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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON: 1973

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"The Forks" ~~Chisana Creek,~~
Chisana, Alaska.
August 22nd, 1914.

Hon. J. F. A. Strong,
Governor of Alaska.
Juneau, Alaska.

Sir: -

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
RECEIVED
SEP 8 1914
ANSWERED
9/8/14

Information received yesterday from the mail carrier, that orders have been issued by the Postoffice Department, closing the Chisana Postoffice. If this be so, please endeavor to have the office kept open, and a mail delivery service established for the winter.

To date, about \$255,000.00 has been produced from this district, and before the freeze-up, another \$50,000.00 to \$75,000.00 will be taken out, and this under adverse nature conditions and at a very heavy expense. Most of this has been expended for labor and supplies.

There will be at least, 100 and possibly 200 persons, winter in the White River District. Most of them will live in close vicinity to Chisana, and this will be the common distributing point. There will be considerable prospecting and developing work done this winter; in fact, must more real prospecting than at any previous time, will be done this coming winter.

From recent prospects, I state in all sincerity, that more gold will be produced next season, than during the last, in fact the camp is still only in the prospecting stage of development.

The discontinuance of the mail service will cause many to leave the district, this should not be permitted, for the future of Alaska depends to great extent upon the prospector, new gold fields must be found, and over in this section of Alaska, we have a big country to prospect, and I think this camp has a good future.

I am informed that considerable mail remains at McCarthy, on account of the 200# limit contract, the "lid" should be taken off, and permit some of this matter to arrive at its destination, especially the Parcel Post Mail. Those receiving the better mentioned class of mail, pay at the rate of 75¢ per pound to get the same delivered from the McCarthy office.

I have established a sort of camp office at the mouth of Bonanza Creek, eight miles from Chisana, and have during the summer, delivered the mail, free of charge on all of the creeks. All of this, I have

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I have established a sort of a sub office at the mouth of Bonanza Creek, eight miles from Chisana, and have during the summer, delivered the mail, free of charge on all of the creeks. All of this, I have packed through, not over, the muddiest trail in Alaska. Have built good quarters for the office at Chisana, and have paid the P.M. a monthly salary during the season, so as to keep him on the job, for his cancellation and the "honor" of being a P.M., would not pay for one weeks grub.

If there be no railway service from Cordova this winter, route mail via Valdez and Gulkanna, for a delivery service could be extended from the Gulkanna office via Cooper Pass.

The people residing here, desire some action, that will result in obtaining a contract for at least one year, therefore the reason of addressing you.

Respectfully,

Geo. R. Goshaw

DIVISION OF
MISCELLANEOUS TRANSPORTATION

Post Office Department
SECOND ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL
Washington

IN REPLYING, REFER TO INITIALS

May 14, 1914.

Hon. John F. A. Strong,
Raleigh Hotel,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:

Referring to your call at this Office on the 12th instant, in regard to the continuance of mail service for Chisana, Alaska, I have the honor to inform you that an order has been issued authorizing the performance of two round trips of service a month between McCarthy and Chisana.

Yours very truly,

Joseph Stewart
Second Assistant Postmaster General.