

THE
OFFICIAL

MUKLUK TELEGRAPH

VOLUME II

September, 1958

Number 4

Area Medical Officer in Charge -
Joseph A. Gallagher, M.D.
Editor-----Mildred Haley

REPORTERS

Anchorage-----Dolorous Byrnes
Barrow-----Patricia Downs
Bethel-----Elinore Hanna
Juneau-----Nancy Reddekopp
Kanakanak-----
Kotzebue-----Rose Marie Zenk
Mt.Edgecumbe-----Lester Roberts
Tanana-----Jean Holmes

TURN-AROUND PRIVILEGE

A recent change in the PHS Personnel Manual will be welcome news to Civil Service career people with PHS in Alaska. The first tour of duty in Alaska will continue to be for 24 months, but succeeding tours will require only 22 months before an employee becomes eligible for turn-around leave travel at Government expense. The Division of Personnel announced that the change was made chiefly so that people with families might be able to schedule their leave time while their children are on vacation from school.

All career Civil Service employees will benefit from this change.

- Area Executive Officer

SPORTS

"I shot an arrow into the air -
It fell to earth - I know not where!"

Don't spend your time looking for lost arrows - learn to control your shots!

An archery target is available for the use of employees at the Anchorage Hospital. No bows and arrows are available, however, so employees desiring to use this target will have to furnish their own bows and arrows. If sufficient interest is shown, an attempt will be made to locate an instructor.

The target would be set up in the parking lot on the west side of the quarters building.

Advise Mr. Winston C. Mani, Personnel Officer, as soon as possible, don't wait -

DO IT NOW!!

Oh, for the good old days when Lebanon was a sausage, Morocco was a leather, and the summit was the top of a mountain.

Kindness is a hard thing to give away -- it usually comes back.

LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS

On August 11, at a ceremony held in the PHS, Alaska Native Hospital, Anchorage, Mr. Harold Curran, Executive Officer, DIH, Washington, D.C., presented "Twenty Year" and "Ten Year" Awards to:

TWENTY YEAR

Mrs. Margaret G. Entz	10-24-36
Mr. John P. Kelly	9-4-37

TEN YEAR

Miss Virginia A. Terrill	3-21-41
Mr. Henry T. Cram	7-4-43
Mr. Donald M. Smith	4-20-44
Mrs. Doris C. Gillock	5-27-44
Mrs. Louise A. Mears	1-29-46
Mrs. Anne C. Addiscott	10-1-47
Mrs. Irene C. Hickok	11-23-47
Mrs. Bernice E. Ingulli	12-17-47

Similar awards were made at the following Field Stations, to:

TEN YEAR

<u>Barrow</u>	
Mr. James A. Hardin, II	8-22-44
<u>Bethel</u>	
Miss Elizabeth Kameroff	3-10-47
Mr. Melvil D. Baxter	6-24-47
<u>Fairbanks</u>	
Mrs. Mary M. Haun	10-19-47
<u>Kanakanak</u>	
Mrs. Miriam B. Neumiller	6-24-45
<u>Kotzebue</u>	
Miss Janet Kagoana	6-29-47
Mrs. Elsie Adams	7-31-47
Mrs. Elva N. Chappell	12-1-47
<u>St. Paul, Pribilof Islands</u>	
Dr. Richard J. Hillebrand	5-9-45
<u>Tanana</u>	
Mrs. Alice Peters	2-26-45

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Congratulations!!

"The only job where you start at the top is digging a hole."

"Twice as many people are engaged in clerical work now as in 1940. Maybe we're more mixed up than ever, but we're getting it all down on paper."

PROMOTION POLICY

All of our employees are happy with their present grade! At any rate, they are not especially concerned about getting a promotion, or how promotions are made.

This must be true, since not one employee has submitted an idea to the Personnel Office as yet, regarding the new promotion policy.

But we can't believe that our employees are not interested in promotions, and we can't believe that they don't have some ideas on how promotions should be made.

In a small, private organization, the boss' nephew often gets the promotion. But in Federal Civil Service, promotions are supposed to be given to the persons who are best qualified, regardless of race, color, creed, or any other irrelevant factor.

Before establishing a policy which states how our promotions will be handled, the Personnel Office would like to get ideas from employees.

In the last issue of the MUKLUK TELEGRAPH employees were asked to give us their opinions as to "area of consideration." In other words, how far should we look for candidates when a vacancy occurs? No replies were received from employees, so the problem will have to be resolved without their views.

The next problem on which we are asking for employee opinions is, "How should we locate candidates?" Should we post a notice on the bulletin boards stating that a certain position is open and inviting employees to apply, and then consider only those who apply? Or should we refer to the personnel files and try to locate the best qualified candidates? Or should the office having the vacancy select someone they know already?

