

# Fine-Tuning Government to Changing Needs - Carr

"The governor has to be the one to make the hard decisions as to performance. He has to be the one who recognizes the need for change, and he must be the one to set in motion the methods for fine-tuning government to the changing needs for government service."

Larry Carr gave that definition of the role of the governor in a major address today before the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce.

The Democratic candidate for governor also listed these responsibilities as he outlined the governor's role.

"The governor is responsible for the research and planning necessary to permit the legislature to make responsible choices in the appropriation of funds and the allocation of resources."

"The governor is in the best position of any Alaskan to anticipate problems and plan for them. That is cheaper than responding to emergencies that once were predictable."

"A governor who understands

and appreciates the role of local government can be of enormous assistance to local governments throughout Alaska."

"The job of governor is a management job. Management, on the one hand, of the state's relationship with its major industries—oil, fisheries, tourism, timber, mining—and on the other hand, management of the programs of public need and services that have been recognized as government responsibilities."

Carr, an Alaskan businessman, placed special emphasis on the managerial talents required in government.

"Managed properly, with the right kind of controls and attention to detail, government can perform its role efficiently and economically. That means service and lower cost government."

He also pointed out that "if government does not run properly, it does not go bankrupt or fall into receivership. It does not fall out of the yellow pages of the phone book. A poorly managed government will require



LARRY CARR

more money to provide a lower level of service."

Carr explained that as the state of Alaska grows, the penalty for failure grows proportionately.

"Ten years ago," he said, "an inefficiency factor of ten per cent in the way state government operated would cost us \$5 million dollars. Today, the same degree of inefficiency would cost us \$30 million dollars."

Carr took special pains to out-

line the responsibility of the governor in negotiating new programs, especially in relation to the oil industry.

"The governor should not let himself be walked over by the industry. Neither should he be unreasonable or hostile. The economics of the oil industry are not that hard to figure out."

"The governor should drive for a fair deal. And what's fair can be calculated. What is it worth to Alaskans if their governor has done his homework just a little bit better?"

Carr also pointed out that it takes more than money to solve problems.

"You have to apply your available money and resources correctly to achieve a desired solution," he said. "The state has money, but it doesn't have management."

"That's why the legislature lasted 147 days and almost was back at it again. That's why there is so much confusion over the pipeline and road."

"That's why I am running for governor."