

FULL FRAME

Sculptor Joan Bugbee Jackson perfectly captured the energy and purposefulness of the university's first president. Charles E. Bunnell began as the first leader at the Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines in 1921, but by the time he retired 18 years later, his school of six students had become a much larger institution with a new name: the University of Alaska.

Bunnell was widely admired by students, many of whom regarded him as having played a pivotal role in their lives. He could also be dictatorial and a less-than-congenial colleague. Among other professional tiffs, Bunnell engaged in a long-running feud with James Wickersham, who had been instrumental in establishing the college. Everyone, however, respected his dedication to the university.



CHARLES E. BUNNELL
FIRST PRESIDENT
ALASKA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
AND SCHOOL OF MINES
UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA
1921-1939
JOAN BUGBEE JACKSON



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