Your ideas on the above question are welcome. Send them in writing to the Personnel Officer, Alaska Native Hospital, Box 7-741, Anchorage, Alaska.

It doesn't always pay to be popular - look what the popularity of horsepower did to the horse.

FEATURE SECTION

PHS, ALASKA NATIVE HOSPITAL-BETHEL

The town of Bethel is located on the Kuskokwim River about 80 miles from where it enters the Bering Sea, and has a constantly changing population of about 1,000 persons, approximately 200 whites and the balance Eskimos, Aleuts and Indians. The white members of the community include teachers, storekeepers or traders, members of the Army, Air Force and National Guard, Bureau of Indian Affairs administrative personnel, Alaska Native Health Service hospital personnel, employees of the Civil Aeronautics Authority which maintains the airport and other services in connection with aviation, and temporary construction personnel.

There are two churches, the Moravian and the Roman Catholic. The local combined grade and high school is attended by all children and is administered by the Alaska Department of Education; the high school is accredited by the Northwest Association of High Schools. There are two movie theaters and a small public library which is operated by the Women's Club.

The PHS Alaska Native Hospital in Bethel is the largest field hospital in the Anchorage Area and the majority of the tuberculosis patients transferred to large ANHS hospitals are found in the area served by the Bethel hospital. This hospital serves an area extending from the mouth of the Yukon on the north coast of the Bering Sea, to McGrath, and Goodnews Bay, and westward to include Nunivak Island. A total land area approximately the size of the State of Kansas, comprising some 55 villages and between eight and nine thousand Natives is served. The hospital is located approximately one-half mile down-river from the town and is connected by a dirt road. The hospital, completed in 1954 after the original building was destroyed by fire in 1950, is a rambling, single-story, flat-roofed, frame structure, modern in design, with five wings branching from the main center corridor and with many unique features in conformance with unusual local geographic and weather conditions. It is staffed by 87 persons which includes a professional staff consisting of one MOC, 2 medical officers, one dental officer, 13 RN's, 9 PN's, and 10 nursing assistants. There is a total bed

capacity of 55, 24 adult and 24 pediatric, and accommodations are available for 7 obstetrical patients. Provision has been made for a very active out-patient service and dental clinic; as many as 100 to 150 patients are seen each clinic day. The majority of the patients do not speak English with any degree of fluency, consequently an interpreter is required. In addition there are the usual X-ray, Laboratory, Physical Therapy and other facilities which are found in a modern hospital.

Comfortable and attractive living quarters for the staff are obtainable; there are a number of efficiency apartments, as well as several one and two-bedroom apartments.

Communication with the "outside" is accomplished by radio-telegrams, telephone and a daily plane from Anchorage. A radio transmitter and receiver set has been installed in the hospital which is used to contact all the villages in the area every evening.

Cases are diagnosed and prescriptions made via this radio contact, and if cases are in need of specialized care, hospital admission is authorized. One of the medical officers in the hospital advises officials, school teachers, or nurses in the various villages as to the type of drugs to use and how to administer them; if proper drugs are not available in the village, they are dispensed from the hospital on the following morning.

Transportation between Bethel and the surrounding towns, as well as to the "outside" is primarily by air. The "bush pilots" make regular trips from Bethel to the surrounding communities with their small single-engine planes. These are equipped with pontoons or wheels in the summer, and skis in the winter. The river usually provides landing facilities for the small planes except during "freezeup" and "breakup" when all transportation virtually reaches a standstill.

BETHEL-continued

One mile up-river from Bethel and on the far side is the CAA Kuskokwim Airport and on the Bethel side of the river is located the new Bethel Airport; both landing fields are being used. Transportation from the Kuskokwim Airport to Bethel is by small plane or boat across the river, and then to the Hospital by vehicle.

Twice a year, in June and September, a commercial ocean-going freighter makes the rather hazardous trip up the river and unloads the year's supply of heavy freight. The rest of the year airplanes provide the only means of bringing in material and supplies. Dogsleds and river boats supplement the planes for local transportation.

IT'S ALL SETTLED NOW

The weaker sex is the stronger because of the weakness of the stronger sex for the weaker sex.

DENTAL TATTLE

An extensive field trip was recently completed by the Area Dental Officer, accompanied by Dr. Waterman, Chief, Dental Services Branch, DIH. All of the dental facilities in both Sub-Areas were covered.

The recently instituted topical fluoride program is showing excellent progress. The opening of the new school term will usher in an intensive dental health education program.

Edith Joseph, Dental Assistant, has recently arrived in Bethel to replace Mary(Larsen) Ryan.

