

Speech and Hearing Defects—

University of Alaska to Test Junior High Schoolers

COLLEGE—Several thousand Fairbanks area school children will be tested for speech and hearing defects next week by University of Alaska students.

Students enrolled in speech pathology classes on the College campus will begin testing at Main Junior High School on Monday, continuing the tests at various schools throughout the week. UA assistant professor of speech pathology Phyllis Phillips is coordinating the project through the North Star Borough School District.

Approximately ten students presently enrolled in Speech Pathology 211, "Fundamentals of Speech Correction," will be participating in the project. They will test youngsters with audiometers to measure hearing capabilities as well as administering speech tests.

Last year, 122 boarding home students were tested for defective speech and hearing by Miss Phillips and John Cochran, then a member of the speech patho-

logy faculty at the university. However, this is the first time students have assisted in such testing, or that wide-scale testing has been offered by the university to the school district's children.

The project was arranged through John Devins, northern region audiologist, to give students "practical training in using the audiometer," according to Miss Phillips. A nurse will be on hand to measure each student's eyesight during the approximately 6-minute battery of tests.

The extent of the program is as yet undetermined. All students in kindergarten, first, second, third, fifth and seventh grades will be tested; the school district's remaining children, through high school, may be included in the testing program as well. The total number of students tested may run as high as 8,000, according to Miss Phillips.

The speech pathology students are supplying this service to the school district for no

cost. Miss Phillips said, noting that although not all were majoring in speech pathology, "the students were very eager to join in the project."

Committee

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a.m.

The land selection formula is believed to be the first order of business for the Senators and Congressmen assigned to that committee.

Dispensing with the customary rhetoric, the conferees are intent on initiating negotiations as soon as the meeting begins. There are three distinct formulas for land selection.

Senator Stevens proposes a 40 million acre selection of land contiguous to native villages. This selection would occur prior to any state selection.

The Alaska Federation of Natives and Senator Gravel desire 30 million acres of land contiguous to villages and 10 million acres in free floating selection. This 40 million acre selection is requested prior to state selection.

While a lull in lobbying efforts by interested groups now exists, mail to Congressional offices from Alaska is overwhelmingly in opposition to the AFN position. Members of the AFN Board of Directors will return to Washington early next week to launch its final lobbying effort before the conferees make their decision.

Borough...

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Hope, Point Lay, etc., are lacking sewage and water facilities. Sewage disposal has been a major problem in Barrow, along with a shortage of living space due to federal installations on all sides.

The Local Affairs Agency projection assumes construction of sewage and water facilities in these areas in its figures. Cost of these facilities at Barrow, Kaktovik, Wainwright, Point Hope and Anaktuvuk Pass would be in the range of \$15 or \$35 million dollars according to figures provided by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

Another aspect the ASNA considers crucial to self government is the land use planning capacity home rule would enable them to develop.

Subsistence hunting, for example, could be furthered by zoning certain areas for "no use"—closing them to both industry and residential use and giving game animals "room to live."

Although no concerted opposition has emerged to the North Slope Borough proposal there have been rumors of developing opposition. A recent report prepared for the Alaska Oil and Gas Association, unfavorable to the idea of a home rule borough on the north slope, was recently forwarded to State Attorney General John Have-lock.

The hearings in Barrow will be the major focus of local and Alaskan input into decisions by the Local Affairs Agency and the Rural Boundary Commission as to whether to approve the Borough proposal.

The ASNA has designated home rule as one of their highest priority objectives, an objective which rates considerable attention despite focus on the land claims battle in Washington and on their pending suit claiming prior aboriginal title to the Prudhoe Bay oil fields.



AUTHORS DISCUSSION—Canadian James Houston (left), author of books on Eskimo printmaking and *THE WHITE DAWN* confers with Alaskan Eskimo Joseph Senungetuk, author of *GIVE OR TAKE A CENTURY*, a recently released first novel. Houston and Senungetuk were in Anchorage last week for a conference of Canadian and Eskimo artists and coop managers.

—Staff Photo by MADELYN SHULMAN

Optimism... Will Indians Be

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have a great capacity for responsible leadership. The next two weeks are sensitive times, times for sober responsibility."

The Conference Committee is working against a deadline of December 10 for introduction of any bills onto the House floor. Congress is scheduled to recess for a six week winter break on December 15—another deadline.

The AFN lobbying delegation for the final stages of the land claims deliberation will probably be in Washington by the 29th of November to be present during the week the Conference Committee will work on the land claims bill.

Invited to Feast?

Vice President Agnew's Staff at the National Council on Indian Opportunity, mulling over ways to polish his image with the national Indian community, is playing with the idea of inviting some Indians to the Agnew home for Thanksgiving Dinner. We thought those days of "Take an Indian to dinner" were long gone. In October 1969 Agnew told NCIA: "No one who is sincerely interested will allow the plight of the Indian people to be used for publicity, politics or personal advantage." Now let's see about the menu: tainted turkey and Baked Alaska.

Alaskan, Canadian Art...

