

# THE DOUGLAS ISLAND NEWS

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## COMMERCE FOR TERRITORY BIG

### Balance of Trade Larger Than Last Year—Business on a Steady Basis Now

In the annual report of Collector of Customs John W. Troy for the year ending December 31, 1920, it is found that the balance of trade in favor of the Territory of Alaska is more than a million and a half dollars more than in 1919. It is seen by a glance in the report that slowly but surely during the past several years the relative positions of the imports and exports are taking place. The relative decrease in imports shows that we are producing more of the necessities of life and as a consequence are becoming less dependent upon the rest of the world for our needs.

The total commerce of Alaska for 1920 was \$189,328,982 and was divided as follows:

| IMPORTS                                   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Merchandise from U.S.                     | \$28,374,352 |
| Merchandise from foreign ports            | 7,547,318    |
| Gold and silver from foreign ports        | 27,409       |
| Total imports                             | \$35,949,079 |
| EXPORTS                                   |              |
| Merchandise to U.S.                       | \$40,827,231 |
| Merchandise to foreign ports              | 2,236,725    |
| Domestic gold and silver to United States | 7,413,751    |
| Foreign gold and silver to United States  | 28,492       |
| Total exports                             | \$48,511,422 |

Grand total of exports and imports \$184,328,982

A study of the table covering exports and imports shows substantial gains in all minerals except gold and tin. The net result having a value of three million dollars. Copper shows the greatest gain with lead, palladium and platinum following. The petroleum production is said to be the largest from any one source in the United States.

Development Alaska shows a greater production of precious metals than the other districts combined. Owing to favorable light and transportation facilities the gold mines of this district have been running continuously during the period of depression. Other gains will be noted in furs, lumber and rubber wood. The large gain in fur values is attributed to improved hunting and the price of fur seal skins.

Of the home fish products show the greatest. This takes with the other items makes a total of about three and one-half million. The depressed catch of food fish and the falling market for the products doubtless account for that item of loss. The others are due to the generally depressed business conditions. The trend movement is shown in the statement of arrivals and departures, which are equal, indicates a lack of growth in population, but there has been some shifting from one part of the Territory to the other, resulting in the interior being in the coastal areas.

The value of merchandise and gold and silver shipped from Alaska to the United States during 1920 amounted to \$48,511,422, compared with \$48,511,422 in 1919.

| FISH                    |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Frank's salmon          | \$70,812     |
| Dried or cured          | 256,287      |
| Pickled                 | 674,714      |
| Salmon canned           | 24,781,376   |
| all other               | 1,127,658    |
| Hermit, catfish         | 49,749       |
| Clams, canned           | 43,432       |
| Shrimps                 | 54,261       |
| Fish and fertilizer     | 229,129      |
| Fish and whale oil      | 1,144,129    |
| All other fish products | 128,269      |
| Furs and fur skins      | 2,291,581    |
| Copper ore              | 54,509       |
| Lead ore                | 119,692      |
| Iron bullion            | 3,482        |
| Mercury                 | 154,223      |
| Bullion                 | 125,853      |
| Palladium               | 24,857       |
| Tin ore                 | 22,499       |
| Lumber                  | 99,315       |
| Rubberwood              | 87,463       |
| All other merchandise   | 42,277       |
| Gold and silver         | 7,413,751    |
| E. S. goods returned    | 2,413,479    |
| Foreign goods           | 552,255      |
| Total                   | \$48,511,422 |

The comparative statement showing the value of merchandise shipped from the United States to cities of the First Division shows that Ketchikan received more goods than any other port in this section. The table follows:

|                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| Haines           | 294,740      |
| Juneau and Thane | 3,187,456    |
| Ketchikan        | 2,969,611    |
| Petersburg       | 648,732      |
| Sitka            | 217,482      |
| Skagway          | 218,497      |
| Treadwell        | 297,311      |
| Wrangell         | 623,602      |
| All other places | 6,610,245    |
| Total            | \$18,872,211 |

