

Call Number: 02-00-62-10 PT. 4

Pioneers of Alaska Conference 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 President Gore addressing the pioneers. He says he has some announcements to make. The first announcement is that last night some lady lost a material of clothing. He says he wishes to acknowledge the presence of the honorable Senator Gruening. He discusses donations and the fact that there is still money coming in. He says he would like to acknowledge the donations of Bob Reeves. He says he visited the injured pioneer [Jack], who recently broke his leg in a slip and fall, and he is getting along in good shape. He doesn't look any different than when he does around home. Gore says something inaudible about Max McGillery [?] and Sam Young that causes an uproar of laughter in the crowd. He wants to call their attention to a program at 7pm that is a banquet at the Seward Grade School. He says his people are all water people and discusses merchant seaman. He says a long time ago when he was an author they were in Manilla [?]. He discusses kids who were going to get dropped off from Manilla [?] to San Francisco. There were three kids. He mentions Judge Schumack [?] and the need for an assistant historian. He mentions the current Historian Dr. Chase and how he is a wonderful pioneer. Gore says Dr. Chase might be obliged to resign. He says he is going to pass from the motion made from the floor that the next grand president will have a historian to appoint. There is a vote for the motion and then it is seconded. The motion is carried. President Gore thanks Kyle for all of his cooperation.

At 8:50 of the recording Gore says he thinks there is a new resolution that needs to be voted on. The Grand Secretary is summoned to the microphone. The Grand Secretary says that he would like to make an announcement for all of those who came on the flight from Fairbanks to Seward. Those who are not going back on the flight that leaves at 730 am the following morning be sure to register with the Grand Secretary so the pioneers know who is going and not going back. Gore asks if anyone else wishes to make an announcement. A man mentions a bus leaving the following day for Anchorage. He steps up to the microphone to make the announcement. His name is Stan. He says that the Ketchikan group is going to get a special bus to go to Anchorage. Anybody wishing to go on the bus with the group should be ready by 830am and they will eat at the road house out of town. A man named Sully makes an announcement at 1123 of the recording. He says the banquet is marked for 7pm and the committee would be very happy if everybody would arrive at 7pm. There is a caterer. A woman says she still has her ticket stub and she wants a chance to win a prize that is being raffled. Stan tells the people to bring their ticket stub and give it to the attendants. There are no more announcements.

President Gore says that the conference is getting to the last couple of lines of the program of what they are supposed to do. He asks if there is any unfinished business. He then calls up Joe [?] to step to the microphone. Joe says that yesterday he was impressed by Bob Gore's research and what he had found out and assessed it to the group about help. He was impressed because laws are constantly being amended and improved to meet the conditions of the day. At yesterday's memorial service he saw a great deal of suffering from people that didn't understand. Certainly the pioneers should attempt to everyway avoid any suffering that members of the group and their friends might have. He says he is taking the time for the people to call upon their federal people and see what age there is for them. He says there is so much and he goes along with people who feel they are beggars. He says the benefits are for people who deserve them and they are not handouts. He says in writing to the civil service commission to find out when he was having retirement he put the question on whether he went back to get federal service he was shocked and amazed to learn that he had to come back for one year to qualify as a member of the retirement act he would increase his retirement by \$52 dollars a month. He says there are many things that are available to others and thanks the crowd. There is clapping.

At 16:20 he asks Harold what he thinks. Harold says he would like to tell the brother and sister pioneers that the federal government used the rights for the senior citizen organization to be formed. He says his government leader put up a request and in Ketchikan they have formed a senior citizens group. They are the first ones in Alaska to have completely formed and they have their charter and election of important issues. As soon as they pick up property they can go to the bank and barrow money. They can build factories to have work for senior citizens. He says he would like to see all the communities in Alaska get in on what they are doing. He thanks the listeners and walks away to the crowd clapping. President Gore asks if there are any more questions and a female in the back says something inaudible and then proceeds to step to the microphone. She says she would like to read from the bylaw constitution. She reads Page 5, article 2. The article is about elected presidents and delegates showing up to meetings and the voting process that entails.

At 21:45 of the recording President Gore says the next order of business is the installation of officers. President Gore says he will be installing Bob [inaudible] as the installing officer. Bob has appointed past Grand President [inaudible] as the Grand Acting Chaplain. Doris [?] is the acting Grand Secretary and Lee Richard Davis [inaudible]. A man in the crowd asks President Gore to mention Brother Paul Grant as the Sargent of Arms. President Gore says Grant has a lucky job. The gavel is slammed and there is a recess.

