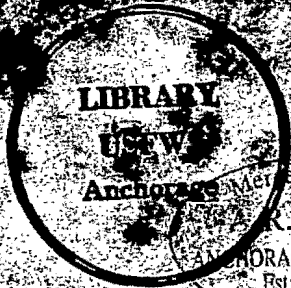




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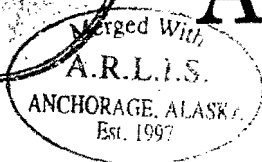
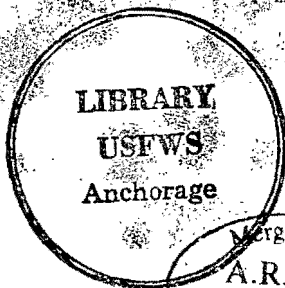


ALASKA

**INFORMATION ON THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA
TRANSMITTED BY THE UNITED STATES
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 73 (e) OF THE CHARTER .**

**Prepared by the Governor of Alaska in
Cooperation with The Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.
June 1948**

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Alaska Resources
Library & Information Services
Anchorage, Alaska

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Geography

With an area of 586,400 square miles (land and water), Alaska is the largest peninsula of the North American continent and somewhat larger than the combined areas of the states of Texas, California and Montana. Bounded on the north by the Arctic Ocean and on the south and southwest by the Pacific Ocean, Alaska's southeast section -- the Panhandle -- borders northern British Columbia. The Panhandle and the long strip of Aleutian Islands, reaching some 1,200 miles into the Pacific Ocean, give the Territory an unusually wide spread in longitude and latitude -- between the parallels of 51° and 72° North, and between the meridians of 130° West and 173° East.

There are three well-defined geographic zones in Alaska: the Pacific slopes -- a mountainous area, with cool summers, mild winters, and a vigorous plant growth, including heavy forests; Central Alaska -- a vast interior region which is characterized by gently-rolling uplands, and rugged mountains, light snowfall and rainfall, and light vegetation; and Arctic Alaska -- a region entirely north of the Arctic Circle, with a growing season of less than forty days, and, by consequence, a stunted vegetation.

Alaska offers a variety of climates. The average annual temperature varies from a high of 45 at Ketchikan to a low of 9.9 at Point Barrow. The average annual precipitation varies from a high of 176.9 at Latouche to a low of 4.34 at Barrow.

The January mean temperature of 20 in Anchorage is about the same as that in Dubuque, Helena, Concord and Milwaukee. The January mean of 33.6 in Ketchikan is about the same as Denver and Wichita, St. Louis and New York. The July average mean is 58 in Ketchikan and 57 in Anchorage.

Ketchikan's all-time low of 13 degrees below zero (winter of 1947) compares with record low temperatures for Atlanta and Washington, D. C., and is considerably warmer than the record cold in such cities as Denver, Boise, Chicago, Boston, Santa Fe and New York. Ketchikan's all-time high is 96, Juneau's 89, and Anchorage's 92.

Ketchikan's average rainfall is 151 inches, but only 20 miles away at the Annette Island airport, where Ketchikan's air passengers leave or board the Pan American Clippers, the annual precipitation in 1942 was 40 percent less than Ketchikan's -- 81 to 139. In 1944 it was 37 percent less.

A similar condition is noted between Juneau and its airport, only eight miles apart. Juneau has an average annual precipitation of 84 inches. In 1945, Juneau's precipitation was 89 inches, its airport's 55. Anchorage, however, is much drier than the coast. Its average annual precipitation is 14.5 inches, about the same as Santa Fe and Denver.

People

According to the sixteenth census of the United States (1940), Alaska's

population was about 73,000, giving Alaska an average population density of 1/8 of one person per square mile. During the war years, this figure of 73,000 was augmented by many tens of thousands - soldiers, sailors, and civilian war workers. Today Alaska's permanent resident population is unquestionably greater than it was in 1940. How much greater it is difficult to state definitely, but some estimate the present population at 90,000; others, as high as 100,000. In any event, Alaska's population increased in the decade 1930 to 1940 at a rate three times faster than that of the states as a whole. It is certain that Alaska's percentage of gain since 1940 still places it well ahead of the nation as a whole and in the forefront of those areas sharing the growth. In 1940 when the population of Alaska totalled 72,524, there were, in addition to a white population of 39,170, some 15,506 Eskimos, 11,283 Indians, and 5,599 Aleuts. These non-white indigenous groups therefore composed about 45% of the total population of the territory in that year.

The Eskimos are scattered over some 2,000 square miles of Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean Coast and along the Lower Yukon and Kuskokwim River Valley. The Eskimos have never lived outside of Arctic Alaska to any extent, and their small permanent or semi-permanent villages are located close to their hunting or fishing grounds. More than any other indigenous group in Alaska, the Eskimos have preserved their language, customs, and traditions.

The Indian population comprises several linguistic stocks of which the Athapascans and the Tlingits are the most numerous. The Athapaskan Indians are scattered in small villages through Interior and South Central Alaska, living largely by fishing and hunting. The Tlingit Indians live on the islands and broken coasts of South East Alaska. The Tlingits have adjusted themselves rather readily to the economy and mode of life of this region. Many own their own boats and fish as independent operators during the fishing season; others work in canneries, mines, boat yards, and machine shops.

The Aleuts live in the Aleutian Islands, on the islands bordering the Alaskan Peninsula, and on parts of the Peninsula itself. Some work in canneries or on fox farms, but the majority engage in fishing or the operation of boats. Before the war, there were two colonies of Aleuts on the Pribilof Islands where they worked as sealers.

The following table, taken from the 1940 census gives the population of Alaska according to race and linguistic stock in the years 1939 and 1929 and shows the percentage of change within the decade for each racial or linguistic group:

Race or linguistic stock	1939	1929	Percent of total for all races	
			1939	1929
All races, total	72,524	59,278	100.0	100.0
White, total	39,170	28,640	54.0	48.3
Native stock, total	32,458	29,983	44.8	50.6
Aleut	5,599	19,028	7.7	32.1
Eskimo	15,576		21.5	
Indian, total	11,283	10,955	15.6	18.5

Race or linguistic stock	1939	1929	Percent of total for all races	
			1939	1929
Athapascan	4,671	4,935	6.4	8.3
Haidan	655	588	.9	2.0
Tlingit	4,643	4,462	6.4	7.5
Tsimshian	881	845	1.2	1.4
U. S., Canadian, and unknown stocks	433	125	.6	.2
Japanese	263	278	.4	.5
Other and unknown races	633	377	.9	.6

The population trend by decades shows:

Illiteracy among Alaskan whites is negligible. Illiteracy among Indians and Eskimos is gradually being reduced.

The proportion of women to men is gradually increasing, indicating that Alaska is progressing from a transient country of transient, single men to a permanent home of families.

The principal cities and their estimated civilian population as of May, 1948, are as follows: Anchorage, 19,000; Fairbanks, 8,500; Ketchikan, 7,000; and Juneau, 7,000, the capital city.

Approximately two-thirds of Alaska's permanent (1948 estimate: 94,000) inhabitants are American-born whites. Most white persons of foreign birth resident in the Territory are naturalized citizens. Many of these have come from northern European countries like Norway, Sweden and Finland. Nearly one-fourth of the white persons enumerated in the 1940 census were born in Alaska.

American pioneers have been going into the Territory from our western states for the past eighty years. The first laws and customs there were those adopted or retained from life in the western continental states. Mining and fishing were Alaska's means of livelihood from earliest times, and miners and fishermen observed the rules of those industries that applied in the States.

History

The recorded history of Alaska goes back to the reign of Czar Peter the Great. Peter, the first Russian ruler to take a definite interest in Europe proper, commissioned Vitus Bering, a Danish sea captain, to explore the north-western coastal regions of the American continent. In 1728, Bering sailed through what now is known as the Bering Strait and conclusively established the fact that Alaska was a part of the North American continent. In 1741, when he was 60 years of age, Bering returned to Alaska, landing off the south central coast, while his lieutenant, Chirikof, sailed along the southeastern coast and lost a landing party to hostile Indians near Sitka. Of the 77 men aboard Bering's craft, 31 died from hardship and scurvy. Bering, himself, died and was buried on an island in the Komandorski group, which today bears his name, west of the Aleutians.

Following on the heels of Bering's ill-fated second expedition, Russian fur traders entered the area. From 1799 to 1863, Alaska was under the administration of the Russian American Company. The head of the Russian American Company, Alexander Baranof, moved the capital of Russian America from Kodiak to Sitka in 1802, and for years Sitka was the most cosmopolitan town west of the Mississippi and north of Mexico City.

The progress of the Russians in Alaska, and the imprint on society which they left behind them, can be traced today by the remaining wooden-framed Russian Orthodox churches, built by the Aleuts and Indians under Russian missionary priests.

Meanwhile, the United States, Spain and England were exploring the Alaska coast and interior. In 1867, after incessant urging by Secretary of State William H. Seward, the United States and Russia concluded a treaty and Alaska was sold to the United States.

