

# THE WRANGELL SENTINEL

Oldest Continuously Printed Newspaper In The Territory

VOLUME 43 NO. 33

WRANGELL, ALASKA

JULY 12, 1946

PRICE TEN CENTS

## THROUGH THE SENTINEL PERISCOPE

Interior Secretary Julius A. Krug plans to visit the Territory next month. While here, the Secretary hopes to visit various communities, meeting its people and getting acquainted with America's "last frontier." An official reception will be given by Governor Gruening during the Secretary's stay in Juneau.

The so-called Russian "iron curtain" about which so much is written from the European theater also extends to Alaska. The Little Diomed Island off the Seward Peninsula in Bering Straits is American. It's adjoining island, the Big Diomed, is Russian. The people of the two islands through the years have enjoyed free intercourse. Friends and relatives reside on both sides of the international line and they have traveled freely from one island to the other—on ice in winter, with kayak in summer. Recently the edict came out of the Soviet Union that there was to be no more traffic to the Big Diomed. Persons on the American Little Diomed can no longer travel back and forth to see their friends on Russian Big Diomed, a distance of approximately eight miles. The "iron curtain" is down.

A five-day truce voted by longshoremen at Ketchikan and Juneau permitted unloading of vessels in those ports this week despite the fact that still no approval has been given by War Shipping Administration and the Wage Stabilization Board to authorize ship operators to pay the agreed wage increase to \$1.52 an hour straight time and \$1.98 overtime. Ships were loaded with foodstuffs which were running low in both towns. Due to the work stoppage previous week much of the perishables were spoiled, having to be thrown overboard. Merchants were taking the rap. Longshoremen said that three times they had been promised the pay increase would be forthcoming as agreed to last spring but nothing had happened. Ship operators as agents of War Shipping had to await word from that agency before meeting the increase. Truce was to end today and work would stop again unless authorization was forthcoming from Washington to the steamship companies to pay the wage increase. It was rank injustice so far as Alaska is concerned as the increase was being paid down the coast. Gov. Gruening, other officials and representatives of the communities effected were putting on every pressure to try to get action but as this was written it hadn't been forthcoming. It was only after appeal by the Governor that the longshoremen finally voted the truce so that ships in ports could be unloaded.

Canadian vessels were still having their troubles in Juneau. Water-front workers had asked for a contract, the same as with American lines. CPR doesn't sign contracts in foreign ports, but pays the scale of whatever port where its vessels call. Longshoremen were refusing to handle anything but mail. Passengers could only take hand baggage. Meanwhile, Steve Glumaz, CIO head in Seattle, and CPR officials in Victoria were fighting it out. There was real danger that Juneau might ultimately be by-passed by CPR (Continued on Page Four)

### COSTS MONEY TO "SLING THE BULL" IN WRANGELL

The Wrangell Sentinel (and Nore's Dairy cows) came in for national recognition through the columns of Collier's National Weekly this week (July 13) because of an ad carried recently.

Frank Dufresne, former head, Alaska Game Commission in Juneau and now a writer for Collier's besides being chief of information for the Fish and Wildlife Service, is the responsible party. In the famed column "Any Week," written by brilliant Walter Davenport of Collier's appears the following contribution from our friend Frank:

"The Argus-eyed Mr. Frank Dufresne of Chicago, Illinois, was reading his favorite newspaper, the Wrangell (Alaska) Sentinel, published by his friend Mr. Lew Williams. Therein he saw the following ad, sending it to us immediately: 'Fertilizer \$3.50 per load. Shovelov over fence \$2.00 extra.'"

The Sentinel and Nore's Dairy take a collective bow—Chinky Nore gets national recognition for "slinging the bull;" we get national recognition for printing it (and Walter Davenport makes the columns of The Sentinel.)"

### GEOLOGISTS SURVEYING WRANGELL GARNET LEDGE

Mr. Calder Bressler heads a party from the U. S. Geological Survey Office now on the river surveying and studying the garnet ledge there. Assisting him are William Holser and Wayne Swift, also of the U. S. Geological Survey.

Purpose of the party is to map the area and determine the extent of the field as there is now no definite record of this world famous ledge in the Survey files.

Mr. Bressler stated that the garnets located in this particular region of the world have no value as gems as all the stones are fractured but such stones as are found here are used commercially to make sandpaper of a better grade than the common quartz sandpaper.

The party expects to be here until at least August to complete their work.

Mrs. Holser, who accompanied her husband here with their small child, have taken the George Sumption house while Mr. and Mrs. Sumption are in the south.

