

# MONEY AVAILABLE FOR HEAD START PROG.

## Approval Given Agency To Start Negotiations to Get Head Start Funds

The Executive Committee of the Rural Alaska Community Action Program Board of Directors met February 15 in Anchorage. In his report to the committee, Executive Director John Shively stated that the Department of Health and Social Services has money available under the Title IV-A of the Social Security Act for Head Start programs.

Approval was given for the agency to commence negotiations to obtain funds. Shively said they were requesting about \$5.6 million which would put Head Start programs in practically every village needing them.

In other action, the committee endorsed a proposed mercury testing program from Southeastern Alaska Community Action Program (SEACAP) which would use a relatively inexpensive mercury analyzer system to test large halibut upon arrival in

port which would provide a service to both the fishermen and the consumer by the rapid testing of commercial fish for heavy metal concentrations.

A representative from the Community Enterprise Development Corporation (CEDC), Dave Kampert, addressed the meeting, gave a brief background of the organization and brought them up to date on the agency's activities.

He explained their three major categories of business enterprises are fishing cooperatives, stores, and crafts.

Other types of enterprise include a reindeer products industry, a wild berry project and a girls' boarding home for students.

The next Rural CAP Board of Directors' meeting was set for the last week of April in Fairbanks.