

# ANNUAL REPORT

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*of the*

TERRITORY OF ALASKA  
Department of Mines  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

GOVERNOR OF ALASKA  
TO THE SECRETARY  
OF THE INTERIOR

**CONDENSED WAR EDITION**

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1942

# ANNUAL REPORT

*of the*

GOVERNOR OF ALASKA  
TO THE SECRETARY  
OF THE INTERIOR



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FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 194

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UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE  
INTERIOR

HAROLD L. Ickes  
*Secretary*



TERRITORY OF  
ALASKA

ERNEST GRUENING  
*Governor*

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*Note—Certain details normally contained in this report have been deleted at the request of the Office of War Information and the War Department.*

## Annual Report of The Governor of Alaska

ERNEST GRUENING, Governor

### Foreword and Recommendations

**W**AR is the overshadowing fact in Alaska for the fiscal year ending June 30. Prior to December 7 last, there was throughout the Territory, preparation for defense—the continuation and expansion of a program less than 2 years old. After December 7, war. Actual hostilities came to Alaska early in June 1942, when the Japanese enemy, long intimately familiar with Alaska's coast, bombed the United States naval base at Dutch Harbor. Shortly thereafter, the Japanese occupied the three westernmost Aleutian Islands—Attu, Agattu, and Kiska—establishing a new battlefield on the soil of Alaska. The fate of the inhabitants of Attu is unknown. They consisted of 54 Aleut natives of the Amerind race with slight admixture of Russian. Likewise unknown is the fate of the Indian Affairs school teachers, Mr. and Mrs. C. Foster Jones. While the places above mentioned are all islands, they are geographically and politically part of the American continent over which the first action in the war has taken place in Alaska. Thus Alaska, "the last frontier," is a first line of defense—and later, to be hoped, of offense. Alaska has been attacked and invaded, and both native Alaskans and members of our armed forces have died in action in repelling the enemy invasion of North America. Even before this action, Alaska was officially declared a Combat Zone.

War is revolutionizing Alaska; every aspect of its life is profoundly affected and destined to be more so. The Territory's population, its economy, its daily habits—all are undergoing transformation.

It is to be regretted that a graphic presentation of these changes cannot be given here. The duties and tasks of all Federal agencies are greatly increased, while their staffs for a variety of reasons related to

the war are undergoing severe depletion. The inability of five major Government agencies in the Territory—Army, Navy (including the Coast Guard), Weather Bureau, Civil Aeronautics Administration, and Customs Service—even to submit their official chapters for this report makes clear the necessity throughout of omitting factual relation of the vital part Alaska is playing in the war, and to omit likewise a discussion of the impact of war on Alaska and Alaskans. It is to be hoped that in next year's report, events will make it possible to go fully into this now unpublishable and interesting chapter of history.

## Agriculture

### Agricultural Experiment Stations

At the Fairbanks and Matanuska Stations, projects included dairying, swine and sheep production, crop rotation, pasture improvement, grains and grasses, canning peas. At the Petersburg station, mink, marten, blue fox and white Arctic fox are kept for experimental purposes, the main projects being feeding, breeding, management and disease. The use of frozen salmon, flounders and other fish as the main part of the ration for production of fur is being investigated.

The three stations are cooperating with the Bureau of Plant Industry in experimental work with test plantings of Kok-saghyz under the division of rubber plant investigations, with the Northern Research Laboratory in the introduction of new varieties of potatoes, and with the Bureau of Animal Industry in the determination of quality of wool produced in Alaska.

The stations are financed jointly by the University of Alaska and the Office of Experiment Stations of the Department of Agriculture.

### Agricultural Extension Service

This service is closely allied with the experiment station program and supervised by the same director. Its headquarters are at the University of Alaska, and field offices are maintained at Fairbanks, Palmer, and Anchorage. Various homemaking projects among women are carried on throughout the Territory; dairying, swine, sheep, and general crops projects are carried on also in the Matanuska and Tanana Valleys. The 4-H Club work for boys and girls this year stressed victory gardens and the increased conservation of food. Extension short courses in gardening were attended by 433 persons.

## Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corporation (Matanuska Valley Project)

In June 1942, there were 144 developed colony farms in the Matanuska Valley, of which 17 were unoccupied and available for new farmers. New settlers have been encouraged, but they must pay transportation and finance their farming operations. The land and buildings may be rented during the first year, after which a purchase agreement may be entered into, payments extending over a period of 30 years at 3 percent interest. About 400 acres of land were cleared during the fiscal year by the Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corporation.

The production of Grade A milk has become the leading farming industry, the milk being sold through the Matanuska Valley Farmers Cooperating Association to consumers in Anchorage and at Fort Richardson. The chief crops grown are oats and peas or vetch for hay; wheat, barley, oats and rye for grain, and a large variety of vegetables. The approximate total value of crops grown during 1941, exclusive of hay and grain, was about \$304,000. In the spring of 1942, there were about 800 dairy cows, 300 hogs, 1,000 sheep, 100 beef cattle and 2,000 chickens in the valley.

The rural electrification project, under the auspices of the Rural Electrification Administration, is now operating with a total appropriation of \$213,000. The Matanuska Electric Association, Inc., is the local cooperative, and has served 184 members to date.

## Auditor of Alaska

During the fiscal year, 34,714 vouchers were received, examined and warrants drawn upon the Territorial Treasurer, representing payment of the following sums:

		Percent
Education.....	\$615, 789. 88	21
Aid to municipalities.....	640, 632. 43	22
Welfare and relief.....	1, 165, 502. 77	39
Development of Territory.....	258, 766. 10	9
Industrial development.....	132, 398. 21	4
Administration.....	144, 477. 22	5
	2, 957, 566. 61	100

The Territory now employs 334 persons.

## Corporations

Forty-five new corporations are qualified to do business in the Territory: 10 mining, 2 airways, 8 mercantile, 8 nonprofit, 1 cooperative, 1 finance, 3 construction, 1 marine ways, 9 fisheries, 1 transportation, and 1 printing.

### Insurance Commissioner

Ninety-three companies were engaged in selling insurance; receipts from taxes and fees totaled \$47,589.36.

### Registrar of Vital Statistics

With the entry of the United States into the war, many persons filed delayed certificates of birth and applied for certified copies of vital statistics records, so that the work of the Registrar greatly increased. During 1942, 5,697 certificates of birth, death, marriage, and adoption were filed, as compared with 4,447 during 1941. Certified copies of records issued totaled 1,642, compared with 794 during 1941.

### Aviation and Communications

#### Alaska Aeronautics and Communications Commission

The Commission is charged with the promulgation, adoption, and enforcement of rules, regulations and orders to safeguard from accident and to protect the safety of persons operating or using aircraft, and persons and property on the ground; provided that such rules, regulations and orders shall not duplicate or conflict with Federal aeronautical and communications regulations in force. Radio communication stations are operated in 20 widely scattered communities; the operators in many cases also take observations for the United States Weather Bureau.

*Aeronautical operations summary.*—The following figures indicate the growth of aviation in Alaska during the past year:

	1942	Increase over 1941, percent
Number of hours flying time.....	44, 182	10
Number of miles.....	4, 932, 868	11
Number of passengers flown.....	57, 028	37
Number of passenger miles.....	11, 106, 122	43
Pounds of mail flown.....	954, 026	56

During the year, 146,400 pounds of mail were carried to Alaska from the States, an increase of 310 percent, and 126,991 pounds were carried to the States, an increase of 274 percent over 1941.

#### Aviation Section, Territorial Road Board

The Territorial Board of Road Commissioners maintains and improves the aviation fields built by the Territory to aid commercial aviation. Most of the money spent on new work is matched in part either by other agencies or by interested persons. The Board of Road Commissioners also maintains certain telephone lines.

### Federal Communications Commission

The administration of radio law to all nongovernment radio stations in the Territory is the function of the Juneau office of District 23, headquarters of the Field Division of the Engineering Department, Federal Communications Commission.

Radio stations controlled include standard broadcast, relay broadcast, amateur, ship, ship harbor, coastal harbor, coastal telegraph, point to point telephone and telegraph, aircraft stations, etc. Also examinations are conducted for issuance of radio operator's licenses, and periodic inspections of the stations are made.

### Mail Service

The transportation of mails in Alaska is under the supervision of the superintendent of the Thirteenth Division, Railway Mail Service, at Seattle, Wash. This office exercises supervision over the entire Alaska service and has immediate charge of all service in southeastern Alaska and all direct steamship service from Seattle. The Chief Clerk, Railway Mail Service, at Seward, has immediate charge of the service provided along the south coast, north and west of Yakutat, the service over the Alaska Railroad, the upper and lower Yukon River, Tanana River, Kuskokwim River, and the Seward Peninsula.

