

Alaska Enjoys New Boom

Since 1867 when the U. S. paid Russia \$7,200,000 for Alaska, America has taken the territory for granted, taking from her soil \$500,000,000 worth of gold and enjoying a profitable "export" market. But last summer, with Europe aflame and with both Japan and Russia looming menacingly on the far eastern horizon, the U. S. appropriated \$50,000,000 for her defense.



Huge airfields are springing up, roads are penetrating the forests, and workmen such as those shown above are building bridges over the rushing streams. Soon 10,000 troops like the soldier at the right will disembark in Alaska.



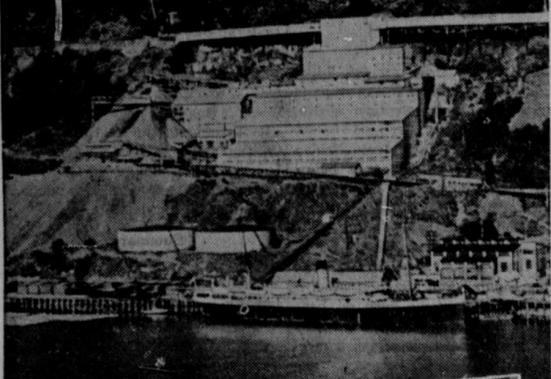
Picture Parade

Farm products, as shown in the above picture, are raised in abundance, but mostly for local consumption.

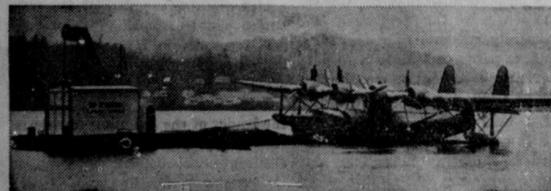
In the first 10 months of 1940 exports to the territory totaled \$41,600,000 against \$36,400,000 in the same period of 1938. Above (left), is Theo. C. Wiehe, president of the Schenley International Co., pointing to Alaska's place on the map, after predicting an unprecedented boom for the territory which he toured extensively.



Some 25,000 people are employed in 100 canneries (left) which pack 7,000,000 cases each year. Seal fishing is a profitable enterprise. Alaskan imports from the U. S. include meats, dairy products, grain, fruit, tobacco, cotton, etc.



The gold mill at Juneau (shown above) is the world's largest, providing a large part of last year's \$25,000,000 production. Next summer the biggest tourist influx in Alaska's history will arrive from the mainland in boats such as the one a section of which is shown (right). Should they venture north of Nome, they can almost see a Russian air base less than 50 miles away across Bering Strait.



Alaskans travel by air. This is the new Pan-American clipper.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Reviewed by CARTER FIELD

Wheeler's attack on aid to Britain not considered likely to make converts . . . Votes in Congress on British aid show very few willing to shut off military supplies.
(Bell Syndicate—WNU Service.)

WASHINGTON.—The latest controversy between President Roosevelt and Sen. Burton K. Wheeler of Montana goes to the very nub of the whole aid-to-Britain issue. Wheeler attacked the administration for giving virtually all the good fighting planes and bombing planes to Britain, and thus depriving the United States national defense of this vital equipment.

The President took the position that this sort of publicity must be very good news for Hitler, though he did not explain whether he meant this was good news because Hitler then would know that the volume of plane deliveries we were making to Britain was the best we were able to do at this time, or whether it would please Hitler to know that the United States was stripping its own defenses.

Be that as it may, the point goes much deeper. The point is that if one accepts the position so long held by the President, and by Wendell L. Willkie, that every blow Britain strikes is helping the United States to do is to give Britain everything possible, not because we like Britain, but because in a way the British are fighting our battle.

A considerable proportion of the people of this country approve this position, and from the results of recent polls, an overwhelming majority want to help Britain all we can.

In view of this obvious position of the President, it would seem that Senator Wheeler is guilty of muddying the water when he says that not most but all the fighting planes we produce are being sent to Britain.

'CONVERTS' UNLIKELY
It seems to be a rather oblique attack to single out an obvious part of a policy as being cockeyed if one hopes to win any converts from the other side.