The principal cities as to receipts of merchandise from the States in the entire Territory are as follows:

|              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| Anchorage    | \$2,969,611 |
| Ketchikan    | 2,969,611   |
| Juneau-Thane | 3,187,456   |
| Cordova      | 1,876,241   |

## MEXICAN TELLS STRANGE STORY

### Says He Was Held Captive by Four Men at Freshwater Bay for Three Months

Recalling the tales of fiction is a story told by Ynez Mesa, a Mexican, who arrived on Douglas Island on the Ketchikan last week and seeking shelter with friends at Treadwell went to deputy United States marshal to take charge of him as a protection from a gang of alleged moonshiners whom he claimed had been keeping him in captivity at Freshwater bay for the past three months and forcing him to make moonshine without pay. He stated that he was held captive and paying \$250 a month and did his talking through an interpreter, claiming he had worked at a cannery at Pavlov Harbor last summer and at the end of the season he combined his funds with a man named Tom Smith at Freshwater bay and they started bootlegging for the winter.

Late in the fall three men arrived and with Smith started making moonshine in the meantime making him a captive and paying him no wages, and finally saying that they were going to kill him. About January 24 he said he made his escape and waited overland to Tenakee, where he was for a few days before getting the Ketchikan to come here.

The gas boat Iris, Capt. George L. Johnson, with Deputy William Gerner and A. E. Loy on board, went to Freshwater bay late last week and made a thorough examination of the cabin and the men there and talked with a number of people about the matter. Upon their return to town Tuesday night they said they were convinced there was no truth in Mesa's statements.

Mesa is being kept in the federal jail, as he has no funds and does not wish to leave the jail, as he claims that the men who held him in captivity are still after him. After visiting Freshwater bay, the Iris, with the deputy marshals on board, went to Pylow bay, where an attachment was put on the plant of the Pylow Bay Packing Co. on account of an alleged indebtedness to Charles G. Warner of Juneau.

## PRICES STEADIER ON CANNED FISH

### Chums Reported to Have Gone Up, But Price Yet Lower Than Production Cost

Private address received in Ketchikan this morning from Seattle say that quotations on canned salmon are more encouraging now than they have been for months. For chums have advanced seventy-two cents a case with the market brisk, says the Ketchikan Chronicle. A few weeks ago chums were selling as low as fifty-seven cents a dozen, while they are now bringing seventy-five cents, with encouragement offered for better quotations. Salmon packers generally who are in Seattle looking after their products are more optimistic today than they have been in months and many of them even hope that the greater part of the 1920 packs will be disposed of before the salmon season is over in 1921. By many it is pointed out that if there had not been such a large part of the 1920 pack left over that the 1920 pack would be moving at fair prices. Unfortunately for the packers, however, at this time the prices were offered some of seventy-five cents a dozen is not enough to pay the cost of putting them up, for it is estimated that even the most cheaply packed chums cannot be put up for less than a dollar a dozen.

## FIRE MEETING

There is to be a meeting of the Douglas Fire Department at five headquarters next Monday night. The principal items on the agenda are the report of the fire department for the past year and the election of officers for the coming year. The meeting will be held at the headquarters of the fire department at five o'clock next Monday night.

## OLD SWIMMIN' HOLE BEING DEMOLISHED

### Old Tank at the Nat. and Building That Housed It Being Torn Down This Week

Another landmark is disappearing from Douglas this week in the old swimming tank at the Natatorium which is being torn down by Axel Krougstad. Mr. Krougstad is demolishing the building that housed the tank in the rear of Natatorium hall and will also tear up the tank. He will use the lumber and pipe contained in the place.

The swimming tank was constructed approximately nineteen years ago by the Douglas Natatorium Association, which built it at the rear of the big building known as the Armory. The association was started by a body of stockholders who purchased stock in the concern with the idea of operating a gymnasium and swimming pool for the people of the island.