Alaska's position of eminence in the American scene is due largely to the fact that it has been settled and developed to a very great extent by the same type of men and women who pioneered and opened up our far-flung western coastal areas and the states just east of the Rocky Mountains.

In the years between its acquisition from Russia in 1867, and the fabulous gold discoveries in 1898, the sprawling Territory lay dormant, almost entirely unexplored and with virtually no utilization of its resources by any except an occasional whaler and a few fishermen who penetrated to the waters of southeastern Alaska. The Territory was administered by the United States Navy, and what few white men were known to live in its vast and mysterious expanse were either missionaries or people of Russian extraction.

In 1884, a civil agency of the United States Government -- the Bureau of Education -- made a concerted effort to establish an organized program in Alaska. In that year the Bureau sent Dr. Sheldon Jackson to Sitka, then the capital of the Territory, where the first organized school in Alaska under the American flag was set up. Dr. Jackson's name is legendary in a land which now boasts an excellent school system.

In 1898, Alaska suddenly came to life. Gold had been found in the valleys of the Yukon River and in the hills around the valleys, and the stampede into Skagway at the head of the Inside Passage, thence into the Yukon by way of the White Pass and Lake Bennett, was on. Gradually the gold-seekers spread west. Gold was discovered in the Fairbanks region and later on the Seward Peninsula near Nome. The whole panorama of Alaska's previous somnolence was disturbed by hordes of shoving, brawling, eager men, all after gold, most of them determined to make a stake and get back to civilization in as short a time as possible.

But some of them remained. And still more came, and those who came were not always after gold. Some were lawyers, doctors, school teachers. Others were businessmen and merchants, bent on establishing themselves in this new frontier. New communities sprang up overnight, in widely separated areas, inevitably far distant each from the other, so that Alaska's economy did not

become welded by transportation routes until long after the first World War when the Alaska Railroad had been completed and the airplane had begun to make its appearance as a medium of passenger, mail and freight transport. Since that time, Alaska's economy has developed quite impressively.

Despite its comparatively limited state of physical development, Alaska has produced and exported goods valued in excess of two and a half billion dollars since it was purchased in 1867 for \$7,200,000.

Government

Alaska's Government is divided into the usual executive, legislative and judicial branches. The executive power is vested in the Governor. The Governor may veto any bill passed by the Legislature within three days after it is presented to him. The Legislature may override the veto by a two-thirds majority vote of all members of each house. The Governor of Alaska is appointed to a four-year term by the President.

The people of Alaska, whites, Indians and Eskimos, are citizens of the United States. They have the right to vote for their own legislators and various Territorial officials, such as the Territorial Auditor, Treasurer, Attorney General, Highway Engineer and Commissioner of Labor. Certain other Territorial officials are appointed by the Governor, including the Commissioners of Agriculture, Mines, and Taxation - subject to confirmation by the Legislature. The Territorial Legislature, consisting of sixteen Senate members and twenty-four Representatives, constitutes the legislative power in Alaska. The term of each member of the Senate is four years, while Representatives enjoy a two-year tenure. The Governor is empowered to call a special session which may continue not longer than thirty days.

Alaska elects its Delegate to Congress, who serves for a two-year term. He represents the Territory, is a member of a number of committees in the House of Representatives, can speak on the floor, introduce bills, but has no vote.

The political parties of Alaska send delegates to the National conventions, at which candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States are nominated, but Alaska has no vote in the electoral college.

Alaska's judicial power is vested in the District Court of the United States for the District of Alaska, and in probate and justices' courts. The District Court is divided into four divisions, each presided over by a judge appointed by the President for a term of four years. These District Courts have the same general original jurisdiction as similar courts in the continental United States, having, in addition, general jurisdiction in civil, criminal, equity and admiralty cases. The probate and justices' courts are located in convenient precincts designated in each judicial division by the United States judges. They are presided over by commissioners, appointed by the District judges, and who act as United States Commissioners and coroners, and are ex-officio justices of the peace, recorders and probate judges. These courts have limited original jurisdiction in probate, insanity and minor civil and criminal matters arising under the Federal statutes applicable to the Territory and its Territorial laws. Additionally, each incorporated municipality has a magistrate's court, which has jurisdiction over cases arising under local ordinances.

The Department of Justice administers the law of the United States in Alaska much as it does elsewhere in the United States, except that in Alaska -- as is established in the States -- there is no legal branch of the local Government. The laws of the land, therefore, are administered exclusively by the Federal Government, except in municipalities, which administer their own local laws and dispense justice relevant to minor infractions of the peace and of local ordinances.

The Department of the Interior is responsible for administration of land management and, through its various component offices and bureaus, is charged with administrative responsibility for wildlife and fisheries, Indian Affairs, mineral resources, The Alaska Railroad, national parks and monuments and other matters within its jurisdiction.

Other Executive Departments of the Federal Government exercise the same administrative responsibilities in Alaska that they do in other parts of the United States, and virtually every Executive branch of the Government is represented there.

The Department of Agriculture, through its Forest Service, is responsible for conservation of forest areas and for administration of the National Forests. The Department also maintains an agricultural experiment station at Matanuska and at College, Alaska, as well as an extension service at the University of Alaska. It also operates a Farmers Home Administration office at Anchorage.

The Department of Commerce recently opened an office in Juneau to deal with the problems of small businesses coming into the Territory and to stimulate, through dissemination of information about Alaska, a steady and growing influx of new businesses to that area. This Department also has an extensive network of Civil Aeronautics facilities throughout the Territory, maintains a Regional Office of the Civil Aeronautics Board at Anchorage, operates a Magnetic Observatory of the Coast and Geodetic Survey at Sitka, and maintains weather stations throughout the Territory.

The Department of Justice United States District Court system comprises four judicial divisions, each with a Federal Judge, a United States Attorney and a United States Marshal. The Federal Bureau of Investigation maintains offices at key points throughout Alaska. Offices of the Department's Immigration and Naturalization Service may be found at Ketchikan, Skagway and Fairbanks.

The United States Department of Labor maintains an office in the Federal Building at Juneau, headed by a Territorial representative who is the personal representative of the Secretary of Labor.

The Headquarters of the 17th Naval District is situated at Kodiak, Alaska.

The Army's Alaskan Department Headquarters is at Fort Richardson at Anchorage, and, in addition its Alaska Communications System - a branch of the U. S. Army Signal Corps - is responsible for the majority of communications facilities throughout the Territory. The United States Engineer Office of the Department is responsible for rivers and harbor works in Alaska.

The Treasury Department has a Division of Disbursement at Juneau, maintains a Customs Service and an Internal Revenue Service. In addition, since the end of the War, the Treasury Department supervises the activities of the 17th U. S. Coast Guard District.

Other Federal agencies in Alaska include the Federal Communications Commission, the Federal Security Agency and the Federal Works Agency.

Until 1884, virtually nothing was done to provide any form of government for the area. The business of government, until then, was carried on by local miners and trappers. By 1884, a greatly increased population forced the establishment of some type of civil government. Provision was made for the appointment of a governor and for the organization of local government with a temporary capital located at Sitka. The act also authorized the Secretary of the Interior to regulate enforcement in the Territory of laws concerning mining claims and to provide for the education of the Territory's children.

Additional laws for the Territory came with the discovery of gold in the Klondike in 1898 and the great surge of immigrants to Alaska. The homestead laws were extended to the Territory and provisions were made for rights of way for railroads in the same year. Two years later, Alaska was given a code of civil and criminal law which greatly extended and defined the organization of the government and the courts. On August 24, 1912, by Congressional Act, Alaska became an incorporated territory of the United States, and with it came provision for a legislature to be elected every two years by popular vote. The Alaska Legislature was established in that same year, and the first biennial session was held in 1913.

The Alaskan people have enjoyed a considerable measure of self-government since this time. Alaska's local laws have kept pace with the best in the States, apart from creation of an adequate tax structure. The provision of suffrage for the women of Alaska was the first act of the Territorial Legislature in 1913--six years before it was extended to the women in our mainland states. In addition, the Territory has been among the first to enact and enforce eight-hour-day work laws, a workmen's compensation act and efficient social security measures. In March 1946, the Legislature established veteran benefits that have not been surpassed by any of our states. Alaska now has a revolving fund of \$3,250,000 for loans and bonuses to Alaskan veterans of World War II; loans up to \$2,500 are made for educational and personal purposes, and a veteran desiring to start a home, a farm, or go into business for himself may borrow up to \$10,000 at low rates of interest.

Alaskans long have contemplated Statehood as the ultimate goal of their great Territory and, in October 1946, a referendum showed popular sentiment approximately 3 to 2 in favor of the change in status. Numerous bills had been introduced in the Congress of the United States calling for statehood for Alaska. With the popular referendum of 1946 in support, the Delegate to Congress from Alaska introduced another bill for Alaskan statehood and, for the first time, Congressional hearings were held on the matter. Hearings were held both in Alaska and in Washington during 1947 and 1948. On April 14, 1948, the House Committee on Public Lands reported favorably on a bill to

provide for admission of Alaska to the Union and recommended that the bill (H.R. 5666) as amended, do pass.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

General

Alaska's economy, generally, is dependent upon the fishing industry, its largest economic factor, and mining, its second. Both of these industries are operated largely by absentee owners, who contribute little to the Territory's economy in the way of taxes and who, historically, have done much to discourage competition by prospective industrialists.