### Signal Corps, United States Army

The Alaska Communication System which furnishes telegraphic service to Alaska is under the Signal Corps of the U. S. Army. Continuous communication service has been maintained with the continental United States and the local stations.

In addition, radio telephone service has been maintained between Juneau and Seattle, between Ketchikan and Seattle, and between Ketchikan and Juneau. Connections are made with the American Telephone & Telegraph system in Seattle.

### Civilian Conservation Corps

All regular Civilian Conservation Corps field work ceased on the last day of the fiscal year, when Congress approved liquidation of the corps. All CCC surplus equipment and supplies will be turned over to the Army. The Forest Service had charge of CCC work within National Forests, and concentrated upon work projects which contributed to the war effort, such as the construction of the Annette Army Air Field, the development of strategic roads, trails, and community gardens and the providing of several camps for the armed forces. A large part of the work accomplished during the entire 9

years that the corps has operated in the Territory is now of real value to national defense. Air, sea, and land transportation have been materially benefited by the installation of docks, floats, and breakwaters, and the construction of low standard roads, trails, bridges, shelters, and dog trails. Improvement of sanitation and living facilities has been made in some Eskimo and Indian villages through the development of water systems, drainage ditches, sewage disposal systems, hydroelectric plants, model homes, and street improvements. Recreational developments on the national forest have received a tremendous impetus through construction of cabins, shelters, bath-houses, picnic areas, skiing facilities, and trails.

The Alaska Fire Control Service was in charge of CCC work on the public domain, and during the past year some 50 villages were directly benefited through public improvements including community center buildings, school-houses, boat landings, reindeer corrals, roads, and trails.

#### Coast and Geodetic Survey

Close cooperation with the Army and Navy has been maintained by the Coast and Geodetic Survey during the year, and operations in the Alaskan area have been predicated upon requests of the military authorities or anticipation of their needs. Greatly expanded operations for triangulations, reconnaissance, and astronomic and geodetic control progressed satisfactorily; detailed information on tides and currents at various Alaskan points were obtained; extensive data for the use of air and sea navigators were compiled; eight aeronautical charts were completed and published; new charts for the benefit of naval operations were printed.

Sixty-three officers and two hundred and seventy-one men were on duty during the fiscal year. Surveys were continued in the Aleutian Islands, along the southerly coast of the Alaska Peninsula, in the vicinity of Anchorage, in Sitka Sound; the original survey of Raspberry Strait was completed. Special surveys were made at Captain Bay and Dutch Harbor, Unalaska Island. Resurveys were made at Yakutat Bay, as well as Cold Bay and approaches. In cooperation with the Coast Guard, air photography of the southern coast of the Alaska Peninsula, sections of Afognak Island and the shoreline near Yakutat Bay was continued. Three of the Bureau's survey vessels were recalled from Alaskan work during the 1941 field season for use by the Navy.

The Washington office received and registered 44 Alaska topographic surveys and 37 Alaska hydrographic surveys; 14 topographic surveys and 26 hydrographic surveys were verified and reviewed. Five new nautical charts were compiled. The Alaskan series of eight 1:1,000,000

scale aeronautical charts was completed with the publishing of Nome, Ketchikan, Kuskokwim, Point Barrow and Porcupine River.

The primary tide station at Ketchikan, and secondary stations at Sitka and Yakutat continued in operation; observations at Juneau were resumed. Ninety-six bench marks, preserving the tidal datum planes used in connection with hydrographic and geodetic work and furnishing initial elevations for engineering work in the locality, were established or connected by levels at 19 tide stations. A publication giving descriptions and elevations of tidal bench marks at 232 points in Southeast Alaska was issued. Daily density and temperature observations of sea water were made in connection with tide observations at Ketchikan, Yakutat, and Juneau; current observations were made in Raspberry Strait.

Geodetic parties have been engaged on the extension of an arc of triangulation from Valdez to Fairbanks, thence to Broad Pass. Astronomic observations on this arc are in progress.

The Sitka magnetic and seismological observatory continued to obtain basic magnetic data for the control of magnetic surveys. The station is particularly well situated for the determination of quakes in the Pacific, and the University of Alaska cooperated in the collection of information regarding Alaskan earthquakes.

#### Counsel at Large for Alaska

The Counsel at Large drafts instruments and proposed legislation, construes statutes, assists the Department of Justice in connection with litigation in which the Department of the Interior is involved, and advises the various divisions of the Department and agencies of the United States on legal matters.

During the fiscal year, 775 matters were handled. One of the most important was the settlement of the controversy over the collection of tolls from truckers on the Richardson Highway under an Interior Department regulation. The truckers submitted the controversy without action by stipulation, and the United States prevailed both in the district court and in the court of appeals.

#### Education

##### Alaska Historical Library and Museum

Many valuable donations and loans were made during the year to both the library and the museum, and seven collections were purchased, including a group of Attu and Tlingit baskets. A large painting of Mount McKinley by Sidney Laurence and an unusual collection of flint artifacts from Kenai were among the items loaned



to the museum. The Forest Service donated the "Lincoln" carving from the decaying Lincoln totem pole of Tongass Village, believed to be the first image ever carved of the Great Emancipator. Visitors who registered at the museum totaled 8,028, consisting mainly of men of the armed forces and defense base workers.

### University of Alaska

The University of Alaska, situated at College near Fairbanks, is a land grant college and a fully accredited member of the Northwest Association of secondary and higher schools. At its twentieth annual commencement in May 1942, 31 bachelor's degrees and two professional degrees were conferred. The 1941-42 faculty consisted of 36 full-time and part-time members.

Four-year bachelor degrees are offered in agriculture, arts and letters, business administration, chemistry, civil engineering, education, general science, home economics, mining engineering (with options in geology and metallurgy), and pre-medicine. Five-year curricula leading to engineering degrees are offered in civil and mining engineering, with options in geology and metallurgy. The professional degrees (C.E., E.M., Met.E., and Geol.E.) are conferred upon engineering graduates who have satisfied the requirements. Preliminary curricula, in which degrees are not yet offered, are: aeronautical, architectural, chemical, electrical and mechanical engineering, fisheries, forestry, journalism, law and nursing.

Short courses, open to all persons without regard to previous education, were given in 1941-42 in mining, home economics, public speaking, gardening, business training and anthropology. Mining extension courses were given to 1,372 persons in various Alaskan communities during the year.

The Territorial Legislature appropriated \$224,400 for the 1941-43 biennium, plus \$60,000 for buildings, machinery and equipment; more funds are urgently needed for construction and equipment of buildings. The Federal Government also gives the university \$50,000 each year, not including the appropriations for the agricultural experiment station and the agricultural extension service.

Fees charged credit course students included: community fee, \$15.50 per semester; room rent, \$10 and \$12.50 per month; board, \$35 per month; nonresident tuition, \$20 per semester. Tuition is free to residents of Alaska.

### Territorial Schools

The Territorial public schools for the education of the white and mixed-blood children are of two classes: schools within incorporated cities and incorporated school districts, and rural schools located

outside incorporated cities and school districts. Approximately 69 percent of the Territorial fund for school maintenance is appropriated from the general fund; 13 percent from the Alaska fund, 14 percent from a \$5 school tax levied on all males between 21 and 49 years inclusive, and four percent from the Alaska Game Commission (fines of game law violators), the forest reserve fund, and other miscellaneous sources. Schools within incorporated cities derive 20 to 30 percent of operating costs, as well as expenses of equipment and supplies, from local taxation; the Territory furnishes 70 to 80 percent of all operating costs. Rural schools and special schools are supported by the Territory. Territorial schools are under the general supervision of the Territorial Board of Education, with the Commissioner of Education as executive officer.

During 1942, 56 rural and 18 city schools, employing teachers, were maintained; 6,754 pupils were enrolled. Schools in areas affected by the defense program had an unprecedented increase in enrollment, and two new schools at Dutch Harbor and Kodiak were opened.

### Engineering Projects

#### U. S. Engineers Corps

*River and harbor improvements.*—The War Department is charged with the construction and maintenance of all river and harbor improvements and certain flood control measures in the Territory. This work is executed by the Army Engineers, administered through the North Pacific Division Office at Portland, Oreg., and the District Office at Seattle with an Area Engineer Office in Anchorage.

The District Engineer also carries out the duties defined by law for the protection and preservation of navigable waters, involving the removal of derelicts and wrecks, the consideration of permits for the construction of bridges, wharves, and other structures in and over navigable waters, including fixed and floating fish traps.

