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**This Is Your University: Growth of University of Alaska Library; Items of the Week, 1964-1965; Musk Ox Herd; Christmas Vacation; Foreign Languages; Educational Purpose is Research for the Geophysical Institute; The University Museum**

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**Series: This is Your University series tapes**

FIRST EPISODE: Growth of University of Alaska Library  
ANNOUNCER: Bob Olsen

The university library is growing.

Ted Ryberg is the Director of Libraries.

A public document collection which brings together government publications and their indexes in the main library at college.

In September the circulation was changed to a new punch card system which will accommodate future expansion and use of the book collection, while saving time and money.

To enable catalogers to catch up on a batch of unprocessed books and acquisitions, a percentage of library book orders are being processed through and outside service this year. The library is also reclassifying all materials from the Dewey Decimal system to the more flexible Library of Congress system.

In October, the library broke all previous records for book acquisitions by adding 14,000 volumes to the collections, bringing the total to about 100,000 volumes.

A newly established archives and manuscript collection includes records of the university, materials about Alaska and a number of special collections. Alaskans with historical material relating to Alaska or the University are encouraged to donate it to the library.

The primary problems in the university library are lack of space and funds.

SECOND EPISODE: Items of the Week, 1964-1965  
ANNOUNCER: Bob Olsen

The university's Choir of the North has an excellent reputation in national music fields. This holiday season, the choir is busy rehearsing and recording two 15 minute programs of Christmas music to be broadcast over Alaska's radio stations.

The 100 member choir and the 50 member university orchestra will present the Messiah. The choir will also present programs to various organizations in interior Alaska. In December, the choir will be the guest of the United States' Army at Fort Greely where it will present a live television program.

Short courses in fisheries will be offered to Alaskan communities and commercial fisheries groups this winter by the division of statewide services.

The course offers information of fishing gear, material, fisheries technology, fish spoilage and handling, and other topics. Groups or communities interested should write the fisheries extension of the University of Alaska.

In 1967, as Alaska celebrates the 100th anniversary of its purchase from Russia, the University of Alaska will celebrate its 50th year as Alaska's state university. In 1917 the Territorial legislature accepted a land grant from the United States and created the Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines. A special committee is now planning for the golden anniversary in 1967.  
Episode ends.

Another program begins. The beginning is missing.

"...was elected to the executive committee of the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools at a meeting of this association in Portland. The association is composed of a group of universities with the goal of maintaining high standards in higher education. The university has been a member and accredited by the association since 1935."

In London last week, the Royal Society awarded its highest honor, the Copley Medal to a University of Alaska faculty member, Dr. Sydney Chapman. Dr. Chapman, who has been a fellow of the society since 1919, spends part of each year at the university conducting research and lecturing. He is considered an authority in several areas of geophysics and is the author of more than 400 scientific papers and five books. He has served as president of five national and three international scientific societies and was president of the international committee that planned and directed the International Geophysical Year.

Dr. James Morrow, professor of Fisheries Biology, will present a paper at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Montreal late this month. The paper concerns wilderness fisheries research problems on Alaska's upper Yukon River. He stresses the importance of gathering data on unexploited resources so that the effects of human activity can be better understood.

Twenty-five paintings, many of them portraits of Alaskans, are on exhibit in the University Commons for two weeks. The paintings are by Enid Cutler, the wife of the university's academic vice president, Dr. Howard Cutler. Mrs. Cutler has a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Iowa.

The University of Alaska's 45 member concert band, is presenting its first performance of the season this week. Under the direction of Professor Robert L. Farley(?), the band will play "Tippecanoe quickstep" composed in 1840, three interludes from "Music for a Festival" by Gordon Jacob, and various Christmas selections.

The tall spruce tree near the door of the Eielson Building was decorated with Christmas lights and decorations this week. Wickersham Hall had a Christmas themed open house on Sunday. The fifth annual Christmas Ball will be on Friday December 11<sup>th</sup>. A popular Alaskan orchestra, "The Counts", will provide the music. The annual Christmas Ball for faculty and staff has been set for December 26<sup>th</sup>.

Poet and author Joseph Langland presented a program Saturday on the subject of one contemporary vice. Mr. Langland discussed the direction of modern poetry. He also read from his works and met informally with students and faculty members.

### THIRD EPISODE: Musk Ox Herd

ANNOUNCER: Bob Olsen

Professor John J. Teal Jr. is the supervisor of the university's musk ox project. Musk oxen are edible, provide high quality wool,

The twenty three musk oxen of the herd live in a corral on the north end of the university campus. Musk oxen like cold temperatures. Teal said the musk oxen were very happy when the temperatures dropped to -55 degrees last week.

The musk ox domestication project started on Nunivak Island last October when Teal and his helpers gathered up the first group using methods ranging from roping to tackling. The animals were flown from Nunivak on an airplane.

The musk oxen drink formula twice a day from gallon buckets equipped with large nipples. They play a rough game with a medicine ball and some even follow one of the herders around like puppies.