The American flag-carrier steamship operators have maintained for years the highest freight rates to be found anywhere in intra-American shipping. Like the mine-owners and the fishery operators, they, too, are absentee owners. They, too, have discouraged competition. Until such competition is afforded existing operators, it appears that freight rates will continue to be excessive.

Because of inadequate, and costly, transportation, Alaska has been economically isolated from the continental United States to a very great extent. This fact in itself has discouraged new business on any large scale in Alaska, and it has had a crippling effect on small businesses.

The economic development of Alaska, it is contended, will depend in large measure upon the speed with which the Territory attains statehood. There has been little inducement to established businessmen in the States to enter the Territory while its present status continues.

Natural Resources

Alaska's growth is inevitable. It lies at the center of world air routes between East and West. As a result of the advances in aviation, plus progress made as a result of herculean wartime efforts, the Territory today is linked more closely with the continental United States than at any time in its history by airways, by the Alaska Highway, and by overland telephone and telegraph services.

Its natural resources apparently are limitless. Since "gold rush" days, transportation difficulties and other handicaps have concentrated the work of Alaska's miners on such minerals as gold with high unit values in comparison with their bulk. Of the billion-dollar yield from Alaska mines to date, about 70 percent of this value has been in gold. About 25 percent has been copper. The remaining five percent came from silver, tin, tungsten, lead, chromium, platinum metals, antimony, quicksilver, coal, marble, limestone, gypsum and petroleum. No less than ten other value minerals are known to exist in Alaska. Iron, nickel, zinc, molybdenum, bismuth, asbestos, barite, garnet, graphite and sulphur still await widespread commercial production.

Mining is Alaska's second most important industry. And despite the fact

that Alaska has paid its own purchase price one hundred times over in minerals alone, large and rich mineral areas continue to go unexplored as well as undeveloped.

Other natural resources which still offer much room for expansion include Alaska's fisheries, as does the commercialization of potential catches that have not yet been developed. These include, among others, crab fishing, tuna fishing and herring catches, and the attendant oil and other products to be derived from such catches.

Another vast natural resource is Alaska's forests. Two national forests in the Territory are administered by the United States Forest Service. They extend along the greater part of the coastal region that lies between the Canadian boundary at Portland Canal on the south, and Cook Inlet on the north, and cover about 5.5 percent of Alaska's total area. The Tongass Forest, almost coextensive with southeastern Alaska, has an area of 16,000,000 acres. The Chugach, with 4,800,000 acres, embraces the lands around Prince William Sound, the eastern half of the Kenai Peninsula and Afognak Island.

The estimated stand is 78,500,000,000 board feet measure on the Tongass, and 6,260,000,000 feet board measure on the Chugach.

Industries

In discussing industry in Alaska, it must be remembered that the Territory's economy primarily is a colonial one. There remains to be developed an industrial economy which will make Alaska self-supporting. Meanwhile, technical problems, such as the aboriginal rights of Indians to certain lands in which pulp and paper industrialists are interested, continue to halt temporarily, much of the expansion which seems certain to come in the near future.

The manufacture of pulp and paper, particularly newsprint paper, is the great potential forest industry of Alaska. The extensive forests of spruce and hemlock are well-suited to this use. More than a million tons of newsprint annually, or more than one-fourth of the present requirements of the United States, can be produced in perpetuity under proper management of the growing timber stands. A number of west coast paper manufacturers are ready to establish industries in southeast Alaska as soon as certain technical obstacles have been eliminated.

A total of 28,190 persons were engaged in the commercial fisheries of Alaska in 1946. These included 16,618 whites, 7,282 natives, 4,009 Filipinos, and 102 negroes. The total number employed was 4,354 greater than in 1945.

The commercial catch of salmon was 74,490,002 by all forms of gear, of which 3,429,149 were cohos; 7,534,266 chums; 48,322,807 pinks; 663,497 kings; and 14,540,283 reds. This was a decrease of about 5 percent as compared with the total catch of 77,971,593 salmon in 1945.

Twenty herring plants were operated as compared with 23 in 1945, and products of the industry totaled 63,849,699 pounds valued at \$6,569,250.

The Alaska halibut fleet landed 20,839,135 pounds of halibut at Alaskan ports and 4,384,000 at British Columbia ports, valued at \$3,556,441 and \$792,627, respectively. In addition, 1,140,106 pounds of halibut livers and viscera valued at \$715,128 were handled by plants in Alaska, and 227,091 pounds of livers and viscera valued at \$185,040 were processed by British Columbia concerns.

Eighteen clam operators in central and southeastern Alaska produced 876,333 pounds of clam products in 1946, valued at \$928,424. These products included razor, butter, and cockle clams.

The shrimp industry included four operators in the Wrangell-Petersburg district of southeastern Alaska and one operator in the Cook Inlet area. Total production amounted to 346,817 pounds of canned and cold-packed shrimp meat valued at \$323,372. This represented an increase of 61 percent in volume and 82 percent in value over 1945.

The production of oysters was about the same as in previous years, totaling 3,159 pounds of fresh-shucked meats having a value of \$2,106.

Other products of the Alaska fishing industry amounted to 8,396,576 pounds valued at \$1,400,324. This included many products prepared from species of fish taken incidentally to other fisheries, such as sablefish, rockfishes, cod, lingcod, shark, dogfish, skate, trout, and miscellaneous species.

Farming in Alaska is another industry susceptible of great potential development. At the present time, farming is centered in the Matanuska and Tanana Valleys and the Kenai peninsula. Of the estimated two million acres of arable land in Alaska, only 12,000 acres are under cultivation. The produce from developed acreage is of good quality and enormous size.

The number of fur-seal skins taken at the Pribilof Islands in 1946 was 64,523. During the fiscal year 1947, two public auction sales of fur-seal skins were held at St. Louis, Missouri, with total combined sales of 49,925 skins amounting to \$2,531,896.

Total net receipts from timber stumpage and the several classes of land use during the fiscal year 1947 were \$148,786.45. Twenty-five percent of these receipts are turned over to the Territory for schools and roads. The total amounts so paid to the Territory since 1909 is \$737,263.63. In addition, ten percent of all receipts are made available to the Alaska region of the Forest Service for road and trail building. The total to date for this purpose is \$286,859.73.

In the raw fur industries total number of pelts shipped from Alaska was 249,287 in 1946, as compared to 223,173 for the calendar year of 1945. Total value of furs shipped (not including those taken in the Pribilof Islands) was \$3,830,839.30. Prices for furs remained steady during most of the year, and were higher than average. There was a big demand for furs,

especially beaver and marten, and more trappers worked in the field. Mink topped the list, with 64,837 pelts bringing a total of \$1,945,110, and beaver second with 18,929 pelts bringing \$946,450.

Production of coal from the mines of Alaska in 1946 was 368,750 tons, which is an all-time record and nearly 70,000 tons more than was produced in 1945. There were 2,474 men employed in the mining industry of Alaska during 1946, which is an increase of 1,024 over the number employed in 1945. Shortage of labor for work at the mines was felt in nearly all mining districts during 1946, but indications in the spring of 1947 were that labor would be more plentiful during that year. Most of the mines in Alaska produce gold, the price of which has not advanced since 1934 in the face of enormous increases in costs of operation.

Mines that were operated at a low margin of profit under prewar conditions remain closed on account of increased wage scales, high transportation rates, and high prices of equipment and supplies.

Territorial laws relating to mining are administered by the Commissioner of Mines assisted by three associate mining engineers, one assayer and field engineer, two assayers and two clerks.

Active mining operations are visited and assistance with engineering problems is rendered upon request.

Mineral determinations are made at the 3 public assay offices, located at Anchorage, College, and Ketchikan. Most of the determinations performed are gold-silver assays, although the substantial percentages of assays for lead and zinc reflects a growing interest in these minerals, for which market conditions are favorable owing to the national shortage. Under cooperative arrangement with the Department of the Interior, the Commissioner of Mines supervised all coal mining operations in Alaska, which are conducted under the provisions of the Federal Coal Leasing Act.

Commerce

The volume of commerce between the States and Alaska had reached a total of almost four billion dollars by the end of 1947. Of this, more than 2-1/2 billion dollars was the value of Alaska's shipments of furs, fish, gold, silver and other products to the States, and nearly 1-1/2 billion dollars was the value of shipments of foodstuffs, clothing, machinery, etc., from the States to Alaska. Figures on the value of merchandise shipped from Alaska to the United States were restricted, and therefore not available for publication during the war years.