### Finances

#### Territorial Finances

The fiscal system of the Territory is controlled by laws enacted by the Territorial Legislature, and is separate from revenues received by the Federal Government from business and trade licenses which are covered into and disbursed from the "Alaska Fund" in the Federal Treasury. The general revenue act in effect at this time (ch. 61, art. IV, sec. 3138, Compiled Laws of Alaska, 1933) and amendments thereto, impose license taxes for various and industries.



Alaska has no system of property taxation except for municipal purposes, but the Territory receives in addition to license taxes a tax of 1 percent on gross receipts of railroads, 25 percent of receipts of national forests, and a poll tax for school purposes of \$5 per annum on all men between 21 and 49. Persons engaged in commercial fishing are required to obtain licenses costing \$1 for residents and \$25 for nonresidents. Estates of deceased persons without heirs escheat to the Territory. The 1919 legislature passed inheritance and profits tax laws, but thus far very little has been realized under such laws.

The condition of the territorial treasury for the 1942 fiscal year was as follows:

Net cash balance on hand, July 1, 1941.....	\$1, 160, 585. 46
Receipts.....	3, 797. 863. 23
Disbursements.....	3, 648. 433. 38
Net cash balance, June 30, 1942.....	1, 310, 015. 31

### Territorial Banks

Fourteen territorial and four national banks were doing business in the Territory last year. Supervision over territorial banking institutions is maintained by the Territorial Banking Board, composed of the Governor, the Auditor, and the Treasurer of the Territory. Aggregate banking figures for both national and territorial banks on June 30, 1942, were as follows: capital, \$972,000; surplus and net undivided profits, \$1,464,811.63; deposits, \$28,099,866.25. Totals for the previous year were: capital, \$985,000; surplus and net undivided profits, \$1,382,482.82; deposits, \$22,110,698.71. Deposits show an increase of \$5,989,167.54 over 1941.

### Alaska Fund

The Alaska fund is revenue derived from licenses issued for occupations and trade conducted outside of incorporated towns, deposited into the Federal Treasury and disbursed by congressional appropriation as follows: 65 percent for constructing and repairing roads and trails, 25 percent for maintenance of schools, and 10 percent for relief of indigents. The total receipts for the fiscal year were \$242,378.40.

### Fisheries

Products of the Alaska fisheries in 1941 showed a marked increase in quantity and value over the preceding year. The increase in quantity was chiefly in salmon products, while the value of all fishery products was considerably higher. Production of clams, shrimps, and crabs decreased somewhat due to wage disputes and the general scarcity of experienced labor. Salmon products represented about

83 percent in volume and about 93 percent in value of the total fisheries output in 1941, as compared with 81 percent in volume and 91 percent in value in 1940.

A patrol of the fishing grounds was maintained by 12 statutory and 18 temporary employees, in addition to the crews of 12 vessels of the Division of Alaska Fisheries and one chartered boat. Airplanes of the Alaska Game Commission also assisted in the patrol, and 11 wildlife agents of the Commission were deputized to enforce fishery laws and regulations. Chartered airplane service, insofar as practicable, was used for patrol and survey work.

Incidental to law-enforcement duties, employees while on patrol observed the extent and condition of the salmon runs for the purpose of initiating amendments of the regulations to meet changed conditions and, when necessary, removed stream obstructions to permit ascent of brood fish in order to assure the seeding of all available spawning areas. Ten weirs for counting the escapement of salmon were operated in representative streams as a means of determining the ratio of escape to catch, and of estimating the probable size of the runs at the end of the succeeding cycle.

The Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, as well as the Chief of the Division of Alaska Fisheries, was in Alaska several weeks during the 1941 season to inspect fishery and fur-seal work. A program for the management of game fish was developed, particularly in areas affected by the influx of military personnel and defense workers. At the close of the season, seven public hearings were held at important fishing centers in the Territory and one in Seattle regarding regulation of Alaska fisheries. Revised regulations for 1942 were based upon testimony presented at these hearings and upon investigations of fishery biologists and law enforcement officers on duty in Alaska. Important changes in the regulations were contained in the 10 supplements issued after the original regulations were signed. These supplements temporarily closed a number of trap sites in southeastern and central Alaska, corrected the description of certain established locations, granted extensions in the Copper River and in several southeastern districts, and extended the weekly closed period in the Chignik area. Also, restrictions on herring fishing were relaxed in both the Kodiak and Prince William Sound areas and limited operations were permitted in southeastern Alaska. The act of June 25, 1938, entitled "An Act To Prevent Aliens From Fishing in the Waters of Alaska," became effective on June 25, 1941.

### Statistics of Fisheries, 1941

In 1941, 26,178 persons were employed in the commercial fisheries of Alaska, an increase of 979 over 1940. The total value of Alaska

fishery products was \$63,439,593, an increase of \$26,998,933 over 1940. These figures represent the value of the manufactured products; it is estimated that the value of the catch to the fisherman was approximately \$15,512,000.

### Salmon

The commercial catch of salmon was 108,335,585, consisting of 3,980,911 cohos, 7,567,456 chums, 80,287,617 pinks, 1,126,237 kings ... 15,373,364 reds. This is an increase of 22,481,102 over the catch in the preceding year, when 85,854,483 salmon were taken. There was an increase in all species except chums, which show a decrease of 2,512,594 from the 1940 catch.

The catch increased about 81 percent over 1940 in southeastern Alaska and about 27 percent in western Alaska; the catch in central Alaska decreased 24 percent due chiefly to the exceptionally poor pink runs, especially along the Alaska Peninsula and in Cook Inlet. The pink salmon pack in the central district was the smallest since 1933.

Salmon-fishing apparatus in operation in 1941 included 381 traps, 823 seines, and 4,128 gill nets. Traps caught 54 percent of the salmon, seines 31 percent, and gill nets 13 percent; lines and wheels took the remaining 2 percent.

The pack of canned salmon was 6,932,040 cases, valued at \$56,217,601, as compared with 5,069,343 cases, valued at \$31,474,492, in the preceding year. Red salmon comprised 17 percent and pinks 67 percent of the total pack in 1941, as against 19 percent and 58 percent, respectively, in 1940. One hundred and nine canneries were operated, 9 more than in 1940; the number of persons employed increased from 19,666 to 21,994.

Salmon mild-curing in 1941 recovered much of the volume which it curtailed in 1940 as a result of the war in Europe. Products consisted of 7,997,898 pounds of kings and 106,900 pounds of cohos, a total of 8,104,798 pounds, valued at \$1,405,816. Eighteen plants were operated and 1,696 persons employed. The production of pickled salmon fell considerably below the 1940 output, due chiefly to the near failure of the red salmon runs along the Alaska Peninsula and in Bristol Bay. Production amounted to 289,200 pounds, valued at \$39,226, as compared with 811,505 pounds, valued at \$90,393 in the previous year. Fifty-four persons were engaged exclusively in the industry, as compared with 115 in 1940.

The output of fresh salmon in 1941 was 4,299,747 pounds valued at \$333,118, and the output of frozen salmon was 6,098,757 pounds, valued at \$597,803. In addition, 552,704 pounds of fresh salmon, valued at \$5,379, and 133,763 pounds of frozen salmon valued at \$1,374, together with 10,900 pounds of pickled salmon valued at \$130, were used for halibut bait and for animal feed on fur farms.

The production of canned smoked salmon was 1,200 pounds, valued at \$600; dry-salted salmon, 24,632 pounds, valued at \$2,441; and dried salmon, 1,086,000 pounds, valued at \$44,040. Byproducts of the salmon industry amounted to 2,000,000 pounds of meal, valued at \$50,000, and 74,099 gallons of oil, valued at \$35,614.

### Herring

The production of herring meal and oil increased markedly over 1940 chiefly because of the supplemental revision of the herring fishery regulations by the Secretary of the Interior and the early settlement of fish prices and labor contracts in the industry itself. The revised regulations permitted a limited operation in southeastern Alaska, restored the 1940 quotas in central Alaska and allowed unrestricted fishing outside designated quota areas. The early settlement of labor agreements enabled the industry to take full advantage of these changes.

Four plants operated in the Kodiak area and six in Prince William Sound, the catch in both areas being limited by regulation to 250,000 barrels. Kodiak operators secured their full quota; those in Prince William Sound were about 33,000 barrels short at the close of operations. In southeastern Alaska only 24,220 barrels, less than half of the 50,000-barrel quota, were caught by the three boats fishing in that area.

The output of scotch-cured herring was considerably smaller than last year. Of the total output of Scotch-cured herring, 81 percent was produced in the Kodiak area, 10 percent in the Prince William Sound area, and 9 percent in the Aleutian Islands area.

For the first time in the history of the industry, the Kodiak area surpassed Prince William Sound in the production of meal and oil, producing 50 percent of the total output, Prince William Sound produced 42 percent and southeastern Alaska 8 percent.