### FARWEST STARTS OPERATIONS WITH GOOD ANAN CATCH

Just like "old times" the Farwest cannery whistle blew Thursday morning at 7 o'clock to call its crews to work after the previous day's opening of the fishing season at Anan Creek.

Many boats from town, carrying fishermen, fish buyers and sight-seers made the trip Wednesday and on returning reported Anan fishing as the best in several years past. Estimates put the fish at 100,000 in the creek and Wrangell's Farwest Cannery brought in 6,000 the first day with about the same number being brought in each day since.

Total figure of the fish take from Anan was not available today but it was reported there were twenty-three buyers on the ground the opening day.

Those who walked up the creek said the creek was thick with fish which boded a good escapement.

## EDITORIAL

### CHAMBER TO ASK SHAKES ISLAND BE TURNED OVER TO CITY

Wrangell Chamber of Commerce at its regular meeting yesterday noon at Civic Center passed a motion that a letter be written to the City Council asking that the city take steps to have Shakes Island turned over to the city for a city park. As it is now, it was pointed out, the property is in the hands of the Native Service, which bureau does nothing to maintain it and the key to the community house is not available when tourists are in town.

Mrs. Howard Baltzo, who was present and who is the President of the Wrangell Women's Civic Club, announced that that club had voted \$2 per week from its treasury to keep the grass cut. Leo McCormack suggested that the Chamber match these funds until something can be done to provide a permanent maintenance fund.

Another topic of discussion was completion of the road to Pat's Lake. The four miles, which extends beyond the end of the road south of town has for ten years been cleared for a roadway but nothing further has been done. It was decided to contact the road commission to see if grading and surfacing could not be completed thereby giving people of Wrangell access to Wrangell's only nearby lake by automobile for a picnic and camping spot.

A letter was read from John McCrary, Jr., of Anchorage, President of the Alaska Statehood Association, asking that any funds collected by the Wrangell branch be immediately sent in to Anchorage headquarters in order to help defray the expenses of the statistical research being made by George Sundborg on the pros and cons of statehood for Alaska. President James Nolan invited anyone interested to contact Fred Hanford, head of the Wrangell unit, with donations. Vote on the measure will come up in the fall and the statistics gathered by Sundborg are expected to help people in their decisions on how to vote.

A letter was read to Lee Ellis from Pan American Airways, the Chamber having received a similar letter some time ago, asking full information on tourist attractions and accommodations in the Wrangell vicinity. The letter explained that PAA was receiving many inquiries as to what a tourist might expect here in the way of hunting, fishing, sight-seeing and accommodations.

Catch in it all is that the island is in the custody of the Native Service who say they have no funds with which to keep the place in shape. Key to the community house is kept out at Wrangell Institute so tourists who tramp down to the island with the expectation of seeing the house find it locked. It seems shameful that after the expenditure put into the place, and the interesting history behind it, that means cannot be found to make its interior accessible to people from the Outside.

Chamber President James Nolan suggested that steps be taken to try and have the island turned over to the city as a city park. This, it seems to us, would be a wonderful solution. It was pointed out that if this were done a guide could be hired to show tourists around and a small admission could be charged to pay the guide and keep the place in order. As it is now admission can not be charged to a government-owned property and yet, as was pointed out before, the Native Service which controls it, has no funds with which to maintain it. It seems strange that after putting so much money, time and trouble into building such places bureau budgets do not look farther toward maintenance, but that's how it is.

Motion was made yesterday that the Chamber write a letter to the City Council asking them to contact the Native Service to have it turned over to the city. We hope this will be done speedily. It probably is too late for this year, and it will take an act of Congress to put it through, but as long as the Native Service hasn't the money to keep the place in the fitting order which it deserves, it probably will be glad to relinquish its rights in it.

In the meantime, as was suggested at the Chamber, the Native Service might be induced to consent to allow the key to be left in the hands of Chamber President James Nolan at the Den O'Sweets where it would be handy and Walter Shaddesty, who formerly acted as guide, could be hired to open the community house and show tourists around, returning the key after each visit, so Wrangell's, in fact Southeast Alaska's outstanding tourist site, could take its place, as it was meant to, as a mecca for tourists.

