

## KVNA Seeks to Form Chapters In Villages Outside Bethel

By Nathan D.A. Toots  
Bethel, Alaska

I am happy—very happy indeed to report that the village of Mekoryuk has formed its Native Chapter of the Kuskokwim Valley Native Association.

The first meeting was held in the National Guard Armory on the eve of January 16 to hear my plea to the village of Mekoryuk in support for formation of Local Native Chapter.

A prepared speech was given both in English and Native tongue. Examples of what other Native Associations were doing and the advantages of having such an organization were brought out.

Objectives and purposes on which other Native Associations were formed on were also included. Many villagers spoke in support of Local Native Chapter during the general discussion period.

A vote was finally taken and tallied one hundred percent for formation of a Local Native Chapter. Eighty adults both male and female, made up the one hundred percent support.

The second meeting was held in the Multi-Purpose Room of the newly built Bureau of Indian Affairs school on the eve of Jan. 19 to elect officers for the new Native Chapter. Five candidates were nominated for

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## Tundra Times Makes Excellent Textbook

The TUNDRA TIMES has found a place in the classroom. Mrs. Carla Hellferich at the University of Alaska found that this newspaper provided her most interesting and effective material for her special English Class for the B.I.A. program in Mining Technology.

Her course was entitled Basic Communication in English and consisted of literary composition and evaluation. Using no textbooks, she supplemented her lectures with the Tundra Times.

### ANYA Chairman Asks Sponsor For Meeting

This month on February 6-7, Commissioner on Indian Affairs, Robert L. Bennett, is attending the conference of the National Indian Youth Council, Inc., that will be held at Olin Hotel in Denver, Colorado.

"This marks the first time that the Commissioner of Indian Affairs has taken time to meet with Indian people not necessarily connected with tribal governing bodies," said Clara Anderson, chairman of the Alaska Native Youth Association, a new organization that was formed recently.

Miss Anderson said that ANYA was very interested in the coming conference and hoped that some or all Native associations would be interested in sponsoring one or two representatives from her organization to attend the Denver conference.

"With new Indian legislation being considered," Miss Anderson continued, "and with the call for new national Indian policies, this meeting comes at an opportune time. The most recent developments will be discussed at this meeting."

She said that sending "someone would be serving a good purpose. She asks that if Native organizations, or individuals, are interested they can write to Alaska Native Youth Association, at P.O. Box 1152, Fairbanks.

Students read the editorials and articles, evaluated their format and criticized their topics. Reading about Native Affairs was far more interesting to the students than any other form of literature.

This English Course was one segment of a Mining Technology Program for fifteen boys selected and sponsored by the B.I.A. and the Employment Assistance Board.

Other courses included mining and prospecting, geography and geology, map reading and drafting, mineralogy and petrology, mining engineering systems, measures and maps, milling, evaluation and economics, and mathematics. It is a one year program.

Mrs. Hellferich plans to utilize the Tundra Times more extensively next time the course is offered.

"Perseverance is more prevailing than violence and many things which cannot be overcome when they are together, yield themselves up when taken little by little."  
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