The number of herring plants decreased from 24 in 1940 to 13 in 1941. Employment was given to 718 persons as compared with 737 in 1940. The total value of herring products increased from \$1,258,071 to \$2,461,456, or about 96 percent.

### Halibut

The North Pacific halibut fishery officially opened on April 1, under regulations of the International Fisheries Commission approved March 22 by the United States and Canadian Governments. The most striking feature of the 1941 season was its extreme brevity: areas 1 and 2 closed on June 30, and areas 3 and 4 closed on September 14. The quota in area 3 was increased by 1,000,000 pounds, being set at

26,300,000 pounds, and area 2 at 22,700,000 pounds. Areas 1 and 4 have no quotas but close with areas 2 and 3, respectively.

Voluntary control measures were again in effect by the halibut fleet to stabilize the market.

In 1941, 1,142 persons were engaged in the Alaska halibut industry. Landings of the Alaska fleet, comprising American vessels that land more than one-half their catch in Alaska or British Columbia rather than in the States, amounted to 15,984,120 pounds, valued at \$1,552,658.

In addition, halibut livers landed by the Alaska fleet amounted to 173,776 pounds, valued at \$60,472, and halibut viscera amounted to 134,463 pounds, valued at \$14,694.

#### Cod

Cod fishing from shore stations in Alaska was carried on by independent fishermen in the Shumagin Islands and to the westward, in connection with salmon and herring pickling. The products amounted to 93,691 pounds, valued at \$6,950, as compared with 187,375 pounds, valued at \$8,459 in 1940.

#### Clams

Except for one plant in southeastern Alaska, the entire output of canned clams in Alaska in 1941 came from the Prince William Sound-Copper River region. Although the clam beds were apparently in excellent condition, scarcity of labor, price disagreements, and uncertain market conditions delayed the start of operations until May 27 and resulted in the smallest clam pack in many years.

The industry employed 234 persons as compared with 550 in 1940. Products consisted of 22,736 cases valued at \$132,599. The total "cut-out" or "drained" weights amounted to 272,922 pounds, as compared with 498,798 pounds in 1940.

#### Shrimps

The shrimp industry confined to the vicinity of Wrangell and Petersburg employed 79 persons. Shrimp products consisting of cold-packed frozen and canned totaled 444,736 pounds, valued at \$164,097, compared with 507,333 pounds, valued at \$186,441 in 1940.

#### Crabs

Crab products were prepared at four plants in southeastern Alaska, five in Prince William Sound, and one in Moser Bay on Kodiak Island. In addition, one salmon cannery and one herring plant in the Kodiak

area engaged in experimental king crab canning operations, but no commercial pack was reported. Employment was given to 231 persons. Products consisted of canned and cold packed crab meat, crab meat in bulk and whole crabs in the shell, a total of 284,296 pounds valued at \$103,924, as compared with 316,905 pounds, valued at \$88,533, in 1940. The production consisted mainly of dungeness crabs.

#### Miscellaneous

The commercial production of oysters in the vicinity of Ketchikan was 82 gallons, valued at \$289, as compared with 102 gallons valued at \$328 in the previous year. The output of fresh, frozen, and pickled sablefish was 2,963,963 pounds, valued at \$132,810; also 69,149 pounds of livers were valued at \$23,840; 51,220 pounds of viscera, \$5,607.

#### Fur-Seal Service

At the Pribilof Islands in 1941, 95,013 fur seal skins were taken, an increase of 29,750 skins over 1940, and the largest take since 1889. Insofar as possible, killings were confined to 3-year old males, with an appropriate reserve of this age class for future breeding stock. The computation of the fur-seal herd as of August 10, 1941, showed a total of 2,338,312 animals of all classes, an increase of 153,176 over 1940.

During the fiscal year, the 60,365 sealskins disposed of at special sales and at two public auction sales by the Fouke Fur Co. at St. Louis, Mo., brought a gross sum of \$2,349,255.36. The processed skins were dyed black, safari brown and matara brown.

Also at public auction 640 blue-fox skins and 11 white-fox skins brought \$11,870.50. In the 1941-42 season 829 blue and 5 white skins were taken.

Nearly all of the byproducts from the St. Paul Island reduction plant (35,000 gallons of blubber oil, 19,610 gallons of carcass oil, and 747,546 pounds of seal meal) were shipped to Seattle and sold through competitive bidding, bringing \$47,994.38.

Little new construction work was undertaken during the fiscal year. The St. Paul office building was completed, as was the community hall on St. George Island. Repairs to existing roads and the construction of some new extensions were continued on both islands.

#### Forests

The national forests of Alaska were set apart from the open public land area between 1900 and 1909 and placed under supervision of the Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, for development under

policies and methods that will insure continuous forest productivity and encourage the building of well-rounded, stable communities. The two national forests are confined to a strip of mainland and adjacent islands extending 800 miles from the British Columbia boundary northwest to the entrance of Cook Inlet. The Chugach National Forest which centers in the Prince William Sound region and the Tongass National Forest, which comprises the greater part of Southeastern Alaska, have a combined area of 20,864,000 acres. The chief administrative officer is the regional forester with headquarters at Juneau. Subordinate officers are permanently located at Ketchikan, Petersburg, Juneau, Cordova, and Seward.

All the national forest resources are available for use. Standing timber can be purchased for the use of local manufacturing industries and individuals. Land most valuable for agriculture, mining, industrial plants, and town sites can be patented. Areas needed for waterpower development, fox farming, and other special purposes may be leased. Tracts are made available for summer houses, public recreation facilities are provided, and hunting and fishing are fostered.

*Timber resources.*—The forests are predominantly a mixed stand of western hemlock and Sitka spruce with western red cedar and Alaska cedar in small proportions. The commercial forests extend from tidewater to an altitudinal limit of approximately 1,500 feet on the islands and mainland. Because of the prevailing steep slopes, the forests rarely extend inland more than 5 miles, except along the valleys of the few large streams. This timber is, therefore, readily accessible from the sheltered waterways. The total estimated timber stand is 84,760,000,000 feet board measure of which over 90 percent is on the Tongass Forest. Although the average stand per acre is about 26,000 board feet, individual logging units have 40,000 to 50,000 board feet per acre.

*Defense activities.*—Cooperation with the military organizations in the Territory has been furnished by the Forest Service, including the use of established camps, warehouses, floating camps, docks, floats, rifle ranges, and other equipment. Assistance has also been given in selecting sites for air bases, barracks, access roads, signal stations, wharves, etc., drafting work plans and specifications, and eliminating sites for the construction of cabins, trails, etc., for military recreation and training purposes.

The sale of timber to individuals and manufacturing industries is encouraged; 37,972,000 board feet, with a stumpage value of \$55,267, were cut during last year. Settlers, miners, and other residents outside of incorporated towns may take, free of charge, green or dry timber for personal use. The cutting is done under rules which insure the renewal of the forest crop on cutover areas.

The great future forest industry of Alaska is the manufacture of pulp and paper, particularly newsprint paper. The extensive forests which are well suited to this use are capable of producing over 1,000,000 tons of newsprint annually in perpetuity. This is more than one-fourth of the present total requirements of the United States. In addition, abundant waterpower is available for conversion of the raw material and the equable climate permits plant operation and tidewater transportation throughout the year.

A survey of the principal known power sites in the Tongass Forest reveals a year-round capacity of 800,000 horsepower. A number of power sites are now in use. All water-power sites are publicly owned and may be leased under the Federal Power Act for periods as long as 50 years. The regional forester is the Alaska representative of the Federal Power Commission.

Recreational features are a major resource of the national forests. The scenery is superb, embracing hundreds of miles of protected waterways and striking fiords flanked with rugged mountains rising abruptly from the sea. Wildlife of great abundance and variety populates the hills, valleys, and waters of this frontier land. The Forest Service is making these recreational opportunities more accessible and usable through the construction of trails, roads, shelter cabins at strategic locations, picnic grounds, swimming beaches and bathhouses, and rifle ranges. Winter sports are becoming increasingly popular with the construction of ski trails and jumps, slalom and downhill courses, ski cabins, and skating facilities.

*Lands.*—All national forest lands are classified on the basis of greatest use. In this determination, community welfare transcends the interests of individual applicants. If the land is most valuable for mining, agriculture, industrial purposes or for town sites, the land may be eliminated from the forest and patented. Lands needed for special forms of occupancy such as summer cottages and fox farms may be leased. Individual citizens desiring a home may purchase a home site not to exceed 5 acres of public land at \$2.50 per acre. After 3 years' residence, to the exclusion of a home elsewhere, they can apply for elimination from the national forest and patent may be obtained through the General Land Office. Two hundred three Homesite Permits are now in effect on the national forests and 267 Homesite areas have been eliminated for patent. Other special use permits in effect June 30, 1942, include 515 residences and summer homes, 67 fur farms, 27 fish canneries and salteries, and 578 miscellaneous, 419 of which are free permits. Of the latter, 55 free permits authorize the use of land for agricultural and cultivation purposes. Nearly 100,000 acres and 180 square miles of national forest land are under special use permit.