Another place of interest which Wrangell has overlooked and which was mentioned by Chamber Secretary and Mayor of Wrangell Doris Barnes and which, to our notion, ranks almost with Shakes Island, was the site of the petroglyphs on the beach near the garbage dump. It doesn't sound inviting, but nevertheless it is true that out on the beach north of town are what are probably some of the oldest rock-writings on the north American continent. They were carved by long since forgotten tribes which, authorities tell us, came down the Stikine ages ago and marked the sites of good salmon fishing for tribes which might follow. We seldom hear them mentioned in Alaska publicity, yet the rock writings of Colorado and New Mexico are fam-

### CHAMBER TO ASK SHAKES ISLAND BE TURNED OVER TO CITY

Wrangell Chamber of Commerce at its regular meeting yesterday noon at Civic Center passed a motion that a letter be written to the City Council asking that the city take steps to have Shakes Island turned over to the city for a city park. As it is now, it was pointed out, the property is in the hands of the Native Service, which bureau does nothing to maintain it and the key to the community house is not available when tourists are in town.

Mrs. Howard Baltzo, who was present and who is the President of the Wrangell Women's Civic Club, announced that that club had voted \$2 per week from its treasury to keep the grass cut. Leo McCormack suggested that the Chamber match these funds until something can be done to provide a permanent maintenance fund.

Another topic of discussion was completion of the road to Pat's Lake. The four miles, which extends beyond the end of the road south of town has for ten years been cleared for a roadway but nothing further has been done. It was decided to contact the road commission to see if grading and surfacing could not be completed thereby giving people of Wrangell access to Wrangell's only nearby lake by automobile for a picnic and camping spot.

A letter was read from John McCrary, Jr., of Anchorage, President of the Alaska Statehood Association, asking that any funds collected by the Wrangell branch be immediately sent in to Anchorage headquarters in order to help defray the expenses of the statistical research being made by George Sundborg on the pros and cons of statehood for Alaska. President James Nolan invited anyone interested to contact Fred Hanford, head of the Wrangell unit, with donations. Vote on the measure will come up in the fall and the statistics gathered by Sundborg are expected to help people in their decisions on how to vote.

A letter was read to Lee Ellis from Pan American Airways, the Chamber having received a similar letter some time ago, asking full information on tourist attractions and accommodations in the Wrangell vicinity. The letter explained that PAA was receiving many inquiries as to what a tourist might expect here in the way of hunting, fishing, sight-seeing and accommodations.

Catch in it all is that the island is in the custody of the Native Service who say they have no funds with which to keep the place in shape. Key to the community house is kept out at Wrangell Institute so tourists who tramp down to the island with the expectation of seeing the house find it locked. It seems shameful that after the expenditure put into the place, and the interesting history behind it, that means cannot be found to make its interior accessible to people from the Outside.

Chamber President James Nolan suggested that steps be taken to try and have the island turned over to the city as a city park. This, it seems to us, would be a wonderful solution. It was pointed out that if this were done a guide could be hired to show tourists around and a small admission could be charged to pay the guide and keep the place in order. As it is now admission can not be charged to a government-owned property and yet, as was pointed out before, the Native Service which controls it, has no funds with which to maintain it. It seems strange that after putting so much money, time and trouble into building such places bureau budgets do not look farther toward maintenance, but that's how it is.

Motion was made yesterday that the Chamber write a letter to the City Council asking them to contact the Native Service to have it turned over to the city. We hope this will be done speedily. It probably is too late for this year, and it will take an act of Congress to put it through, but as long as the Native Service hasn't the money to keep the place in the fitting order which it deserves, it probably will be glad to relinquish its rights in it.

In the meantime, as was suggested at the Chamber, the Native Service might be induced to consent to allow the key to be left in the hands of Chamber President James Nolan at the Den O'Sweets where it would be handy and Walter Shaddesty, who formerly acted as guide, could be hired to open the community house and show tourists around, returning the key after each visit, so Wrangell's, in fact Southeast Alaska's outstanding tourist site, could take its place, as it was meant to, as a mecca for tourists.

Another place of interest which Wrangell has overlooked and which was mentioned by Chamber Secretary and Mayor of Wrangell Doris Barnes and which, to our notion, ranks almost with Shakes Island, was the site of the petroglyphs on the beach near the garbage dump. It doesn't sound inviting, but nevertheless it is true that out on the beach north of town are what are probably some of the oldest rock-writings on the north American continent. They were carved by long since forgotten tribes which, authorities tell us, came down the Stikine ages ago and marked the sites of good salmon fishing for tribes which might follow. We seldom hear them mentioned in Alaska publicity, yet the rock writings of Colorado and New Mexico are fam-

### PUBLISHER IS CHOSEN GRAND

**E. R. OF ELKS**  
NEW YORK — Charles E. Broughton, editor and publisher of the Sheboygan, Wis. Press, July 9th was elected Grand Exalted Ruler of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.  
Broughton, a member of the Order for 43 years and Chairman of the Board of Grand Trustees before election to the new post, succeeded Wade H. Kepner of Wheeling, W. Va., as leader of 800,000 Elks affiliated with 1,500 lodges.

