



Alaska-bound are, l-r, William S. Simmons 3rd; Dr. J. Louis Giddings Jr., and Samuel G. Friedman 3rd. They'll explore the 'ridge beaches' along Kotzebue Sound.

—Journal-Bulletin Photo

No Swimming Planned

Three to Comb Alaska 'Ridge Beaches'

A Brown University anthropologist and a safari of two other scientifically-minded gents, left by beachwagon this morning to spend the summer at the beaches.

The big difference between the trip that Dr. J. Louis Giddings Jr. and his hardy followers are taking and the summer trips of the likes of the rest of us is that he is literally going beachcombing—in Alaska, of all places.

Swimming is no part of his summer plans. Dr. Giddings, who spent last summer probing the "ridge beaches" along Kotzebue Sound, expects during geological studies he will make to uncover evidence of cultures and civilizations going back thousands of years. The evidence will be in the form of bones, flints, pollen grains and other materials which biologists and geologists throughout the world can piece together in arriving at a picture of the Arctic area over the unrecorded centuries.

The "ridge beaches," which string the Alaskan coast, represent succeeding periods of life along the shore, which because of fisherman civili-

zations, are to be found there, and not inland.

Accompanying Dr. Giddings on his second trip to the Seward peninsula, and financed by a \$37,300 grant from the National Science Foundation, are two student assistants, William S. Simmons 3rd, of 20 Santiago St., and Samuel G. Friedman 3rd, of San-turce, Puerto Rico, both undergraduates specializing in geology and anthropology.

The beaches the three will explore are old, four to six thousand years, and are a series of built up ridges parallel to the shoreline, each up to 10 feet high.

Each beach represents a separate Eskimo culture, and they are termed a "treasure trove" by Dr. Giddings, who became infatuated with the artifacts they yield while he was a student at the territorial university in 1931-32.

He noted then that relics of the ancestors of the fishing folk living on the newest beaches got older as exploration was carried on farther from shore. This led to his conviction that each of the beach ridges, especially noticeable in aerial photographic studies, represented long dead cultures and periods.

The flints, for example, that he found last summer on the ridge beaches most remote from the present shore represent the oldest culture to be found anywhere on the Alaskan Coast. They go back 5,000 to 6,000 years. What forces formed the series of more than 30 ridge beaches is as yet unknown, but determination of whether they were produced by ocean currents, wind action or especially violent storms is a matter in which meteorologists may have interest.

Mystery Gunman Kills Mystery Story Writer

New York — (AP) — The single shot that killed the