



# GOVERNOR ADDRESSES RURAL-CAP BOARD

## Egan Opposes New Territorial Limit



**EGAN SPEAKS**—Governor William A. Egan appeared before the Board of Directors of RurAL CAP on October 2 as they met at the Kake Alaska Town Hall. He is seen greeting Elmer Armstrong, president of the board. Standing next to the governor is executive director John Shively.

Photo by BARRY McWAYNE



**KAKE MEETING**—RurAL CAP executive director John Shively (left), board president Elmer Armstrong and board vice president Hank Ostrovsky paused to chat outside the Kake Town Hall during the October 1 meeting of the Board of Directors. The RurAL CAP meeting was scheduled to coincide with the raising of the Kake Totem Pole.

In Kake for the dedication of the 136 ft. totem pole, Governor William A. Egan, after the ceremonies, spoke to the RurAL CAP Board of Directors who were holding their annual meeting in the village.

Egan commented on the State Department's new charts which delineate a strict 3-mile territorial zone as state waters and a nine-mile contiguous zone of limited federal jurisdiction. In a letter to President Nixon, Egan strongly protested the new charts. Opening these areas to foreign and unregulated fishermen, Egan said, seriously jeopardizes the state fisheries conservation program. In addition, the state would lose hundreds of miles of undersea mineral resources because these waters are designated as being outside the territorial sea. The federal government would gain these minerals since it owns such resources as the ocean floor out to the limit of the continental shelf, even though it lies beneath the high seas. The Governor further commented that he would keep pushing for compliance with the demands in his letter to President Nixon, a complete investigation of the State Department's action, and withdrawal of the new charts pending completion of the investigation.

Following the address, John Shively, Executive Director of RurAL CAP, presented a resolution supporting the Governor's position. The Board of Directors adopted the resolution with a unanimous vote.

The RurAL CAP Board held their meeting in Kake on October 1-3, 1971 in response to an invitation from the community to attend the totem raising and potlatch festivities. Board members were very impressed with the colorful ceremonies and warm hospitality of the people of Kake.

One of the main items on the agenda was a review of the grant package for the agency which was approved by the

Board for the 1972 program year. This is the second year of a three-year plan and there are no major changes, Shively said.

The Board adopted a resolution regarding the Emergency Employment Act of 1971 which was designed to assist unemployed persons, requesting that the state give rural Alaskans a No. 1 priority in jobs created through the disbursement of special impact funds.

A resolution from the Bristol Bay Area Development Corporation was endorsed which requested the use of TUNDRA TIMES in the school systems of Alaska, including Anchorage, Fairbanks and all independent school districts. It was felt that there is a need for the young people to develop an understanding of how Native leaders are involved in social change in Alaska and to be informed of current events. TUNDRA TIMES publishes a weekly report on all news that affects rural Alaska and it therefore should be used as core subject matter to begin a Native studies course in the school systems.

Also adopted was a resolution requesting the Alaska Native Health Service to remedy serious deficiencies in the Bethel Service Unit Health Delivery System by increasing the staff, constructing a building to meet the needs of the area and to develop staff training to provide more flexibility and increased continuity.

Election of officers for the Board returned Elmer Armstrong from Kotzebue as President on a unanimous vote; Hank Ostrovsky, Bristol Bay Area representative, for his second term as Vice President; and Mrs. Ellen Lang, SEACAP representative, as Secretary-Treasurer.

Visitors to the meeting included: Steve Hilterbrant from the Seattle office of OEO, Byron Mallot, Director of the Local Affairs Agency and Morris Thompson, Area Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs.