

# NON-PROFIT REGIONAL DIRECTORS MEET

Directors of non-profit corporations throughout the state met in Anchorage August 12 and 13 to discuss statewide issues and problems and to evaluate RurAL CAP's aid and assistance programs with an eye toward changes they would like to see take place next year.

These corporations receive all or part of their funding through RurAL CAP. Also in attendance at the meeting were a few members of RurAL CAP's Board of Directors and various central

office staff members.

Executive Director, Phil Smith, told the regional directors that their ideas, thoughts, concerns and suggestions were very important at this time as RurAL CAP program directors are now in the process of deciding which programs should be refunded, which need to be amended or changed, and what new programs are needed during 1977.

"Advocacy" will remain a major function of Rural CAP.

"Advocacy is making known the needs and desires of the people of rural Alaska to their legislators in an effort to get effective, responsive legislation past. Another side to this is studying the possible effects of proposed legislation upon the people. If you live in a village and are concerned about the way government agencies or programs are being run, or have ideas for programs you feel are needed, then make your concerns and/or ideas known to

the director of your regional corporation.

It was widely agreed that a great need exists for RurAL CAP to hire a technical assistance team to establish a training program for regional staff in the areas of grant and contract writing, accounting techniques, program development, management systems, etc.

As our regional corporations grow they need well trained staff to assess the needs of their people, evaluate programs, and

to keep the agency financially sound." Smith said he will continue to seek funds for such a program from federal and state sources, as well as private foundations.

This was felt to be a very worthwhile meeting and the problems and proposals that were discussed will be brought before the RurAL CAP Board of Directors at their annual meeting in Dillingham, Sept. 20.