The shipments of goods from the United States (mostly through Seattle) to Alaska in 1947 are reported by the Foreign Trade Division of the United States Bureau of the Census. The figures follow:

SHIPMENTS OF MERCHANDISE FROM THE UNITED STATES TO ALASKA - 1947

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Value</u>
Animals and animal products, edible		
Beef and veal, fresh or frozen.....lb.	6,262,268	\$ 2,960,961
Pork, fresh or frozen.....lb.	307,377	693,091
Hams and shoulders, cured.....lb.	1,183,966	763,092
Bacon.....lb.	1,113,434	752,863
Mutton and lamb..... -	- - -	149,965
Sausage, not canned.....lb.	738,105	324,948
Canned meats.....lb.	1,180,737	551,715
Poultry and game, fresh.....lb.	944,583	563,205
Other meats and sausage casings.....lb.	397,310	165,912
Animal oils and fats, edible.....lb.	738,504	235,453
Milk, evaporated, unsweetened.....lb.	7,166,852	949,875
Butter, natural oil and spreads.....lb.	1,500,264	1,178,961
Cheese.....lb.	431,033	212,273
Other dairy products..... -	- - -	304,002
Fish and fish products.....lb.	598,470	342,315
Eggs in the shell.....doz.	1,758,785	1,163,558
Animals and products, edible, n.e.s... -	76	85,384
	<u>24,321,764</u>	<u>11,397,573</u>

Animals and Animal Products, inedible

Boots, shoes and other footwear..... -	923,184
Other leather and manufactures..... -	284,152
Furs and manufactures..... -	842,309
Animals and products, inedible, n.e.s. -	<u>132,057</u>
		2,181,702

Vegetable Food Products and Beverages

Wheat flour..... cwt	81,383	601,021
Biscuits and crackers..... lb.	1,082,266	244,869

Cereal foods.....lb.	598,878	74,776
Grain and preparations, n.e.s..... -	- - -	272,446
Fodders and feeds..... -	- - -	382,280
Potatoes, white..... -	- - -	274,334
Other fresh vegetables..... -	- - -	542,286
Canned vegetables and juices.....lb.	5,918,031	831,565
Vegetables and preparations, n.e.s... -	- - -	498,162
Fresh fruits..... -	- - -	629,254
Canned fruits.....lb.	4,300,872	727,080
Dried fruits and preparations, n.e.s. -	- - -	274,567
Vegetable oils and fats, edible.....lb.	922,867	339,889
Coffee.....lb.	1,781,947	762,776
Sugar refined.....lb.	5,827,176	526,514
Confections and chewing gum..... -	- - -	762,422
Malt liquors.....gal.	1,496,136	1,895,534
Whisky.....pf. gal.	394,708	6,317,768
Distilled liquors, n.e.s.....pf. gal.	27,068	397,916
Wines.....gal.	72,933	261,682
Beverages and fruit juices, n.e.s.. -	- - -	203,276
Vegetable food products, n.e.s..... -	- - -	318,959
	<u>22,504,265</u>	<u>17,139,376</u>

Vegetable Products, inedible, except fibers
and wood

Rubber boots and shoes..... pr.	133,778	496,381
Rubber belting hose and packing..... lb.	151,777	139,454
Cigars and cheroots..... M.	3,056	190,452
Cigarettes..... M.	273,733	1,782,971
Smoking tobacco..... lb.	110,580	89,559
Vegetable products, inedible, n.e.s. -	- - -	885,564
	<u>672,924</u>	<u>3,584,381</u>

Textile Fibers and Manufactures

Work clothing, men's, n.e.s.....doz.	10,001	259,174
Cotton wearing apparel, n.e.s..... -	6	874,042
Cotton manufactures, n.e.s..... -	- - -	1,426,616
Flax, hemp ramie manufactures, n.e.s. -	- - -	440,334
Manila cordage..... -	- - -	375,148
Jute, yarn and fiber cordage, n.e.s. lb.	724,157	221,632
Vegetable fiber, straw or grass manufactures, n.e.s..... -	- - -	188,468
Wool, knit wearing apparel..... -	- - -	322,552
Wool, outer apparel, men's and boys. no.	39,867	436,841
Wool, clothing women's & children's. -	- - -	385,011
Wool or mohair manufactures, n.e.s.. -	- - -	583,825
Silk manufactures..... -	- - -	33,238
Textiles and manufactures, n.e.s..... -	- - -	1,534,485
	<u>774,031</u>	<u>7,081,366</u>

Wood and Paper

Boards & scantlings, Douglas fir.. Mod.ft.	13,795	1,075,493
Cooperage..... -	- - -	134,938
Doors, sash and blinds..... no.	51,004	293,112
Wood furniture..... -	- - -	599,967
Wood and manufactures, n.e.s..... -	- - -	2,514,274
Cork manufactures..... lb.	622,468	150,560
Wall board, paper pulp and fiber...sq. ft.	4,377,850	285,392
Boxes and cartons..... lb.	8,620,682	541,896
Paper and paper products, n.e.s..... -	- - -	1,082,338
	<u>13,685,799</u>	<u>6,677,970</u>

Non-metallic Minerals

Coal.....s. ton	6,860	112,272
Gasoline.....bbl.	782,657	4,868,290
Gas, oil, distillate fuel oil.....bbl.	1,502,384	4,856,956
Residual fuel oil.....bbl.	212,049	321,795
Lubricating oil, red and pale.....bbl.	31,853	679,448
Lubricating oils, n.e.s.....gal.	432,918	286,867
Other petroleum products..... -	- - -	751,102
Hydraulic cement.....bbl.	53,424	140,051
Glass and glass products..... -	- - -	405,588
Clay and clay products..... -	- - -	247,941
Salt..... -	- - -	104,919
Mineral products, non-metallic, n.e.s. -	- - -	375,586
	<u>3,022,145</u>	<u>13,150,815</u>

Metals and Manufactures, Except Machinery and Vehicles

Iron and steel bars and rods..... -	- - -	142,754
Tin plate and taggers tin..... -	120	500
Structural iron and steel..... -	- - -	398,897
Welded pipe and fittings..... -	- - -	141,450
Tubular products & fittings, n.e.s.... -	- - -	477,661
Wire, uncoated galv. barbed..... -	- - -	342,764
Wire and manufactures, n.e.s.....lb.	4,566,609	606,252
Nails and bolts (except railroad)..... -	- - -	181,400
Castings and forgings..... -	- - -	111,486
Tin cans, finished or unfinished.....lb.	40,334,833	4,714,584
Safes, vaults, metal furniture and fixtures..... -	- - -	295,868
Stoves and parts (except electric)... -	- - -	711,325
Tools..... -	- - -	294,939
Hardware..... -	- - -	1,382,059
Iron and steel manufactures, n.e.s.... -	- - -	1,771,273
Copper and manufactures..... -	- - -	309,538
Brass and bronze and manufactures.... -	- - -	224,737
Metals, ores and manufactures, n.e.s. -	- - -	571,275
	<u>44,901,562</u>	<u>12,678,762</u>

Machinery and vehicles

Batteries.....	-	- - -	281,420
Electrical appliances and parts.....	-	- - -	1,460,018
Radio apparatus.....	-	- - -	1,233,568
Electrical apparatus and parts, n.e.s.	-	- - -	2,426,044
Steam engines, boilers and parts.....	-	- - -	335,289
Internal combustion engines and parts.	-	- - -	1,013,400
Construction, conveying & road machinery	-	- - -	1,011,706
Mining and quarrying machinery.....	-	- - -	457,415
Pumping equipment (except parts).....	-	- - -	301,138
Metal-working machinery and parts....	-	- - -	454,077
Cannery machinery.....	-	- - -	817,975
Industrial machinery and parts, n.e.s.	-	- - -	2,430,540
Office appliances and machines.....	-	- - -	408,753
Tractors.....	no.	152	504,382
Agricultural machinery and implements	-	- - -	873,286
Motor trucks, busses and chassis.....	no.	915	1,914,744
Passenger cars and chassis.....	no.	1,332	1,860,095
Automobile parts and accessories.....	-	- - -	944,356
Aircraft parts and accessories.....	-	- - -	1,911,969
Internal combustion marine engines... no.		2,479	720,500
Vehicles and parts, n.e.s.....	-	- - -	<u>1,334,333</u>
		<u>4,878</u>	<u>22,695,008</u>

Chemical and Related Products

Coal-tar products (except medicinals)	-	- - -	12,463
Medicinal and pharmaceutical preparations	-	- - -	469,239
Industrial chemicals and specialties.	-	- - -	713,210
Ready-mixed paints, stains enamels...gal.		124,409	428,834
Paints, pigments and varnish, n.e.s..	-	- - -	319,905
Fertilizers and materials.....	-	- - -	29,262
Dynamite.....	lb.	952,010	139,231
Other explosives, fuses, etc.....	-	- - -	62,011
Soap.....	lb.	1,502,654	324,701
Toilet preparations.....	-	- - -	<u>318,521</u>
		<u>2,579,073</u>	<u>2,817,377</u>

Miscellaneous

Motion picture films.....	lin. ft.	23,924,952	527,237
Photo and projection goods, n.e.s....	-	- - -	686,126
Scientific and professional instruments and apparatus.....	-	- - -	268,295
Musical instruments and parts.....	-	- - -	461,816
Toys, athletic and sporting goods...	-	- - -	479,268
Firearms, ammunition & pyrotechnics.	-	- - -	440,774
Books and printed matter, n.e.s.....	-	- - -	648,573
Household and personal effects.....	-	- - -	4,315,349
Merchandise value less than 50 dols.	-	- - -	7,157,298
All other articles.....	-	- - -	<u>2,420,213</u>
		<u>23,924,952</u>	<u>17,404,949</u>