*Receipts.*—Total gross receipts for timber stumpage and for the several classes of land use of the national forests during the last fiscal year were \$78,262. Twenty-five percent of the gross receipts, \$19,566, were turned over to the Territory for schools and roads. Ten percent of all receipts, \$7,826, were made available to the Forest Service for road and trail building.

### Game and Fur

The Alaska Game Commission, composed of one member from each Judicial Division of the Territory and an executive officer, was created as an autonomous agency by Congressional act of 1925. It meets annually to study reports and recommendations from field personnel and individuals interested in wildlife conservation, and to recommend to the Secretary of the Interior for final approval and promulgation the adoption of regulations aimed to permit the maximum use of Alaska's wildlife resources without depletion of breeding stock.

During the past year, a resident biologist spent several months studying sheep ranges in the Mount Hayes district, and at Petersburg supervised preparation of an experimental deer range. A wildlife agent continued observations of the bear-cattle situation on Kodiak Island. Migratory bird nesting areas along the Kuskokwim and Yukon Rivers were visited; wolf predations and depletion of reindeer herds were investigated in the Seward Peninsula area and near Kenai Lake; 47 Reeves pheasants were released.

Fur farming retained its place as an important industry, with 167 licensed farmers last year. The Commission and the University of Alaska are cooperating on experiments and operation of the Experimental Fur Station at Petersburg; mink, blue and white foxes were the main species propagated with some marten breeding experiments.

Wildlife resources of Alaska are valued roughly at 100 million dollars. Last year, 608,419 pelts brought \$2,280,538.50. Muskrats, ranking first in production with 511,805 pelts, were valued at \$818,888. Beaver brought \$525,453, and mink \$333,711. Other furs produced, ranked according to the total value, were: blue fox, white fox, red fox, lynx, otter, marten, cross fox, silver fox, wolf, weasel, coyote, wolverine, polar bear, squirrel, black bear, marmot, and hare.

Wildlife agents apprehended 224 persons for violations of the Alaska game law; offenders were penalized \$5,340 in fines and 1,015 days in jail sentences.

All game, furs, guns, traps, etc., possessed or used in violation of the law were seized and forfeited to the Government, revenues accruing from these sources being divided equally between the Federal and Territorial Governments.

During the year, 77 registered guides were licensed and empowered to enforce game law provisions.

### Health

#### Alaska Insane

During the past year 69 persons were admitted to Morningside Hospital at Portland, Oreg., where the legally adjudged insane from the Territory have for 38½ years been cared for under contract with the Department of the Interior. A total of 1,974 patients from Alaska has been admitted during this period; 318 were in the hospital on June 30.

#### Territorial Department of Health

The Territorial Department of Health, which functions mainly by means of funds provided by the United States Public Health Service and the Children's Bureau, is supervised by the Territorial Commissioner of Health, appointed by the Governor. Its work has greatly increased during the past year. The possible disruption of ordinary civilian activities by enemy action and the resulting threat of epidemics have been considered in planning the public health program. An extensive program for immunization of all children and adults against communicable diseases has been instituted; plans for the protection of town sanitary facilities and improvisation of accessory sanitary installations have been prepared and distributed to all the principal towns in Alaska. Laboratory facilities have been utilized on a wide scale by the military forces and private physicians, and a blood-typing program of all civilians has been started. All public health nurses are available for emergency duty in first-aid stations, clinics, and shelters.

*Communicable disease control.*—During 1942, 5,474 cases of communicable disease were reported, with 393 deaths. In conjunction with the Division of Maternal and Child Health, an extensive program of immunization is being carried on. Tuberculosis again led all other communicable diseases as a cause of death, with 264 from the 522 cases reported. This compares with 293 deaths and 519 cases reported for 1941. Tuberculosis clinics were held in 19 towns and villages; 1,382 chest X-rays were taken, and 3,012 tuberculin tests given.

Reporting of venereal disease is still inadequate, but 188 cases of syphilis and 663 cases of gonorrhea were reported. Diagnostic facilities are available in the Department's two laboratories, free drugs are distributed to physicians for treatment of these diseases, and



every possible aid has been given practicing physicians, but the incidence of venereal disease cases continues to increase.

*Maternal and child health services.*—These services, carried out chiefly through public health nursing programs in the local communities, offer nursing services and instructions throughout the maternity cycle, nursing care to the sick in the home under the direction of a private physician, health supervision, supervisory services to infants, children, adults and crippled children, group health instruction, health educational services and assistance to physicians in immunization and tuberculosis clinics, dental care and vision conservation. During the past year, the 14 established public health nursing services reached 29 communities, and received local support in varying amounts. Because of the advent of war, public health nursing institutes which had been planned were not held.

*Crippled children's services.*—This division administers a program for the location, diagnosis, hospitalization, and follow-up care of physically handicapped children. Because facilities are lacking in the Territory, all crippled children are sent to Seattle for hospitalization; about 50 were hospitalized during 1942. Of the 353 crippled children registered up to the end of 1942, 179 were crippled by tuberculosis.

*Public health engineering.*—This division assists in the control of environmental sanitation in Alaska on a territory-wide and local basis through the application of sanitary science and modern public health engineering practice. Two additional public water supplies, at Anchorage and Fairbanks, were chlorinated; three other supplies, at Juneau, Ketchikan, and Wrangell, plan to install chlorination plants in the near future. Sewerage extensions in Sitka were completed, water distribution system extensions were started in Anchorage, and plans for new water supplies were drawn at Kodiak and Anchorage. The milk sanitation program at Anchorage resulted in the addition of a new Grade A pasteurization plant and 12 additional Grade A plant-producer dairies in the Matanuska Valley. New Grade A dairies were built in Kodiak and Juneau; one dairy at Petersburg was regraded from Grade B to Grade A. Food establishment sanitation was maintained at a high level in all towns not greatly affected by defense work; in the boom town, however, difficulty was experienced and additional personnel has been requested of the Public Health Service to assist during the emergency.

*Public Health Laboratories Division.*—Physicians and other divisions of the Department are furnished diagnostic laboratory service by this division, including examinations of body discharges and blood, bacterial and chemical analyses of milk products and food, and bacteriological tests of the potability of drinking water. The field laboratory has been instrumental in the discovery of human carriers

of contagious disease; surveys have been made in areas where sporadic outbreaks of meningitis, typhoid fever, and diphtheria have been discovered. Considerable stores of antiserums and vaccines have been placed at the disposal of the physicians to help prevent the spread of disease during the present emergency, and a generalized blood-typing program has been instituted throughout the Territory, so that physicians may have a known list of blood donors. The laboratories made 43,275 examinations during the fiscal year, a 95-percent increase over 1941, when 22,246 examinations were made.

### U. S. Public Health Service

The Public Health Service maintains stations at 10 ports in Alaska to furnish medical relief to sick and disabled seamen, including crew members of all Government vessels other than the Navy. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1942, the Service reported: 3,608 in-patient days, 8,422 out-patient treatments, and 851 physical examinations. The Service cooperates with the Territorial Department of Health in its program of health activities established under the Social Security Act.

### Territorial Veterinarian

In August 1941, the Territorial veterinarian established headquarters in Palmer, in order to be more readily available to the farmers of the Matanuska Valley. He visited eight other towns, made 348 farm calls, tested 958 cattle for tuberculosis and Bangs Disease, and made many other examinations and inspections. Because the 1941 session of the Territorial Legislature appropriated insufficient funds for the veterinarian, his activities have been hampered by the lack of an office, laboratory equipment and means of transportation, but many animals have been saved that would otherwise have died.

### Incorporated Towns

Alaska now has 22 incorporated towns, Unalaska having become incorporated March 3, 1942. The total assessed valuation was \$45,458,794.30, an increase of \$6,134,470.30 over 1941. The rates of taxation range from 2 to 20 mills.

### Office of Indian Affairs

Under direction of a general superintendent, with headquarters at Juneau, the programs of the various divisions of the Alaska Indian Service are coordinated and conducted to help the Natives (Indians, Eskimos and Aleuts) better to adjust themselves to the rapidly changing conditions of their social and economic order.

