

U-A Commencement Speaker

Anderson Says University Yeast for Alaska's Growth

Senator Clinton P. Anderson told graduating seniors at the University of Alaska today and a gymnasium filled with guests that he had no fear for the future of Alaska.

He said the University of Alaska would provide the yeast that would cause the state to grow and develop.

"Alaskans are tied to decisions made Outside. Instead of a bright and venturesome development of vast untapped resources, Alaskans too often are caught in the dying agonies of gold mining and the inefficiency of canneries with antiquated equipment, fishing boats with outmoded gear.

"Alaskans too often live with a haphazard, sporadic economy supported by irregular injections of federal money."

Anderson went on to say that Congress had made it clear it will pay its share but Alaska must share in every endeavor.

The university, he said, had the responsibility:

1. To provide studies and develop talent needed by business and government.
2. To provide the cultural atmosphere, the intellectual yeast and the economic benefits which a great University can bring.
3. And to itself — to respond to and take full advantage of the special scientific and cultural challenges presented by its location at the gateway of the Arctic and the keystone of the Pacific.

The future of the state depends upon how well this mission is fulfilled, he concluded.