

RurAL-CAP

ACTION REPORTS

Mailing Address: Drawer 412 ECB

Telephone 279-2441

Anchorage, Alaska 99501

RurAL CAP ENDORSES SLOPE BOROUGH

North Slope Deemed Ideal for Rural Self Government

The Board of Directors for the Rural Alaska Community Action Program met in Juneau on January 18 and 19. One of the most important actions taken during the meeting was their endorsement of the North Slope Borough. Executive Director John Shively discussed with the board the implications of the North Slope Borough and said, "The North Slope Borough is one of the few rural areas that can meet the criteria for rural government. This board has recognized for a number of years the need for regional governments in rural Alaska and I feel it is very important that we show our support to the people of the North Slope."

Harry Carter, Executive Director of the Alaska Federation of Natives and member of the RurAL CAP state board, commented that the Alaska Federation of Natives' Convention had unanimously endorsed the North Slope Borough.

Two new members were seated on the 24-member board, Richard Kito, Mayor of Petersburg, representing the Southeast

Mayors' Association, and Alan Panamaroff representing the Kodiak Area Community Development Corporation.

The board tabled a motion for RurAL CAP to adjust its regional boundaries to conform with those of the regional Native associations until the associations' boundaries were set. In other action, the board approved the concept of a Land Claims Services Corporation which would provide, with the concurrence of the 12 regional corporations, consulting and advisory services to them at a minimum cost.

They also adopted a resolution to support preferential hire for Alaska residents in an effort to alleviate the severe unemployment problems in the state.

In his report to the board, Executive Director John Shively stated that the grant for 1972 had been funded as approved by the board, with the following exceptions: The Legal Services' Supplemental Grant for \$18,000 was not funded; the Training Grant was cut from \$40,000 to \$35,000. Also, the Citizens'

Participation Program was funded for only \$30,000, however, they will be using funds the state is receiving through Title IV of the Social Security Act and their total budget for the next year will be approximately \$84,000 as compared with \$68,000 for last year. The Emergency Food and Medical Service portion of the grant was not refunded because of President Nixon's desire to cut back on emergency food programs.

The director said that all 38 Head Start Programs are operating, and also seven alcoholism programs. The Hot Breakfast program which has been running in cooperation with State Operated Schools in the Dillingham area, will be drawing to a close in June, as will the Village Equipment Mobilization Program, and the agency is attempting to find other funding. Both programs have been considered very successful, he commented.

Frank Jones, Child Development and Education Specialist from the Office of Child Development in Seattle, addressed the board on Head Start funding

for the coming year, what is happening on the national scene and training monies for Head Start teachers.

Morris Thompson, Area Director for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, explained the Bureau's plans for conducting enrollment of all eligible Alaskan Natives within a two-year time period, to meet requirements of the Land Claims Bill. He said the Bureau planned to contract with the 12 existing Native corporations to hire enumerators in each village to conduct enrollment in that community. Contracts will be let by March 1, and training of the enumerators will start about March 15. No major problems were expected within the state Mr. Thompson remarked, but in anticipation of locating eligible persons outside the state, action has been

initiated by issuing press releases, contacting Indian organizations and communities, as well as the armed services. Applications will be mailed and may be requested from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pouch 7-1971, Anchorage, Alaska 99501.

People will be needed to work in the Anchorage office. Mr. Thompson emphasized, for about two years. Application Form SF-171 may be obtained at the post office and should be sent to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Box 3-8000, Juneau, Alaska 99801.

Other visitors at the board meeting included Charles Chong from the Office of Economic Opportunity regional office in Seattle; H. Prentiss Gazaway, Area Programs Officer for the Bureau of Indian Affairs; Mrs. Joan Fisher from the Office of Assistant Area Director, BIA; Martin Moore, Representative from Emmonak; Richard Whitaker, Representative from Ket-chikan; Robert Willard, Executive Director, State Commission on Human Rights; Gordon Jackson, Executive Director of Southeastern Alaska Community Action Program; Robert Bradley, Deputy Director of SEACAP; and VISTA volunteer Reed Stoops who is assigned to that agency.

