

Call Number: 02-00-62-10 PT. 2 SIDE A

Pioneers of Alaska Convention on October 13-16, 1960 in Seward, Alaska.

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Notes: Original on 5 inch reel, copy on CD

The recording begins with Gore discussing the site of the 45th Annual Pioneers Convention. There is a vote and Anchorage is voted as being the location of the 45th Annual Convention. There is clapping. Gore says the Ketchikan group is very cooperative. There is laughing. In the invitation there were dates set forth. Secretary Schaeffer announces that the days are September 28th, 29th, 30th, and October 1st, 1961. There is no argument for those dates. Gore says he is waiting for a motion to set the dates. A man makes a motion to accept the dates. The move is seconded. The dates are confirmed for the convention. There is a recess. Harry Hughes gets on the microphone and says that it is the end of the second half of the second day.

The recording resumes at 3:50 of the recording. Gore says the first thing he wishes to take up is the recommendation that the pioneers find a safe deposit for the Pioneer's records. Joe [unintelligible] is asked to come forward because of his experience with records. Joe begins speaking into the microphone and says this is a grand opportunity for him to have heard and preserve the documents that the pioneers have. Joe says he was with the Arctic Institute of North America and he learned that there may be a secret in a little piece of documents that can be heard. He says that the documents the Pioneers have are a part of a story about the survival of the fittest. Hidden in the records are the ideas. When Joe heard the chair make the announcement Joe got thrilled. Joe says he feels so strongly that the records should go to the University of Alaska. The U of A is a state institution and pioneer institution of higher learning. Everything fits in. Joe is also thrilled that the records get saved so they don't get lost. Joe says he would like to move at this time through the recommendation of the chair that the documents get preserved to the University of Alaska. There is clapping and also a seconded motion.

At 7:38 of the recording President Gore announces that it has been seconded that the documents of the Pioneers be stored at the University of Alaska so that they may be available for future generations. A man in the crowd speaks up. He asks if the library is in a fire proof building and asks if the documents can be insured. Another man discusses Dr. Shayer and having Dr. Shayer do a tremendous job on the preliminary work of saving the records. The man says he believes the records should be cataloged before being turned over to the University of Alaska. Another man says that the records should be kept in a fireproof building. A man says he has in his own possession, four fireproof filing cabinets and ten fireproof safes. Gore says he needs to examine the situation. The motion, while not fully extended to that respect, must take into consideration that the Grand Recorder and Grand Secretary should be responsible for the records. This particular motion would require that the grand recorder and grand

secretary and trustee must be involved with the resolution of the records. Gore says he does agree that the best possible place is a safe place. A man says that he would like to present from the resolution committee, resolution number four. He asks the Grand Secretary to read the resolution. Resolution four is resolution of thanks. The thanks is to all who have made the convention a success. A special thanks goes to Igloo 9 and auxiliary 9 from Seward. Also thanks to the merchants and citizens of Seward for their hospitality. To the members of the American legion auxiliary for the lovely luncheons. To the American legion and the Seward club for their cocktail party. To the city officials cooperating and making the convention a success. For those who arrange the banquet. To the members of the Ketchikan pioneer band for their fine music. To the citizens of Seward who have helped members of Ketchikan who have suffered an accident in Seward. The resolution is signed by Barbara Oswald, Audrey Lofface [?], Dora Sweeney, Charles Jones, Willem Shelhorne [?], and WC Arnold. Gore says that is not a resolution that pertains to the policy of the grand igloo. The resolution is accepted.

At 18:12 Gore says that he has other announcements. At the Grand Ball tonight, the auxiliary will have coat check for overcoats and hats. He is also expected to announce that the members of the auxiliary can wear their costumes at the cocktail party. He also wants to announce that there will be a box for donations of Brother Jack [inaudible]. A man says he already has \$80 from the box. A man says that a note was handed to him a couple minutes ago and he will read it. He says he would like to move that the incoming Grand President appointed committee investigate the possibility of the pioneers of Alaska and auxiliaries operating their own home and direct back at the next annual meeting in 1961. Gore says that the announcement also is not a matter of policy. The motion was made by Sid [?] and seconded by [inaudible]. A man named Bob Gore from Ketchikan asks what the thinking is behind the motion. He asks if they intend to not put anyone in the Pioneer Home of Sitka now. A woman in the background says something regarding many pioneers...[inaudible]. She says many of the organizations do operate the home. The majority of her speech is inaudible. Gore says he will have the motion carried.