116,809,279

SHIPMENTS FROM ALASKA TO THE UNITED STATES - 1947

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Value</u>
Total shipments.....	- - -	\$ 129,527,479
Total merchandise.....	- - -	123,640,885
Total gold and silver.....	- - -	5,886,594
Foreign merchandise.....	- - -	733
United States products returned	- - -	6,524,705
Alaskan products.....	- - -	117,115,447

MERCHANDISE

Live animals.....	no.	46	2,540
Halibut, fresh or frozen.....	lb.	25,035,722	6,369,640
Salmon, fresh or frozen.....	lb.	15,107,754	3,841,396
Other fish, fresh or frozen....	lb.	3,923,123	544,535
Salmon, canned.....	lb.	216,715,861	86,528,133
Cod, cured or preserved.....	lb.	30,373	6,177
Herring, cured or preserved....	lb.	2,195,522	284,578
Salmon, cured or preserved.....	lb.	5,397,909	2,139,167
Clams.....	lb.	437,794	212,349
Crabs.....	lb.	501,863	414,931
Shrimp.....	lb.	398,537	370,960
Fish meal.....	ton.	15,018	2,228,679
Fish oil.....	gal.	4,468,945	3,664,374
Other fish and fish products....	-	- - -	1,504,681

Furs and skins: *

Beavers.....	no.	26,395	834,021
Black and silver fox.....	no.	3,922	119,205
Blue fox.....	no.	2,275	59,758
Red fox.....	no.	3,303	32,085
White fox.....	no.	2,332	41,946
Seal skins (incl. hair seal). no.		61,895	3,561,413
Marten.....	no.	15,071	586,017
Mink.....	no.	55,584	1,291,400
Muskrat.....	no.	195,818	333,987
Otter.....	no.	2,903	82,312
Other.....	no.	13,233	80,277
Fur manufactures.....	-	- - -	61,408
Fur seal oil.....	gal.	34,000	37,749
Fur seal meal.....	ton.	300	40,448
Reindeer hides.....	lb.	- - -	- - -
Wool unmanufactured.....	lb.	- - -	- - -
Wood, timber & lumber,.. m. bd. ft.		9,609	744,011
Platinum ore.....	oz.	11,534	658,286
Other ores and metals			
(except gold and silver).....	-	- - -	108,078
Trophies, specimens, curios, etc. -	-	- - -	48,283
Pictures and paintings.....	no.	22	2,500
All other articles.....	-	- - -	280,123

GOLD AND SILVER

Gold ore and base bullion... oz. troy.	88,865	3,015,452
Gold bullion, refined..... oz. troy.	81,144	2,869,075
Silver ore and base bullion. oz. troy.	10	7
Silver coin.....	---	2,060

* Includes furs shipped by mail and baggage and from the Pribilof Islands.

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Taxation

Alaska's Organic Act permits the Territory to levy a property tax of 1%. However, no such tax has been imposed by the Territorial legislature. Municipalities are permitted to collect up to 2% on the valuation of real and personal property. A measure passed by the 2nd Session, 80th Congress permits the increase of each of these levies to 2% and 3%, respectively, of assessed valuation.

A variety of license and income taxes is imposed on specific industries. Summarized, these taxes are an inheritance tax, a sales profit tax, school tax, mining license taxes, motor vehicle tax, fishermen's licenses, liquor excise taxes, and miscellaneous license taxes.

The canned salmon industry, liquor, motor fuel oil, and mines (when operating) ordinarily pay the bulk of the revenue received by the Territory. A temporary tax on gross sales and services was provided in 1946 to finance a loan program for returning war veterans. This tax will expire in June of 1948.

The \$5.00 annual school tax is about the only direct tax the Alaskan resident, or transient worker, pays to the Territory.

During the year of 1947 the Territorial Department of Taxation reported the receipts of \$5,788,459.85 of which \$4,127,326.65 was attributable to the 1947 tax year. Of total receipts 31.48% represented payments to the veterans fund.

Banking

Fifteen Territorial and four National banks were doing business in Alaska at the close of the year. The Territorial Banking Board, composed of the Governor, Treasurer, and Auditor of the Territory, supervises Territorial banking institutions. All banks make a report of conditions and publish statements under call as required by Territorial law. Aggregate banking figures for the Territory on June 30, 1947, were as follows: Capital, \$1,145,000; surplus and undivided profits, \$2,615,951.66; deposits, \$57,570,286.08. Totals for the previous year were: Capital, \$1,145,000; surplus and undivided profits, \$2,347,125.77; deposits, \$55,233,627.56.

Cost of living

The matter of cost of living in Alaska is a much-discussed point. Some people contend that it costs much more to live in Alaska than in the States, others that it costs little more, still others that it costs no more, and a few even that it costs less.

It is a fact that essentials such as food generally cost more in Alaska than in most parts of the States. Many standard items of clothing, however, cost approximately the same as in the States. Rents, on the whole, probably are no higher than in many cities in the States. The 1939 census in Alaska showed 6,243 out of 9,257 tenant-occupied dwelling units renting for \$29 a

month or less. Only 600 --or less than ten per cent of the total --rented for \$50 or more, only 106 for \$75 or more, and only 13 for \$100 or more. Since the war, these figures cannot be considered reliable.

Retail food prices in Alaska advanced approximately 43% between July, 1944 and September, 1947, according to the Monthly Price Survey released by the Territorial Department of Labor.

Increases were erratic among the seven cities surveyed, although the upward trend continued in all districts of Alaska. Increases during the four-month period, June to September, ranged from 6% in Fairbanks to 10% in Anchorage.

A special survey of five basic food items (bread, fresh milk, meat, butter, eggs) was made in September. These five basic food items show an average increase of 55% over July, 1944, and show an increase of 24% between June and September, 1947. A comparison with Seattle prices on May 15, 1947 shows the five basic items in Alaska priced almost 30% above Seattle retail prices. The comparative survey for these five items shows Juneau 18.5%, Anchorage 33.5%, and Fairbanks 35.6% above Seattle.

It is noted that food costs in Seattle on May 15, 1947, were approximately the same as Alaska costs three years prior.

The attached exhibits "A" and "B" show comparative costs on both composite and individual commodity bases as of December 15, 1947:

On 35 identical food items using the U. S.
average as a basic of 100 relative prices were
on December 15, 1947:

U. S. Average	100
Seattle	106
Ketchikan	126
Juneau	127
Kodiak	136
Seward	140
Anchorage	147
Fairbanks	155

EXHIBIT "A"

TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

2/18/48

Comparison of food prices between U. S. average and various Alaska Cities as of 12/15/47. Alaska figures compiled by T.D.L. and Outside figures from BLS release.

<u>Item</u>	<u>U. S. Ave.</u>	<u>Anch.</u>	<u>Fbks.</u>	<u>Jun.</u>	<u>Ktkn.</u>	<u>Kod.</u>	<u>Seward</u>
Round Stk.	.799	.933	1.075	1.025	.95	1.00	1.00
Rib Roast	.667	.95	1.05	.8375	.85	.90	.90
Chuck Rst.	.564	.825	.866	.70	.70	.75	.80
Pork Chops	.68	.966	1.0833	.9875	.90	1.00	1.10
Bacon	.872	1.1333	1.30	1.08	1.00	1.10	1.20
Leg O' Lamb	.638	.95	.95	.775	.75	1.00	.90
Hens	.575	.9333	1.025	.805	.80	.75	.95
Milk, fresh	.208	.35	.40	.30	.32	.50	.35
Milk, Evap.	.133	.18	.20	.15	.1466	.175	.1666
Butter, Lb.	.954	1.0833	1.10	.9825	.9633	.935	1.05
Margarine	.417	.5766	.625	.55	.4366	N.A.	.50
Cheese	.614	.85	.75	.7475	.70	.80	.75
Lard	.362	.5133	.60	.4125	.49	.525	.60
Shortening	.456	.5833	.55	.5375	.4666	.65	.5833
Eggs	.818	1.35	1.15	.94	.9033	1.00	1.05
Bread	.136	.2533	.25	.22	.20	.25	.30
Flour	.108	.1483	.165	.144	.1466	.13	.14
Corn Meal	.112	.23	.285	.165	.1466	.175	.17
Rolled Oats	.134	.182	.30	.1938	.1716	.20	.1666
Corn Flakes	.1163	.185	.23	.2019	.20	.25	N.A.
Rice ,	.208	.2583	.225	.236	.2266	.175	.225
Beans, Navy	.225	.2833	.3225	.25	.31	.20	.30
Potatoes	.0532	.0883	.1033	.08	.07	.075	.10
Onions	.108	.14	.1875	.13	.1333	.15	.15
Cabbage	.09	.1833	.225	.1425	.11	.17	.18
Corn	.193	.2666	.365	.28	.2733	.25	.275
Peas	.154	.30	.315	.28	.28	.25	.225
Tomatoes	.167	.33	.35	.272	.2566	.25	.30
Sugar	.099	.16	.175	.131	.1233	.1275	.135
Coffee	.498	.6133	.60	.585	.5633	.60	.65
Prunes	.223	.3666	.3625	.27	.3033	.30	.25
Oranges	.377	.93	.9166	.585	.65	.75	.75
Lettuce	.148	.3966	.425	.335	.2333	.40	.35
Carrots	.167	.2333	.20	.1225	.15	.125	.15
TOTALS	\$11.54	\$16.98	\$17.87	\$14.70	\$14.49	\$15.66	\$16.21
Percent	100	147	155	127	126	136	140

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Human Rights

The Organic Act of Alaska, promulgated August 24, 1912, specifically extends the Constitution and Laws of the United States to the Territory, as follows:

"The Constitution of the United States and all the laws thereof which are not locally inapplicable shall have the same force and effect within the said Territory as elsewhere in the United States. All the laws of the United States passed prior to August 24, 1912, establishing the executive and judicial departments in Alaska shall continue in full force and effect until amended or repealed by Act of Congress; except as herein provided, all laws in force in Alaska prior to that date shall continue in full force and effect until altered, amended or repealed by Congress or by the (Territorial) Legislature."