The recording resumes with a man addressing Grand President Gore and saying he was sent by past Grand President Bob [?] to ask today the officers of the Grand Igloo if the reports of the returning officers have been approved. If so, is the Igloo ready to complete the ceremony of installation? A man addresses Grand President Gore and says that he appears at the conference for the purpose of installing the officers. He asks the officers to vacate their chairs and take their position in the front seats. All previous officers are to vacate the stage and the newly elected officers are to come forward according to President Gore. Saul [?] is presented with the gavel. All of the officer-elects are in the forefront of the room to be installed. Saul asks Brother Gore to stand so he present the button that represents his time as past Grand President and a certificate which is a recognition of the service which he has

rendered. The certificate is an affirmation and representation of all the honors and privileges of past Grand Presidents. President Gore is asked to be seated. Saul asks the Grand Secretary to call the name of the Grand President-elect. Brother Carl Locksfeld is called. It is said that his duties are explained in Section 1, Article 4 of the constitution. Locksfeld is then asked to be seated. The names of the first and second Vice Presidents elect are then asked to be called. The Grand Secretary announces the name of James Jorgenson and Edward Sweeney. Saul announces that because of the confidence that the pioneers have shown in their Locksfeld, Jorgenson, and Sweeney's ability to fill the office it is their duty to do so. Their duties are defined in article 4 sections 2 and 3. The Grand Secretary is asked to call the name of the Grand Chaplain elect. Brother Saul Urie is announced. Brother Urie is announced as chosen to represent the organization and to remind them of religion. His opportunity for a wholesome opportunity will be met. Mr. Theo McKenna is then called upon and the Grand Secretary-elect. Mr. McKenna is addressed as having the responsibility of recording the proceedings of the Grand Igloo. His duties are defined in article 4, section 5 of the constitution. The grand treasurer elect is not here today but will be installed in Juneau at the next meeting of Igloo 6. The Grand Secretary is asked to call the name of the Grand Recorder-elect. Sister Linda Schaeffer is called upon. Sister Schaeffer is told that it will be the duty of the Grand Recorder to have all of the application materials in order. The process is explained thoroughly. She is asked to be seated. The Grand Sargent of Arms-elect is called upon. Brother Sam Young is called upon and told that his duties will be to prove all of those presents, preserve order, over summons and at all time to obey the commands of the Grand President. The Grand Trustee-elect for a three year term is called upon. The Grand Secretary calls the name of Brother W.F. Shellhorne. Brother Shelhorne is told that his duties are found in article 4, section 7. He is asked to be seated. Saul addresses the officers and congratulates them. The acting Grand Chaplain will now administer to obligation. He asks the elected officers to raise their right hand and repeat after him the following phrase: "I [Insert name here], do solemnly promise that I will perform the duties of the offices into which I am about to be installed until the end of the term for which I have been elected or until the installation of my successor. I will conform to all of the requirements of the constitution of the grand Igloo and will do all in my power to promote the best interests of the Order of the Pioneers of Alaska. All of this I promise to fulfill unless [unintelligible] by sickness or some horrible occurrence to the faithful performance I pledge my [inaudible] time." The gavel is dropped. The Brother Sargent of Arms is asked to meet the newly elected officers at the stage. There is a long silence. The gavel is punched. The chaplain is asked to invoke the divine blessing. The chaplain proceeds to invoke the divine blessing. The gavel is summoned again. Saul declares through the power invested in him the officers of the pioneers of Alaska as newly and legally installed. He says the officers are now placed in full charge of the Grand Igloo of Pioneers of Alaska. Newly elected President Locksfeld thanks Brother D'armond and says he also wishes to thank the remained of the installing officers. The gavel is struck relatively weakly by President Locksfeld compared to previous slams and there is subsequent clapping.