### RETURNS FROM KETCHIKAN

Mrs. Ted Hethcock returned home on the North Sea after several days in Ketchikan. Mrs. Hethcock went to the First City to take in the Fourth of July celebration there and to visit her husband who is engaged in the fishing industry there for the summer. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Cunningham of Wrangell and is visiting them for the summer with her small daughter, Sandra.

### FBI AGENT HERE

Jack Hays, FBI agent from the Juneau headquarters, was in town this week. He returned to Juneau Wednesday by plane.

ous and tourists flock there to see and photograph them. It is to be regretted that those of Wrangell are not better known and it is to be regretted that the background for these ancient and irreplaceable landmarks is — the garbage dump.

Wrangell is the only town in Southeastern Alaska, on the regular steamer run, which has such valuable and interesting Native arts and, after all, besides scenery, these are what tourists to the Territory are most interested in. Wrangell is the leading tourist-appeal town. No means should be spared to capitalize on and preserve its Native attractions.

### HIGHER SALMON FREIGHT RATES ASKED INSTEAD OF GENERAL INCREASE

WASHINGTON—Alaska this week informed the Maritime Commission that freight rates on canned salmon should be increased but Alaska steamship lines ought to be refused a general rate increase.

David E. Scoll, counsel for the Alaska Development Board and Ralph Rivers, Attorney General of the Territory, filed a brief following recent hearings here on proposals of War Shipping Administration to increase Alaskan rates.

The steamship lines presented testimony that an increase of about 68 per cent would be needed to give them a profit under present conditions.

They said they did not want the WSA to return their steamers until the rate question was settled. If they were returned before that, they said, they would not operate the lines at present rates.

Scoll and Rivers say in their brief that the canned salmon rate should be equalized with rates on other freight and said the southbound rate on salmon is too low.

**Industry Can Pay**  
"The record proves that canned salmon can and should bear some of the extra cost of serving ports, which is higher than the cost of serving the principal Alaska ports," the brief says. "There is no question of ability to pay more."

The brief contends that if extra revenue has to be raised it should be raised on salmon rather than on a general rate increase.

Scoll and Rivers argue the Commission should define the nature of Alaska's shipping need, which will enable Congress and the Alaska Legislature to approve remedial measures.

**Carriers Have Cash**  
They contend that vessels now operated on the Alaska run should be replaced, saying 19 vessels operated by three lines average from 19 years to 76 years old and new vessels would permit more economical operation.

They further contend that notwithstanding the claim of the carriers that they cannot and will not require operation under existing rates, their balance sheets showed a capital surplus at the end of 1945.

"The consensus of the parties (in the case) is that special legislation is required to provide Alaska with adequate water transportation at reasonable rates and charges, in order to secure a permanent solution of this problem," the brief continues.

"However, before any such program for a permanent solution of Alaskan shipping needs can be really effective, a more careful analysis of the rates applicable to various commodities and classes of traffic must be made than was in this proceeding. Otherwise government assistance will merely perpetuate the inequalities and inequities of the existing tariff structure."

**Hearings Scheduled**  
While the Maritime Commission is considering its decision, Representative Jackson (D-Wash.) announced his subcommittee of the House Maritime Commission would begin hearings in Seattle and Alaska on the Alaskan steamship problem as soon as Congress adjourns.

Wrangell friends are receiving announcements this week of the forthcoming marriage Monday, July 15, of Trygve Hansen, pilot for the Wrangell-Petersburg Air Service, to Miss Esther Grace Horton, Petersburg school teacher and daughter of Mrs. Mary Horton. The marriage will take place at 8:30 p. m. at the Petersburg Lutheran church and a reception at Legion hall will immediately follow the ceremony.

Mr. Hansen was born in Wrangell and has many friends here who plan to fly over for the nuptials.

He was recently discharged from the Navy Air Corps where he served as a Lieutenant.

### PLOT TRYGVE HANSEN AND MISS ESTHER HORTON TO BE MARRIED MONDAY

Wrangell friends are receiving announcements this week of the forthcoming marriage Monday, July 15, of Trygve Hansen, pilot for the Wrangell-Petersburg Air Service, to Miss Esther Grace Horton, Petersburg school teacher and daughter of Mrs. Mary Horton. The marriage will take place at 8:30 p. m. at the Petersburg Lutheran church and a reception at Legion hall will immediately follow the ceremony.

Mr. Hansen was born in Wrangell and has many friends here who plan to fly over for the nuptials.

