

FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR WATER

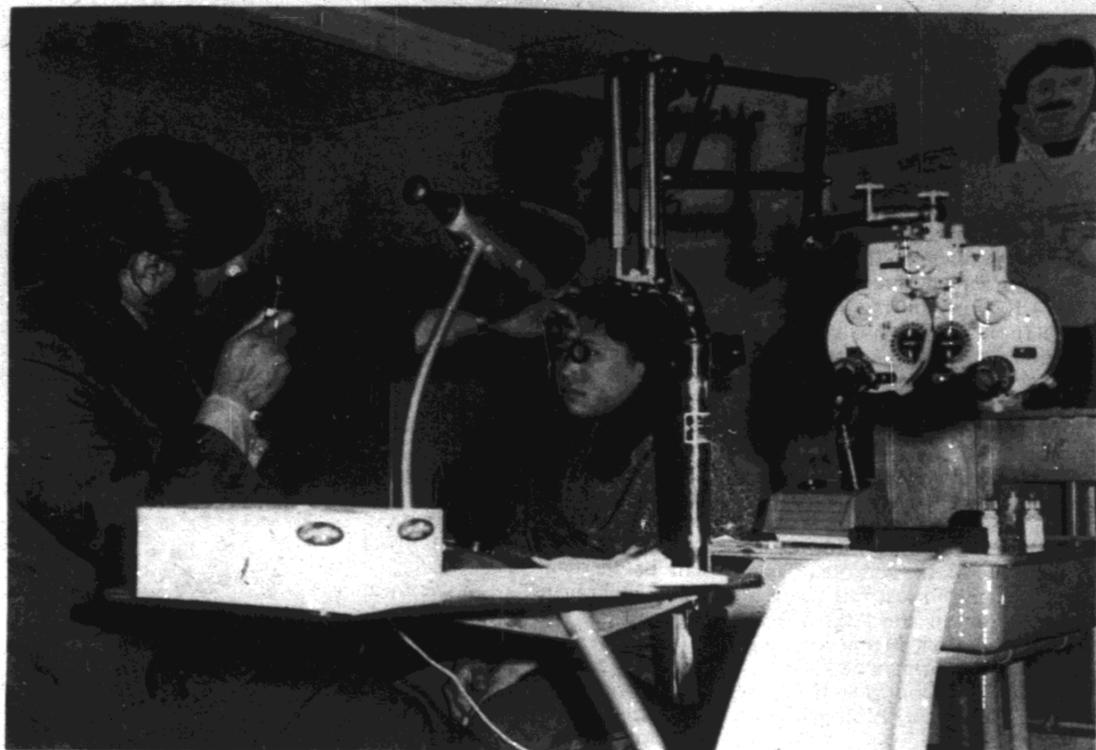
Senator Mike Gravel of Alaska has been notified by the Department of Agriculture that \$18 million of \$22 million in Congressionally appropriated but heretofore withheld Farmers Home Administration grant funds now is available for the development of water and waste disposal systems in communities with populations of 5500 or less.

Last March, Senator Gravel wrote to President Nixon requesting the Agriculture Department be permitted to release the

appropriated funds.

The Senator pointed out that the money is needed desperately by many small communities unable to finance the construction of basic water and sewer systems and the extension or replacement of inadequate existing systems.

Although Senator Gravel said he would have preferred the entire \$22 million be released, he is "gratified at least \$18 million will be available to help rural areas obtain sorely needed water and sewage systems."



EYES EXAMINED—Dr. S. Dicksheet of the Fairbanks Lions Club is examining the eyes of a Barrow Eskimo youngster at the recent eye clinic jointly sponsored by the Barrow Lions Club and

Fairbanks Lions Club at the northernmost point in North America, Barrow. Dr. Dicksheet and his assistants tested the eyes of 340 people.

—DAVID FAUSKE Photograph

Barrow and Fairbanks Lions Clubs Sponsor Eye Clinic for 340 People

Barrow Lions Club in conjunction with the Fairbanks chapter of Lions Club, had what it called, "The greatest eye clinic

in the world has just been held at Barrow, Alaska."

The interest was so keen in the clinic that over 500 people attended during which one doctor, Dr. S. Dicksheet of the Fairbanks Lions Club, examined and tested the eyes of 340 people.

Dicksheet did the job with the help of some Fairbanks and local people who gave their time freely.

"It was a tremendous effort on behalf of the two Lions Clubs plus the desire of all the members of the Barrow Lions Club that made this one of the most beneficial projects this club has ever attempted," said a spokesman for the group.

A number of cases of eye pathology were detected plus two cases of glaucoma.

The excellent response to the clinic made Dr. Dicksheet promise that a followup visit will be made in the future.

"This was just another one of the many community projects sponsored by the most northern Lions Club in the world, the Barrow Lions Club," concluded the spokesman.

Walk Brings Hope Cottage \$40,000

Diane Anderson, publicity director for Anchorage Hope Cottage, reports that so far more than \$40,000 has been collected from the proceeds of the Anchorage "Walk for Hope" event held recently.

Hope Cottage is the home for mentally retarded children many of whom are native children from outlying villages.

Four native villages took part in the money raising event for the home.

At Tooksook Bay on Nelson Island, grade school children conducted a walk and collected \$60 and forwarded \$35 toward Hope Cottage fund. The rest went toward the purchase of an oxygen tank for the village clinic, according to Eli Ribich, Tooksook Bay school principal.

Some \$250 was raised in advanced pledges at Unalakleet, Adeline R. Katongan, village council member reported.

The village of Gambell on St. Lawrence Island staged a colorful event for the benefit of Hope Cottage where \$385 was raised. Gerard Kanooga, village treasurer, delivered the money to Walk Headquarters in Anchorage last week.

Gambell conducted a whale pool drawing, a Walk and queen contest for Hope. Miss Geraldine Iyakitan was crowned queen and Lee Kootaaza won the whale pool by guessing when the first

whale of the season would be harpooned.

Kootaaza received a barrel of fuel oil donated by the local National Guard.

The Anchorage Walk for Hope generated interest throughout the state as well as in some foreign countries. Stuttgart, Germany donated \$100 and a check for one guinea arrived from London, England.

The village of Scammon Bay near the mouth of the Yukon River donated \$50.

The bulk of the money was collected from the City of Anchorage. Other cities that participated were Fairbanks, Kenai, Kodiak, Seward, Moose Pass, Soldotna and Wasilla.

The Elks Club of Petersburg donated as did the Wildwood Air Force Base.

The happy members of the board of directors of Hope Cottage are holding a meeting tonight in Anchorage at the Anchorage City Council Chambers in the basement of Loussac Library at 7:30 p.m.

Senior Citizens

The 1971 White House Conference on Aging is emphasized in the proclamation honoring Senior Citizens issued by Governor Keith H. Miller earlier last week.

Miller considers May, Senior Citizens Month of "particular importance. . . to develop greater opportunities and challenges for elders in 1971."

The proclamation encourages community discussions and forums where Senior Citizens may make recommendations for consideration at the 1971 White House Conference on Aging.

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