Of course there is no such hope. The minds of the great majority of Americans are pretty well set on this whole thing. Either they believe in aiding Britain or they do not. If they believe in aiding Britain, the individual sections or pieces of the aiding program are not important. If we are going to help Britain, obviously we had better make sure that Britain is not beaten, so the more we can aid the better for us in the long run.

Congressmen Agree On Principle of Aid

Winston Churchill's reference to Wendell Willkie as the head of the "great Republican party" in the recent presidential election in the United States was gall and wormwood to the Republicans in the house and senate who took a far different attitude on the aid-Britain bill.

But, just as the pro-Nazis had no place to go in the presidential campaign, so those who would leap upon Churchill's picture of both great parties in the United States being as one to help Britain as a gross misrepresentation are again in a very bad strategic position.

It is rather obvious that if the Nazi propagandists pick and choose among the utterances of opponents of the aid-Britain bill, both in the house and in the senate, they can find plenty of comfort. They can show the German people, rather convincingly, that America is torn to pieces over this issue.

VOTES MORE IMPORTANT

But when it comes to the VOTES taken in the house of representatives, that is something else again. For instance, while a strong minority voted against final passage of the bill in the house, virtually every one of those house members had voted FOR an amendment which would have authorized a loan to Britain of \$2,000,000,000 as a substitute!

In short, from the record of votes rather than speeches, it would seem that the only real issue dividing the house of representatives, and therefore presumably the American people, is the METHOD of aiding Britain.

Bear in mind that no one who raised his voice in favor of a loan of dollars as against lending equipment ever suggested the slightest hope that these dollars would ever be repaid! The notion of all these supplies being repaid in kind AFTER peace has returned is one calculated to bring the strongest of protests from any international trade expert. Not to mention anyone worrying about unemployment in this country after the war.



WHO'S NEWS THIS WEEK

By LEMUEL F. PARTON
(Consolidated Features—WNU Service.)

NEW YORK.—Having enjoyed a ward-room acquaintance of six or eight weeks with Rear Admiral Russell Willson, who recently took over as superintendent of the United States Naval Academy, this writer feels that everything will be shipshape at Annapolis—come what may. When the then Commander Willson deployed the destroyer fleet around Greenland and Labrador, shepherding home the army world fliers, in 1924, we were talking Capt. Donald Macmillan, the explorer, in the sub-Arctic, and found gracious hospitality on the commander's destroyer, Lawrence, at Indian harbor, Labrador.

He's an alert disciplinarian, without being in the least stiff-necked about it. When we began issuing the "Labrador Gumdrop," the sprightliest piece in it was written by the commander. He is tall, grave, slender, distinguished in appearance, deliberate in speech, but quick and precise in action.

The latter became clear when a black squall socked the Lawrence one day, with almost the suddenness of an explosion. With a rock bottom under Indian harbor, the ship had nothing to get her hook into. She started slithering and spinning like a Japanese dancing mouse. The shore was rocky and the chances for a crack-up looked fairly good. The commander's job was something like chauffeuring a skidding automobile. We aren't sufficiently nautical to tell what happened, but he brought the ship through top-side up. A young lieutenant told me later that it was a brilliant piece of seamanship.

Under a generous naval lease-pled plan, we borrowed the commander's fishing tackle and shotguns, to shoot puffers. We won the war and returned the armament. He, as one would have known, moved smoothly on up through grades to the post of rear admiral.

He was born in Sardinia, N. Y., in 1883, put in two years at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and transferred to Annapolis. In the World war, he commanded the sixth battle squadron of the grand fleet. He holds the Navy cross, the Victory medal and the Vera Cruz medal. Unfortunately, there is no file of the "Labrador Gumdrop," but I remember that the last issue was a heartfelt tribute to Commander Willson.

JACK BENNY, radio and screen comedian, may be rusty on his calculus and Albert Einstein not so quick on the gags, but here they are in step on the

Ribbing by Gobs Effects Gagging By Jack Benny
Honor Roll of Race Relations for 1940, cited in Negro History week for their service to race relations, "in terms of real democracy." Mr. Benny is named for his tact and understanding in the use of his Negro fellow-comedian, "Rochester."

