

# Governor's Message to 7th Legislature Shocks

FAIRBANKS—At least one of Governor William A. Egan's proposals to members of the second session of the 7th State Legislature came as a "real shocker" to some informed sources here.

Of major concern to these individuals is the governor's proposal to divide the unorganized borough of the state into administrative units and ask the legis-

lature to pass laws levying uniform taxes on these units, with the stipulation that tax exemptions be provided for certain household property and unimproved property.

"Does this mean," one person asked, "that the oil companies in the North Slope Borough can get off the hook?" I am very concerned about what the exact wording of the legislation will be," he said.

Egan told the law makers assembled in Juneau that three words—PIPELINE and NATIVE CLAIMS—will continue to dominate public concern in Alaska for some years ahead.

And he warned legislators against thinking that settlement of the native land claims would mean that poverty would automatically be abolished in the villages. This will be a slow process, Egan said, and legislators should keep in mind that they have a responsibility to provide for the well being of all Alaskans.

During this talk he called for, among other things,

— an amendment to legislation to provide for a state and federal body to carry out joint land use planning in conformance with

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the native claims act;

- a revision of the education foundation program to allow each region to establish its own educational priorities;

- a new village road program;

- establishment of a council of economic advisors;

- the updating of the State Employment Security Program;

- a new Motor Vehicles Act;

- and legislation which would help alleviate the problems of the elderly in Alaska.

Egan predicted that this will be a year of phenomenal productivity in the legislative branch of government.

“Together,” he said, “we can pave new roads” to benefit all Alaskans in their effort to improve their “quality of life.”