

# TOTEM BACKDROP AT SEACAP BOARD MEET

## Villages Voted in-- Southeastern Leaders Attend

### 3 Villages Join Koyukon First Quarterly Session at Klawock

Roger Huntington, Local Government Specialist and George Irvin, RurAL CAP Trainer, recently attended the Koyukon regional meeting held in Galena January 28.

The villages of Takotna, Telida, and Holy Cross were unanimously voted in by the board.

Mike Dozette, AFN Housing Program, gave a presentation on the Turnkey III Program. He stated that the first year's focus would be on villages which are easily accessible. Priority will be based on the present conditions and needs of each village.

Don Johnson, State Economic Opportunity Office, gave a talk on the pros and cons of starting a timber corporation. Mr. Jack Smith, a timberman from McGrath, also gave his views.

Board members represented

were: Jim Huntington, Chairman Galena; Don Honea, Vice Chairman, Ruby, Frank Madros, Secretary/Treasurer, Kaltag; Kenney Sam, Huslia; Alfred Attla, Hughes; Leo Lolnitz, Koyukuk; John Andrews, McGrath;

Anna Frank, Minto; Mich Demientieff, Nenana; Nick Petruska, Nikolai; William Ambros, Nulato; David Miller, Takotna; Ardie Peters (alternate for Richard Grant), Tanana, Nick Nikalai, Telida.

Visitors included George Irvin and Roger Huntington, RurAL CAP; Don Johnson, State Economic Opportunity Office; Mel Charlie, State Economic Opportunity Office; Richard Frank, Tanana Chiefs; Mike Dozette AFN Housing; and Mr. Jack Smith, timber businessman from McGrath.

The Southeast Alaska Community Action board held its first quarterly meeting of 1972 amidst the totem poles of the Tlingit village of Klawock January 27, 28 and 29.

An eighteen-man board composed largely of an "all star" cast of imposing Southeast leaders were in virtually unanimous agreement with Chairman Clarence Jackson's comment that this was "one of the most productive—if not the most productive—meeting of SEACAP."

Chairman Jackson led discussions that included participation from Mrs. Daisy Phillips, Haines, Judy Christiansen, Sitka; Dick Whittaker (a noted lawyer/legislator), Ketchikan; Ed Churchill, Wrangell; Chris Hanson, Petersburg; Walt Johnson, Yakutat; Victor Haldane (Haida Nation Chief), Hydaburg; Mr. and

Mrs. Brown, Klawock; Tiny Triplet, Craig; Dorothy Thornton, Juneau; Martha Shields, Saxman; and Matilda Gamble, Angoon.

The informative and constructive discussion resulting from numerous presentations by village board members and state and federal agencies including Economic Development Department, Labor Department, Craig School District, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Tlingit-Haida Central Council, Rural Development Agency, Rural Alaska Community Action Program, and Alaska Legal Services led to the passing of 40 resolutions.

The SEACAP board, as well as the other eight regional corporations for the RurAL CAP organization, make the policy and provide the direction for its hired staff.

The Juneau based staff then

activates the resources necessary to accomplish their goals and priorities.

The current SEACAP staff consists of Gordon Jackson, Executive Director; Bob Bradley, Deputy Director; Emma Williams, Secretary, Arnella Osborne, Clerk Typist; Virginia Demmert, Field Training Supervisor, and Loren Domke and Reed Stoops, VISTA Planners.

The controversy and resulting scare evolving from the mercury content in halibut has resulted in a tremendous financial loss to Southeast Alaska fisherman.

Reed Stoops has concentrated on a mercury analysis project that will hopefully result in the adoption of analyzers that

will reveal the actual mercury content within each halibut and thereby save the bulk of halibut fishing industry.

Other activities that Gordon Jackson reported on:

1. Native Land Allotments;
2. Regional Comprehensive Health Planning Agency;
3. Possible Law Center;
4. Legislative Information Program;
5. Grants Available from Church Sources.

A memo of agreement between RurAL CAP and SEACAP was passed as well as a similar memo of agreement between SEACAP and the Tlingit-Haida Central Council.

SEACAP and T & H Central Council will hope to complement and coordinate their efforts as the post Land Claims era begins.

After three days and nights of arduous meetings, the SEACAP board members and visitors to Klawock were feted by the housewives of Klawock.

Prior to an analysis of the Land Claims Bill by John Borbridge, President of T & H, Fannie Brown's Tlingit class of the Klawock Elementary School, gave a sterling presentation of Native songs and dances.