

# Why the Ravens Are Always Black

By GRACE SLWOOKO

Eskimos on St. Lawrence Island, an island in the Bering Sea, used to believe the stories that were told by their parents to be true. These stories are now like fairy tales we now read in the books. As we Eskimos don't have written language, they were told and told for ages by any one that is interested enough to remember them and keep them in memory: generation after generation. Many many thanks to the education we can now keep them without forgetting parts

of them.

But this is the story of Raven and the Owl, and how the Raven got black.

Once upon a time, the ravens and owls were all white. Now Mr. Owl was setting so quietly on the rock, when Mr. Raven came flying by and making a few rounds over his place and landed right by him. He was very lively, and seemed to be full of some very exciting plans. When Mr. Owl finally gave him some evidence of greeting, he told him of his idea. When asked, Mr. Raven replied, "Planned a point for us." How do you like to be painted?" he

asked. "If you give me mine, I would give you your's and we will be spotted all over, instead of plain white."

When Mr. Owl agreed, he flew away for a while. Then he came back with a bucket of black paint. "Here, we will be nicer with some design, on us," he said as he landed. So, Mr. Raven got to work while Mr. Owl sat so quietly. He put spots all over Mr. Owl, some very tiny and some large, all so pretty. With a feather, he painted Mr. Owl, dipping it in a black every once in a while.

He was so excited over his work. He also was real proud of

his idea. Mr. Owl was beginning to look very pretty. When he got him done, oh he was so beautiful. "Alright, you are done." "It is my turn to be painted," Mr. Raven said as he sat down before Mr. Owl.

So, Mr. Owl got to work after limbering up for a while. He worked and worked so carefully. Mr. Raven was beginning to be very beautiful looking bird now with spots tiny and large. But Mr. Raven never kept his mouth shut, he always liked to say something, until sometimes he got so aggravating.

And this time he kept bragging of his idea, and how the

other birds could set so long a time without doing anything and all that was always in his tune. Mr. Owl couldn't stand it any more. He was getting so hateful. And oh, what a terrible thing Mr. Owl did!

Poor Mr. Raven, he should just not talk so much of how smart he was. Mr. Owl dumped the whole black paint on Mr. Raven! Poor Mr. Raven, should just not talk so much of how smart he was. He flew away so silently, now he has a shiny black coat with some feathers in deep shiny blue.

So, up to this day the ravens are black and the owls are spotty.



**CEDC BOARD**—The newly elected CEDC Board of Directors are from left to right (standing): Jackie Knutsen, Killingham; Robert Newlin, Noorvik; George Keene, Kasigluk; Jesse Beaver, Goodnews Bay; Wassillie George, Akiachak; Nels Franklin, Manakotak; Teddy Coupchiak, Togiak; Nick Malutin, Karluk; Henry Shavings, Makoryuk; Jerry Nelson, Yakutat; Marel Keister, Copper

Center, Panny Alexie, Holy Cross; Frank See, Hoonah; Frank Ferguson, Kotzebue. Seated around the table are from left to right: Charlie Andrews, Mountain Village; David O. David, Kwigillingok; Archie Brunton, Larsen Bay, Sven Haakanson, Old Harbor; and Tom Craig, Mentasta.

## Annual CEDC Meeting Held

### Board of Directors Elected--

The Annual Membership Meeting of Community Enterprise Development Corporation (CEDC) was held on October 7th in the Anchorage Community Center. The meeting was called by President, Frank Ferguson of Kotzebue, and chaired by Vice President, Frank See of Hoonah.

On the agenda was the election of a new Board of Directors and the Executive Director's report on progress made since the last membership meeting.

## Choquette Appointed Manpower Dir

JUNEAU—Paul D. Choquette, formerly of Anchorage, has been appointed director of the manpower training division in the Alaska Department of Labor, Governor William A. Egan announced today.

In the post, Choquette will work with employer groups, labor organizations and others in setting up on-the-job training programs.

"The division's function is to assume leadership in the development of Alaska's human resources," he said, "And I am very anxious to work closely with all organizations in the state to accomplish that important objective, whether it be through training programs or any other avenue whereby the state can be of assistance to both labor and management."

The next Annual Membership meeting was scheduled to be in March of 1972.

CEDC is a non-profit, private organization, subsidized federally through the Office of Economic Opportunity. It was established in 1968 to provide financial, technical and training assistance in the development of cooperatives in rural villages and towns throughout the State of Alaska.

Presently, there are twenty-five co-op's and nine RURAL CAP regional corporations that embody the membership of

CEDC. Within itself, CEDC is made up of thirty-five staff members which are subdivided into various categories: arts & crafts, consumer, fisheries, and the newly funded training division and the Skyriver Film Project.

Executive Director, Joseph Smith, has been with CEDC for approximately two years and was instrumental in writing the original CEDC proposal while attached to RURAL CAP in 1968.

CEDC officers are located at 503 West Northern Lights Boulevard, Anchorage, Alaska.

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