For a time affairs prospered and the swimming tank had a big run, but salt-water bulbs and swimming parties being popular. Most all of the generation of young folks who have now grown up learned to swim in the old "Nat." The pool had been in operation but a short time when on the 4th of July, 1902, the ship leading to the boat on the ferry chart broke and dropped some sixty-five or seventy Douglas young folks into the waters of the Channel. They were all pathed over that day watching a greater folk exhibition. Most of the young folks who fell into the bay that day had just learned to swim in the tank shortly before, so they paddled around like Spaulds, and there was no loss of life, although there were some hair-breadth escapes and daring rescues.

Since the day of that accident the old tank has had a place in the hearts of most people of the island, and it is said, that if there had been to tank many people would have been drowned.

After serving a few years the Natatorium Association encountered financial difficulties through which it could not struggle and gave up. The place was then opened by private parties several times afterwards but has never been a success from a financial standpoint and finally the old tank was abandoned and has now become rotted and broken and the building that housed it is tumbling around it.

The Treadwell company, owners of the building, authorized the destruction of it, and within a few days the "old swimmin' hole" will be a thing of the past.

Even after the closing down of the tank here the people of the island enjoyed a swimming place, as a fine tank was built at the Treadwell Club that was in use every day for many years until the cave-in of the Treadwell mine when the tank and building that covered it went straight down when the earth underneath them gave way.

## SPECIAL FERRY

To accommodate the people who wish to attend the fifteenth annual ball of the Juneau Fire Department, which is to be given at the A. H. Hall tomorrow night, the ferry that leaves Juneau at 7:30 each Saturday night will be extended to Thane and Treadwell tomorrow night and is scheduled to leave Thane for Juneau at 8 o'clock, Treadwell at 8:15 and Douglas at 8:30.

## PACKING HERRING

A. H. Sonsthagen, who is in charge of the Douglas Island Packing Company plant during the absence of J. H. Long, the owner, on a selling trip to the East, is packing herring in half pound cans by an unique method of his own. After the herring are cleaned they are pickled in vinegar and all kinds of spices for quite a while and later put up into cans. The salt, after counting, are said to be fine and constitute a delicacy in food that is hard to beat. Mr. Sonsthagen caught the herring himself while out at a herring station this summer and it was with this load of pickled fish that he was wrecked below Taku inlet last fall, managing, however, to save his cargo after his boat was wrecked.

## TO PRINCE RUPERT

Having heard from Mr. Gurr that he has at last been able to secure apartments, Mrs. A. E. Gurr and two children, Jack and Cecile, will leave for Prince Rupert on the next trip of the Princess Mary, February 24. The family will make their home at Prince Rupert, near where Mr. Gurr is engaged in the logging business with Knoll Palmston, formerly of this city.

## ASSOCIATION TO MAKE ITS PROTEST

### Parent-Teacher Body Opposed to Abolishment of Government Schools for Natives

The principal features of the meeting of the Douglas Parent-Teacher Association here Monday night was the adoption of resolutions opposing the abolishment of the government schools for natives in Alaska. The attendance of the natives into the city schools was also opposed. The secretary of the association was instructed to forward a copy of the resolutions to Delegate George B. Grigby at Washington, D. C.

John Rustgard, attorney general, elect of Alaska, was the speaker of the evening and addressed the association on educational matters.

Mrs. J. C. McElroy of Juneau, accompanied by Miss Helen Stanfield on the piano, gave a reading that was pronounced one of the best of its kind heard in Douglas. The High School orchestra gave numerous selections and there were also vocal numbers by the children of the school.

## NO MORE LIGHTS NOW AT SKAGWAY

### Council Orders Street Lights Cut Off When Disagreement Arises With Company

The city council and the Home Power Company of Skagway have had a disagreement over the charges for street lights in the city that culminated on February 11 in all the street lights being cut off and the city is now in darkness, and lanterns and flashlights are used by citizens while traveling at night.

The present rate paid by the city to the power company is \$2 per light per month, making a total to be paid by the city last year of \$1,607.50. The council was of the opinion that the rate was too high as counting the hours that the lights burn it made the kilowatt hour cost much higher than the commercial rate.

