

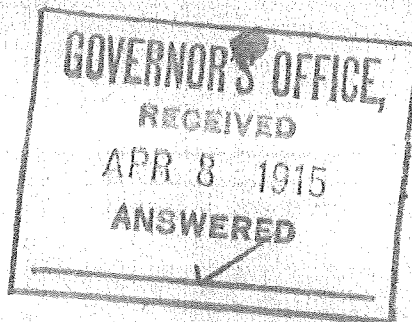
BOARD OF ROAD COMMISSIONERS FOR ALASKA

VALDEZ, ALASKA

April 5, 1915.

Governor J. F. A. Strong,

Juneau, Alaska.



My dear Governor Strong.-

I have today wired you the amounts that we have expended from the tax fund in each of the judicial divisions. Our districts do not correspond with the divisions as there are five of the former and their limits have varied considerably at different times.

The exact amount from the tax fund expended on roads other than "military and post roads" in each division is given below. The figures are to the end of the last fiscal year.

1st Division,	\$ 141,384.11
2nd "	247,431.39
3rd "	305,033.43
4th "	509,304.63
Total,	\$1,203,153.56

In addition to the above, all of the special appropriations and a small part of the tax fund have been expended on the routes considered as "military and post roads" within the meaning of these words as used in the appropriating acts. These routes include the road from Ft. W. H. Seward to the Canadian Boundary, the trunk line from Valdez and Chitina to Nome and St. Michael through Fairbanks and Ft. Gibben, as well as the Seward-Iditarod Trail, which was especially named in the appropriation with which it was constructed.

The total amounts by divisions would be difficult to determine exactly as the routes are not coterminous with the judicial divisions. The proportions of the several divisions would be approximately as follows:

1st Division,	\$ 160,000
2nd "	22,000
3rd "	305,000
4th "	418,000
Total,	\$1,105,000

Gov. J. F. A. S. #2.

These last amounts are approximately divided the total expenditure being \$1,648,300.28.

All of the above figures include the proportionate share of all overhead expenses. These expenses have varied from 8 to 9 per cent. for the several years being almost fixed in quantity and, consequently, being least when the appropriations were greatest.

I trust these figures will answer your purpose.

With best regards, I remain,

Very respectfully yours,

GEE/BL

  
Capt., Corps of Engrs.,  
Engineer Officer.

# Signal Corps, United States Army

## Telegram

Received at

38sigr 71 0 B

Valdez Alaska April 5 1915

Governor Strong

Juneau

36

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE  
RECEIVED  
APR 6 1915  
ANSWERED  
4/6/15

Following approximate amounts expended from tax fund first division one hundred forty one thousand second division two hundred forty seven thousand third division three hundred five thousand fourth division five hundred nine thousand in addition one million six hundred forty eight expended on military roads Haines Mission to Boundary through route Valdez and Chitina to Nome and StMichael and Seward Iditarod trail explanatory letter on Admiral Evans

Edgerton

552pm

1st Div.	\$ 141,000
2d "	247,000
3d "	305,000
4th "	509,000
	<hr/> 1,202,000

COMMITTEE

JOHN DEL  
D. W. UNT  
W. P. FLOWERS  
A. B. EDMONDS  
RICHARD BUSHELL, Jr.

The Commercial Club  
of Ketchikan  
Alaska

M. A. MITCHELL

Ketchikan, Alaska, March 11th, 1915.

36

ans. 3/13/15

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

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed please find copy of a set of resolutions adopted last night by the Commercial Club of Ketchikan in support of the bill introduced by our representatives, asking for an appropriation for the construction of the Charcoal Precinct Road.

For your further information we are also sending a copy of a letter from Mr. W. G. Weigle, Forest Supervisor, showing the amount of National Forest funds deposited for such purposes, and indicating the districts from which they were derived.

Thanking you for your attention in this,

Very truly yours,

*M. A. Mitchell*  
Secretary.

SEND the following Telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to.

CITY TELEGRAM

Nite. 21 so bt 41 Gvt INT Nite via Seattle wn 932pm

Juneau Alaska Aug 14 1914

46

Secretary Interior  
Washington, DC

INSPECTED 3

Important that action be taken in matter street across tidelands in front Indian village Juneau now being constructed by city if rights of Indians are to be properly safeguarded see my letter July ninth.

STRONG  
Governor

POSTAL TELEGRAPH - COMMERCIAL CABLES

COUNTER NO.  
TIME FILED

TELEGRAM

CHECK

The Postal Telegraph Cable Company (Incorporated) transmits and delivers this message subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back of this card.

SEND the following Telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to.

