

TIMES — Main 0300

NOME PUBLISHER MOPS BROW IN SEATTLE HEAT

Seattle's balmy weather yesterday struck W.A. Boucher, publisher of The Nome, Alaska, Nugget as "pretty hot."

The 43-year-old newspaper man, who, with only one helper, issues an eight-page paper thrice weekly, mopped his brow yesterday afternoon, less than 24 hours after flying from his hometown, where the thermometer stood at 40 degrees.



W. A. BOUCHER

One of Boucher's first stops was at the Associated Press Bureau in The Times editorial department.

"I'm the farthest north and farthest west member of this bureau, so I thought it time I came in to see where my news springs from," Boucher told wire service employees. "Nome is as far out west as Honolulu but most people think of us as being only Northerners."

Boucher, in fact, sold refrigeration in Nome until he acquired The Nugget in 1943.

"The joke about selling refrigerators to Eskimos is no joke," he said seriously. "You'd be surprised how many refrigerators are flown into Nome. And many Eskimos buy them."

Boucher said little has been done to repair winter storm damage along Nome's beach. Building materials are scarce and the community of 1,500 has housing shortages the same as Seattle.

The editor is flying to San Francisco for a few days but will be back here next week-end for a district Rotary Club convention. He represents Nome Rotarians.