Representatives of the company who met the council would not give any better rate than 10 cents per k. w. and it is further stated that if the town were to go on a meter basis it would be required to purchase the fixtures at about \$4.50 each and pay a company employee to attend to the meter at the rate of one dollar a day and besides pay a minimum fee of \$50 a month. The council offered to pay \$1,200 a year for the present service of 73 lights, and as that was refused, ordered the lights cut off.

## ROLLER SKATING

A roller skating party is to be given by the young folks of Douglas Island at the Natatorium hall tonight. The usual good time that is enjoyed at these parties is looked for this evening.

## Electric Light Globes Now for Sale AND ELECTRIC Vacuum Cleaners FOR RENT

All kinds of Electrical Conveniences for the Home YOU WILL FIND AT Guy's Drug Store GUY L. SMITH, Prop. 3d and D St. Douglas, Alaska

## FAMOUS CASE IS LOST BY COMPANY

### May Magford Wins Case for Damages on Appeal to Circuit Court at San Francisco

Last Monday the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals handed down a decision upholding the verdict of the district court of the First division of Alaska in awarding damages in the sum of \$12,500 to Miss May Magford for personal injuries alleged to have been received by her when she fell through a hole in the sidewalk in front of the side entrance of the Treadwell Club building.

This case is one that created considerable interest during the trial which started before Judge Robert W. Jennings on January 15, 1920, and closed when the jury brought in its verdict for \$12,500 on the night of January 23.

Miss Magford was a young lady who lived at Treadwell with her parents. Her father, brothers and herself were employed by the company, she being a clerk in the company store. She was in attendance at the annual ball of the Treadwell Fire Department on the night of August 29, 1918, and was, in company with a number of other people, leaving the hall in the Club building to go to supper in the boarding house. Stepping out of the side door of the Club building she stepped through a hole in the plank that had been broken shortly before by some young men jumping on it. She fell several feet and received injuries to her spine. It was claimed, that caused her much illness and is to be permanently an invalid. Many months after the accident the suit was started.

The case was a hard fought one between attorneys for the company, Yellenthal & Hellenenthal, and Roden & Ziegler for the plaintiff. Witnesses to the accident who had moved away from Alaska were brought back to testify and every minor point was contested. The culmination of the case was the awarding of perhaps the largest damages ever given in this part of the country for injuries that were not fatal.

The Treadwell Company soon of the decision was given several notices of appeal to the circuit court and letters were submitted and arguments made last fall with the decision as noted given early this week.

## LARGE SUMS FOR EUROPEAN RELIEF

### Total so Far is \$5,703.05 With Major Part of Territory to Be Heard From

Juneau, with a donation of \$1,217.55, leads the towns of this vicinity in the matter of relief for the starving children of Europe. The total collected for this particular district as reported Wednesday by Chairman George T. Jackson to Governor Rags, Territorial chairman, is \$4,571.78. This does not include the territory adjacent to Ketchikan.

A telegram was received this week from District Chairman John A. Clark of the Fourth division, stating that \$4,111.13 had been received by him from various sources in his division. With this addition to the fund in the Territory, the total is now \$5,783.08 with a large per cent of the district yet to be heard from.

|                          |            |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Juneau                   | \$1,217.55 |
| Douglas                  | 78.75      |
| Treadwell                | 299.00     |
| Alaska-Juneau            | 233.00     |
| Thane                    | 258.50     |
| Perseverance             | 190.50     |
| Gypsum                   | 124.00     |
| Steel River              | 75.00      |
| Porter Bay               | 99.00      |
| Haines                   | 74.00      |
| Skagway                  | 412.25     |
| Earle River School       | 2.00       |
| Mary Kaskavaroff, Kasaan | 107.80     |
| Petersburg               | 207.50     |
| Hoonah                   | 22.00      |
| Kake                     | 28.90      |
| Tenakee                  | 101.50     |
| Chitkapi                 | 55.00      |
| Windham                  | 10.00      |
| Klukwan                  | 12.75      |
| Sitka                    | 393.00     |
| Juneau Red Cross         | 508.00     |
| Total                    | \$4,571.78 |

Old Nemotter now living in Ketchikan are investigating the possibilities of raising reindeer in South-eastern Alaska. They say there are places that are almost ideal for the raising of the deer.

