For the 9th Reeting of the Sub-Committee on Askimo Education

Expansion of Educational Facilities for Eskimos

Less than 25 % (748) of school age Eskimos are in full-time schools. An additional 9% (300) attend school occasionally in part-time mission schools. Most of those enrolled full time attend school irregularly unless they are in residential schools. When our present plans for expansion have materialized, we will have space for an additional 300 Eskimo children. New schools, chiefly to accommodate Eskimos, are planned for Eskimo Point, Spence Bay, Aklavik, Payne Bay and Povungnetuk, with the expansion of facilities at Frobisher Bay and possibly other points such as Great Whale River. Appendix A gives a detailed analysis of all Eskimo children attending school in full-time schools or part-time mission schools. Appendix B gives a breakdown of the total school age Eskimo population according to registration districts and projects these figures to 1965.

The average number of Eskimos born each year for the past ten years was 415. The death rate for this period averaged approximately 185. An increase in educational facilities is therefore necessary even to keep abreast with the population trend.

Means of extending education among the Eskimos which the administration intends to use are as follows:

1. Tent Hostel - The Coppermine Tent Hostel was opened in April, 1955, with an enrolment of 28 children, most of whom were from points within a 60 mile radius of Coppermine. On the date of opening there were only 10 children in the Federal Day School classified as day children and whose parents were resident in Coppermine. In 1956, the hostel accommodated 36 children. During the period September 1954 to 1956, a total of 59 children attended the Coppermine Federal Day School from one to twenty-four months. These figures show that the majority of children in and around this settlement were classified as being eligible for hostel accommodation. Because the academic achievement of the pupils in this hostel does not compare favorably with the achievement of pupils in the ten-months residential schools, people of Coppermine area are not giving the tent hostel their full support. This is an unfair comparison, but it is being made, and as a result, Canon Sperry, the local Anglican Missionary, had been doubtful whether he could recruit a full complement of shildren this year for the hostel. We now know that 30 have been recruited. To offset the criticism mentioned above, we could extend the length of the term of the tent hostel to eight months. At the same time the tent accommodation might be improved or replaced by cabins. If this were done, the educational programme which would result might well be both more popular and more efficient. We are considering this but it is a major commitment to continuing this type of hostel and we are not yet ready for a decision. The views of the Sub-Committee would be helpful.

It is possible that a similar experiment carried on in the Sastern Arctic might meet with much more success, even if operated on a five-month basis. It is, however, probably wise to replace the tents with more permanent cabins. We propose, therefore, that this experiment be continued at one of the following locations: 1. Arctic Bay; 2. Pond Inlet; 3. Igloclik. These sites are selected because they are isolated and therefore should not be influenced unduly by any of the ten month residential schools or hostels.

- 2. Expansion of Local Boarding Facilities The limiting factor in using this plan is that only a few of the Eskimo people residing in the settlements have houses large enough to accommodate extra children. If they are willing to accommodate other children, it often causes congestion which may be detrimental to the health of the children concerned. To make local boarding more effective it would be necessary to devise some way in which suitable Eskimo parents could enlarge their living quarters so as to be able to accommodate one or two children in addition to their own. Two ways of accomplishing this have been suggested:
 - (1) Build the accommodation for them and charge the occupant a small rental for it.
 - (2) Lend the Eskimo a sufficient amount to enlarge his living quarters so that he could accommodate extra children. This could be done through the Eskimo Loan Fund.
- 3. Encourage the Establishment of More Permanent Communities Mothers and children could be encouraged to remain in the settlement during the time the men were hunting or trapping. In this way the level of their economy should be improved. When families are taken on the hunt, a great deal of the food resulting from the hunt is consumed on the trail. The presence of young children is bound to slow up the hunting process and curtail the amount of meat which can be hauled back to the settlement. If the men could be encouraged to participate in organized hunts under the guidance of the Northern Service Officer or Game Warden, the children could remain in the settlement and attend school.
- 4. Establishment in the Community of Small Informal Hostels If this were done, we would have to provide the necessary building accommodation. This could be a single building constructed in a "T" formation, the centre of the "T" (24' x 40') providing housing for the supervisor, the dining room and recreation room, while the wings in the form of 512's could accommodate the children. One couple could supervise six girls and six boys under 12. If a suitably qualified couple could be found in the settlement, they would be preferred, otherwise it would be necessary for us to procure a supervising couple elsewhere. To accommodate twelve children, we should have approximately 80 square feet per child for sleeping and recreation accommodation. The cost of the project would be:

(a) Capital Cost - Building (hostel) Warehouse Furnishings	4337 - 1540 4340 - 1540 4340 - 1540	\$40,000 5,000 <u>5,000</u>	\$50 ,00 0
(b) Operation & Maintenance Cost			
Salary for supervising couple		5,000	
Food for year: (\$600 x 12) cost of	food)	-	
(\$400 x 12) freight)	12,000	
Clothing (\$100 x 12)		1,200	
Fuel 0il, 10,000 gals @ 60#		6,000	
Kerosene, 350 gals @ 60\$		210	
Gasoline, 325 gals @ 60¢	***	<u> 195</u>	\$ 24,6 05

Per pupil operating cost: \$24,605 = \$2,050.00.

This cost is unacceptably high and the method cannot be recommended by the administration unless some reduction is possible.

In heavily wooded areas in the Mackenzie, the cost for such a hostel would be considerably less. The building could be made of logs, and wood instead of oil could be used for fuel. In all such hostels, the maximum age of children admitted would be ten years. In this way the older children would be left to attend the larger hostel centres, and we would avoid the criticism which comes from taking very young children a long distance from their parents.

5. Place Teams of Teachers, or Single Teachers, in Every Centre in the North Which is Served by a Trading Post - Details concerning this plan are attached. If this plan is followed, we will then be bringing education to most Eskimo children.