Human rights in Alaska, generally, are identical with the rights of all American citizens, only excepting that they do not vote in national elections because the Territory has no representation in the Electoral College. Aside from this, its qualified residents may vote in Territorial elections, have the right to appeal to United States Circuit Courts in civil and criminal judgments, and to still higher courts when deemed necessary.

There are no laws in Alaska in conflict in any way with the Constitution. Individuals are guaranteed the same freedoms as they are elsewhere in the United States. They have the same rights of free speech, freedom of worship and free elections enjoyed by all United States citizens. Racial discrimination in Alaska is unknown and is, in fact, illegal. The fact that Indian and Eskimo children attend their own schools is due largely to geographical conditions and to conditions of health. Nowhere in the Territory, however, are children of Indian or Eskimo blood, denied by law the right to attend any school available.

Indians and Eskimos alike, are admitted to private hospitals where facilities operated by the Alaska Native Service are unavailable.

Labor Force

Alaska's seasonal industry makes for little or no surplus labor force in the summer months; a considerable surplus during the winter. Substantial numbers of seasonal workers come to Alaska in the spring for employment incident to fisheries, mining and construction. This transient labor force leaves in the early fall and the permanent residents provide all communities with ample labor for winter's lower level of industrial activity.

The 1939 census showed 32,851 persons in the Alaska labor force. At that time, 3,915 of those were on public emergency work or seeking employment. In war years, of course, the labor supply was drained dry and Alaskan contractors combed the Nation for help. While much of the imported labor force has left, construction has continued at a sufficiently high level to attract

great numbers back to Alaska each season. Others move North without advance assurance of work in sufficient numbers to constitute a real employment and welfare problem and aggravate the existing housing shortage in the Territory.

Of those employed in 1939, the division by class of work was as follows:

Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries	8,358
Mining	4,997
Construction	1,453
Manufacturing	3,187
Transportation, Public Utilities	2,522
Wholesale, Retail Trade	2,768
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	172
Business and Repair services	263
Personal services	1,329
Amusement and Recreation	137
Professional and related services	1,667
Government	1,790
Other	293

Wages

While hourly wage rates and continuing overtime factors appear to give Alaska an advantage over the States, the seasonal nature of employment and higher cost of living in Alaska effectively remove such advantage in the majority of cases affected. It is the opinion of the Territorial Commissioner of Labor that the ratio of living costs to annual earnings amounts to a distinct disadvantage for year around resident workers.

Hourly wages paid in Seattle, increased by fifty cents, would reflect, roughly, hourly wages paid in Anchorage and Fairbanks; increased twenty-five cents, they would approximate wages paid in southeastern Alaska in private employment. Generally speaking, a fifty-four hour work week is allowed in the Anchorage and Fairbanks areas during the summer months.

Territorial Employment Service. - On November 16, 1946, in accordance with congressional action, the administration of the Employment Service was returned to the States and Territories; therefore, in Alaska it is now known as the Alaska Territorial Employment Service (affiliated with the United States Employment Service) Division of the Unemployment Compensation Commission of Alaska. However, the Territory will not be required to match funds for the operation of the Employment Service until July 1, 1948, all costs being paid from existing Federal appropriations until that time.

The Alaska Territorial Employment Service is operating the same field offices as before, namely: Anchorage, Cordova, Fairbanks, Juneau, Ketchikan, Kodiak, and Seattle. Authorization to establish additional offices at Sitka and Wrangell has been requested.

The following shows the basic activities of the Employment Service during the 1947 fiscal year: 94,285 reception contacts were made; placements were made of 2,133 women and 4,771 veterans as well as 5,637 other placements; there were 14,753 Unemployment Compensation Commission claims and 7,873 servicemen's readjustment allowance claims.

During the past year, 4,771 veterans were placed as compared with 3,346 during the preceding year.

During the year the various offices of the Alaska Territorial Employment Service answered 10,242 inquiries from job inquirers in the continental United States. Of this total, 7,355 were answered since January 1, 1947.

Unemployment Compensation

Employers in the Territory, covered under the unemployment compensation law paid taxes in 1947 in the amount of \$2,451,784 on taxable wages of \$90,806,815. According to these employers' reports, total pay rolls amounted to \$104,206,285, the difference of \$13,399,470 representing earnings of individuals in excess of \$3,000 per year, the statutory limitation for taxing purposes. There were 39,964 workers in covered employment whose average annual wages were \$2,607.50.

Comparable figures for the previous year, 1946, indicate an increase of 98% in total pay rolls, with all industries having increased employment. The largest increase was in heavy construction which accounted for half the increase.

Individual business establishments are up approximately 50% over 1945, there being 2,350 units in 1947 as compared to 1,578 two years earlier. The number of covered workers has increased 32% during the same period.

Unemployment insurance payments under the Territorial law in 1947 were \$556,071, an increase of 35% over 1946. Payments to veterans under the provisions of the Servicemen's Readjustment Allowance Act of 1944 during the same period were \$451,873 as against \$212,736 in 1946.

The various classes of industries, the number of units, and the number of workers covered under the Alaska Unemployment Compensation Law in 1947 are tabulated below:

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Number of Employment Units</u>	<u>Number of Workers Covered</u>
Agriculture	6	95
Fishing	15	108
Mining	169	2,739
Contract Construction	187	12,566
Food Manufacturing	193	10,008
Basic lumber industries	52	783
Furniture	1	11
Printing, publishing	19	151
Fish oils	16	532
Stone, clay, and glass products	3	74
Primary metal industries	2	11

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Number of Employing Units</u>	<u>Number of Workers Covered</u>
Transportation equipment other than boat	1	9
Boat building and repairing	24	118
Fur Manufacturing	1	5
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries	2	2
Bus lines	5	35
Trucking and warehouse	66	551
Other transportation	81	1,325
Water transportation	22	406
Service allied transportation	43	2,048
Communication	7	61
Utilities	12	90
Local utilities and public services not elsewhere classified	10	30
Wholesale merchants	29	110
Wholesale and retail trade	36	312
Retail merchandise	141	1,102
Retail food and liquor	145	553
Automotive dealers	3	14
Clothing stores	58	133
Miscellaneous retail	136	542
Eating, drinking places	272	2,507
Banks	19	210
Insurance - Real Estate	49	104
Hotels	71	435
Personal Service	131	624
Business services not elsewhere classified	43	117
Private vocational schools	6	23
Auto repair	50	246
Electrical and other repair	25	68
Motion pictures	23	163
Amusement, recreation	13	158
Medical and health	42	90
Law Offices	18	32
Engineering and Architectural Services	7	351
Membership organizations	95	244
Government establishments	1	68
TOTAL	2,350	39,964

Public Health and Sanitation

The Territorial Department of Health is financed largely by funds provided by the United States Public Health Service and the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor. The Territory itself contributes only a portion of the funds necessary adequately to maintain and operate the existing facilities. The functions of the Department include communicable disease control, maternal and child health services, crippled children's services, public health

engineering, and public health laboratories. Eight relief stations are maintained in Alaska by the United States Public Health Service. In most of the large towns of the Territory there are private hospitals, the services of which are available to the general public, and physicians, dentists and nurses in private practice, but there still is need for additional trained medical and nursing personnel in all parts of the Territory.

The Alaska Native Service supervises and operates eight hospitals in various parts of the Territory for the benefit of Indians, Eskimos and Aleuts, and also employs upwards of 30 Public Health Nurses, who travel from one Indian village to another teaching sanitation, first aid, maternal and infant care; and who arrange for hospitalization of the sick and injured Indians and Eskimos.

A mobile health unit has been operated for two years by the Territorial Department of Health, for use in the interior of Alaska to give preventive and specified clinical health service to persons living along the Richardson, Glenn, Steese and Alaska Highways from Anchorage and Valdez to Fairbanks and the Canadian border.

