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Dedication of E.L. Bartlett Hall on October 18, 1969

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Bill Cashen welcomes the audience to the dedication of the E.L. Bartlett Hall. He speaks about Senator Bob Bartlett, who passed away 11 months ago, and for whom the new building will be named. The speaker introduces William A. O'Neill, president of the Board of Regents.

Mr. O'Neill thanks Bill Cashen for introducing him and in turn introduces an Alaskan State Senator, Mr. John Butrovich.

Mr. Butrovich acknowledges the audience and says he has known Bob Bartlett ever since the neighbor boy, Jimmy Verneti(?), took little John Butrovich by the hand and delivered him to his first grade class in Fairbanks and to the first grade teacher, Ms. Florence Smith. He recalls that in those days Bob Bartlett and his colleagues were the big kids and Mr. Butrovich and his colleagues were the small kids. Yet, they did manage to become acquainted.

Mr. Butrovich considers that Bartlett is synonymous with the Herrings, the Dilleys(??), the Smiths, the Russells, the Berglands- that is, the old timers of Fairbanks and interior Alaska. Mr. Butrovich thinks that back in those days, Fairbanks was the type of town that William Allan White would have liked to write about or Norman Rockwell would have like to paint.

Mr. Butrovich notes that Bill Cashen said that Mr. Bartlett's life spanned the dog team era and the jet era. Bartlett was a miner and a newspaperman. Back when there were only two daily newspapers in Fairbanks, *The Alaska Citizen*, run by J. Harman Caskey, and *The Fairbanks Daily News Miner*, run by W. F. Thompson. Mr. Butrovich speaks of his time working for the *News Miner* along with Lief Russel, Forbes Baker, Alaska Egan, who was Bill Egan's brother, and Jimmy Maroney.

Mr. Butrovich considers that Bartlett really found himself when he went to Washington to work with Tony Dimond. There was no question when Tony Dimond retired that Bob Bartlett would be his successor.

In 1954, Mr. Butrovich was invited to a group called Operation Statehood in Anchorage and joined on the urging of Bob Bartlett. After joining the group, Mr. Butrovich realized what a tough job Bartlett had, being a non-voting delegate to Congress.

After Alaska achieved statehood, it was a natural step for Bob Bartlett to be Alaska's U.S. Senator. Bob Bartlett was very successful at public relations.

Mr. Butrovich ends his speech. Another speaker asks Mrs. Bartlett, with the help of Mrs. Ray Reedy(?), Secretary of the Board of Regents, to unveil a bronze plaque that will be placed in the foyer of the building. The inscription on the plaque is read.

Mrs. Bartlett speaks. She thanks the audience and encourages the students of the university. Mrs. Bartlett unexpectedly donates a picture of Bob Bartlett taken during the first year of Alaska's statehood.

Mrs. Catherine Clark, a resident of the Bartlett Hall, then speaks. It was Mrs. Clark that helped choose the quote from Mr. Bartlett that is on the plaque and how she hopes it will inspire students.

William R. Wood, university president, is then introduced. He speaks of how pleased he is to have the building and thanks the participants including Mrs. Bentley(?), Senator Gravel, President of the State Senate Brad Phillips, the architect Ed Crittendon(?) of Anchorage, friends of Bob Bartlett and students. He says Bartlett Hall is a tall building for Alaska, but it is puny compared to the stature of Bob Bartlett. He speaks of the inspiration students will receive from the hall.

Another man speaks, thanking visitors and inviting them to help themselves to refreshments on the second and third floors of Bartlett Hall and to attend the library open house.