

# Summary of RurAL-CAP's 26th Meeting

The 26th meeting of the RurAL CAP Board of Directors was held February 5, 1970 in Juneau.

RurAL CAP Executive Director Byron Mallott introduced new board members Mr. Hank Ostrosky of Naknek, representative for the Bristol Bay area, Mrs. Mabel Walsh, Mayor of Kotzebue as representative for Northwest Mayors, and George Navarre from Kenai, representing the Southcentral Boroughs.

Mr. Walter Charley of the Prince William Sound-Copper Valley Development Corporation reported that a D-8 cat used for training in Seward will be returned to Copper Center.

RurAL CAP will be providing them with a 6 x 6 and a Ford pickup. Mr. Charley also reported that the Department of Health, Education and Welfare will be hiring people to work on the Mentasta project, and an RDA grant has been obtained for the Kenny Lake Telephone project.

Reporting for the Upper Yukon Development Corporation, Mr. Robert Mott advised the board the Corporation is committed for a housing project on Barter Island, and has set up two adult education programs, one in Fort Yukon and one in Stevens Village.

Mr. Hank Ostrosky reported for the Bristol Bay area Development Corporation that work is proceeding on the air field at Clark's Point. A number of community buildings are in various stages of completion. A project is under way to add a shop to the present high school facility.

Mayor Mabel Walsh of Kotzebue informed the Board that a Day Care Center under PCC is between 16 and 24 children of working mothers. There is a water project with PHS which is training local people in pipefitting etc., and when it is completed the whole town of Kotzebue will have running water.

A Head Start Program is in operation with four year old children.

Mayor Walsh also advised the board that a program of education by lawyers through Alaska Legal Services is planned to inform people of their legal rights and also to give training in Real Estate Law.

Legal Services has been working in Kotzebue on regular adoptions, divorce actions, and other legal problems that have never been done before in a legal manner.

Mr. Lucian Poussard of the U.S. Public Health Service reported that under the present budget cuts at federal level to curb inflation, the PHS has been hard hit in the area of contract health services, particularly with hospitals where there are no direct care facilities such as are in Juneau, Fairbanks, etc.

PHS asked for a budget increase, particularly for the Kodiak area, but were not successful.

Mr. Poussard also advised the Board that Dr. William Deak has been hired as Medical Director to coordinate the Alaska Federa-

tion of Natives Healthright program and develop advanced health aid training programs and an out-patient center there.

Mr. Frank Cox of the State Planning and Research Commission reported that a recently completed housing study will entitle the State to be eligible for FHA funds for rural villages, and they are attempting to launch a program to complete a study of sewers and water so that rural communities will be entitled to federal funds for sewage and water treatment plants.

Mr. William Jermain of the State Department of Labor reported that manpower centers have been established in certain areas, using people who have knowledge of the language of the area, and also that a highly skilled team has been traveling to rural areas to make studies of manpower in the locality. By next year, the teams will have gone into every area in the State and all agencies can utilize this information. Mobile skill centers are planned, in which units can be moved for classrooms, and for housing where needed. In another new program, "HIRE," 200 Alaska Natives will be trained, basically through OJT for jobs in the Department of Defense.

According to work received from Senator Ted Stevens, five major oil companies have committed themselves to conduct vocational educational training at Beltz and Mt. Edgecumbe schools. Once industry becomes involved, they are committed to hire. Mr. Jermain also advised the Board that the Department of Labor has been designated as sponsor of Title I-B Programs in Alaska which covers New Careers, Neighborhood Youth Corps, and Operation Mainstream.

Mr. Bennie Leonard of the Alaska Municipal League reported that the Anchorage City Council has a new Drunk in Public (DIP) ordinance which has resulted through the efforts of various alcohol symposiums and groups, whereby people will have a jail record for being drunk in public. DIP's will be retained at the jail for their own protection because of the cold weather and the possibility of being taken advantage of, and when sober, they will be released with no record. But, if picked up more than twice, a misdemeanor charge will be brought. Mr. Leonard also reported that the City Council appropriated money for the Welcome Center.

Mr. J. Kornfeinde of the Alas-

ka Federation of Labor reported that the AFL is insisting that employers in Alaska hire Alaskans, and will get first opportunity for available jobs. He stated that the AFL has found that organized labor in the state is making a concentrated effort to hire minority groups. A contract has been formed between the BIA and the Department of Labor for a minority apprenticeship program.

A number of people will be brought in from rural areas for training in crafts.

Mr. Kornfeinde also reported that the AFL is well aware that aliens and non-Alaskans are working in the cannery industry and steps are being taken to correct the situation.

Mr. George Navarre reporting for the Southcentral Boroughs stated that considerable progress has been made in the Seward skill center, for which the buildings have been donated by the Borough to the State.

Mr. Navarre also advised the Board that Southcentral Boroughs have acquired two BIA schools, one at English Bay and one in Port Graham, and although they are useable, they do not have plumbing.

Mrs. Marguerite Frelin reporting for the Alaska Congress of Parents and Teachers advised that the Homer High School has become accredited since the group sent the school enough reference books to make up the deficiency in their library.

The group also sent arts and crafts supplies, audiometers and projectors, and in addition sent 800 pairs of ice skates and hockey equipment to rural areas and 65,000 screened books to various libraries.