

# Conference for handicapped

A first of its kind event will occur when handicapped people from throughout the state gather October 9-10 at the Captain Cook Hotel for the Alaska White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals. This state conference is a preliminary to the National Conference which has been called by President Ford to be held in Washington, D. C. next year. Health, social, economic, educational, and

special concerns of handicapped persons will be dealt with at the conferences.

Gary Aanes of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation is helping plan the conference. He states that wide citizen participation is being sought. Aanes expects that a least 50% of those attending the conference will be either handicapped persons, or parents or guardians of the handicapped. In addition, repre-

sentatives from government, education, business, and industry, as well as private citizens are urged by Aanes to attend and become concerned about the problems of the physically and mentally handicapped citizens of Alaska.

The Planning Committee is meeting each Tuesday in the Conference Room of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, 9th floor of the MacKay Building, 338 Denali Street, where ramp and elevator facilities make it easier for the handicapped to attend. Karen Williams, Program Chairperson, states that all committees are still open and needing more members. She cites a particular need for those wishing to participate in planning for special concerns such as Civil Rights, minorities, etc.

Others working on planning committees include: Mike Roop, Program; Jean Mahoney and Brady Jackson, Site Selection;

Bob Mullen and Dale Reeves comprise the Delegate Selection Committee. Conference Public Relations are being handled by Al Bramstedt, Jr., Roger Weed, and John Stripe. Chairperson for Registration and Housing is Carrie John; Jackie Giles heads the Transportation Committee; Mary Tomasiewicz, Health; Liz Jacks, Economics; Social, Helen Mothershead; and Legislative, Bob Mothershead. The Education Committee is chaired Barbara Smart with Jim Rich, Jim Hotchkiss, Natalie Carey, Joyce Fischer, Gladys Decker and Jimmy Triestch as members.

Invitations to attend the statewide conference have been sent to several nationally known authorities on problems of the handicapped, including Harold Russell, a double amputee, a war hero, movie star, and Chairman of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.