Time and place of the next regular meeting will be announced at a later date.

Rapid Changes Prompts Collection of Legends and Tales

FAIRBANKS—Rapid changes in the North Country have prompted the Department of Journalism at the University of Alaska to intensify its project of collecting the legends and tales of the North Country's Native people, Prof. Jimmy Bedford said this week.

The department head said the Alaska Folklore Depository now is more actively collecting the folklore because it is in a "sort of race against time" occasioned by the increasing development of the North Country, which, inevitably, is affecting the Native people and their culture.

"We encourage Alaskans and others to assist us with the project we began almost a decade ago," Prof. Bedford said. "We are heartened that such material is beginning to take its rightful place in the publications across the nation."

Charles J. Keim, professor of journalism and English, is coordinating the project.

Bedford especially praised three recent books dealing with North Country folklore. These are "Tales of Eskimo Alaska," by Alaska Methodist University

"Tanaina Tales from Alaska," by Bill Vaudrin, former instructor of English at Anchorage Community College, and published by University of Oklahoma Press; and "The Rescue of the Sun and Other Tales from the Far North," by Edythe Newell,

former journalism student at the University of Alaska, and published by Albert Whitman and Company.

Both the University of Alaska and Alaska Methodist University are carrying out other important publication projects dealing with

this kind of material, Prof. Bedford explained. Schools, churches, newspapers and other groups are performing important work, too.

He urged persons or groups who have such material, printed or merely written, to send it to: Alaska Folklore Depository, c/o Department of Journalism, Bunnell 18, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701.

"We also ask all donors to attach their names and addresses so we can give them proper credit for the submission. Ultimately, we will see that such material goes into the University of Alaska Archives. Students in various courses at the university will be able to use the materials. If publications result, donors gain will receive proper credit. Right now, though, we ask more Alaskans and others to join us in this important race."

Stevens Announces Grant

Senator Ted Stevens has announced a \$3,000 grant to the Kodiak Area Community Development Corporation for the purpose of buying fire extinguishers for villages in that region. The grant was announced during the RurAL CAP Board of Directors meeting in Juneau in a personal letter from Senator Stevens to Elmer Armstrong Chairman of the RurAL CAP Board.

Fire protection has been the number one priority for this corporation for the past two

years and many villagers have already received fire fighting training in a program coordinated through KACDC.

Senator Stevens said in his letter to Mr. Armstrong that he had personally been in touch with James L. Young, Regional Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity in Seattle and had arranged for the special grant.

Alan Panamaroff, Chairman of the KACDC regional board

and their representative to the state board, expressed appreciation to Senator Stevens for his help in the matter. Mr. Panamaroff cited many examples of loss of homes over the past two years due to fire and commented that there had been at least one death directly related to fire.

He said the fire extinguishers bought with the money obtained by Senator Stevens will make voluntary firemen out of all the men and women in the villages.

Native Craft

CARVED IVORY, Slippers; mukluks; custom seal skin parkas.

- R.R. "Bob" Blodgett -
Teller Commercial Company
Teller, Alaska



Classified

HELP WANTED—Executive Officer for the Alaska Native Health Board (ANHB) to work directly under the ANHB providing administrative and technical support. Must be able to relate effectively with native communities, this position will require collection and analysis of data to help advance the goals of the ANHB; collaboration with other health agencies to carry out the directives of the ANHB; coordination with the Alaska Federation of Natives Health Affairs staff in the development of health proposals and programs; and will be responsible to see that recommendations of the ANHB are carried out by the Alaska Area Native Health Service. Salary \$215,000. Send resume to Mr. Carl Jack, Alaska Federation of Natives, 1675 "C" Street, Anchorage, Alaska, 99501. Closing date February 4, 1972.