CONTINGENT EXPENSES, TERRITORY OF ALASKA, CITY TELEGRAM

268000 82 Govt Int night via Seattle 10400

Juneau Alaska Aug 21 1914

B. O. Sweeney

62 SA/44  
Asst Secy Dept Interior Wash DC

87

Replying your telegram twenty-fifth reference building road across tide flats Juneau in front Native village have advised that road has been completed regard term of land that tide flats are owned by trust by federal government this office and it is not the duty of this office to deal with this matter. The land is not obtained from federal government. Superintendent of the Juneau Indian Reservation has advised this matter.

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**Microfilm Publication M939**

**GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE**

**ALASKAN TERRITORIAL GOVERNOR**

**1909-1958**

**Roll 29**

**General Correspondence  
1915**

**File headings 22-45**



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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION**

**WASHINGTON: 1973**

23

No. \_\_\_\_\_

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In the District Court  
for the  
Territory of Alaska,  
Fourth Division

---

1917

CERTIFIED COPY

of the

Final Report of the Grand Jury  
for the Special June 1915 Term  
of the District Court for the  
Fourth Judicial Division, at  
Ruby, Alaska.

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records to be in excellent shape and up to date.

This body wishes to record its appreciation of the courtesy of the District Attorney and his assistants.

**SPECIAL AGENT A. E. LIGHT.**

We have conferred with Mr. A.E. Light, Special Agent, Indian Liquor Traffic, and find all records to be in excellent shape and up to date.

**U. S. Marshal's Office.**

We have visited the Marshal's Office and examined the books and records and find them to be kept in excellent shape. We also find the jail neat and clean and no complaints from prisoners regarding same.

**TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.**

While we realize that it is not strictly a part of our duties as Grand Jurors to investigate or report upon the work of road building now carried on by the Government near Ruby, we have been impelled by the importance of the work to the citizens of this District and the fact that this report will be made public, to incorporate in our report the result of unofficial examination, made by us during the time we have been serving as Grand Jurors.

We desire to report that it is the unanimous opinion of



And we recommend that the people of the Ruby District and its officials unite in using every effort to assist the Road Commission in securing a special appropriation from Congress large enough to complete this road from Ruby to Fairman during the summer of 1916.

We also recommend that a bill be introduced at the meeting of our next legislature compelling all travelers in small boats on the Yukon River and its tributaries to register at telegraph stations or Marshals' offices.

Further, it has been brought to our attention that a bridge across Mason Creek situated between Tanana and Ruby on the winter mail route has been burned up and should be replaced before the close of navigation.

We also recommend the appropriation of funds by the Road Commission to repair two and one-half miles of road between Tanana and Indian Village.

We also recommend that a further appropriation be made to stake the trail between Kipokuk and Tanana and keep it passable as a winter mail route and for the benefit of the traveling public.

#### C A R R I A G E .

It has been called to our attention that the water front of Ruby is in an unsatisfactory condition and the building of wharves on the site in winter will be necessary.

We also recommend that the Government purchase the

land on which the wharves are to be built.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA, DIVISION  
NUMBER THREE.

IN THE MATTER OF THE FINAL REPORT  
OF THE GRAND JURY AT THE AUGUST  
2, 1915 TERM AT NANKAK, ALASKA.

FINAL REPORT.

We, the Grand Jury of the District Court for the Territory of Alaska, Third Division, at the Special August 2nd, 1915 term of said court, held at Nankak, Alaska, hereby respectfully submit our final report.

We have examined all cases submitted to us and have finally disposed of four cases, returning true bills in three cases and not a true bill in one case.

We recommend that the legislature be instructed to make some provision for the keep and subsisting of all animals convicted of crime.

We further recommend to the Department of Justice that provision be made for a one-going launch for the special use of the United States Government officials of this district in the performance of their duties on said United States officials and for the use of the same in the performance of their duties on said United States officials and for the use of the same in the performance of their duties on said United States officials.

We recommend that a wagon road be constructed from Iliamna Bay on Cook Inlet to the head of Iliamna Lake, a distance of approximately fifteen miles, which if constructed would help to develop the Lake Clarke country, Nizobaine and Lake Iliamna, and would also save an ocean passage of about twelve hundred miles to reach the headwaters of Bristol Bay.

We further recommend that a Deputy Game Warden be appointed for this district, as this Grand Jury is creditably informed that the moose and caribou are being wantonly slaughtered, the female as well as the male.

We recommend that any person or persons be permitted to purchase female reindeer from natives or the United States Government herds for the purpose of breeding or to be used for transportation.

We have examined the United States jail and Post Office at Naknek and find the same in excellent condition.

Dated at Naknek, Alaska, this the 7th day of August, 1916.

Endorsed:

Filed in the District Court  
Third Division, District of Alaska  
at  
Naknek, Alaska, this 7th day of August, 1916.  
District Court, District of Alaska

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA, DIVISION  
NUMBER THREE.**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE FINAL REPORT  
OF THE GRAND JURY FOR THE SPECIAL  
JULY 13, 1915, TERM AT KNIK, ALASKA.**

**FINAL REPORT.**

We, the Grand Jury of the District Court for the Territory of Alaska, Third Division, at the Special July 13, 1915 Term of said court held at Knik, Alaska, hereby respectfully submit our final report.