During 1946, a health education unit was inaugurated as a separate section of the Department. It is administered by a health education consultant under supervision of the Health Commissioner. The services of the consultant are available to the staff, local health councils, and nurses, on health educational materials and methods.

A tuberculosis control division was established in 1946 with an initial sum of \$250,000 for tuberculosis control. The program consists of case finding, care and hospitalization of the tuberculosis patient, after care and rehabilitation, financial assistance to families of tuberculous patients, tuberculosis education, and the collection of statistical data. This program was continued in 1947 and 1949 by an additional Territorial appropriation of \$350,000.

Although there is still a great need for sanatoria beds, there have been new sanatoria opened in Sitka and Seward in recent years. Present plans call for the Sitka sanatorium's being enlarged to accommodate an additional 200 beds in the next two years.

Besides Mantoux-testing and X-raying of positive reactors in the schools and X-raying of contacts of contagious cases, there is now one photofluorographic X-ray unit in operation aboard the M/S Hygiene, and one transportable unit for use throughout the Territory.

Except for the high tuberculosis incidence in Alaska, the health of its residents is good. Even in southeastern Alaska, where an excessively moist climate prevails, respiratory diseases are far less common than they are in many drier parts of the United States.

Hospitals throughout Alaska are well-equipped and, with air service available to most communities, are generally within reach of the outlying sectors.

EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

Alaska Native Service - During 1947, a total of 96 elementary day schools with an enrollment of 4,635 pupils and 3 vocational boarding high schools, with an enrollment of 790 pupils were maintained by the Alaska Native Service. The elementary schools, which are of varying size, are scattered throughout the Territory. They include 60 one-teacher schools, 19 two-teacher schools, 11 three-teacher schools, 4 four-teacher schools, one five-teacher school and one six-teacher school. All of these schools are solely for Indians, Eskimos and Aleuts except in those instances where no provision exists for schooling of white children in those communities served by Alaska Native Service schools. In such cases admission may be arranged on a tuition basis.

Territorial Schools - The Territorial public schools, organized for the education of white and mixed-blood children, are of two classes; namely, schools within incorporated cities and incorporated school districts, and rural schools located outside of incorporated cities or incorporated districts.

The Territorial schools, both elementary and secondary, are under the general supervision of the Territorial Board of Education with the commissioner of education acting as the executive officer of the board. In incorporated school districts local boards are empowered to perform all duties necessary to the maintenance of schools, subject to the laws of the Territory and the regulations of the Territorial Board of Education. Rural schools are administered directly by the Territorial Department of Education.

Three years of professional training is the minimum requirement for the Alaska elementary teacher's certificate. High school teachers are required to be graduates of a standard 4-year university or college. Both elementary and high school teachers must have completed a minimum of 16 semester hours in professional education courses.

During the school year of 1946-47, 48 rural schools were maintained in addition to schools within 22 incorporated towns and cities. Three hundred seventy-six teachers were employed in these schools, and 7,297 pupils were enrolled.

The public high schools at Anchorage, Cordova, Douglas, Fairbanks, Juneau, Ketchikan, Nome, Petersburg, Seward, Sitka, Skagway, and Wrangell, as well as the rural high schools of Palmer and Wasilla are accredited by the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools. The Sheldon Jackson School, a denominational school located at Sitka, is likewise accredited by the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools.

High schools accredited by the Territorial Department of Education are maintained in the incorporated towns of Craig, Haines, Kodiak, Nenana, Seldovia, and Valdez, and in the rural schools of Bethel, Homer, Kenai, Snag Point, and Unga.

University of Alaska - In common with universities and colleges throughout the States, the University of Alaska has had an increase in enrollment since

the end of the war. In addition to all the special students enrolled in such courses as the mining and home economics short courses, the enrollment of regular credit course students jumped from 146 in the 1945-46 school year to 334 for the first semester of the 1946-47 year and leveled off at 292 for the second semester.

Four-year-degree courses were offered in the following subjects: Agriculture, arts and letters, business administration, chemistry, civil engineering, education, general science, home economics, pre-medicine, and mining (including three distinct lines of specialized work: geological engineering, mining engineering, and metallurgical engineering). In addition the University offered 2 years of work in pre-nursing.

At the October 1946 meeting of the board of regents, the university leased to the Coast and Geodetic Survey a 40-acre tract of land for a period of 99 years at a rental of \$1 per year, upon which the lessee will build, during the summer of 1947, a magnetic observatory at a cost of \$114,000. An appropriation of that sum has been made available for the Department of Commerce, and plans were prepared during the winter.

Agricultural Experimental Stations - Acts of the Congress of the United States extending to Alaska the benefits of the provisions of acts for agricultural experiment stations and extension service enable these departments of the university to establish agricultural experiment stations, and to carry on cooperative extension work in the Territory.

Fairbanks Station - Out of funds now available a definite long-time program of experimental work is being carried on. This includes: dairying, hog production, potato improvement, grain breeding, hay crops, including legumes and grasses, and pasture grasses. Students in agriculture at the university use the experiment station for laboratory work.

Matanuska Station - This station has been operated by the university for the purpose of carrying on experimental work in the production of live-stock and farm crops since 1920. The following projects are being carried on: Potato production, grain breeding, legumes, pasture improvements, dairying, and sheep production. The station has a fine group of buildings and about 120 acres of cleared land.

Petersburg Station - Experiments include projects in housing, nutrition, and disease, and in the management of mink, blue fox, silver fox, and marten. Other fur-bearing animals will be added later.

Work in mining extension is carried on by the school of mines of the university, in accordance with the authorization by the Territorial Legislature. This work is designed to give preliminary training in various phases of geology and mining as a service to those who are unable to take up resident study at the university.

The mining extension courses cover a period of 5 weeks. Special emphasis is placed on the study of mineralogy and geology with supplementary lectures on placer and lode mining methods, and mining law.

Generally speaking, current education facilities are not adequate to accommodate Alaska's fast-growing population. With the constantly increasing availability of skilled labor and of materials, however, it is anticipated that school building programs will be authorized at the next session of the Legislature in 1949 which will rectify this condition.

H O U S I N G

Alaska Housing Authority - The lack of adequate family dwellings, increasingly evident during the war has assumed emergency proportions with the postwar influx of potential settlers to the Territory.

In October 1946, careful surveys by mayors' emergency housing committees were made in various cities to determine minimum requirements for homes by veterans and servicemen. On the basis of these surveys, goals were established calling for the construction of more than 2,800 homes in the Territory. The continued immigration of new settlers, many of whom are veterans, during the balance of the year had made these goals completely inadequate.

Neither public nor private building programs have been able to meet more than an insignificant portion of the housing needs of the people. Temporary veterans housing projects under title V of the Lanham Act have produced less than 100 family units in the Territory. Projects of this nature completed during the year were those at Douglas and Seward, consisting of 24 and 40 remodeled quonset huts, respectively. A similar project at Anchorage, composed of 12 reused barracks buildings containing 96 apartments, was still under construction at the end of the fiscal year, after a long series of delays due to transportation difficulties, labor troubles and financial problems.

The construction of new, adequate homes by private industry has slowed down to a virtual standstill throughout the Territory. Less than 500 standard dwellings in all were started during the 1946 building season. The chief deterrent in this regard is the matter of cost.

The effects of this acute housing crisis are most serious. Again and again, the relationship between substandard and overcrowded housing, and a high communicable disease rate has been demonstrated, particularly with regard to the incidence of tuberculosis. The burden of insanitary, overcrowded and unaesthetic housing falls most heavily upon our women and children, and is crippling the development of healthy family life in the Territory.

The efficiency of government is being impaired. Agencies are unable to employ or retain personnel because there is no housing available for the employees or their families. The personnel turn-over in one important Federal agency in Anchorage exceeded 120 percent during the year, largely due to inadequate housing.

The settlement and development of Alaska is being delayed and defeated. The records show that thousands of prospective Alaskans, many of them

veterans of World War II, have entered the Territory during the past year. There is no record of the number who have left the Territory, bitter and discouraged, because they were unable to find a place to live. The chief deterrent to the encouragement of permanent residence in the Territory continues to be the lack of housing.

Facing this situation, the Alaska Housing Authority has persistently sought some measure of relief. The authority is a territorial corporation, established by the legislature in 1945, controlled by a board of five commissioners who serve without pay other than an allowance for travel. The board appoints an executive director, who executes policies established by the board and supervises the management of its business.

During the fiscal year, the authority continued to manage the defense housing projects in the Territory, under lease from the Federal Public Housing Authority.

Realizing that one of Alaska's basic needs is a substantial amount of new, permanent housing, the Authority has proposed a plan calling for the construction of 5,000 standard homes in the Territory, for rent or sale. Veterans of World War II would be given first priority in these units. Construction in any particular locality would be authorized upon a showing of need by the community, and official application by the authority or by the city. The construction would be financed by the Federal Government through a revolving fund, and the houses would be designed and engineered by local architects and built by local contractors to meet local conditions and needs. Rents charged would be comparable to those in present war housing projects, and the houses would be built on individual lots or in developments which could be subdivided, so that when the occupant wished to purchase the house it could be sold to him as an individual. The terms of purchase would provide that all returns of rental to the Government above operating costs would be credited to the occupant and the amount applied as the down payment on the purchase price. In no event would the purchase price exceed the cost of construction and development.

