Club and United States Ski Association are sponsoring a cross-country ski clinic at the University of Alaska Nov. 29-30.

The clinic, the first of the season, is open to high school and college skiers, coaches, and adults interested in ski touring.

Registration will begin at 12 noon on the 29th at the Patty Building on campus with the first instructional session beginning at 1 p.m. On the 30th, a morning session will begin at 9 a.m.

Scheduled to be at the clinic is Frank Wall of the national coaching staff. Also, Bjørner Pettersen of Inuvik, N.W.T., will be at the clinic along with 24 of his racers.

Races will be held Saturday afternoon (Nov. 30) in conjunction with the clinic and competition is also scheduled for the following day (Dec. 1).

There is no charge for the clinic, however, participants must provide their own equipment.

Further information may be obtained by contacting University of Alaska Ski Coach, Bill Smith at 479-7208.

## Midnight Sun 600 Scheduled Jan. 9

ANCHORAGE—"You will be competing in the world's longest and richest snowmobile race." This is the way the official racers' rulebook and handbook describes the "Midnight Sun 600." This race, covering three grueling days and 600 manhandling, rig-mauling miles between Anchorage and Fairbanks, Alaska, will get underway here Jan. 9, 1969.

Tough race or not, more than 300 Alaskan, "Lower 48," and foreign entrants have already plunked down \$100 each in advance registrations. At least 200 more are forecasted—each racer fully expecting to cop a big share of \$20,000 offered in prize monies.

Grand winner of the event will earn more than \$2,300 in cash. In addition he will receive a free trip to Sweden where he will compete in a Scandinavian snowmobile contest.

Sponsor of the first annual "600" is Midnight Sun Broadcasters, a network of Alaska radio and TV stations. In honor of the race, Governor Walter J. Hickel has proclaimed the week of January 5 "Snowmobile

Week" in Alaska.

Several thousand Alaska visitors and residents are expected to line the route at various points along the raceway.

The course can only be called "varied." Utilizing highway shoulders and right-of-way, racers will climb hills to alpine meadows, zoom down and through forested valleys, skim along beside frozen muskeg bogs and lakes, and pass within a snowball's throw of Mt. McKinley, North America's highest peak.

The contest will begin near Anchorage International Airport. It will take racers through Palmer, Wasilla, Sutton, Eureka, and on to Glennallen for a total of 223 miles the first day. On the second and third days the motorized mushers will travel on to Tok (169.6 miles) and then Fairbanks (207.6 miles)—end of the line.

Eligibility requirements, entry blanks, housing information for visiting racers and other details can be obtained from the sponsors at Box 1160, Anchorage, 99501.

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