A man begins a prepared speech by stating the day of October 16th, 1960 in Seward, Alaska. The statement seems to be a diary of some sort and describes him sitting in his hotel room on a bright sunny morning. He is writing his first speech. Little did he dream when he arrived in Alaska on October 18th, 1922 that nearly 38 years later at the very same hotel the called the Van Gilder, that he would become a pioneer and then in this very same town be elected to the highest office in the pioneers of Alaska. Nor

did he realize when Ed Sweeney and he were young bucks in Juneau that they would both be elected officers in the same session. He addresses his brothers and sisters and says to forget the dreaming and come back to reality. This the most singular honor that has been bestowed upon him. He thanks those who have made the honor possible. There will always be a soft spot in his heart for the town of Seward. Before getting on with the regular closing order of business he would like to thank Auxiliary 9 and Igloo 9 of Seward for their most wonderful job of arranging for the conference. He could thank individual members but the way it was carried on it could only be done by a team in the small organization. He hopes that the next convention will be halfway as good. He would like to stress the increasing of membership the same way past Grand President Arthur Luthro stressed. He felt that every eligible pioneer should become a pioneer. Therefore Locksfeld directs the Grand Secretary to write all of the Grand Igloo auxiliaries to have at one of the meetings in March 1961 in Art Luthro's memory. He hopes all of the auxiliaries and igloos will get behind it and increase membership.

At 41:20 of the recording Locksfeld says that there are several directives that he had several directives through ballots and the first was a third member of the Ketchikan committee revising the constitution and bylaws. New issues of the igloo and auxiliary rituals are discussed. He has appointed Sam Young of Igloo 16 of Ketchikan as Secretary. Locksfeld hopes brother Lester will continue to advise and help them with the job that they have. Locksfeld has been directed to appoint an assistant to the Grand Historian. He says he is appointing Al Johnson of Igloo 15 of Anchorage as the assistant historian. Brother Al has gathered more books and pamphlets of the Alaskan catalog than any other individual. He is also writing a book about George Carmack and him finding gold in the Klondike. He is a member of the Cook Inlet historical society and Locksfeld is sure that Johnson will get lots of help in his undertakings. Locksfeld says he will see that all of the records are put into fire proof filing cabinets or safes so that they will be taken care of. He has also been directed to make an appointment with Igloo 6 of Juneau members to put the pressure on the Juneau Coast Guard that Pioneers have a bond with to put the pressure [inaudible]. On that Ed Sweeney is appointed. There is also the directive the appointment of a committee of trustees to collect money and property of debunked igloos and auxiliaries. That is resolution number one to be included in the constitution of bylaws. At the present time Locksfeld believes on this committee he will appoint Frank Young Sr. of Igloo four of Fairbanks as Chairman. The two other trustees attending the convention will also be on the committee which is Robert Corn of Cordova and Frank Dehorne [?] of Anchorage.

At 45:45 of the recording Locksfeld says he has been authorized to look into the feasibility of a new Pioneer home that will be operated by the Pioneers of Alaska. On the committee he appointed someone from Juneau, Ed Sweeney, who will be chairman. Bob Corn will be a trustee. Wayne Irwin of Seward Igloo 9. He asks if there are any other directives. He asks if he has overlooked anything. The recording stops and resumes at 47:11. Locksfeld says he will now give the annual password from the session of the next session of the Grand Igloo. He says he has selected the name of a man he greatly admires. He is also a past Grand President of the Grand Igloo. Presidents of both auxiliaries and igloos will please come forward and he will give them the annual password. If the presidents are not present the delegates at large are asked to come forward. Locksfeld announces that any of igloos or auxiliaries that are not represented at the convention, the secretary is directed to give the annual password.

Locksfeld asks President Gore if he has a presentation to make for the badges. Gore says as much as he dislikes giving up the Grand President badge he is forced to under rule. Gore says it gives him great pleasure to give the badge. Gore and Locksfeld thank each other. Locksfeld says that he would like to make one announcement. After the close there are several people who would like to get pictures of the grand officers. He says if there is no further business he will proceed to close. He addresses the pioneers and says that they are about to close the convention. He says to remember the principles of courage, industry, and kindness. Forget all differences that may have arisen during the session and seeks the strength and bond of brotherhood that shall unite all mankind. The gavel is struck and the chaplain is to give the closing prayer. The Sargent of Arms then gives the ritual to the chaplain. The prayer is given by the chaplain. After the prayer a woman is heard in the background saying that the glasses she has in her hands are not hers. Locksfeld says he would like to make one further announces: "These are not Thea's glasses." Locksfeld then asks the sergeant of Arms to retire the flags of the country. The flag is saluted. Locksfeld declares the 44th Convention closed. He announces the next convention in the last weekend of September in Anchorage in 1961. The gavel is slammed and whistling and clapping ensues. The recording ends.