He was recently discharged from the Navy Air Corps where he served as a Lieutenant.

Mr. Hansen was born in Wrangell and has many friends here who plan to fly over for the nuptials.

He was recently discharged from the Navy Air Corps where he served as a Lieutenant.

### INFANT DAUGHTER DIES

Donna Shagin, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Shagin, died Wednesday night at Bishop Rowe hospital of pneumonia. She would have been nine months old on July 30. Funeral was held today with interment at Wrangell Memorial Cemetery.

Surviving, beside the parents are a brother and two sister, Evanalny, Mary and Catherine Shagin.

### PASSES IN PETERSBURG

A brief flash to The Sentinel this afternoon announced that Mrs. Pat Devenney, wife of a well known local fisherman, had passed away in Petersburg this afternoon. No details were available up to press time.

### MARRIED

Miss Dorothy Engleman and Mr. Jack Harris were married last Saturday, July 8, by U. S. Commissioner R. J. Suratt.

### H. C. MCKOWAN RETURNS; FREED ON BOND

H. C. McKowan, wounded by a .22 rifle shot fired by his wife on May 27, returned here by plane Saturday afternoon and was immediately lodged in the Federal Jail on a charge of simple assault filed by his wife. Assault was alleged to have been a threat on her life previous to the shooting. He remained in jail until Saturday evening when, the assault charge dismissed, he was freed under a \$2000 peace bond. Following the May shooting McKowan was flown to Seattle where his left eye was removed.

Interviewed here, McKowan claimed that the rifle with which he was shot was empty and that his wife slept. She previously alleged he kept the gun in the kitchen, fully loaded at all times, to kill cats. McKowan said he had come back to Wrangell to take care of his business, but Mrs. McKowan a short time ago filed a suit asking the telephone company income be given her for her support and that of her daughter and a child due to arrive soon.

McKowan was accompanied here by his mother, Mrs. Olive Bechtol of Seattle.

### BARKLEY PASSES FOR PRICE CONTROL BILL

WASHINGTON — Undaunted by open talk of another veto, Democratic Leader Barkley pressed the Senate this week for final action on a new OPA bill.

Cheerful despite rapid setbacks in the form of hands-off amendments, covering meats, milk, butter, salad oils and gasoline, the Kentuckian told reporters he still is hopeful of getting a price control revival measure that the President could sign.

"We got a better bill than either the Senate or House passed last time from a conference," Barkley said. "Maybe we can still improve on that this time."

But another administration lieutenant who may not be identified further said President Truman would balk again unless some way is found to overturn Senate actions barring future price ceilings on many items important in the cost of living.

Following up its 49 to 26 vote Tuesday to keep meat free of OPA ceilings under any revival, the chamber voted these additional touch-not provisions this week:

1. Milk and all other dairy products, an amendment sponsored by Senator Wherry (R-Nebr.) and approved 51 to 27.
2. Cottonseed, soy beans and their products, by Senator Eastland (D-Miss.) 42 to 34.
3. Petroleum and its products as long as supply exceeds domestic demand, by Senator Moore (R-Okla.) 46 to 39.

The only administration victory during the two days of OPA mauling came when the chamber rejected 32 to 40 an amendment offered by Senator Reed (R-Kas.) to exempt grains and their by-products.

### WRANGELL RECEIVES \$3,300 LIQUOR REFUND

Wrangell receives a \$3,300 liquor license refund this year, it is announced this week by the office of the Treasurer of the Territory. Oscar G. Olson, Treasurer, said that refunds to incorporated towns in the Territory, which have all been paid for 1946, total \$169,412.51.

Eleven communities in the First Division received checks; seven in the Third; one in the second and three in the Fourth.

Biggest check of \$39,916.67 went to the city of Anchorage; second largest to Fairbanks, with Juneau and Ketchikan neck and neck for the third and fourth largest respectively. Amounts refunded in the First Division were:

- Craig, \$2,850; Douglas, \$1,200; Haines, \$1,600; Juneau, \$18,250; Ketchikan, \$17,800; Petersburg, \$3,500; Port Alexander, \$1,350; Pelican City, \$1,300; Skagway, \$2,900; Sitka, \$7,450; Wrangell, \$3,300.

OPEN MEETING FOR  
**ALL FISHERMEN**  
at the  
**FIREHALL**  
Sat. July 13, 7:30 p.m.  
Pertaining to a new  
**COLD STORAGE**

**SAT. July 13,**  
**ORCHESTRA**

# DANCE

All Welcome  
ADM. \$ 1.25