### Education

During 1942, 120 day schools and three vocational boarding schools were operated. Programs of instructions are suited to the needs of each particular community, some of the primary objectives being to teach the students to become constructive citizens of their communities, to aid them in analyzing and utilizing more effectively the economic resources of their environment, and to give first hand experience in livestock management, use of native materials in mechanics and whatever vocational skills are needed to earn a livelihood in the region. Promising young students who have completed the necessary training are employed by the Service as apprentice teachers.

In addition to classroom work, nearly all teachers performed other duties, including the supervision of native cooperative stores, reindeer herds, native craft programs, food conservation, social welfare and first-aid programs. They also operated radio stations from isolated communities, served as postmasters, game licensing and tagging officers, and submitted weather reports for the U. S. Weather Bureau. During 1942, 13 students attended various institutions for higher training, assisted by educational loans.

### Native Arts and Crafts

These activities increased considerably during the year, the total income to Natives amounting to approximately \$216,000, of which more than half represented skin sewing. Two clearing houses at Juneau and Nome were maintained to help handle this business. Many skin and fur products, such as parkas, boots, etc., were sold to the armed forces in Alaska.

### Social Welfare

From an appropriation of \$43,000, 1,766 persons, including mothers with dependent children, physically handicapped Natives, orphans and neglected children, were assisted during the year.

### Reindeer Service

On March 31, just prior to fawning season, approximately 170,253 reindeer grazed tundra ranges between Kodiak Island and the Arctic rim east of Barrow, an area of 166,000 square miles. Natives owned 130,570 and 39,683 were government-owned. Including families of the 3,458 reindeer owners, approximately 14,000 Eskimos, Aleuts and Indians benefit from reindeer as an essential source of meat for

food, and skins for parkas, boots, mittens, sleeping bags and other cold-weather items. During the year, 25,383 reindeer were harvested, conservatively valued at \$380,745. Cash sales totaled \$45,000; fawn skins, including those sold to the U. S. Army for garments, returned \$13,124.

### Construction

War conditions prevented the construction of the tuberculosis sanitarium in southeastern Alaska, for which \$250,000 had been appropriated. Several small projects, including improvements and additions to the Bethel and Kotzebue Hospitals, were completed.

### Organization and Credit

The main purpose of organization of the villages is to educate the people to become self-governing and to follow the procedures practiced by municipalities elsewhere. Councils of organized villages are assisted in the operation of loan application and general supervision is given to all credit activities. Incorporated villages in the far north have been loaned \$80,000 for the establishment of cooperative stores. Individual loans have been made to 185 members of village corporations in southeastern Alaska to purchase fishing yessels and other equipment.

### Communication

During the past year, 51 Indian Service radio stations have been in operation, mostly in isolated regions where radio is the only means of communication, during most of the year.

### Medical

For the 1942 fiscal year, \$519,810 was appropriated for medical relief of Natives of Alaska. This appropriation was administered by a medical director (detailed by the United States Public Health Service), assisted by a supervisor of nurses and an associate dental officer, to provide medical care, hospitalization, public health nursing and transportation to hospital or physicians for approximately 32,000 beneficiaries of the Office of Indian Affairs in Alaska.

Field personnel consisted of nine full-time and five part-time physicians, 19 contract dentists, 35 hospital nurses, 32 field nurses and school nurses and 60 other employees, mostly Natives. Seven hospitals, with a bed capacity of 184, were maintained. Hospitalization was also provided at 12 private hospitals, and 33 tuberculous natives were hospitalized at Tacoma and Yakima, Washington. In addition to carrying on medical and surgical programs in the hospitals



of which they have charge, physicians made periodic visits into the field to hold clinics, perform minor operations, etc. Dental services were given by 19 private dentists on a contract basis, as well as by the associate dental officer. Approximately 100 communities received public health nursing services and emergency medical relief, although 11 public health nursing positions were vacant during the year because no nurses were available. In villages removed from medical or nursing service, the teachers gave emergency medical care, following instructions of a physician or field nurse. The efforts of field nurses have been responsible, in a large measure, for increased demands for hospitalization and a slight but consistent raising of standards of living among natives.

A high incidence of crippling conditions exists among native children. From July 1 to December 31, 1941, the care of crippled children in hospitals in the States cost the Indian Service \$2,345.12. During the remainder of the fiscal year, the cost of this hospitalization was borne by the Territorial Department of Health.

Tuberculosis remains the major health problem among Natives. A survey to determine the incidence of this disease among Natives was continued during the year in cooperation with the Territorial Department of Health, and the facilities of the BCG Survey being carried on by the Indian Service, the Public Health Service and Phipps Institute. For the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis, 69 beds are available in Indian Service hospitals and also a few patients are accepted at six contract hospitals. The construction of the sanatorium at Ketchikan, for which funds are available, was postponed because of the war.

### Labor

#### Territorial Department of Labor

For the first time in the history of Alaska, the Territory has a Department of Labor. The Department, created by the 1941 Territorial Legislature, began functioning July 1, in charge of a Commissioner of Labor.

The Commissioner's duties include inspection of sanitary and safety conditions at all places of employment, regulation of hours and wages on public works, administration of wage payment laws, enforcement of the provisions of the women's minimum wage law, compilation of labor statistics, recommendation of labor legislation to the Territorial Legislature, promotion of voluntary mediation, conciliation, and arbitration, etc.

During the first 10 months of operation, the Department conducted an employer-employee educational program, through the 127 labor unions and other organizations, and much good was accomplished.

Approximately 75 safety and sanitation inspections were made, but no legal actions have yet been necessary. At the same time the inspectors inquired concerning workmen's compensation insurance coverage, explaining its needs to employers not covered—usually the small operators, rather than the large industries. In an effort to ascertain the number of mining operators who have provided their workmen with such coverage, questionnaires were sent to 263 operators. At the end of the fiscal year, 100 operators had replied. Of these, 48 operators, employing 1,448 men, carried insurance. Twenty of this number reported no injuries; the other 28 allocated their injuries as follows: Fatal, 1; major, 12; and minor, 122. Of the 26 employers who classified themselves as "self-insuring," 19 reported a full season without injuries. The other seven, including the large operators of the Alaska-Juneau Gold Mining Co. and the United States Smelting & Refining Co. at Fairbanks and Nome, reported injuries as follows: Fatal, 1; major, 109; and minor, 668. These operators employed 3,101 during the season. Nine small operators reported under the "no insurance" group.

The Department has enforced the provisions of the women's minimum wage law 14 times to date, mostly regarding wages and hours for adult workers, but no legal action has been necessary. Approximately \$965.48 in wages has been collected for women by the Department.

A series of necessary labor laws for the Territory, as well as workmen's compensation law to be administered by the Department of Labor, has been compiled by the Department for consideration by the next session of the Territorial Legislature. Through intercession the Department has collected \$13,857.91 in compensation, which might never have been received or which might have been tied up in litigation for many months.

Close cooperation has been maintained with all other Territorial and Federal agencies in Alaska, as well as with the Federal Department of Labor. In addition to his other duties, the Commissioner serves as special agent of the Wage-Hour Division and representative of the Children's Bureau, both of the Federal Department of Labor.

In six out of the eight cases for negotiation into which the Department was called, satisfactory compromises were effected. There have been only three strikes since the Department was established, none in 1942. A conciliator from the U. S. Conciliation Service came to Juneau early in 1942 in connection with the cold storage fish industry disagreement in southeastern Alaska. Inspectors from the Wage and Hour Division also visited the Territory, and were assisted by the Territorial Department of Labor.

The law creating the Department of Labor is gravely defective; these defects were pointed out to the fifteenth Territorial Legislature

in a special message by the Governor, who stated that he would permit the bill to become law without his signature with the hope that future legislatures would amend the act to make it a more satisfactory instrument.

## Mines

### United States Geological Survey

The work of the United States Geological Survey in Alaska is directed primarily toward aiding in the development of the mineral resources of the Territory. This has involved field investigations in the course of which all the known productive camps have been examined, and nearly 300,000 square miles, or about half of Alaska, has been mapped topographically and geologically. The results of these investigations are made available to the public in the form of maps and reports.

During the 1941 field season, the Alaskan branch engaged in 17 projects involving field work and two projects, which though based on field records, involved only office and laboratory work by members of its staff. Of the field projects, 12 were primarily for the study of mineral resources, four were for topographic mapping, and one was for general administrative purposes and planning future work. Of the geologic or mineral resources projects, three examinations related to chrome deposits, two each to nickel and tin, and one each to mercury and antimony. One project in southeastern Alaska and one in the Alaska Range, though directed toward general regional examinations, made incidental preliminary studies of certain other deposits of antimony, tungsten, nickel, molybdenum, and iron. A general geological reconnaissance was made of the Porcupine River Valley in east central Alaska.

