



### GROUP HEARS, SEES PROBLEMS

A group tour yesterday visited areas hardest hit by the housing crunch for a first-hand look at the situation. Carol Napier, left, of 1429 Denali St., lives in an area where transient housing rents for

\$150 a week. Above, high-price apartments may include lawn decorations like this automobile. Below, tents and campers make their homes in parks.

## Officials Miss First-Hand Look

# Housing Crunch Tour Fizzles

By PAUL NUSSBAUM  
Times Staff Writer

Billed as an educational look at Anchorage's housing situation, a group tour yesterday fizzled when most of the expected dignitaries failed to show up.

The tour, sponsored by Cook Inlet Native Association, was a bus ride

through areas hardest hit by the housing crunch, and it was designed to give city and borough leaders a first-hand look at the situation.

But no City Council or Borough Assembly members braved the cold and wind to join the tour. The trip was shortened by almost 1½ hours.

The two buses took their small loads of passengers — mostly media representatives and members of local organizations — to a sampling of nearly every kind of housing in the city.

The tour visited campers at Lions Camper Park, mobile home salesmen at Penland Park, run-down single-family structures in Fairview Addition, apartment complexes and a motel.

At the Big Timber Motel, Mrs. Dorothy Polzin told the touring group she, her husband and their three children were paying \$29.50 daily from an income of \$30.50. She said the family had been unable to find a place to rent since they drove up from Arizona a

week ago. Mrs. Polzin's daughter by a former marriage was born in Alaska and is dying of leukemia, the woman said. The child wanted to return to Alaska and was one of the prime reasons the family moved.

Transient housing near 15th Avenue and Denali Street now rents for \$150 per week, according to Tony Brantley of the borough's Department of Environmental Quality. He also pointed out a 16-unit apartment complex at 13th Avenue and Eagle Street which he said may have to be condemned for health reasons, although the present tenants at the Erickson Apartments are paying more than \$200 a month.

At Lion's Camper Park, manager Mrs. James Whitehead said most of the tents and campers living in the park were there because they wanted to be, not because they could not find housing in Anchorage.

"They just think it's cheaper," she said.

## Evans Withdraws Name

Borough Assemblyman and local banker Chuck Evans said late this morning he has withdrawn his name from the list of those nominated for Gov. Jay Hammond's rent review board for Anchorage.

Evans, Gordon Jackson and Norm Rokeburg were nominated yesterday by the borough assembly.

Evans said he withdrew because he did not want to have to comply with the state's disclosure law, which he termed "ridiculous and phony."