

## ***Editorial—***

# **Talented Mr. Mallott**

The Rural Alaska Community Action Program (RurALCAP) for a month or so has been seeking a new director after its able head, Larry Brayton, resigned last month. Funded by the Office of Economic Opportunity, the agency has been doing important programming of projects to aid the poor in Alaska.

The bulk of the poor in the state is comprised of mostly Alaskan natives and goodly number of the programs have to be aimed for their benefits. This had been done quite admirably under the directorship of Brayton who had a good understanding of the native situation in Alaska. Good benefits for the natives have been realized through this effort.

The Board of Directors of the RurALCAP to date has received numerous names of applicants from within the state and many from outside of Alaska for the position. We are of the understanding that the list has been narrowed down to five last week and one of the five is said to be Byron Mallott. Mallott as one of the contenders, we believe, is tantamount to being seriously considered as a likely successor to Larry Brayton along with the other four, of course.

Byron Mallott is a Tlingit Indian young man but a man with important background already behind him. He is at the present time serving as a valued special assistant to Senator Mike Gravel in Washington, D. C. as a consultant on native land claims and other native matters. He has been a mayor of his hometown, Yakutat. He has served under the state's chief executive's office when Walter J. Hickel was governor of Alaska, now Secretary of the Interior. While working in that capacity, Mallott handled assignments that involved Alaskans many of whom were native Alaskans.

Mallott knows the needs of indigent people of the state. He is already quite well known to them. He has intimate knowledge of native organizations. He is now the Grand Vice President of the Alaska Native Brotherhood. We think his talents should be under serious consideration by the Board of Directors of the RurALCAP.