The four topographic mapping projects involving field work were reconnaissance surveys in the Yentna district, aerial photography in the Yukon-Kuskokwim region, and detailed surveys in the Hot Springs district and in the vicinity of Tanana.

The principal office activity of the Branch during the 1941 season—which is being continued with an increased force—is the compilation of aeronautical piloting maps from photographs furnished by the Army Air Force, largely paid for from funds transferred by the Army to the survey. Also, one of the largest office activities of the branch is the compilation of maps needed by the Army Air Force for its series of aeronautical charts.

With funds appropriated directly to the Geological Survey, 14 field projects—12 directly related to mineral resources and two primarily to topographic mapping—were under way early in the 1942 season.

In June the War Production Board provided funds to undertake 15 additional field projects related to the search for deposits of strategic and critical minerals. Although progress was made in recruiting personnel, getting equipment and organizing these additional parties, none were actually in the field during the fiscal year 1942.

### Territorial Department of Mines

Territorial laws relating to mining are administered by the Commissioner of Mines, assisted by three associate mining engineers, two temporary field assistants, three assayers, and the necessary clerical staff.

Field examinations were made at many lode and placer properties in the Territory, preference being given to those containing strategic and base metals necessary to the manufacture of war equipment. The Department's engineers did sampling and large-scale geologic mapping at prospects that appeared to warrant further development and assistance given in planning future work. Material was prepared for a pamphlet on the occurrence of strategic minerals in interior Alaska that was ready for publication at the end of the fiscal year.

At the four public assay offices in Ketchikan, Anchorage, College, and Nome, 3,446 mineral determinations were made, of which approximately 30 percent were of strategic and base metals needed for the war effort. The Anchorage assay office, authorized by the 1941 Legislature, was ready for service in November 1941.

Under cooperative arrangement with the Geological Survey, the Commissioner of Mines, assisted by an associate mining engineer at Anchorage, supervised all coal mining operations in Alaska which are conducted under the provisions of the Federal Coal Leasing Act. The Commissioner also acted as emergency coordinator of mines for the War Production Board, regional officer for the United States Bureau of Mines in administering the Federal Explosives Act, and purchasing agent for the Metals Reserve Co. for Alaska.

During 1941, 5,988 men were employed in the mining industry, a decrease of 405 under the number engaged in 1940. Because men were drafted for military service and because higher wages were offered by defense industries, a shortage of experienced mine labor was reported from all sections of the Territory. Due to this shortage, as well as the difficulty of obtaining equipment and supplies, several smaller gold properties closed, and operations at larger mines were curtailed. Few prospectors are active as a result of the demand for labor at high wages.

## National Parks and Monuments

### Mount McKinley National Park

Mount McKinley National Park, in south-central Alaska, is accessible the year around via the Alaska Railroad. During the summer season, the government-owned Alaska Railroad operates McKinley Park Hotel near the McKinley Park Station, which accommodates 120 to 160 guests. It also operates Camp Eielson, accommodating 50 guests and located 66 miles in the Park on the 90-mile gravel-surfaced Park Highway, and various facilities including bus service. Landing fields at the Station and near Savage River serve as bases for airplane sightseeing trips. Horses are available for hire. During the past year, 1,700 persons visited the park.

Toward the western end of the park, Mount McKinley rises to an altitude of 20,300 feet above sea level—the highest mountain on the North American continent and also one of the loftiest in the world when measured from base to summit. The park also contains Mount Foraker, 17,000 feet, Mount Russell, 11,500 feet, many other lofty peaks and four large glaciers.

Mountain sheep and caribou are abundant in the park, and moose, grizzly bears, wolves, coyotes and foxes are commonly seen. Rangers patrol the boundaries by dog team and airplane against hunting and trapping; 14 patrol cabins are located at intervals of about 15 miles. Wonder Lake Ranger Station is the base for winter patrols in the remote western part of the park. Park headquarters and other administration buildings, including kennels for about 20 sled dogs, are located about 2 miles from the Station.

### National Monuments

The *Sitka National Monument*, at Sitka, marks the site of historic battles with the Indians in 1802 and 1804. A replica of the old Russian blockhouse has been built, and 18 of the finest totem poles in the world stand in the Monument.

*Katmai National Monument*, on the shore of Shelikoff Straits, Alaska Peninsula, is accessible by boat from Bristol Bay and Naknek River or by trail through Katmai River Valley. It has an area of 2,697,590 acres of beautiful volcanic mountain scenery and steaming craters. Most famous volcano is Mount Katmai, which erupted violently in 1912. The "Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes" is a primary attraction. Wildlife is plentiful, and many Alaska brown bears range through the area.

*Glacier Bay National Monument*, consisting of 2,069,760 acres of tidewater glaciers and imposing mountain peaks in southeastern

Alaska, north of Icy Straits, may be reached only by boat or seaplane, which are readily procurable at Juneau or other nearby towns. The locality is valuable from a scientific standpoint to students of natural history because of excellent opportunities to study glacial phenomena and vegetation. The region is a reserve for brown bears.

## Public Lands

### Alaska Fire Control Service

The Alaska Fire Control Service, under the jurisdiction of the General Land Office, is charged with the prevention and suppression of fires on the public domain lands of Alaska. During the past year, the Service worked in close cooperation with the military forces in the Territory since widespread fires interfere materially with military operations. Of the approximately 350,000,000 acres of public domain, an estimated 250,000,000 acres of timber and grazing lands need fire protection to assure continuance of Alaska's rich natural resources of timber, fur, and wildlife. A vigorous educational program in fire prevention was continued during the year.

### Public Survey Office

The Cadastral Engineering Service of the General Land Office is the congressionally constituted agency having jurisdiction over the survey and resurvey of the public lands of the United States, mineral surveys in the same area, and the preparation and perpetuation of the technical and legal records thereof.

The surveying program which had been prepared for 1942 was changed to give precedence to requests for surveys deemed essential in the war program; nevertheless, nearly all surveys involving settlement claims, homesteads and homesites were completed. Approximately 95 miles of boundaries were surveyed, defining military, naval and other reservations; 118 homesites in southeastern Alaska were completed in the field; two townsites including more than 500 lots were surveyed. In the office, 95 plats were completed.

The District Cadastral Engineer represented the Department of the Interior on a board with representatives of the Departments of Commerce, Navy, and War for informal consultations on contemplated withdrawals of public land for war purposes. He was also appointed officer in charge of investigations to determine the validity of private claims within military reservations. Many maps, plats, abstracts and descriptions of lands were prepared in conference with the military authorities.

## Public Works

### Federal Works Agency

Under the War Public Works program, which aids communities to provide public works and services made necessary by expansion of war industries and increased wartime activities of the Army and Navy, the Federal Works Agency is building schools, hospitals, recreational centers, water works, sewer systems, powerplants, etc. Twenty-four of the fifty-three construction project applications submitted have been approved, and Federal funds allotted, totaling approximately \$1,278,000. Three applications for maintenance and operation projects were filed, and one, for territorial schools, approved in the amount of \$47,236.

### Roads

#### Alaska Road Commission

The Alaska Road Commission, created by act of Congress in 1905 as a bureau of the War Department, was transferred to the Department of the Interior in 1932. It is administered by the Governor of Alaska in his capacity as ex-officio commissioner for Alaska, with a chief engineer in direct charge of the work.

The Commission constructs and maintains roads, bridges and trails in Alaska. Construction and maintenance of air fields, telephone lines and shelter cabins are also undertaken for the Territory. Funds are made available for the work by annual congressional appropriations, from the "Alaska Fund," and from contributions by the Territory of Alaska and others.

The Richardson Highway was maintained open during the entire season, and is being improved. The Steese Highway was maintained in good condition, and the road from Olnes to Livengood is now surfaced wherever required. The road connecting Anchorage with the new settlement around Palmer is now in good condition. Grading and partial surfacing were completed over 75 miles of the Glenn Highway, and construction was under way on an additional 30 miles. It is expected that a passable road will be provided over this route by November 1942, with some grading and final surfacing to be done after that date.

The total mileage of roads and trails constructed and maintained by the Commission since its inception aggregate 10,376½ miles, consisting of 2,267½ miles of road, 139¼ miles of tramway, 1,392½ miles of sled road, 6,353¼ miles of permanent trail and 224 miles of temporary flagged trail.

Under a cooperative agreement with the National Park Service, the Alaska Road Commission constructs and maintains roads and trails in Mount McKinley National Park with funds allotted by the National Park Service. At the close of the fiscal year the road had been opened for traffic 88.3 miles, from the entrance on the railroad to the western boundary. Widening and resurfacing to double-width standard had been completed over the first 44 miles, and partially completed over an additional 12 miles. Work on this road during the past season was limited to maintenance and repair to flood damage. Three miles of trail were built leading from the park hotel toward Yanert Lakes.