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techniques of print making to Cape Dorset, their prints have become known throughout serious art circles. Cape Dorset print series sell for \$500 to \$1000 for each print. Strongly traditional the prints feature the stories and themes of a strongly individualistic people in a land gripped by ice nine months of the year.

In Cape Dorset a woman named Kanoyalak created the well known design of the magical owl. For her many designs, Kanoyalak draws a stipend of \$200 per month from the coop, plans never again to venture into the "outside." While she and the village have profited many fold from her talent, her generation does not seek to venture "outside."

Along with James Houston, who is author of several books, among them the best selling novel "The White Dawn," came Terrence Ryan, manager of the Cape Corset Coop, Jonasie Solomanie of Froisher Bay, an Eskimo Artist and Eric Mitchell, General Manager of Canadian Artistic Producers.

"What bothers me about Houston is his idea that Eskimo art can only be produced in the village and using traditional materials," commented one Alaskan Eskimo artist.

Controversy between Alaskan and Canadian artists runs high. Alaskans tend to believe the Canadian approach is somewhat paternalistic, that the less isolated Alaskan villages produce a more outlooking type of person, that in the jet age there is no need for a "resident non-native artist" to stay in a village for

years at a time.

"If an Eskimo artist wants to use tin can as a medium then it's a viable medium" commented UA professor Ron Senungetuk after two days of intense discussion at Alaska Methodist University.

One participant at the AMU conference was Joseph Senungetuk, an Eskimo artist living in San Francisco where he has done extensive work and produced a book about his early life.

Senungetuk traveled from San Francisco to attend the AMU conference which displayed several of his works for sale.

Among the serious questions discussed by Alaskans and Canadians was the definition of Eskimo art and the means which could be used to promote it. Cape Dorset art, Alaskans felt, could be an overpromoted product.

When asked if he could recognize a Cape Dorset print among a group of Eskimo prints, Joseph Senungetuk cited such details as quality of paper and ink which differentiate this product. On artistic grounds, he could make no comment.

Developed under a small grant from the Alaska Council on the Arts, the two day symposium at AMU brought together many conflicting views.

"Probably, the important thing at these conferences isn't the stuff that goes on in the sessions but the discussion at the airport, in the restaurants, in the bars. Its a valuable exchange of points of view," commented UA professor Glen Simpson.

5,000 Urban Natives...

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organizations and served by a multitude of programs, Anchorage natives have no center of activities—no building to point to with pride as the center of Anchorage native life.

This month, the first steps are being taken to this goal with the formation of the Anchorage Urban Native Planning Task Force.

Funded by a one time only \$150,000 grant from the Office of Equal Opportunity, the Task Force will plan for and submit proposals for the implementation of an Urban Native Center in Anchorage.

Coordinator of the Task Force, now housed in a small office in the Kaloa building is Esther Kaloa Garber of Tyonek. Mrs. Garber, a recent business graduate of Alaska Methodist University worked during the 1960s with her late brother Albert Kaloa, Jr. in founding the Tyonek enterprises and promoting statewide native organization.

As coordinator of the Task Force, Esther Garber works with a 22 person Task Force comprised of representatives from Anchorage's many native organizations and programs.

"We want to have something for the native who lives in the city to be proud of," Mrs. Garber described her concept of an Anchorage Native Center.

As well as a center of services, the task force visualizes the Urban Center as a center of native culture, a place to display native art, serve as a repository of information about Alaska's cultural groups.

The center could also serve as a place to hold classes in native languages, the dances and music of various cultures, centralize arts and crafts.

"Services for natives are scattered around the entire city," explained Esther Garber. "This limits their effectiveness."

Among the many native services which the center may seek to coordinate are the Studio Club (a center for women alcoholics) native student groups at Anchorage's two colleges, air-

port assistance, employment assistance and other services directed towards native people.

"There's a whole group of native owned arts and crafts businesses around the Anchorage area," explained Mrs. Garber. We could provide space to centralize native industries.

Part of the impetus for the Task Force is the expansion of the Native Community Center in Fairbanks, a project which has mushroomed into a center for Fairbanks native assistance, culture, offices and arts and crafts.

Anchorage's native Welcome Center, on the other hand, has become a place where natives escape the streets and funding for its next year of operation is not certain.

Plans for the Anchorage Center are wide open as the Task Force begins to work.

Possibilities for immediate task force activity include absorbing the native welcome center downtown as an alcohol rehabilitation center and taking over operation of the successfully operating Airport Native Assistance Center.

While the idea of a centralized native center appeals to the task force as a coordinated method of delivering services, it must concentrate first on coordination of programs and the most effective method of delivering services to low income natives in the fields of education, health, economic development, transportation, family counseling and recreation, housing, etc.

If a building does come into being, one site being investigated is property adjoining the Kaloa Building, headquarters of the Alaska Federation of Natives, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Tyonek Investment Inc.

Among the groups participating in the task force are the ANS, Alaska Native Brotherhood in Anchorage, Aleut League, Tlingit-Haida, Tyonek, Urban Natives United, Cook Inlet Native Association, Anchorage Native Welcome Center, Eklutka and the student groups at AMU and ACC