

## Native Crafts Displayed

The Alaska Native Medical Center Craft Shop is located on the first floor of the Native Hospital in Anchorage. The shop is staffed by volunteers of the ANMC Auxiliary, who work free as a service to the Native people of Alaska. Agnes Coyle manages the shop with the help of Jeanne Doughesty, Karen Vogler and many volunteers. All the staff are interested in Native arts and enjoy meeting and being helpful to the Native people. In fact, the staff often write to the people in the villages, and always enjoy meeting them when they come to Anchorage for medical treatment. Occasionally they are able to travel to the villages to tell villagers about the craft shop.

The Craft Shop has been in operation now for five years. It was started as a market place for people to sell their handwork, and today craft items are received from people living in town and from all over Alaska. At this time the shop is full of lovely baskets, ivory, beadwork, slippers and mukluks.

The Craft Shop welcomes all Native-made crafts. Items are put on consignment at the asking price. Five percent is added to cover the shop's costs and postage and office supplies. Money is quickly mailed to out of town craftsmen when their items are sold. Craftsmen living in town may stop by to pick up their money when their work has been sold.

The Craft Shop does a lot of business. They had a very busy Christmas season, and the summers find the shop filled with tourists. Tour buses often stop at the shop.

The Alaska Native Medical Center Craft Shop will take crafts on consignment through the mail. Craftsmen wanting to mail crafts in should contact the craft shop at P.O. Box 7-741, Anchorage, Alaska 995 10.

The staff at the Craft Shop says, "We love meeting and working with the Alaska Native people. It is thrilling to see the lovely art and be able to help in this way."