

Call number: 01-79-06 PT. 2 SIDE A

Name: Local Government

Date and place: 10/17/1976, University of Alaska Fairbanks

Summary created by: Varpu Lotvonen

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Notes: Original on cassette tape. Master copy on CD.

[Recording starts with a man asking another man to comment.] The man's voice talks about regional affairs agency and now having boroughs well under way. Talking about participating in Juneau city assembly and about city and borough systems.

6:13 Another person thanks Mike and talks about his role in local government committee. His position was preceded by Walton Cooper from University of Virginia. Talking about local government article and city-borough relationships in Fairbanks.

8:20 When the speaker came to Alaska years later, he only went to Fairbanks. [Unclear talking.]

11:00 Small city officials complain about being ripped off by Seattle bond attorneys. Paul Ylvisaker is mentioned. [Unclear talking about local government article.]

15:34 Mr. [John] Havalock is invited to speak. He says that he wrote the article [?] and in hindsight, the article is [unclear] and only the reapportionment article has been left with worse state of shamble by 20 years of experience. [Talking about establishing difference between borough and city and the borough act.]

18:18 John thinks that there was a human failure although the people who wrote the local government article were very able. They didn't talk enough about what they meant by borough and city. [Talks about problematic provisions.]

21:30 There's nothing in the local government article that reflects the interests of Alaska's rural population and Alaska Natives weren't much involved in the political process at the time. Local government was seen as something imposed by white man. [Talking a bit about organizing the North Slope Borough.]

23:40 [Talking about funding the units, and forming a tax base for funding local government. Natural resource development taxes should be sufficient.]

25:52 A man's voice addresses John Havalock and wonders why he didn't address the exclusivity of power. [Talking about power in local government.] Another man says that the irreconcilable differences were built into the article and not discussed. They were unintentional. [Discussion.]

28:06 [Unclear talking.] The speaker was thinking of Mr. Martin's [sp?] comments on each borough being very different. That made it hard to write something that would fit boroughs all over Alaska. [Discussion on unification.]

30:38 Another man talks about coming up with name 'borough'. One of the delegates didn't like that name. [Unclear talking.]

32:53 The man raises question about whether unified local government is a borough or a city and discusses it. [Partially unclear.]

36:30 Mr. [Victor] Fisher asked why [unclear]. [More talking about local government powers.] Local government committee overlooked some of the [unclear] that developed because of the local government article. [Unclear talking about phasing out cities.] 20 years might be too short a time for evaluating whether or not "it" has worked. [Unclear talking.]

39:13 Native leaders were complaining about students of the communities having to travel to Mt. Edgecombe to go to high school and to upper level grade school.

Jack Coghill was trying to prevail upon the legislature that the state legislature should be the main governing body for areas that weren't in boroughs. [More talking about people forming into boroughs.]

[Another man, Ben, comments something.]

42:03 [The previous speaker continues somewhat unclear talking.] The speaker says that he feels that local government article serves [unclear] and that maybe if they would do it again, [unclear].

45:37 [Another man gives an unclear comment.]

[Another man says something unclear.]

48:32 Yet another man wants to comment on what Jim said about people from villages leaving and not returning. Dr. Skarland's article was that if they were

educated locally, they would be more apt to remain in villages. Lots of people return, though.

Art Hippler begins a comment but the recording ends suddenly.

[End of the recording.]