

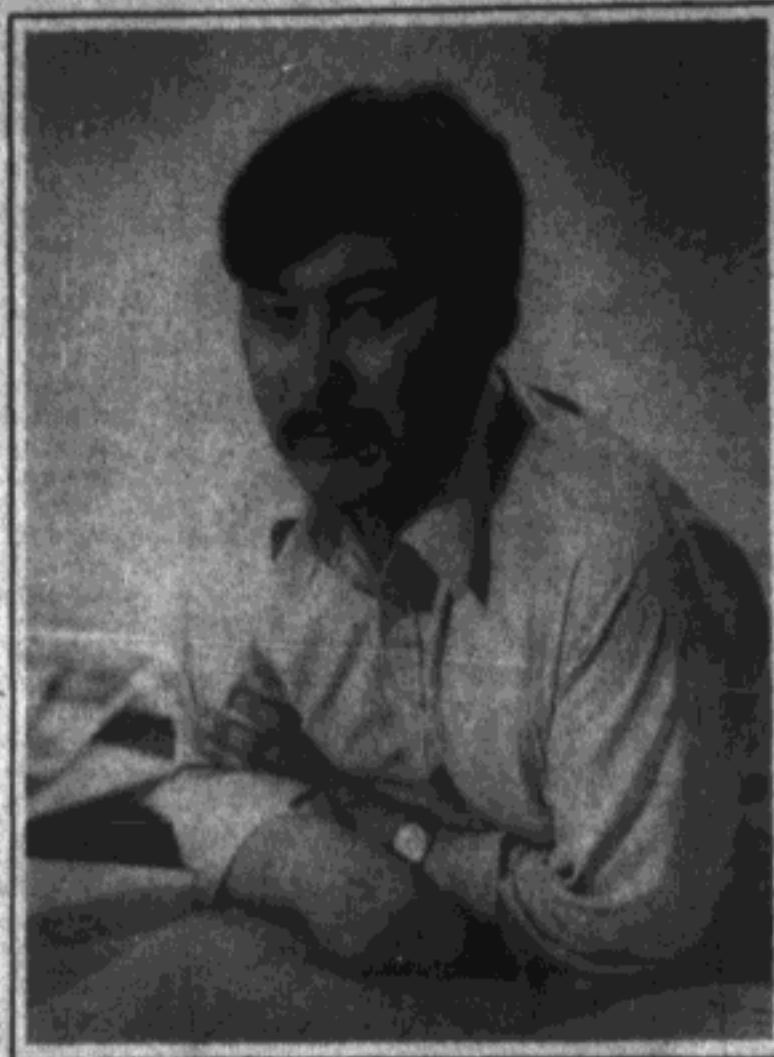
A TIME FOR RECOGNITION

A Special Message

from

Eugene Brower

Mayor of the North Slope Borough



There are two persons whose records of performance in the 12th Alaska State Legislature deserve the special acknowledgement of all Alaskans: Senator Frank Ferguson, founder and chairman of the Bush Caucus, and Al Adams, Chairman of the House Finance Committee. The special qualities of leadership and dedication of these two men have won the recognition of their colleagues in the Legislature and merit the same recognition from the people of the State.

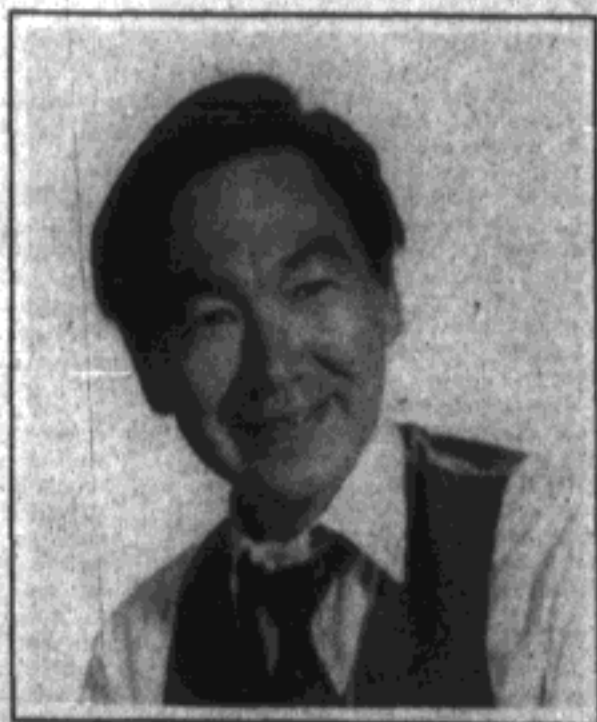
Senator Ferguson is best known for his creation of the Bush Caucus, which brought together a coalition of Alaskan legislators, including those from the Northwest and the Southeast, and even some from Fairbanks and Anchorage. Representative Adams was the first freshman legislator to chair the powerful House Finance Committee, and his efforts to reduce state spending during his first session were a remarkable demonstration of his leadership qualities.

The efforts of these men have been directed not at just benefiting their rural constituents, but at improving the quality of self-government throughout Alaska. At a time when the efforts of large interest groups in the legislature tend to submerge the needs of local government, their voices have restored a measure of balance to the state. Through their efforts, needed revenues have come to countless villages and cities which had suffered many years of neglect at the hands of federal and state government.

Both legislators have given special attention to the local control of capital improvement projects allocated to local governments in state revenue-sharing programs. This local participation in the designation of projects and contractors represents a new level of self-government that gives all Alaskans more influence in the choices that affect their lives.

Special note must be made of their support for the State Subsistence Priority Law, which has come under vicious attack by those who do not understand the economics of rural Alaska. This law represents a realistic balance of rural and urban demands on fish and wildlife resources. Overturning this law will seriously jeopardize the economic survival of many Alaskan villages.

Frank Ferguson and Al Adams, we thank you for your efforts in behalf of self-government and the expansion of democracy in every corner of the State! We wish you well in your future efforts and promise you our earnest support!



Representative Al Adams



Senator Frank Ferguson