

**Priming for VIP—**

# Angoon Comes Out in Great Style

Citing indifference and neglect by the urban-controlled legislature, Angoon residents acknowledged the resource mobilization capability of RurAL CAP when a V.I.P. visited their community on April 19. Alvin J. Arnett, National Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity.

Mathew Fred, Wally Frank and other members of the IRA and Village Council of Angoon

treated Arnett with a freshly-caught salmon while explaining some of the problems and hassles experienced by Angoon, a community which was recorded in the 70 census to have approximately 90 per cent of its people living below the poverty level reading.

Southeast Alaska Community Action Program's Director, Reed Stoops reported that the agency has chosen Angoon as its model

village in the Southeast Region and has thrown its weight behind several State and Federal programs in an attempt to get viable, economic projects into the community.

Another OEO program, Community Enterprise Development Corporation, was represented during the evening by Jerry Nelson, Chief Executive Officer, of the agency.

Nelson said that CEDC is attempting to fund a lodge to be built in the community in the near future to help alleviate some of the poverty.

OEO is amidst another financial crisis as the current authorizing legislation will expire on June 30 of this year and as a result, the OEO funded RurAL CAP and its 10 development corporations will cease operation.

Arnett brought a very optimistic report that Congress is currently looking at new legislation to fund the program beyond the June 30 date.

Other OEO dignitaries who accompanied Arnett to Alaska were John Finley, Region X Director out of Seattle and the Alaska Operations Officer, Charles Hodges.



ARNETT discusses problems of Angoon with the residents of the community.