

Alaska Statehood Commission
Oral History Project

H32-19 ✓

Janice "Tillie" Reeve
June 30, 1981
Claus-M. Naske
Anchorage, AK

Minutes / Counter

.30	10	Arrival in Ak, marriage to Bob Reeve.
4.17	78	Wk'd for Road Commission, under initials only to hide female identity for hiring purposes.
5.42	99	"Tillie the Toiler" origin of her name.
6.25	111	Involvement in Republican Party.
8.31	140	Party organization was very loose. She worked through women's clubs.
10.25	167	She considered statehood too much for Alaska, but followed party line.
11.49	182	Finest people to run state were too busy, Ak. ends up with lawyers and others w/ no idea of business practices.
13.24	202	Walter Hickel best governor, knew how to handle money.
13.51	208	Territory was financially ready for statehood, but not mentally.
15.42	230	Above reasons kept her from endorsing statehood, but once it went, it went.
16.59	244	Republican party fell apart after statehood.
18.28	261	Businessmen elected to Anchorage City Council were great. "If it weren't for politics, the state and country would be great to live in."
19.14	269	Fed/Ak bargain--not really broken, state didn't really make its choice. State gov't was slack.
21.30	293	Never felt like second class citizen.
24.36	324	Never resented taxation w/out representation.

- 25.44 335 State now is part of "whole sad Federal government business."
- 26.23 340 On benefits of statehood, well, oil would have come anyway. Fed's would have managed it better.
- 27.38 352 (Naske) Anchorage residents were forced to form own government, pushed out of the nest.
- 28.17 358 There could be no return to Territorial days with all the people here now. Bad people have come with the good.
- 29.25 368 She's glad prosperity is concentrated, and will leave the rest of the state alone.
- Side B
- .30 11 Legislature does well in slow growth periods, bad in last ten years.
- 1.37 32 Assessment of governors; Egan good, Hickel best ever, Miller, not enough training, Hammond, out of his league.
- 4.59 88 Candidates often unqualified.
- 6.11 107 Misrepresentation at polls major problem.
- 9.23 152 Never seen that much interaction b/wn Natives and whites besides those in Valdez who were same as everyone else.
- 10.57 173 Land Claims--Natives more militant after statehood. Doubts they really had claims, were full citizens, why not act like other citizens.
- 14.30 216 Native investments have been good for state.
- 15.20 226 Summary.
- 17.20 248 She finds unions frightening.
- 17.49 254 Sense of freedom exists here.

This file is part of the Alaska Statehood Commission Oral History Project.

For more information on this and related interviews see also:

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