Born in Waukegan, Ill., the son of a small merchant, he was a theater doorman, property man and then a vaudeville violinist for years before he ever said a word on the stage. In the navy, playing classical music for sailors, he was ribbed and ragged by them, impulsively talked back and uncorked his talent for gagging.

He married Sadie Marks, the Mary Livingstone of his radio program. His new picture, "Love Thy Neighbor," in which he is co-starred with Fred Allen, is right on his target. His friends remark his gentility, pressed for further explanation one of them said, "He seems to have an instinctive regard for other people's feelings."

He was born Benny Kubesky, his recreations are bridge and casino, and he is rarely seen without a cigar. He meets reporters thoughtfully and never does any exhibition gagging for them—no matter how they prod him.

SIXTEEN years ago Grace Moore, a singer at the Music Box Revue, said to Italo Montemezzl, "Some day I will sing your 'Love of Three Kings' at the Metropolitan Opera house." Many kings have toppled since then, but the durable three are still here, and the other night at the Metropolitan, Miss Moore made good on her prophecy and Signor Montemezzl made his debut at the Metropolitan, conducting his opera "The Love of Three Kings." He was born in Italy in 1875, and studied music under famous masters in Rome.

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little tailored collar, as well as an unusually well-fitting pinafore, with slim waistline section. Both patterns are easy to make.

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Sandy's Blowing Appeared To Be a Bit Overdone!

He was of a thrifty turn of mind, having originally come from Scotland. One day he was told by a friend that instead of putting a quarter into the meter, much the same effect could be obtained by blowing smartly into the slot. That night he tried the experiment with gratifying results. This went on for some time, and finally an inspector from the gas company called to examine the meter. He was obviously puzzled. "What's the matter?" asked the economizing householder. "Man," exclaimed the inspector, "I just can't make it out. According to my reading the company owes you three dollars."

Gold on the Way

The foot of the rainbow is never where you think it is. Perhaps there is a pot of gold there, but there are many more pots of gold that you will pass on your way to realize your dreams. Some men have the vision to see them.



Concede Early

"Well, here I am, bright and early."
"Anyway, you're early."

The only business that can make money without advertising is the mint.

One Better

She (cooly)—How old do you think I am?
He (gallantly)—Whatever it is, you don't look it.

Work Ahead

Father took his small son to church. At one stage of the service the clergyman announced:
"We shall now sing hymn number two hundred and twenty-two. 'Ten thousand times ten thousand.' Two hundred and twenty-two."
The puzzled lad nudged his father. "Dad," he whispered, "do we have to work this out?"

Even Then

"He says he was born with a silver spoon in his mouth."
"I'll bet it has someone else's initials on it."

Interpretation

"What about that notice outside your shop, 'Money returned if not satisfied'?" protested the disgruntled customer.
"Ah," said the shopkeeper, "I am satisfied with your money."

When a little bird tells you something, don't repeat it until you find out whether the little bird is a cuckoo.

As He Heard It

Boogy—Who was more patient than Job, wiser than Socrates, braver than Lancelot, more handsome than Apollo?
Woogy—Oh, so you knew my wife's first husband?

FORGET BAKING FAILURES Use

Angling Like Virtue
Doubt not but angling will prove to be so pleasant, that it will prove to be, like virtue, a reward to itself.—Izaak Walton.

Wisdom in Life
Wisdom does not show itself so much in precept as in life—a firmness of mind and mastery of appetite.—Seneca.

OH, JOY!

What a joy to get relief from a cough due to a cold. Get it with Smith Bros. Cough Drops. Black or Menthol. 5¢. Both taste delicious.

Smith Bros. Cough Drops are the only drops containing VITAMIN A

Vitamin A (Carotene) raises the resistance of mucous membranes of nose and throat to cold infections, when lack of resistance is due to Vitamin A deficiency.

Safe to Advise
One can advise comfortably from a safe port.—Schiller.

Increasing Evil
The love of pelf increases with the pelf.—Juvenal.

THE SMOKE OF SLOWER-BURNING CAMELS GIVES YOU EXTRA MILDNESS, EXTRA COOLNESS, EXTRA FLAVOR

AND 28% LESS NICOTINE

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THE SMOKE'S THE THING!

CAMEL THE SLOWER-BURNING CIGARETTE