S O C I A L W E L F A R E

Alaska Pioneers' Home - The Alaska Pioneers' Home at Sitka, established in 1913 by an act of the Territorial legislature, had 174 residents at the end of the fiscal year.

Any indigent person incapable of self-support, who has been a resident of Alaska for 5 years and has no relative legally liable for his support may be admitted to the home upon his application being approved by the board of trustees. This institution, wholly supported by the Territory, contains a completely equipped hospital unit.

During the fiscal year, 51 applications for admittance were approved, 28 residents died and 6 were discharged. (1947)

Department of Public Welfare - Public welfare activities in the Territory, with the exception of the administration of the Pioneers' Home and relief expenditures made by the United States District Judges from the Alaska fund, are centered in the department of public welfare, created by legislative act in 1937. The governing agency is a Board of which the Governor is chairman, with one member appointed by him from each of the four judicial divisions of the Territory. Appointed by the Board is an executive director, who is responsible to the Board for the administration of the various programs and activities of the Department of Public Welfare.

At the close of the 1947 fiscal year the department had four district offices operating in the Territory.

With appropriations drastically curtailed under all programs, the Department on April 1, 1947, closed its district office at Nome and discontinued six other full-time staff positions. In addition nine part-time agents' positions were discontinued, resulting in a serious curtailment in all services. Sufficient funds were provided by the legislature for the juvenile code program to provide services for only those children already committed to the agency by courts. Since April 1, 1947, the Department has not been able to make payments or placements of children committed after that date. Drastic curtailments have also been made since April 1, 1947, in the general relief program whereby only completely bed-ridden cases and immediate-emergency-to-save-life cases are certified for payment of hospitalization care. A total of 105 children as of June 30, 1947, were receiving child care under the juvenile code program.

With the cost of living increasing rapidly since April 1947, it is apparent that the department does not have available to it sufficient funds to provide an adequate standard of assistance.

The following programs are administered by the Department of Public Welfare: Old age assistance, general assistance, juvenile code administration, child welfare services, aid to dependent children:

Old age assistance - This program is administered on the basis of a cooperative plan between the Territory and the Social Security Board and is financed jointly. Any needy person who has attained the age of 65, is a citizen of the United States, has resided in the Territory for 5 of the 9 years immediately preceding the date of his application, who has not made voluntary assignment or transfer of his property for the purpose of obtaining such assistance and who is not a resident of any public institution is eligible to apply for such assistance. The amount of each allowance is determined by individual need of the applicant. Individual grants vary from \$10 to \$60 per month, the maximum allowed by law. The average monthly grant during the past year was \$43.08. The number of persons receiving grants on June 30, 1947 was 1,369. By the end of the fiscal year, the average amount of grant had been dropped to \$39.99. Of the total amount expended during the past year, approximately 53 percent was received in payments from the Federal Security Agency.

General relief - Provision is made by the Territory for food, shelter, clothing, fuel, medical and hospital care for the needy, sick, and unfortunate who are temporarily unable to provide for themselves. Such assistance is available only to that group of the population which does not fall under the jurisdiction of the Office of Indian Affairs.

During the past year the average monthly case load numbered 158, representing 205 persons. These persons were in need of services other than medical or hospitalization.

In addition to the above, the average monthly case count for medical and hospitalization care numbered 101.

Child welfare services - The Territory has two separate and distinct child welfare programs, the juvenile code of administration and aid to dependent children. In addition, this Division in cooperation with the United States Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor administers a Child Welfare Services program designed to establish, extend, and strengthen services to children throughout Alaska. Federal funds for administration are available under title V, section 3 of the Social Security Act. This program is under the supervision of the Division of Social Services. The Division coordinates child welfare services throughout Alaska without regard to race. It cooperates with the Alaska Native Service, United States District Courts, and institutions operated under private auspices.

As of June 30, 1947, 573 child welfare cases were open for service. This was 157 cases more than on June 30, 1946. An average of 207 cases actually received service per month during the past fiscal year. The average number of open cases per month during the past fiscal year was 506. A total of 367 new cases had been referred to the agency during the war.

Aid to dependent children - Under an approved plan with Federal Security Agency, an aid to dependent children's program is administered providing financial assistance for dependent children in their own homes. The total number of children receiving assistance as of June 30, 1947, was 560, as compared to 334 as of July 1, 1946. The average number of children receiving aid per month during the past year was 469 with the average payment per child per month being \$17.67. Due to financial restrictions the average grant per child dropped from \$18.53 per month to \$13.19 per month, and it was necessary to establish waiting lists of eligible cases. As of the end of the fiscal year, there were 35 cases totalling 76 children on the waiting list.

Vital Statistics - The Territorial Auditor is ex-officio registrar of Vital Statistics. During the year ended June 30, 1947, 5,856 vital statistics records were filed, including 2,770 births, 1,349 deaths, 1,642 marriages, and 95 adoptions.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT

Steamship Companies - Four United States and three Canadian steamship companies regularly serve Alaska: The Alaska Steamship Company of Seattle provides service to all ports of the Territory, while the Northland Transportation Company and the Alaska Transportation Company serve southeast Alaska only, and the Santa Ana Steamship Company makes two voyages a year from Seattle to the Kuskokwim River area. The Canadian Pacific Coast Steamships provide service throughout the year as far as Skagway. The Canadian National Steamships and the Union Steamships, Ltd., run from Vancouver, British Columbia, to Ketchikan.

The Government-owned Alaska Railroad runs from Seward on the Southern coast of Alaska to Fairbanks in the Interior - a distance of some 470 miles. Major communities along the railbelt are Seward, Anchorage, Palmer, Nenana and Fairbanks.

Alaska's highway system consists principally of the Steese and Richardson "trails" which together link Valdez and Circle, via Fairbanks, the Elliott highway between Fairbanks and Livengood, the Glenn Highway from Anchorage to the Richardson, Alaska highway to the States, Abercrombie trail and Haines cutoff (see Exhibit "C").

The army signal corps maintains and operates telegraphic service between all principal communities and the states. Radio telephone service is also provided by the Signal Corps on a "long distance" basis.

The Signal Corps also leases from the Canadian Government telephone and teletype overland wire facilities along the Alaska Highway. In addition, the Signal Corps operates and maintains the land lines along that portion of the Alaska and Richardson Highways from the Canada-Alaska Boundary at Mile 1221, to Fairbanks.

The Alaska Aeronautics and Communications Commission, commercial radio stations, and amateur ("ham") radio operators all contribute substantial communications services with respect to the outlying areas.

DEVELOPMENT

The Alaska Development Board, which was established by the Territorial Legislature in 1945, has directed most of its activities in behalf of new and expanded industrial and business enterprises in Alaska. The Board has been working closely with several groups contemplating the establishment of pulp and paper mills in Southeast Alaska, assisting them in meeting some of the many problems which heretofore have prevented entry of this industry into the Territory. Studies have continued on the feasibility of establishing a creosoting plant and of locating various small woodworking enterprises in the Territory.

"Trouble-shooting" for small Alaska industries has been another important phase of the Development Board's work. A brick factory at Anchorage has expanded its output partly as a result of assistance given by the Board in obtaining needed machinery and facilitating its shipment. Studies have been made of the possibility of building a cement plant in Alaska to reduce the cost of this building material. Assistance to veterans has had special attention. Largely through the intervention of the Board, a group of veterans of World War II were enabled to purchase a small surplus oil tanker for use in distributing petroleum products throughout westward Alaska.

Work in the fisheries field has included a joint investigation with the Fish and Wildlife Service of the fishery possibilities in Bering Sea, cooperation with the Fishery Products Laboratory at Ketchikan in studying the toxicity of Alaska butter clams, and the interesting of several groups contemplating the utilization of fish waste for meal, oil, and byproducts.

From its inception, the Alaska Development Board has recognized the tourist industry as one which has a great future in Alaska. Several operators have been assisted by the Board in locating resorts in Alaska. The Board has also kept travel agencies informed of the facts about tourist and travel accommodations in the Territory.

The potentialities for a profitable tourist industry in Alaska are boundless. Every conceivable type of eye-catching scenery, - snow-topped mountains, great forests, green valleys and farmland, - are accessible to the tourists. In addition, the Territory is a paradise for sportsmen, with its hunting and fishing unmatched anywhere in the world. At present, however, widespread adequate tourist facilities are lacking.

The Board has actively opposed increases in freight rates sought by steamship, lighterage, and terminal concerns. The case of Alaska's aviation industry for suitable routes has also had the backing of the Board. The office has established a system of arranging distributorships in Alaska for numerous manufacturers and wholesalers.

One of the most prominent of the Board's activities is in its program of publications. Nine separate pamphlets have been published and a total of about 17,000 copies distributed. These publications cover the fields of trade, industry, farming, livestock raising, recreation, fur farming, and tourist lodge development possibilities in Alaska.