We have examined all cases submitted to us and have finally disposed of four cases, returning a true bill in each case.

We have examined the Federal jails and other public buildings at Anchorage and Knik and find the same in excellent condition.

We have made an investigation of the fishing industry as conducted throughout Cook Inlet. We find that immense quantities of food fish, such as halibut, cod, skate, herring and salmon, are destroyed and wasted during each fishing season by reason of the use of the fishing appliance known as the fish trap and the failure of the cannery companies to provide some means to prevent the catching of fish not desired for canning purposes. If the present conditions are allowed to continue one of the largest and most profitable industries of the Territory will soon cease to exist. For example, we find that Fish Creek, tributary to Knik, has been dammed so that fish cannot ascend the stream to the lake above for the purpose of spawning, and by reason of such dam the fish are prevented from reaching the spawning grounds. We also find that where the aforementioned fish traps have

access to miners and prospectors and people traveling the trails of Alaska being subject to the attacks of brown bears, and we recommend that legislation be enacted amending the present law of Alaska that prevents brown bear being killed during the entire year.

We recommend that the bridges destroyed by fire on the road from Ship Creek to Kern Creek be immediately rebuilt for the reason that such road is continually traveled by people traveling the trail from Seward to Anchorage, and that owing to the fact that such bridges have been burned said road is not in such a condition that it is practicable to travel over it.

We also recommend that the trail up Cache Creek be improved by the Road Commission, and we are creditably informed that the Cache Creek Dredging Company, who are about to install a large dredging plant on said creek, will cooperate with the Road Commission on such improvement.

We recommend that the government make provision to provide medical assistance to the Indians of Knik and also establish a school to further their education.

We recommend that the present law relative to mercantile licenses be amended along the line of a sliding scale in more equitable proportion as to the business done by said mercantile firms.

We recommend that a territorial fund be created for the purpose of looking up and searching for people lost in the woods and mountains of Alaska, and that the United States Marshal have the disbursing of such fund as in their judgment they may deem proper, such fund being under the jurisdiction of the proper authorities.

October 15, 1915.

34-1

Mr. Lars Gunderson,  
Galovin, Alaska.

My dear Lars:

I have your letter of the 19th ultimo with reference to the discovery of gold on Dims Creek, a tributary of the Koyuk River, and in which you state that the residents of the new camp are endeavoring to secure a postoffice and mail service.

In reply I have to advise you that I shall be pleased to render such assistance as I can in the matter of securing you a postoffice and a mail service, as requested in your letter. In your letter you say nothing of the number of people which such a postoffice would accommodate; I assume however that you have already advised the Department as to this and that the Department is in the possession of all necessary data in relation thereto, including the most direct route to the new camp and the frequency of the service which you desire, whether weekly or monthly. If I were acquainted with these details it would greatly facilitate my action in the matter. I shall, however, take it up with the Post Office Department at once.

I trust that the new camp will prove first class in every particular, and with very best wishes for your success, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Governor.

August 10, 1915.

-38-

Mr. Jos. J. L. Ward,  
Haines, Alaska.

My dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of July 28th ult. with reference to the necessity of road connection between Glacierville and the Haines Porcupine Road, approximately 4 1/2 miles.

I have read your letter with interest, and the statements contained therein seem to warrant the necessary appropriation for the construction of this roadway. I believe, however, that the allotments for roads, trails and bridge purposes have already been made by the Alaska Road Commission for this year. The territorial appropriation for this Judicial Division (about \$11,000) is now a matter of litigation and cannot be used pending a decision of the court. The distribution of the latter fund is under the direction of Mr. E. C. Austin, Territorial Commissioner of Roads, Ketchikan, Alaska.

The Chairman of the Alaska Road Commission is Col. W. E. Richardson, U.S.A., whose postoffice address is Valdez, Alaska, and I would suggest that you take up this matter directly with Col. Richardson, urging upon him the necessity for an appropriation for this work next year.

I shall also take up this matter with Col. Richardson when he reaches Juneau sometime this fall, and I shall do everything within my power to assist the people of your section in obtaining this improvement.

The building of roads, trails and bridges in Alaska is one of the most important matters, in my opinion, that confronts the Government at this time, as only by this means can the agricultural and other resources of the Territory be developed.

Very truly yours,

Governor.