## VISITS CHANNEL

E. M. Goddard, who as a boy a dozen years ago lived in Douglas with his father and mother, Dr. and Mrs. F. L. Goddard, was in from the Goddard Hot Springs this week with his wife, who left yesterday morning for Winnipeg, Canada, to visit with relatives. Since last summer Mr. Goddard and his wife have been staying at the hot springs helping to take care of the sanitarium and he says that although they are greatly handicapped by poor transportation facilities the resort has been entertaining a considerable number of visitors. He returned to his home on the Estebach last night.

## LITIGATION OVER PREMIER SETTLED

### Decision Given in Regards to the Most Famous Property in Hyder Mining District

R. E. K. Neil, manager of the Premier mine near Stewart, B. C., won the suit brought against him by Maurice W. Bacon, a mining engineer, according to a decision handed down in Spokane by Federal Judge Rudkin, word of which was received in Ketchikan today, says the Chronicle.

According to the plaintiff, the value of the quarter interest was \$2,500,000; the defendant, however, held the interest to be worth \$250,000. An alleged partnership agreement was the basis of the suit.

Judge Rudkin's opinion recited that in two cases Bacon, the plaintiff, had influenced witnesses and lacked good faith in not bringing the suit in 1917, when he first knew of Neil's operations. Instead, the opinion stated, he had waited until December, when the worth of the mine was proved.

Referring to the testimony of John Benson of Salmon, B. C., and a witness for the defense, the opinion goes on to say:

"Benson testified to a conversation with the plaintiff in 1917 in a hotel at Salmon. He asked him 'Are you interested with Mr. Neil in the property he is developing up north?' and the plaintiff answered 'No.' This is the same party who was offered \$100 by the plaintiff to absent himself and not appear as a witness."

The opinion makes a similar charge against Bacon in connection with the testimony of W. J. Harris, a witness for the plaintiff, and whom, the opinion says, was paid \$1,200 "between the commencement of the suit and the time of trial."

According to the opinion, this amount was said to be due the witness, Harris, from the Hudson Bay Company, a controlling interest in which is held by Bacon. Bacon, the opinion says, explained the payment to Harris by saying that he regarded it as a "moral obligation," although, the opinion goes on to say, "there can be no denying that the payment had a corrupting influence" on the witness. Judge Rudkin holds that the testimony of Harris was "impeached by contradictory statements," and that "no evidence" could be placed on it. The judge "deemed the conduct of the parties at the time safer than the uncorroborated testimony of either party."

Regarding the lack of evidence presented by some witnesses, the opinion says: "Some of the corroborating witnesses stand sully in need of corroboration themselves." Judge Rudkin holds that Neil undertook the examination of the Bush properties, which were later account with Bacon, proof of which is given in the fact that he presented a bill of expenses which was paid. "Whether the joint venture extended beyond the Daily and Bush property is not material," recites the opinion, "but inasmuch as the defendant refused employment as manager of the Hudson Bay Company at \$250 a month, it would appear that they ceased at that time."

The court likewise ruled that the \$3,000 held by the plaintiff to have been paid for expenses of Neil, but which Neil declared to be payment of stock in the Hudson Bay Company, appeared to be as the defense alleged, since a further payment of expenses of \$250 was given afterward, although there was no evidence to show that the \$3,000 had been expended.

## CARD PARTY

The Order of Eastern Star will entertain at a card party on next Tuesday evening at the Odd Fellows hall.

## ELKS AND THANE WIN AT BOWLING

### Second Games of Intercity Tournament Rolled in Juneau Last Night—Elks Lead

The Elks' team defeated the Brunswicks by a total of only pins lost night, with a score of 2328 to 2334, and Treadwell was defeated by Thane by a score of 2304 to 2303 in the second series of the games of the intercity tournament. The first named games were bowled on the Elks' alleys and the latter on the Brunswicks'.