W.C.Taylor, Dental Officer at the Juneau Hospital, has recently returned from turnaround leave.

Miss Carolee Williams, Dental Assistant at the Juneau Hospital, is transferring to the Dental Clinic at Ketchikan, she will be replaced by Miss Myrtle Hughes.

TANANA

Our great moose hunters have been Dr. Gaede, Dr. McQueen, Alfred Miller, Mike Semaken, Pete Miller, but at this writing- no moose yet. The season has just started so there is still time left for further pursuit.

Cranberry and blueberry picking is being indulged in by hospital personnel and villagers alike. At the nurses' quarters on a morning now and then can be detected the delicious aroma of blueberry muffins - real yummy!

In the dining room, nurses' station, office and some of the wards, we have been delighted with flowers from Alice Peters' garden.

Clara Wickholm and Rosa Shucking, RN's, are both leaving us the first week in October to return to the States. We shall miss them.

An addition to our nursing staff is Miss Edith King, LPN. Edith transferred from Mt. Edgecumbe; having been at Anchorage, Kakanak and now Tanana, she is fast becoming an old-timer in Alaska. We welcome her to our hospital on the Yukon River.

During the Labor Day holiday, Jean Holmes and Marjory Macumber traveled to Fairbanks, and Alice Peters to Seattle.

Tanana and vicinity is wearing lovely fall colors and since last month the Northern Lights have been streaking white in the sky, and all of nature is turning now in its annual cycle to the older part of the year, leaving us still a bit nostalgic about the beautiful green summer that we have enjoyed so much.

Don't go around with a chip on your shoulder - people might think it came off your head.

KOTZEBUE

July 4th in Kotzebue was a long and enjoyable day for the entire village. The Chamber of Commerce sponsored activities lasting through the entire day and most of the night. Things to underway with foot races for the children and progressed thru blanket tossing, muktuk eating, a baby contest, the election of an Arctic Circle Beauty Queen, Eskimo dancing, a beluga derby, and finally boat races. This was topped off by a dance at our Community building. Our employees did very well. "Baby Arctic Circle of 1958," Lillian Mary Thomas, is the daughter of Mrs. Rosie Thomas, one of our attendants. One of our maintenance men, John Nelson, won 1st and 3rd prize in the beluga derby. Also, our Acting MOC, Dr. Bob Stutzman, helped judge the beauty contest, won by a young lady from Noorvik, Christina Kagoona. The day was the warmest this season - about 80°.

Dr. McNaughton and Dr. Rabeau arrived in Kotzebue July 10. Dr. McNaughton left July 12, but Dr. Rabeau stayed on for our mass tonsillectomy program which started July 21 and ended August 2--this was a busy time for the hospital.

In the midst of all this, our new MOC, Dr. Joseph Matunis arrived with his wife and six-month old son. Here's hoping they enjoy their tour of duty with us.

One of our RN's, Miss Gladys Booker, left for Anchorage August 4, and our secretary, Mrs. Lou deLeonardis, left August 1. With no replacements in sight, we are really sorry to see them go, but we wish them the best of luck.

The NORTH STAR arrived August 19, bringing the hospital many of our winter supplies, and a bright yellow pickup truck. Mr. Jones was here to help us with the inventory and things seem to be fairly well squared away.

Dr. and Mrs. Lathrop have returned from their exciting skin boat trip to Barter Island. They have a Florida tan (hands and face only) plus many interesting stories. If the Lathrops ever write a book I'll be the first to buy a copy. Unfortunately, they did not reach Aklavik, but did go as far as the Canadian border.

Two new nurses arrived August 27 to complete the Kotzebue nursing staff. They are Miss

Mary Rose Hockbrueckner and Miss Anne Hammer. Welcome aboard, girls!

Blueberry and cranberry picking season gave the staff a good excuse for some outings. Also, it gave our cook a chance to fatten us all on blueberry pancakes, muffins, and pie. At this rate, none of us will ever leave Kotzebue - we'll be too fat to board a plane.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

Dr. Frederick Yonkman, medical director of Ciba pharmaceutical company, on the headache of naming new drugs: "It's a shame we can't call a new tranquilizer, 'DAMITOL.'"

BRIEF TERROR

Our headlights picked them out
and caught the gleam
Of frightened eyes. A clump of
furry shapes
Clambered, and froze. One covered
their escape
And turned a black-masked face
to front the beam.
"Raccoons--a family of them!"
Not a hair
Quivered among the four who
hugged the bark;
Only the jewel eyes out of the
dark
Would have betrayed the group
that huddled there.
This car we ride in is a monstrous
sight--
A rolling dragon darting eyes of
flame;
Courage to match the highest
hero-claim
Stiffened that ball of fur against
the night.

