

## RurAL-CAP

## ACTION REPORTS

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## OEO REGION X HOLDS CONFERENCE THIS MO.

Region X  
Director in  
2-Day Visit

A visit by Mr. John Finley, Region X OEO Director, highlighted a two-day RurAL CAP Regional Directors meeting which was held in Anchorage on November 19 and 20. Mr. Finley gave a frank, realistic assessment of the chances for the survival of OEO beyond June, 1974.

Unless new laws extending the OEO are passed before that time, community action agencies throughout the nation will be without federal support for the first time since the creation of the Economic Opportunity Act in 1964.

Although Mr. Finley's appraisal of the situation was somewhat pessimistic, several of the RurAL CAP staff members took exception and stated that the spirit of OEO in Alaska was good and that at least the Alaska Congressional Delegation was very supportive of our programs and the Alaskan hopes were high for some type of continued anti-poverty program beyond June of 1974.

Also on the agenda was the discussion of Fish & Game throughout Alaska. Representatives from the Alaska Department of Fish & Game were present at the meeting, as well as Colonel James Goodfellow, who is in charge of enforcement of Fish and Wildlife Protection Laws with the Department of Public Safety.

Although no formal action was taken by the Regional Directors, most agreed that the session had been informative with many ideas exchanged between the Directors and State Officials.

The afternoon session saw a discussion of education in rural Alaska. Faced with the political issue of "local control," the instructional issues of bi-cultural and bilingual curricula, and other pressing educational needs, this was a good opportunity for the Directors to meet with some individuals who have been involved in these fields.

Present were Mr. Alton Hall, Associate Superintendent for instruction of State-Operated Schools, Judy Kleinfelt, from the Center for Northern Educational Research at the University, Lara Bernhart from BIA Education, and Peter Flisock from the Galena City Schools.

Discussion centered on problems of local control of education. Mr. Flisock superintendent of Galena City Schools, gave a presentation in which he strongly urged all communities with more than 400 population to incorporate as first class cities.

This would enable the community to form an independent school district. Also discussed was the potential impact of Regional Governments.

The RurAL CAP Regional Development Corporations have each produced a Regional plan based on their village priorities.

A consensus was made that the two or three main issues that were of concern state-wide include the question of decen-



ELIZABETH DUQUETTE, Center for Alcohol and Addiction Studies talking with Al Smith, American Indian Commission on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.



ALCOHOLISM WORKSHOP — James Doogan, Joe Ritz, Sgt. Pavlovich, and Dr. Towers.

## Alcoholism Workshop Held

The RurAL CAP and Center for Alcohol and Addiction Studies Alcoholism Workshop was held October 29 through November 2, 1973 at the Cook Inlet Native Association Building.

The participants came from all over rural Alaska; among them were RurAL CAP's seven alcoholism counselors representing Dillingham, Kotzebue St. Paul Island, Copper Center, Kodiak, Juneau, and Ft. Yukon regions.

Don Moore from the Indian Alcoholism Training Center in California and Al Smith from the American Indian Commission on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse coordinated with Evelyn Myers, RurAL CAP Alcoholism Trainer in bringing about a very successful workshop. The panel discussion held on Wednesday afternoon was one of the major highlights of the Workshop.

Guests on the panel were John Shively, Alaska Federation

of the bush education system as well as a deep concern over the subsistence rights of rural people.

Also, an attempt should be made to obtain an equitable distribution of state and federal revenue sharing into the bush communities.

of Natives, acting as moderator, James Doogan of the Liquor Control Board, Sgt. Pavlovich of the Police Department, Joe Riley and Ed O'Neill representing the liquor industry, Dr. Elizabeth Towers, Public Health Service, Judge Hugh Connolly from Fairbanks, Gale Adams of the Anchorage Diagnostic Team and Cy Peck, Jr., Alcoholism Counselor from SEACAP in Juneau.

U.S. Office of Education Policy—  
Decision Can Seriously Affect Native College Students

Speaking before the RurAL CAP regional Director's Association Meeting in Anchorage, Laura Bernhart from the BIA Education Office in Anchorage informed the Directors of the recent policy decision by the U. S. Office of Education which could seriously affect Alaska Native college students.

According to Ms. Bernhart the Office of Education has recently decided that a supplementary Educational Opportunity Grants will no longer be available to students receiving grant in aid monies from BIA.

In effect, this will mean that there are far fewer funds available for Native students at-

Problems, Successes  
Of Poverty Programs  
Discussed at Gathering

The problems and successes of poverty programs were discussed at a conference held in early November involving representatives of low income people in four northwestern states.

The OEO Region X office held a Regional Conference on November 7, 8, and 9 to consider alternatives for serving the poor and to develop priorities which need to be addressed by community action agencies.

Over 300 delegates from Alaska, Washington, Idaho and Oregon met in Seattle in effort to find a way to continue serving the underprivileged.

Workshops were held on Legislation for a National Poverty Program, Public CAAs - Why and How, Citizens Participation Programs, Neighborhood Centers, Senior Programs, and New Models for a Community Poverty Programs.

An item of discussion was the Bill HR 10865 introduced by Senator Hawkins as "Community Services Act of 1973", which would, in effect, take the place of the Economic Opportunity Act.

The Legislative Workshop, in analyzing concepts to be included in legislation to replace the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, recommended that programs created under the EOA, which have been transferred to other federal agencies since 1968 be returned to EOA (or a similar agency) and delegated to CAAs; that CAAs be established in all areas of the region, and that the governing boards be composed of 1/3 public; 1/3 private; and 1/3 low income representatives.

Also, that 1/3 of the policy making board consist of low income people; to increase the authorization level to a \$500,000,000 minimum for FY 1975 with at least a 10% annual increase through the remaining four years in the Hawkins Bill.

They felt that the Department of Labor statistics should be used to determine eligibility and that regional poverty guidelines should be developed.

Among other things, they were concerned about certain provisions of the Hawkins Bill including eligible activities, schools, property, the spin off of programs and funds, an amendment for the continuation of regional offices, and the fact that there are no provisions addressing minority groups.

With regard to an amended Hawkins Bill, they felt a National Human Resource Development Council should be established; there should be assurance of low-income and/or consumer participation; that CAAs should have prime sponsorship for receiving funds for conduct and administration of programs, research and development of pilot programs and have a strong independent advocate role.

There should be a Vance funding, multi-year funding and anti-impoundment legislation, and there should be an applicant appeal procedure when prime sponsorship is withdrawn.

The Workshop for a Model Community Poverty program stated basic functions in broad terms as education of the constituency, needs assessment and organizational structure of a policy-making body.

The Senior Programs Workshop expressed a desire to remain a part of OEO.

Charles Chong, Chief of Operations for the regional office, told the group that OEO would receive its funds under the continuing resolution mechanism passed by the Congress. This will permit expenditure of funds at last year's level through June, 1974.

Mr. Lud Kramer, Secretary of State, also spoke to the Conference at a luncheon meeting, on the State's Role in Eliminating Poverty.



The Greco-Roman style of wrestling, was developed in France and has nothing in common with the sport of ancient Greece and Rome.