### Public Roads Administration

Since 1920, all roads on the Forest Highway System in and adjacent to national forests have been constructed and maintained by the Public Roads Administration, formerly the Bureau of Public Roads.

The Public Roads Administration now maintains 249.23 miles of road in Alaska.

### Territorial Board of Road Commissioners

The Territorial Road Board, with the highway engineer as executive officer, expends the funds appropriated by the Territorial Legislature for roads and public works; it is also charged with the administration of the Alaska Highway Traffic Act, which provides a uniform system of traffic and highway regulation.

The bulk of the money appropriated goes toward the maintenance and improvement of existing roads, territorial aviation fields and telephone lines. Most of the money spent on new work is matched in part either by other agencies or by interested persons.

## Social Welfare

### American Red Cross

The personnel of the American Red Cross at military and naval posts throughout the Territory, supported by adequate staffs, is engaged in a general program of welfare in behalf of able-bodied service men, as well as patients of the Army and Navy.

The work of the 10 organized Red Cross chapters in the Territory has greatly increased during the last year, and training was given the members in first aid, home nursing, nutrition, home service and disaster service. All chapters were active in the production of garments for foreign war relief and for the armed forces of the United States.

The nine Junior Red Cross chapters also assisted in the disaster preparedness and services to the armed forces programs; during the year 21 territorial and 27 government schools enrolled in Junior Red Cross.

#### 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.

*Old-age assistance.*—This program is administered on the basis of a cooperative plan between the Territory and the Social Security Board. The average grant during the past year has been \$29.26. A total amount of \$551,496 was expended for this program during the year, the number of cases under care on June 30, 1942, being 1,563.

*Direct relief.*—The Territory provides food, shelter, clothing, fuel, medical and hospital care for the needy, sick and unfortunate who are not under the jurisdiction of the Office of Indian Affairs, which has its own welfare department. During the past year, assistance given 923 persons amounted to \$54,440.38 for food, shelter, etc., and \$84,572.45 for hospitalization and medical care. About \$17,000 was spent for sanatorium care of tubercular persons from the relief of destitution appropriation in the last year. No other public agency in the Territory is or has provided such care and the problem is ever becoming greater by reason of the further discovery of the disease. This Department pays an average of \$115 a month per person over an average 1½-year period.

While the Department of Public Welfare had no regular medical aid program available close cooperation with the Department of Health was maintained in providing both medical care and hospitalization.

*Child welfare services.*—The Territory has two child welfare programs: the Boards of Children's Guardians and Mothers' Allowances. 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, approximating \$11,000 annually. During the year 438 children were assisted, and a total of \$51,639.27 was expended.

*Defense health and welfare activities.*—With the advent of the United States into the war, the Office of Defense Health and Welfare Service made three programs available to Alaska: Voluntary Evacuation, Aid to Dependent Families of Enemy Aliens and Civilian War Aid. The Department of Public Welfare entered into the first two programs

in March 1942. Reimbursement is made by the Federal Government for obligations incurred. The third program, Civilian War Aid, was awaiting formal Federal legislation with the expectation that this, too, would be incorporated about July 1, 1942.

#### Pioneers' Home

The Alaska Pioneers' Home at Sitka, with its auxiliary unit at Goddard Hot Springs, had 171 residents at the end of the fiscal year. Any worthy 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 application approved by the board of trustees, of which the Governor is chairman. This home, wholly supported by the Territory, has been in continuous operation since 1913 and contains a completely equipped hospital unit.

#### Social Security Board

The Territorial Director of the Social Security Board, maintaining a territorial office in Juneau, acts as a liaison between the Social Security Board and the Department of Public Welfare, and the Alaska Unemployment Compensation Commission, is responsible for the operation of the United State Employment Service in Alaska, and administers the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance feature of the Social Security Act in the Territory. In addition, the Territorial Director has been appointed Territorial Director of the Office of Defense Health and Welfare Services, created by Executive order on September 3, 1941 to assure adequate health and welfare services during the national emergency. The functions of this office include the voluntary evacuation of civilians from Alaska, the removal and relocation of enemy aliens, acceptance and transfer of community facilities projects, civilian war relief, etc.

#### Unemployment Compensation Commission

Employment in Alaska increased steadily during the fiscal year, both because of the unusual and unexpected run of salmon in the southern district and because of the defense activities throughout the Territory. Any substantial increase of employment naturally tends toward an increase in unemployment compensation contributions collected, and a decrease in benefits paid. However, a certain period of adjustment or training and upgrading of workers was experienced before benefits decreased to an amount comparable to the situation. It is interesting to note that 69 percent of the benefit payments made during the 1942 fiscal year were forwarded to workers who earned



wages in covered employment in Alaska and now reside in the states. The amount available for benefit payments on June 30, 1942, was \$2,218,007.82.

### United States Employment Service

As the first step in placing the employment services throughout the country on a wartime basis, an Executive order to nationalize the various State and Territorial employment services was signed by the President on December 24, 1941. The Alaska Territorial Employment Service was nationalized on February 1, 1942, and is now under direct control of the Social Security Board.

With defense industries increasing and gradually absorbing almost completely the available supply of labor in Alaska, a change in the method of recruiting labor was imperative. An Alaskan specialist, with wide knowledge of the employment labor problems of the Territory, was installed in the Seattle clearance office to stimulate and direct the flow of workers from the south to points in the Territory where they are most needed. The clearance office is notified of the needs of employers throughout the Territory, and if suitable workers cannot be obtained in the Seattle area, other areas of Washington and adjacent States are cleared in attempts to locate the desired number and types of workers.

A national occupational inventory is under way so that workers may shift more smoothly from private employment to important war work. The Alaska Employment Service offices receive from the Selective Service Board that portion of each registrant's occupational questionnaire which describes the registrant's capabilities; they then sort and classify the registrants, and interview those who possess skills critically needed in the war effort. When this occupational inventory is completed, the Service will have a comprehensive record of all manpower in the Territory.

The total active file of the Alaskan offices on June 30, 1942, was 486, compared with 1,149 in 1941, and 1,621 in 1940, indicating the rapidly declining unemployment. Of the 486 persons on the active file, many are actually employed but desire a change, and many are physically handicapped, aged or extremely youthful. During 1942, 8,083 new applications for work were taken. Placements numbered 10,133, compared with 8,507 during 1941.

The Service continues to be a claims-taking office for the Unemployment Compensation Commission of Alaska, and during the year handled 1,646 initial claims and 8,776 continued claims. In connection with this claims-taking, the local offices keep an active registration on file of each claimant and endeavor to find him suitable work.

### Transportation

#### The Alaska Railroad

The Alaska Railroad operated 500.8 miles of line the year around, furnishing passenger and freight service between Seward and Fairbanks, and on branch lines serving the Matanuska and Nenana coal fields.

The passenger train schedule in effect during the summer of 1941 provided for three round trips weekly between Seward and Fairbanks, one weekly between Fairbanks and McKinley Park and one every two weeks between Fairbanks and Nenana. No regular schedule was maintained from September until January, when a weekly trip between Anchorage and Fairbanks was made. Beginning April 24, three round trips weekly were made between Seward and Anchorage.

Both passenger traffic and freight tonnage showed substantial increases over last year. A new freight house was built at Anchorage, and a new concrete depot and general office building is under construction there. A dormitory and mess house were completed at Eska Coal Mine.

River boat service was maintained during the season of river navigation from Nenana to Tanana, Ruby, Holy Cross, and Marshall.

#### Steamship Companies

Alaska was served during the year by five steamship companies. The Alaska Steamship Co. operated ships from Seattle to southeastern Alaska ports, as well as to Kodiak and Seward. The Northland Transportation Co. and the Alaska Transportation Co. of Seattle, the Canadian National Steamships of Vancouver, B. C., and the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. of Victoria, B. C., operated ships on regular schedules from Seattle, Vancouver, and Victoria to southeastern Alaskan ports.

#### War Savings

In October 1941, the Governor was appointed Administrator of War Savings in Alaska, to have charge of the program of bond purchases for national defense. From July 1941, when Series E bond was placed on sale in Alaska, through December 1941, only \$436,050 of bonds of this series had been sold in the entire Territory, an average of \$72,673.33 monthly. A territorial committee and volunteer local committees for the promotion of War Savings bonds in every major community were organized, and a deputy administrator was appointed to undertake active conduct of the program. As a result, the sales of Series E bonds alone during the first 6 months of 1942 totaled \$2,510,716.50—a monthly average of \$418,452.75, and nearly six times the amount purchased during the preceding 6 months.