Secretary Schaeffer begins discussing the baskets of flowers at 26:13 of the recording. She says the flowers were the compliments of the Alaska shop with the words Welcome Pioneers. Bob Gore was appointed by Arthur Woodrow for a special standing committee and his report and President Gore asks the Grand Secretary to read the report. The report is from Robert Gore from Ketchikan Igloo 16. The subject of the report is availability of emergency medical funds. The Igloo 16 introduces a resolution asking that legislation be introduced at the state level as a provision for pioneers who are unable to meet the conditions of medical care. Grand President Arthur Lutro appointed the writer as a investigator of one to see the possibility of instituting further action on the state level if necessary. Robert Gore discussed the possibilities with the secretary of the Department of Welfare in Alaska and a local agent in charge of the Ketchikan welfare office. He was informed that such funds for emergency medical funds are available on application from the department of welfare when such application is substantiated. They were advised to make the application for those without medical care. There is reluctance from members of pioneers who believe that asking for funds is the same as asking for charity. In order to dispel the idea that the benefits are charity and to point out that they are in fact payments, arrangements were made for the local representative of the welfare department to explain the department and disbursement of funds. This was a well-attended meeting and quite successful because

members felt at ease talking to the representative. The wish to encourage members to apply for benefits for which they are entitled. They next arranged for a representative of the social security program to meet with the igloo and discuss the eligibility requirements. Many of the members found that due to the changes in the law, they were eligible for benefits they didn't not previously realize. Consequently it was their suggestion that all igloos set up a program for their members that would explain the benefits their members are entitled to under state and federal laws. Submitted by Robert R. Gore.

At 31:30 of the recording President Gore says thank you for the report. A man steps up and says he might elaborate a little bit on the report. He says they really got something accomplished for some of the members that they had problems with. They have a few of them down there that are too stubborn to ask for help. Some were living on boats in the boat bay with no food and in need of medical care. The Pioneers therefore had to try and help them help themselves. They were quite successful in bringing the people out in the open where they would go and talk to the social security people and welfare people. The money is available. They feel they are asking for charity. They felt the igloo did an awful lot for the older members and he does recommend that other igloos may have the same problem as Ketchikan. He says the pioneers are entitled to these things by law. He says since the pioneers have started cooperating with the welfare people that the calls into the welfare office have increased quite a bit. He says the social security laws have changed quite a bit. When brother Woodrow asked him to take over the matter and see what he can do he got quite a bit done in Ketchikan. He says for example that many presidential candidates have come up with the idea of helping out the old timers. There is clapping.

At 35:54 President Gore says that the man is a chip off of the old block. Gore asks if there is any correspondence. Mrs. Schaeffer begins by sharing a letter stating that their thoughts are with the pioneers as they deliberate. Best wishes are extended to both outgoing and incoming officers. The letter is from Igloo 1 and auxiliary 1 from Nome, Alaska. There is clapping. Gore says he would like to express his appreciation for Harry Hughes for the recording system he set up. The recording of course takes a record as people say. Gore says the recording is going to be advantageous. There is clapping for Harry Hughes. Gore would also like to thank the people who put on the enjoyable motion picture. Bob's report will be placed on file.

At 39:00 the trustees are asked to report their report. Gore says he is going to take prerogative and report progress. Gore asks who the chairman of the trustees is. Axel Edmund, and Sal [inaudible] are the one year. Two year is Bob Corn and Axel Edmund. Three year is Howard Stadley [?] and Max McGillery [?]. Bob Corn and Max McGillery were given a copy and a report as to what the pioneers have on hand. They know that the grand pioneers have it so that will help their report. At this time Gore says he wants to congratulate the Grand Igloo on the election of the next Grand Officers. He says he knows everyone will be pleased with their work. Carl Aufstead [?] of faithful and will get things done. There is no reason for him to change the way he is doing things. At the same time he wants to congratulate Carl on being the Grand President. He says Carl has some work to do and the longer the conference goes on the more work Carl will have to do. Carl was chosen to the highest office that the Pioneers can give to any member. It is something that he will always cherish just as Gore does. It can only happen once in a

lifetime and it cannot happen to all men. The honor is high. He wishes all of the elected officers the best wishes.

At 43:34 President Gore says that they have some resolutions which have been filed long enough to be voted upon. Secretary Schaeffer is going to read the resolutions by title. Resolution 1 posted by Grand President Gore is read. Resolution 1 is motioned and seconded. Resolution is passed. Resolution 2 posted by Igloo 15 Anchorage is read. Resolution is motioned and seconded. Resolution is passed and adopted. The recording ends.