Glennville Alaska  
July 28<sup>th</sup> 1915

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

36

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE,  
RECEIVED  
AUG 4 1915  
ANSWERED

Dear Sir,

I have been advised  
by some of your friends and  
acquaintances, to write  
you personally in regards to  
a sorely needed road  
connection with the Haines  
Porcupine road, from this part  
of the country, on the west  
side of Chilkat Inlet, which is



3

a very fertile strip of country  
for miles, and would be  
filled up with homesteaders,  
and producing much if there  
were only this road connection  
which would do away with the  
unsafe small boat proposition  
as Chilkat is a bad piece of  
water, and if our wives or  
any one else get sick there  
are times when it would be  
impossible to take them to see  
a doctor or to the hospital at  
Haines, which condition a road  
connection would do away with  
as we could use our horses, and  
rigs at any time regardless

of taking  
both the  
produce  
Now we  
for miles  
we get up  
Harbor we  
too much  
tackle, a  
right when  
only about  
sticks used  
we call the  
Harbor a  
Wells have  
over the Chilkat  
be brought

country of tides, wind, or weather, ~~for~~  
 be both this purpose, and bringing  
 traders, produce to a market,  
 if there Now we have a pretty good road  
 connection for miles down here, but, when  
 with the we get up near to Pyramid  
 station Harbor we are stuck, as it is  
 a piece of too much for the individual to  
 us or tackle, and I think I am  
 there right when I say that it is  
 could be only about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles that  
 to see sticks us, which is from what  
 vital at we call the light to Pyramid  
 a road Harbor also the bridge at  
 way with Wells has to be reconstructed  
 sea, and over the Chilkat River, this could  
 show be brought down to conclusion

near Stuckie's which would bring  
it closer to Gaines, and a much  
better place. I am here  
writing in behalf of all the  
homesteaders on this side of the  
Chickasaw, to whom I have talked  
on this subject, and they are  
so enthusiastic in the matter  
that they all say they are  
willing free of charge to help on  
the road, also those who have  
teams are willing to use them  
and their wagons on the road.

5  
free of charge, also Mr Eddie  
Fay of Phoenix will do the same,  
and Mr Reynolds who has a  
homestead at the mouth of the  
Clifton said he would give  
\$200.00 cash towards a road  
connection, so you see that  
we are all much interested  
in this matter. I enclose  
you herewith a piece from the  
Wegway Daily Bulletin of May 17th 1910  
which deals with this subject  
to some extent.

hoping you will consider this  
favorably, and do what you  
can to have it put through,  
also to hear from you at your  
convenience.

I am,

Yours respectfully,  
Jos. J. P. Ward.

P.O.

address.

Fairbanks,

Alaska.

May 10, 1915.

Honors. H. B. Clemenger,  
James F. Greene,  
E. J. Shaw, and others,

Citizens of Shagway, ALASKA.

Gentlemen:

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your petition of May 11 with reference to the necessity which exists for the construction of a wagon road from Shagway to the summit of the White Pass. You ask me to take up this matter with Honorable F. K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, to the end that he may use his good influence in securing for the people of your town this great boon.

In reply I have to advise you that it is the intention of the Secretary of the Interior to visit Alaska during the coming summer, and it will afford me much pleasure to take up this matter with him personally. I am not as yet advised as to the exact date of his visit but I trust that he will be able to visit Shagway during his itinerary and meet the good people of your town and discuss this and other matters of interest to your people.

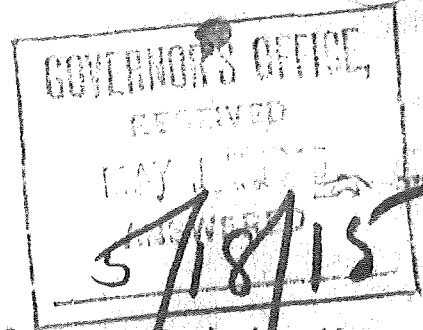
In the meantime I shall do everything possible to further this most important work.

I am,

Very truly yours,

Skagway, Alaska, May, 11th, 1915.

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



Sir,

The people of Skagway, deeply appreciate the one link in the chain you have forged for them by being the means of having had made the survey of this so much wanted Wagon Road from Skagway, to the summit of the White Pass.

This survey was made last summer with the unofficial promise that some work would be done this season. For Seventeen years the people of Skagway, who have paid into the Treasury of the United State many thousands of dollars, have waited with much patience for the help of the Government. But some deep rooted obstacle has many times prevented the consumation of our wishes. This Wagon road means very much to us and is a necessity for our commercial welfare.

This road is a long felt want, and the government ought to aid and assist us, otherwise we must dry up and decay.

We feel sure that if you will kindly take this matter up with the Hon. F. K. Lane, the man whose name is legion in Alaska, for the broad minded manner in which he has assisted Alaska, he will certainly ask those in charge of the building roads in Alaska, why Skagway who has asked for this road time and time again has been passed over for other things that are mere nothings compared to the Commercial welfare of Skagway, The Flower Garden of Alaska.

We thank you.

Respectfully,