

H97-175-38

Dedication of the University of Alaska gym building
October 20, 1962

Mr. Cashen [?] greets the crowd. Six months prior they broke ground for the gym. They were gathered to lay the cornerstone of the building. He identifies the special guests and speakers for the day, William R. Wood, Governor William A. Egan, Elmer E. Rasmuson, William A. O'Neill, Helen Atkinson, John J. Conway, Mrs. Warren N. Cuddy, Bud Harwood, Arthur J. Schyler, C.T. Albert, Howard A. Cutler, Charles K. Ray, Richard A. Byer, A. William Ordway, Betty S. Herrick, Ben Atkinson, Len Forrest, E.Keith Briggs, Linda C. Dahl, Charlotte Magnum and Ronald Z. Anderson. He asked Daniel K. Simmons to presented guests from the Masonic order: Jens Jorgenson, William Lefferson, T. Loftus, Howard Kuhns, C.D. Blatto, Forbes L. Baker, Elmer Landstrom, Curtis Johnson, Gordon Leir, Abraham Vey, Keith Morgan, Jonathan Wilson, Fred McGuire, Roy A.A. Larson, L.E. Huff and Edward Lee Kimble.

William Wood talks about the benefit of the new building. He said it was the first building financed by the state bonding program approved in the election of 1960. It is the purpose of the university to serve all of Alaska. He greeted Governor Egan.

Governor Egan addressed the crowd. He talked about the university growing in stature in the past few years. He talked about the importance of training the students of Alaska. He talked about the people of Alaska supporting the institute. The legislature has also supported the education system. He said the support of educational development is important for the future.

Unidentified speaker talked about July 4, 1915 which was the laying of the cornerstone of the Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines by the Tanana Lodge of the Free and Accepted Masons. July 1, 1949 was the laying of the cornerstone of the geophysical institute. He introduces Charles W. Johnson who will conduct the ritual for the laying of the cornerstone.

Charles W. Johnson introduces the grand chaplain who leads the group in prayer. Johnson talked about the custom of the Masons to lay cornerstones of buildings. They deposit within the cornerstone a copper box. The box contains memorial items: coins of the day, a copy of the News-Miner from 1962, Jensen's weekly, the Polar star, Denali, Nanook news, Alaska alumni list, 2 ROTC shoulder patches, cadet guide, unit patch, UAF decal, basketball handbook, first aid handbook, recordings of the Alaska flag song, university fight song and alma mater song, fact sheet on the 1960 bond election, copy of a letter sent to all candidates for state office by the alumni executive, copy of the sample ballot of November 8, 1960, copy of a report by Frederick H. Boyle about a gym at UAF, faculty bulletin naming the committees for the dedication ceremony of the gymnasium, copy of the program of the cornerstone laying ceremony, copy of the Farthest north collegian, program for the rededication ceremony for the original cornerstone on the University of Alaska campus, photograph of the original cornerstone laying ceremony from July 4, 1915, picture in history of the Grand Master of Masons Charles W. Johnson, copy of the roster of the members of the Tanana Lodge 162, copy of the address of the Grand Order, 1962-63 UAF catalog, program log for the opening day of KUAC, gold souvenir dollar issued when Alaska became the 49th state, progress pictures of the construction of the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building up until the

laying of the cornerstone, copy of the proposed budget for the University of Alaska for 1963-64, and a copy of the program for the groundbreaking ceremony which occurred April 1962.

The cornerstone is laid according to the custom of the fraternity. The cornerstone is consecrated. Elmer R. Rasmuson is presented a silver trowel from Tanana Lodge 162. Charles W. Johnson proclaims that the cornerstone has been laid correctly. Forbes Baker addresses the crowd. He talked about the first cornerstone laid on the campus of the University of Alaska on July 4, 1915. It was the destiny of the stone to never be a part of any buildings. After disappearing it was retrieved and given a place of honor on the memorial plaza which is a monument to early pioneers. He talked about the new gymnasium being the first building to be erected on the UAF campus under a general obligation bond of the state of Alaska. He talked about the symbolism of the cornerstone and the responsibility of the university. The grand chaplain gives a benediction.

University of Alaska Fairbanks Buildings History.

College buildings Alaska Fairbanks History.

Gymnasiums Alaska Fairbanks History.

Cornerstone laying Alaska Fairbanks

110 2 Freemasons Alaska Fairbanks.

Cashen, William R. |q (William Robert), |d 1914-1981.

Baker, Forbes L., 1893-1985.

Wood, William Ransom, |d 1907-2001.