FAMILIAR TERMINOLOGY UNMASKED

Alaska Airlines Bulletin
Air Traffic: A concentration of numerous aircraft over a given point, each demanding the same route and altitude and each having a special priority.

Air Traffic Clearance: A verbal method of snarling the foregoing traffic.

Approach Sequence: A term applied to the dog-fight in progress above a range station serving a terminal airport.

Approach Time: The time given to a pilot to keep him happy while attempts are made to figure out what to do with him.

Arrival Time: The numerical time assigned to a landing aircraft which has successfully evaded other traffic during its descent.

Basic VFR Minimums: Those meteorological conditions under which a chicken can clear a low fence while maintaining satisfactory visibility.

Communications Center: Drafty, ill-kept, barnlike structure in which people congregate for reasons believed to be dubious.

VFR: Stuff that aircraft are instructed to climb to and descend in accordance with.

VFR: Aircraft on collision courses in accordance with the above instructions.

Control Area: Airspace, in which only one center has authority to collide aircraft.

Departure: Aircraft unwisely leaving terra firma to mingle with other aircraft in the wild blue yonder.

Holding Point: Place at which aircraft are held within a short radius of, while awaiting further instructions.

IFR: Conditions under which colliding aircraft do not know for sure what they have hit in flight.

Control Tower: Ornate glass cage exceptionally good for sunbathing.

Let's just not say anything about it. People have enough to worry about nowadays.



Let's just not say anything about it. People have enough to worry about nowadays.

'S A FACT

In Alaska, when I filed an application with the Federal Electric Corporation for a job on the DEW line, I was given a test to determine whether I could adapt to arctic living conditions. I passed, and out on the job I met several Eskimos who had also been given the test. They had failed! Their answers showed conclusively that they were not able to adapt themselves to the arctic.

R. Digest

Someone once described a camel as looking as though it had been put together by a committee.

HELLO

Marguerite Armstrong - Nursing
 Marlene Fehrenbacher "
 Elaine Hanrahan "
 Madeline Christiansen "
 Lucy Jarrett "
 Jacque Martin "
 Eugenia Campbell "
 Lyndell Messer "
 Bertha Griffin "
 Catherine Barrett "
 Marlene Henson "
 Meda Sarren "
 Ferne Hultgren "
 Geraldine Bickle "
 Theresia Williams "
 Violet Nelson "
 Beverly Billingslea "
 Mary Carpenter "
 Mary Booker "

Alma Usenius - Med. Social Worker
 James Sullivan - TB Control
 Myrtle Huard - Area Executive Office
 Alice Deyerle - Medical Records
 Margaret Sherrod - O.T.Aide
 Hannah Ybarra - P.T.Aide
 James Kimble - Maintenance

Frederick J. Hillman, M.D., who is
 Asst. Chief, Surgical Section
 Mr. Harold C. Chandler - Finance Officer
 Mr. Joel T. Watson - Hospital Administrative Assistant

Tanana

Mary Stickman - Nursing
 Raymond Stickman - Housekeeping
 Kitty Joseph - Laundry
 William Roachell - Boiler Fireman
 Wilfred Kozevnikoff- " "

Bethel

Edna Borovich - Nursing
 Evelyn Harris - Med. Laboratory
 Edith Joseph - Dental Assistant

Growing old can seem pretty dismal,
 until you consider the alternative.

GOODBYE

Margaret Taradash
 Helga Adams
 Ruth Neck
 Beatrice Esmailka
 Shirley Zucker
 Carol Erickson
 Betty Nayakik
 Miriam Rothman
 Marie Wilcheck
 Wesley Williams
 Carol Naber
 Doris Mosquito
 Dexter Honea
 Mildred Hoyle
 Elma Gibson

Bethel

Mary Gregory
 Grata Hyde
 Mary Ryan

Kotzebue

Louella deLeonardis

Tanana

Anna Grant

Mrs. Anne Addiscott, Director of Nurses, Anchorage Hospital, is leaving Alaska in early October. She will drive down the Highway, arriving in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, November 1, where she will assume the duties of Assistant Nurse Officer, PHS, DIH., with headquarters in Oklahoma City.

BON VOYAGE!

VIP's

Miss Leah Bigalow, Assistant Chief, Medical Records Librarian, Washington, D.C., spent several weeks at the PHS, Anchorage Hospital.

Word has been received that our former Area Personnel Officer, Mr. Don Dobyms, now in the PHS Division of Personnel, Washington, D.C., has been made Chief, Generalist Program. He replaces Mr. Ortmeyer, who transferred to San Francisco.