The dehorning of the muskoxen last week was supervised by Dr. Gordon Keown, chief of the department of large animal surgery at Washington State Veterinary College. Before the operation, the animals were weighed, average weights of the 6-month old animals being around 230 pounds. When mature, males will weigh about 1,000 pounds and females will weigh about 750.

For dehorning, the animals were put into a special chute, the nerves were deadened and one of the herders climbed on the animals back to keep it still during the operation. About 30 minutes was required for each animal.

An exceptional set of horns may have a spread of 28 to 29 inches. Musk oxen have the longest hair of any animal in America. The hair varies from about 6 inches on the back to 2 feet on the neck, chest and sides. This skirt of hair is ankle length and may brush the ground.

The purpose of the project is to determine the feasibility of raising musk oxen for commercial purposes in Alaska, including meat and fiber. Muskox under wool is considered to be finer quality than even cashmere. If proven feasible, musk oxen could lead to a new industry for many of northern Alaska's Natives.

### FOURTH EPISODE: Christmas Vacation

ANNOUNCER: Bob Olsen

The University of Alaska is in the midst of its holiday break. Students are studying and resting. There are many activities on campus. The university's collegiate sized swimming pool is open daily. There are movies five days each week. There is a special tea honoring international students and faculty. A Christmas Eve party for students will be held. The snack bar in the student union is open.

### FIFTH EPISODE: Foreign Languages

ANNOUNCER: Bob Olsen

German class at university of Alaska is taught completely in German from the first semester onward. Dr. Bruce Gordon, head of the department of linguistics and foreign languages describes the method as saturation. Students are drilled in formulaic conversations to encourage automatic responses. This is the audio-lingual method, and differs greatly from the more common analytical method. By next fall, the university hopes to have a fully equipped language laboratory in operation. Many jobs in government and business are available to those who speak a foreign language.

President Wood and the faculty and staff of the university wish you a joyous holiday season.

SIXTH EPISODE: Educational Purpose is Research for the Geophysical Institute

ANNOUNCER: Bob Olsen

The geographical location of the university offers the University of Alaska research opportunities not found at any other American university and at few places in the world. The Geophysical Institute has earned an international reputation. The institute was born in 1948 when the Board of Regents authorized land for it on campus. In 1950, its present building was completed and it has since experienced constant expansion. The roster of staff contains names of scientists known throughout the world. Many more internationally known scientists visit the institute each year to participate in research, teach and observe. The institute is located favorably in the auroral zone. The prime task of the institute is the study of auroral zone phenomena like the aurora, magnetic storms, ionospheric disturbances, polar blackouts, and disruption of radio communications. Glaciology, meteorology, seismology, and volcanology are also being studied.

During the International Geophysical Year, equipment was operated at Barrow, Kotzebue, Bettles, Shell Creek, Big Delta, Farewell, North Way, King Salmon, and at Unalaska.

Snow accumulation measurements have been made at Mt. Wrangell, a 14,000 foot site that has also been used for cosmic ray investigation.

In connection with international studies, the institute has also established stations in Oamaru on the south island of New Zealand, Macquarie Island in the South Pacific, and the Boothia Peninsula of Northern Canada.

The institute also has a program of observations conducted on the National Science Foundation ship, *Eltanin*, which cruises the South Pacific, the south Atlantic and Antarctic waters. Institute scientist Victor Hessler is currently in Antarctica.

Most observations are ground based, but rocket soundings are made and coordinated jointly with other scientific groups.

The institute also provides graduate instruction.

SEVENTH EPISODE: The University Museum

ANNOUNCER: Bob Olsen

The Museum of the North has many exhibits concerning historic and prehistoric Alaska. The natural history exhibits include a huge Kodiak bear, caribou, reindeer, bison, moose, muskoxen, wolverine, fox, lynx, sea otter.

The paleontology exhibits include a woolly mammoth. Gold mining operations in Alaska have uncovered most of the Pleistocene age remains that are known today, the most common being the super bison, moose and caribou, prehistoric horse and smaller animals like rabbits and mice.

The museum began as a few cases of artifacts shown in 1922. They were in the office of Dr. Charles E. Bunnell, the university's first president. Major collections of archaeological materials from St. Lawrence Island and Pleistocene fossils from Interior Alaska were contributed by Dr. Otto Geist.

The museum is a unit of the University of Alaska and serves the student and research workers as a storehouse of reference materials. The exhibits are provided for the students and for the members of the general public.

The museum is a tourist attraction as well. Over 30,000 people visited the museum last year from 170 Alaska towns and villages, 45 foreign nations, and all of the United States and U.S. possessions. Fairbanks area students take field trips to the museum.

There are exhibits of prehistoric Eskimo and Indian artifacts. The collection from St. Lawrence Island gives evidence of prehistoric culture over 2,000 years old. The clothing, tools, boats, sleds of Native people are exhibited, including a large puppet from Point Hope.

Other items and exhibits include a complete set of 27 lithographs from Alaskan artist Fred Machetanz, many items from Alaska under the Russian rule of 1741-1867, harpoons for the days of Alaskan whaling and items from gold rush days.

There are also 100,000 items that cannot be exhibited due to a lack of space.