

H78-78

Bill Cashen

Fairbanks, Alaska

1974

Unidentified speaker addresses an audience at a Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce meeting. He talked about picking up Dr. and Mrs. Patty from the airport. Dr. Patty had made a comment about the size of the school when he first came to Fairbanks in 1922. There were six students and six faculty members when the school started. Dr. Bunnell would always have everything approved by his board of trustees. Unidentified speaker reads Dr. Bunnell's recommendation to hire Dr. Patty as a faculty member. Dr. Patty later became the third president of the college. The president would have to go to the board of trustees to pay the bills. When they ran out of money they would borrow money from the board of trustees. Bill Cashen reads a sample of bills from the university from 1923. The speaker introduces Dr. and Mrs. Patty and Dr. and Mrs. Moore. He explains why Dr. Wood was not at the luncheon. Dorothy Jane Wood and Bill Wood are introduced. Dr. Robert W. Hyatt and his family are introduced. Unidentified speaker introduces the speaker of the day, Bill Cashen. Bill said that he has served under the first five presidents of the university. He has written a biography about Dr. Bunnell. He said that none of the presidents hired him, but none of them fired him either. Dr. Wood said he was part of the original land grant. He was a student from 1933-1937. Bill Cashen said Dr. Bunnell had scholarships and used one of them for Bill. Dr. Bunnell hired him as a janitor as well as Bill O'Neill, Chuck Herbert, and Pat O'Neill. He worked as chauffeur and tells a story about driving Dr. Bunnell to town and then leaving him to find his own way home. He describes himself as a so-so student. He was put on the flunk list once because of his French class. Ivar Skarland was also a student at the same time that Bill was a student. Ivar was his tutor for French class which influenced Bill's accent. He graduated and moved to Anchorage. He came back to Fairbanks and joined the faculty at the university in 1942. Dr. Moore arrived in 1949. Bill was appointed dean of men by Dr. Moore. In 1953 Dr. Patty became president of the university. In 1960 Dr. Wood became president. Dr. Wood offered him the job of marshal, which did not come with a salary. He has enjoyed his 32 years at the university. He feels the university has been fortunate to have such dedicated presidents.

Unidentified speaker thanks Bill for his talk. He presents tokens to the past presidents on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Terris Moore (university president from 1949-1953) talks to the audience about his years at the university. He has been working as a consultant. Dr. Ernest Patty (university president from 1953-1960) talked about when he first arrived in Fairbanks in 1922. Many people did not believe that Fairbanks would survive at that time. He talked about recently visiting Barrow and the research facilities there. Dr. William Wood was president from 1960-1973. Dr. Robert W. Hiatt

was the current president of the University of Alaska. He talked about Bill Cashen's retirement.