The third games of the series are to be rolled next Thursday evening, when the Elks and Brunswicks will meet on the Brunswicks alleys and Treadwell and Thane on the Treadwell alleys.

| Standing of Teams |           |      |       |
|-------------------|-----------|------|-------|
| Team              | Games Won | Lost | Total |
| Elks              | 2         | 0    | 4779  |
| Thane             | 2         | 0    | 4677  |
| Brunswicks        | 2         | 0    | 4610  |
| Treadwell         | 2         | 0    | 4469  |

## Last Night's Scores ELKS

|              |     |     |     |      |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Hunter       | 146 | 159 | 178 | 483  |
| Fry          | 150 | 147 | 188 | 485  |
| Yanderik     | 175 | 155 | 125 | 455  |
| Vander Leest | 148 | 162 | 151 | 461  |
| Barrager     | 118 | 165 | 170 | 453  |
| Total        | 737 | 789 | 812 | 2338 |

## BRUNSWICK

|           |     |     |     |      |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Henry     | 156 | 138 | 145 | 439  |
| Watts     | 134 | 155 | 132 | 421  |
| Terzovich | 159 | 145 | 177 | 501  |
| Orvik     | 156 | 131 | 147 | 434  |
| Darby     | 197 | 186 | 152 | 535  |
| Total     | 802 | 776 | 756 | 2334 |

## TREADWELL

|           |     |     |     |      |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Anderson  | 142 | 165 | 149 | 456  |
| Bekanech  | 118 | 155 | 167 | 440  |
| Higley    | 139 | 139 | 179 | 457  |
| Terzovich | 172 | 128 | 167 | 467  |
| Gavril    | 154 | 158 | 173 | 485  |
| Total     | 716 | 736 | 821 | 2283 |

## THANE

|              |     |     |     |      |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| R. McCormick | 164 | 134 | 142 | 440  |
| Gammara      | 149 | 155 | 145 | 450  |
| W. McCormick | 149 | 154 | 178 | 481  |
| Olson        | 195 | 179 | 134 | 508  |
| E. McCormick | 127 | 145 | 143 | 415  |
| Total        | 794 | 768 | 742 | 2304 |

## TENAKEE SPRINGS LIVELY AT PRESENT

### Storms in Inlet Maroon Fishermen, But Dances Still Go On the Same

Frank Bach, head joller at the Juneau Federal jail, returned to his home here last Saturday on the gas boat Gladly after having spent a couple of weeks visiting at Tenakee. Mr. Bach visited with his daughter, Mrs. R. E. Coughlin, and her husband.

Mr. Bach said that while he was at Tenakee there was a big wind storm on that made the inlet impossible to navigate for small boats. Charles Johnson, formerly of this city, and a companion who went across the inlet from Tenakee were marooned there and for four days could not even get to their gas boat which was anchored off shore. "Crab" Murphy, the Tenakee fisherman, went across in his little open boat with an outboard motor and could not return home for a week. The ice this year, according to Mr. Bach, is not so plentiful in the inlet as it was last winter, when it existed not get an opportunity to catch hindered navigation. The head of the inlet is frozen over, as is usual in the winter time.

Good catches of king salmon have been made in the inlet, but on account of the poor weather Mr. Bach did not get an opportunity to catch any fish. Most of the cabins at the hot springs town are occupied this season, he said, and the little place has been quite lively all winter. Dances are given quite often and Mr. Bach, who was a great dancer in his younger days on Douglas Island, limbered up his Methodist feet and enjoyed himself immensely. After his rest and the many hot baths that he took, Mr. Bach has returned to his work feeling much better than when he left for his vacation.

A joint resolution has been introduced in the Oregon legislature asking the President to negotiate a treaty with Great Britain whereby purse sealing will be prohibited in the Pacific ocean where the United States and Canada have joint jurisdiction.